### Kuhn's The Structure of Scientific Revolutions at 60

Thomas Kuhn's *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* has sold over a million copies since its publication in 1962, is one of the most cited academic books of all time, and continues to be read and studied today. This volume of new essays evaluates the significance of Kuhn's classic book in its changing historical context, including its initial reception and its lasting effects. The essays explore the range of ideas that Kuhn made popular with his influential philosophy of science, including paradigms, normal science, paradigm changes, scientific revolutions, and incommensurability; and they also look at less-studied themes in his work, including scientific measurement, science education, and science textbooks. Drawing on the latest scholarship as well as unpublished material in the Thomas Kuhn Archives at MIT, this volume offers a comprehensive way into Kuhn's philosophy and demonstrates the continuing relevance of his ideas for our understanding of science.

K. Brad Wray is Associate Professor at the Centre for Science Studies, Aarhus University. His recent publications include *Interpreting Kuhn: Critical Essays* (Cambridge University Press, 2021) and *Kuhn's Intellectual Path: Charting "The Structure of Scientific Revolutions"* (Cambridge University Press, 2021). Cambridge Philosophical Anniversaries

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# Kuhn's *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* at 60

Edited by K. Brad Wray Aarhus University





Cambridge University Press & Assessment 978-1-009-11402-8 — Kuhn's The Structure of Scientific Revolutions at 60 Brad Wray Frontmatter <u>More Information</u>



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

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103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009114028

DOI: 10.1017/9781009122696

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First published 2024 First paperback edition 2025

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-009-10070-0 Hardback ISBN 978-1-009-11402-8 Paperback

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> This book is dedicated to Pablo Melogno<sup>†</sup> 1979–2023 Friend and Scholar

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### Acknowledgments

This book is the result of the efforts of many people and a number of organizations. I want to acknowledge my gratitude to them here.

Hilary Gaskin of Cambridge University Press originally approached me with the idea of taking on the project of editing a volume of papers in celebration of Thomas Kuhn's influential book *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* (SSR) as part of a new series intended to celebrate key books in philosophy on the anniversary of their publication. This seemed like a great idea, and a great opportunity to foster scholarship on Thomas Kuhn and SSR.

After planning the volume, I was encouraged by Paul Hoyningen-Huene to run a conference in 2022, in celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the publication of SSR, as well as in honor of the hundredth year since Kuhn's birth. A number of happy coincidences occurred that made running such a conference feasible. First, I had the good fortune to be appointed as an Associate Fellow at the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS) in 2021. AIAS is an exciting interdisciplinary research environment organized to encourage fruitful interactions between scholars across traditional disciplinary lines. Further, AIAS provided some financial support for a conference, as well as wonderful facilities in which to host the conference. I want to thank the director of AIAS, Søren Rud Keiding<sup>†</sup>, for his support, as well as the staff at AIAS. In addition, with the help of my colleague Kristian Hvidtfelt Nielsen, I applied for and was awarded a conference grant from the Carlsberg Foundation. I want to thank the director and staff at AIAS for their help in organizing and running the conference, as well as the Carlsberg Foundation for their generous support (Grant No. CF21-0698). The conference allowed me to invite a number of the contributing authors to Aarhus to present their papers, as they worked on them, as well as other Kuhn scholars. The excitement and energy at the conference was wonderful. And the constructive exchanges of ideas are reflected in a number of the pieces in the volume. I want to thank all those who participated in

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#### xiv Acknowledgments

the conference for making the event so successful and enjoyable. Paul deserves a special thanks for encouraging me to organize the event.

I also thank Lori Nash for working with me on preparing the volume for production, preparing an index and a comprehensive bibliography, and for proofreading the proof pages with me. The production of the book, in particular, Lori's work on the book, was supported by a publication grant from the Aarhus Universistets Forskningsfond (AUFF), grant number AUFF-E-2022-4-34. AUFF has been very supportive over the last five years, supporting four of my book projects.

I thank Hilary and Abi Sears at Cambridge University Press for their work on this volume, from its conception to its final production. I also thank Thomas Haynes from CUP for seeing the book through production.

Finally, I thank the contributors for their thoughtful papers on Kuhn's *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. It is a testament to the vigor and creativity of scholarship on Kuhn and his remarkable book. It has been an honor and privilege to work with these colleagues on this volume.

# Abbreviations

### **Thomas Kuhn's Books**

BBT	(1978). Black-Body Theory and the Quantum Discontinuity,
	1894–1912. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
CR	(1957). The Copernican Revolution: Planetary Astronomy in
	Development of Western Thought. Cambridge, MA: Harvard
	University Press.
ΕT	(1977). The Essential Tension: Selected Studies in Scientific
	Tradition and Change. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
	<ul> <li>"Preface," pp. ix–xxiii (1977a).</li> </ul>
	• "The Relations between the History and the Philosophy of
	Science," pp. 3–20 (1976/1977b).
	• "Mathematical versus Experimental Traditions in the
	Development of Physical Science," pp. 31-65 (1976/1977a).
	<ul> <li>"The History of Science," pp. 105–126 (1968/1977).</li> </ul>
	• "The Relations between History and History of Science,"
	pp. 127–161 (1971/1977).
	• "The Function of Measurement in Modern Physical
	Science," pp. 178–224 (1961/1977).
	• "The Essential Tension: Tradition and Innovation in Scientific Research," pp. 225–239 (1959/1977).
	• "Second Thoughts on Paradigms," pp. 293–319 (1974/1977).
	• "Objectivity, Value Judgment, and Theory Choice,"
	pp. 520-559 (1975/1977).
LW	(2022). The Last Writings of Thomas S. Kuhn:
	Incommensurability in Science, ed. Bojana Mladenovic. Chicago:
	University of Chicago Press.
ОРТ	(2021) The Quest for Physical Theory: Problems in the

 QPT (2021). The Quest for Physical Theory: Problems in the Methodology of Scientific Research, ed. George A. Reisch. Boston: MIT Libraries.

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RSS (2000). The Road since Structure: Philosophical Essays, 1970–1993, with an Autobiographical Interview, ed. J. Conant and J. Haugeland. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

- "The Road since Structure," pp. 90–104 (1991/2000).
- "The Trouble with the Historical Philosophy of Science," pp. 105–120 (1992/2000).
- "Afterwords," pp. 224–252 (1993/2000).
- "A Discussion with Thomas S. Kuhn" (with Aristides Baltas, Kostas Gavroglu, and Vasso Kindi), pp. 253–323 (1997/ 2000).

SSR *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

- First edition (1962). SSR-1
- Second edition, includes "Postscript-1969" (1962/1970), pp. 174–210. SSR-2
- Third edition, includes "Postscript-1969" (1962/1996), pp. pp. 174–210. SSR-3
- Fourth edition, 50th anniversary edition, with an introductory essay by Ian Hacking (1962/2012), "Postscript-1969," pp. 173–208. SSR-4

### TSK Archives-MC240

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	Seventeenth Century." Isis 43, 1: 12-36.
(1961a).	Letter from Thomas S. Kuhn to James B. Conant.
	Berkeley, CA, June 29. Harvard University Archives.

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(1963).	"The Function of Dogma in Scientific Research." In A. C. Crombie (ed.), <i>Scientific Change: Historical</i>
	Studies in the Intellectual, Social and Technical Conditions
	for Scientific Discovery and Technical Innovation, from
	Antiquity to the Present, pp. 347–369. London:
	Heinemann; New York: Basic Books.
(1970a).	"Logic of Discovery or Psychology of Research?"
	In I. Lakatos and A. Musgrave (eds.), <i>Criticism and the</i>
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(1970b)	"Reflections on My Critics " In Imre Lakatos and Alan
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(1972).	"Scientific Growth: Reflection on Ben-David's
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(1974).	"Discussion." In F. Suppe (ed.), The Structure of
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(1976).	"Mathematical versus Experimental Traditions in the
	Development of Physical Science." Journal of
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(1979).	"Foreword." In Ludwik Fleck, Genesis and Development
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(1984).	"Professionalization Recollected in Tranquility." Isis
(100()	75, 1: 29–32. "The U: the control of the Dimensional States of the Dim
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(1000/1002)	Audiences. Academe 12, 4: 29–35.
(1989/1995).	Foreword. In Paul Hoyningen-Huene, Reconstructing
	Science pp vi viii Chicago University of
	Science, pp. xi-xiii. Unicago: University of

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(2016). "The Nature of Scientific Knowledge: An Interview with Thomas Kuhn (conducted by Skúli Sigurdsson)." In A. Blum et al. (eds.), *Shifting Paradigms. Thomas S. Kuhn and the History of Science*, pp. 17–30. Berlin: Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science.