

Contents

PREFACE xi

Introduction 3

Part I: Emergence

1 Part and Whole, Resultant and Emergent 9

- 1 Association and Combination 10
- 2 Emergence and Supervenience 12
- 3 Levels and Evolution 15
- 4 Structure and Mechanism 19
- 5 Emergence and Explanation 21
- Concluding Remarks 24

2 System Emergence and Submergence 26

- 1 System Emergence 27
- 2 Emergence *ex nihilo*? 30
- 3 Submergence: System Dismantling 31
- 4 System Types 33
- 5 The CESM Model 34
- Concluding Remarks 38

3 The Systemic Approach 40

- 1 The Systemic Approach 40
- 2 Conceptual and Material Systems 42
- 3 The Systemic Approach to Physical and Chemical Processes 43

4	The Systemic Approach to Life	45
5	The Systemic Approach to Brain and Mind	49
	Concluding Remarks	52
4	Semiotic and Communication Systems	53
1	Words, Ideas, and Things	54
2	Semiotic System	58
3	Languages as Semiotic Systems	60
4	Speech and Language	62
5	Speech Learning and Teaching	65
6	Communication System	67
	Concluding Remarks	68
5	Society and Artefact	70
1	The Systemic Approach to Society	71
2	Microsocial and Macrosocial, Sectoral and Integral	73
3	Emergence by Design	75
4	Social Invention	76
5	Philosophical Dividends of the Systemic Approach	77
	Concluding Remarks	80
6	Individualism and Holism: Theoretical	82
1	Individual and Individualism, Whole and Holism	84
2	Ontological	85
3	Logical	87
4	Semantic	89
5	Epistemological	91
6	Methodological	93
	Concluding Remarks	95
7	Individualism and Holism: Practical	97
1	Value Theory, Action Theory, and Ethics	97
2	Historical and Political Individualism	100
3	First Alternative to Individualism: Holism	101
4	Hybrids	105
5	The Systemic Alternative	106
	Concluding Remarks	109
8	Three Views of Society	112
1	The Two Classical Views of Society	112
2	The Systemic Approach	114

- 3 From Statistics to Theoretical Models 115
- 4 The Science-Technology-Market Supersystem 119
- 5 Implications for Social-policy Design 121
- 6 Social Studies Are about Social Systems 122
- 7 The Competitive Advantage of Systemism 124
- Concluding Remarks 126

Part II: Convergence

9 Reduction and Reductionism 129

- 1 Reduction Operations 130
- 2 Micro-levels, Macro-levels, and Their Relations 133
- 3 Same-level and Inter-level Relations 135
- 4 Inter-level Hypotheses and Explanations 136
- 5 From Physics to Chemistry 137
- 6 Biology, Ecology, and Psychology 139
- 7 From Biology to Social Science: Human Sociobiology and the IQ Debate 141
- 8 Kinds and Limits of Reduction 144
- 9 Reduction and Materialism 146
- 10 Concluding Remarks 147

10 A Pack of Failed Reductionist Projects 149

- 1 Physicalism 149
- 2 Computationism 150
- 3 Linguistic Imperialism 152
- 4 Biologism I: Sociobiology 154
- 5 Biologism II: Evolutionary Psychology 156
- 6 Psychologism 162
- 7 Sociologism, Economism, Politicism, and Culturalism 164
- Concluding Remarks 167

11 Why Integration Succeeds in Social Studies 168

- 1 The B-E-P-C Square 169
- 2 Social Multidisciplinarity 171
- 3 Social Interdisciplinarity 176
- Concluding Remarks 177

12 Functional Convergence: The Case of Mental Functions 179

- 1 Informationist Psychology 181

- 2 Mark II Model: Connectionism 183
- 3 Localization of Mental Functions 185
- 4 Functional Interdependence of Neural Modules 187
- 5 Consciousness: From Mystery to Scientific Problem 188
- 6 Two Convergence Processes 191
- Concluding Remarks 194

- 13 Stealthy Convergence: Rational-choice Theory and Hermeneutics 196**
 - 1 Divergence and Convergence 197
 - 2 Methodological Individualism 199
 - 3 Subjective Process and Observable Behaviour 201
 - 4 Inverse Problems 203
 - 5 Figuring Out Mediating Mechanisms 206
 - 6 Example: The Delinquency–Unemployment Relation 208
 - Concluding Remarks 209

- 14 Convergence as Confusion: The Case of ‘Maybe’ 213**
 - 1 Logical Possibility 214
 - 2 Factual Possibility 217
 - 3 Likelihood 220
 - 4 Relation between Frequency and Probability 221
 - 5 Probability, Chance, and Causation 223
 - 6 Credibility 226
 - 7 Probabilistic Epistemology 228
 - 8 Plausibility or Verisimilitude 232
 - 9 Towards a Plausibility Calculus 233
 - Concluding Remarks 235

- 15 Emergence of Truth and Convergence to Truth 237**
 - 1 The Nature of Truth 237
 - 2 Towards an Exact Concept of Correspondence 239
 - 3 Partial Truth 241
 - 4 The Emergence of the Knowledge of Truth 245
 - 5 Truth-centred Ethics and Ideology 247
 - Concluding Remarks 249

- 16 Emergence of Disease and Convergence of the Biomedical Sciences 250**
 - 1 Multilevel Systems and Multidisciplinarity 250

2	What Kind of Entity Is Disease?	252
3	Diagnosis as an Inverse Problem	253
4	Knowledge of Mechanism Strengthens Inference	256
5	Bayesian Number Juggling	259
6	Decision-theoretic Management of Therapy	261
7	Medicine between Basic Science and Technology	263
	Concluding Remarks	265
17	The Emergence of Convergence and Divergence	268
1	Divergence	268
2	Convergence	270
3	Caution against Premature Unification	272
4	Why Both Processes Are Required	274
5	Logic and Semantics of Integration	277
6	Glue	278
7	Integrated Sciences and Technologies	280
	Concluding Remarks	282
	GLOSSARY	285
	REFERENCES	293
	INDEX OF NAMES	315
	INDEX OF SUBJECTS	323