

Contents

1	Introduction	1
	References	8
2	The Interpretative Nature of Knowledge: Hermeneutics and Sensory Order	11
2.1	Introduction	11
2.2	The Evolution of Hermeneutics: From the Science of Textual Interpretation to the Philosophy of Knowledge	14
2.3	The Non-arbitrary Nature of Understanding: The Convergences Between Hermeneutics and Fallibilism	17
2.4	Hermeneutics and the Austrian School	19
2.5	Clarifying the Notion of the Historicity of Knowledge	22
2.6	Hayek and the Neuro-Phenomenological Paradigm	26
2.7	The Circular Causality Between Consciousness and Experience in Gadamer’s Thought	29
2.8	Hayek on the Interaction Between Memory and the Sensory Order	31
2.9	The Concept of a Shifting Horizon Within the Theory of Distributed Knowledge	33
2.10	The Unity of Immediate Experience	36
2.11	Why Interpretation Means Autonomy	38
2.12	The Emergence of the Sensory Order by Self-organization	39
2.13	A Criticism of Behaviorism via Complexity Theory	41
2.14	Organizational Closure	43
2.15	Historical Finitude and Anti-foundationalism	44
2.16	The Anti-foundationalist Standpoint of Hayek’s Cognitive Psychology	47
	References	49

3	From Cognitive Autonomy to the Criticism of Socio-cultural Determinism.	55
3.1	Introduction.	55
3.2	Merleau-Ponty's Criticism of the Epiphenomenalist Theories of Consciousness.	58
3.3	Avoiding Any Misunderstandings of Merleau-Ponty's Position.	61
3.4	Freud and Marx: Two Substantialist Thinkers	62
3.5	An Example of Socio-cultural Substantialism: Durkheim's Rules for the Sociological Method	65
3.6	Interpretative Autonomy, Action and Cultural Context	66
3.7	Hayek's Symmetrical Line of Reasoning: His Criticism of the Materialistic Psychologies and Psychoanalysis.	68
3.8	Hayek's Criticism of the Holistic Sociology of Knowledge	69
3.9	Concluding Remarks: Consciousness and Social Systems	71
	References	72
4	Human Autonomy and Social Systems.	75
4.1	Introduction.	75
4.2	From Religious Historicism to Scientistic Sociology	78
4.3	The Theory of Autonomy as the Premise of the Paradigm of Social Complexity	82
4.4	Two Different Ontologies	83
4.5	"Wholes" and the Selective Nature of Knowledge	85
4.6	The Holistic Theory of Social Systems	87
4.7	Social Atomism as a Product of Hyper-rationalism	89
4.8	The Systemic Approach and Nominalism	92
4.9	An Intersubjectivist Theory of the Socio-cultural World	96
4.10	Social Conditioning	98
4.11	Methodological Individualism and Idealist Reductionism.	103
4.12	Methodological Individualism and Semantic Reductionism	105
4.13	Group Selection	111
4.14	The Middle Ground Paradigm: A Criticism	113
	References	115
5	Rationality and Collective Beliefs	121
5.1	Introduction.	121
5.2	Enactivism and Presuppositions of Intelligence.	122
5.3	A Criticism of the Dominant Model of Rationality	124
5.4	Hayek's Cognitive Psychology and Boudon's Interpretative Sociology.	125
5.5	Ordinary Rationality	127

5.6	Revised Kantianism and False Beliefs	129
5.7	The Sensibleness of Ethical Beliefs.	131
5.8	Boudon's Misunderstanding of Hayek's Theory of Action.	135
5.9	Hayek on the Explanation of Collective Beliefs: Two Examples	138
5.10	The Hermeneutical Mind and the Fusion of Horizons	142
	References	145
6	Nomological Explanation and Empirical Control in the Social Sciences	149
6.1	Introduction	149
6.2	The Reconciliation of Apriorism and Fallibilism: Preliminary Remarks.	151
6.3	Two Different Foundations of Methodological Individualism.	152
6.4	Praxeology and the Empirical Nature of the Explanation of Action.	154
6.5	The Experimental Method and the Problem of the Validity of Empirical Laws in Popper's Thought	156
6.6	Mises' and Popper's Agreement on the Uncertainty of Science	158
6.7	Mises' Criticisms of Popper.	160
6.8	Mises' Misunderstanding of Popper's Criterion of Demarcation and of His Conception of Empirical Data.	162
6.9	Why Popper Did Not Underestimate the Problem of Complexity	164
6.10	Commonsense Knowledge and the Experimental Approach	168
6.11	Explaining History	170
6.12	Concluding Remarks on the Empirical Testability of General Theories in the Social Sciences	173
	References	176
7	Conclusion: In Praise of Humanism	181
	References	185

<http://www.springer.com/978-3-319-19511-7>

Cognitive Autonomy and Methodological Individualism

The Interpretative Foundations of Social Life

Di Iorio, F.

2015, XV, 185 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-19511-7