

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE	v
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xi
1. THE EMPIRICAL CYCLE IN SCIENCE	1
1; 1 <i>The acquisition of experience</i>	1
1; 1; 1 The empirical cycle; without reflection	1
1; 1; 2 The empirical cycle; as reflected	5
1; 1; 3 The shift from end to means; problem solving	6
1; 1; 4 The empirical cycle in thought processes	7
1; 2 <i>Higher experiential processes: thinking, creation, interpretation</i>	9
1; 2; 1 The universal cycle of end and means	9
1; 2; 2 The creative and the hermeneutic cycle	12
1; 2; 3 Multiplicity of cyclic forms	14
1; 2; 4 Indispensability of the cycle	16
1; 2; 5 The empirical cycle; the reporting of experience	17
1; 3 <i>Aims and standards of empirical science</i>	18
1; 3; 1 The aims of science	18
1; 3; 2 Selection of problems; degrees of certainty	21
1; 3; 3 Standards and techniques; logic and methodology	23
1; 3; 4 Unwritten rules	25
1; 3; 5 The forum	26
1; 4 <i>The cycle of empirical scientific inquiry</i>	27
1; 4; 1 The empirical cycle; in science	27
1; 4; 2 Observation	28

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1; 4; 3	Induction	29
1; 4; 4	Deduction.	29
1; 4; 5	Testing	30
1; 4; 6	Evaluation	31
2. DESIGNING THEORIES AND HYPOTHESES		33
2; 1	<i>Characteristics of hypothesis formation</i>	33
2; 1; 1	The process of hypothesis formation	33
2; 1; 2	Freedom of design	35
2; 1; 3	Freedom of concept formation	37
2; 1; 4	Factual underpinnings	39
2; 1; 5	Theoretical framework	40
2; 1; 6	Interpretation of the facts	42
2; 2	<i>Means and methods of hypothesis formation</i>	45
2; 2; 1	Facts and ideas – two approaches	45
2; 2; 2	Inspiration through the literature	48
2; 2; 3	Empirical exploration	51
2; 2; 4	Explorations of sample materials	53
2; 2; 5	Methods of interpretation: ‘Verstehen’; empathy	55
2; 3	<i>Formalization: problems of choice</i>	58
2; 3; 1	Language; verbal or mathematical.	58
2; 3; 2	Selection within one language	61
2; 3; 3	Tentative of definitive	62
2; 3; 4	General of specific	63
2; 3; 5	Complex or simple	64
2; 3; 6	Hypothetical constructs	65
3. FORMULATION OF THEORIES AND HYPOTHESES: A. THE DEDUCTIVE PROCESS		69
3; 1	<i>Normative standards for formulation</i>	69
3; 1; 1	Antecedent formulation	69
3; 1; 2	Logical consistency	69
3; 1; 3	Principle of economy	71
3; 1; 4	Testability.	72
3; 1; 5	Stated empirical reference	73

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3; 2	<i>Deduction and specification</i>	74
3; 2; 1	From general to particular	74
3; 2; 2	Theory, hypothesis, prediction: distinctions	77
3; 2; 3	From hypothesis to prediction	78
3; 3	<i>Explicitation of a theory or hypothesis</i>	80
3; 3; 1	Explicitation: ramifications	80
3; 3; 2	Nomological network	82
3; 3; 3	Three types of relations	82
3; 3; 4	Operational definitions of constructs	84
3; 3; 5	Relation between construct and variable	86
3; 4	<i>The scientific prediction</i>	89
3; 4; 1	Function, content, characteristics	89
3; 4; 2	Verifiability conditions and verification criteria	93
3; 4; 3	Lack of falsifiability and other shortcomings	95
4. FORMULATION OF THEORIES AND HYPOTHESES:		
B.	CONFIRMATION	99
4; 1	<i>Confirmation of hypotheses</i>	99
4; 1; 1	Deterministic hypotheses	99
4; 1; 2	Probabilistic confirmation and probabilistic hypotheses	101
4; 1; 3	Relevance of predictions	105
4; 2	<i>Acceptance and rejection of theories</i>	107
4; 2; 1	Refutation of theories	107
4; 2; 2	Relative rejection and acceptance of theories	111
4; 2; 3	Theory development	114
4; 2; 4	Development of theoretical constructs	115
4; 3	<i>Normative standards for the publication of theories and hypotheses</i>	119
4; 3; 1	'Testability' necessary and sufficient	119
4; 3; 2	Different forum conventions	121
4; 3; 3	In quest of minimum requirements	124
4; 3; 4	Explicitation essential	125
4; 3; 5	Falsifiability	126

TABLE OF CONTENTS

5. FROM FORMULATION TO TESTING AND EVALUATION . . .	128
5; 1 <i>Design of hypothesis testing investigations</i>	128
5; 1; 1 Freedom of choice	128
5; 1; 2 Considerations pertaining to confirmation . . .	130
5; 1; 3 Practical considerations	133
5; 1; 4 The importance of advance analysis	135
5; 2 <i>From formulation to test: an example</i>	139
5; 2; 1 Psychosomatic specificity	139
5; 2; 2 Step by step specification of the problem . . .	141
5; 2; 3 Empirical specification of concepts	142
5; 2; 4 Experimental design; further specifications . . .	145
5; 2; 5 Statistical testing: final decisions	148
5; 3 <i>Testing and evaluation</i>	150
5; 3; 1 Execution of the testing procedure.	150
5; 3; 2 Disturbing factors	152
5; 3; 3 Problems of generalization	155
5; 3; 4 Cause or effect?	160
6. OBJECTIVITY: A. THROUGH THE EMPIRICAL CYCLE . . .	162
6; 1 <i>The principle of objectivity</i>	162
6; 1; 1 What is objective?	162
6; 1; 2 Objectivity a basic requirement	163
6; 1; 3 Objectivity in research design	167
6; 2 <i>From construct to objective variable</i>	169
6; 2; 1 Instrumental realization; definitions	169
6; 2; 2 The evaluation problem as an example; goal, effect, measure	172
6; 2; 3 'Insight gained': an objective instrument	175
6; 2; 4 Objectivity and relevance	176
6; 2; 5 Development of instruments	180
6; 3 <i>Objective selection of experimental (testing) materials</i> . .	182
6; 3; 1 Universe and sample	182
6; 3; 2 Diversity of universes	185
6; 3; 3 Objective sample selection	188
6; 3; 4 Objective elimination	193

TABLE OF CONTENTS

7. OBJECTIVITY: B. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS	198
7; 1 <i>Objective questions and answers</i>	198
7; 1; 1 The art of asking questions: precoding	198
7; 1; 2 The art of getting answers: coding.	203
7; 1; 3 Ad hoc coding	206
7; 2 <i>Question form and processing techniques</i>	210
7; 2; 1 Relationships between collection and processing.	210
7; 2; 2 Measurement and measurement scales	211
7; 2; 3 Scale construction and measurement as analogue representation	214
7; 2; 4 Problems of isomorphism	218
7; 3 <i>Judgmental procedures: intersubjectivity</i>	221
7; 3; 1 Judges as measuring instruments	221
7; 3; 2 Specific problems in judging	224
7; 3; 3 Controls and precautions	228
7; 3; 4 'Disinterested' judges	232
7; 3; 5 The judge a subject; paired comparisons	234
7; 3; 6 From expert to formula	237
8. CRITERIA FOR EMPIRICAL VARIABLES AND INSTRUMENTS.	239
8; 1 <i>Instrumental utility of a variable</i>	239
8; 1; 1 Relations among basis concepts: a recapitulation	239
8; 1; 2 Instrumental utility: definition	242
8; 1; 3 Three construction requirements; three criteria	245
8; 2 <i>Validity</i>	248
8; 2; 1 Criterion validity as a simple operational concept	248
8; 2; 2 Criterion problems	249
8; 2; 3 Construct validity: measurement versus prediction	254
8; 2; 4 Contributions to construct validity	257
8; 2; 5 How to assess construct validity: a theoretical problem	259
8; 3 <i>Accuracy and stability; reliability</i>	262
8; 3; 1 Differentiation of the measurement scale	262
8; 3; 2 True value and chance error	265
8; 3; 3 Measures for the reliability of an instrument	269
8; 3; 4 The stability problem	273

TABLE OF CONTENTS

8; 3; 5	Significance and uses of reliability measures . . .	278
8; 3; 6	From measurement outcome to conclusion . . .	281
8; 4	<i>Internal efficiency and scoring</i>	283
8; 4; 1	Internal efficiency	283
8; 4; 2	Internal consistency	284
8; 4; 3	Problems of scoring and scale construction . . .	290
9.	DIVERSITY AND UNITY IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH . . .	298
9; 1	<i>Different types of investigations</i>	298
9; 1; 1	Limitations of this study	298
9; 1; 2	Five types of investigation: 1. hypothesis testing	301
9; 1; 3	2. Instrumental-nomological investigations . . .	302
9; 1; 4	3. Descriptive investigations	303
9; 1; 5	4. Exploratory investigations	306
9; 1; 6	5. Interpretative and theoretical studies	309
9; 2	<i>Methodology of interpretation</i>	310
9; 2; 1	The interpretation problem: an illustration . . .	310
9; 2; 2	Interpretation as an extension of explanation . .	313
9; 2; 3	Testing through extrapolation	319
9; 2; 4	Convergence within the universe	320
9; 2; 5	Testing by partitioning the universe	324
9; 3	<i>Complex problems and devices</i>	327
9; 3; 1	Multiplicity of variables	327
9; 3; 2	Complex procedures	333
9; 3; 3	Mathematical models	335
9; 3; 4	Machine models: simulation of behavior	338
9; 4	<i>Unity of science</i>	343
9; 4; 1	Idiographic-nomothetic: a difference in method?	343
9; 4; 2	Misconceptions concerning 'uniqueness' . . .	345
9; 4; 3	Relative differences	348
9; 4; 4	Objectivity and other values	353
9; 4; 5	Unity chosen	356
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	357
	INDEX OF NAMES	373
	INDEX OF SUBJECTS	379