John Holland

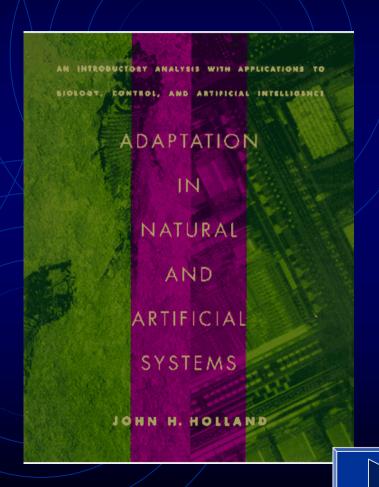
- Books
- Enlightenment
- The Great Ideas of the Great Man
- Impact on Economists
- The SFI Economic Program

Two Books before the 1990s

- Holland, J. H. (1975), *Adaptation in Natural and Artificial Systems*, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Holland, J. H., K. J. Holyoak, R. E. Nisbett (1987), *Induction: Processes of Inference, Learning and Discovery* (Computational Models of Cognition and Perception), Cambridge: MIT Press.

1992

Holland, J. H. (1992), Adaptation in Natural and Artificial Systems : An Introductory Analysis With Applications to Biology, Control, and Artificial Intelligence (Complex A), Bradford Books.



1996

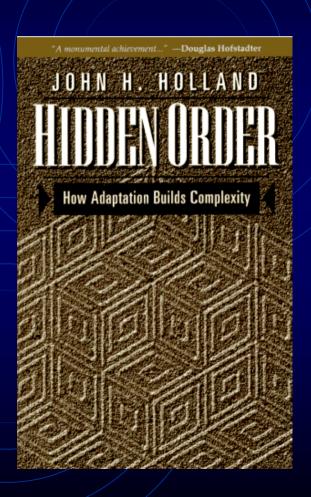
• Holland, J. H. (1996),

Hidden Order: How

Adaptation Builds

Complexity, Perseus

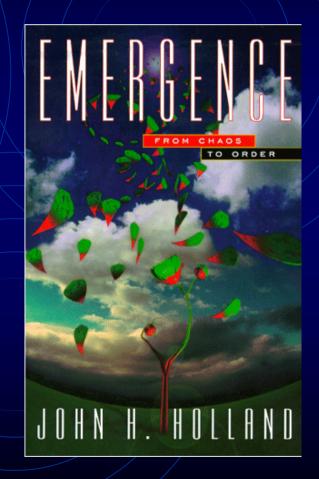
Press.





1999

Holland, J. H.
(1999), Emergence
: From Chaos to
Order, Perseus
Press.





Enlightment

- Hebb
- Von Neumann
- Fisher



A Window onto the Essence of Thought

- Hebb, D. O. (1949), The Organization of Behavior.
 - Connectionism
 - Synapses
 - Cell Assemblies (Subsets of Several Thousand Neurons): Basic Building Block of Information
- pp.158-159



Legacy of Von Neumann

- Using computers in two ways:
 - A general-purpose computational device
 - The basis for a general theory of automata, natural and artifical
- pp.161-162



Fruitful Source of Ideas

- Fisher, R. A. (1929), The Genetical Theory of Natural Selection.
 - Foundation of "Neo-Darwinian" Theory of Evolutionary Change
- pp. 163-165



The Great Ideas

- Genetic Algorithms
- Classifier Systems
- Adaptive Agents



Ideas of Genetic Algorithm

- In a Nutshell
- Key Words
- From the late 1950s to the early 1970s



In a Nutshell

- The genetic algorithm is, from an immense space of building blocks which are basic units of learning and information, to construct a evolving hierarchy of building blocks.
- This construction process is self-organizing.
- It functions like the real economy: behaves like the emergence of firms, ways of production, specialization and division, while the idea is motivated by Hebb.

In a Nutshell

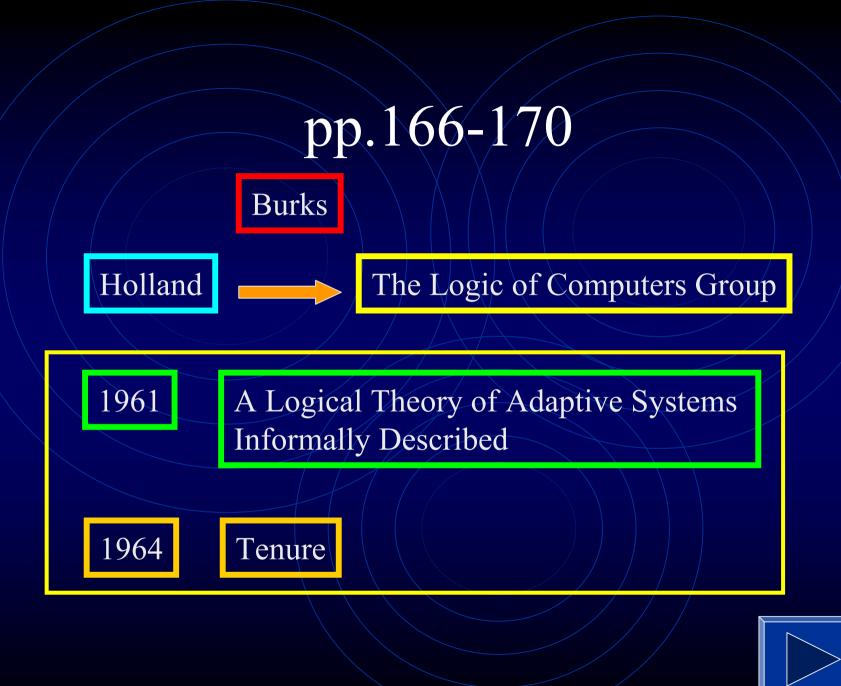
- One can use computer to simulate a process of the evolving hierarchy.
- Specifically, Holland chose binary strings as the generic representation of a building block.

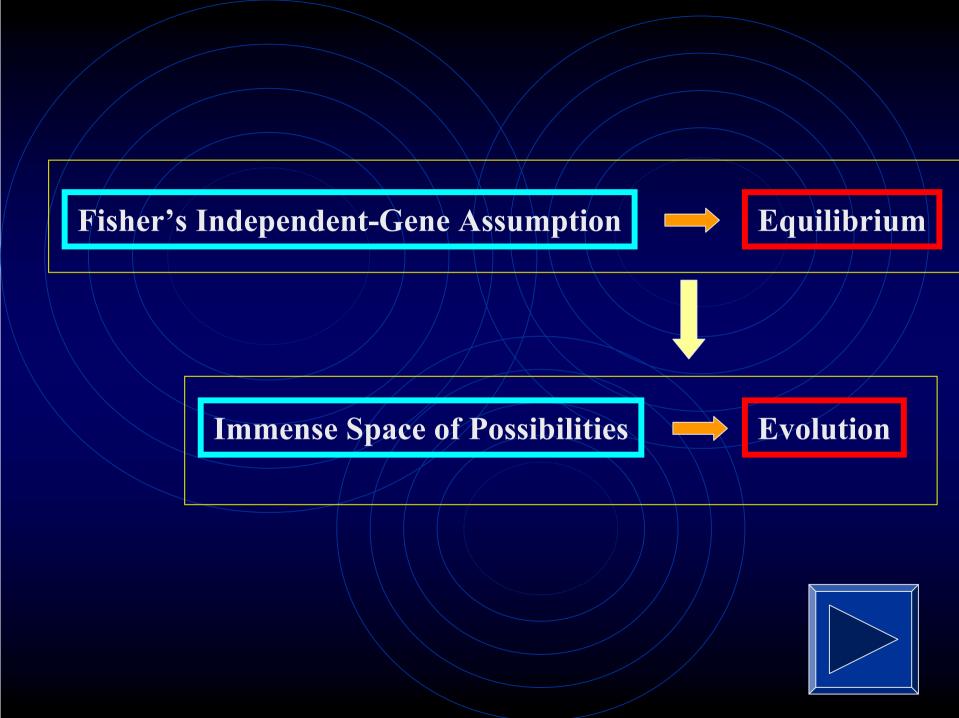


Key Words

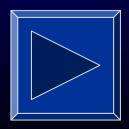
- Building Blocks
- Evolving Hierarchy
- Self-Organization

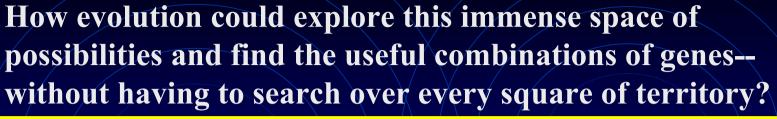


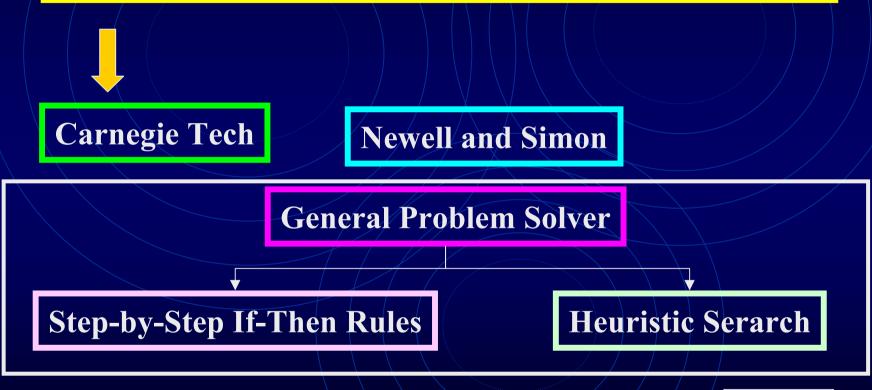




- You have a system exploring its way into an immense space of possibilities, with no realistic hop of ever finding the single 'best' place to be.
- All evolution can do is look for improvements, not perfection.

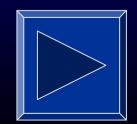






A Unifying Principle in Adaptation

Biological Foundation of the Theory of Adaptation



Building Block Cells Tissues Organs **Organisms** Ecosystems

Cluster

Subroutines



pp. 181-182

Rule-Based Systems

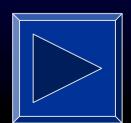
Allen Newell and Herbert Simon at Carnegie-Mellon



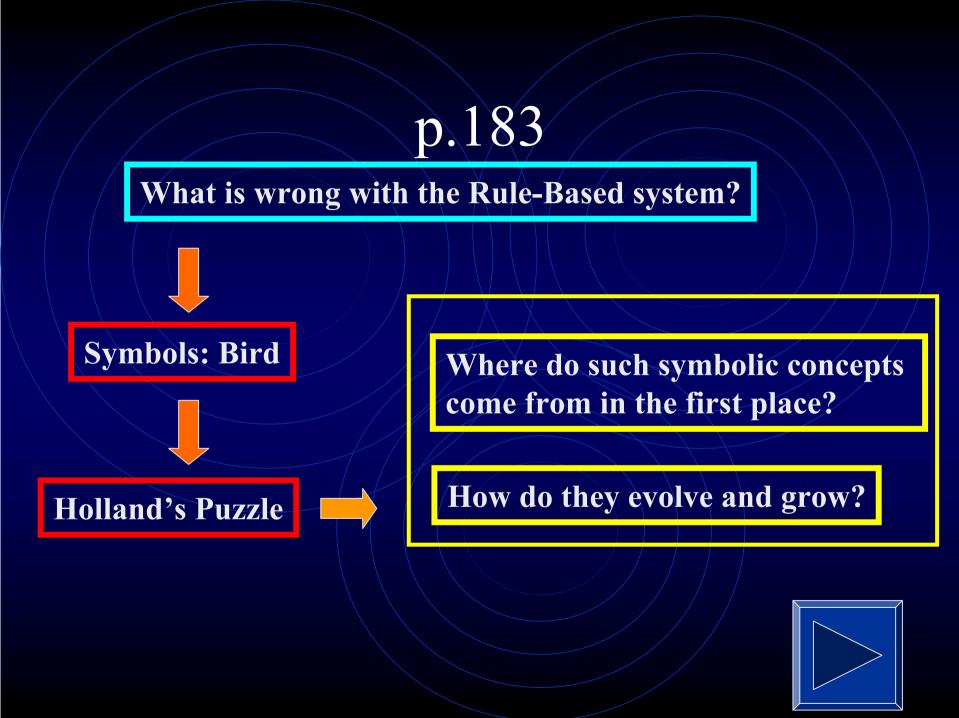
Does it make sense?

Hebb's Reasoning Cell

Bulletin Board Metaphor



Adaptive Agent

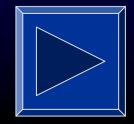


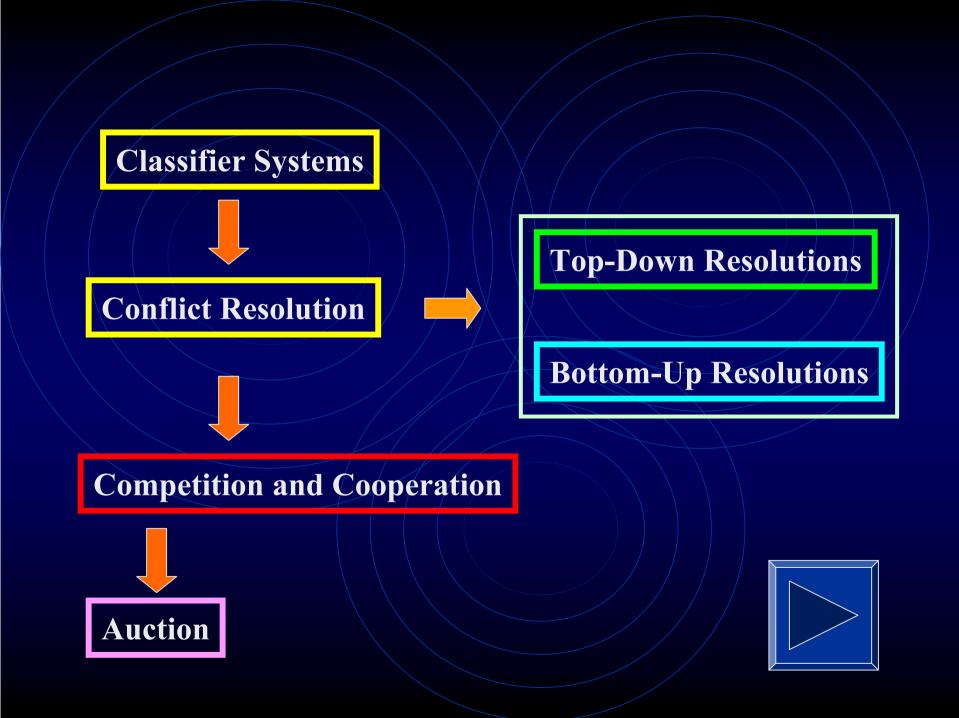
pp. 183-184

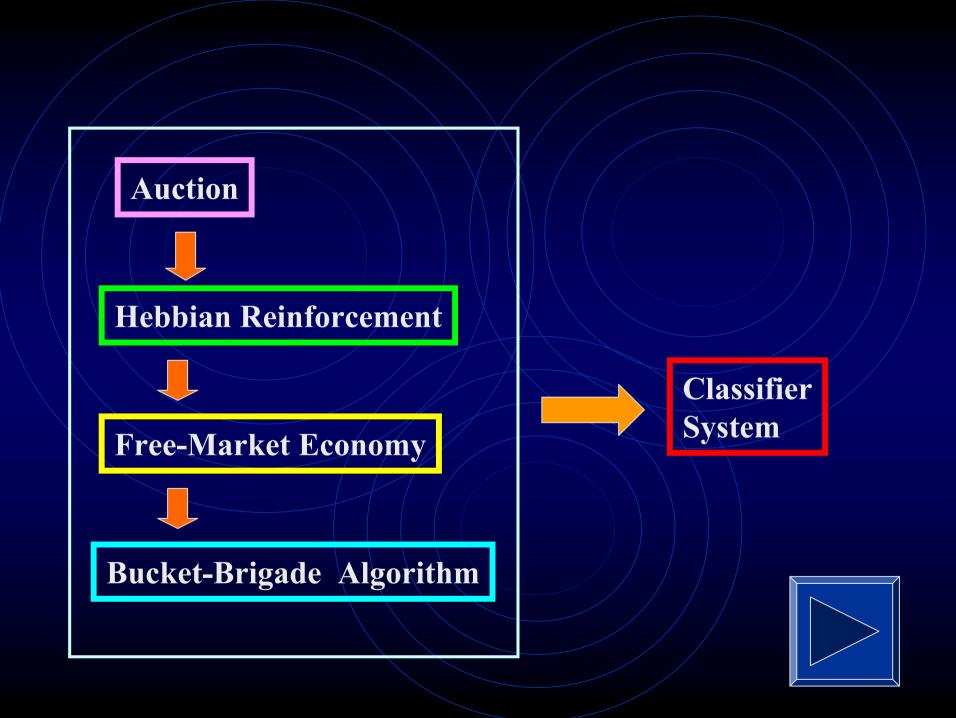
Concepts has to be understood in Hebbian terms, as emergent structures growing from some deeper neural substrate that is constantly being adjusted and readjusted by input from the environment.



What is the difference between classifiers and the above-mentioned `rules'?

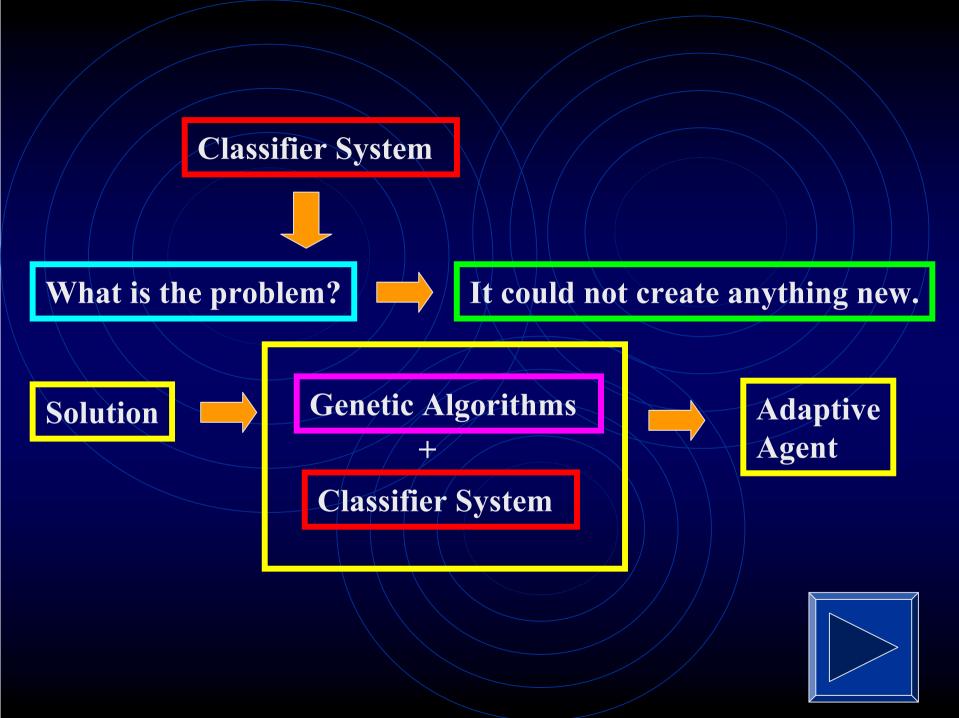






• Holland's classifier system is a cognitive architecture into which the genetic algorithm is embedded so as to allow adaptive modification of a population of string-based if-then rules (whose condition and action parts are fixed length binary).





Adaptive Agents

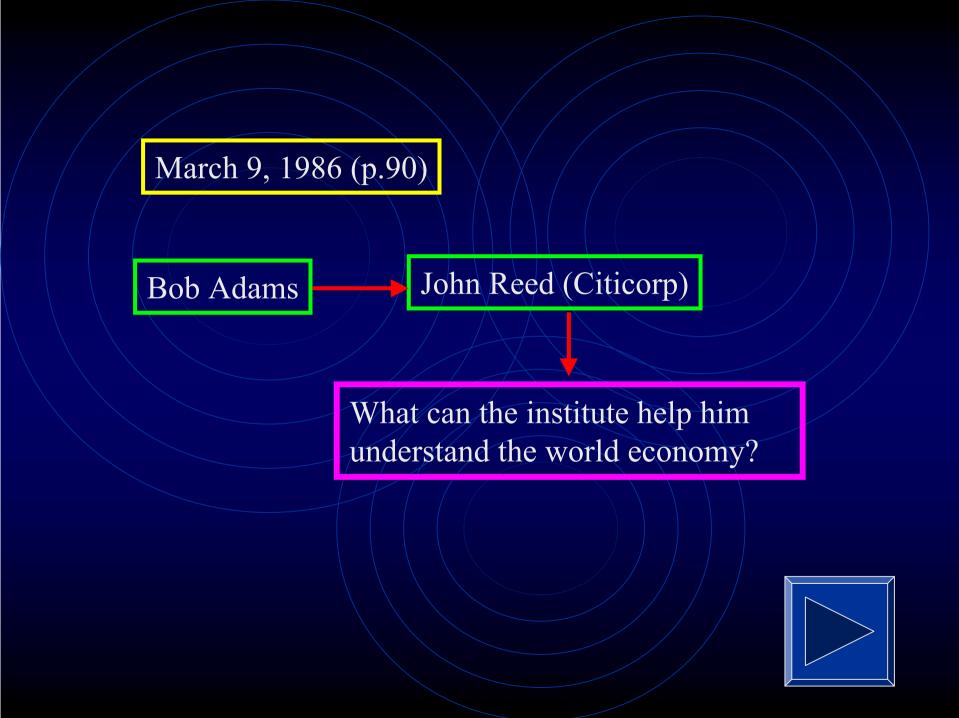
• By adding the genetic algorithm as a third layer on top of the bucket brigade and the rule-based system, Holland could make an adaptive agent that not learned from experience but could be *spontaneous* and *creative*.

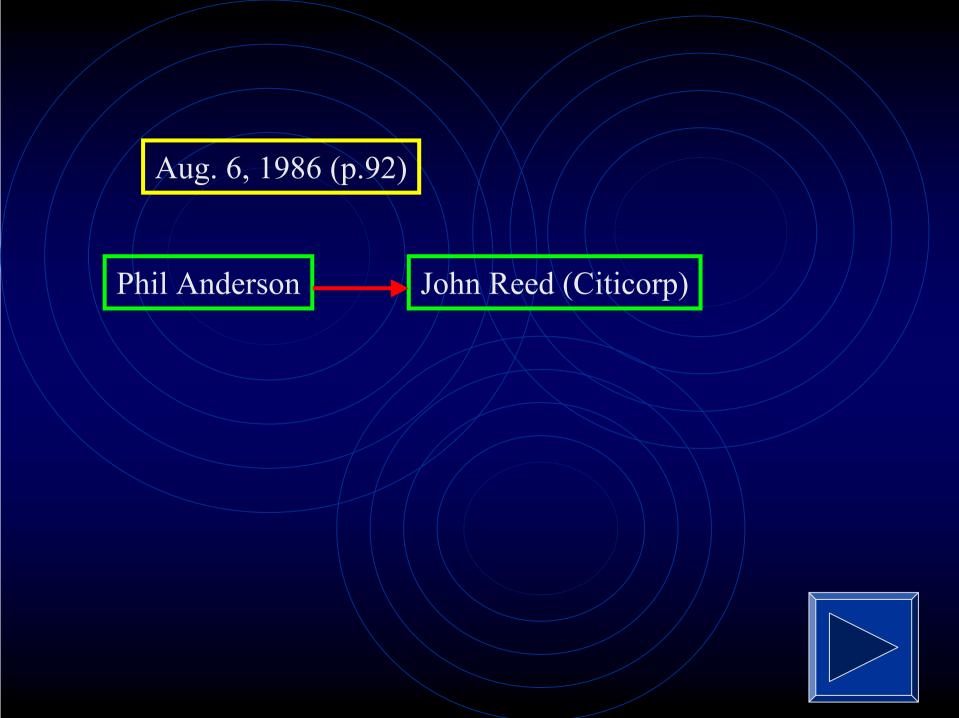


Holland and Economists

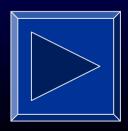
- The SFI Physics and Economics Workshop
- Holland's Lecture on the Workshop
- When Arthur Meets Holland





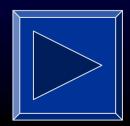


- The Idea of An Economy Program (p.95)
- Organize a Physics and Economics Workshop (p.96-97)
 - Tobin
 - Arrow
- Arrow and Anderson's list (p.97)
 - Arthur (p.98),



Arrow's List of Economists

- Kenneth Arrow,
- Thomas Sargent,
- Hollis Chenery,
- Jose Scheinkman, and
- Brian Arthur



Sante Fe Institute's Economic Conference (p.136--)

- Ten Full Days
- Sep. 8, 1987

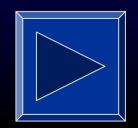


Lecture Title

- The Global Economy as an Adaptive Process by John Holland (University of Michigan)
- Holland, J. (1990), "The Global Economy as an Adaptive System," in P. Anderson, K. Arrow, and D. Pines (eds.), Santa Fe Institute Studies in Science of Complexity: The Economy as an Evolving Complex System, Addison-Wesley, Redwood City.

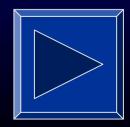
Three Characteristics

- Each of these systems is a network of many 'agents' acting in parallel.
- Complex adaptive system has many levels of organization, with agents at any one level serving at the building blocks for agents at a higher level.



Three Characteristics

• Complex adaptive systems are constantly revising and rearranging their building blocks as they gain experience.



Building Blocks

- At some deep, fundamental level, said Holland, all these processes of learning, evolution, and adaptation are the same.
- And one of the fundamental mechanisms of adaptation in any given system is this revision and recombination of the building blocks.

- It is essentially meaningless to talk about a complex adaptive system being in equilibrium: the system can never get there.
- It is always unfolding, always in transition.



SFI Economic Program

- Motivation
- Artificial Stock Markets



Motivation

- Echo
- Evolving An Artificial Economy
- Bounded Rationality
- Equilibrium



Echo

- What is Adaptation?
- What is Emergence?
- And many more questions that economists may never realized they had been asking.



Evolving an Artificial Economy

- But it would have to be all these little agents, programmed to get smart and interact with each other.
- Then in this dreamlike idea, you'd go in one morning and say, 'Hey, look at these guys! Two or three weeks ago all they were doing was bartering, and now they've got joint stock companies.

Evolving an Artificial Economy

- Then the next day you'd come in and say, 'Oh--they've discovered central banking.'
- Then a few days later you'd have all your colleagues clustered around and you're peering in: 'Wow! They've got labor unions!
- What'll they think of next?' Or half of them have gone Communist.

Artificial Stock Market

• 'By the time I got to Santa Fe in June 1988," he says, "I'd realized that we need to start with a more modest problem than building a whole artificial economy" And that led to the artificial stock market." (p.269)



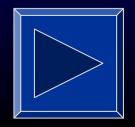
Set the Dial of Rationality

- There is only one way to be perfectly rational, while there are an infinite of ways to be partially rational.
- So, which way is correct for human beings?
- "Where do you set the dial of rationality?" (p.250-251)



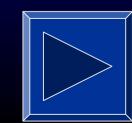
Equilibrium

- The question was does realistic adaptive behavior lead you to the rational expectation outcome? (p.271)
- The answer was yes--but only if the problem is simple enough, or if the conditions are repeated again and again.



Equilibrium

• But if it's an on-off situation that's never going to happen again, or if the situation is very complicated, so that your agents have to do an awful lot of computing, then you're asking for a hell of a lot.



Equilibrium

• Because you're asking them to have knowledge of their own expectations, of the dynamics of the market, of other people's expectations, of other people's expectations about other people's expectations, et cetera.



Artificial Stock Market

- P. 269
- Fall, 1988
- GA and Classifier Systems
- Palmer, 1989



The SFI Economic Program

• P. 243