

Peer Review

# Review of: "From Coherence to Control: A Non-Systematic Approach to Multi-Parametric Phenomena"

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I thoroughly enjoyed Ion Sandu's essay, which is written in simple language but with profound and timely concepts. The author's use of direct quotes by pioneers in the fields of nonequilibrium thermodynamics and complexity theory is highly effective. The underlying epistemological framework suggested appears key to the cooperation and survival of humanity. Our tools and weapons and impact on the environment are currently too strong for major control struggles and power clashes.

There are three minor revisions I suggest. The first is to reverse the title, which should read From Control to Coherence, not the other way around. From a historical perspective, this appears more active and less confusing. The second is to define coherence. While the essay is meant to be loose, the concept of coherence is central and can mean many different things. It would bolster the author's meaning to refine the concept, even if this means giving a branching array of meanings rather than a single one.

The third minor tweak I suggest is to make reference to the growing number of theorists who are suggesting similar shifts in scientific epistemology based on ontological shifts suggested by a complexity perspective. For example, Gordana Dodig-Srnkovic wrote a piece that appeared in Qeios in 2025 on Observers as Agents: Relational Epistemology from Physics to Ecology. And I am lead editor on a book called A Fractal Epistemology for a Scientific Psychology (2020, Cambridge Scholars). I would guess there have been others who have written along similar lines, as the zeitgeist appears to be shifting in just the direction the author suggests.

## Declarations

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.