

ON THE STRUCTURAL FORM OF INTERDEPENDENT SYSTEMS

Appeared in the journal 'Studies in Logic and the Foundations of Mathematics' in 1966.

LEONID HURWICZ

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S.A.

238 METHODOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

The most important point is that the *concept* of structure is *relative to the domain of modifications anticipated*. In particular, the structure is not necessarily defined for every domain W . Hence a certain equation of a system may be in structural form relative to some W' but not relative to W'' . If two individuals differ with regard to modifications they are willing to consider, they will probably differ with regard to the relations accepted as structural. An analogous situation seems to arise in Braithwaite's discussion

It should also be emphasized that this relativity of the concept of structure is due to the fact that it represents *not a property of the material system under observation*, but rather a property of the anticipations of those asking for predictions concerning the state of the system.
