Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics (EIPE)

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Thesis title
Alfred Marshall on Technology: Tensions and Teachings

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Project description
Alfred Marshall is considered by many as the father of modern British economics and the founder of the Cambridge school. Given his significance in the history of economic thought it is no surprise that his economic writings have been studied in great detail by historians of modern thought. Marshall’s philosophical and methodological ideas, on the other hand, have received much less attention. Many authors have provided insightful comments on some of the methodological themes in Marshall’s work. However, comprehensive and detailed accounts of Marshall’s methodological ideas have yet to be written.

The aim of this thesis is to fill this gap in the Marshall studies by providing an in-depth account of some aspects of Marshall’s methodological writings. One can argue that the time is ripe for such an exercise given the fact that the methodology of economics is better equipped than ever to support an analysis of the methodological writings of Marshall. The use of ideas and tools developed in contemporary methodology of economics in general contribute to the depth and novelty of the interpretations provided in the thesis.

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