

## Great Challenges for the Field of Cultural Evolution in Economics

Christian Cordes, November 2015

- Analyzing how a repertoire of economic behaviors in agents is being built up via (biased) cultural learning including maladaptive (non-rational) behaviors.
- Scrutinizing the effects of evolved and culturally learned human cognitive dispositions on economic / institutional / organizational evolution (e.g., Cordes, 2005b; Cordes, 2009b).
- Identifying human cognitive constraints taking effect in economic evolution (see Cordes, 2008).
- Investigating the diffusion of innovations via cultural learning (Buenstorf and Cordes, 2008; Cordes and Schwesinger, 2014) or their propagation via innate preferences (Cordes, 2005a).
- Researching the evolution of firm cultures and relating it to cognitive dispositions, organizational performance, industry development, and human behavior in an organizational context including cooperative behaviors vs. opportunism (see Cordes, 2007; Cordes, Richerson, McElreath and Strimling, 2008; Cordes, Richerson, McElreath and Strimling, 2011; Cordes, Richerson and Schwesinger, 2010; Cordes, Richerson and Schwesinger, 2014).
- Delving into the governance of socialization and the development of cultural distance in organizations both based on group-bound cultural learning (see Cordes, Lundan, Müller and Schwesinger, 2015).
- Analyzing cultural learning processes underlying changing consumption patterns (see Cordes, 2009a; Cordes, 2009c).
- Investigating the (normative) role of changing preferences due to cultural learning in human welfare (see Schubert and Cordes, 2013) and in the transition toward sustainable economic development (see Cordes and Schwesinger, 2014).
- Looking at empathy-based behaviors, cooperation, and notions of fairness as well as their evolutionary origins (see Cordes, 2004; Cordes and Schubert, 2007).

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