

Some Streams of Systemic Thought

The Systemic Evolution Map

In terms of systems thinking, an extensive map of related work and their influences is presented by the International Institute for General Systems Studies (IIGSS, 2001). This map was originated by E. Schwarz, Neuchâtel, Switzerland in 1996. It includes the influences of researchers in the domains of mathematics, physics, computer science, engineering, cybernetics, systemics, biology, ecology, sociology and philosophy from ancient times to the present.

Legend of the Map

The map encompasses different nodes and edges. The nodes denote topics, such as scientific work or research areas. Major influences between the topics are illustrated by directed edges. The map uses a color-code to show the major scientific realm of nodes and edges:

white:	general system
red:	cybernetics
black:	physical sciences
blue:	mathematics
magenta:	computers & informatics
green:	biology & medicine
yellow:	symbolic systems
orange:	social systems
light green:	ecology
gray:	philosophy
cyan:	systems analysis
purple:	engineering

Sources:

- Originated in 1996 by Dr. Eric Schwarz, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.
- Extended in 1998, including items from the "The Story of Philosophy" by Will Durant (1933).
- Elaborated in 2000-2001 from many sources for the International Institute for General Systems Studies.
- Extended in 2016 by Benjamin Hadorn, Fribourg, Switzerland.

