
Contents

1. Introduction:	
From Linear to Nonlinear Thinking	1
2. Complex Systems and the Evolution of Matter .	15
2.1 Aristotle's Cosmos and the Logos of Heraclitus	15
2.2 Newton's and Einstein's Universe and the Demon of Laplace	29
2.3 Hamilton Systems and the Chaos of Heaven and the Quantum World . . .	45
2.4 Conservative and Dissipative Systems and the Emergence of Order	57
2.5 Complex Systems and the Self-Construction of Materials .	73
3. Complex Systems and the Evolution of Life . .	79
3.1 From Thales to Darwin	79
3.2 Boltzmann's Thermodynamics and the Evolution of Life	85
3.3 Complex Systems and the Evolution of Organisms	91
3.4 Complex Systems and the Ecology of Populations	106
4. Complex Systems and the Evolution of Mind-Brain	113
4.1 From Plato's Soul to Lamettrie's "L'Homme machine"	114
4.2 Complex Systems and Neural Networks .	123
4.3 Brain and the Emergence of Consciousness	149

4.4	Intentionality and the Crocodile in the Brain	159
5.	Complex Systems and the Evolution of Artificial Intelligence	171
5.1	Leibniz and the Mathesis Universalis . .	172
5.2	From Turing Machines to Knowledge Based Systems	175
5.3	Neural and Synergetic Computers	207
5.4	Neurobionics and Cyberspace	232
5.5	From Artificial Intelligence to Artificial Life	243
6.	Complex Systems and the Evolution of Human Society	253
6.1	From Aristotle's Polis to Hobbes' Leviathan	254
6.2	Smith's Economics and Market Equilibrium	259
6.3	Complex Economical Systems, Chaos, and Self-organization	270
6.4	Complex Cultural Systems and the Networks of Communication . .	282
7.	Epilogue on Future, Science, and Ethics	305
7.1	Complexity, Forecasts, and Future	305
7.2	Complexity, Science, and Technology . .	313
7.3	Complexity, Responsibility, and Freedom	320
	References	327
	Subject Index	345
	Name Index	359