



Deep Complexity and the Social Sciences

Experience, Modelling and Operationality

Robert Delorme, Emeritus Professor, Université de Versailles, France

'Today, in the academic world, we are pushed to present our ideas in short, high quality journal articles. It is therefore becoming increasingly difficult to devote time to a project spanning decades to produce a book of fundamental importance. Robert Delorme has been able to do this and the outcome is a marvellous and rare work of scholarship. This book will become the key reference in the field of complex economic systems. It is a thorough and systematic treatment of complexity. The existing literature in the field is well covered and each key contribution is assessed clearly from the standpoint of the "deep complexity" approach developed by Robert Delorme. The volume is long, but it is the product of many years of work and there is little doubt that it will remain the key reference for a number of years hence. This is a path-breaking book.'

– John Foster, The University of Queensland, Australia

In this innovativework, Robert Delorme comprehensively explores uncertainty (the irreducibility to numerically measurable probabilities) and ignorance in economics, management and the social sciences through an alternative, systematically built analytical framework.

This unique book takes uncertainty and ignorance seriously and addresses them as instances of 'deep complexity' (problem situations so deeply ill-structured that they cannot be grasped with the concepts and tools of classical science). Building on the works of Herbert Simon, Heinz von Foerster and John von Neumann, the author develops an alternative framework that encompasses, rather than rejects, the classical framework. The outcome of this novel approach is 'effective deep complexity', comprising three aspects: an effective alternative framework, which brings an answer to a fundamental issue on the implications of uncertainty for scientific reasoning; a behavioural theory of deeply ill-structured problem-situations; and a decision-and-action support system.

May 2010 c 496 pp Hardback 978 1 84980 026 6 £89.95

New Horizons in Institutional and Evolutionary Economics series

TO ORDER THIS TITLE, PLEASE CONTACT:

Marston Book Services Limited
160 Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4SD UK
Tel: + 44 1235 465500 • Fax: + 44 1235 465555
direct.order@marston.co.uk
Alternatively, order online www.e-elgar.co.uk

For your free
catalogues email:
info@e-elgar.co.uk



For further information, please contact: The Sales and Marketing Department • Edward Elgar Publishing Limited
The Lypiatts • 15 Lansdown Road • Cheltenham • Glos • GL50 2JA • UK

