OPEN KNOWERS

WHICH EXPERTS SHOULD WE TRUST?

Richard Williams

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My Background

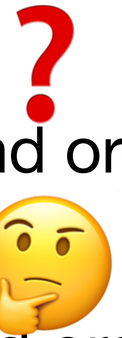
- Analytical Political Philosophy/Philosophy of Science
  - Evidence-Based Policy
  - Experts in Democracy
- Uncertainty & Expertise

Overview

- Problem: Knowing the knowers
- Solution 1: Individualistic approaches
  - Problem: scientism and epistemic trespassing
- Solution 2: Open Science as a Communal Approach
  - Problem: Research Diversity
  - Solution: judicious connections!

The Problem of Expertise

- Advantage: experts know more than nonexperts (in a specific domain) (Moore 20
  - Inform individual and organisational judgeme
  - Direct individual and organisational action

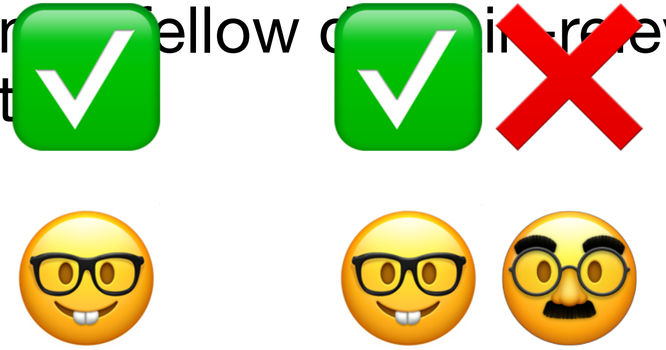

- Disadvantage: experts are fallible
  - Expert Disagreement
    - If two experts disagree, one must be wrong
  - Expe reement
    - Even if experts agree, maybe the all wr






Problem: Knowing the Knowers

- How can we recognise the knowers in a specific domain?
- (domain-relevant) experts can use their specialised knowledge to recogn[illegible]ellow d[illegible]in-relevant expert[illegible]

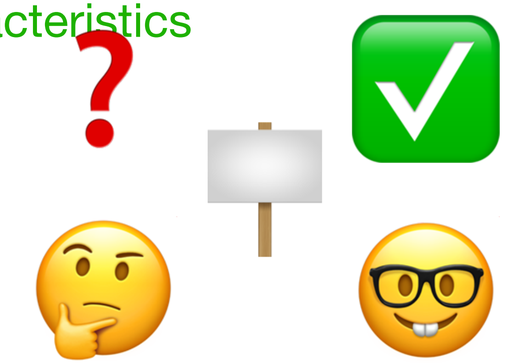


- Nonexperts cannot use specialised knowledge to recognise the (domain-relevant) experts
- Nonexperts must rely on indirect ‘marker[illegible]’ to recog[illegible]e th[illegible]experts

An Individualistic Solution

Knowing Reliable Researchers

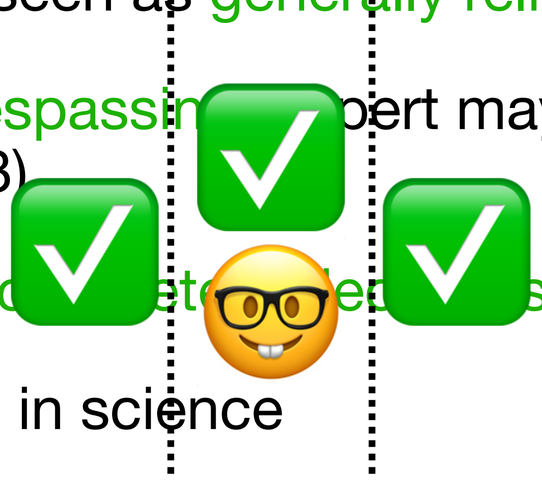
- Nonexperts can recognise the (domain-relevant) experts in light of personal characteristics
  - Track-record (Goldman 2001)
    - Lack of expertise to evaluate
  - Credentials (Anderson 2011)
    - Not all credentials are good
    - Not all expertise is credentialed
  - Interactional Experts (Collins & Evans 2007)
    - If nonexperts recognise good interactional experts, they can recognise good contributory experts
    - Since nonexperts do not recognise good contributory experts, it is hard to recognise good interactional experts

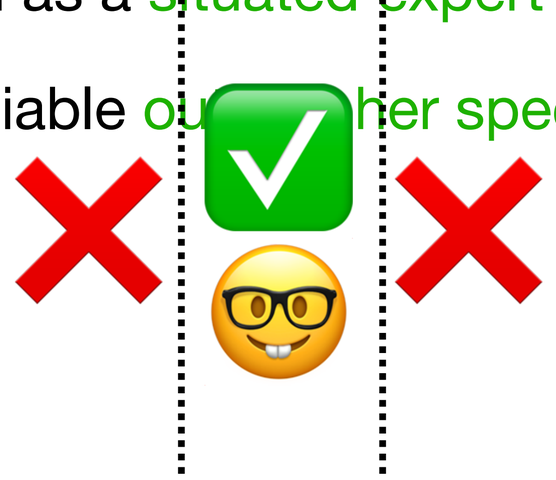


Problem: Spectre of Scientism

Epistemic Trespassing

- The individual expert is decontextualised from her domain-specific research environment
    - She is an expert based on personal characteristics rather than specific domain-relevant relationships
- She may be seen as generally reliable rather than as a situated expert
- Epistemic trespassing: An expert may be seen as reliable outside her specific domain (Gerken 2023)
    - Risks of inc[illegible]ed[illegible]s
    - Risks trust in science





A Communal Solution

Knowing Reliable Research Communities

- Nonexperts can recognise the (domain-relevant) experts in light of research practices
- The individual expert is re-contextualised to her research environment
  - Open Science
  - EG preregistration and registered reports, Open Data, FAIR Data, Open Materials
- Open research practices allow for others to evaluate research quality
- Open research practices enable others to know the demarcations of research

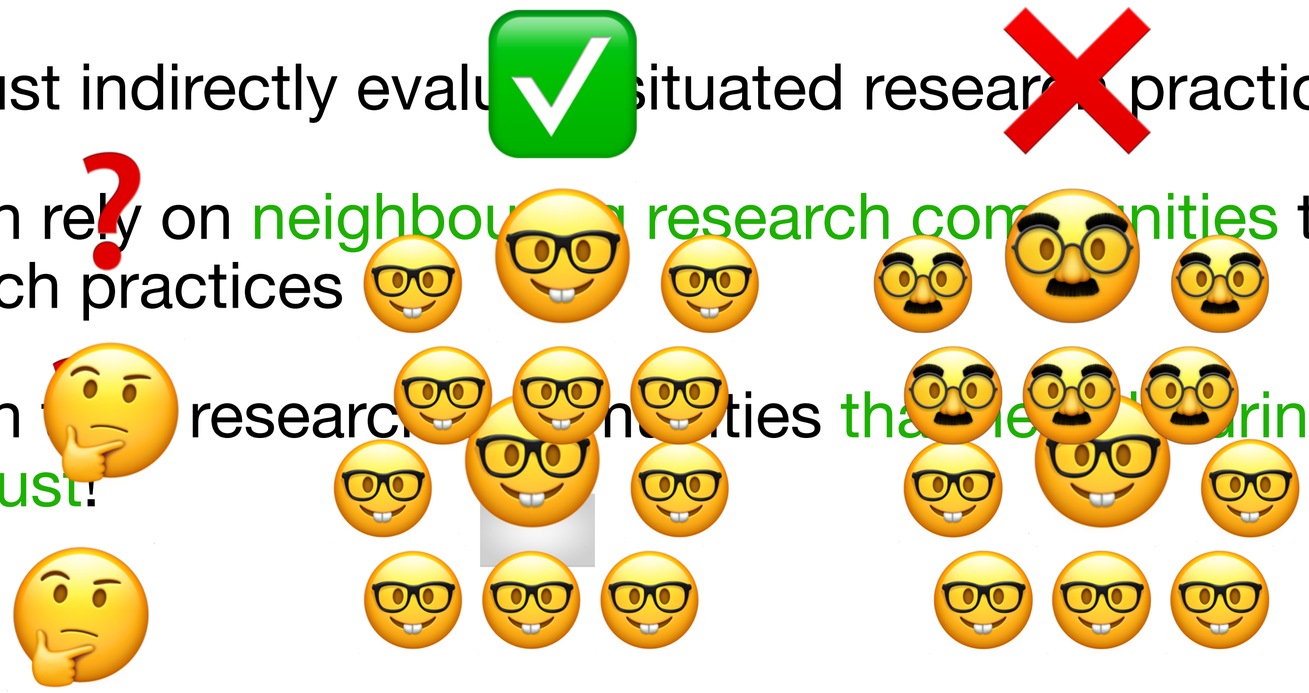
Problem: Research Diversity

Knowing Reliable Research Communities

- A universal Open Science makes knowing good research communities easy
  - There is no universal Open Science
  - There is only situated Open Science
- Research Diversity: Open Science principles are implemented to fit the specific scientific and social situations of specific research communities (Leonelli 2023)
- A situated Open Science makes knowing good research communities hard
  - *Is this different research practice bad in this specific research situation?*
  - *EG should this research community use FAIR data?*

Solution: Judicious Connections!

- Nonexperts cannot use specialised knowledge to recognise good situated practices
- Nonexperts must indirectly evalu situated researc practices
- Nonexperts can rely on neighbou research com nities to evaluate situated research practices
- Nonexperts can research n ties tha ring research communities trust!



Solution: Judicious Connections!

- Process-orientated conception of OS: openness as coproduction of scientific knowledge among diverse research communities (Leonelli 2023)
- Judicious connections among local research groups give nonexperts access to second-order reasons to trust situated research practices
- Local research groups are best placed epistemically and socially to judge research quality
  - Specialised scientific knowledge: understand specific scientific goals
  - Localised social knowledge: understand specific social resources

Implications

- Foreground judicious connections as politically significant
- (Domain-specific) nonexperts can access second-order reasons to know which research communities to trust for specific questions
- Prevents scientism and the risk of epistemic trespassing
- Promotes responsible use of situated science

End

- **References**

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