

Tuesday, 12 November 2013

Place of the talk: Instituto de Filosofía y Ciencias de la Complejidad (IFICC)

Title of the talk: Social Mechanisms and Computational Objects: A Sociological Example.

Talk Outline: In this talk, first, I introduce the concept of mechanism and the method of agent-based modeling. Then, I illustrate the technical “coulisses” and the potentialities of agent-based modeling for modeling social mechanism by implementing (in NetLogo) a simple theoretical model, i.e. Granovetter’s classical threshold model of collective action.

Readings:

- 1/ Manzo G. (2007) “Variables, mechanisms, and simulations: can the three methods be synthesized? A critical analysis of the literature”, *Revue Française de Sociologie*, 48 (Supplement: *An Annual English Selection*), 35-71.
- 2/ Granovetter M. (1978) “Threshold Models of Collective Behavior”, *American Journal of Sociology*, 83, 6, pp. 1420-1443.
- 3/ Tisue S., Wilensky U. (2004) “NetLogo: Design and Implementation of a Multi-Agent Modeling Environment”, Evanston, IL, Center for Connected Learning and Computer-Based Modeling, Northwestern University
- 4/ Lytinen, S. L., S. F. Railsback (2012), "The Evolution of Agent-based Simulation Platforms: A Review of NetLogo 5.0 and ReLogo", in Proceedings of the Fourth International Symposium on Agent-Based Modeling and Simulation.

Wednesday, 13 November 2013 (morning)

Place of the talk: Universidad de Santiago (USACH), at the Programa de Acceso Inclusivo, Equidad y Permanencia en Educación (PAIEP)

Title of the talk: Educational Choice and Stratification: A Simulation-based Study.

Talk Outline: In this talk, I present a theoretical model of sequential educational choices combining cost-benefit reasoning and imitative behaviors. By using French survey data as benchmark, I show under which individual- and interaction-level conditions the agent-based implementation of this model is able to generate realistic macroscopic patterns of educational stratification.

Readings:

- G. Manzo, “Educational Choices and Social Interactions: A Formal Model and A Computational Test”, *Comparative Social Research*, 30, 47-100.

Wednesday, 13 November 2013 (afternoon)

Place of the talk: Universidad Diego Portales (UDP)

Title of the talk: The Emergence of Reputational Hierarchies: A Simulation-based Study.

Talk Outline: In this talk, I present a theoretical model of deferential gestures based on simple heuristic-driven reasoning. I show under which individual- and interaction-level conditions the agent-based implementation of this model is able to generate realistic macroscopic patterns of deference-based, status inequality.

Readings:

G. Manzo, D. Baldassarri “Cumulative advantage, symmetry concern, and status inequality: an agent-based model of deference exchange in dyadic encounters”.

Thursday, 14 November 2013

Place of the talk: Instituto de Sistemas Complejos de Valparaíso (ISCV)

Title of the talk: Analytical Sociology: The Core Principles.

Talk Outline: In this talk, I introduce what one may consider the basic theoretical and methodological principles defining the research program of analytical sociology. I argue that only the intersection of these principle allows to see the distinctiveness of this research program within contemporary sociology.

Readings:

1/ Manzo G. (2010) “Analytical Sociology and Its Critics”, *Archives Européennes de Sociologie/European Journal of Sociology*, 51, 1, 129-170.

2/ G. Manzo, “On the Distinctiveness of Analytical Sociology”, *Theory* (The Newsletter of the Research Committee on Sociological Theory), International Sociological Association, Spring/Summer 2013, pp. 13-18.

3/ Manzo G. (2013) “Is rational choice theory *still* a rational choice of theory?”, *Social Science Information*, 52, 3, 361-382.

4/ Manzo G. (2014), Data, Generative Models, and Mechanisms: *More on the Principles of Analytical Sociology*, in Manzo G. (ed.) (2014) *Analytical Sociology: Actions and Networks*, New York, John Wiley & Sons Inc, (Wiley Series in Computational and Quantitative Social Science), In Press (forthcoming).