

Uncertainty and the End of Science

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Abstract

Science—the search for patterns in nature—thrives on the Unknown. Science thrives on the possibility of discovery. Discovery is possible only because there are things that we don't know. For instance, we don't know if our ignorance is tiny or vast, bounded or unbounded, nearly eliminated or endless. Could science end?

Attempts to answer this question lead us to explore concepts of uncertainty, ignorance and probability. Is ignorance probabilistic? Is quantum indeterminism probabilistic? What are the implications of indeterminism for the Newtonian paradigm?