

Qualitative and Quantitative Methods are Not Different from a Structural Constructivist Perspective

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Antagonism between Qualitative and Quantitative Methods

Difficulty of Mutual Understanding between
Different Epistemologies

Quantitative Study: Positivism, Objectivism

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Qualitative Study: Social Constructionism, etc

Objectivist vs. Social Constructionist (Scientist vs. Philosopher of Science)

Your work is 'wordplay' !

There is one objective world !

Your thoughts is useless !

We are absolutely right !

Your research isn't truth too !

There is no objective world !

Your thoughts is short-sighted !

We are absolutely right !

(modified slide: T. Saijyo, 2005) 3

Structural Constructivism -- 1

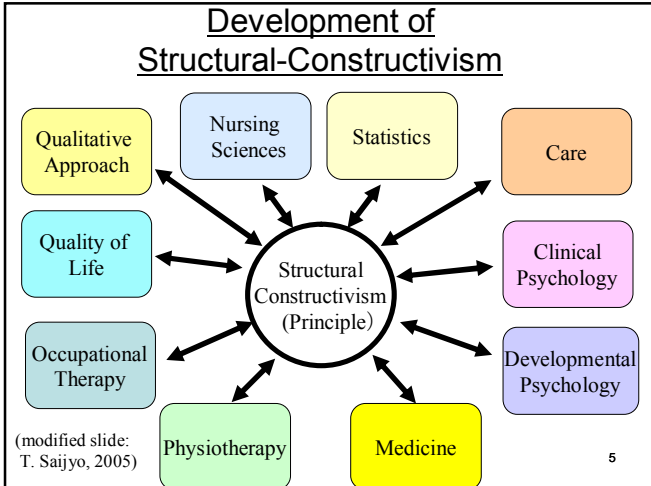
T. Saijyo (2005) : "What is the structural
constructivism", Kita-ohji Shobo (in Japanese)

to Dissolve the Subject-Object Issue
as a Hyper-Meta Theory.

↓ only 2 years

Rapid Developments in Various Fields !!

4



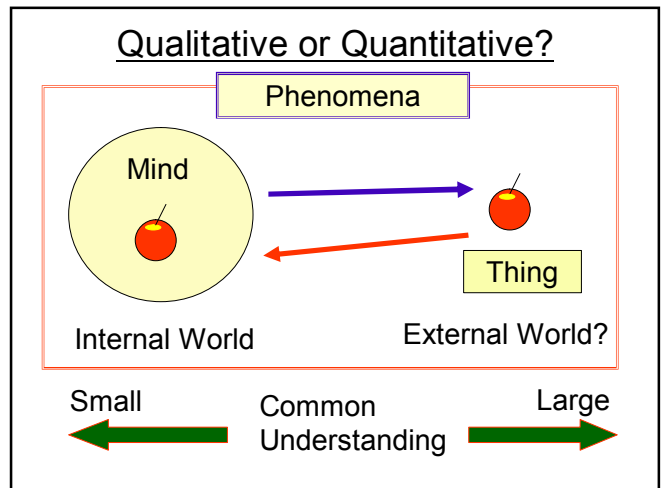
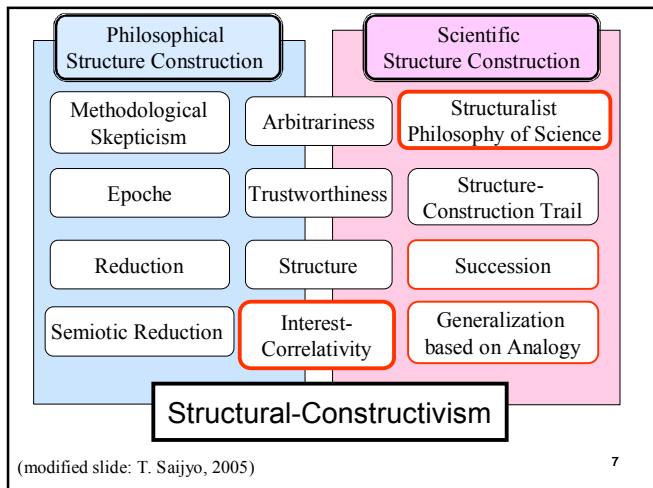
Structural Constructivism – 3

Structuralist Biology, and Structuralist Philosophy
of Science: K. Ikeda
"What is the Structuralist Biology ?, Kaimei-sha (1988)"
"Science is an attempt to pursue the identity."

Later half Husserlian Phenomenology:
E. Husserl and S. Takeda
Modern Meaning of the Transcendental Phenomenology:
Principles of Thinking/ Interest-Correlativity

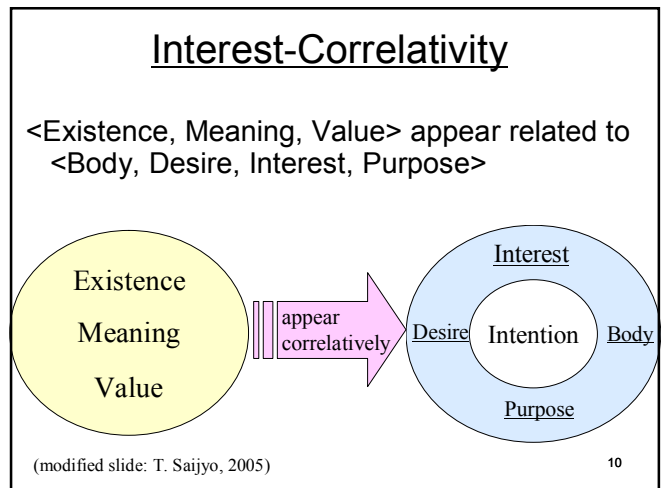
Saussure's Theory of General Linguistics
Social Construction of Parole
Individual Structure of Langue

6



Structuralist Philosophy of Science

- The reality of the external world is at least non-self-evident.
- Science is an attempt to decipher the variant in terms of the invariant.
- The usefulness and value of the scientific theory depends on the degree of fitness to the phenomenon in question.



Selection of Study Methods

According to own Interest-Correlativity:

- Research Question
- Phenomenon of Interest
- Purpose of the Study
- Interpretation of the Results
- Generalization of the Results

Evidence and Generalization

- **Statistical and Analytical Generalizations:**
Yin, R.K.(1994) Case Study Research: Design and Methods, London: Sage
- **Quantitative Study** --- Statistical Generalization
Distribution, Estimation, Test, etc.
- **Qualitative Study** --- Analytical Generalization
Generalization and Development of Theory
- **Succession and Analogy** (by T. Saijyo)
depend on Interest-Correlativity.

Succession and Analogy

- Generalization and Interpretation of the Results **depend on Interest-Correlativity**.
(Ex) We can use the results of patients with diabetes mellitus to other chronic disease cases.
- A substantive theory (model) may be extended to a formal theory by other researchers' succession.

Objectivist & Social Constructionist (Scientist & Philosopher of Science)

A scientific knowledge is constructed by researcher.

You have a great insight.

You are right too.



A scientist constructs structures that explain our phenomena in an orderly.

Your thoughts is practical.

You are right too.

(modified slide:
T. Saijyo, 2005)

Interest-Correlativity
(Structural-Constructivism)

14

Conclusion

- From a phenomenological perspective, phenomena of the internal and external worlds cannot be distinct.
- From a structuralist philosophy of science, science is an attempt to make a model to describe the phenomenon of interest.
- The value of the theory depends on the degree of fitness to the phenomenon of interest.
- Study method should be selected by the researcher's interest-correlativity.
- Generalization and interpretation of the results depend on the researcher's interest-correlativity.
- From these points of view, there is no difference between qualitative and quantitative methods.

Acknowledgement

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