Contents

The Search for Philosophic Understanding

of Scientific Theories
Frederick Suppe
Introduction 3
I. Historical Background to the Received View 6
II. Development of the Received View 16
A. Correspondence Rules and Cognitive Significance 17
B. Interpretation of Theories: The Status of Theoretical Terms
C. Logic of the Conditional 36
D. Observational-Theoretical Distinction 45
E. Final Version of the Received View 50
F. Development of Science on the Received View:
Theory Reduction 53
III. Status of the Received View 57
IV. Criticism of the Received View 62
A. How Adequate Is the Received View as a General Analysis
Scientific Theories? 62
B. Observational-Theoretical Distinction 66
1. Analytic-Synthetic Distinction 67
2. Observational-Theoretical Term Distinction 80
C. Partial Interpretation 86
D. Models 95
E. Correspondence Rules 102
F. Formalization Issues 110
G. Conclusions on the Adequacy of the Received View 115
V. Alternatives to the Received View and Their Critics 119
A. Skeptical Descriptive Analyses 120
B. Weltanschauungen Analyses 125
1. The Positions and Criticisms Specific to Them 127
(a) Toulmin 127
(b) Kuhn 135

(c) Hanson 151

- (d) Feyerabend's and Popper's Realisms 166
 - (i) Popper 166
 - (ii) Feyerabend 170
- (e) Bohm 180
- 2. General Criticisms of Weltanschauungen Analyses 191
 - (a) Observation 192
 - (b) Meaning Change 199
 - (c) Objectivity of Science 208
 - (d) General Conclusions on the Adequacy of the Weltanschauungen Approach 217
- C. Semantic Approaches 221
- D. Explanation and Theories 230
- VI. The Symposium: Main Issues Concerning the Structure of Theories—1969 233

Proceedings of the Symposium

SESSION I

Formulation and Formalization of Scientific Theories: A Summary-Abstract, Carl G. Hempel 244

Discussion 255

SESSION II

The Structure of Theories and the Analysis of Data, Patrick Suppes 266

- 1. Deterministic Theories with Incorrigible Data 266
- 2. Deterministic Theories with Corrigible Data 271
- 3. Probabilistic Theories with Incorrigible Data 273
- 4. Probabilistic Theories with Corrigible Data 278
- 5. Some Philosophical Conclusions 281

Commentary on Suppes's "The Structure of Theories and the Analysis of Data" 284

Discussion 289

SESSION III

History and the Philosopher of Science, I. Bernard Cohen 308

- 1. Introduction 308
- 2. Galileo and the Science of Motion 315
- 3. 'Transformations' in the Development of Science: The Concepts of 'Inertia' and 'State of Motion' 321
- 4. Newtonian Dynamics: The Second Law of Motion 327

- 5. Ambiguous History: Texts and References 335
- 6. Conclusion: The Philosopher vs. the Historian 344

History and Philosophy of Science: A Reply to Cohen, Peter Achinstein 350

Discussion 361

SESSION IV

Science as Perception-Communication, David Bohm 374

Professor Bohm's View of the Structure and Development of Theories, Robert L. Causey 392

Reply to Professor Causey, Jeffrey Bub 402

Discussion 409

Reply to Discussion, David Bohm 420

SESSION V

Hilary Putnam's 'Scientific Explanation'. An Editorial Summary-Abstract 424

Putnam on the Corroboration of Theories, Bas C. van Fraassen 434 Discussion 437

SESSION VI

Second Thoughts on Paradigms, Thomas S. Kuhn 459
Exemplars, Theories, and Disciplinary Matrixes, Frederick Suppe 483
Discussion 500

SESSION VII

Scientific Theories and Their Domains, Dudley Shapere 518

- I. Framework of the Present Analysis 518
- II. Aspects of the Concept of a Domain 525
- III. Theoretical Problems, Lines of Research, and Scientific Theories 533
 - 1. The Periodic Table of Chemical Elements 534
 - 2. Spectroscopy 542
 - 3. Stellar Spectral Classification and Stellar Evolution 549
- IV. Theoretical Inadequacies and Their Treatment 557
 - 1. Inadequacies of the Bohr Theory 558
 - A. Incompleteness 558
 - B. Simplification 560
 - C. Structure 562
 - 2. Treatment of Inadequacies in the Bohr Theory 562

Editorial Interpolation: Shapere on the Instrumentalistic vs. Realistic Conceptions of Theories 566

Heuristics and Justification in Scientific Research: Comments on Shapere, Thomas Nickles 571

- 1. The Standard Account of Theories 572
- 2. The Rationality of Scientific Decisions 574
- 3. Domains and Intertheoretic Reduction 582

Discussion 590

Postscript: The Structure of Scientific Theories, Stephen Toulmin 600

Afterword — 1977

FREDERICK SUPPE

Introduction 617

- I. Swan Song for Positivism 619
 - A. Explanation and Intertheoretical Reduction 619
 - B. Induction and Confirmation 624
- II. The Waning of the Weltanschauungen Views 633
 - A. Hanson 634
 - B. Feyerabend and Kuhn 636

III. Historical Realism 650

- A. History and Philosophy of Science 652
- B. Rationality and the Growth of Scientific Knowledge 659
 - 1. Lakatos 659
 - 2. Toulmin 670
 - 3. Shapere 682
 - 4. Conclusions on the Growth of Scientific Knowledge 704
- C. Conceptual Devices 706
- D. Toward a Metaphysical and Epistemological Realism 716
- IV. Conclusion: Philosophy of Science Today 729

Bibliography 731

Notes on Contributors 768

Index 773

Index for the Afterword 805