

Modeling and Experimenting

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Abstract

Experimental activity is traditionally identified with testing the empirical implications or numerical simulations of models against data. In critical reaction to the 'tribunal view' on experiments, this essay will show the constructive contribution of experimental activity to the processes of modeling and simulating. Based on the analysis of a case in fluid mechanics, it will focus specifically on two aspects. The first is the controversial specification of the conditions in which the data are to be obtained. The second is conceptual clarification, with a redefinition of concepts central to the understanding of the phenomenon and the conditions of its occurrence.

Keywords: Models, Modeling, Experiments, Data, Phenomena, Relevant Parameters

Subjects: [General Issues: Models and Idealization](#)
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