

*Self-Organization
generates
Information.*

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Abstract.

Self-organization takes place in a specific kind of dynamical systems – e.g. from physics, chemistry or biology – which operate in the view of physics far from thermo-dynamical equilibrium searching for quasi-stable internal states. Such a system can be excited by a wide range of stimuli which it accepts together with influences from outside world as compact input for an internal reflection on its complete actual situation (taking into account the system's total history and actual situation as well). The reflection informs fluently about something that has been created completely new, the system produces information in the fullest sense of the word.

1. Information under Consideration.

Informing in subsequent discussions means a process creating something new, which was formerly unknown and is apparently appropriate to build knowledge. This kind of information is generated by self-organization, it is considered pragmatically, which brings about context dependent, originating meanings; their pragmatism will base on syntax- and semantics-aspects as well. Processes of mere signal-handling will mostly neglect the meaning of information for the purpose of concentration on statistical aspects only (SHANNON & WEAVER), these kinds of processes are not under consideration currently.

Self-organization can be observed in the behaviour of specific dynamical systems which reside in states far from thermo-dynamical equilibrium where the evolution is confronted with so called bifurcations. At the bifurcation-points the system is forced to consider several competitive development-paths in order to take the appropriate one finally. These proceedings enable generations of new qualities and place the process in a position to provide new information. One can say, such a process will fluently generate new events and this flow of events is to be understood as an information-flow. Because the generating processes are self-organizing, their information-product must be self-organized too. Therefore processes providing information and self-organizing processes are equivalent in current context.

2. Main Differences between Organization and Self-Organization.

An organization system – theoretically may be specified as relations (causalities) between specific causes and associated effects – is realized by an intermediate system which reacts quasi-passively on the stimuli from outside. Causality only exists as a pre-planned transformation which tolerates stimuli without any incitements of the system for a self-contained modification-work.

Compared with organization, self-organizing systems will show its self-contained initiative, in which mediation between cause (input) and effect (output) takes the decisive influence. Theoretical onsets came from W. HOFKIRCHNER [3] based on former discussions from e.g. H.HAKEN [1 & 2], S. A. KAUFFMAN [4] or I. PRIGOGINE [7]. Input is no more necessary and sufficient for a specified output, it is only necessary for it. The system determines its influence on the proper causality by mirroring the cause (input) in a specific way and finally selects the appropriate effect. Without input (initiation) there will be no output (effect), but a cause will only partially decide about the effect, the system reflects the cause and then decides about the final effect. The system makes decisions and this decision-making is nothing less than the generation of information. The effect is separated from the cause by a quality- and level-jump. Self-organization is at an origin of information.

The differences between organizing and self-organizing systems may be summarized by the following scheme between terms and appropriate activities acting on them:

●⟨organization-system⟩ ●⟨self-organization-system⟩	●				●		
↓⟨realized on base of⟩	↓				↓		
●⟨fixed plan⟩	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
●⟨variable algorithm⟩					●	●	●
↓⟨accepts⟩	↓				↓		
↓⟨reproduces⟩ ↓⟨creates⟩		↓				↓	
↓⟨rejects⟩			↓				↓
↓⟨unable to create⟩				↓			
●⟨specified input⟩ ●⟨specified output⟩ ●⟨-specified input⟩ ●⟨variable input⟩ ●⟨context extraneous input⟩	●	●	●		●	●	●
●⟨new information⟩				●		●	
<i>Main Differences between Organization and Self-Organization</i>							

3. Self-Organization under Considerations.

Self-organization in following discussions will happen in physical, chemical or biological systems operating far from thermo-dynamical equilibrium working towards pseudo-stable states. They will be represented by a system of *n* differential equations of first order in time for *n* coupled time-dependent variables. The variables

representing physical entities will be modified by $0 < p \leq n$ parameters simulating the environmental influence on the system. The system's internal states will happen due to the integration of the variables which in turn are influenced by modified parameters.

●(self-organizing system)	●					●
↓(realized by) ↓(driven by)	↓					↓
●("n ∈ ℕ*" dependent, -linear DG's of first order in time)	●			●	●	●
●(initial conditions)						●
↓(for)						↓
●(integration)						●
↓(evaluating) ↓(of)	↓					↓
↓(producing)				↓	↓	
●("n ∈ ℕ*" time-dependent variables)	●	●	●			●
●(time-dependent system-internal modes) ●(parameter-dependent information-structure)		↓	↓	↓	↓	
↓(representing) ↓(are modified by) ↓(describing)		●	●	●		
●(time-dependent physical entities) ●("0 < p ≤ n" parameters) ●(flow-lines)			↓	↓		
↓(introducing) ↓(contained in)			●	●		
●(parameter-dependent environmental influence) ●("ℝ^n")				↓		
↓(scaled by)				↓		
●(n-dimensional coordinate-system " {x ₁ , x ₂ , x ₃ , ...} ")				↓		
↓(with)				↓		
●(axes corresponding to proper variables)				●		
<i>A General Characterization of Self-Organization</i>						

Associated with its internal dynamics the system created a flexible data–structure which can be understood as information generated by the system as consequence of the stimuli manufactured by its internal processing.

3.1. A general Characterization of Information–Structure generated by Self–Organization.

Depending on its environmental parameters a self–organizing system will form statements about the effects from its internal development on account of stimuli (causes) acting initiatives. The system will permanently inform about its internal reflections while it is constantly developing.

The generated information–structure is built of three aspect–levels (syntactical, semantic and pragmatic aspects) in hierarchal order. The syntactical level contains a set of basic entities together with their fundamental interrelationships. On semantic level meaningful amalgamations are formed on the base of elements from syntactical level. The pragmatic level finally detects highlights – appropriate for an actual analysis – within the permanently developing information flow, directly or indirectly depending on the elements of the semantics. The following interaction–scheme may give some insight into this mechanism.

●(information-structure)	●					
↓(hierarchically built by)	↓					
●(pragmatic aspects)	●					●
↓(select from ∧ combines appropriately)	∧					↓
●(semantic aspects)	●			●	●	
↓(select from ∧ combine appropriately)	∧			↓		
●(syntactical aspects)	●	●	●	●		
↓(specify) ↓(interrelate)		↓	↓			
●(information-entities)		●	●			
↓(adequate for)		↓	↓	↓	↓	
●(self-organizing process) ●(information-entities) ●(expressions) ●(information-complexes)		●	●	●	●	●
↓(on)		↓	↓	↓	↓	
●(theoretical base)		●	●			
●(parameter-base) ●(parameter-range)					●	●
↓(during)					↓	
●(integration of variables)					●	
<i>Hierarchy Information-Structure generated by a self-organizing System</i>						

set of arcs, the attractor itself is formed by a CANTOR–set of sheets which intersect the return–plane through the CANTOR–set of arcs and radiate out from a spine; spine and CANTOR–set of sheet will finally give to the attractor the structure of CANTOR–book.

The strange attractor lacks orbits removed by HOPF–bifurcation, those with a period > 25 of consecutive $R \vee L$ and those removed by the original homoclinic explosion in comparison with the original strange invariant set.

●(strange attractor)	●									●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●
●(r–stable periodic orbits)		●																	
●(stable manifold of " (x, y, z) = 0 ")			●																
●(distances)																			
↓(lacks)																			
●(orbits)																			
↓(emerges at) ↓(for) ↓(intersects) ↓(draw)	↓	↓	↓																
↓(normal to)																			
↓(contains)																			
●(general attractor-points)																			
●(specific attractor-points)																			
●(countable infinity) ●(r–countable infinity)																			
↓(located on)																			
↓(of)																			
●(CANTOR-set of sheets)																			
↓(starting on)																			
●(" 28 < r < 30.2 ") ●(" r ≤ 28 ")	●	●																	
●(CANTOR-set of convex arcs)																			
↓(on) ↓(forced by) ↓(radiates out from)																			
●(appropriate return-plane in \mathbb{R}^3)																			
↓(in) ↓(left of) ↓(right of) ↓(normal to)																			
●(line " AD " through " (x,y,z) = 0 ")																			
↓(are attracted by)																			
↓(initially effected by) ↓(finally effected by)																			
↓(symmetrical with respect to)																			
●(saddle-point " C ₂ ") ●(saddle-point " C ₁ ")																			
●(stretching)																			
●(attraction) ●(stable periodic orbits)																			
●(" (x,y,z) = 0 ") ●(r–stable periodic orbits)																			
●(spine of a CANTOR-book)																			
●(one-ways)																			
↓(for)																			
●(" r ≤ 28 ") ●(" 28 < r < 30.2 ")																			
↓(influenced by)																			
↓(under) ↓(discloses) ↓(intersecting)																			
↓(to form)																			
↓(removed by)																			
●(r–stable manifold of " C ₂ ")																			
●(r–stable manifold of " C ₁ ")																			
●(sensitivity on initial conditions)																			
●(rising stability) ●(HOPF-bifurcation)																			
●(application of return-map)																			
↓(returning back to)																			
↓(demonstrated by) ↓(of) ↓(to intersect)																			
●(return-plane)																			
↓(to be intersected with) ↓(through)																			
↓(compared with)																			
●(diverging of orbit-pairs)																			
●(original homoclinic explosion)																			
●(" ≥ 25 " consecutive " R ∨ L ")																			
●(original strange r–variant set)																			
●(periodic orbits) ●(CANTOR-book)																			
●(CANTOR-set of arcs)																			
Pragmatic-Aspects, Original strange Attractor																			

The size of strange attractor can be measured by the maximum number of revolutions which may happen right \vee left of line AD . The size of strange attractor may decrease or increase within various r -intervals.

●(attractor-size)	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	
●(strange attractor)					●				
↓(specified by) ↓(decreases for) ↓(increases for) ↓(reaches) ↓(contains) ↓(increases by)	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓			↓	↓
↓(decreases to)						↓	↓		
●(maximum-number of revolutions) ●(" 33 ") ●(" 2 ") ●(" 1 ")	●			●		●	●		
●(homoclinic explosions)								●	●
↓(for)	↓							↓	
↓(at)				↓		↓	↓		
↓(reinstall)									↓
●(" right \vee left " of " AD ") ●(some r-intervals) ●(alternate r-intervals)	●	●	●						
●(" r = 30.2 ") ●(" r = 47.5 ") ●(" r = 54.6 ") ●(" r < 54.6 ")				●		●	●	●	
●(trajectories)						●			●
↓(with up to)						↓			
●(" 33 " consecutive " R \vee L ")						●			
<i>Pragmatic-Aspects, Size of strange Attractor</i>									

5.3.2. Cumulative Effect on Number and Types of periodic Orbits.

One can derive rules on sequences $k(re)$ which describe the behaviour of orbits influence by the unstable manifold of $(x,y,z) = 0$. They will change as soon as r becomes a parameter-value of an homoclinic orbit. The rules specify restrictions on sequences of explosions. For instance if r signals the existing of homoclinic explosion at some r this may happen in consequence of another explosion at an alternate r or on a so-called destructive sequence of homoclinic explosions (when $k(re) = RRRRRR\dots$ changes to $k(re) = RLRLRL\dots$). The destructive sequence adds periodic ($R \vee L$)-orbits of right numbers and types appropriate for an infinite number of period-doubling-windows terminating in saddle-node-bifurcations and thereby leaving stable periodic RL -orbits. Destructive sequence of homoclinic explosions enables non-homoclinic explosions too.

●(rules on symbol sequence k(re))	●	●	●						
●(r-destructive sequence of homoclinic explosions)					●	●			●
↓(describe) ↓(change with) ↓(place) ↓(attended with adding of) ↓(r-destroys)	↓	↓	↓			↓			↓
●(behaviour of right-hand branches)	●	●							
●(combinatorial restrictions)			●	●					
●(periodic orbits)						●	●	●	
↓(of)	↓	↓							
↓(on) ↓(signals) ↓(changes) ↓(are) ↓(enables)			↓	↓	↓		↓		↓
●(r-stable manifold of "(x, y, z) = 0")	●	●							
●(sequences of explosions) ●(k(re) = " RRRR... ") ●(r-homoclinic explosions)				●	●				●
●(existence of homoclinic explosion at some " r ") ●((R \wedge L)-orbits)				●			●		
↓(producing)									↓
●(r-finity of periodic orbits)									●
↓(passes) ↓(according to) ↓(implies) ↓(to) ↓(with) ↓(r-produced by)	↓	↓	↓	↓			↓		↓
●(" r " of homoclinic orbit) ●(probable existence of explosion at alternate " r ")	●		●						
●(increase of " r ") ●(k(r) = " RLRL... ") ●(homoclinic explosions from sequence)			●		●			●	
●(right number and types)							●	●	
↓(appropriate for)							↓	↓	
●(r-finite number of period-doubling-windows) ●(period-doubling-windows)							●	●	
↓(terminating in) ↓(leaving) ↓(put together into)							↓	↓	↓
●(saddle-node-bifurcation) ●(stable symmetric periodic RL-orbits)							●	●	
●(strange r-variant set)									●
↓(suitable for)									↓
●(destruction in homoclinic bifurcation)									●
<i>Pragmatic-Aspects, Rules on homoclinic Explosions and involved Orbits</i>									

5.3.3. Extra Period-Doubling-Windows.

There exists an infinite number of period–doubling–windows which do not involve original periodic orbits. These start at $r = 30.1$ (as the windows do which involve original periodic orbits) and continue up to $r \approx 500$. These extra–period–doubling–windows happen in predictable sequence, they will not fit into the general sequence of period–doubling–windows which involve original orbits. One or more extra–period–doubling–windows may occur concurrently with one another or with a period–doubling window which involves an original orbit. But these windows will not occur at r –values which are occupied by windows involving original orbits.

Period–doubling–windows can be divided into 2 kinds, those that involve periodic orbits that existed in the original invariant set and those that do not.

6. Conclusion.

Beyond information introduced by SHANNON and WARVER as a matter of statistics only, without any attempt to give an interpretation of what one has been informed about, these discussions shall direct the view on information as meaning being the important part in extending knowledge, meaning as outcome from the dynamics of a self–organizing system. Self–organizing systems can be found e.g. in physics, chemistry or biology, acting far from thermo–dynamical equilibrium with respect to pseudo–stable internal states. These systems most often can be described in a mathematical form with DG’s acting on variables representing physical entities modified by parameters representing the influence of the outside world.

This kind of system accept initial conditions as stimuli for its internal dynamics which takes place as integration–steps on system–variables modified by environmental parameters. A self–organizing system takes the stimuli as its input, reflects (on base of its internal algorithm) about its actual situation by having its total history in mind and finally comes up with an appropriate answer. Any time it reports about its actual situation and generates hereby – in the fullest sense of the word – new information. In every evolution–step the system is creating something completely new on a regular base, nothing what was known before or earlier prepared. The answer thus becomes as outcome a lawful addendum to an (empty or regular) information–structure of the proper self–organizing system. This information–structure consists of 3 levels in hierarchical order, syntactical aspects on lowest level, semantic on top of it and pragmatic on top semantic aspects.

The type of self–organizing systems considered above, are mathematically described by n differential–equations of first order in time with n time–dependent variables representing physical entities. The variables are coupled and modified by $0 < p \leq n$ parameters appropriate for a simulation of environmental influences acting on the system. From this class of systems the LORENZ–system – first considered by E. N. LORENZ [5] in 1963 – was selected because of the extensive numerical investigations done by C. SPARROW [8] with its special focus on the system’s data–structure. LORENZ–system describes a fluid–cell warmed up from below and cooled down from above mathematically represented by 3 DG’s of a kind just mentioned in \mathbb{R}^3 (scaled by a rectangular coordinate–system) with 3 variables (representing warm–air–properties), each of them is increasing/decreasing into one of the coordinate–directions. The variables are modified by proportions $\sigma \wedge r$ of the PRANDTL– and RAYLEIGH–values (respectively) and physical proportions b of the considered region. The system’s data–structure – as mentioned above – has to be understood as information–structure, whose syntactical aspects can be obtained on base of system’s mathematical characteristics by theoretical considerations only. To explain semantic and pragmatic aspects of the LORENZ–information–structure, SPARROW’s investigations [8] have to be inspected but are not required in their full contents. Parts for $\sigma = 10$, $b = 8/3$ and $1 \leq r < \infty$ – LORENZ himself had this parameter–range considered in 1963 already – are sufficient enough to show the essentials.

Semantic aspects like:

- Residence of structure–elements and system–immanent dynamic properties,
- Stability of stationary points, original homoclinic orbits and explosion,
- HOPF–bifurcation,
- Preturbulent behaviour,
- Stable and non–stable orbits involved in specific bifurcations,
- Generation and annihilation of orbits in period–doubling– and saddle–node–bifurcations,
- Interactions between period–doubling–bifurcations and homoclinic explosions or
- Intermittent chaos

arise from syntactical entities by the dynamics of the self–organizing system. During these processes appropriate entities are grasped up and extended in regard to their properties suitable to form a significant and meaning kind of amalgamations.

Pragmatic aspects like:

- Strange attractor,
- Cumulative effect on numbers and types of periodic orbits or
- Extra period–doubling–windows

will be directly or indirectly delivered from semantic aspects as outstanding highlights in the view of an actual analysis versus this kind of self-organization – therefore they are called pragmatic ones –. In this sense the strange attractor e.g. has to be understood as such an outstanding highlight in N. MCBRIDE's analysis [6].

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