

Crossing the disciplinary boundaries of physics: Introductory reflections on interdisciplinarity per se

Monday, August 7, 2023 9:30 AM (25 minutes)

In this talk I will start with a brief review of recent discourse about interdisciplinarity, especially focusing on a popular distinction between inter- and multidisciplinarity and the related notion of 'integration'. Next, I will present an analytical approach that can be used for examining research activities that cross boundaries between disciplines, subdisciplines or research fields. I shall argue that compared to the standard taxonomy of inter-, multi- and transdisciplinarity, this analytical approach provides a more nuanced understanding of the crossing of intellectual boundaries, and of how balances between benefits and drawbacks may vary depending on both cognitive and social factors.

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