Center for Systems Research [1]
Working Papers [2]

System and Significance

Cybernetic Phenomenology

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Outline S&S 4

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I. BEHAVIOR, EXPERIENCE AND SCIENCE

A. The Aims of Science

B. The Subject Matter of the Behavioral and the Social Sciences

C. Presumed Obstacles to a Scientific Explanation of Behavior

1. Ontological Obstacles
2. Methodological Obstacles
3. Ideological Obstacles

II. IDOLATRY IN BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

A. Physicalism, Operationism and Modeling

B. Behaviorism and Vitalism

C. Ideological Engagement

1. The Iconoclasts
2. The Reformers and the Revolutionaries
3. The Utopians

D. Technologism

1. Psychotherapy
2. Behavior Modification
3. Social Engineering

E. Ontological Dogmatism

1. Humanism
2. Aestheticism
3. The Nature of Man: Good or Evil?
4. The Nature of Society: Consensus or Conflict?
5. Reductionism
6. Reification of Emergent Properties
7. Holism and Reification of Boundaries
8. Dogmatic Relativism

F. Anti-Intellectualism

1. Empiricism
2. Inductionism
3. Intuitionism

G. Parochialism

1. Ethnocentrism
2. A- and Anti-Historical Bias
3. Disciplinary Separatism

III. THE CLASSICAL TRADITION

A. Structural Analysis

B. Functional Analysis

IV. PHENOMENOLOGY

A. In Philosophy

1. Husserl
2. Sartre

B. In Psychology

1. Jaspers
2. Merleau-Ponty

C. In Sociology

1. Schutz

V. HERMENEUTICS

A. In Jurisprudence, Theology and the Arts

1. Gadamer
2. Betti
3. Early Ricoeur

B. In Psychology and in Social Science

1. Brentano
2. Freud
   a) The Interpretation of Dreams, Slips and Humor
3. Der Methodenstreit
   a) Menger and Weber
      (1) Meaningful Interpretation
4. Lévi-Strauss
   a) Conduct: Behavior as Script
5. Later Ricoeur
   a) Conduct: Behavior as Text
6. Social Construction of Reality
   a) Holzner
   b) Berger

VI. EXISTENTIALISM

A. In Religion and Philosophy

1. Kirkegaard
2. Heidegger

B. In Psychology

C. In Sociology

VII. ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY

A. Kant

B. Wittgenstein

VIII. LINGUISTICS

A. Branches of

B. Chomsky

C. Semantics

1. Kripke

IX. SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

A. ‘General Systems’ and ‘Social Systems’ Theory

B. As a Neutral Language and as a Method

C. Mathematical Systems Theory

X. CYBERNETICS

A. General Structure

B. Disturbance and Feedback

1. Types of Regulation
2. Types of Feedback
   a) Regulation Feedback
   b) Control Feedback
   c) Ecological Feedback

C. Information and Amplification

D. Theory of Automata

E. Cybernetics and the Attributes called Life

1. The Vital Imbalance

XI. CYBERNETIC PHENOMENOLOGY

A. Variety, Experience and Conduct

B. Regulation

C. Functional Explanation of Behavior

1. In Physics
2. Distinguished from Teleology

D. Tradition

1. Freud
2. Micro-Economics
3. Pareto
4. Feuerbach, Marx
5. Weber

XII. PHENOMENOLOGICAL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

A. Man: Fact – Construct - Artifact

B. Complementarity of Science and the Humanities

C. Logical Objectivism and Logical Subjectivism

D. Modes of Realization of Theories

E. Phenomenological Systems Analysis