

# Conjectures And Refutations The Growth Of Scientific Knowledge

## Karl Popper

Objective Knowledge Objective Knowledge The Two Fundamental Problems of the Theory of Knowledge Conjectures and Refutations Knowledge and the Body-Mind Problem Conjectures and Refutations The Ethical Nature of Karl Popper's Theory of Knowledge Foundations of Objective Knowledge Our Knowledge of the Growth of Knowledge Objective knowledge, by r. karl popper, revised ed. (pbk). Realism and the Aim of Science Popper, Objectivity and the Growth of Knowledge Karl Popper and the Two New Secrets of Life The Logic of Scientific Discovery Truth, Rationality, and the Growth of Scientific Knowledge Conjectures and refutations. 1 (2001) An Introduction to the Thought of Karl Popper The Philosophy of Karl Popper Karl Popper and Africa: Knowledge, Politics and Development Karl Popper, Science and Enlightenment Karl Raimund Popper Karl Popper Karl Popper Karl Raimund Popper Karl Popper Karl Popper Mariano Artigas Sergio L. de C. Fernandes Peter Munz R. karl Popper Karl Popper John H. Sceski Hans-Joachim Niemann Karl Popper Karl Raimund Popper Karl R. Popper Roberta Corvi Karl Raimund Popper Oseni Taiwo Afisi Nicholas Maxwell

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the essays in this volume represent an approach to human knowledge that has had a profound influence on many recent thinkers popper breaks with a traditional commonsense theory of knowledge that can be traced back to aristotle a realist and fallibilist he argues closely and in simple language that scientific knowledge once stated in human language is no longer part of ourselves but a separate entity that grows through critical selection

we are workers who are adding to the growth of objective knowledge as masons work on a cathedral karl popper objective knowledge the extent and scope of human knowledge is arguably one of humankind s greatest achievements since descartes however the theory of human knowledge has been mainly what philosophers call subjectivist even scientific knowledge was regarded as a special kind of human belief but human nonetheless in

objective knowledge which contains some of his most important writings on epistemology karl popper breaks decisively and controversially with this view of human knowledge a realist and a fallibilist he argues that human knowledge stated in human language is no longer part of ourselves but open to objective criticism above all popper argues that human knowledge grows through a process of conjecture testing and criticism such objective knowledge has significance also for us as individuals as critical interaction with problem situation and the constant process of trial and error playing a role in all walks of life from philosophy and science to music and art a brilliant exposition of popper s theory of knowledge this routledge classics edition includes a new introduction by jeremy shearmur which provides some helpful context to objective knowledge and popper s philosophy in general

in a letter of 1932 karl popper described die beiden grundprobleme der erkenntnistheorie the two fundamental problems of the theory of knowledge as a child of crises above all of the crisis of physics finally available in english it is a major contribution to the philosophy of science epistemology and twentieth century philosophy generally the two fundamental problems of knowledge that lie at the centre of the book are the problem of induction that although we are able to observe only a limited number of particular events science nevertheless advances unrestricted universal statements and the problem of demarcation which asks for a separating line between empirical science and non science popper seeks to solve these two basic problems with his celebrated theory of falsifiability arguing that the inferences made in science are not inductive but deductive science does not start with observations and proceed to generalise them but with problems which it attacks with bold conjectures the two fundamental problems of the theory of knowledge is essential reading for anyone interested in karl popper in the history and philosophy of science and in the methods and theories of science itself

conjectures and refutations is one of karl popper s most wide ranging and popular works notable not only for its acute insight into the way scientific knowledge grows but also for applying those insights to politics and to history it provides one of the clearest and most accessible statements of the fundamental idea that guided his work not only our knowledge but our aims and our standards grow through an unending process of trial and error

based upon the kenan lectures that karl popper delivered at emory university in 1969 knowledge and the body mind problem raises problems connected with human freedom creativity rationality and the relationship between human beings and their actions these are what popper calls big issues too big for easy answers but too important to be ignored in these lectures and in the discussions that follow them sir karl develops a theory of body mind interaction this theory involves evolutionary emergence human language and that realm of autonomous products of the human mind which popper calls world 3 according to popper consciousness emerged in the course of evolution as a kind of control system for the body like a driver is a control system for a car objective knowledge the kind of knowledge that is found in books and libraries then emerged in the course of evolution as a higher level control system for the mind simply put objective knowledge is the mind s control system for critical problem solving in this way full consciousness the kind of consciousness that humans can have is anchored in world 3 and is closely linked to human language problems theories and criticism and it is mainly through this use of objective knowledge as a control system for critical problem solving that we are able to exercise our freedom creativity and

rationality first by making contributions like science books and works of art to world 3 and then by using these contributions to bring about changes in worlds 1 and 2 the kenan lectures were well attended and provoked lively discussions this book is published in the same informal language in which they were originally delivered and so can be easily understood by a general audience

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this book invites to interpret karl popper under the light of his ethical attitudes in the first part a previously unpublished text by popper is reproduced and commented which is most relevant to acquire a new insight on popper s philosophy and should be taken into account in any future interpretation of it in the second part under the light of the new insight the ethical roots of popper s theory of knowledge are analysed jointly with the meaning and reach of his fallibilism

kant and popper the affinity between the philosophy of kant and the philosophy of karl popper has often been noted and most decisively in popper s own reflections on his thought but in this work before us sergio fernandes has given a cogent comprehensive and challenging investigation of kant which differs from what we may call popper s kant while nevertheless showing kant as very much a precursor of popper the investigation is directly conceptual although fernandes has also contributed to a novel historical understanding of kant in his reinterpretation the novelty is the genuine result of meticulous study of texts and commentators characterized by the author s thorough command of the epistemological issues in the philosophy of science in the 20th century as much as by his mastery of the kantian themes of the 18th naturally we may wish to understand whether kant is relevant to popper s philosophy of knowledge how popper has understood kant and to what extent the popperian kant has systematically or historically been of influence on later philosophy of science as seen by popper or not

peter munz a former student of both popper and wittgenstein begins his comparison of the two great twentieth century philosophers by explaining that since the demise of positivism there have emerged broadly speaking two philosophical options wittgenstein with the absolute relativism of his theory that meaning is a function of language games and that social configurations are determinants of knowledge and popper s evolutionary epistemology conscious knowledge is a special case of the relationship which exists between all living beings and their environments professor munz examines and rejects the wittgensteinian position instead our knowledge of the growth of knowledge first published in 1985 elaborates the potentially fruitful link between popper s critical rationalism and neo darwinism read in the light of the latter popper s philosophy leads to the transformation of kant s transcendental idealism into hypothetical realism whilst the emphasis on the biological orientation of popper s thought helps to illumine some difficulties in popper s falsificationism

realism and the aim of science is one of the three volumes of karl popper s postscript to the logic of scientific

discovery the postscript is the culmination of popper s work in the philosophy of physics and a new famous attack on subjectivist approaches to philosophy of science realism and the aim of science is the first volume of the postscript popper here formulates and explains his non justificationist theory of knowledge science aims at true explanatory theories yet it can never prove or justify any theory to be true not even if it is a true theory science must continue to question and criticise all its theories even those that happen to be true realism and the aim of science presents popper s mature statement on scientific knowledge and offers important insights into his thinking on problems of method within science

john h sceski argues that karl popper s philosophy offers a radical treatment of objectivity that can reconcile freedom and progress in a manner that preserves the best elements of the enlightenment tradition his book traces the development of popper s account of objectivity by examining his original contributions to key issues in the philosophy of science popper s early confrontation with logical positivism his rarely discussed four fold treatment of the problem of induction and his theory of propensities and evolutionary epistemology are linked in a novel way to produce a coherent and philosophically relevant picture of objectivity sceski also explores and clarifies many central issues in the philosophy of science such as probabilistic support verisimilitude and the relationship between special relativity and indeterminism he concludes that popper s account of objectivity can best bridge the gap between enlightenment aims for science and freedom and post modern misgivings about truth by developing a philosophy that is non foundationalist yet able to account for the growth of knowledge

the story of how humans and all living things came into existence is told in two widely believed versions the book of genesis and darwin s origin of species it was the philosopher karl popper who presented us with a third story no less important his new interpretation of darwinism denies the creative power of blind chance and natural selection and establishes knowledge and activity of all living beings as the real driving forces of evolution thus spiritual elements are back in the theory of evolution and in popper s view the entire evolution is an adventure of the mind in this book hans joachim niemann establishes karl popper as an eminent philosopher of biology in the first chapter biographical details are unearthed concerning how popper s biological interests were inspired by a biological meeting in the old windmill at hunstanton in 1936 the second chapter focusses on the year 1986 when popper in several lectures summarized the results of his life long biological thinking the most important of these the medawar lecture given at the royal society london was lost for a long time and is now printed in the appendix a new world view begins to emerge that is completely different from creationism or darwinism twenty years after popper s death the last chapter looks back on his biological thoughts in the light of new results of molecular biology his attack at that time on long lasting dogmas of evolutionary theory turned out to be largely justified the new biology seems even well suited to support popper s endeavour to overcome the gloomy aspects of darwinism that have made organisms passive parts of a machinery of deadly competition neither blind chance nor natural selection are the creative forces of all life but rather knowledge and activity how they came into existence is still a secret and a worthwhile research programme

described by the philosopher a j ayer as a work of great originality and power this book revolutionized contemporary thinking on science and knowledge ideas such as the now legendary doctrine of falsificationism electrified the scientific community influencing even working scientists as well as post war philosophy this

astonishing work ranks alongside the open society and its enemies as one of popper s most enduring books and contains insights and arguments that demand to be read to this day

a comprehensive introduction to the philosophical and political thought of karl popper divided into three parts the first part provides a biography the second part examines his works and recurring themes and the last part looks at his critics

this book provides a diverse contextualization of popper s critical rationalism concerning knowledge and his generalized attitude of criticism on appropriate social and political reforms in contemporary africa the book evaluates how best to address contemporary political problems especially in politically very troubled parts of the world to address these contemporary problems especially as it relates to africa the authors found the political philosophy of popper as suitable the discussion of popper s political philosophy engages us directly with all the particularities of socio economic and political problems within contemporary africa in other words it presents the truth of the present socio political reality in africa where the question of what kinds of political ideas and concepts can be offered as appropriate to a political environment which so greatly faces facets of developmental issues although the issues and events that informed the writings of popper s the poverty of historicism as well as the open society and its enemies were among others the rise of fascism and communism in europe the inventiveness of this work is how happily scholars in non liberal societies such as in africa can pick up popper s insights and usefully work with them to offer appropriate social reforms for their society this volume is a critical juxtaposition of popper s ideas in a bid to make good sense of social and intellectual conditions in africa particularly as it relates to the scale and speed of social change that is needed in most african nations that are often ridden by corruption the book is suitable for studies in political philosophy economic and development studies african studies and indigenous knowledge systems

here is an idea that just might save the world it is that science properly understood provides us with the methodological key to the salvation of humanity a version of this idea can be found in the works of karl popper famously popper argued that science cannot verify theories but can only refute them and this is how science makes progress scientists are forced to think up something better and it is this according to popper that drives science forward but nicholas maxwell finds a flaw in this line of argument physicists only ever accept theories that are unified theories that depict the same laws applying to the range of phenomena to which the theory applies even though many other empirically more successful disunified theories are always available this means that science makes a questionable assumption about the universe namely that all disunified theories are false without some such presupposition as this the whole empirical method of science breaks down by proposing a new conception of scientific methodology which can be applied to all worthwhile human endeavours with problematic aims maxwell argues for a revolution in academic inquiry to help humanity make progress towards a better more civilized and enlightened world

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