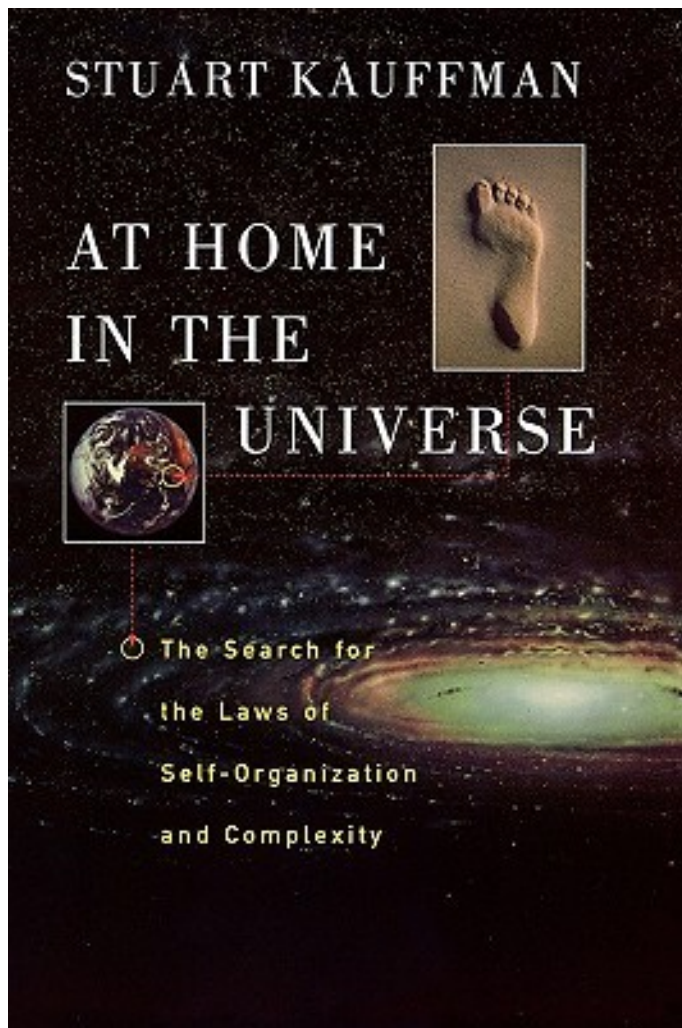

Stuart A. Kauffman

At Home in the Universe: The Search for the Laws of Self-Organization and Complexity



Title: At Home in the Universe: The Search for the Laws of Self-Organization and Complexity

Author: Stuart A. Kauffman

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Description

A major scientific revolution has begun, a new paradigm that rivals Darwin's theory in importance. At its heart is the discovery of the order that lies deep within the most complex of systems, from the origin of life, to the workings of giant corporations, to the rise and fall of great civilizations. And more than anyone else, this revolution is the work of one man, Stuart Kauffman, a MacArthur Fellow and visionary pioneer of the new science of complexity. Now, in *At Home in the Universe*, Kauffman brilliantly weaves together the excitement of intellectual discovery and a fertile mix of insights to give the general reader a fascinating look at this new science - and at the forces for order that lie at the edge of chaos.

Insightful reviews

Michael: This book takes a hard look at how life on earth came to be. Rather than buy into the idea that somehow life evolved via the "blind watchmaker" scenario (i.e., similar to the argument that an army of monkeys sitting at typewriters would eventually compose a great novel), Stuart Kauffman builds a terrific case that the ingredients essential to life are bound to the rules that govern complex adaptive systems. And the very presence of these rules send a strong signal that **"we the living", are "we the intended."**

The author's conviction to both his argument and the science of complex systems is evident throughout the book. If you are coming to this book without much background in complex adaptive systems, you will not be short-changed here. In fact, Kauffman provides extremely rich examples with numerous simple diagrams to educate the reader as he builds his case. Considering the book was published some 19 years ago, I was surprised to see the concept of gene networks given so much attention in the text. Seeing how the latest trend in genomics research is looking at genes and proteins as a regulatory network and attempting to identify specific disease pathways, the science in this book is extremely relevant.

Edd Franz: Kaufman is one of the leading scientists from the Santa Fe Institute. The man is brilliant, which can make it hard to keep up with his explanations of his investigations into the science of complexity. I had to work hard to understand much of his thinking, but it was worth it. His explanation of self-organizing complex systems is the best I've encountered.

Paul Roman: I have learned a lot from this book.

Ami lida: the writer is a number one professional of complicated systems. This ebook brings you an exceptional thinking. The strategy of organic evolution is a must-read.

Gendou: Even for a well-liked technological know-how book, it truly is beautiful poor simply because there's loads unsuitable with the "science", that's more often than not buried underneath mountains of jargon. Also, rhetorical arguments and hyperbolic, bogus claims pervade the meandering prose soaking wet in delicate language and philosophy. The thesis isn't unclear, and the vast majority of claims are completely bogus. See my complete overview for (way more) details: [http://thephysicspolice.blogspot.com/...Cool stuff: evolutionarily solid](http://thephysicspolice.blogspot.com/...Cool%20stuff%3A%20evolutionarily%20solid)

strategies, the crimson queen effect, genetic algorithms, self-modifying code, simulated annealing, the founder effect, online game theory, the touring salesman problem, the P vs. NP problem, auto-catalytic sets, unusual attractors, health landscapes, and peptide chains.

Andrea: Interessante, ripetitivo, retorico, difficile. C'è troppa retorica (l'autore l. a. ritiene, ehm, poesia) e troppa filosofia, in step with essere un saggio scientifico. Ci sono molte metafore che spesso rendono il concetto più arduo, anziché svelarlo. L'idea che fenomeni di auto-organizzazione partecipino, assieme alla selezione, al modellamento della natura, è intrigante. Però questo saggio non è né pienamente divulgativo, né ha la concisione e l'efficacia analitica di un saggio rivolto agli esperti. Decine di espressioni inusitate e/o neologismi according to il puro gusto del funambolismo linguistico. Peccato.

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