

Architecture of Complexity

Introduction

- Abstractly states some of the common properties that physical, biological, and social systems have in common
- Tries to cast some light on how complexity can be found in nature without relating it to any particular field of study
- Breaks the paper up into four parts:
 - Hierarchy
 - Evolution of Complex Systems
 - Dynamic properties of Hierarchically organized systems
 - Relation Between Complex Systems and their descriptions

Hierarchical System

- “complexity frequently takes the form of hierarchy, and that hierarchic systems have some common properties that are independent of their specific content”
- Complex System in which each of the subsystems is subordinated by an authority relation to the system it belongs to.
- What are elementary units?
 - Physics
 - Social