



Relations
and general systems theory

evaluation

- **Participation: 20%.**
 - class discussion, everybody reads and discusses every paper
 - engagement in class, including online
- **Paper Presentation and Discussion: 20%**
 - All students are assigned to a Reading and Discussion Group
 - **SSIE501** students in group present and discuss papers
 - all students are supposed to read and participate in discussion of every paper.
 - *section 01 groups* present in class, *section 20 groups* present via zoom or send a video
 - Presenter group prepares short summary of assigned paper (15 minutes)
 - no formal presentations or PowerPoint unless figures are indispensable.
 - Summary should:
 - 1) Identify the key goals of the paper (not go in detail over every section)
 - 2) What discussant liked and did not like
 - 3) What authors achieved and did not
 - 4) Any other relevant connections to other class readings and beyond.
 - **ISE440** students in group participate as lead discussants
 - not to present the paper, but to comment on points 2-3) above
 - Class discussion is opened to all
 - lead discussant ensures important paper contributions and failures are addressed
 - Post presentation 1-2 page report uploaded to Brightspace
 - 1-4) plus 5) statement of individual contributions
- **Black Box: 60%**
 - Group Project (2 parts)
 - Assignment I (25%) and Assignment II (35%)

The Black Box: Due: October 6th, 2023



Herbert Simon: Law discovery means only finding **pattern** in the data; whether the pattern will continue to hold for new data that are observed subsequently will be decided in the course of **testing the law**, not discovering it. The **discovery process** runs from particular facts to general laws that are somehow induced from them; the **process of testing** discoveries runs from the laws to predictions of particular facts from them [...] To explain why the patterns we extract from observations frequently lead to correct predictions (when they do) requires us to face again the problem of **induction**, and perhaps to make some hypothesis about the uniformity of nature. But that hypothesis is neither required for, nor relevant to, the theory of discovery processes. [...] By separating the question of pattern detection from the question of prediction, we can construct a **true normative theory of discovery**-a logic of discovery.

- Focus on uncovering quadrants
 - using data collection, descriptive patterns & statistics, and induction.
- Propose a formal model or algorithm of what each quadrant is doing.
 - Analyze, using deduction, the behavior of this algorithm.

What is it!!!??

301

Current step: 302

next readings (check brightspace)

■ Paper Presentation: 20%

- Present (501) and lead (501&440) the discussion of an article related to the class materials
- *section 01* presents in class, *section 20* (Enginet) posts videos on Brightspace (exceptions possible)

■ Thursday September 21st

● Module 2: Systems Science

■ Reading and Discussion Group 3 (Enginet)

● Sarah Donovan, Nicole Dates, et al:

■ Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer. Chapter 2.

■ Optional:

- Rosen, R. [1986]. "Some comments on systems and system theory". *Int. J. of General Systems*, **13**: 1-3. Available in: Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer. pp: 241-243.

- Wigner, E.P. [1960], "The unreasonable effectiveness of mathematics in the natural sciences". Richard courant lecture in mathematical sciences delivered at New York University, May 11, 1959. *Comm. Pure Appl. Math*, **13**: 1-14.

■ Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer. Chapter 3.

■ Future Modules

- See brightspace

more upcoming readings (check brightspace)

- Paper Presentation: 20%
 - Present (501) and lead (501&440) the discussion of an article related to the class materials
 - *section 01* presents in class, *section 20* (Enginet) posts videos on Brightspace (exceptions possible)
- October 3rd
 - Module 2: Systems Science
 - Reading and Discussion Group 4
 - Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer. Chapter 8.
 - Optional: Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer. Chapter 11
 - Schuster, P. (2016). The end of Moore's law: Living without an exponential increase in the efficiency of computational facilities. *Complexity*. **21**(S1): 6-9. DOI 10.1002/cplx.21824.
 - Von Foerster, H., P. M. Mora and L. W. Amiot [1960]. "Doomsday: Friday, November 13, AD 2026." *Science* **132**(3436):1291-5.
- October 10/12th
 - Module 3 - The Organization of Complex Systems
 - Reading and Discussion Group 5 (Enginet)
 - Simon, H.A. [1962]. "The Architecture of Complexity". *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, **106**: pp. 467-482. Also available in Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer, pp: 541-559.
 - Golan, Amos, and John Harte. "Information theory: A foundation for complexity science." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* **119**.33 (2022): e2119089119.
 - James, R., and Crutchfield, J. (2017). "Multivariate Dependence beyond Shannon Information". *Entropy*, **19**(10), 531.
- Future Modules
 - See brightspace

more upcoming readings (check brightspace)

- Paper Presentation: 20%
 - Present (501) and lead (501&440) materials
 - *section 01* presents in class, *section 02* presents in class
- October 3rd
 - Module 2: Systems Science
 - Reading and Discussion Group 4
 - Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. MIT Press. 2001. 192 pp. ISBN: 0262082491. *Optional*: Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. MIT Press. 2001. 192 pp. ISBN: 0262082491.
 - Schuster, P. (2016). The end of Moore's Law. *Complexity*. 21(S1): 6-9. DOI 10.1002/complex.20161.
 - Von Foerster, H., P. M. Mora and L. W. Gregg. (1985). *Self-Organization in Man-Machine Systems*. MIT Press. 1985. 328 pp. ISBN: 0262082491.
- October 10/12th
 - Module 3 - The Organization of Complex Systems
 - Reading and Discussion Group 5 (English)
 - Simon, H.A. [1962]. "The Architecture of Complexity". *Artificial Intelligence*. 4: 181-201. Also available in Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. MIT Press. 2001. 192 pp. ISBN: 0262082491.
 - Golan, Amos, and John Harte. "Informal Organization". *Information Science* 119.33 (2022): e21190891.
 - James, R., and Crutchfield, J. (2017). *Complexity: The Emerging Science at the Edge of Order and Chaos*. MIT Press. 2017. 328 pp. ISBN: 0262082491.
- Future Modules
 - See brightspace

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Fall 2023 Intro to Systems Science (ISE-...)

Course Home Calendar **Content** Assignments Quizzes Discussions Evaluation ▾ Classlist Course Tools ▾ Help ▾

Search Topics 🔍

Papers for Presentations ▾

Add dates and restrictions...

All SSIE501 Students are assigned to one paper as *lead presenters and discussants*, but all students are supposed to read and participate in the discussion of every paper. During class, the presenter prepares a short summary of the paper (10-15 minutes)---no formal presentations or PowerPoint unless figures are indispensable. The summary should:

- 1) Identify the key goals of the paper (not go in detail over every section)
- 2) What discussant liked and did not like
- 3) What authors achieved and did not
- 4) Any other relevant connections to other class readings and beyond.

After initial summary, discussion is opened to all, and role of presenter is to lead the discussion to make sure we address the important paper contributions and failures. ISE440 students will chose one of the presented papers to participate as lead discussant, whose role is not to present the paper, but to comment on points 2-3) above.

Next Presentations:

Module 1 - Cybernetics and the Information Turn

Tuesday, August 29th

Presenter 1: Heims, S.G. [1991]. *The Cybernetics Group*. MIT Press. [Chapters: 1 and 2.](#)

Syllabus / Overview

Bookmarks

Course Schedule

Table of Contents 48

Syllabus

Office Hours

Readings 45

Papers for Presentations

Zoom 2

For EngiNet Students 1

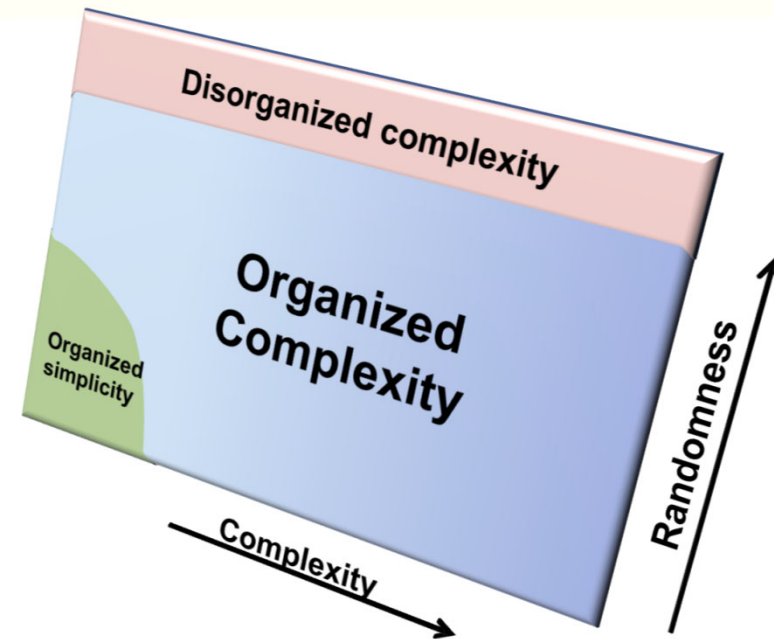
from computational to systems thinking

■ **organized complexity**

- study of organization
 - whole is more than sum of parts
 - Organizational properties (“systemhood”)
- Need for new mathematical and computational tools
 - Massive combinatorial searches
 - Problems that can only be tackled with computers
 - Computer as lab
- Interdisciplinary and collaborative science
 - Thrives in problem-driven environments
 - Los Alamos, Santa Fe, all new computing centers.

■ **thinghood and systemhood**

- developing general-purpose computing further
 - Computational thinking and cybernetics
 - Some (all?) mechanisms and organizational principles are implementation-independent
 - Hardware vs software
- Integration of empirical science with general systems
 - Interdisciplinarity coupled with computational modeling
- Understanding structure and *function*
 - Of multi-level wholes
 - Systems biology, Evolutionary thinking, Systems thinking
 - **Emergence** (or collective behavior)
 - How do elements combine to form new unities?
 - **Micro- to macro-level behavior**



key roots

- Mathematics
- Computer Technology and Computational Thinking
- Systems Thinking

- **Cybernetics**

- Looking at mind, life, society with control, computation, information, networks

- **Functional equivalence**

- General principles and modeling

- **Organized Complexity**

- Study of organization
- “Whole is more than some of parts”, nonlinearity, interaction, communication

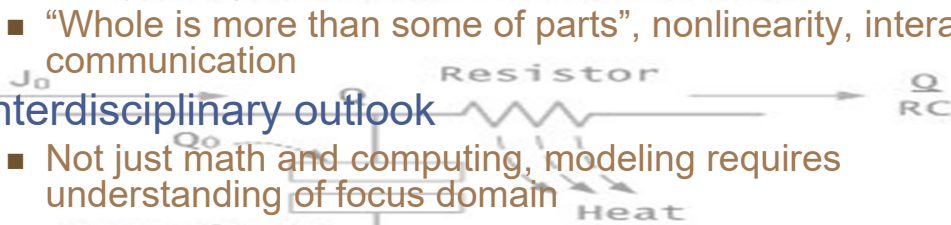
- **Interdisciplinary outlook**

- Not just math and computing, modeling requires understanding of focus domain
- Bio-inspired mathematics and computing
- Computing/Mechanism-inspired biology and social science

Energy Storage System



Passive electrical equivalent



1965: Society for the Advancement of General Systems Theory



Kenneth Boulding



Ludwig von Bertalanffy



Ralph Gerard



Anatol Rapoport

a science of organization across disciplines

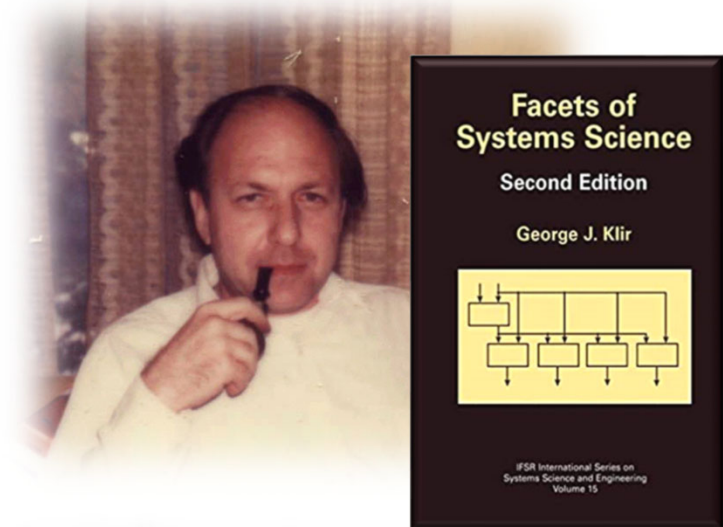
■ Systemhood properties of nature

● Robert Rosen

- Systems depends on a specific adjective: **thinghood**
- **Systemhood**: properties of arrangements of items, independent of the items
 - Similar to “setness” or cardinality

● George Klir

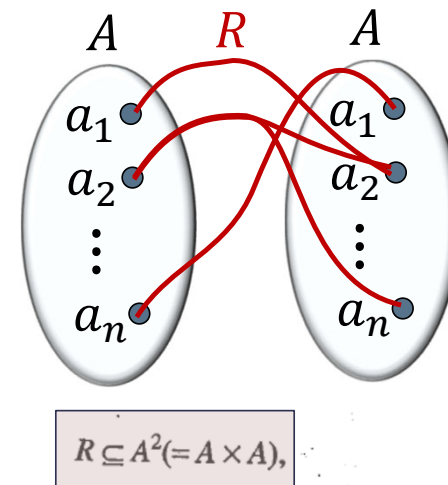
- **Organization** can be studied with the mathematics of **relations**
- $S = (T, R)$
 - S : a System, T : a set of things(thinghood), R : a (or set of) relation(s) (Systemhood)
 - Same relation can be applied to different sets of objects
 - Systems science deals with **organizational properties** of systems independently of the items
- **Examples**
 - Collections of books or music files are sets of things
 - But organization of such sets are systems (alphabetically, chronologically, typologically, etc.)



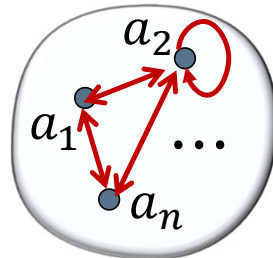
what is a system?

more formally: representation of multivariate of associations/interactions

- $S = (T, R)$
 - a (multivariate) system
- $T = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$
 - A set (of sets) of things
 - *thinghood*
- Cartesian Product
 - Set of all possible associations of elements from each set
 - All n -tuples
 - $\{A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n\}$
- R : a relation (systemhood)
 - Subset of cartesian product on T .
 - Many relations R can be defined on the same T



graph A

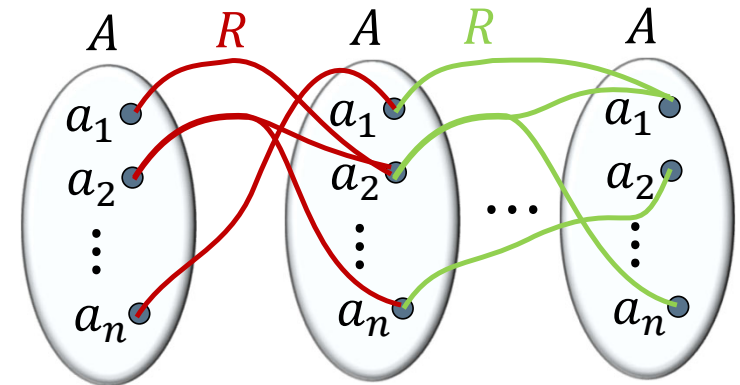


George Klir

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$$R \subseteq A^2 (= A \times A),$$

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$$R \subseteq A^n (= \underbrace{A \times A \times \dots \times A}_{n\text{-times}}).$$

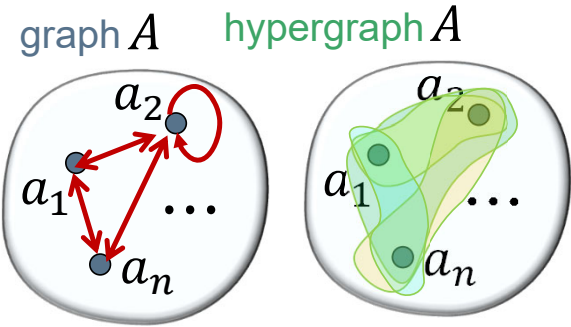
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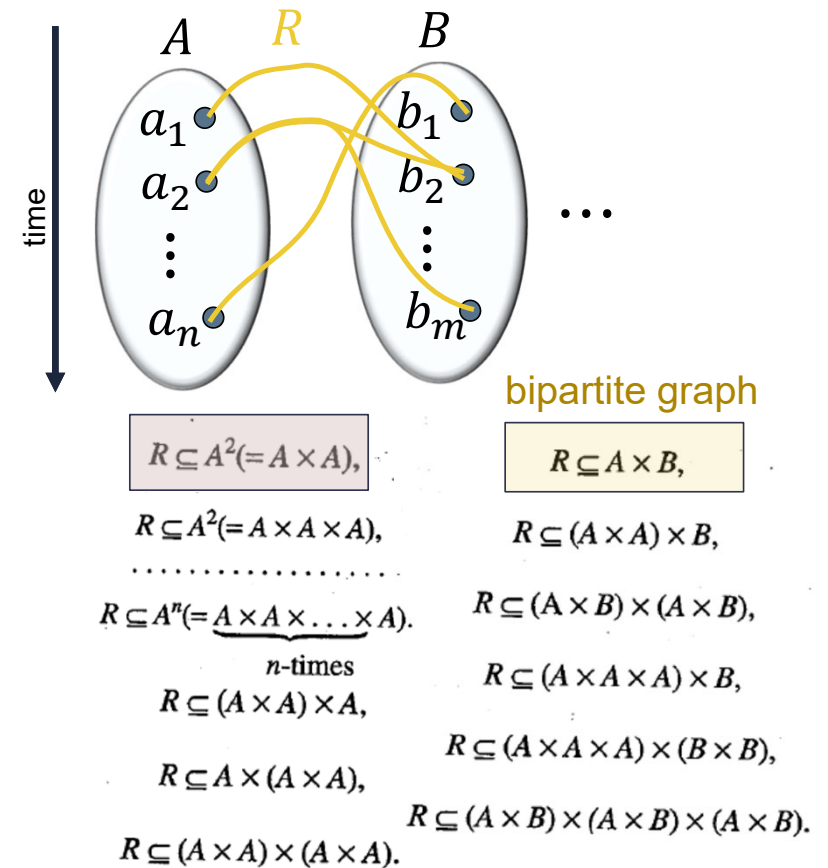
George Klir



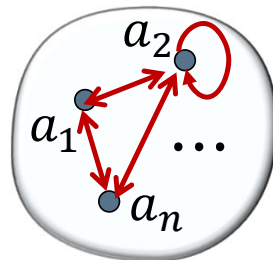
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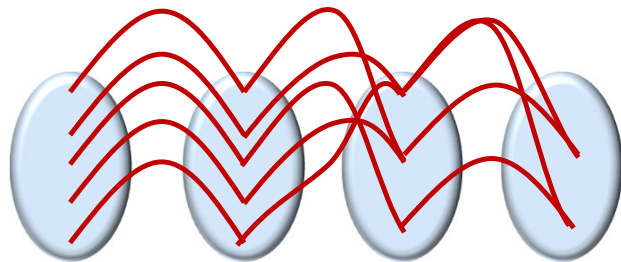
equivalence classes or multilayer network?

Table 2.1. Set of Students with Four Characteristics

Student	Grade	Major	Age	Full-time/ part-time
Alan	B	Biology	19	Full-time
Bob	C	Physics	19	Full-time
Cliff	C	Mathematics	20	Part-time
Debby	A	Mathematics	19	Full-time
George	A	Mathematics	19	Full-time
Jane	A	Business	21	Part-time
Lisa	B	Chemistry	21	Part-time
Mary	C	Biology	19	Full-time
Nancy	B	Biology	19	Full-time
Paul	B	Business	21	Part-time

Table 2.2. Equivalence Relation R_g Defined on the Set of Students Listed in Table 2.1 with Respect to Their Grades

R_g	A	B	C	D	G	J	L	M	N	P
A	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
B	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
C	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
D	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
G	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
J	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
L	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
M	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
N	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
P	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1



$$R \subseteq A \times B \times C \times D$$

Note: same thinghood (set of students), but distinct systemhood or organization projected to a specific set (layer) as equivalence classes.

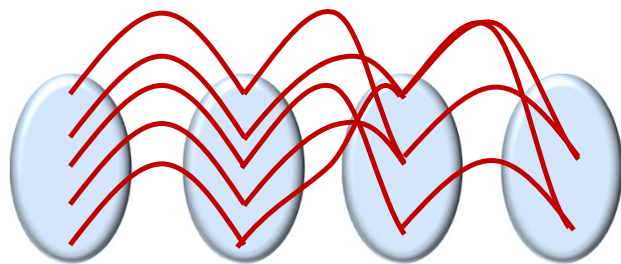
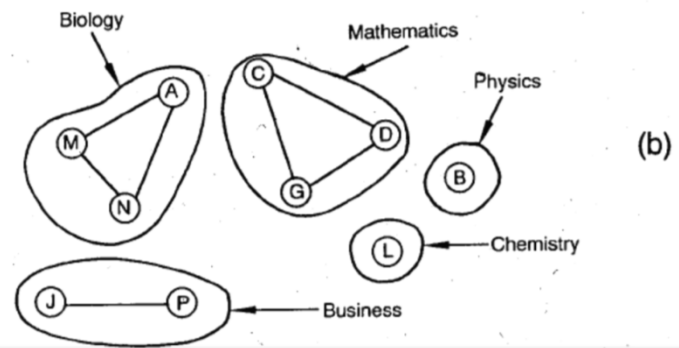
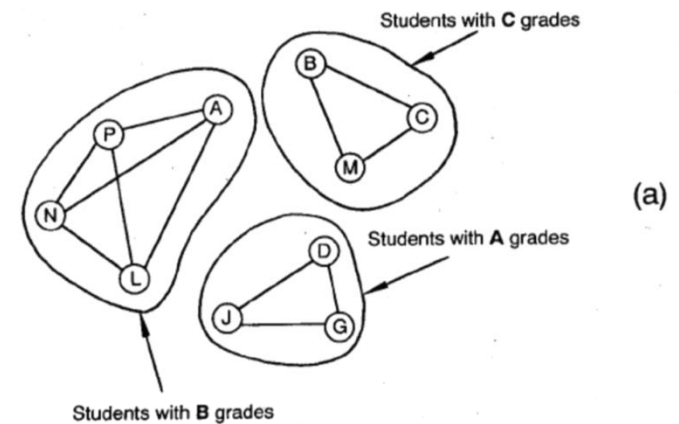
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Table 2.2. Equivalence Relation R_g D
Table 2.1 with Res

R_g	A	B	C	D	G
A	1	0	0	0	0
B	0	1	1	0	0
C	0	1	1	0	0
D	0	0	0	1	1
G	0	0	0	1	1
J	0	0	0	1	1
L	1	0	0	0	0
M	0	1	1	0	0
N	1	0	0	0	0
P	1	0	0	0	0



$$R \subseteq A \times B \times C \times D$$

Note: same thinghood (set of students), but distinct systemhood or organization projected to a specific set (layer) as equivalence classes.

study of “systemhood” separated from “thinghood”

- **Study of “systemhood” properties**
 - Classes of isomorphic abstracted systems
 - Search of **general principles of organization**
 - Weaver’s organized complexity (1948)
- **Systemhood properties**
 - preserved under suitable transformation from the set of things of one system into the set of things from the other system
 - Divides the space of possible systems (relations) into equivalent classes
- **Devoid of any interpretation!**
 - General systems
 - Canonical examples of equivalence classes

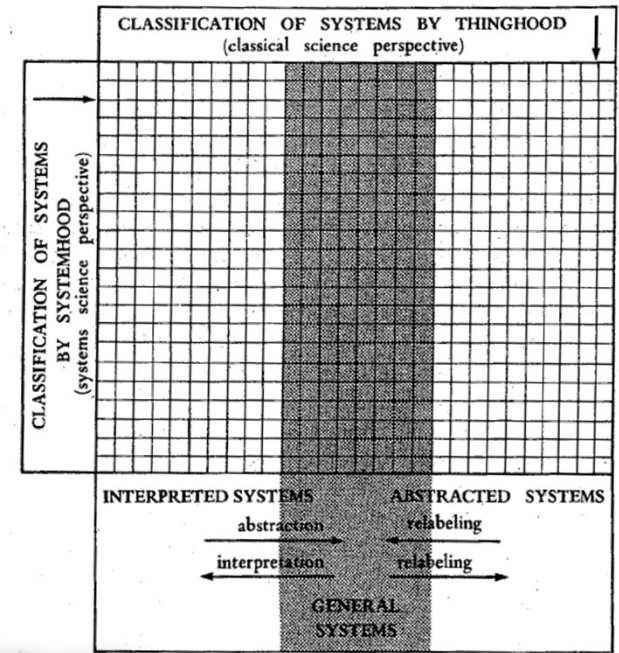


Figure 2.6. Two ways of classifying systems and the role of general systems.

From Klir [2001]



George Klir

readings

- **Class Book**
 - Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems science*. Springer.
- **Papers and other materials**
 - Module 2: Systems Science
 - **Reading and Discussion Group 4**
 - Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer. Chapter 8.
 - **Optional: Klir, G.J. [2001]. *Facets of systems Science*. Springer. Chapter 11**
 - Schuster, P. (2016). The end of Moore's law: Living without an exponential increase in the efficiency of computational facilities. *Complexity*. **21**(S1): 6-9. DOI 10.1002/cplx.21824.
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