

Search & Browse

- Simple Search
- Advanced Search
- Browse by Subject
- Browse by Year
- Browse by Conferences/Volumes
- Latest Additions

Information


- Home
- About the Archive
- Archive Policy
- History
- Help
- FAQ
- Journal Eprint Policies
- Register
- Contact Us

News

- Guide to new PhilSci-Archive features.

Initial Conditions and the ' Open Systems' Argument against Laws of Nature

Ballinger, Clint (2008) *Initial Conditions and the ' Open Systems' Argument against Laws of Nature.* [Preprint]

 PDF
[Download \(209Kb\)](#) | [Preview](#)


Abstract

This article attacks " open systems" arguments that because constant conjunctions are not generally observed in the real world of open systems we should be highly skeptical that universal laws exist. This work differs from other critiques of open system arguments against laws of nature by not focusing on laws themselves, but rather on the inference from open systems. We argue that open system arguments fail for two related reasons; 1) because they cannot account for the " systems" central to their argument (nor the implied systems labeled " exogenous factors" in relation to the system of interest) and 2) they are nomocentric, fixated on laws while ignoring initial and antecedent conditions that are able to account for systems and exogenous factors within a fundamentalist framework.

Export/Citation: [EndNote](#) | [BibTeX](#) | [Dublin Core](#) | [ASCII \(Chicago style\)](#) | [HTML Citation](#) | [OpenURL](#)
Social Networking: [Share](#) |

Item Type: Preprint
Additional Information: Determinism; Laws of nature; Open systems; Cartwright; Quantum Decoherence
Subjects: [General Issues > Laws of Nature](#)
[General Issues > Causation](#)
[General Issues > Realism/Anti-realism](#)
Depositing User: [Clint Ballinger](#)
Date Deposited: 21 Jul 2008
Last Modified: 07 Oct 2010 11:16
Item ID: 4126
URI: <http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/id/eprint/4126>

Actions (login required)

 [View Item](#)

Document Downloads

ULS D-Scribe



This site is hosted by the [University Library System](#) of the [University of Pittsburgh](#) as part of its [D-Scribe Digital Publishing Program](#)


E-Prints



Philsci Archive is powered by [EPrints 3](#) which is developed by the [School of Electronics and Computer Science](#) at the University of Southampton. [More information and software credits.](#)

Share

Feeds

-  Atom
-  RSS 1.0
-  RSS 2.0

