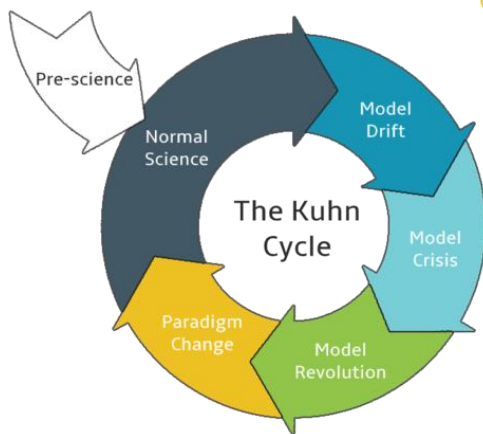


# Thomas Kuhn

## THE STRUCTURE OF SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTIONS

### Scientific Progress

1. **Normal Science**  
„Puzzle solving“ within a paradigm
2. **Anomalies**  
Observations that don't fit;  
initially dismissed
3. **Crisis**  
Confidence in paradigm declines
4. **Emergence**  
New idea offers better solutions;  
not immediately accepted
5. **Revolution**  
The paradigm shifts;  
leads to new "normal science"



Thomas Kuhn (1922-96)

American physicist and philosopher/historian of science

Connections to:

Karl Popper (Falsification)

- Believed in science advancing by testing and rejecting theories.
- Kuhn disagreed: scientists defend existing paradigms.
- Criticized Kuhn for being too relativistic.

Feyerabend (Anarchism)

- Inspired by Kuhn's approach, but took it further: "Anything goes"
- Criticized Kuhn's idea as still too rigid.

### The Revolution Step (§IX)

1. Accumulation of Anomalies
2. Breakdown of Confidence
3. Emergence of an alternative Paradigm
4. Debate and Resistance
5. Paradigm shift

➔ Incommensurability

➔ New Worldview not necessarily closer to truth