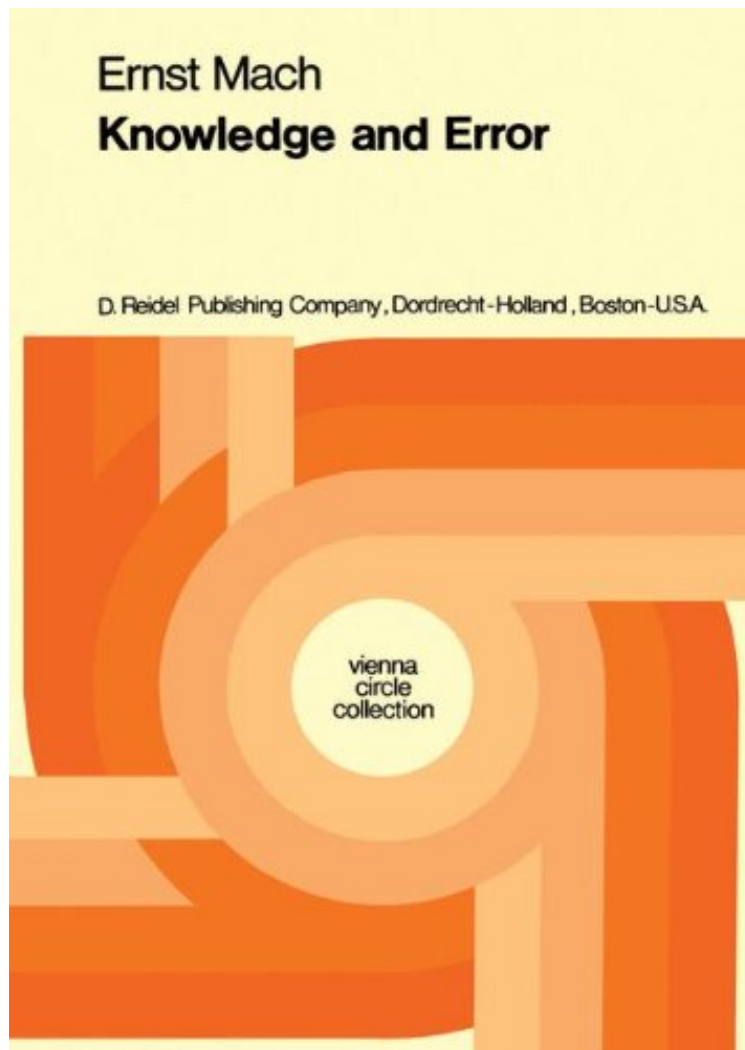


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## Knowledge and Error: Sketches on the Psychology of Enquiry (Vienna Circle Collection, Volume 3)

*Ernst Mach*

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Erkenntnis und Irrtum. Skizzen zur Psychologie der Forschung. Von E. MACH Emer. Professor an der Unverslilt

Wien. LEIPZIG Verlag von Johann Ambrosius Barth 1905. INTRODUCTION XIII On a number of occasions Mach expressed the sentiment, especially in his correspondence, that America was the land of intellectual freedom and opportunity, the coming frontier for a new radical empiricism that would help to wash metaphysics out of philosophy. In 1901 he sponsored the German edition of *Concepts and Theories of Modern Physics* (1881) 2 by J. B. Stallo, Cincinnati lawyer and philosopher. Mach warmly endorsed Stallo's book because his scientific aims so closely approximated his own, and because Stallo rejected the latent metaphysical elements and concealed ontological assumptions of the mechanical-atomistic interpretation of the world. The second edition of *Wärmelehre* was dedicated to Stallo in 1900. The fourth edition of *Populär-wissenschaftliche Vorlesungen* (1910), containing seven new essays, was dedicated to Harvard Professor of physiology, philosophy, and psychology, William James. Mach had a strong intellectual affinity for James' pragmatism because, like himself, he recognized that James had come to radically empirical views from science. Both men took pure pre-conceptualized experience, from which the mental and physical predicates of experience are composed, to be neutral rather than real, unreal, objective or subjective.

Language NotesText: English, German (translation)