

Presentation

AMONG THE EFFORTS confessed by the Editor of this publication in its previous issue was to broaden the spectrum of interdisciplinary problems addressed in this journal.

One of the most striking areas in the welfare of our societies is the area of economic phenomena. Finance and economics in general have become as commonplace as the weather. Every day, at different times, the news and newspapers around the world analyze the state of stock markets in the world, their fluctuations and possible threats with the same interest as climate. The market crashes are covered from the information point of view with the same thoroughness as the consequences of a devastating Asian typhoon. Exaggerated rises in certain financial assets (known as bubbles) are observed with equal attention to budding storms, mighty cold fronts to come, or threats from tropical hurricanes.

The number that we present today is titled *Econophysics*. Its pages contain a group of contributions whose main thread is the investigation of the complexity of economic phenomena through interdisciplinary methods, whose tools come from the fields of physics, dynamical systems theory and computer science.

In order to expand the coverage of the journal, we include a new section called "Independent communications" where articles will appear whose subject matter is foreign to those works presented in the Dossier. Those interested are invited to submit their contributions independently. ■