

Systematic Universalism

A simple guide for an emergent world



I wrote this text pretending to be some old consciousness observing the earth and its inhabitants from the moon. I hope to create a common reference for all cultures and religions to remove the cultural differences as an excuse to wage war. This is a work in progress intended be completed by spiritual guides from around the world.

I have seen propaganda used in movies to make us afraid of the muslim world in the movies of my teenage years. Then the 9/11 attack happened and the authorities still have not addressed the concerns of the architects and engineers who claims planted explosives were necessary for the towers to fall neatly within their footprints in free fall, including building 7 who was not the target of any terrorist attack.

Then a series of seemingly unrelated wars followed, all waged under false pretexts to combat terrorism. It is only a coincidence that all of these countries who has been the target of the mighty American forces are also enemies of Israel. It would be tempting to blame Jews for this state of affairs, but it negates the fact that the English, the same who were behind the crusades created Israel to finish what they started almost 1000 years ago.

In my opinion, the root cause of wars is our credulity. We prefer to please the authorities instead of thinking for ourselves. I believe more wars are necessary to make mankind understand it's role as guardian of Life. I wrote this text in the hope that some people are ready to push for enlightened collaboration to break the cycle of exploitation and hate.

Fifth draft by Sylvain on January 25th 2025

Emergence

The universe is built on simple elements called particles. They interact in such a way that other, more complex elements, like atoms, can be assembled from them and maintain some coherence over time. The passage from one level of complexity to the next is emergence.

As atoms interact together, they form stable complex configurations we call molecules. When molecules are assembled properly, they can create self replicating systems who convert the energy available from the environment to replicate itself. These cells are a basic element of biology. The Universe is a dynamic system, it is constantly changing over time.

Systems and *emergence* are the building blocks of systematic universalism. I use a loose philosophical definition to help me think of the essence of things instead of their labels and associated emotional charges.

The Universe is God

From a systematic perspective, we could imagine God as the ultimate emergent phenomenon. One out of which no greater systems are built atop of. In other words, God is the Universe.

To believe in God is to acknowledge that we all live within something greater than us. Lesser gods are systems that encompasses smaller ones. Earth is a god to everything living within it. I am a god to my blood cells.

To respect God, one must respect the other elements that compose it. Humans living in a society must respect the elements of the greater composite being emerging from your interactions with other elements.

Emergence is Good

The fact that more complex systems can be built using simpler elements be used a building block to create something greater is the miracle that allows our world to exist.

When I observe the natural world around me, I observe a large variety of shapes. This diversity is what allows Life to adapt to a wide array of conditions. This is key to its resilience and adaptation capability.

What does it mean for humans? It means that we have to respect the world we, and others, when we live within in. Given that version of Good, I would suggest that protecting the weak is Good because having many of anything is Good. Many cultures, many languages, many ideologies, etc.

Greed is the absence of satiety

Within your body, when one of your cell start to use more energy than needed, it replicates too fast and create a distortion in the composite being hosting the individual, we call that cancer.

Unregulated Greed seems to be the fundamental problem of mankind. When a being is evolving in scarcity, Greed is Good as it allows the fittest elements to achieve success, driving natural selection. The lack of satiety within abundance is leading to large imbalances within earth's ecosystems and its constituting sub-systems.

One way to measure Greed is to measure the total exosomatic energy used by a person and divide it by the energy spent by a being. I called this the slave equivalent, as it measure how many of you is needed to support your own life.

Intelligence is perception + memory

A system capable of sensing its surrounding environment and represent it within an internal structure. In the case of biological beings, a network of neurons is used to maintain the internal model and act upon it. AI should be named electrological intelligence. The difference is mostly in the substrate used to support the internal model of the world.

As for consciousness, my intuition tells me that Schrödinger's idea of a unique consciousness that manifest itself in multiple unique ways to explore the material universe in many unique ways. Live a meaningful life, engage in respectful interactions with the other aspects of yourself you call friends and enemies.

This conception of consciousness is compatible with the idea of reincarnation found in buddhism. As for the christian's view of heaven and hell, earth is both and our collective actions are making it either an open free world we can call heaven or make it a totalitarian machine where everyone must serve the ego of the master we call hell.

Life

Life is the junction between the curiosity of some universal consciousness, as imagined by Erwin Schrödinger, and the being that emerged within the deterministic physical world.

The mechanisms that make the physical beings emerge from the Universe should be protected. Preservation of Life is the responsibility of each and every Living Being, especially the most intelligent inhabitant of this world.

Beings

When individual cells collaborate with coherence, a larger more complex being can be created. As long as its coherence is maintained, the composite being is considered as living and healthy.

Humans, like other composite beings, are not a thing in itself. They are the result of billions of living entities that collaborate to create the conditions necessary for a consciousness to emerge. You are the sum of the efforts of billions smaller things that collaborate to make “you”, who you are.

Every being is born with a blank memory. As they grow, observe and learn, an ideology gets imprinted upon the memory through action and observation. Humans interacting together coherently can create a greater composite being capable of evolution, with a collective memory and consciousness. This is what we call a society.

Civilizations are different than Empires. A civilization's structure is the result of spontaneous interactions between respectful elements. Empires use coercion to create the illusion of a civilization.

Societies emerge when individuals collaborate, not unlike the cells that compose the individuals themselves. When they collaborate coherently, a civilization. The interactions of everything that is living and their environment are called ecosystems.

Sickness is a partial loss of coherence. A complete lack of coherence is what we call death.

Societies as composite living beings

A human and a society are fundamentally the same thing. They are built from smaller living elements. We can analyze the behaviours of large societies by shrinking their scale into a smaller analog, like a neighbourhood or ourself.

For example, when a country hides something from its citizens, it is comparable to your brain ignoring certain aspect of reality. When viewed through this lens, modern states are disturbingly sick monsters.

Take Canada for example. People work for their money and spend it according to the law. It is internally peaceful. Canada, as a whole, supports Israel and its project to depopulate the Palestinians from their land by force and extermination. Journalists avoid covering the subject out of fear for their career, keeping the population in a state of ignorance. It seems to me that our love of money, that is the idea that some people deserve more than others, is the enemy of truth and justice in the most best country in the world.

When some people try to raise the issue, others around them prefer to keep the illusion that we are Good. This is why smart people prefer to become social outcasts then participate in the bloody circus. When a Palestinian is asking why are Westerners not doing anything to prevent their suffering, what would you tell them?

It would be interesting to see all human history played within a city where each few block is a country... How would your block look like? Would it send people to other blocks to steal and kill in order to maintain it's sense of superiority? Would you live next door to someone behaving like your country does?

Monsters

A systematic monster is a Being whose actions can have repercussions further than its capacity to perceive their consequences. The feedback loop necessary for continuous improvement is missing, leading to anti-social behaviours.

Ideological self-delusions, wealth and privileges are common example of the cause of monsterism I observed around me. In history this leads to an abuse of power from elite elements of a group followed the rebellion against the elites by the constituting elements. It is wise to use self restraint to avoid becoming a monster.

Some time ago when I was living in Mompiche, I was walking barefoot on a beach. When I approached a boulder, a small crab pinched the bottom of my left foot. It was not a gesture of hate, but rather a signal. It was letting me know that I was about to hurt it, possibly end its life. I repositioned my foot to avoid crushing the little guy and continued to the village to buy rum and fresh produce.

Shoes would have made me a Monster in that situation, as I would have killed without knowing it. Being vulnerable allow us to become better persons over time.

I always wondered how rich people maintain their moral standing with all the privileges that prevent them from knowing the harm they cause. This is probably why we find so much psychopathy amongst them.

The preservation of the mechanisms of Life and its ability to create new species is our most important task. Our desires are distractions.



The case for a distributed society

It seems to me that solving poverty by trying to make everybody rich will only accelerate the ecological overshoot. Solving the environmental problems by dreaming of future technology is wishful thinking and relying on the rich and their centralized structures only makes us dependant on them like a dog depend on its owner for all its needs.

The way I see, we are collectively addicted to energy. Changing from one source to another one is not a solution. It is like an addict solving it's addiction problem by switching from crack to heroine. This is not a solution, it is escapism.

I propose to use solidarity for local economies to enable economies of scale and improve the standard of living while reducing total energy consumption. Making everyone owners of their neighbourhoods will empower everyone, rich or poor.

Having many currencies only serve unproductive speculative efforts. Using total energy input, measured in watts or joules, to balance international exchanges would eliminate that source of manipulation and injustice.

Many economic models can be tested within cooperative structures enabling a gradual migration towards a new macro-economic model. The necessary infrastructure to enable direct democracy can be tested at small scale and grow as new coops are added to the distributed civilization.

The rich are trying to make us completely dependant on them for our lives while pretending to solve our problems. I propose to solve the same problems by making everyone co-owners of our great civilization.