

Heterodox United vs. Mainstream City: Sketching a Framework for Interested Pluralism in Economics

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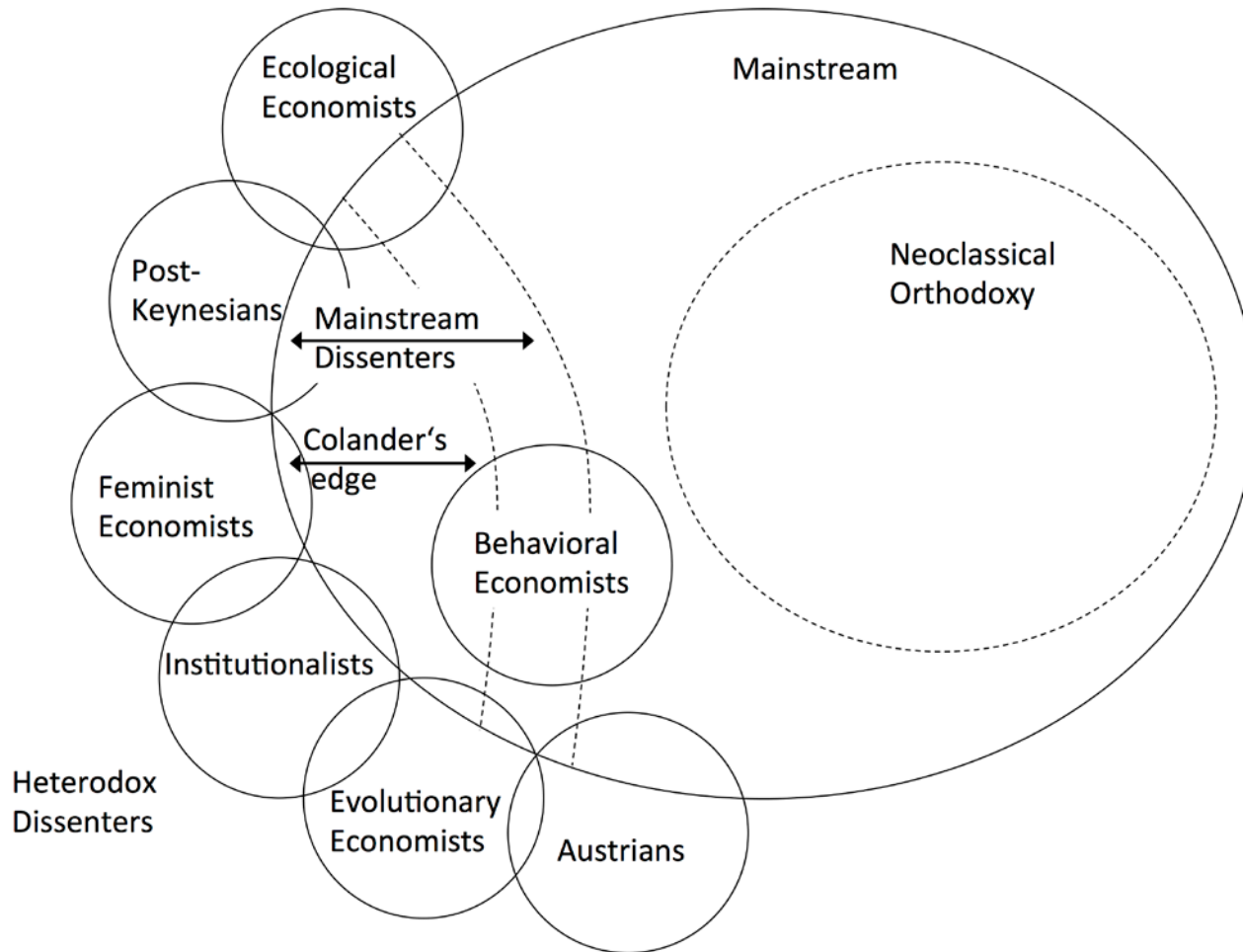
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Die Kurzfassung

- **“Pluralismus”**
 - ... als unverbindliches **Schlagwort** innerhalb des heterodoxen ökonomischen Diskurses: Toleranz, Kooperation, Integration
 - **Aber:** Fehlen eines gemeinsamen Verständnis von “Pluralismus” und Unklarheit wie Pluralismus Bestandteil praktischer Forschungstätigkeit sein kann.
- **Unser Beitrag**
 - (Kleine) **Typologie** pluralistischer Wissenschaftsverständnisse
 - **Identifikation** des “interessierten Pluralismus” als einzig zielführende Strategie
 - Versuch einer **Operationalisierung** dieses Konzepts: Wie kann ein solcher “interessierter Pluralismus” konkrete Forschungsstrategien anleiten?

How do we conceptualize economic discourse?



Three understandings of “pluralism”

Conception of pluralism	Main Characteristics	Discourse level	Teleological level
Selfish	Other paradigms are seen as illegitimate, but invincible.	Regular critique	Dominance and/or survival (<i>Monism</i>)
Disinterested	Other paradigms are seen as legitimate, but disconnected.	Occasional critique and/or engagement	Containment of status quo (<i>Pluralism of Paradigms</i>)
Interested	Other paradigms are seen as a potential contribution.	Constructive engagement	Ecumenical integration and diversification (<i>Pluralist Paradigm</i>)

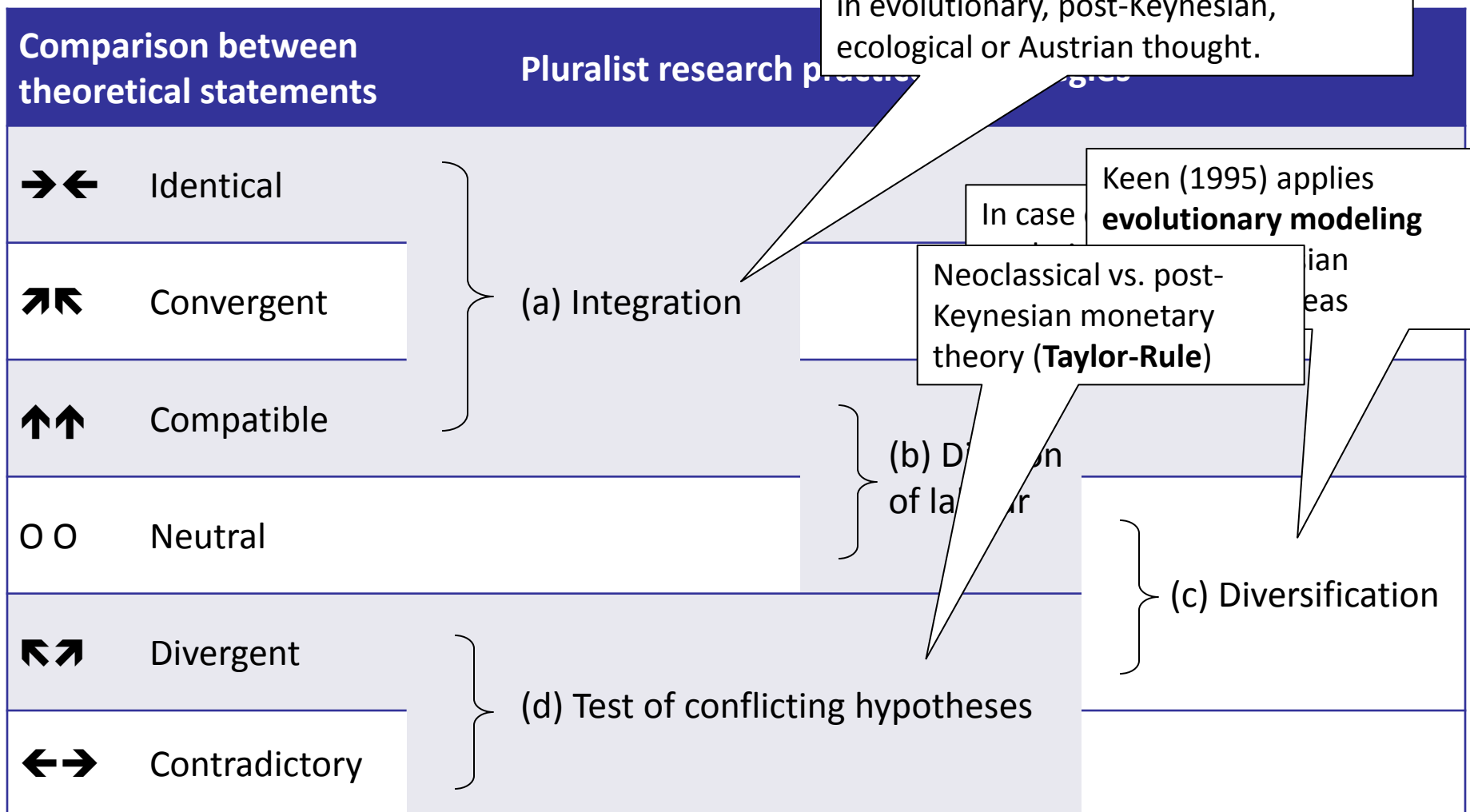
What kind of pluralism is viable (for heterodox economists)?

- We argue for “interested pluralism” as the **only viable option** for heterodox economists.
 - It is **compatible with the epistemological rationale** for pluralism, which is **openness** and **awareness** for potential explanations.
 - It would allow for an **accumulation of solved puzzles**.
 - It would favor heterodox economics in terms of **citation metrics** (where heterodox economics is fairly below its potential due to a lack of cross-school interaction; e.g. Kapeller 2009, Dobusch and Kapeller 2012).
 - It would come close to provide a **sole competitor** to neoclassical economics (the **number of competitors** as a decisive variable in paradigmatic struggle; e.g. Sterman/Wittenberg 1999).

A “Pluralist Paradigm” as a Framework for Interested Pluralism: Some theoretical perspectives

Paradigmatic Dimension	Evolutionary-Institutional	Post-Keynesian	“Pluralist Paradigm”
Central Aim (<i>teleological dim.</i>)	Fostering economic development / innovations	Securing Full-Employment	Insights in economic processes
Central Property of Markets (<i>axiomatic dimension</i>)	Creative destruction	Effective Demand	Acceptance of different hypotheses
Level of Analysis (<i>ontological dim.</i>)	Meso-Level	Macro-Level	Awareness for multifacetness of social reality
Typical applications (<i>practical dim.</i>)	Research on Innovation	Economic Policy (fiscal/monetary)	Integration, comparison, division of labor

How does it work in practice?



Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit