

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF V. A. SMIRNOV'S CONCEPTION  
OF SCIENTIFIC PHILOSOPHY AND LOGIC\*

A. M. ANISOV

*The place of scientific philosophy in the system of philosophical knowledge*

The conception of scientific philosophy developed by the outstanding Russian logician Vladimir Aleksandrovich Smirnov is based on the idea of application of scientific methods to the analysis of philosophical problems. The shortest definition of the main feature of scientific philosophy is the following: *scientific philosophy is based on use of scientific methods*. But what they would be? Obviously, by the essence of philosophy, predominance of the research methods such as observation of the objects located in space and time, experiments with them etc. is out of the question here. Methods of scientific theory must mainly be theoretical and abstract. Like the methods of mathematical analysis, theory of functions and other mathematical theories which proved to be fruitful in physics *the logical methods* have been successfully applied to various fields of philosophy. Several problems of philosophical knowledge turned out to be non-trivially treated by means of them.

The central position of logical methods in scientific philosophy do not exclude any usage of other methods of investigations. The main point is that only scientific methods are to be used. In V. A. Smirnov's opinion, nowadays scientific philosophy consists of the following philosophical disciplines: logic, epistemology, methodology, theory of values, theory of actions, philosophy of language, philosophy of law, philosophy of mathematics, foundations of natural sciences, social sciences and humanities. Thus, scientific philosophy is not identical with philosophy of science but contains the last as a component.

---

\* Translated from the Russian by Peter Bystrov.