

# Coordination of Space and Unity of Science

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## Abstract

In this essay, I explore a metaphor in geometry for the debate between the unity and the disunity of science, namely, the possibility of putting a global coordinate system (or a chart) on a manifold. I explain why the former is a good metaphor that shows what it means (and takes in principle) for science to be unified. I then go through some of the existing literature on the unity/disunity debate and show how the metaphor sheds light on some of the views and arguments.

**Keywords:** geometry, unification, disunity of science, foundationalism, pluralism, reduction

[General Issues: Explanation](#)

**Subjects:** [General Issues: Philosophers of Science](#)

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