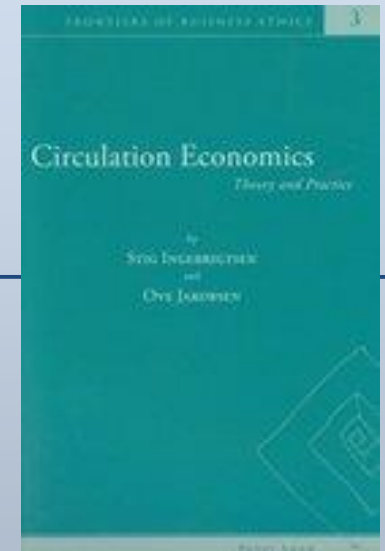


Circulation Economics

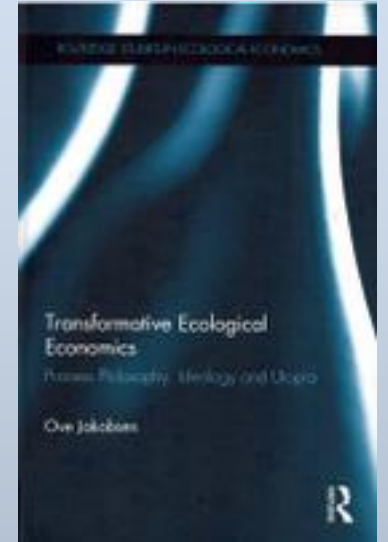
2ND. Économusée Network Conference,
Bergen 17.10.17.

Professor Ove Jakobsen
Centre for ecological economics and ethics,
Business school/Nord university



History

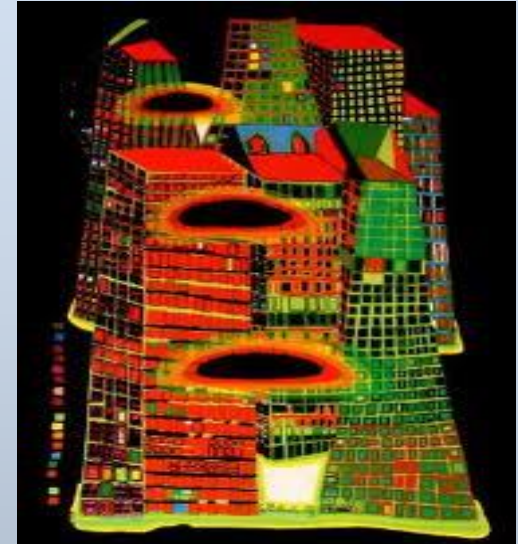
- The story of the modern world is not only a triumph march of reason, it is also a story of unmitigated catastrophes
- Techno-scientific advance has afforded civilization the opportunity for social betterment, but it has also
- Brought us close to destroying our selves
- The solution to the problems depends on our ability to write a new story, in accordance with the reality we are living in



When we get our story wrong, we get our future wrong (David Korten 2015)

Change

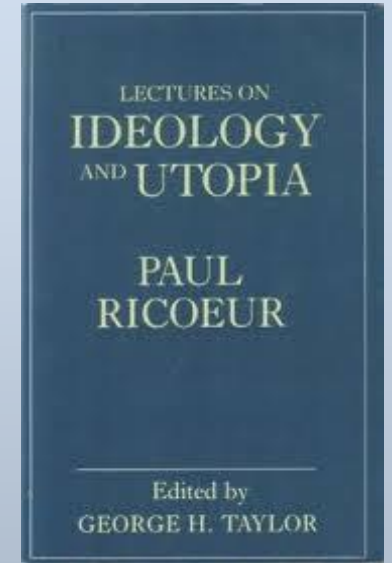
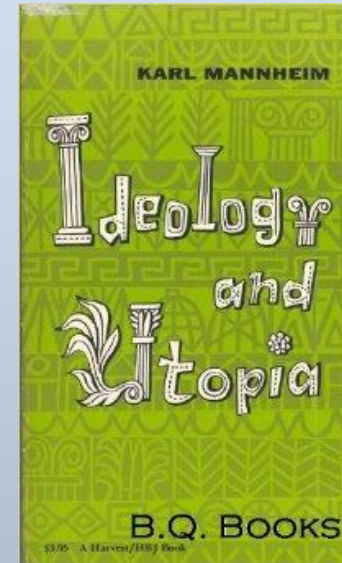
- To describe and understand the interconnectedness between economy and individual, society and nature we have to change from a mechanistic to an organic worldview
- The great weakness of mechanism as a dogma (...) is that it simply does not work (Boulding 1968)
- The change process on practical level; economy and politics, is based on smaller steps grounded on the acceptance of the organic worldview



Ideology

Describes the present from the inside:

- Is important to create identity - individually and collectively
 - Is rooted in the ideas of dominant social groups
 - Refers to accepted common norms and values
 - Justifies authorities
-
- Growth
 - Competition
 - Top-down



Without utopia ideology becomes static, without ideology utopia becomes a mirage (Ricoeur)

Utopia

Understands the present from outside:

- Is somewhere else - is geared towards the future
 - Should not be realized, we can only approach them, to work in that direction
 - Contributes to change, society is unfinished, dynamic, it is always underway
 - Challenges authorities
-
- Development
 - Cooperation
 - Bottom-up



Utopia is not about the impossible, what is really impossible is to carry on as we are (Levitas 2013)

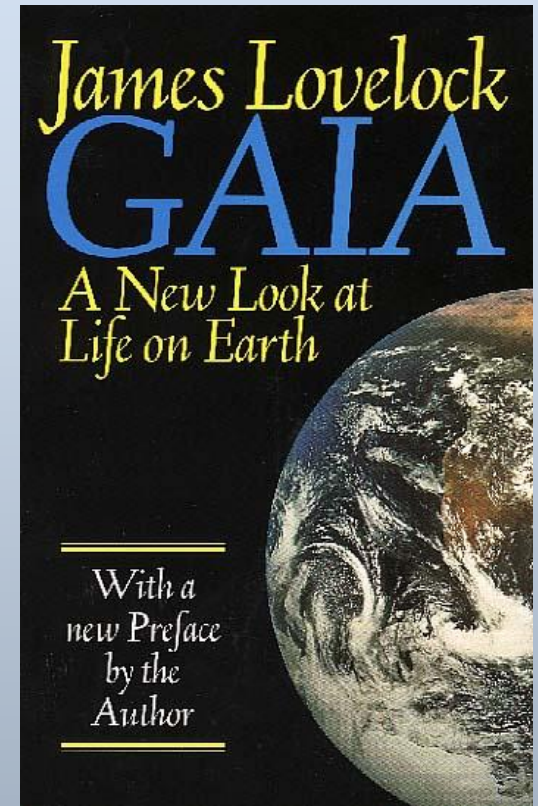
Green economy (ideology)

- Green economy is focused on reducing the negative symptoms within the existing neo-classical economic system characterized by;
- Rationalism, industrialization, globalization, individualism and technological mastery of nature
- Green economy is an attempt to rescue the existing system by curbing the negative symptoms of the established ideology



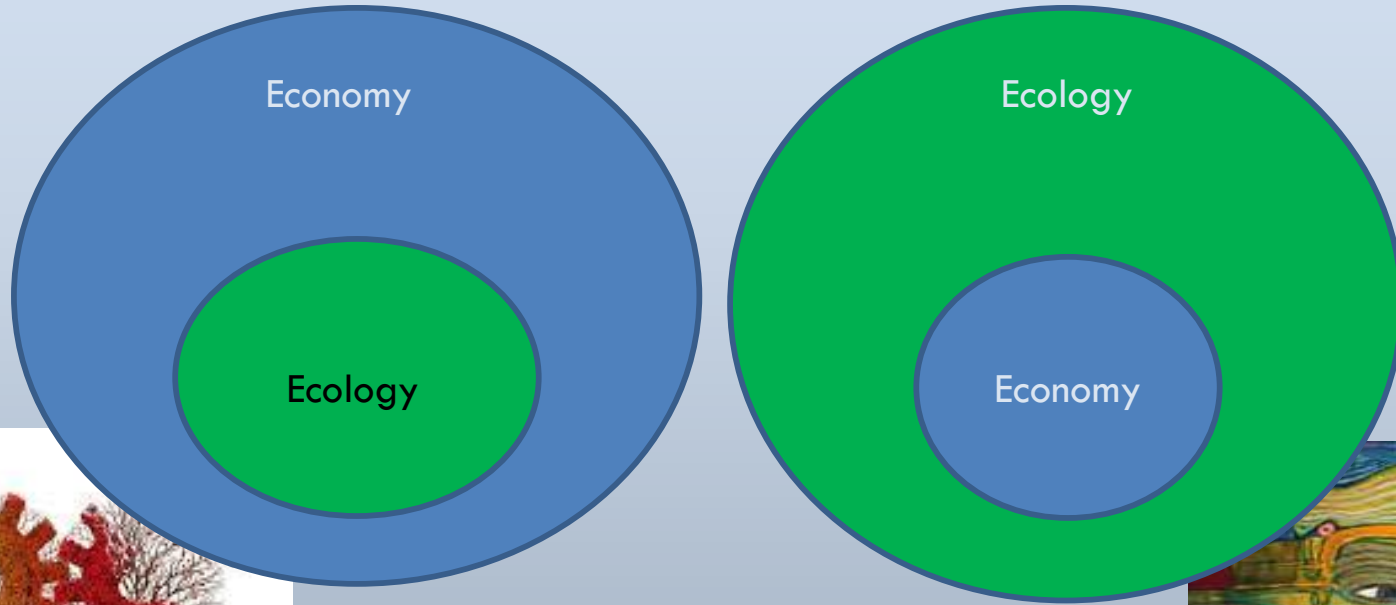
Ecological economics (utopia)

- Instead of seeing the universe as a machine composed of elementary building blocks, the material world is more like an organism;
- A network of inseparable patterns of relationships,
- The planet as a whole is a living self-regulating system
- Evolution is no longer seen as a comparative struggle for existence, but rather a cooperative dance in which creativity and the constant emergence of novelty are the driving forces



The intention of a utopia is to change – to shatter – the present order (Ricoeur)

Text and context

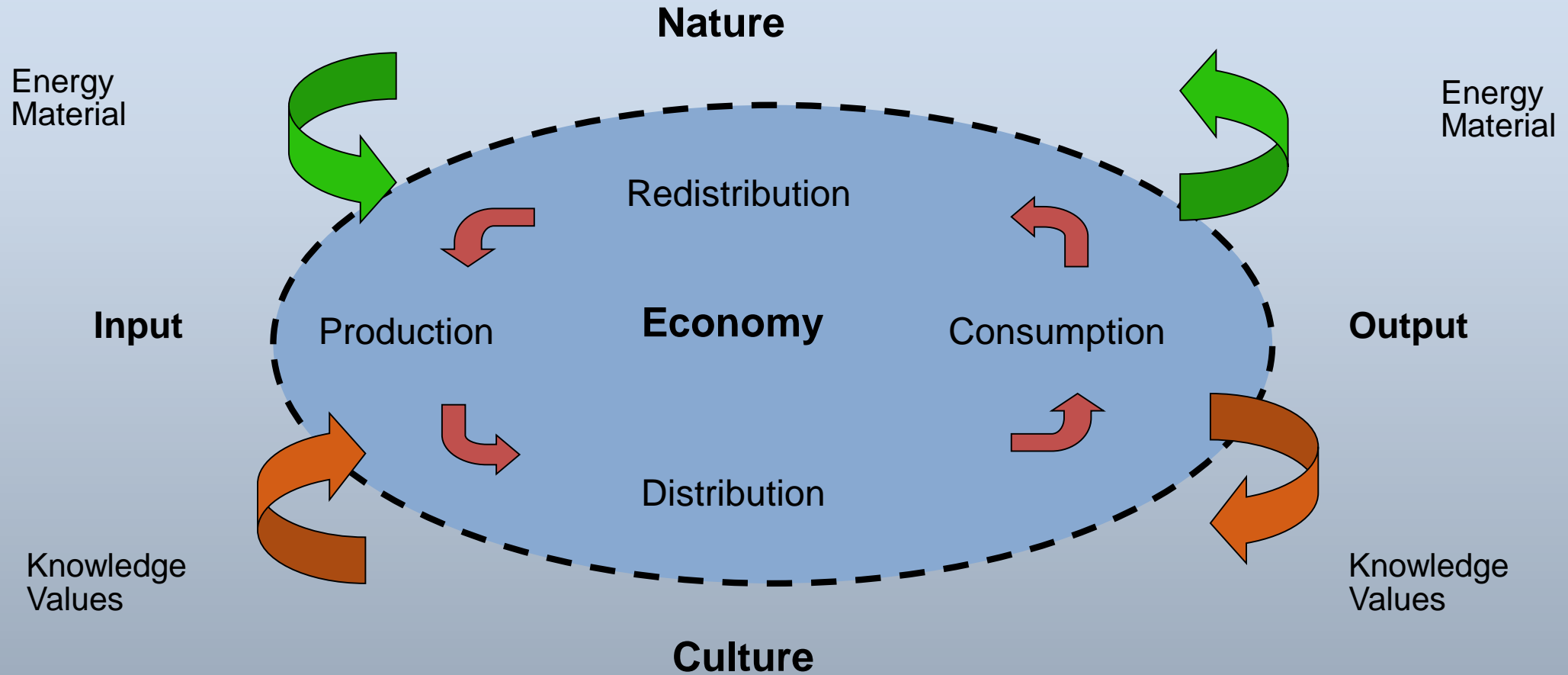


Even the best individuals placed under poor social and institutional circumstances behave badly (Maslow)

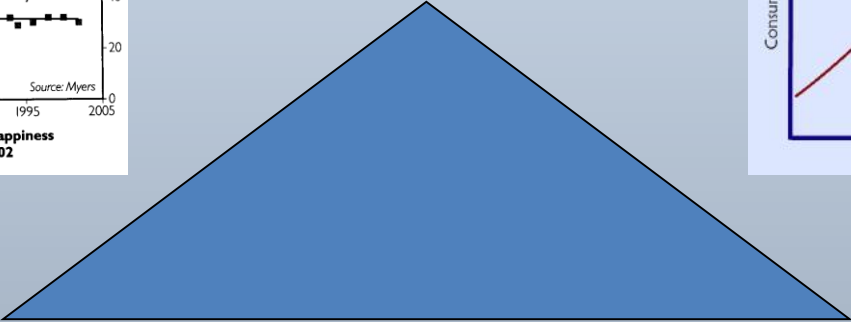
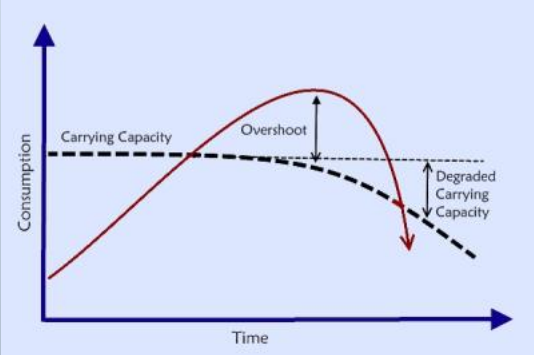
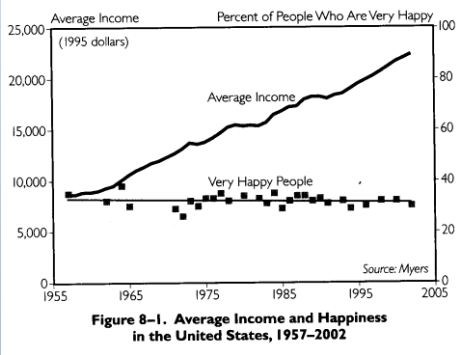
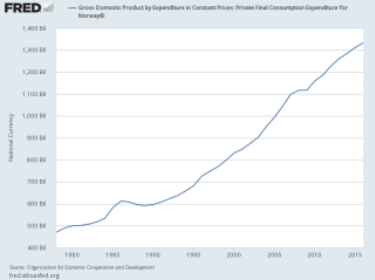
Principles of ecological economics

- Networks – All actors communicate with another and share resources
- Cycles – All actors feed on continual flows of matter and energy from their environment
- Partnership – The exchanges of energy and resources are sustained by pervasive cooperation - Life did not take over the planet by combat but by cooperation, partnership and networking
- Diversity – The greater the diversity the more resilient economic systems
- Dynamic balance – An economic system is a flexible, ever-fluctuating network – all variables fluctuate around their optimal values

Circulation economics



The value triangle



**Economy
Welfare**

**Culture
Quality of life**

**Nature
Basis of life**

Visions of the future “quality of life” community

Some examples;

- "To be – rather than to have"
- "Self organized locally based, dynamic networks"
- "Local food for local markets"
- "Reduce, reuse, repair, recycle"
- "Technology should be in the service of people - not people in the service of technology "
- "Cultural diversity and biodiversity ensure resilience"

