

## Axiomatization of Otto Neurath's Encyclopedism

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Concepts of Reality: Schlick, Carnap, Neurath

Abstract

Hypothetico-deductive realism is a widely held ontological attitude towards non-observables in the sciences. Moritz Schlick propagated a version in *Erkenntnistheorie* (2nd. ed., 1925). Neither Neurath nor Carnap adopted this position. I compare the alternative views on ontology they embraced. Neurath's turns out on examination to be untenable and inconsistent with good scientific practise. I discuss difficulties for Carnap's view (in "Empiricism, Semantics, and Ontology", 1950) and argue that Schlick's version of hypothetico-deductive realism is the most promising of the three.

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