

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

THURSDAY 31 May 2018

09.00 – 12.00

Paper 6

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

*Answer **three** questions only.*

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 Page Answer Book x 1

Rough Work Pad

**You may not start to read the
questions printed on the
subsequent pages of this question
paper until instructed that you may
do so by the Invigilator**

1. Defend your preferred solution to the measurement problem.
2. EITHER (a) Are probabilities propensities?
OR (b) Are probabilities frequencies?
3. Which theories in the special sciences can ultimately be reduced to a theory in physics?
4. What, if anything, distinguishes laws from accidental generalizations?
5. Is falsifiability important in science?
6. Discuss scientific progress in relation to scientific revolutions.
7. Is Bayesianism the logic of science?
8. Do historical sciences such as geology especially require a solution to the problem of induction?
9. Consider what you take to be the strongest argument for scientific realism and the strongest argument for scientific antirealism. Are these arguments differentially persuasive across different sciences?
10. Should our views about time and simultaneity be given by our best current science?

END OF PAPER