

Contents

INTRODUCTION: *Philosophy and the Theory of Science*

1. Approaches to the Philosophy of Science 3
2. Arguments over a Theory of Science 7
3. Approach to the Problems 14

PART I: *Explanation*

1. The Humean Background 19
2. The Deductive Pattern of Explanation 25
3. Statistical and Confirmational Generalization 31
4. The Structural Divergence of Explanation and Prediction 43
5. The Centrality of Explanation and Prediction 46
6. The Problem of Ontological Interpretation 57
7. Explanation of Psychological and Historical Events 76
8. Teleological Explanation: Beliefs and Desires 88
9. Teleological Explanation: Self-regulating Behavior 110

PART II: *Significance*

1. Explanation and Criteria of Significance 127
2. Conditions of Adequacy for Defining a Criterion 129
3. Criteria Based on Complete Verifiability or Falsifiability 133
4. Falsifiability as Criterion of Significance and as Criterion
of Demarcation 137
5. Criteria of Incomplete Verifiability 150
6. Criteria of Translatability 154
7. Inclusion in an Empiricist Language 160

| | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| 8. | Disposition Terms, Observational Predicates, and Observable Elements | 162 |
| 9. | The Interpretation of Disposition Terms | 167 |
| 10. | The Method of Reduction Sentences | 169 |
| 11. | The Problem of Theoretical Terms | 178 |
| 12. | The Problem of Function and the Problem of Interpretation | 179 |
| 13. | Approaches to the Problem of Interpretation: Pragmatism and Fictionalism | 182 |
| 14. | Pragmatism | 183 |
| 15. | Fictionalism and Its Varieties | 185 |
| 16. | Instrumentalistic Fictionalism | 186 |
| 17. | Empiricism, Pragmatism, and Instrumentalism | 187 |
| 18. | Eliminative Fictionalism | 188 |
| 19. | Eliminative Fictionalism: Syntactical Form | 189 |
| 20. | Eliminative Fictionalism: Craigian Form | 193 |
| 21. | Eliminative Fictionalism: Ramseyan Form | 203 |

PART III: *Confirmation*

| | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| 1. | Explanation, Significance, and Confirmation | 225 |
| 2. | Hume's Challenge and the Generalization Formula | 227 |
| 3. | Hempel's Study of Qualitative Confirmation | 236 |
| 4. | Critical Discussion of the Satisfaction Criterion | 252 |
| 5. | The Paradoxes of Confirmation: Hempel's Treatment | 258 |
| 6. | Further Discussions of the Paradoxes of Confirmation | 269 |
| 7. | Positive Instances and the Generalization Formula | 291 |
| 8. | Induction and Projectibility | 295 |
| 9. | Goodman's Proposal on Induction | 310 |
| 10. | Reflections on the Justification of Induction | 314 |

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 327 |
|--------------|-----|

| | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| INDEX | <i>follows page</i> 332 |
|-------|-------------------------|