Natural Kinds, Human Kinds, and Classification

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Lond. Monspel. Tolos. Florent. Soc.

SYSTEMA NATURÆ

PER

REGNA TRIA NATURÆ,

SECUNDUM

CLASSES, ORDINES, GENERA, SPECIES,

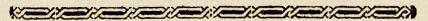
Cum

CHARACTERIBUS, DIFFERENTIIS. SYNONYMIS, LOCIS.

Tomus I.

Editio Decima, Reformata.

Cum Privilegio S:a R:a M:tis Svecia.



HOLMIÆ,
IMPENSIS DIRECT. LAURENTII SALVII,
1758.

Overview

- 1. Recap on Kuhan & Relativism
- 2. Classification, Realism and Natural Kinds
- 3. Human/Social Kinds and the Looping Effect

Recap: Kuhn

- E.g. Copernican revolution
- E.g. "Melancholia" and "depression" are not co-extensive, which makes direct comparisons between their respective conceptions and explanations difficult.
- In art: modern vs. postmodern art (Brian McHale); institutional view of art (G. Dickien)
- Technological revolutions: overhaul of what is appreciated and ability to provide better solutions (not to solve puzzles) (Niiniluoto: Tekniikan filosofia)
- Strong program of science, postmodern approaches & Science war
- Alan Shokal case 1996
- Bruno Latour: Truth is socially constructed?

KUHN, INSTRUMENTALISM, REALISM

- Incommensurability seamed to lead to relativism: truth plays no role in scientific progress
- (Most) Logical positivists were instrumentalists: they believed that theories had meaning only as discriptions of observable things
- Theory is only an instrument for organizing our observations, postulated unobservables are not real (e.g. atom, electron, subconsciousness)
- Part of the problem was that they relied on a holistic view of meaning (theory as a whole determines the reference of its terms)
- In contrast, realists argue that, for example, the aim of astronomy is truth about the movements of astronomical objects
- Realists argue that unobservable objects of research and classification are real –> natural kinds

Celestial Emporium of Benevolent Knowledge (Found by T. Kuhn)

- Animals are divided into
- (a) belonging to the emperor, (b) embalmed, (c) tame, (d) suckling pigs, (e) sirens, (f) fabulous, (g) stray dogs, (h) included in the present classification, (i) quaking as though mad, (j) innumerable, (k) drawn with a very fine camel-hair brush, (l) et cetera, (m) having just broken the water pitcher, (n) that from a long way off look like flies.

• (Cf. "Women, Fire, and Dangerous Things: What Categories Reveal About the Mind", George Lakoff)

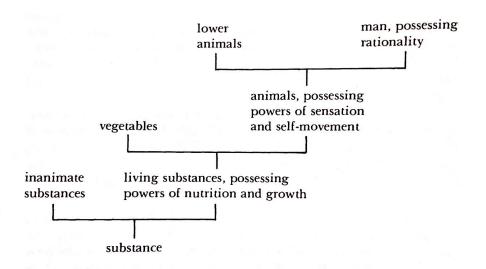
Scientific Realism and Natural Kind

- Scientific terms or concepts ideally refer to natural groupings or kinds that reflect the natural world
- Plato: "carving the nature at its joints"
- Classificatory concepts enable cognitive capacities: we can gather knowledge of the world
- Natural kinds vs. arbitrary groupings (things on my left side) or social constructs (Money? Race? Gender?)

Aristotle

 "Scientific definition of a species is by genus and difference, and so the definition of the essence of man is 'rational animal'. Rationality, the difference, is "the principle thing in a man's nature," and the properties flow from the difference "as a natural emanation". Accidents are attributes that are not thus connected with the essence: the substance can in principle be without them even when it never is in fact, as crows are never without blackness." (Ayers 1981)

Porphyrian tree



³I quote from T. Spencer: *The Art of Logic* (London, 1628; Scolar Press facsimile, Menston, 1970), ch. xi, pp. 59f.

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Didelphis. Lutra. Odobænus. Phoca.	Dewes mokres 4, urzeque. Disti 5	Lutra. Roff. Morpus. Canis marinus.	Upupa. Ifpida. Ifpida. MACRORHYN. Ardea.	Per delch. Caper plumin critatum. Per delch. Cutjus digitus entimus medio ednechnic tribus autralia. Caper critatum. Legaer pinni , fubrotundi. Ungaer pinni , fubrotundi.	Upupa. Ifpids. Merops. Gras. Ciconis. Ardes.	AMPHIBIORUS Claffen ulterius continuare noluit benignitus Cratoria; Ea enim fi tot Generibus , quot relique Kainaliam Claffa comprehendare; gauderet; vel fevra effent que de Draconibus , Balilifei, se químodi monfiris si rejudadya inhaletur, certe humanum genus terram inhabiture viz podite.	Balif	opteriis. Piene vennites in unicat relative in unicat circularem concretae. Piene ventrales rullae. Ceris dura, Siepa caulest Ceris dura, Siepa caulest Ceris dura, Siepa caulest desicionales iliquot robusti dorio.	Diss div. fp. Pife. triangul. Atings. Hyfirix. Offracion. Lagocephalus. Guaperus. Hiftrix. Caprifcus. Caper.	Dermeftes. Caffida. Chryfomela Coccionella. Gyrinus.	das, clavate bortoctalter perfoliate Cippess planification, emaginatus. Ant. Civato-fabulate. Cippes planus, antice roundatus. Ant. finglices, cippes longiores. Copus faboroundem. Copus faboroundem. Creps inemifipanticum. Ant. finglices. Copus beree, problem politics fabrins.	Cantharus fafciatus. Scarab, clypeatus. Cantharellus. Cochinella vulg. Pulex aquaticus. Pulex plantarum. Scarabaro-formica	Nautilus.	Topa univalvis , Spiralis , multiloculari	Nautilus, Orthocerc Lituus,
Hyana. Canis. Melcs. Talpa. Erinaceus.	Digit d. Canda larvia. Canda larvia. Digit 1. Digit	Hyma Poer. Frant Landisi naper vi- die er scheinigte Austo. Canin. Landis. Swillachi. Vulpes. Taun. Talpa. Echhau terrefini. Armedillo.	Platelea. Pelecanus. Octobro Ex Anas. Anas. Mergus. Graculus.	Rafir. depetito-planum, apire fubror. Rafir. depetitum, apire magniculato, inderse suria influentum. Rafir. conico-convexum, Rafir. conico-deprefium. Rafir. conico-deprefium. Rafir. conico-deprefium. Rafir. conico-deprefium. Rafir. conico-deprefium.	Pistes. Osocrotalus. Olor. Elder. Anf. Bernicla. Anst fers. Glasculam. Bedchas. Compl. Genclops. Mergans. Mergans. Carbo aquat. Carbo aquat. Carbo aquat.	PARADOXA. Hydra corpore enguino, pedibus duobus, collis forms, & toticien cepicious, altrum expers, altervatur Hamana Abre Care, and & toticien cepicious, altrum expers, altervatur Hamana Abre Care, and & totic definition. Esque tenquan verta simalis foeciem plurima preduit, de fallo. Nature fibi remover experimental producti nea turaliter. Frauden & eratficium, cum 1pti vicimus, dem le Perno-mutellini, ab Amphilotrum denibus diverti, fa	Piana Zeus	Membrana branch. offic. 6. Capus aculeatum, corpor latius. Appendies ad pinn. pect. articulates 2 vel 3.	Aper. Faber. Gallus mar. Cataphractus, Scorpio mar.	Necydalis. Attalabus. Cantharis. Carabus. Cicindela.	das, clavato-produčia, Clyses sugultus, rotundates. das, fimplices, confuruda estocial blustarists, pratest utilis, glotofia 5. Antinna Sattala. Clyses plantus, margia estodigue prom Clyses plantus, margia prominen Clyses for episcus, marg. prominen Clyses for prominena. Clyses for company company Clyses for company Clyses for extending the company Clys		Cypræa. Haliotis, Patella.	Tofa univalvia, convoluta, rima los giudinali. Tofa univalvia, patula, leviter conces periforata, ad angulum fipralis. Tofa univalvia, concava, fimplez.	1000
Vefpertilio. Hyftrix. Sciurus. Part R. Caftor.	Digiei 5. Be sasten in alam expanitus. Mamma 2. petiorales. Anne dumann. Corpus filonolum. Digiri 4. Conde longitima lankera. Digiri 5. Conde horizontala , plana , nucl.	Vefpenillo. Pelis volani Sib. Cinds volani Sib. Glis volani Sib. Hyfiriz. Sciurus. volanis.	Colymbus. Larus. Hæmatopus. Charadrius. Hæmillus.	Rafer, fabulatum. Deder infra negallibe. Rafer, fabulatum. Deder in megallibe. Des 3dadt. Anfri apez compressus. Des 3dadt. Anfri apez compressus. Des 4dadt. Anfri apez compressus. Copes penatur cristatum.	Gracolus equet. Colymbus. Colymbus. Colymbus. Arctices. Citarectis. Lavus. Sterns. Picanos. Picanos. Plovatins. Plovatins. Capella.	RASA—PICIS RAME IN PICIS METAMORPHOSI volde paradoxa et, quam Natum musticom Generis uniu in aiam diverie Ciaffis non adminut. Rame, ut Amphibi omnia, polimonibus guadent & offibus pinofis. Pifees pinofi, loco palmonum, branchiis infruuntut. Espo lig Nature contraria foret hace mustic. Si enim pifeis hic in frugtus et branchiis; eti divertiu a Rama & Amphibis. S	Spart Labra	Asten . Invanch . (dica). 7. Finns dorfale 1 vel 1. Coprosale Franch . (squamoda . Labia denter spot		Leptura, Cerambyx. Bupreflis. Papilior ANGIOP Libellula, Enhances.	Ceyau tenue acuminatum. Ciyau da bitara muerone prominet. Ape. Copyau lengitudine equant, Ape. Copyau lengitudine equant, Ciyasu Superne a punchis elevatis notat Regiram Spirale, Ada 4. Cenda foliofa. Ada 4. crypanine. Canda foliofa. Ada 4. crypanine.	Capricornus, el Scarab. fylvaticus. Papillo alis erechis. Pfyche planis. Phalama compreciis. Perla. Virgancula.	Dentalium.	Tyfa uzivatvis, teres , Amplea. Tyfa biralvigi	Dentalius Ensatium Tubus v. Mytulus. v. Vulva m Pholus. Bucardium Solenes. Tellins. Pinna. Offrea. Peften. Mitella.
mus, Mus, Mus, Lepus, Sorex.	Digital 4. Digital 5. Digital 6. Digita	Marmota. Lepus. Cuniculus. Sorex.	Tringa. Numenius. Fulica. Struthio. A.I. Cafuarius.	Capai penato critituum. Pas delt. Raywa digitis brevius. Cajar fimplex. Pas delt. Zafram digitis longius. Pas delt. Zafram digitis longius. Pas delt. Digiri membranis audi. Capas carnolò-crifiatum. Pas add. alfque polito. Par galet. alfque polito. Capas galet. de palearibus croatem	Trings. Octophus. Pegnax. Galinula. Galinago. Limofi. Arques. Recurvirofirs. Galinula squatics. Struthio-camelus. Emeu.	prograf & Paguine differ. The program of the progr	Mug Scom Xiph Gobi	1. Capat totum (quamoium. Memb. transb. offic. 6. Panna dorfi a vel places. Rofirum apice enformi. Pinna ventraira milita. Pinna ventraira milita. Viss. Squama alipera.	Mugil. Cepácias. Glaucus. Amia. Scomber. Thynnus. Trachurus. Saurus. Gladius.	Hemerobius Panorpa. Raphidia. Apis.	Cauda fecola. Ala 4, compression. Cauda fecola. Ala 4, compression. Cauda fainoso-feaces. Ala 4, Cap. co Cauda fainoso-feaces. Ala 4, Cap. co Cauda aculeo fimplici. Ala 4. Cauda aculeo partiro. Ala 4.	n. Non de illa. Crabro. Vefpa. Bombylius. Apis. Ichneumon. Mufca tripilis.	Lepas.	. Teße muhivalvis. Valvale duabus plus	
Hippopotamu Hippopotamu Hippopotamu Elephas, Sus,	18. Mamma a inguirales (Arifa) Pulsa quidrifidi. Mamma a pedecurica. Pulsa ; calla infruedi. Mamma 10, shdominales. Pulsa biungulari : raso fimplices.	Equas. Aintus. Aintus. Aintus. Color. Equas marinus. Elephas. / Alticocetos. > Ma. Aper. Porcu. Rabyroufs. Trijce.	Tetrao,	Per ydach, abdipae politico, Caper limplex. Per adach, Caper corolla pennac, orn. Per dach, Caper papilla, Gele mem brant unick longitudinali in firuda. Per adach, Perer membrana ferrata, india per adach, Perer membrana ferrata, india per adach, Sepretia papillota mucha.	Tarda. Pavo. Gallopavo. Gallina. Phafanus.	pens umbilicum intrat; idemque fanguine præditus à feri devorari temerè dicitur. Est autem artificiose ex radicibu Filicinis Americanis compositus. Naturaliter autem est Em bryo Ovis allegoricè descriptus, qui omnis data habet attri	TERYGII.	Attender, Jenneth, offic. John in price offic. Alls. Pinze werr, confract off. a. Captur dimodern declive. Membr. Journal, offic. Pinna deril. Aug. Membr. Journal, off. Guil ambo in coden late	Afellus diverfar, specier, Meriuccius, Anthias adus, Muitela, Egrefinus,	Mufca, Gryllus. HEMIP Lampyris.	Styles fish alls capitates. Ale 2. Fides 6. Ale 4. Septistres cytillores. Fides 6. Clyptus planes. Ale 4. Fides 6. Ale 4. Canda scaleum cond	Mafen div. (pec. Octimar. V. V. Octimar. V. V. Octimar. V. V. Octimar. V. V. Octimar. Tabaus. Cdex. Teredo nav. Tipula. Formics-leo. Grylio-talpa. Count. Mantis. Mantis. Cicindela. Formica.	Tethys.	Curpus forma variabile, molle, modu	um. Tethys. Holothus Penna m
PECORA. Dette primere inferi	Cirrase nuda. Cirrase sanuta, primum piloto, fishen ab spire optionsis, piurimi samoda: feminis rara.	Dromedarius. Badrissaus. Glams. Pacos. Camelopardells. Capres. Azis. Cervus. Platyceros. Rheno. Resigier. Alces.	PASSERES. Sturnus.	Rafer, rectum , ad bafin furfuraceum. Maro oblonge, membranula fuperne infurcia. Rafer, parum convexum. Plane rottii bafin teguet. Rafer, tedum fuberes. Lingua Bifat connet.	Phafianua. Urogalius. Tetrao. Bonata, Lagopus. Cotumba. Cotumba. Palumbus. Turrur, Palumbus. Oenas. Turrus, Maruls. Sturnus.	Dun. PROGNIK, Avis fpecies, cujus unicum in mundo individum, & quæ decrepia ser festi butho, quos fibis car occur de la compara de la comparación del la comparación de la comparación de la comparación del la comparación de la comparación del	1) & 1	perna capitis parte. Membr, branch. offic. 14.	Hispurus, Pompilus, Novacula, Paffes, Remora, Lucius, Belone, Acus maxima fquamofa,	ITER A. Cimex. Individus concelts. Notonects. Nepa. Scorpio.	Pedis G. Alla a crucifera. Pedis G. quorum pelici remorum fig & ulla Ale 4 crucifera. Pedis 4. Frees chelliera. Al. 4 cruci Pedis 8. Frees chelliera. A. 1. 4 cruci Pedis 8. Frees chelliera. 4. 1 Ac and Pedis 9. Frees che	Clinex lectularius, Orfodachne, Tipula aquatica, Bruchus, ra Notonecia aquatica, Scorpio aquat. Scorpio terrefiris.	SOURCE Echinus. Afterias.	Corpus fadistum , corio techum, fcabrus Corpus fadistum , corio techum, fcabrus	_
Capra. Capra. Ovis. Soportion: Bos.	Corses furdar verfa, erecte, erecte, feben. Corses retrouten ficus intonia, regons. Corses retrouten refig. Lessons parties refig.	Hirtus. Iner. Rupicars. Strepfictos. Gasella. Tragelaphus. Ovis vulgaris. Afficans. Angolenfis. Bos. Urus. Bos. Bos. Boso.	Alauda. Motacilla. Lufcinia. Parus.	Unguir digiti politici digiti ipfis longlor Lafer, gracila, Passen nigicant, Lingus spez hishau lageratus. Asfer, gracile rectum. Lingus apex bilidus laceratus. Rofer, gracile. Lingus apex truncatus, 4 fetis in- fitudius.	Motacilla: Oenanthe. Merula squatica. Lufcinia: Ficedula. Erithacu. Troglodytes. Carolina Radis. Parus. P. caudatus crifiatus.	Nacional de la composition del composition del composition de la composition de la composition del composition d	Ofine Core Clup Cypi	FUS. Mombr. branch. offic. 7 8. Denies in max. lingu. palet portus. Membr. branch. offic. 8 10. Appeadex pinntiformis. Membr. branch. offic. 8. Panter acutus ferratus.	Eperlanus. Spiriachus. Sauss. Albula. Levarrine. Thymollus. Oxyrhynchus. Harengus. Spratti. Eneraticholus. Alofa. Erythrophthal Mugil. flag. Brama. Ballerus. Capito. Nafus. A. M. Carafflus. Cver. nobilis.	APTER A Monoculus. Acarus.	Pules 6. Altaniae capite breviores. Pules 6. Altanices. Put 1.1 Antenna bifida; Pules 8. articulis 8 confluence. Geold 3. Ann. minimus.	Pediculus humanus. Ped. avium. Ped. picium. Ped. pulitorius. Pulex vulgaris. Pulex arborcic. Swaan. Admendus Bradi. Aps Frijos. Ricinus. Scorpio-araneus. Pedic. inguinalis. Pedic. Scarabui. Pedic. Scarabui.	Medufa, Sepia.	Corpus orbiculatum, gelatinofum, fu tus filamentofum, Corpus oblongum, interne offcum, n tetius ofto artubus donatum.	Urt. cri
Ordines. General	Chandrers Georum	Bubalus,	Hirundo. Loxia. Ampelis. Fringilla.	Rafir, gracile, ad hafin deprefium minimum: riffs ampliffium. Rafir, cerffium, magnum, bever, cur- wum, undique convexua. Rafir, criffium, rectum. Rafir, criffium, prefium. Antifium proposa nonnulli membra nacci. Rafir, criffium. Antifium urraque sheram finu quodam ad hafin recipit.	Hirundo. Ceprimulgus. Coccothrauftes. Lozis. Tyrrhuls. Garrulus Bohem. Fringilis. Carduelis. Immeritas. Spinus. Paffer.		Cobii Syng	US, Pinns dord & ventrales ei dem à votro dilanta. Operaté brance, ex traite Mexille à lateribus claufe	Rutilus. Alburnus, Leucificus, Phoxinus. Gobius fl. Cobitis. Barbatula, Milgurn.	Araneus, Cancer, Onifcus, Scolopendri	Pades 8. Ocali communiter S; Pades 12. Printes chelliformes; Pades 14: 1. Pades 20, 85 ultrs.	Pedic Scabiei, Arancu occineus, Arancu occineus, Arancus. Tarantula, Phalaugium. Cancer. Affacus, Pagurus. Seuilla, Majas. Eremits, Gammarus. Afeltus offens, Afeltus aquat, Scolop, terrefiris, Scolop, terrefiris, Idias, marina, Idias,	Microcofmus.	Corpus variis heterogeneis tecluni,	Microso

John Locke

- Mechanistic philosophy: "all differences are differences of degree, and everything is in principle indefinitely mutable.. Differences in spatial quantity and ordering and motion of the parts of things.. How we rank them is a matter to be more or less pragmatically determined."
- Nominal essence: the boundary is precise because we draw it, nature does not supply it. We have no access to the real essence.

Birth of the "natural kind"

- William Whewell (1794-1866): *Kinds* are the groups that we refer to with our general terms.
- John Stuart Mill: finite kinds and real kinds
 - Finite kinds: Have only one thing in common. E.g. all green things, all the things on my left side.
 - *Real kinds*: Enable inductive inferences due to shared similarities. E.g. Tigers, chemical elements, planets.
- Charles Peirce: Laws of nature hold natural kinds together

Natural kind semantics

- Logical empiricism & descriptivism (Frege and Russell)
 - Each term is associated with a description (or a bundle of descriptions) that determine its reference
- Kuhn & Feyerabend: When descriptions in different theories are contradictory they are not talking about the same thing -> incommensurable
 - Therefore, there is no growth of knowledge about the thing
- Scientific realism & causal theory of reference (Kripke and Putnam)
 - Theoretical terms refer to unobservable real kinds
 - Descriptions do not determine reference
 - Reference is fixed by ostension or description whence its use is passed along in a causal-historical chain.
 - Scientists can have contradictory beliefs about the same thing

Essentialism and Naturalism about natural kinds

- Essentialist approach defines kinds as natural based on shared necessary and sufficient conditions that are determined by, for instance, microstructure, nature or intrinsic properties
- Essentialist usually argue that natural kinds are upheld by laws of nature (e.g. Peirce, Kripke 1980, Putnam 1975, Ellis 2001).
- *Naturalists* defend natural kinds from an epistemic point of view. They stress how natural kinds ground inductive inferences, explanations, and predictions (Mill 1843, Boyd 1989, Millikan 1999, Dupré 1993).

Questions

- What role does classification play in your field?
- Are there kinds in your discipline? Are they natural?

Classifying Humans and Human Kinds

- Are classifications in the human scieces different? Are their targets different, humans and social objects?
- Naturalism: supports inductive inferences
- Are they mind dependent? Three types of social kinds (Khalidi).
 - Recession
 - Money, coctail parties, wars (When does a brawl turn into a war? E.g. the foodball war of Hoduras vs. El Salvador)
 - Perminant recident

Dynamic Nominalism (Ian Hacking)

- Classification as a process of co-fitting our concepts and the world
- But the social world does not offer natural restrictions for different ways of classifying and intervening
- Whereas quarks are stable objects of study, "kinds of people" have a historical ontology contingent on their classifications
- "Perhaps the fundamental difference between the natural and social sciences is that the natural sciences investigate indifferent kinds, while the social sciences are on the whole concerned with interactive kinds." (Hacking 1997)
- Source of Instability: classification changes the very attributes used in the classification (Hacking 1993: 304)



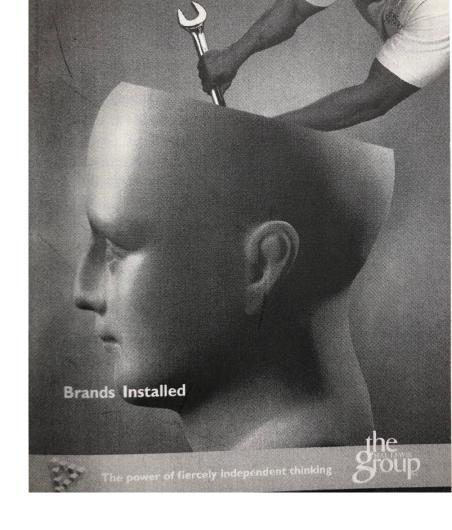
Interactive kinds and indifferent kinds

- Human kinds are "kinds of people" defined by their behaviour, actions and tendencies (1995) (Later interactive kinds to incorporate agency 1997)
 - Fugue, multiple personality disorder, schizophrenia
 - Teen-age pregnancy, child abuse, and homosexuality
- Value-laden groups of humans that motivate reactions
- Hacking concentrates on the "abnormal" but also valued classifications, e.g. "genius" for romantics (Hacking 1997).

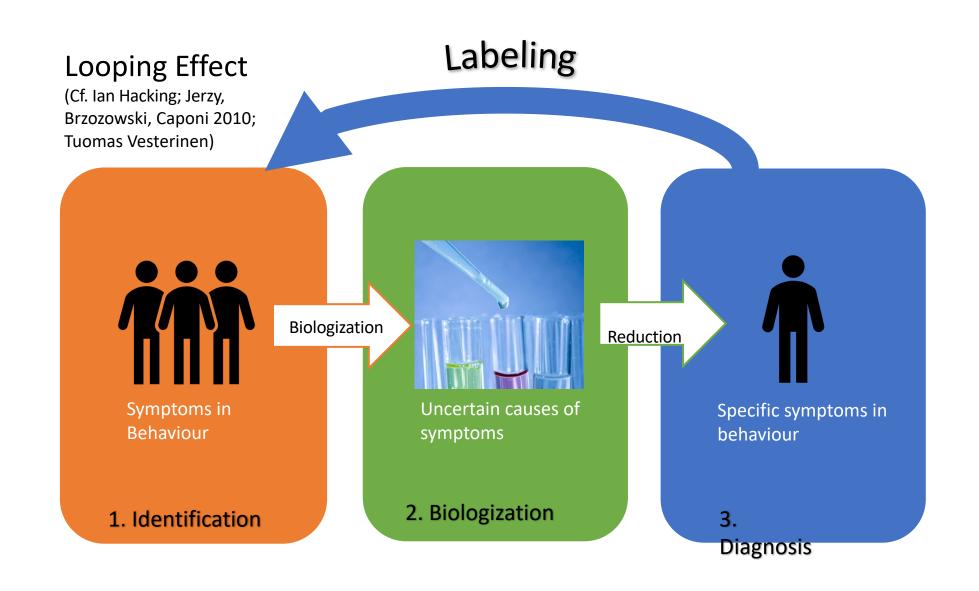


The looping effect

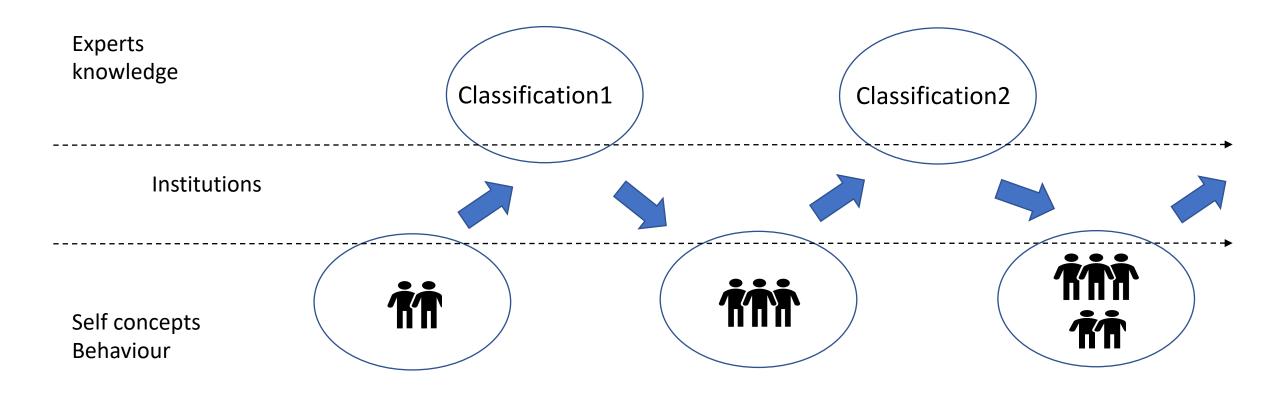
- Classification "changes the space of possibilities for personhood"
- *The Loop*: Classifications and the people being classified interact with one another
- First stage: Classification, associated beliefs, and the generated actions influence the people being classified (and others around them)
- Second stage: Classification may have to be amended to match the changes
- *The Effect*: Destabilizes the kind by rendering it a "moving target"







Human Kinds as moving targets





Psychiatric kinds as examples

- When symptoms appear somewhere they may need to be considered as symptoms of a disorders to cluster
- May lack the required "conceptual space" for a suffering person: the conception of the normal way to be abnormal
- Individual has to recognize and interpret her feelings and behaviour as kind-typical and learn the proper reaction
- Interactive kind is not just a bundle of symptoms, but a kind of person
- For example, when Asperger's was included in 1994, it was thought to be really rare -> turned out to be common



Norm and Norma 1945





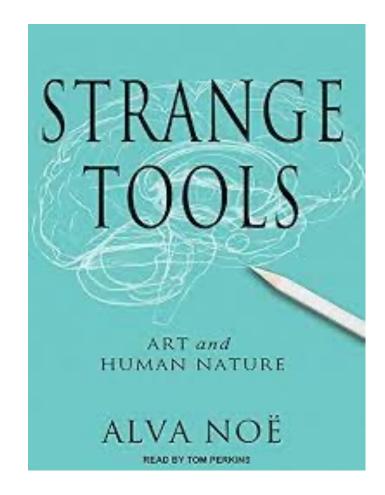
Culture influences mental problems

- E.g. Voice hallucination in the USA, Ghana and India; Depression in Japan
- Latah in South-East Asia
- Taijin Kyofusho: social phobia, ashamed for their bodily functions and appearance.
- Hikikomori: withdrawal from all social contacts
- Mild depression in Japan

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Strange Tools (Alva Noë, 2015)

- Hacking (1999: 34) "Looping effects are everywhere. Think what the category of genius did to those Romantics who saw themselves as geniuses, and what their behavior in turn did to the category of genus itself. Think about the transformations effected by the notions of fat, overweight, anorexic."
- Art and technology do not only model, and describe yourself, feelings etc, but hey change the ways we are organized, provide novel resources for thinking and doing things differently. They alter the way we see ourselves and reorganize our practices.
- Artifact kinds are subject to looping?
- E.g. the developent of music instruments interacted with people, concepts, culture, craft-techniques and materials.



Are there looping effects in your discipine?

- Can you think of a looping effect in science, design, technology, architecture?
- For instance, "When I do my practice-led research in a field of craft, should I clarify to myself how my ontological thinking is linked to the idea of natural kinds? Glass-blowing process (social kind) and the material kind."