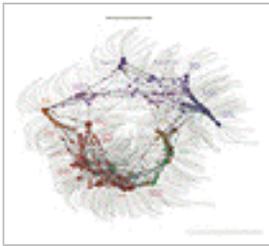


## cpnss

Center for the Philosophy of Nature and Science Studies - located in Denmark at the University of Copenhagen, thus: Center for Naturfilosofi og Videnskabsstudier

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2007

### The unity of science forms a network



Network analysis, sort of, have "proved" what the old positivists only dreamed about, but never got quite right: *Science is a unity!* Yet, unification doesn't need logic analysis, but rather good algorithms : - )

Left, a thumbnail picture of the network. I am amazed. Artwork and

computationalized studies of science goes together! And little more detail (from the middle-right) here:



Couldn't help focus on the biology part. As I saw the strange cilia-like hairy surroundings of the little picture, I wondered what new feature was put into the traditional node-and-link structure of network pictures. See what I found:



Weird! It's like reading a modernistic poem. Tune in on this link and dig into your own favourite parts of *the territory of reason*.

Title: "Scientific Method: Relationships Among Scientific Paradigms".

Quote:

"This map was constructed by sorting roughly 800,000 published papers into 776 different scientific paradigms (shown as pale circular nodes) based on how often the papers were cited together by authors of other papers. Links (curved black lines) were made between the paradigms that shared papers, then treated as rubber bands, holding similar paradigms nearer one another when a physical simulation forced every paradigm to repel every other; thus the layout derives directly from the data. Larger paradigms have more papers; node proximity and darker links indicate how many papers are shared between two paradigms. Flowing labels list common words unique to each paradigm, large labels general areas of scientific inquiry." -- ("Credit: Research & Node Layout: Kevin Boyack and Dick Klavans

#### Links

[The centre's homepage](#)

#### Contributors

[Luis Emilio Bruni](#)

[Mikkel Willum Johansen](#)

[Claus Emmeche](#)

[rut](#)

[Marie](#)

[Christian Baron](#)

[CPNSS secretary](#)

[Tom](#)

#### Kommentarer - Comments

[Ja, det ville være rart med endnu mere bevægelse i...](#) - Sep 7, 2007 - Morsia

[Tak for linket, Morsia. Jeg har set på filosofi.bl...](#) - Sep 3, 2007 - Claus Emmeche

[Ærgertigt at du/I ikke i samme åndedrag støtter op...](#) - Sep 1, 2007 - Morsia

[En lidt senere klumme i Weekendavisen om det samme...](#) - Apr 30, 2007 - Claus Emmeche

[Ha, ha. Meget sjovt. Prøv også denne Bush-parodi \(...](#) - Mar 9, 2007 - Mikkel Willum Johansen

#### Blog Archive

▼ 2007 (5)

▼ April (1)

[The unity of science forms a network](#)

(mapofscience.com); Data: Thompson ISI; Graphics & Typography: W. Bradford Paley (didi.com/brad); Commissioned Katy Börner (scimaps.org")

-- And thanks to Rasmus from Ursuppen for leading my attention to this!

One of the fascinating features of the map is that the structure of interrelationships between the paradigms seems to form a circle. The circle of knowledge? Remember the meaning of words like *universe* ("to comprehend as a unity"), or *university* (think of that as originally "the circle of knowledge", as I was once told by the philosopher Hans Fink). Interestingly, this raises the question: What constitutes the empty space in between whole wheel of knowledge?

► March (4)

*"So many people today—and even professional scientists—seem to me like somebody who has seen thousands of trees but has never seen a forest. A knowledge of the historic and philosophical background gives that kind of independence from prejudices of the generation from which most scientists are suffering. This independence created by philosophical insight is—in my opinion—the mark of distinction between a mere artisan or specialist and a real seeker after truth."*

Posted by Claus Emmeche at 21:41

1 comments:

Claus Emmeche said...

En lidt senere klumme i Weekendavisen om det samme kan ses her.

00:07

[Post a Comment](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)