

COE-SEMINAR

(in English)



Knowledge Sciences and a New Episteme

Abstract

As the product of informational revolution, or the transition towards information society, knowledge-based economy and, more generally, knowledge civilization, we observe the emergence of *knowledge sciences*. They are the result of diverse developments in epistemology, knowledge engineering, management science with knowledge management, sociological (*soft*) systems science, technology management, and technological and mathematical (*hard*) systems science. The development of the unique Faculty of Knowledge Science at JAIST anticipated this process, but there are reasons why we should use the plural *knowledge sciences* instead of singular *knowledge science*.

Between several reasons for that, the most important might be the fact that a new *episteme* of the era of knowledge civilization is not formed yet, while the destruction of the old, positivistic *episteme* of the industrial civilization era started over fifty years ago and has led to divergent developments of three different *episteme* of three cultural spheres of: 1) social sciences with humanities, 2) hard with natural sciences, and 3) technology. Until the new *episteme* converges again and is universally accepted, we should recognize and respect the differences of these three cultural spheres that all should be represented in *knowledge sciences*.

The presentation discusses firstly the emergence process of *knowledge sciences* together with some contributions of the Faculty of Knowledge Science at JAIST, then the divergence of the *episteme* of the three cultural spheres, finally proposes some elements that might contribute to the convergence and formation of a new *episteme*: two basic principles – the *emergence principle* and the *multimedia principle* – and ten basic postulates how we should see the world and construct knowledge in the new era of knowledge civilization.

Title: Knowledge Sciences and a New Episteme

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