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Kuhn and the genesis of the " new historiography" of science

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Abstract

In this paper I identify a tension between the two sets of works by Kuhn regarding the genesis of the "new historiography" of science. In the first, it could be said that the change from the traditional to the new historiography is strictly endogenous (referring to internal causes or reasons). In the second, the change is predominantly exogenous. To address this question, I draw on a text that is considered to be less important among Kuhn's works, but which, as shall be argued, allows some contact between Kuhn's two approaches via Koyré. I seek to point out and differentiate the roles of Koyré and Kuhn – from Kuhn's point of view – in the development of the historiography of science and, as a complement, present some reflections regarding the justification of the new historiography.

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