

# DARWIN'S CONJECTURE

THE SEARCH FOR GENERAL PRINCIPLES  
OF SOCIAL & ECONOMIC EVOLUTION



GEOFFREY M. HODGSON  
AND THORBJØRN KNUDSEN

# Darwins Conjecture The Search For General Principles Of Social And Economic Evolution

**Gad Saad**



## **Darwins Conjecture The Search For General Principles Of Social And Economic Evolution:**

*Darwin's Conjecture* Geoffrey M. Hodgson, Thorbjørn Knudsen, 2010-12-15 Of paramount importance to the natural sciences the principles of Darwinism which involve variation inheritance and selection are increasingly of interest to social scientists as well But no one has provided a truly rigorous account of how the principles apply to the evolution of human society until now In *Darwin's Conjecture* Geoffrey Hodgson and Thorbjørn Knudsen reveal how the British naturalist's core concepts apply to a wide range of phenomena including business practices legal systems technology and even science itself They also critique some prominent objections to applying Darwin to social science arguing that ultimately Darwinism functions as a general theoretical framework for stimulating further inquiry Social scientists who adopt a Darwinian approach they contend can then use it to frame and help develop new explanatory theories and predictive models This truly pathbreaking work at long last makes the powerful conceptual tools of Darwin available to the social sciences and will be welcomed by scholars and students from a range of disciplines *Darwinian Social Evolution and Social Change* William Kerr, 2021-07-29 This book introduces the value of a Darwinian social evolutionary approach to understanding social change The chapters discuss several different perspectives on social evolutionary theory and go on to link these with comparative and historical sociological theory and two case studies Kerr brings together social change theory and theories on nationalism whilst also providing concrete examples of the theories at work The book offers a vision of rapprochement between these different areas of theory and study and to where this could lead future studies of comparative history and sociology As such it should be useful to scholars and students of nationalism and social change sociologists political scientist and historians

**The Oxford Handbook of Organizational Change and Innovation** Marshall Scott Poole, Andrew H. Van de Ven, 2021 Why and what organizations change is generally well known how organizations change is therefore the central focus of this Handbook Leading scholars focus on processes of change and the factors that influence these processes with the organization as the central unit of analysis **Evolutionary Psychology in the Business Sciences** Gad Saad, 2011-07-09 All individuals who operate in the business sphere whether as consumers employers employees entrepreneurs or financial traders to name a few constituents share a common biological heritage and are defined by a universal human nature As such it is surprising that so few business scholars have incorporated biological and evolutionary informed theories within their conceptual toolboxes This edited book addresses this lacuna by culling chapters at the intersection of the evolutionary behavioral sciences and specific business contexts including in marketing consumer behavior advertising innovation and creativity intertemporal choice negotiations competition and cooperation in organizational settings sex differences in workplace patterns executive leadership business ethics store design behavioral decision making and electronic communication To reword the famous aphorism of T G Dobzhansky nothing in business makes sense except in the light of evolution The Evolutionary Dynamics of Discursive Knowledge Loet Leydesdorff, 2021-01-01 This open access book

addresses three themes which have been central to Leydesdorff's research 1 the dynamics of science technology and innovation 2 the scientometric operationalization of these concept and 3 the elaboration in terms of a Triple Helix of university industry government relations In this study I discuss the relations among these themes Using Luhmann's social systems theory for modelling meaning processing and Shannon's theory for information processing I show that synergy can add new options to an innovation system as redundancy The capacity to develop new options is more important for innovation than past performance Entertaining a model of possible future states makes a knowledge based system increasingly anticipatory The trade off between the incursion of future states on the historical developments can be measured using the Triple Helix synergy indicator This is shown for example for the Italian national and regional systems of innovation

**Economics** David A. Dieterle, 2017-03-27 A comprehensive four volume resource that explains more than 800 topics within the foundations of economics macroeconomics microeconomics and global economics all presented in an easy to read format As the global economy becomes increasingly complex interconnected and therefore relevant to each individual in every country it becomes more important to be economically literate to gain an understanding of how things work beyond the microcosm of the economic needs of a single individual or family unit This expansive reference set serves to establish basic economic literacy of students and researchers providing more than 800 objective and factually driven entries on all the major themes and topics in economics Written by leading scholars and practitioners the set provides readers with a framework for understanding economics as mentioned and debated in the public forum and media Each of the volumes includes coverage of important events throughout economic history biographies of the major economists who have shaped the world of economics and highlights of the legislative acts that have shaped the U S economy throughout history The extensive explanations of major economic concepts combined with selected key historical primary source documents and a glossary will endow readers with a fuller comprehension of our economic world Classical Political Economy and Modern Theory Neri

Salvadori, Christian Gehrke, Ian Steedman, Richard Sturn, 2013-06-17 Heinz Kurz is recognised internationally as a leading economic theorist and a foremost historian of economic thought This book pays tribute to his outstanding contributions by bringing together a unique collection of new essays by distinguished economists from around the world Classical Political Economy and Modern Theory comprises twenty essays grouped thematically into five sections Part I examines political economy and its critique Part II looks at entrepreneurship evolution and income distribution Part III discusses Cambridge Keynes and macroeconomics Part IV explores crisis and cycles whilst Part V is dedicated to personal reminiscences The essays in this book will be an invaluable source of inspiration for economists interested in economic theory and in the evolution of economic thought They will also be of interest to postgraduate and research students specialising in economic theory and in the history of economic thought *Handbook on the Digital Creative Economy* Ruth Towse, Christian Handka, 2013-12-27 Digital technologies have transformed the way many creative works are generated disseminated and

used They have made cultural products more accessible challenged established business models and the copyright system and blurred the boundary between

Handbook on Institutions and Complexity Eric Alston, Lee J. Alston, Bernardo Mueller, 2025-05-14 This innovative Handbook presents a comprehensive overview of the significance of complexity theory for understanding institutions Eminent scholars cover the key tools and concepts of the field including emergence networks ergodicity and modularity exploring their contributions to institutional formulation and evolution

**Foundations of Post-Schumpeterian Economics** Beniamino Callegari, 2020-12-30 The neo Schumpeterian interpretation dominating the field of evolutionary economics puts focus on technological innovation Darwinian evolution and economic growth and has proven to be fertile ground for the past forty years However as the evolutionary school attempts to engage with a world of inequality financialization and economic fragility the limits of such an interpretation begin to show Contributing to the development of a more balanced post Schumpeterian economics this book offers a complementary interpretation of Schumpeter's theory which is based on economic innovation Bergsonian creative evolution and monetary mechanisms and institutions The theoretical consequences of this new interpretation are significant and numerous First it leads to a conceptual separation of economic and technological innovation Second it offers a deeper integration of monetary and financial elements within the theory of the process of development illustrating the adaptive and planning role provided by financial speculation under capitalist conditions Third it provides the foundations for a post Schumpeterian theory of capitalist crisis built on the relationship between innovation funding the institutional development of banking and speculative credit creation Finally by discussing several key recent developments in evolutionary economics the interpretation illustrates the opportunities unlocked by a pluralist approach to disciplinary development aiming towards the development of a comprehensive post Schumpeterian approach to economics This text is essential reading for scholars and students of Schumpeter evolutionary economics post Keynesian economics institutional economics and all economists interested in the ontological methodological and theoretical challenges posed by economic development

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