



25 years of PIV - History in the Making

Quotation Henry Ford: History is bullshit.

History is bunk.

History is more or less bunk.

Full quotation from a *Chicago Tribune* interview (1916):

"I don't know whether Napoleon did or did not try to get across there (to England) and I don't care. It means nothing to me. History is more or less bunk. It's tradition. We don't want tradition. We want to live in the present and the only history that is worth a tinker's dam is the history we make today."

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So what is the value of history?

Scientists are a special case.

They tend to ignore the role of history.

Once having produced new knowledge the ladders can be burnt.

But: With good reasons scientists often start their work with a review of what had been done so far.

Historians try to understand present developments by their emerging and even estimate what future may bring.



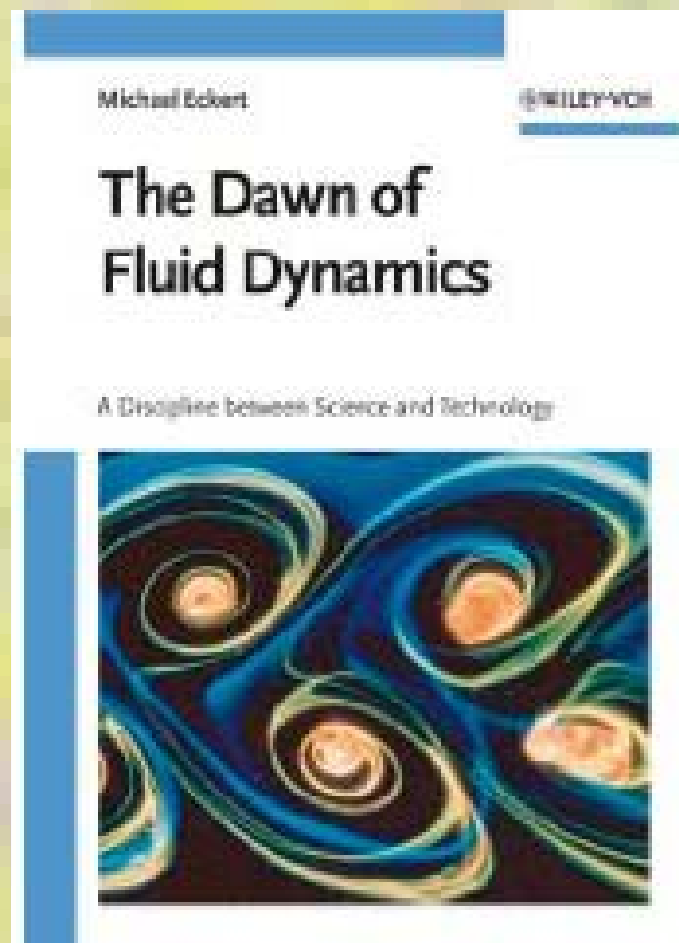
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Friday, September 25, 2009

- 09:00 – 10:00 Prehistory of PIV
(Chair: Michel Riethmuller, Brussels)
- 10:00 – 11:00 Is there more than one history of PIV?
(Chair: Jürgen Kompenhans, Göttingen)
- 11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30 – 12:30 Success! What Success?
(Chair: Andreas Junk, Oldenburg)
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 – 14:30 Milestones and Turning Points
(Chair: Klaus Hinsch, Oldenburg)
- 14:30 – 15:30 Is there a *Social History* of PIV?
(Chair: Falk Rieß, Oldenburg)

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A literature recommendation:
Michael Eckert: The Dawn
of Fluid Dynamics,
Wiley 2006



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Social history of PIV :

What is *social* with the natural sciences which are meant to be the prototype of *rational, non-social* activities?

Thomas S. Kuhn: "two distinct sorts of history of science", an *externalist* and an *internalist* view

Externalist view: social role of the men of science
 social uses of scientific knowledge

In 1977 MacLeod gave the following definition:

"The social historiography of science is founded, above all, upon the relations between thought and action, and focused upon the reasons why people believe as they do, the ways they present and use their beliefs and the consequences of these beliefs for that which becomes accepted as knowledge."

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Science is not *created by itself* in a linear process of cumulating pieces of knowledge

but is *made*

- by mankind
- by persons
- by institutions
- by communities
- by accident
- even by political power

and is strongly influenced by individual, social and cultural factors.

Peter Galison in "Image and Logic" 1997:

The terms

- Theory
- Experiment
- Manufacturing of Instruments
- Big science research machinery

as social activities characterise the natural sciences in modern times.

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The tension between sociality and rationality of science is not antagonistic. Mara Beller "Quantum Dialogue" in 1999: "Dialogical analysis incorporates conversation and communicability both as social realities and as epistemological presuppositions. ... In the dialogical approach, the notorious question of whether science is 'rational' or 'social' in nature becomes a pseudoproblem. Science is simultaneously rational *and* social — the rationality of science is dialogical and communicative."

Our questionnaire:

The participants hold the opinion that networking and social influences fostered significantly the progress in this field

Half of the people answer 'no' to the question for social and political influences.

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Proposal for some points of discussion:

- Are there economic interests in PIV from consumers, users, or manufacturers?
- Did or do these interests change the direction or details of research?
- Are there applications of PIV that might serve military purposes?
- What might be the reasons for the funding policy of the EU (strong at the beginning, weak in the meantime)?