

introduction to systems science

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%)

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First assignment

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.





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course outlook

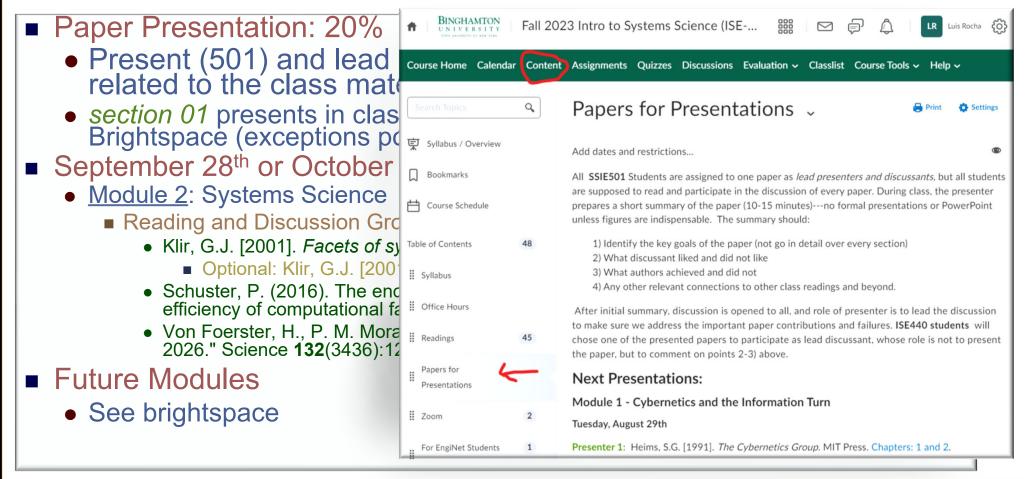
next readings (check brightspace)

- 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
 - <u>Module 2</u>: Systems Science
 - Reading and Discussion Group 3 (Enginet)
 - Sarah Donovan, Nicole Dates, et al:
 - Klir, G.J. [2001]. Facets of systems Science. Springer. <u>Chapter 2</u>.
 - 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



course outlook

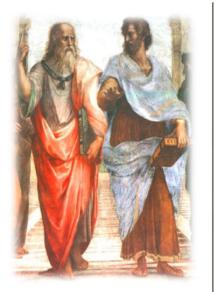
more upcoming readings (check brightspace)



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understanding Nature with symbols

abstracting symbol mappings



Raphael's "Plato and Aristotle"

Aristotle (384-322 BC)

- First (??) to relate symbols more explicitly to the external world and to successively clarify the nature of the symbol-world relation.
 - Student of Plato, educated Alexander the Great
 - first to consider specific observable factors which determine motion.
- In **Physics**
 - he recognized (mathematical) *rules* which could describe the relation between an object's weight, the medium's density and the consequent rate of motion (fail):
 - (1) for freely falling or freely rising bodies, speed is proportional to the density of the medium.
 - (2) in forced motion, speed is proportional to the force applied and inversely proportional to the mass of the body moved
 - first time that **observable** quantities had been expressed in symbolic (numerical) form allowing the results of observations to be used in calculations
 - The nature of causation
 - http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/physics.html



Modeling!

"When you can measure what you are speaking of and express it in numbers you know that on which you are discoursing. But if you cannot measure it and express it in numbers. your knowledge is of a very meagre and unsatisfactory kind". Lord Kelvin

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Lebombo bone

abstracting the World

symbol-world relation

 Galileo (1564-1642) • Progressive dissociation of the symbols from objects The interrelationships among signs themselves studied quite apart from the relations among the objects they represent • Previously, symbols were still generally regarded as inherent properties of the referent objects themselves • Aristotle's *Physics* postulated certain primary qualities/elements such as "Fire". Galileo regards "primary" properties as only those that can be mathematically quantified, such as size, shape and motion. Newton (1643-1727) Extends process of abstraction Distinguishes between symbols • Arising from observation represent initial conditions • Arising from symbol relations representing laws which govern the subsequent motion.

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Heinrich Hertz (1857-1894)

Some facts about Hertz

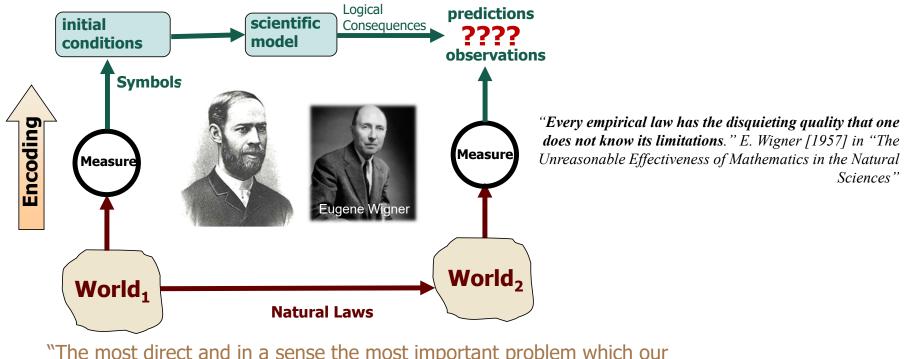
- First to broadcast and receive radio waves
- Established that light is a form of electromagnetic radiation.
- His name is associated with the SI unit for frequency
- Principles of Mechanics (1894)
 - Goal was to purge physics of mystical, undefined, unmeasured entities
 - such as force (which one can infer but not measure)
 - Physical theories to be based only on measurable quantities
 - the results of *measurements* are symbols.
 - Physical theory becomes about building *relationships* among observationally-derived symbols: *models*
 - what Hertz called "images."



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modelling the World

Hertzian scientific modeling paradigm



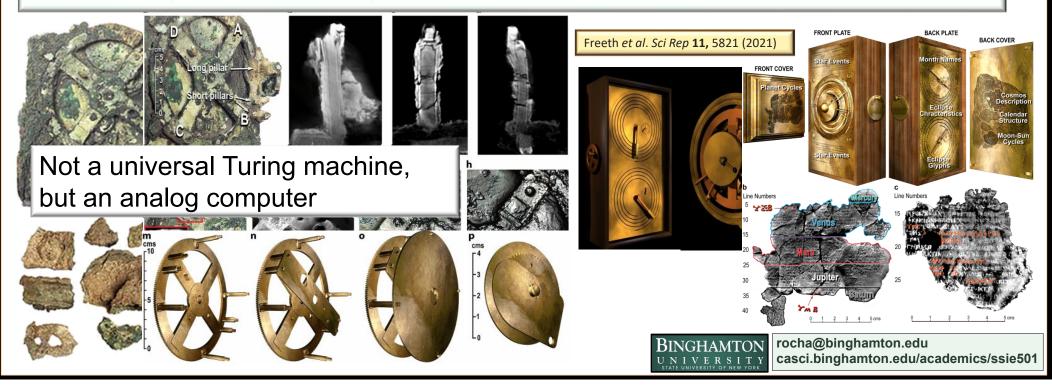
"The most direct and in a sense the most important problem which our conscious knowledge of nature should enable us to solve is the *anticipation of future events*, so that we may arrange our present affairs in accordance with such anticipation". (Hertz, 1894)

The Antikythera Mechanism

2,000-year-old astronomical calculator

- bronze mechanical <u>analog</u> computer
 discovered more than 100 years ago in a Roman shipwreck, was used by ancient Greeks to display astronomical cycles.
- built around the end of the second century BC to calculate astronomical positions

 - With imaging and high-resolution X-ray tomography to study how it worked.
 complicated arrangement of at least 30 precision, hand-cut bronze gears housed inside a wooden case covered in inscriptions.
 - technically more complex than any known device for at least a millennium afterwards.



other models



Stonehenge (3000 BC)



Abbas ibn Firnas (IX)



Mariner's Astrolabe (XV)



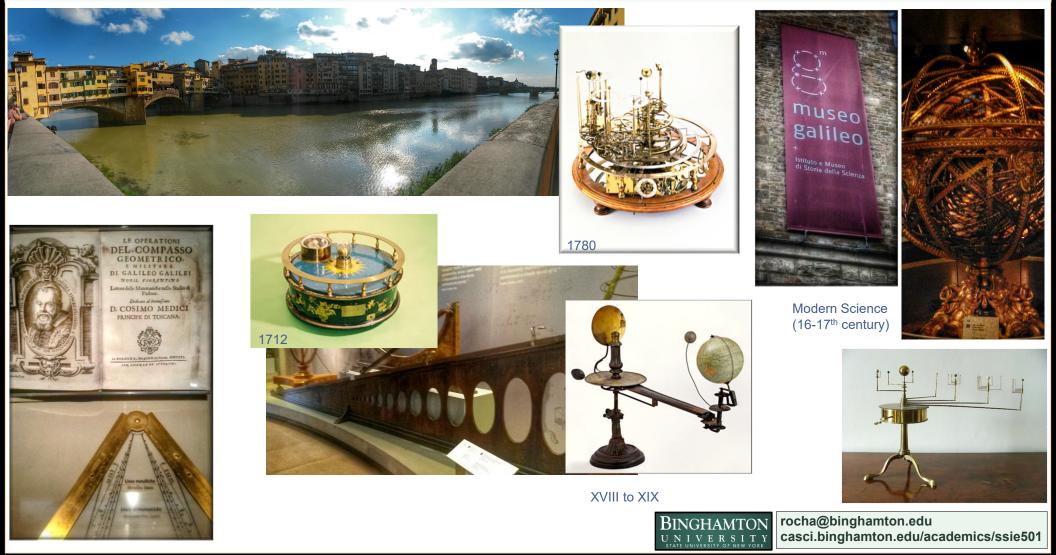


Modern Science (16-17th century)

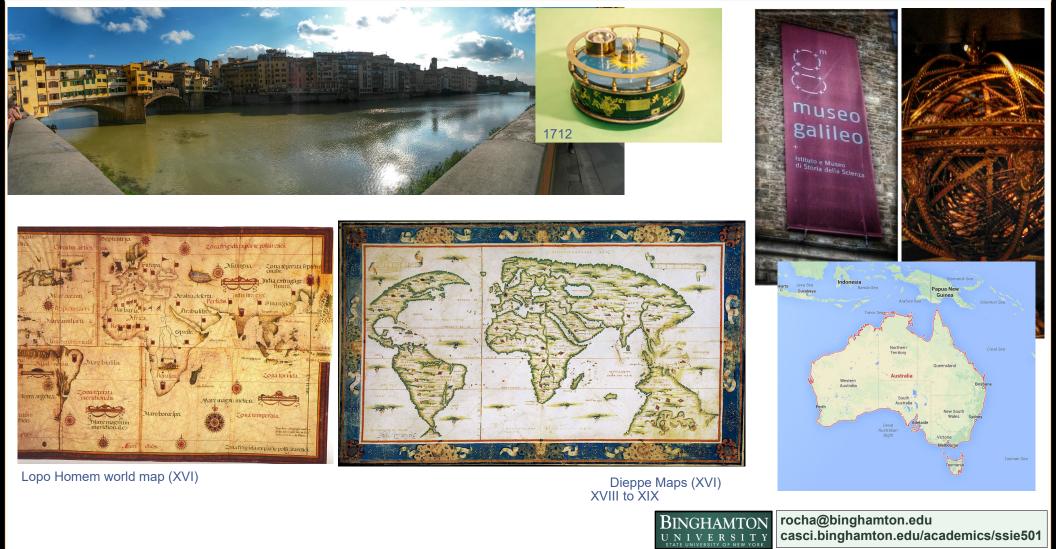
XVIII to XIX

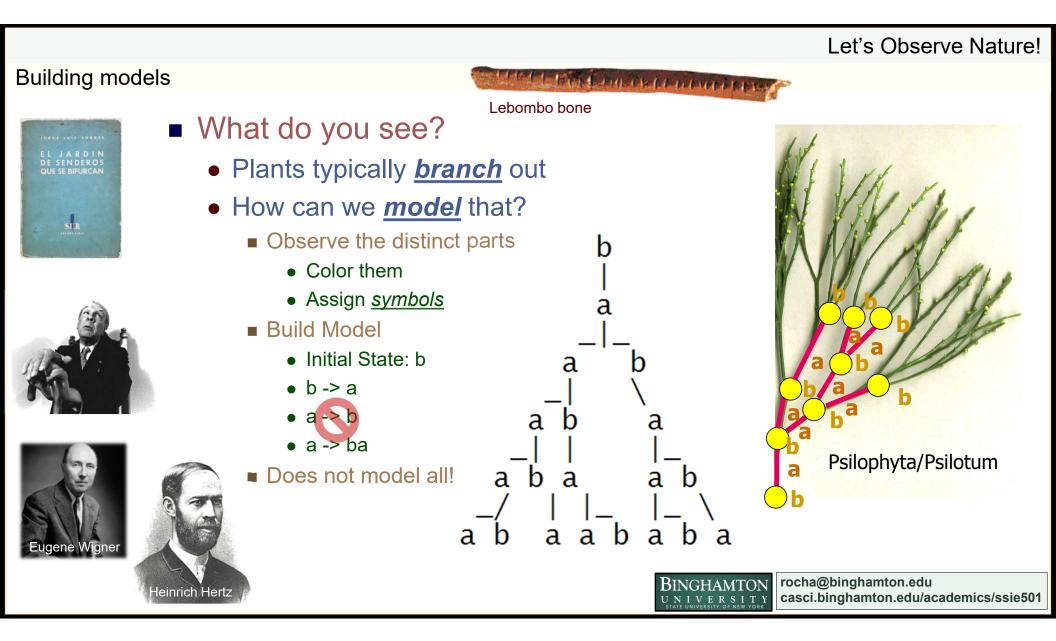


other models



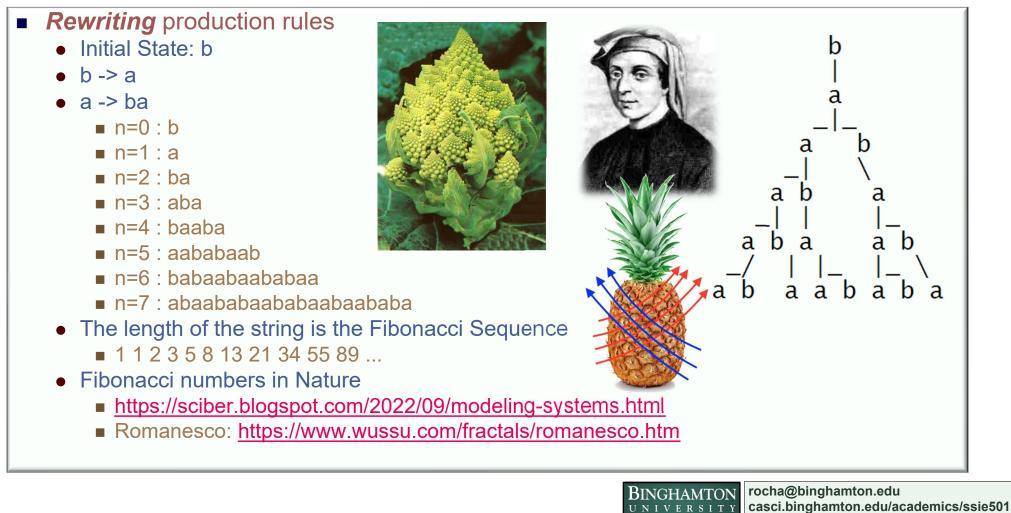
other models





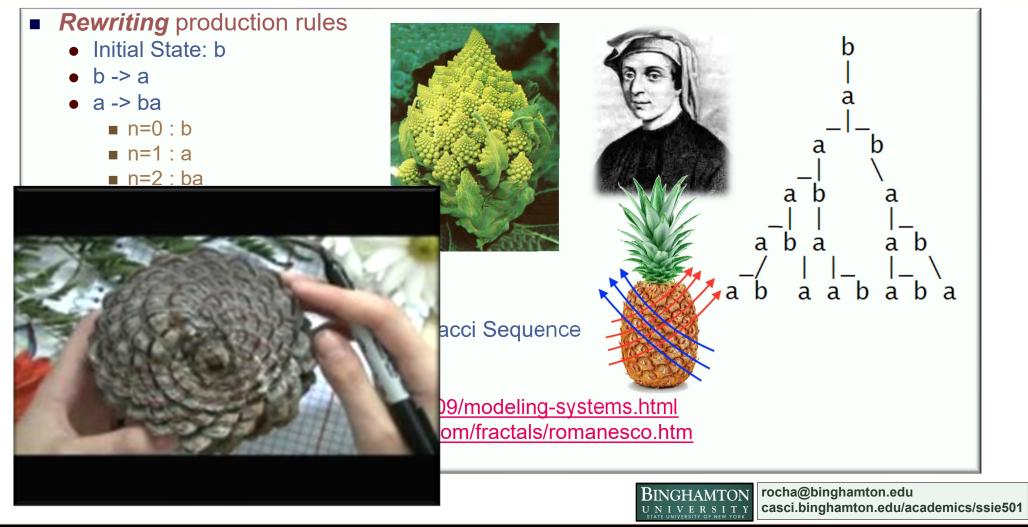
Fibonacci Numbers!

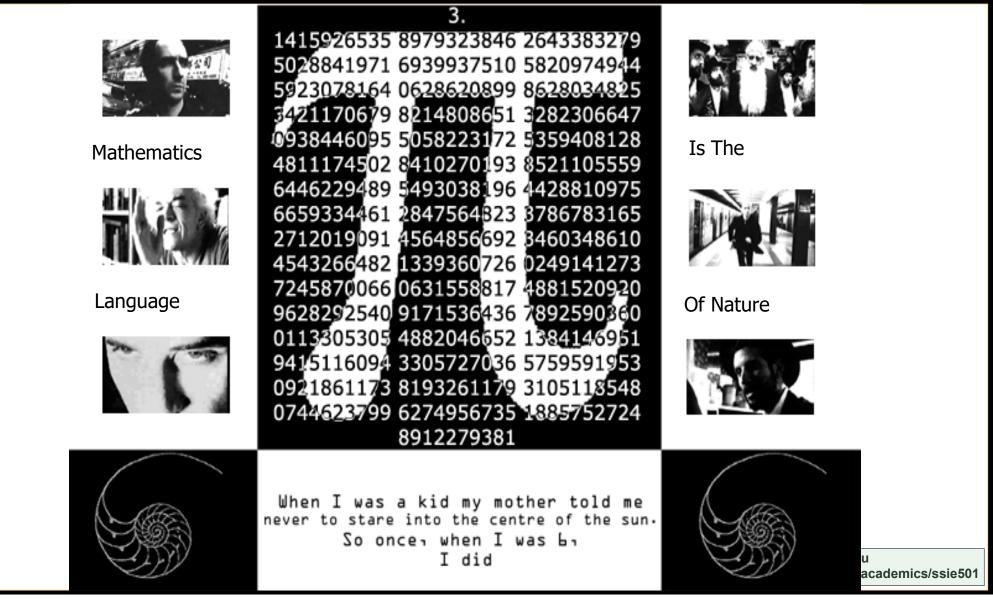
our first model

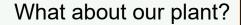


Fibonacci Numbers!

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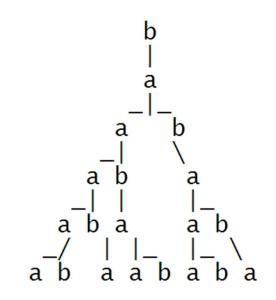


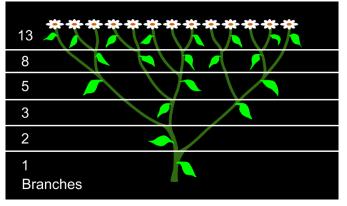


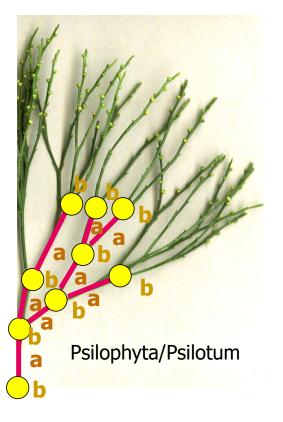
branching as a model (a general system?)



- Requires
 - Varying angles
 - Varying stem lengths
 - randomness
- The Fibonacci Model is similar
 - Initial State: b
 - ∎ b -> a
 - a -> ab
- sneezewort







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First assignment

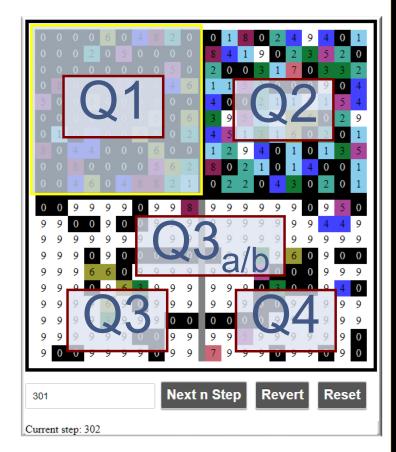
The Black Box: Due: October 14th, 2022



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.





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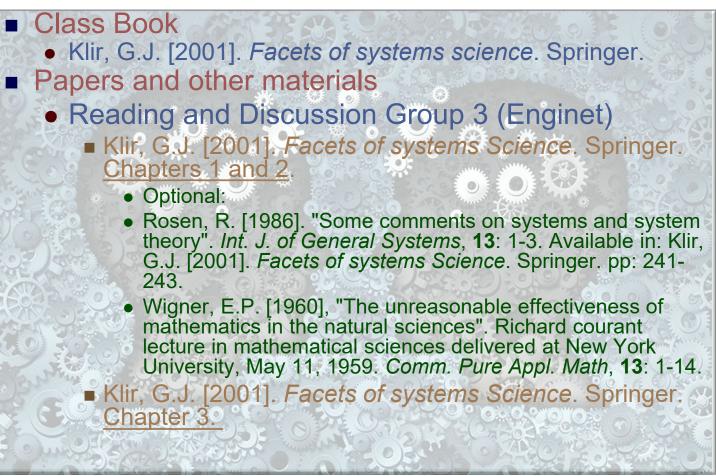
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Next lectures

readings







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