



# Semi-periphery and scientific collaboration

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Andrzej W. Nowak

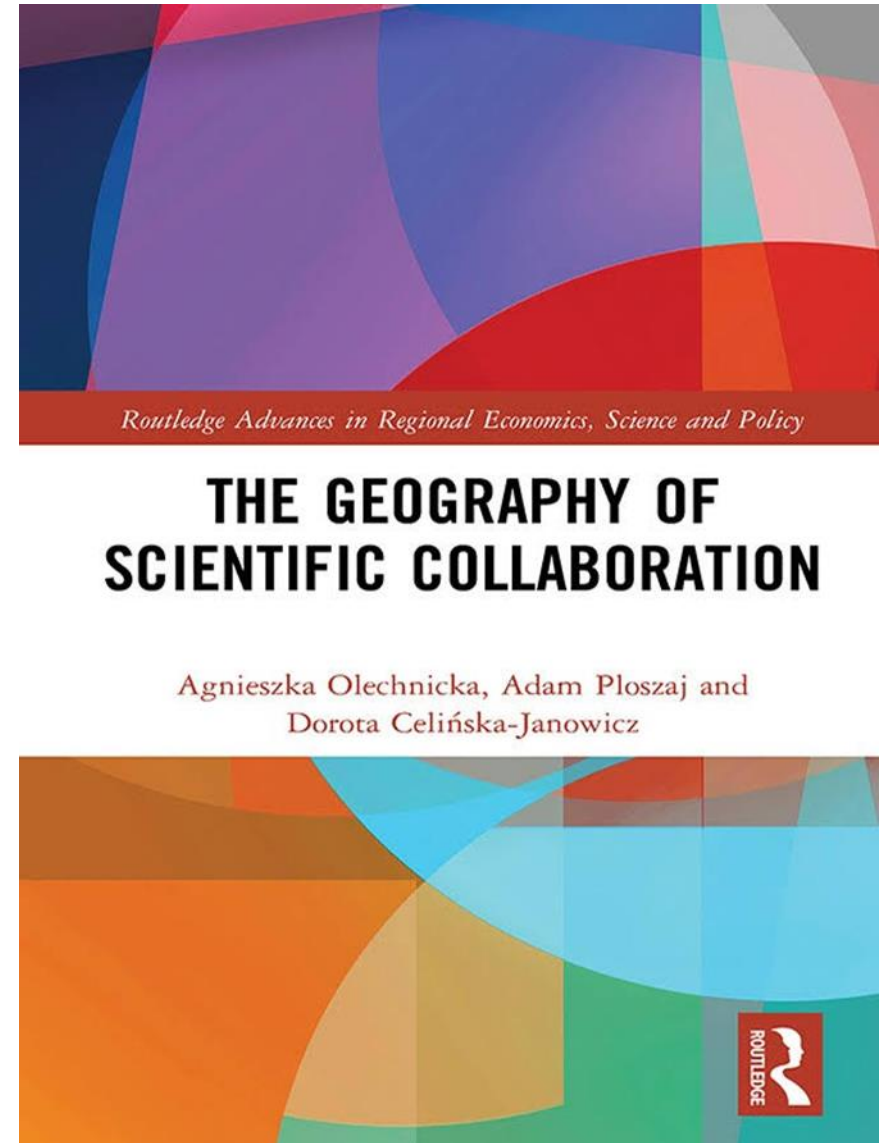
*"Is Serbia, according to UN discourse, on the South or on the North?" (M.B. question to UNDP representative in Belgrade, Serbia, June 2007).*

*"It is on the East." (UNDP representative, smiling).*


The real challenge is to understand how the core is reproducing the semiperiphery and how the semiperiphery is reproducing both the core and the periphery, through their exchanges and interconnectedness.

# Starting remarks

- Impressive amount of data
- Descriptive rather than prescriptive
- A map of current geopolitics
- Deontologisation and dematerialisation







# Opening themes for a discussion

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Co-authorship vs collaboration



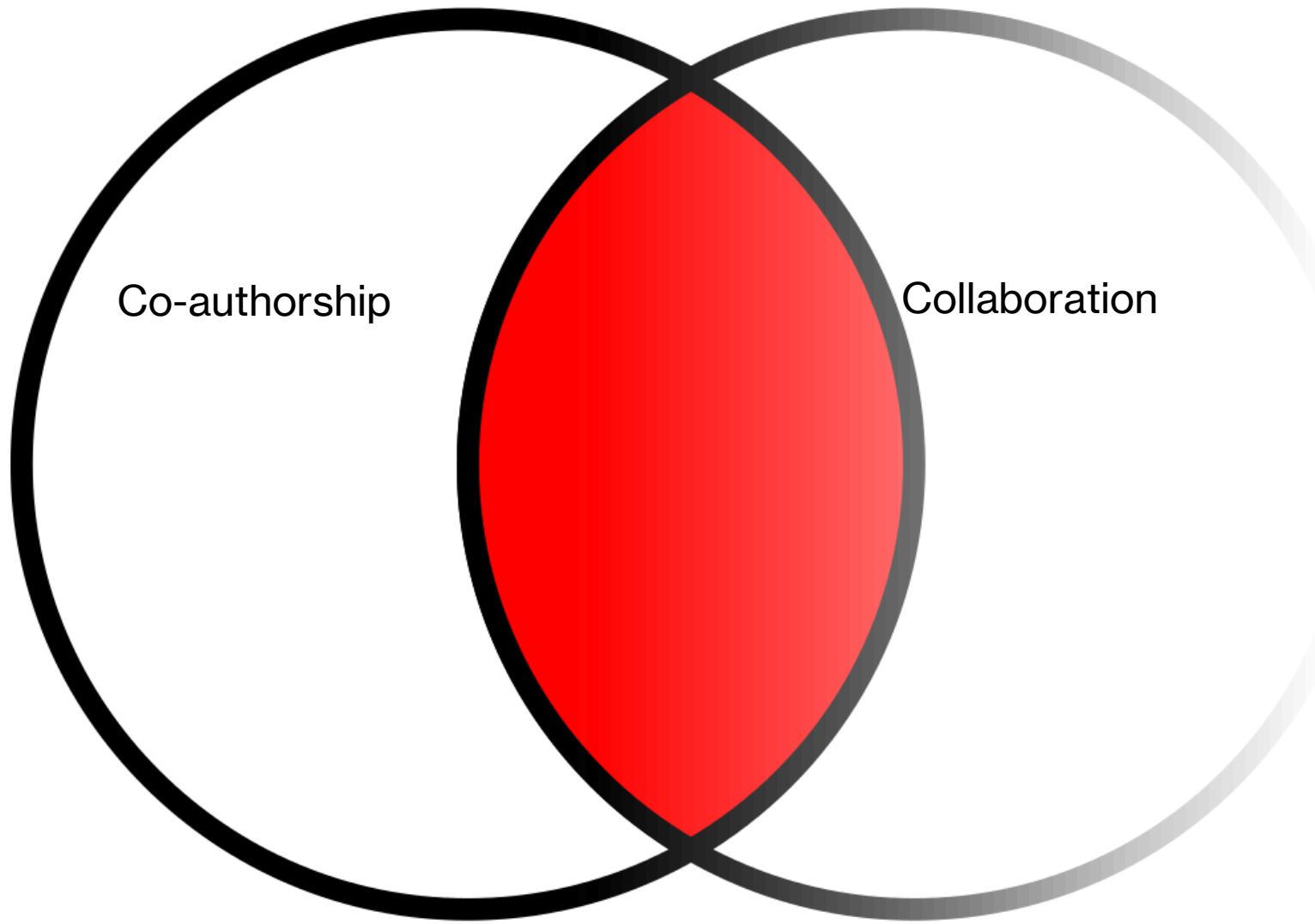
Ontological versus epistemic analysis  
of collaboration



Synchronic versus diachronic  
collaboration



The density of data coverage in the  
core and semi-periphery and periphery



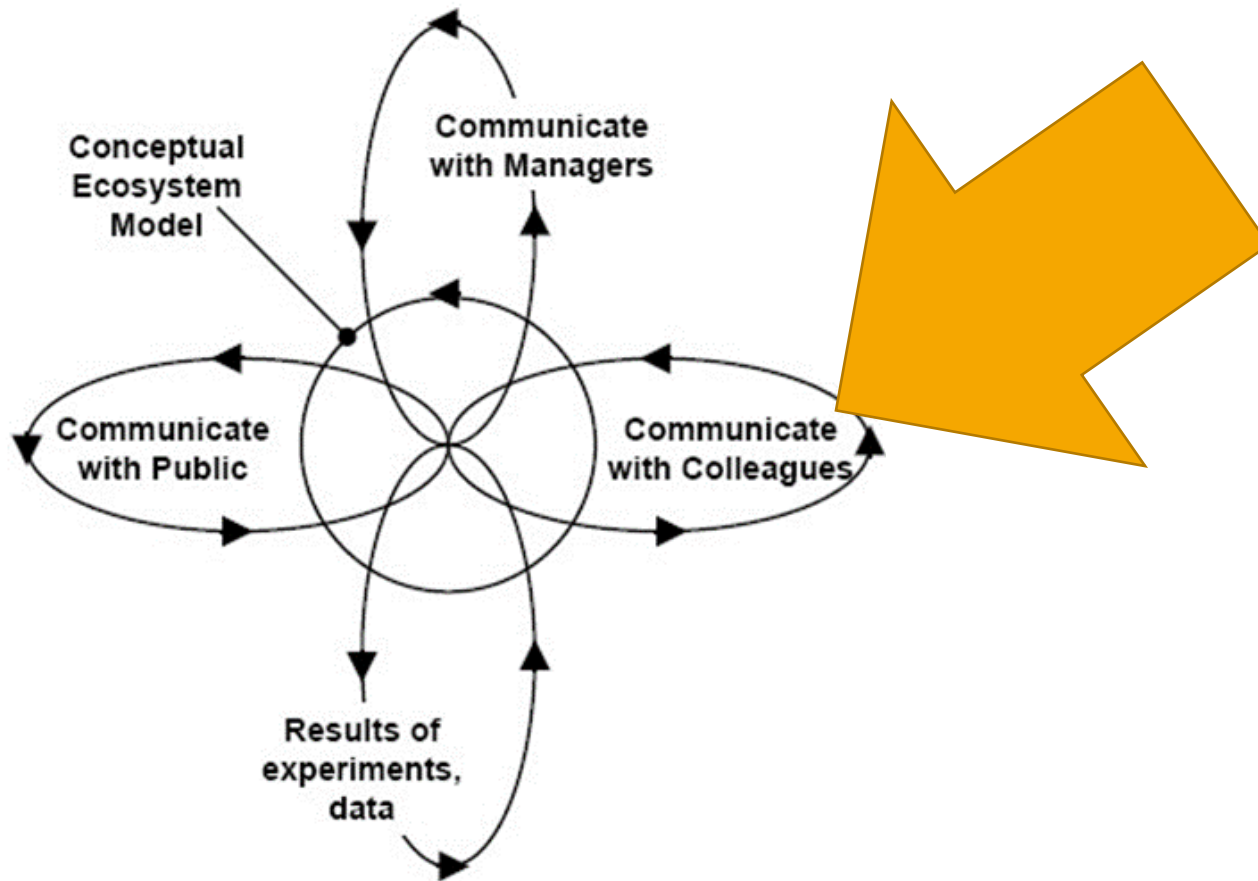
**Beyond  
blackbox of  
collaboration  
(as co-  
authorship)**

# McNamara fallacy and epistemocentrism

- The first step is to measure whatever can be easily measured. This is OK as far as it goes.
- The second step is to disregard that which can't be easily measured or to give it an arbitrary quantitative value. This is artificial and misleading.
- The third step is to presume that what can't be measured easily really isn't important. This is blindness.
- The fourth step is to say that what can't be easily measured really doesn't exist. This is suicide.
- – Daniel Yankelovich, "Corporate Priorities: A continuing study of the new demands on business" (1972).



# Problem with epistemocentrism of co-authorship as measure of collaboration

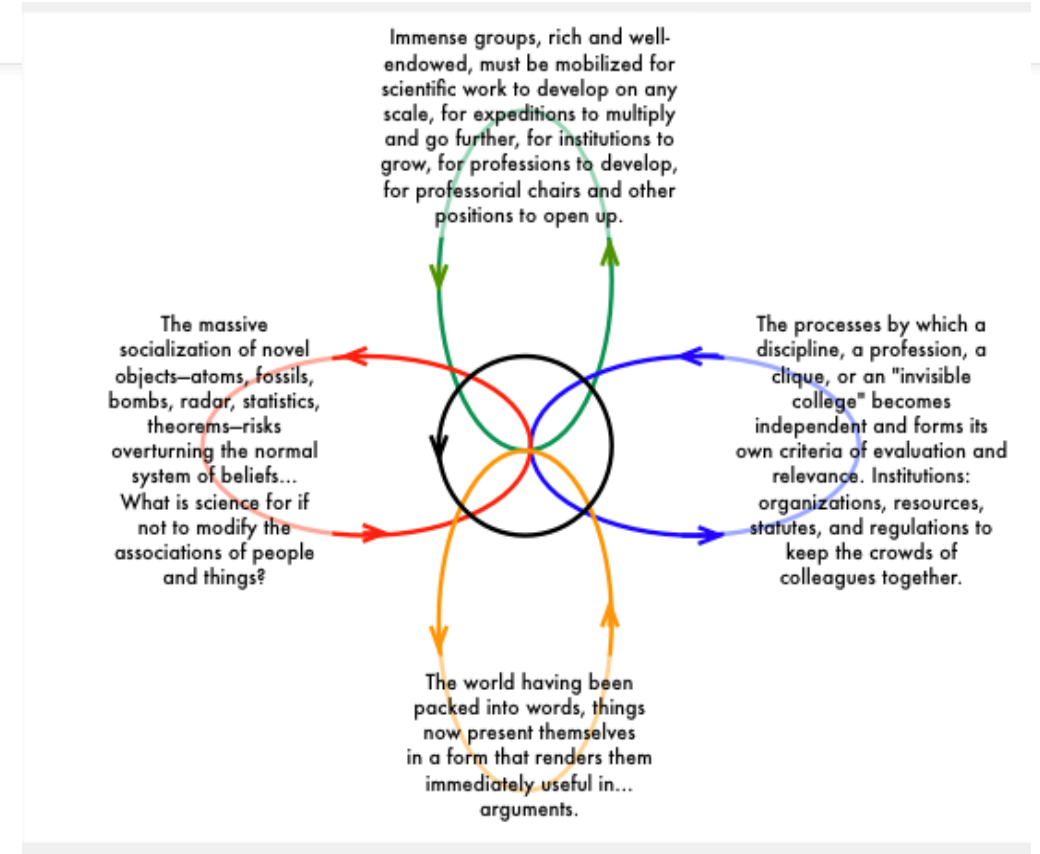
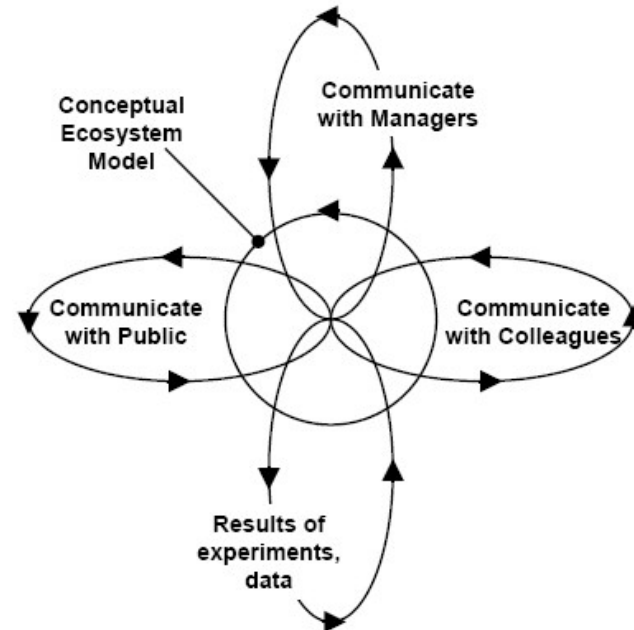
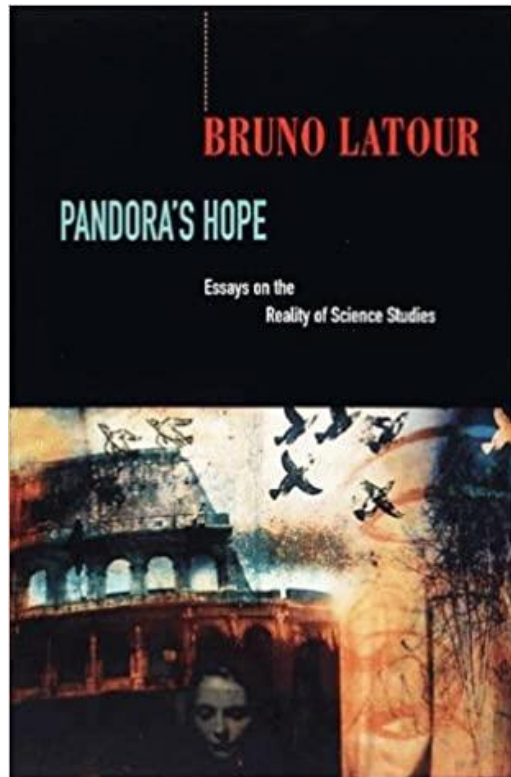


## THE GEOGRAPHY OF SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION

Agnieszka Olechnicka, Adam Ploszaj and  
Dorota Celińska-Janowicz



# „Scientific facts must flow...”

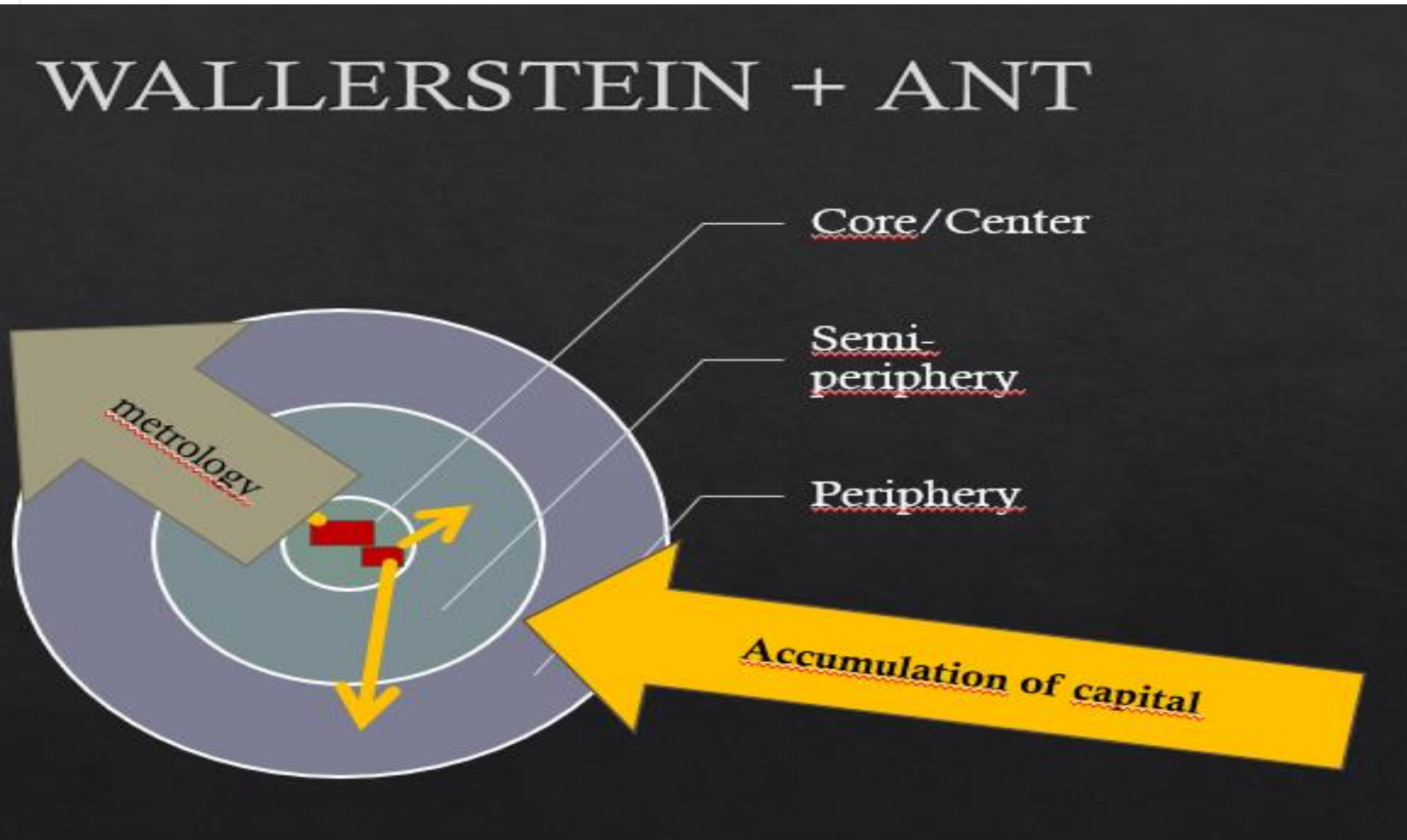




# Modern-World system architecture

Peter J. Taylor

The state as container: territoriality in the modern world-system  
Progress in Human Geography June 1994 18: 151-162



# Structural violence

Staniszkis claims that the core countries force the semi-periphery and the periphery to accept a new form of organisations, rationality, types of institution.

This process is more important than economic exploitation.

Unequal relation between the core and the periphery are based not only on rationality, organisation, economic relations, etc. but also on a form of „ontologisation”.

# Stabilisation of destabilisation and metrological densivity

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NATURE | COLUMN: WORLD VIEW



## Watch out for cheats in citation game

The focus on impact of published research has created new opportunities for misconduct and fraudsters, says [Mario Biagioli](#).

12 July 2016



PDF



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"unlike data fraud and other forms of conventional misconduct, post-production misconduct does not necessarily pollute the scientific record with false results. But it does erode the credibility of the publication system. And it is more common in emerging countries, perhaps because universities there place the most emphasis on metrics to quickly become globally visible."

A world-systemic analysis of knowledge production in international communication and media studies: the epistemic hierarchy of research approaches

Marton Demeter & Manuel Goyanes

**Table 3.** A hypothetic model of epistemic hierarchies in knowledge production in light of geopolitical power relations. Applied to the field of communication studies, 1997–2017.

	Who	On what	Epistemic value/ positions	Temporal dimension
<i>Centre</i>	Dominates the research output	Typically, on central geopolitical areas	Determine the epistemic hierarchy Occupying research with top epistemic positions	Continuously dominate the research output Collect slightly more data on peripheral geopolitical locations Lowers the epistemic position of theoretical and qualitative approaches Strengthen the epistemic position of quantitative and mixed-methods approaches
<i>Periphery</i>	Very low science output	Typically, on peripheral geopolitical areas	Follow centrally ascertained epistemic hierarchies Occupying research with lower epistemic positions	Continuously minimal contribution Slightly more visible as a data source (but not as knowledge producer) Try to follow existing epistemic hierarchies, while also tend to occupy areas with decreasing epistemic values, supposedly because of the decreasing competition. More theoretical and qualitative papers Emerging publication output in periphery-specific periodicals



# Structural violence/peripherisation

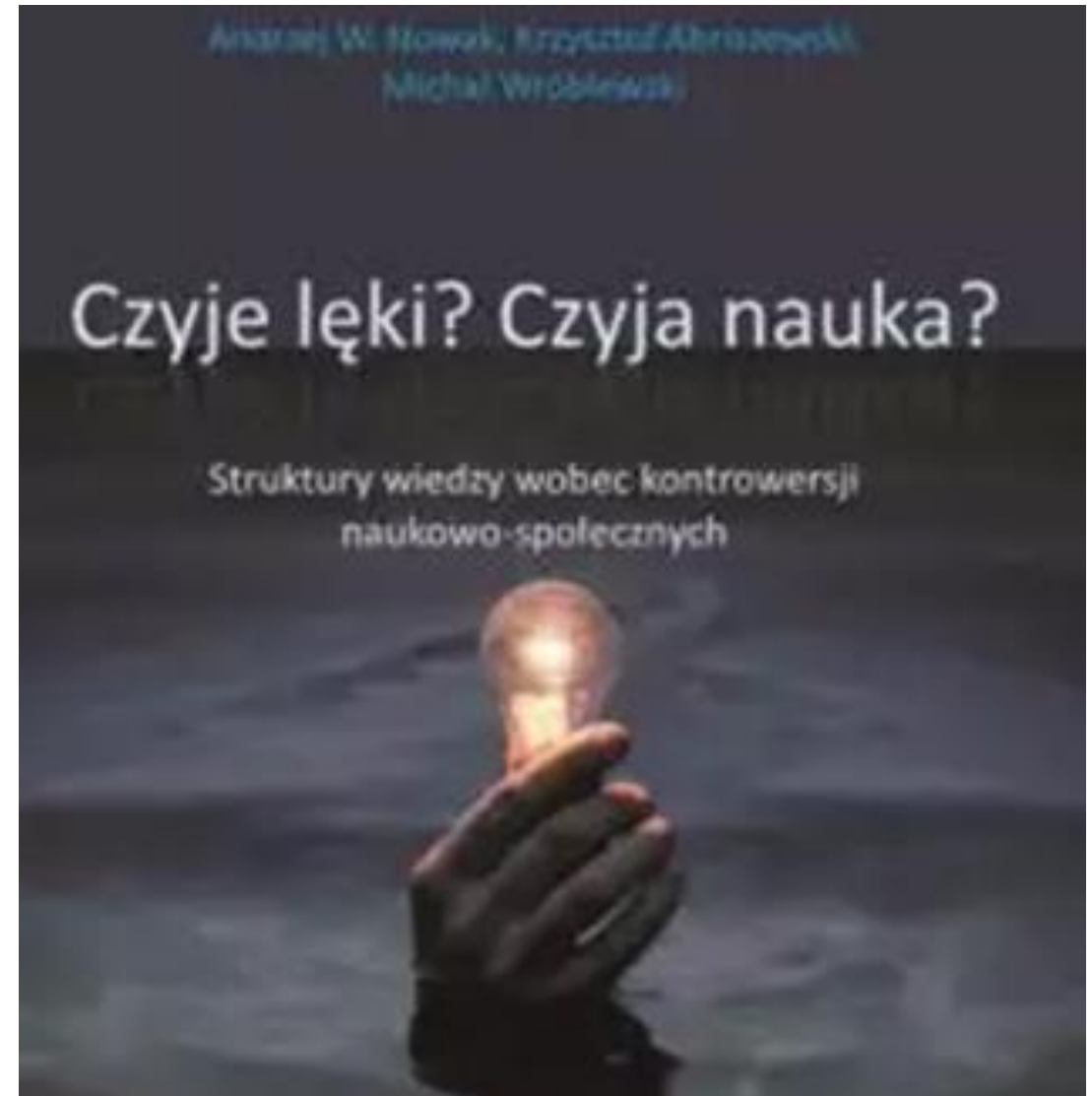
Control  
on

production and  
synchronisation:

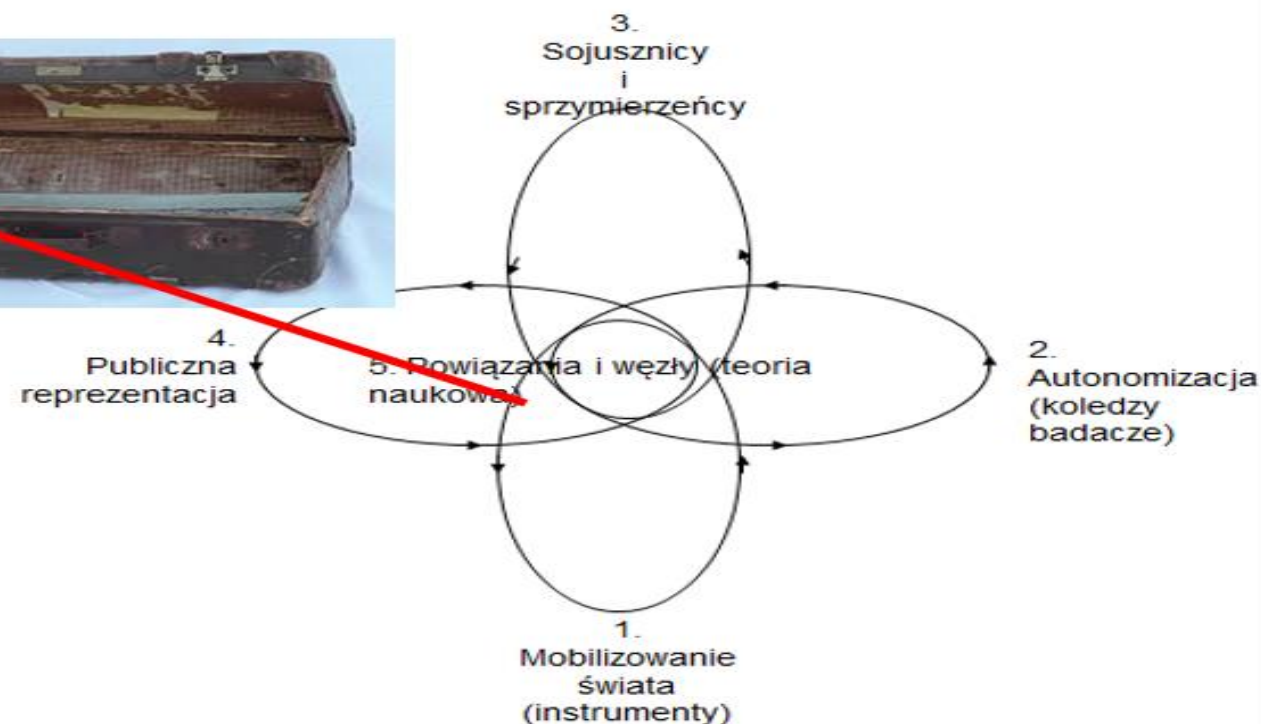
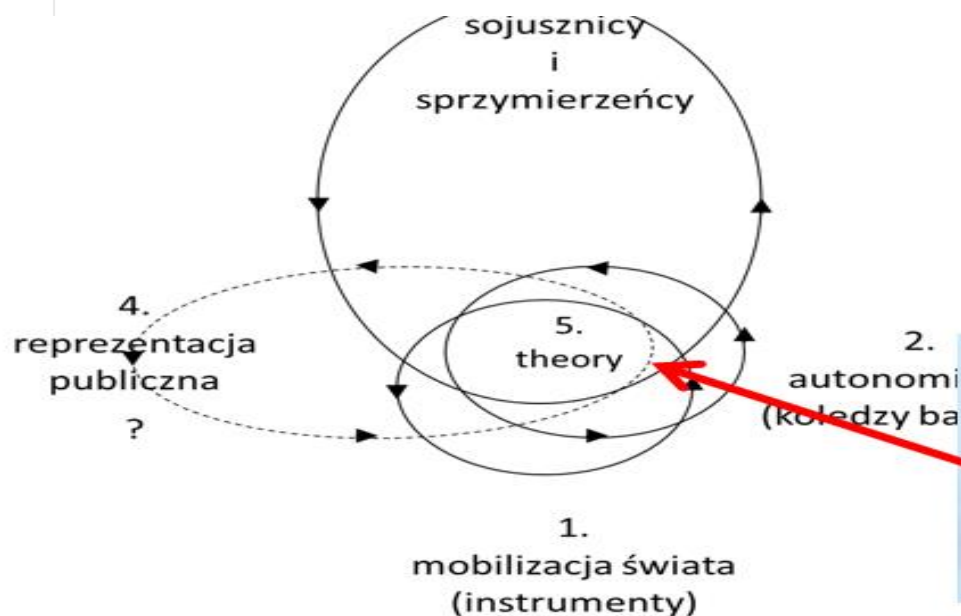
- Measures/Metrological chains
- Calculation centers
- Commodity chains
- Modes of Production
- Technoscientific Networks

# Suitcase science

- Mechanism of assymterical knowledge accumulation
- Synchronisation with global (West) knowledge structures undermine local production in favor of „bringing ready made science” in suitcase from West/Core countries
- „Zombie”, „cargo” – science – obstructed circulation of knowledge wich favor unequal exchange instead of production of scientific facts



# Transfer of scientific „half product” form center to periphery



# Centers and Peripheries in Knowledge Production

Leandro Rodriguez Medina



## 40 *Centers and Peripheries in Knowledge Production*

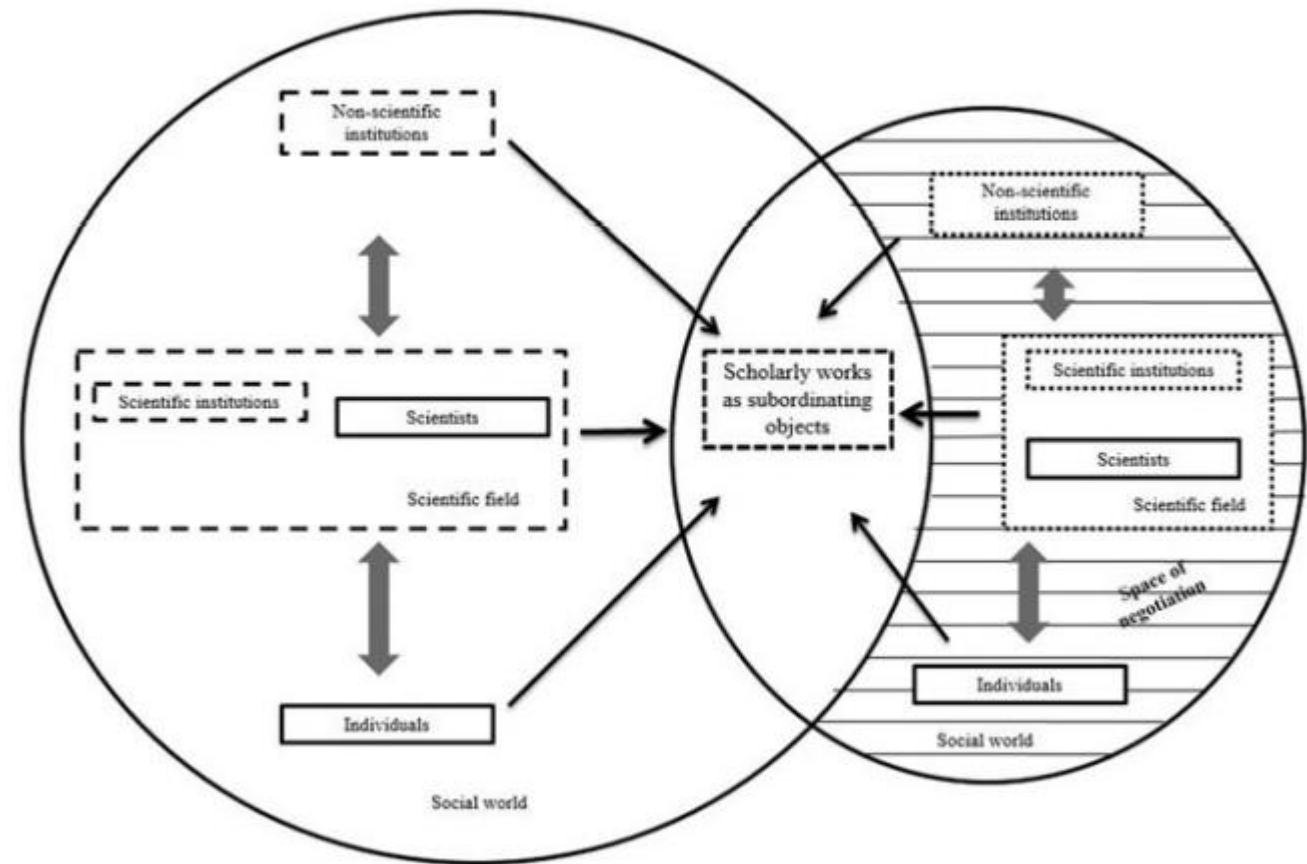


Figure 1.4 Subordinating objects, social worlds, scientific fields, and spaces of translation.<sup>53</sup>



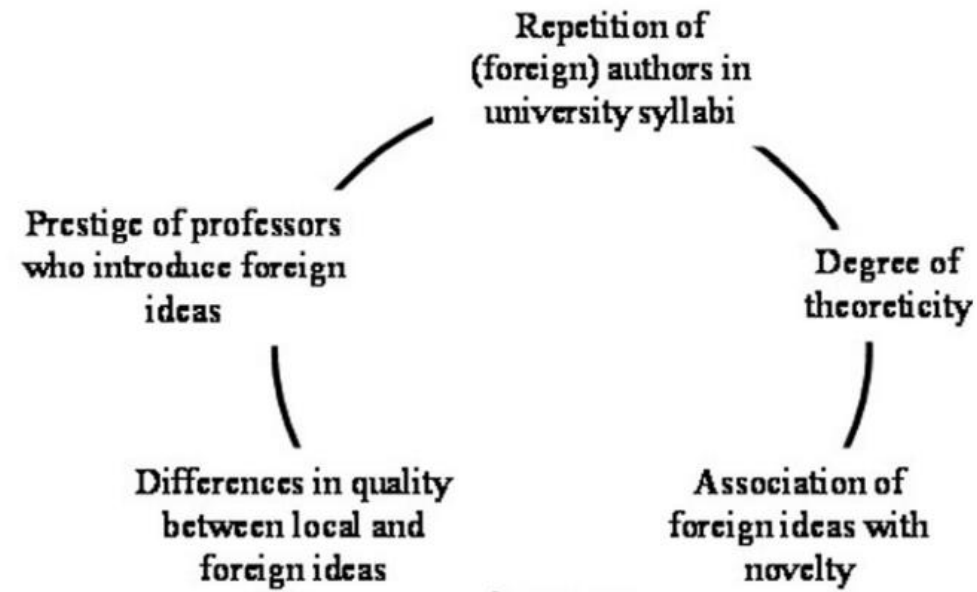


Figure 3.1 Construction of a distinction between foreign and local ideas.

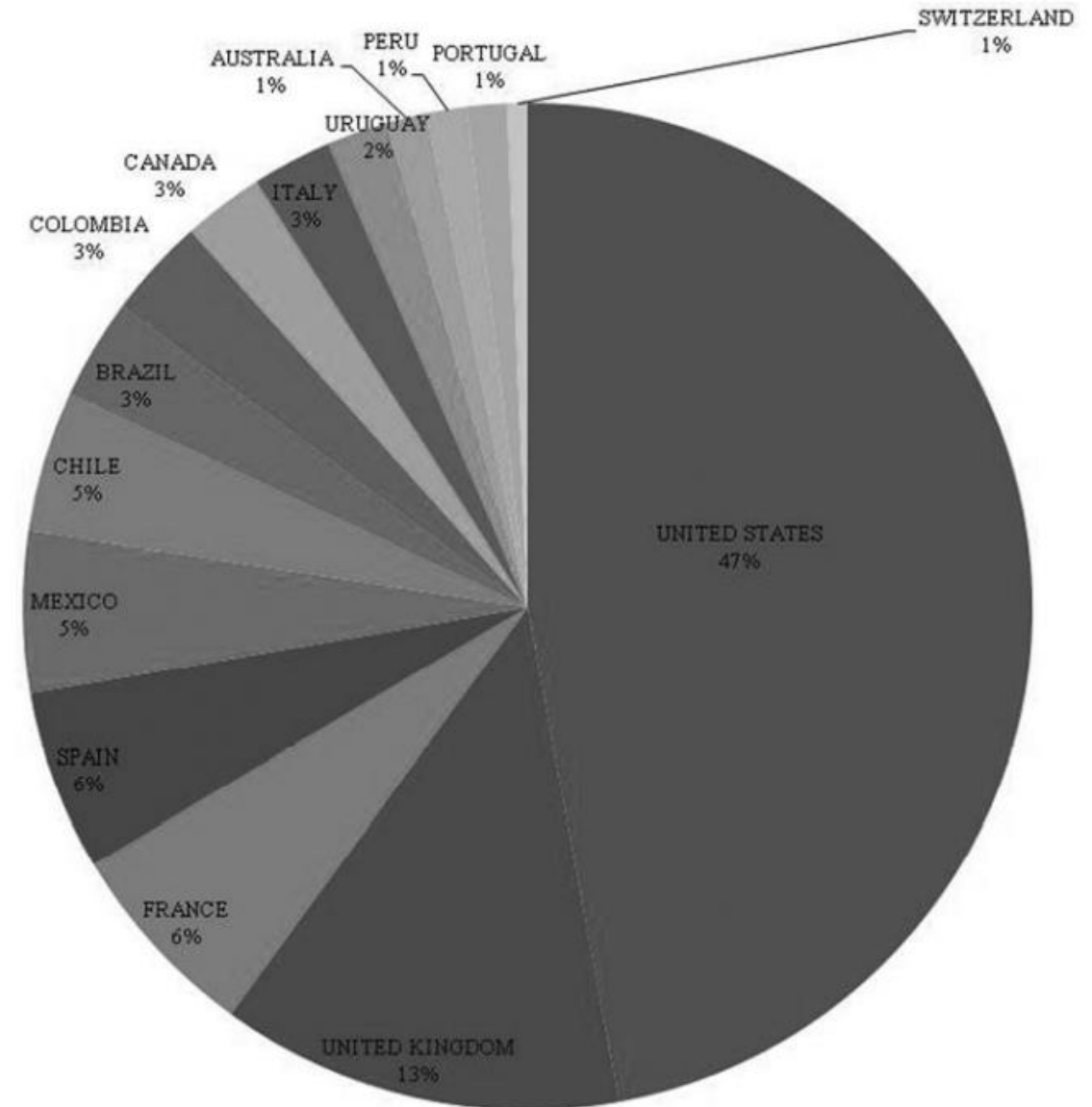
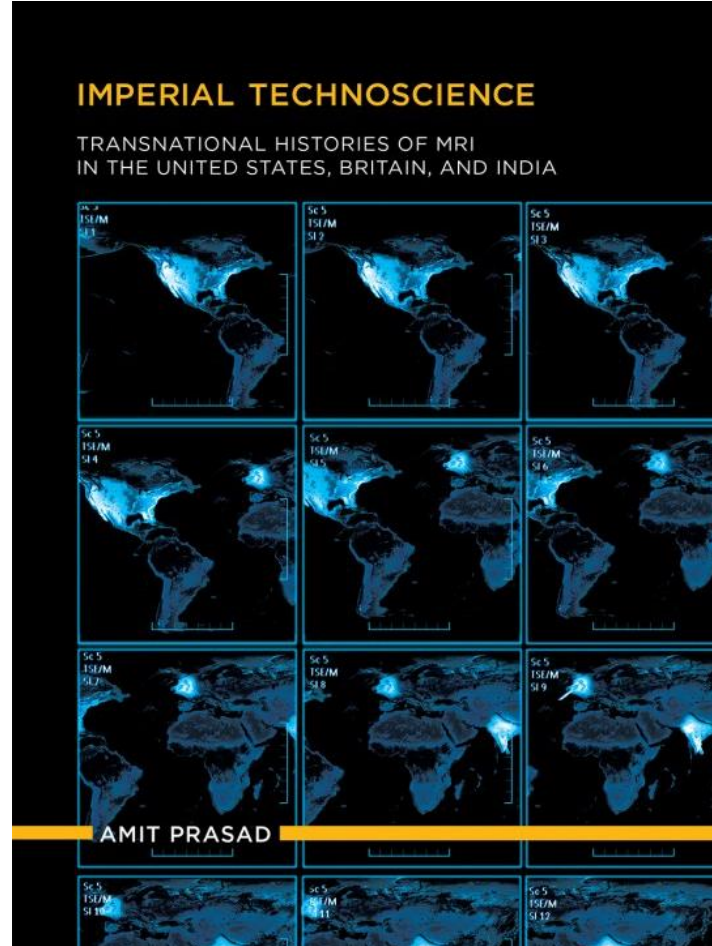


Figure 5.2 Country of origin of co-authors' institutions.  
Source: ISI Web of Science, accessed March 2013

The second question demands a more complex answer, or perhaps an entire book. The main policy implications are:

- (i) As long as Argentine political science relies heavily on part-time academics, it cannot establish a solid and stable system of publications that guarantees the quality of the scholarly products.<sup>4</sup>
- (ii) Only if there is a material and symbolic infrastructure that gives rise to a national agenda and sustains the exchange with foreign countries will Argentina be able to influence the circulation of ideas, taking advantage of the presence of Argentineans in the most developed scientific fields (what has been referred to as the 'brain gain').
- (iii) Undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in political science have to balance the weight of foreign and local knowledge, even favouring the (still scarce) local production, since this can be an important factor to encourage the development of strong scientific networks and institutions.
- (iv) the entire university and scientific and technological research system requires higher degrees of institutionalisation, which means that the State must commit to transform personal and group initiatives into solid, reliable, and enduring institutions.

# Materiality of technoscience and collaboration: embodied inequalities



- Entangled histories of MRI, it shows, emergence and consolidation of particular technoscientific trajectories and shifts in transnational geography of science and technology (e.g. centers and peripheries) embodied in a practices, artifacts, materialities.



#### 4 Recovering “Peripheral” History: Genealogy of MRI Research in India

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Those who find themselves in the “periphery” thus confront a catch-22 situation. If they follow alternative trails that are independent of those pursued at the “center,” there is a good chance they will not be successful.<sup>73</sup> On the other hand, if they follow the trails that are being pursued at the “center,” they will constantly have to play catch-up with the “center” (see also chapter 5). Unfortunately, within the entangled networks of transnational technoscience, playing catch-up seems to have been a much safer bet.



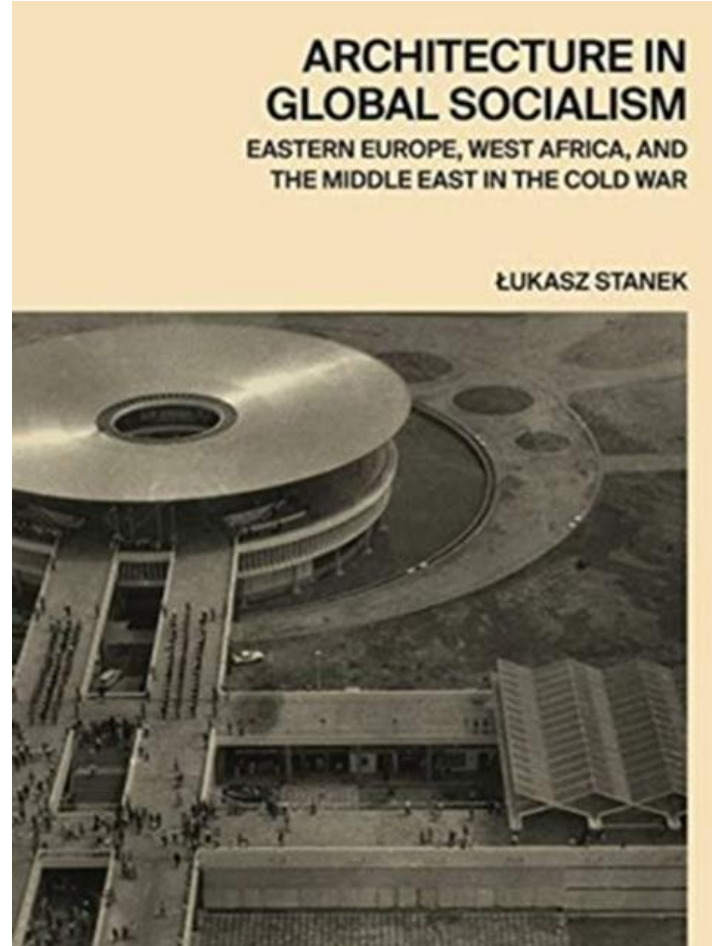
# Denkstill, Denkkollektiv – diachronic and synchronic collaboration



## diachronic versus synchronic scientific collaboration

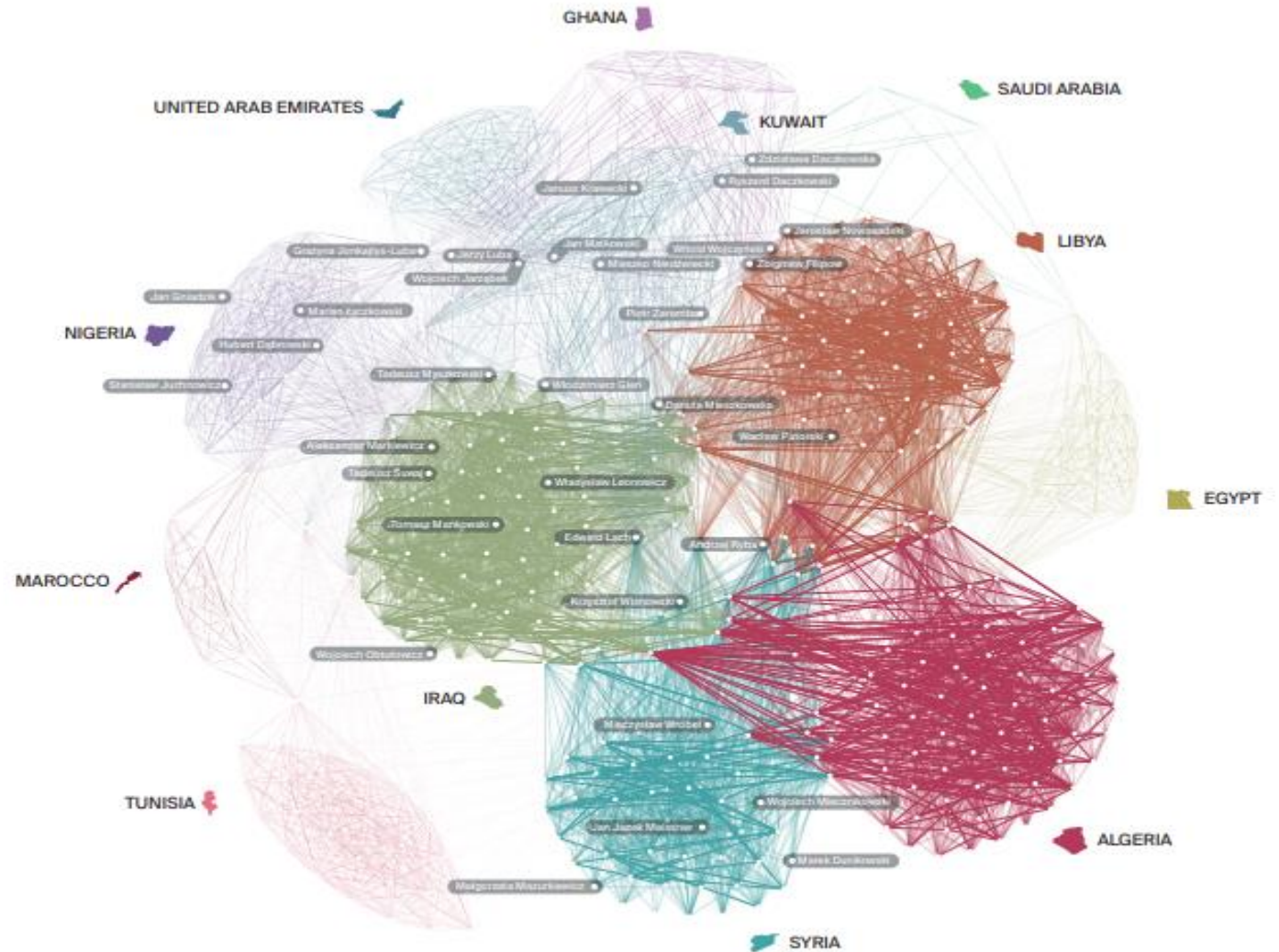
- path dependency and scientific collaboration
- development of paradigms, stabilisation of collaboration
- Scientific schools, traditions etc.

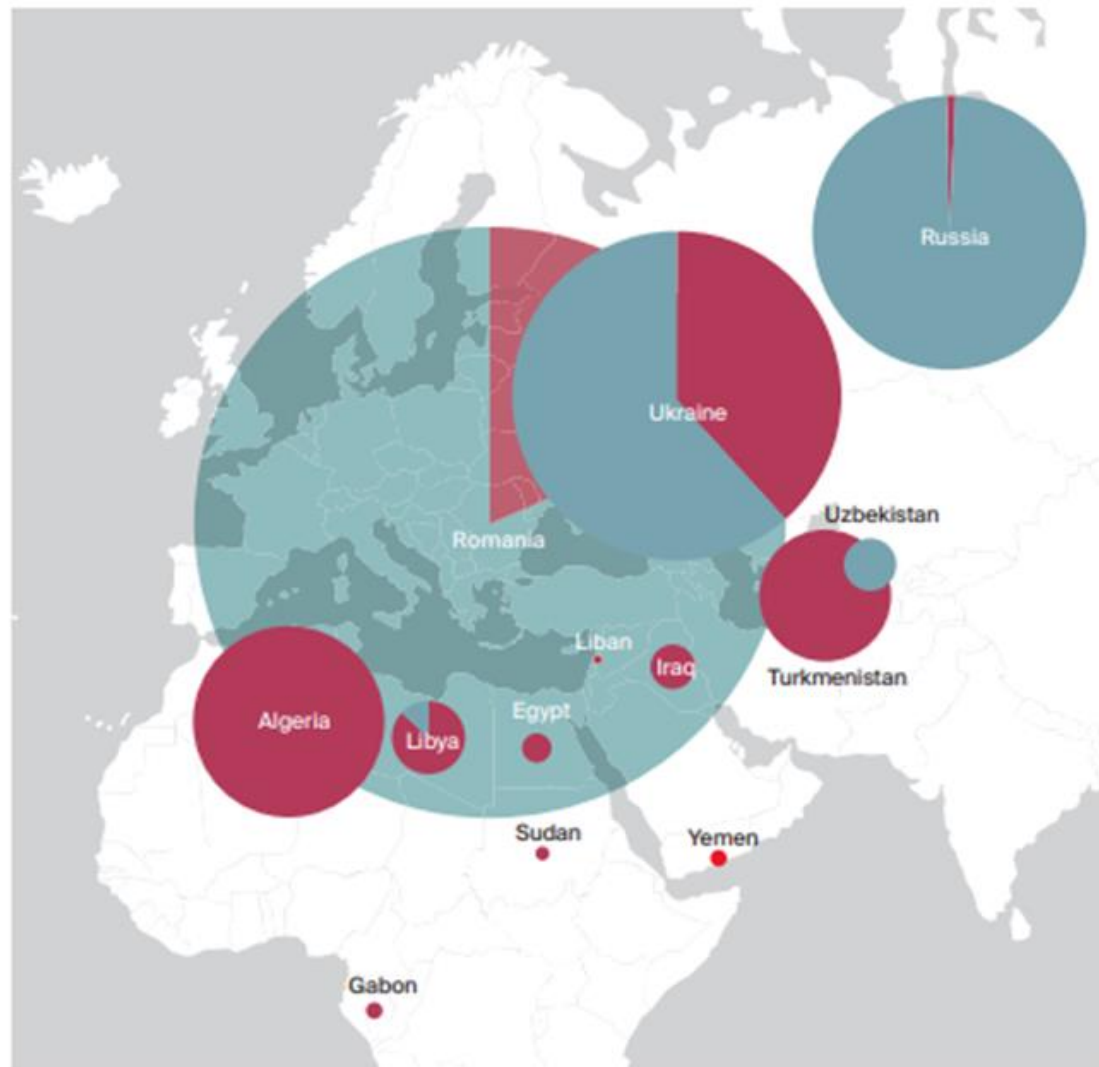
# Materiality of technoscience and collaboration: world-making



- Stanek demonstrates socialist countries' enduring mark on urban landscapes in the postcolonial world.
- It is a story about socialist internationalism, and material effect of both technoscientific and political collaboration

B. This graph identifies the destinations of foreign designs by the members of the Society of Polish Architects (SARP), on the basis of their 417 personal dossiers, which cover the period between 1958 and 1989. The nodes of the diagram represent individual architects; the edges represent the countries of their designs. Two nodes representing two architects are connected by an edge representing a particular country if each of them worked on at least one design destined for that country. This graph shows the twelve biggest recipient countries of architectural designs by SARP members, starting with Iraq, Libya, and Algeria. Most architects worked in a limited number of countries (one or two); those who are represented in the graph as connected to a larger number of countries were typically experts of international organizations, designers in charge of international tenders, or authors of competition designs. The named nodes identify people discussed in this book, but only two-thirds of Polish architects discussed in this book submitted a dossier to SARP. Data source: Stowarzyszenie Architektów Polskich (SARP). Software: Gephi.





C. This diagram shows the geographic distribution of 973 realized and unrealized designs by Romproiect (Romania) between 1979 and 2009. The areas in red indicate designs drawn during the Cold War; the areas in blue indicate designs drawn afterward. In the wake of the end of socialism, Romproiect's commissions shrank in North Africa and the Middle East and were largely replaced by commissions in Romania and countries of the former Soviet Union (Russia, Ukraine). Data source: Arhivele Naționale ale României. Software: Tableau.

#### A NOTE ON SOURCES

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**Figure 2** Vic Adegbite (chief architect), Jacek Chyrosz (design architect), Stanislaw Rymaszewski (design architect), Pavilion A, Ghana Fair, Accra, 1967



**Figure 5** Vic Adegbite (chief architect), Charles Polónyi (design architect), Flagstaff House housing project, Accra, 1964 (author's photo, 2012).



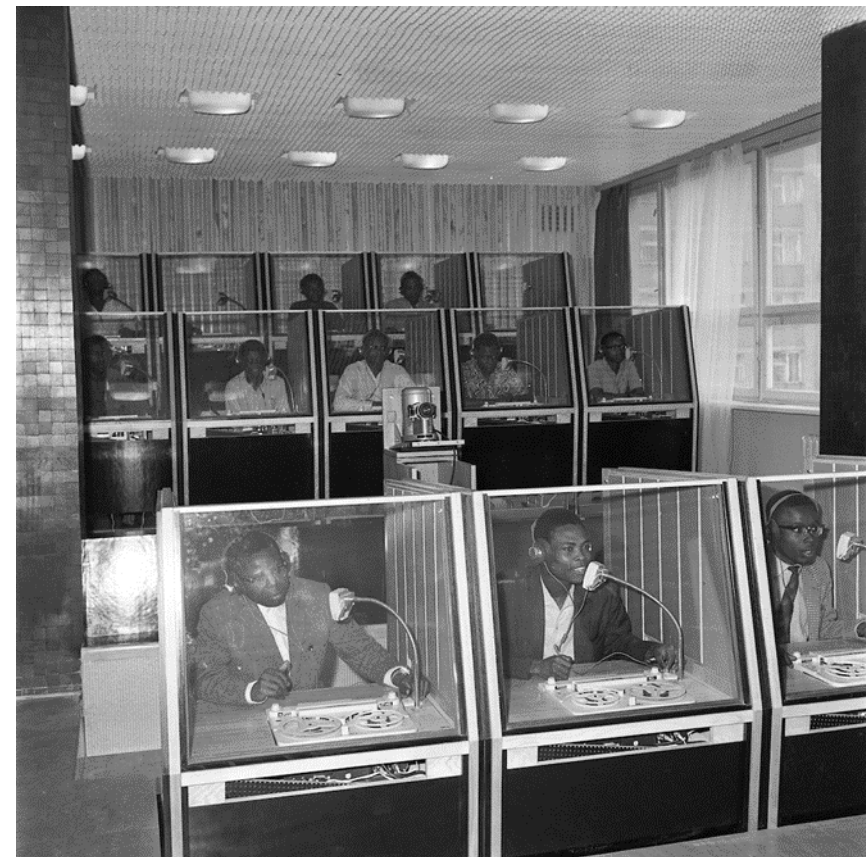
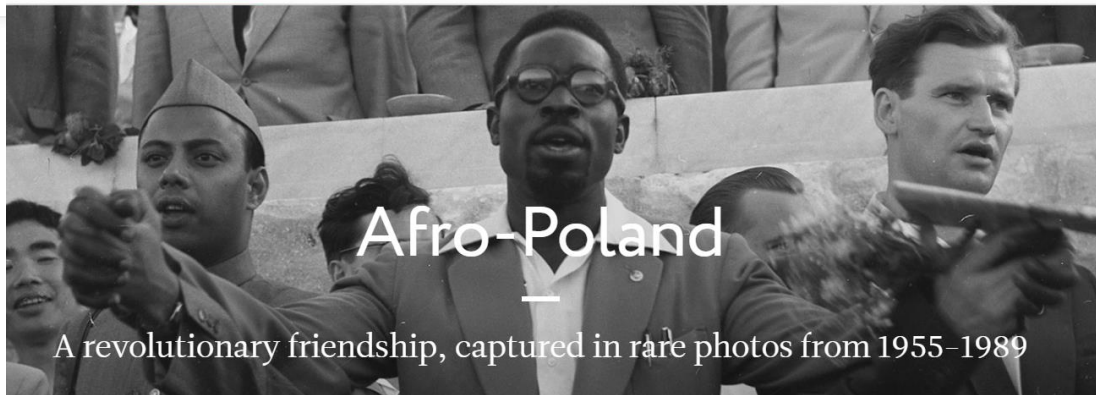
**Figure 6** Students participating in the course "Structures and Structural Design" taught by Zvonimir Žagar, School of Architecture, Town Planning and Building, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana, 1965 (photo by Zvonimir Žagar; Zvonimir Žagar Archive, Zagreb; courtesy of Zvonimir Žagar).

# AfroPoland – Meeting Together

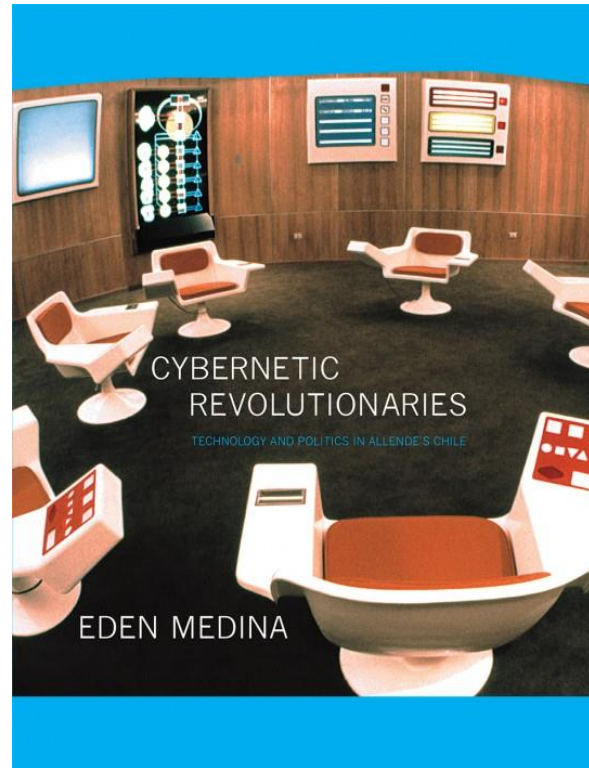
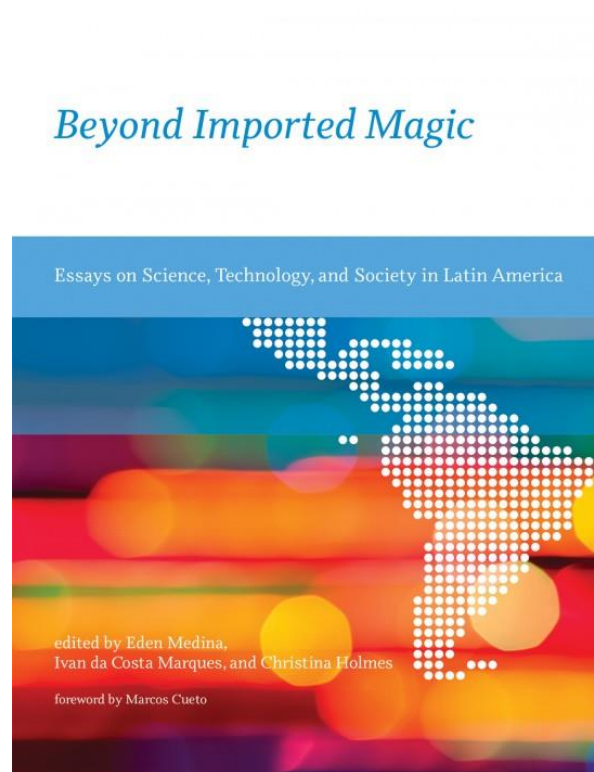
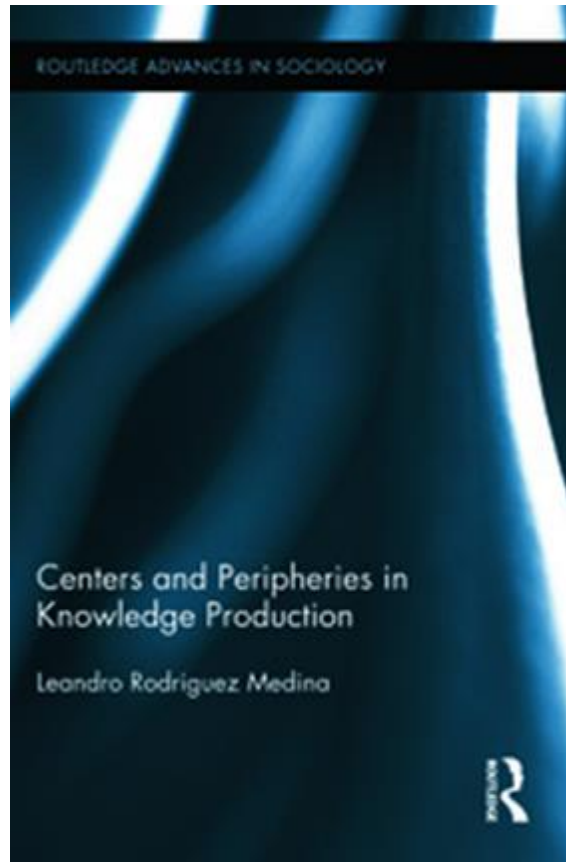
THE CALVERT JOURNAL

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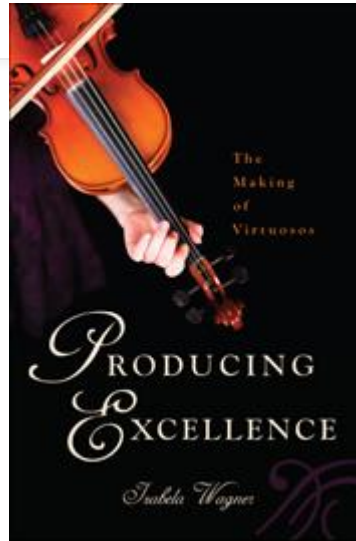
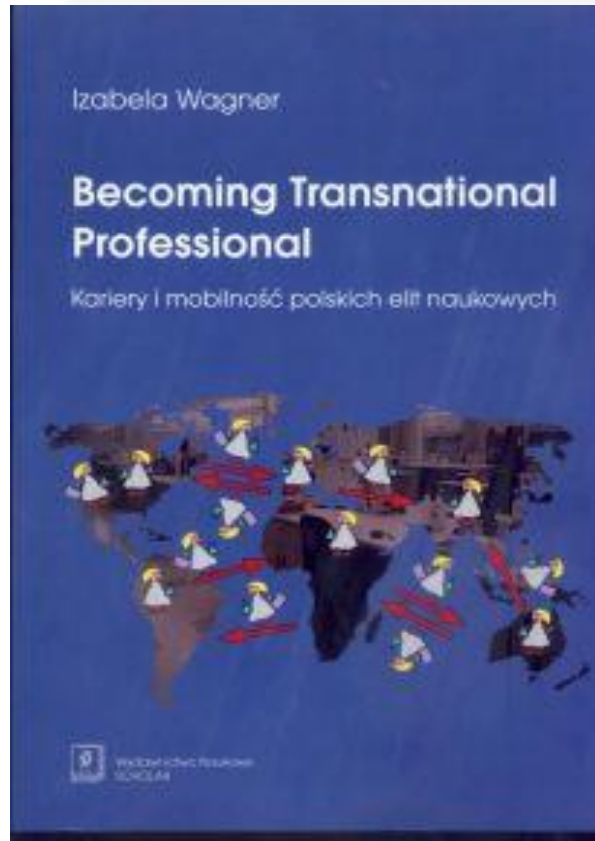
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# Carrer coupling



*Qualitative Sociology Review*

Volume 5, Issue 3 – December 2009

Izabela Wagner

University of Warsaw, Poland; CEMS-EHESS, France

Coupling career fairy tale “Fascinating Sociology Class”.  
How to teach sociology? The sociology of sociology

## Abstract

This paper is a simple account of my teaching experience<sup>1</sup>, the aim of which is to answer the question: “How can we successfully teach interactionism, labeling theory, grounded theory and other sociological bases related to qualitative methods with the active participation of students?”. Through the examples of sociologists working in the Chicago Tradition, French sociologists working with Pierre Bourdieu, and other examples from American sociology, I show that sociological work is group activity. It is argued in this paper, that to make sociological thinking understandable to students teachers may do well to contextualize key theorists in their narrative/biographical context. The students learn, that sociologists are not magicians or genius individuals who produce attractive theories. Rather, they work in collaboration with other humans to generate knowledge. Moreover, I demonstrate that sociologists' contributions are often strongly related to and influenced by their broader life context.

## Keywords

Teaching sociology; Context of sociological production; Collaborations in sociology; Sociology of knowledge; Career coupling; Chicago School.

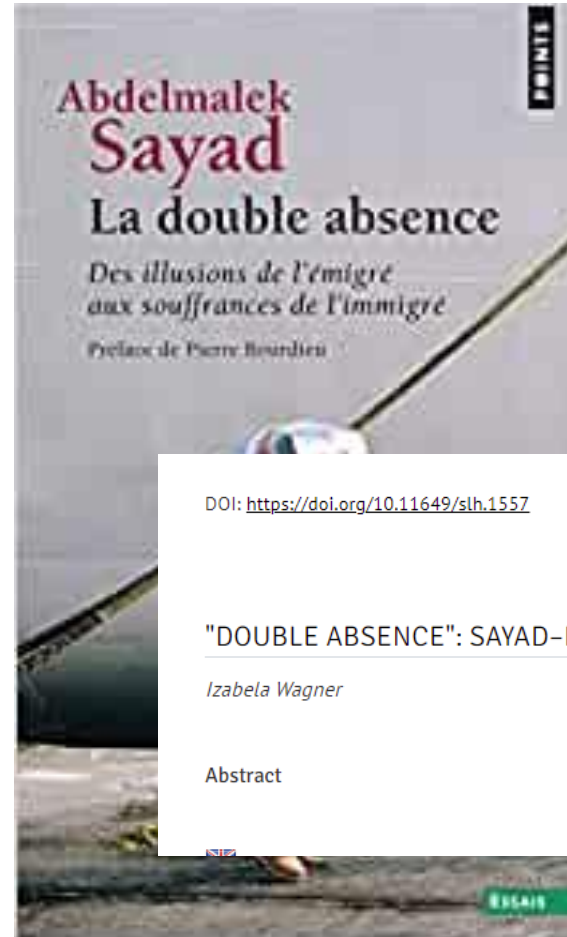


Career coupling is a social process, which concerns the parallel professional routes of two or more actors who cooperate, each in their own specialty, during the time necessary for them to change their rank in their respective professional worlds. By this process, the actors hope to climb in their professional hierarchy. In other words, the career coupling consists of interaction between two or more careers. Three phases are necessary in order to be able to state that such collaborations are career coupling. (1) matching; (2) active collaboration; and, (3) passive collaboration - the reputation of both collaborators is joint. (Wagner 2006)

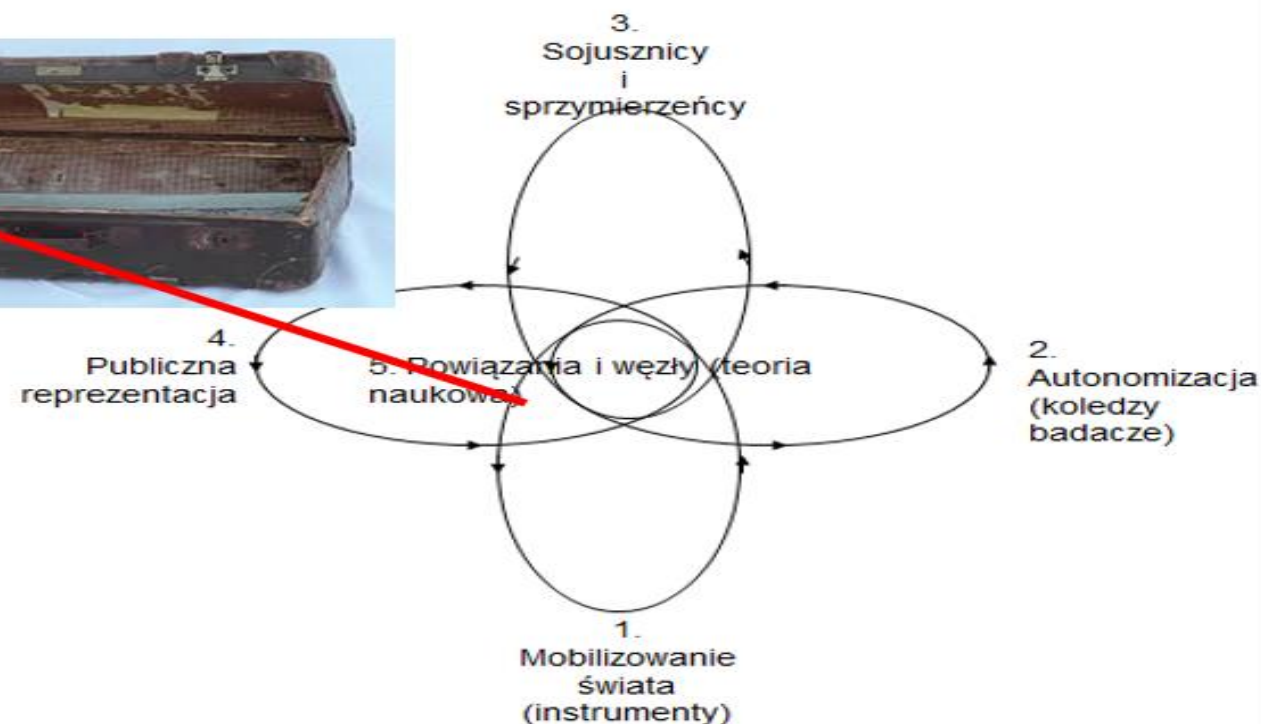
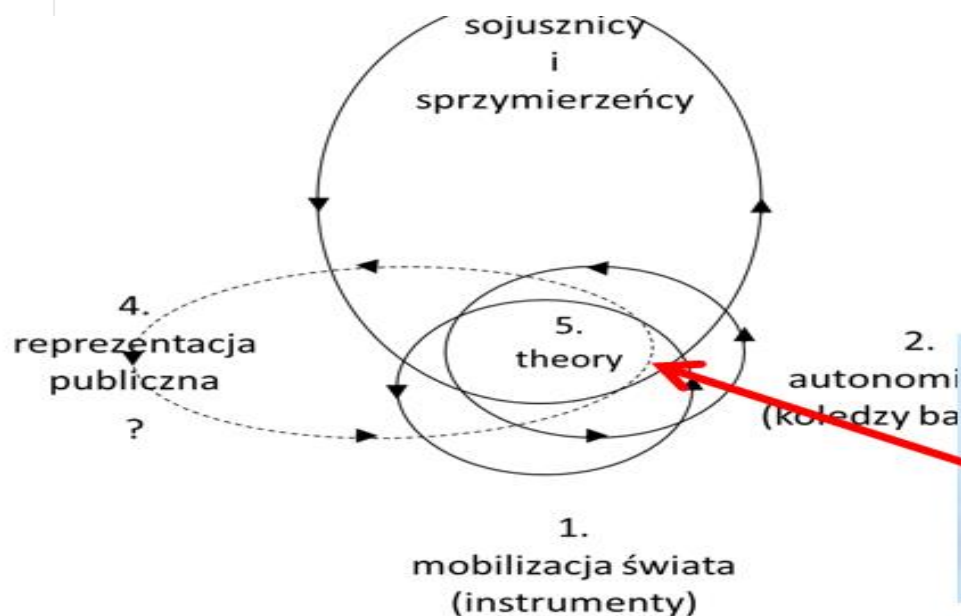
The later fruits of Zuckerman's research appear in Zuckerman "Scientific Elite: Nobel Laureates in the United States" (1977); (...) This is an occasion for repeating what I have noted in reprinting the original "Matthew Effect" in Science. It is now (1973) belatedly evident to me that I drew upon the interview and other materials of the Zuckerman study to such an extent that, clearly, the paper should have appeared under joint authorship. A sufficient sense of distributive and commutative justice requires one to recognize, however belatedly, that to write a scientific or scholarly paper is not necessarily sufficient grounds for designating oneself as its sole author." (Merton 1988: 607<sup>9</sup>) –text underlined by me.

# Abdelmalek Sayad

- and Pierre Bourdieu



# Why „zombie”, suitcase science is dangerous?



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FRANCISZEK KRAWCZYK\*

**Geopolityka drapieżnych czasopism:  
pozorne centra w globalnym systemie produkcji wiedzy**

1. Wprowadzenie



# Key issues:

1. Anthropocene/Capitalocene – „*How many calories/CO2 Your paper cost?*” – stabilisation of a future knowledge structure
2. Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt – *Did you do anything to stop global spread of anti-science?*
3. Science for Peace or how we are forgot John Desmond Bernal?