



Základy filozofie

filozofie pseudo-vědy

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2021

konspirační teorie

VÍRA VE SPIKLENECKÉ TEORIE OPĚT ROSTE. STAČÍ PÁR KLIKNUTÍ



Chemtrails? • Autor: REUTERS

Tomáš Lindner
6. 3. 2017 13:16

Spiklenecké teorie

Týdeník Der Spiegel přinesl rozhovor s Michaellem Butterem, který se specializuje na výzkum konspiračních teorií. "Umožňují jedinci vystoupit z masy a myslit si o sobě, že objevil jádro pudla. Pokud jsem někým, kdo na rozdíl od ostatních pochopil, kdo vládne světu a co stojí za kondenzačními stopami letadel na obloze, jsem přece výjimečný," říká o přitažlivosti spikleneckých teorií.

Cituje pak aktuální studie, podle nichž dnes každý druhý Američan věří aspoň jedné takové teorii. Růst jejich oblíby ale není historickou anomalií. "V 18. století mizela víra v boží plán, který řídí veškeré dění na Zemi, s čímž slábla i víra v to, že všechno dává ve výsledku smysl. Musí to být tedy někdo jiný, kdo dění řídí. Na místo Boha nastoupili spikleneci," pokračuje Michael Butter s tím, že je spíše neobvyklé, že jsme v minulých několika desetiletích zažili fázi jejich ústupu: „Když se podíváte hlouběji do historie, uvidíte, že spiklenecké teorie byly pro politický vývoj Evropy a Ameriky zásadně důležité. Nejen v osmnáctém a devatenáctém, ale ještě dlouho v minulém století bylo normální jím věřit.“ Původem amerikanista z univerzity v německém Tübingenu zmiňuje například George Washingtona, který věřil celosvětovému a systematickému britskému spiknutí s cílem zrušit svobodu.

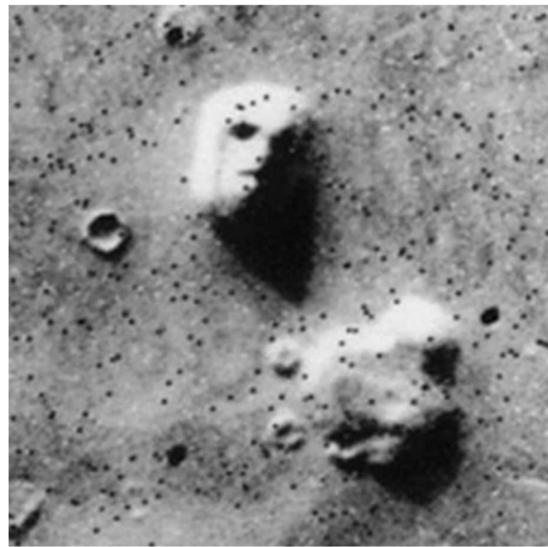
Lindner (2017)

otázky

- Co je to pseudo-věda?
- Proč je pseudo-věda problém?
- Může se věda vyrovnat s pseudo-vědou?
- Jak lze obecně přistupovat k pseudo-vědě?

CO?

The Face



Voyager 2 (2018)

příklady I

- 2012 Doomsday Scare
- Ancient Aliens
- Apollo Moon Landing Hoax
- Astrology
- Crop Circles
- Face on Mars
- Bermuda Triangle
- Cryptozoology
- Flat Earth Theory
- Hollow Earth Theory
- Megalithic or 366 Geometry
- Mythical Creatures

příklady II

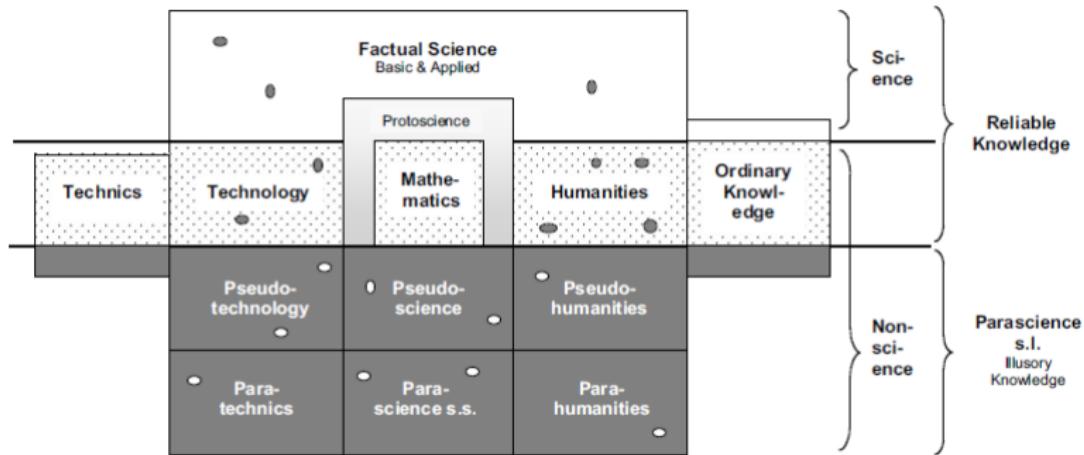
- Channeling
- Dowsing
- Electronic Voice Phenomenon (EVP)
- Extrasensory Perception (ESP)
- Levitation
- Numerology
- Conversion Therapy
- Hypnosis
- Primal Therapy
- Polygraph
- Psychoanalysis
- Subliminal Advertising

příklady III

- Body Language
- Dianetics
- Feng Shui
- Handwriting Analysis

Structure of Epistemic Fields

(Mahner, 2007: 549)



Characteristics of Pseudo-Scientists and Pseudo-Sciences

(Gardner, 1957)

- Gardner
 - isolation from colleagues
 - tendency toward paranoia
 - I. considers himself a genius
 - II. regards his colleagues as ignorant blockheads
insults and accusations
 - III. belief of unjustly persecution and discrimination
 - IV. compulsions to attacking the greatest scientists and
the best established theories
 - V. tendencies to write in a complex jargon

Lugg: pseudo-science and fallacies

(Lugg, 1987: 226)

If these observations are correct, there is an important analogy to be drawn between pseudoscientific theories and fallacious arguments. In both cases, it may indeed be necessary to engage in empirical analysis to determine what is being claimed. A pseudoscientific theory, like a fallacious argument, may be obscurely presented and even when clearly presented it may misrepresent what its proponents intend. Beyond this, however, empirical analysis is neither required nor appropriate. We no more need to know anything about the world to say that theories are pseudoscientific than we need to know anything about it to say that arguments are invalid. Judgements about scientificity, like judgements of validity, have nothing to do with empirical well-foundedness and truth.

Derksen: The Seven Sins

(Derksen, 1993, 2001)

- Dearth of Decent Evidence
 - pretense to producing reliable knowledge, obtained via trustworthy methods
- Unfounded Immunizations
 - accepting only particular interpretations of the data
- Ur-Temptations
 - uncritically assigning a deeper significance to prima facie spectacular coincidences
- Magic Methods
- Insights of Innatates
 - Only the initiate has the right perspective on the truth.
- All-Explaining Theories
- Uncritical and Excessive Pretensions

Minimum of the Demarcation

(Ondráček, 2020)

Any scientific discussion has to aspire to critical discussion
and has to be done in a scientific context
(has to be labeled by protagonists as scientific).

Popper: Conventionalism

(Popper, 2005b: 15); (Popper, 2005a: 58, 61)

I very soon found that every theory can be “immunized” (this excellent term is due to Hans Albert) against criticism. If we allow such immunization, then every theory becomes unfalsifiable. Thus we must exclude at least some immunizations.

Only the ‘laws of nature’ are simple; and these, the conventionalist holds, are our own free creations; our inventions; our arbitrary decisions and conventions.

The only way to avoid conventionalism is by taking a decision: the decision not to apply its methods.

Immunizing Strategies and Epistemic Defense Mechanisms

Boudry and Braeckman (2011: 146)

We define an ‘immunizing strategy’ as an argument brought forward in support of a belief system, though independent from that belief system, which makes it more or less invulnerable to rational argumentation and/or empirical evidence. By contrast, an epistemic ‘defense mechanism’ is defined as an internal structural feature of a belief system, which has the same effect of deflecting rational arguments and empirical refutations.

Popper: Types of Immunizations

(Popper, 2005a: 62)

Types
introduction of ad hoc hypotheses
modification of ostensive (or explicit) definition
adoption of sceptical attitude as to the reliability of the experimenter justifications or the experimenter herself
cast doubts on the acumen of the theoretician

Popper: Types of Immunizations

(Popper, 2005a: 62)

The list makes no claim to completeness: it must be left to the investigator, especially in the fields of sociology and psychology (the physicist may hardly need the warning) to guard constantly against the temptation to employ new conventionalist stratagems—a temptation to which psychoanalysts, for example, often succumb.

Immunizing Strategies and Epistemic Defense Mechanisms

(Boudry & Braeckman, 2011: 146)

- Conceptual Equivocations & Moving Targets
 - Multiple Endpoints
 - Deflationary Revisions
- Postdiction and Feedback Loops
- Conspiracy Thinking
 - Turning the Evidence on its Head
 - Explaining the Motives for Disbelief
- Changing the Rules of Play
- Invisible Escape Clauses
 - Tailoring Around the Phenomena

problémy

- zdroje a náklady
- bezpečnost
- rozhodování
- ...

feng shui

Hong Kong government spends millions on feng shui

Hong Kong has admitted to spending millions of pounds in order to rebalance the feng shui of its construction projects.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES



By Malcolm Moore, Shanghai

1:03PM GMT 16 Dec 2010



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The best way to transfer
money overseas

In Hong Kong



Hong Kong final
clearance



Henry (2019)

vakcinace I/II

Rodiče věří mýtům o očkování,
rostе výskyt spalniček. V Praze už je
epidemie

10. 4. 2018

Hygienici v Česku letos evidují už téměř sedmdesát případů nakažlivých spalniček. Za první tři měsíce loňského roku jich přitom napočítali jen osmatřicet. A nemocni budou v příštích dnech pravděpodobně přibývat. Epidemie je od března v Praze, kde se objevily víc než dvě třetiny všech případů. Jednou z příčin je podle lékařů to, že řada rodičů odmítá nechat své děti naočkovat. V nemocnici v Motole zjišťuju, jestli má zdravotnický personál dostatek protilaterek.



Ilustrační foto

DÍLO: CTOPICTURE ALLIANCE/CHOMORANGE Autor: Ingrid/Björn Schün

Volfová (2018)

vakcinace II/II

- Common good (společné dobro)?

plochá Země

100+1

f G+ Q

ATLAS SVĚTA HISTORIE PŘÍRODA NEVUE VESMÍR VÁLKA VĚDA ZAJÍMAVOSTI PŘEDPLATNÉ

Propagátor teorie o placaté Zemi „vzlétl do kosmu“: Tvrđe přistání ale přežil

17.04.2018 - Vilem Koubek
Aby potvrdil teorii o ploché Zemi, zamířil nadšený Američan k nебi ve vlastnoručně vyrobené raketě – a překvapivě přežil



Američan Mike Hughes ve vlastnoručně vyrobené rakete odstartoval do kosmu, aby dokázal, že Země je placatá.

Koubek (2018)

zdravotní péče

Nevyléčitelně nemocný britský chlapec Alfie Evans zemřel. Převoz a léčbu zakázal soud

Nevyléčitelně nemocný britský chlapec Alfie Evans, který byl po vleklé soudní bitvě odpojen od přístrojů, v sobotu brzy ráno zemřel. Informovala o tom britská média s odvoláním na chlapcovy rodiče.



Londýn 11:44 28. dubna 2018



Lidé protestují proti odpojení od přístrojů nevyléčitelně nemocného britského chlapce Alfieho Evansa | Zdroj: Fotobanka Profimedia

ZPRÁVY, KTERÉ JSTE NEČETLI



V reálu nefiktivním vyšetřovateli volí a nepláčání je po rameňou, filka k filmu Metanol skutečný žalobce



U Liberce už třetí den dnes Czarek Free Party. Stížností na hru z technoparty přibývá



Babiš by v případě demise ministra za ČSSD odstoupil, řekl Vondráček. Menší názory, prohlásil Štěch



K této se chováme macešky, jako by už němelo nastat žádnej zitra, varuje fyzioterapeut Kolář

ČTK (2018)

Z čeho má Kim Čong-un strach, proč má soukromý záchod? A umí plavat? Zkuste si, co víte o KLDR

před 18 hodinami

Kim Čong-un v pátek sibil přepsat historii a uzavřít s Jižní Koreou mirovou dohodu. Severokorejský vůdce se sice pomalu otevírá světu, o jeho životě i běžných Severokorejcích ale stále kolují mýty. Zjistěte, jak na tom ještě se znalostmi o nejuzavřenější zemi světa a jejím vůdcem.

[Spustit kvíz](#)

Nad rodinou Štikových se nesmíme pohoršovat. Jinak prohráváme



Svezte se do historie pražského metra. Unikátní fosky, plány a tramvaj, která nevyjela



Plíšková rozbrečela nejdřísnější hřátku na okruhu. Důvodů k nastolení je mnohem víc



Foto: 10 prověřených pravidel ze zahraničí, která by české dopravě i lidicům prospěla

Aktuálně.cz (2018)

konspirační myšlení

- Věříte v konspirace?
- Jaký je problém konspirací?

Conceptual Equivocations & Moving Targets

- Multiple Endpoints
 - predictions in horoscopes (Gilovich (1991: 58–59))
 - Nostradamus (Hines (2003); Marks (2000: 262–266))
- Deflationary Revisions
 - Jehovah's witnesses (Zygmunt (1970: 931, 934))
 - Freud's theory of the libido (Cioffi (1998: 16))
 - postmodernisms and social constructivism (Kukla (2000: x))
 - “switcheroos” and “reverse-switcheroos” (Kukla (2000: x))
 - “Motte and Bailey Doctrines”
(Shackel (2005: 298); Fusfield (1993))
 - Intelligent Design, Creationists (Behe) (Behe (1996: 39))
 - Intelligent Design, Creationists (Demski) (Perakh (2004: 64–75))

Conceptual Equivocations & Moving Targets

Multiple Endpoints

(van Eemeren, Grootendorst, & Eemeren, 2004; Ward, 2007: 206)

Un Empereur naistra pres d'Italie,
Qui a l'Empire sera vendu bien cher;
Diront avec quelz gens il se ralie,
Qu'on trouvera moins prince que boucher.

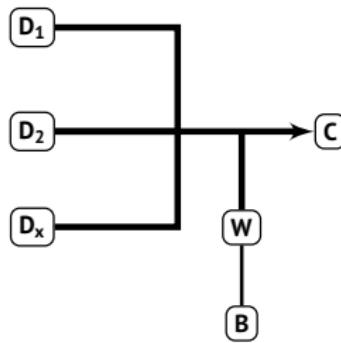
An Emperor shall be born near Italy,
Bought by the Empire at a bankrupt rate;
You'd say the herd, he gathers to himself,
Denote him butcher rather than a prince.

- P-D 10 Language Use Rule

- Discussants may not use any formulations that are insufficiently clear or confusingly ambiguous, and they may not deliberately misinterpret the other party's formulations.

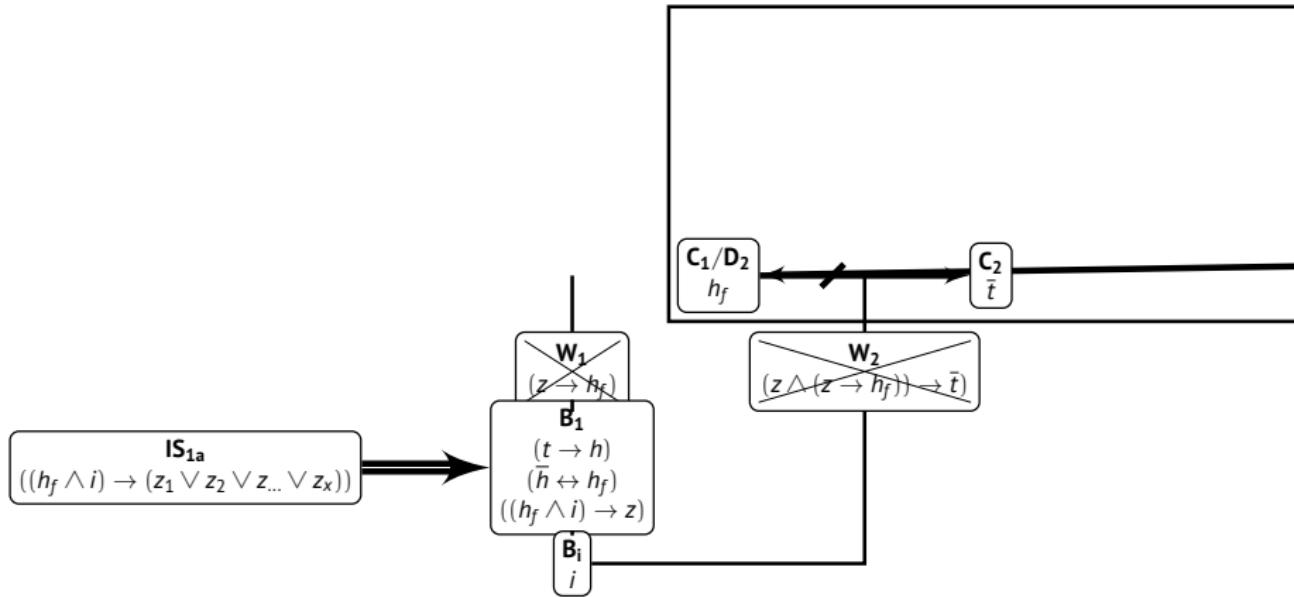
Multiple Endpoints

(Ondráček, 2020)



Multiple Endpoints

(Ondráček, 2020)



Deflationary Revisions

Intelligent Design, Creationists (Behe) Switcheroos

(Behe, 1996; Kukla, 2000: 39)

By irreducibly complex I mean a single system composed of several well-matched, interacting parts that contribute to the basic function, wherein the removal of any one of the parts causes the system to effectively cease functioning.

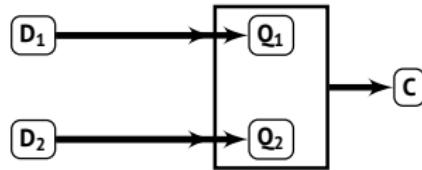
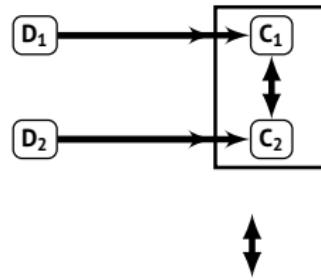
An irreducibly complex system cannot be produced directly (that is, by continuously improving the initial function, which continues to work by the same mechanism) by slight, successive modifications of a precursor system, because any precursor to an irreducibly complex system that is missing a part is by definition nonfunctional.

Deflationary Revisions

Intelligent Design, Creationists (Behe)

Switcheroos

(Ondráček, 2020)

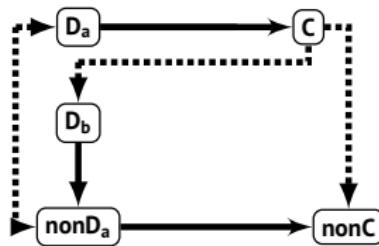


Postdiction and Feedback Loops

- the belief in the efficacy of rituals and magic
(Boyer (1994: 144, 207); Evans-Pritchard (1937))
- the belief in the therapeutic power of healing crystals, chakra stimulation, and homeopathy
- parapsychology
(Wiseman (2010: 38); Gilovich (1991: 21); Randi (1981: 13))
- water divining (Randi (1981: 13))
- Freudian psychoanalysis: the etiology of psychological illness
(Freud (1924: 119))

Postdiction and Feedback Loops

(Ondráček, 2020)



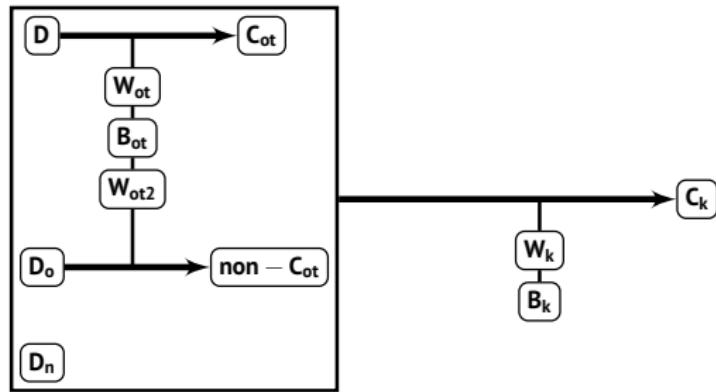
Conspiracy Thinking

- Turning the Evidence on its Head
 - “errant data” (Keeley (1999: 118))
- Explaining the Motives for Disbelief
 - Freud’s Psychoanalysis
(Crews (1986: 14); Gellner (1985); Freud (1957: 39))
 - Defenders of Marxism
 - Young Earth Creationism (Morris (1963: 93))
 - UFOs and alien abductions (Jacobs (1998: 112, 117, 258))
 - Scientology (Foster (1971: 134))

Turning Evidence on its Head

errant data

(Ondráček, 2020)



Changing the Rules of Play

- postmodernist philosophers and radical social constructivists (Shackel (2005: 311–319))
- alternative medicine (Gordon (1996); Williams (1980))
- homeopathy (Guttentag (1940))
- psychoanalysts

Changing Rules of Play

(Shackel, 2005: 312)

Firstly, the metaphilosophical claim is made that philosophy cannot properly be done except negatively: that to occupy a position is already to be mistaken. I am going to refer to this position as the No-Position Position. Secondly, alogosia is asserted: true normative theories of objective rationality are not available; whatever we take to be the canons of rationality are constructions, so could have been constructed differently, and although there may be some ways in which they could not be constructed, among those ways in which they can be constructed there are no better or worse ways of constructing them.“

- P-D 2 Obligation to Defend Rule

- Discussants who advance a standpoint may not refuse to defend this standpoint when requested to do so.

Invisible Escape Clauses

- Tailoring Around the Phenomena
 - Omphalos hypothesis by Philip Gosse (1857) (Gosse (1857))
 - the idea of negative psi (“catapsi”) (Wiseman (2010); Sheldrake (1995); Bonewitz (1989: 55))
 - Franz Anton Mesmer and magnetizers (Mackay (1974 (1841): 290))
 - Parapsychologists and “error phenomenon” (or “decline effect”) (Kennedy (2003: 67); Kennedy (2001); Humphrey (1996: 152); Beloff (1994: 7, 11))
- Imponderabilia
 - the astrologer’s belated invocation of the formation of stars (at the moment of conception)
 - Bigfoot and UFO (Zuefle (1999: 27); Mack (1995))
 - Freudian psychoanalysis and quantitative factor (Cioffi (1998: 119); Esterson (1993))

Tailoring Around the Phenomena

Franz Anton Mesmer and magnetizers

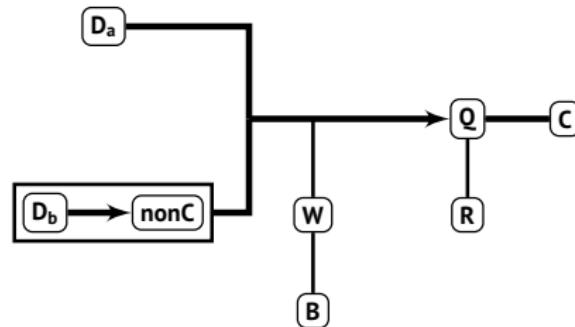
(Mackay, 1974 (1841): 294)

And it should be especially remarked that the magnetisers do not lay claim to a universal efficacy for their fluid; the strong and the healthy cannot be magnetised; the incredulous cannot be magnetised; those who reason upon it cannot be magnetised; those who firmly believe in it can be magnetised; the weak in body can be magnetised, and the weak in mind can be magnetised. And lest, from some cause or other, individuals of the latter classes should resist the magnetic charm, the apostles of the science declare that there are times when even they cannot be acted upon; the presence of one scorner or unbeliever may weaken the potency of the fluid and destroy its efficacy. In M. Deleuze's instructions to a magnetiser, he expressly says, 'Never magnetise before inquisitive persons!'

Tailoring Around the Phenomena

Franz Anton Mesmer and magnetizers

(Ondráček, 2020)



diskuze



Česká televize (n.d.)

zneužití

(Kingsbury & Dare, 2017)

- Cherry-Picking
- Using Contentious Scientific Results Without Appropriate Reservation
- Arguing Illegitimately from Scientific Authority
- Applying Scientific Theories or Data Too Far from Their Domain:
Stump, Mirror Neurons, and the Paradox of Fiction
- Drawing Philosophical Conclusions Too Quickly from Scientific Theories or Data:
Harman on Character Traits

možnosti

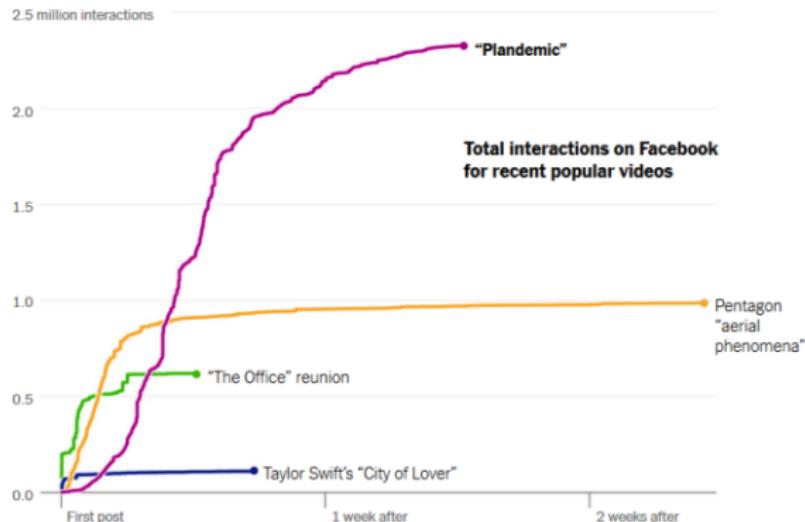
(Kingsbury & Dare, 2017)

- Being Explicit About the Role the Scientific Theory or Empirical Data Are Playing in a Philosophical Argument
- Explicitly Addressing the Credibility of the Scientific Data or Theory
- Using Review Articles and Metastudies
- Collaborating with Scientists
- Experimental Philosophy?
- Rigorous and Informed Peer Review

Plandemic

- *Plandemic: The Hidden Agenda Behind Covid-19* (2020)
- *Plandemic: Indoctornation* (2020)
- režisér/producent: Mikki Willis
- hlavní postavy: Judy Anne Mikovits

Plandemic: Frenkel, Decker, and Alba (2020)



Interactions include reactions, likes, shares and comments. Posts for each video are counted from the first one that contained the video through May 15 on public groups and pages on Facebook. • Source: CrowdTangle • By The New York Times

konspirační teorie: van Mulukom et al. (2020)

1 **Table 1**

2 Overview of examples of main COVID conspiracy theory types, with projected antecedents and consequences.

3

Label	Description	Antecedents	Consequences
<i>Conspiracy theories questioning the severity of the virus and pandemic</i>			
Hoax theory	The pandemic is a hoax, i.e., there is no virus at all	Low scientific/governmental trust; motivational (e.g. rejection of guidelines)	Rejection of guidelines
Flu theory	COVID-19 is not worse than the flu		
<i>Conspiracy theories assuming a purposeful origin/spread of the virus, thus evaluating it as dangerous</i>			
Artificial origin theory	The virus is artificially created rather than naturally occurring	Suspicion/distrust against group (the powerful, government, Big Pharma, other cultures)	Used to denounce outgroup (the powerful, government, Big Pharma, other cultures); not necessarily a rejection of guidelines (as this would help to protect oneself against danger)
Bioweapon theory	For countries to use as bioweapon, aimed at killing people		
Political control theory	For governments/countries/powerful people to gain political control		
Military experiment theory	As a secret military experiment (mostly United States)		
World order theory	To establish a new world order		
Financial gain theory	For (pharmaceutical) companies or powerful people to gain money, e.g., through vaccines		
<i>Conspiracy theories as variations of existing theories</i>			
5G theory	The virus is spread via, or exacerbated by, 5G	Belief in other, non-COVID conspiracy theories	Adherence to alternative guidelines; violence against 5G
Bill Gates theory	For Bill Gates to gain control over people via microchips		

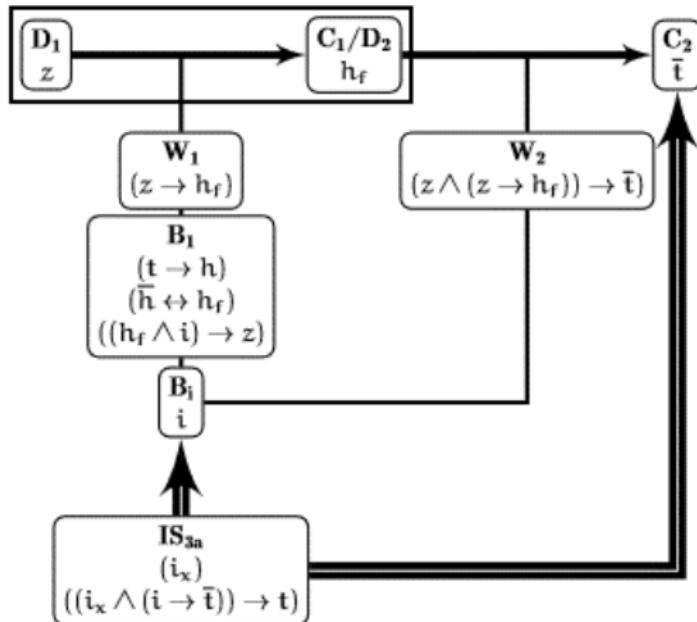
4 Note. Listed are only those antecedents and consequences deemed characteristic for the specific conspiracy theories.

5

kosnpirační myšlení

- dvě základní verze (Boudry and Braeckman (2011)):
 - postavení důkazu na hlavu
 - vysvětlení motivů pro nedůvěru
- útok na podporu (backing, Toulmin (2003))
- motivované usuzování

Plandemic: Frenkel et al. (2020)



práce s konspiračním myšlení

- hledání společné podpory (backingu)
 - metadiskuze a subdiskuze
 - společné hodnoty
- nevědecká diskuze
- sporná účinnost diskuze o faktech (datech)
- časová náročnost

Plandemic: další rétorické prvky

- narativ výzkumu (dobro vs. zlo)
- populismus (Eberl, Huber, and Greussing (2021))
- srozumitelnost, práce s pravděpodobností a jistota
- ...

Kuhn and Lakatos: criticism

(Lakatos, 1978: 5–4)

Scientists have thick skins. They do not abandon a theory merely because facts contradict it. They normally either invent some rescue hypothesis to explain what they then call a mere anomaly or, if they cannot explain the anomaly, they ignore it, and direct their attention to other problems. Note that scientists talk about anomalies, recalcitrant instances, not refutations.

Popper: Revaluation

(Popper, 2005b: 43)

On the other hand, I also realized that we must not exclude all immunizations, not even all which introduced ad hoc auxiliary hypotheses. For example the observed motion of Uranus might have been regarded as a falsification of Newton's theory. Instead the auxiliary hypothesis of an outer planet was introduced ad hoc, thus immunizing the theory. This turned out to be fortunate; for the auxiliary hypothesis was a testable one, even if difficult to test, and it stood up to tests successfully.

All this shows not only that some degree of dogmatism is fruitful, even in science, but also that logically speaking falsifiability, or testability, cannot be regarded as a very sharp criterion.

Popper: admissibility of immunizations

- empirical content
- new theory
- reasonableness
- ...

Derksen: reprehensibility of immunizations

(Derksen, 1993: 24)

Yet, immunizing is not always reprehensible. In fact, as far as the argumentation is concerned there is nothing wrong with immunization. Immunization is nothing but arguing on the assumed truth of one's theory. There is nothing against this, as long as the theory is well-confirmed. Immunization becomes reprehensible only when it is unfounded.

science as a tool

(Sagan, 2006)

My deeply held belief is that if a god of anything like the traditional sort exists, then our curiosity and intelligence are provided by such a god. We would be unappreciative of those gifts if we suppressed our passion to explore the universe and ourselves. On the other hand, if such a traditional god does not exist, then our curiosity and our intelligence are the essential tools for managing our survival in an extremely dangerous time. In either case the enterprise of knowledge is consistent surely with science; it should be with religion, and it is essential for the welfare of the human species.

ethics



A Brief History of Philosophical Skepticism (2019)

OVERVIEW

ÚVOD

CO?

imunizace

PROČ?

zdroje a náklady

bezpečnost

rozhodování

MOŽNOSTI

Conceptual Equivocations & Moving Targets

Multiple Endpoints

Deflationary Revisions

Postdiction and Feedback Loops

Conspiracy Thinking

Changing the Rules of Play

Invisible Escape Clauses

Tailoring Around the Phenomena

JAK?

praxe v diskuzích (o COVID-19)

DOPLNĚNÍ

Ondraček ZAP! • 2021

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