



Complex Systems

Complex Systems

Jeff Johnson

Today we have new kinds of problems, which can't be solved by conventional methods. Typically this is because our systems are much more connected than they were ever before and that connectivity is what allows things to be transmitted so rapidly.

Newsreader

They're trying hard to stop the virus, but it just keeps advancing.

Newsreader

Greece has become the latest country to confirm that it has an outbreak of Bird Flu. Further tests are being carried out to see if it's the strain of the virus that can kill humans.

Jeff Johnson

The systems interact with each other, very often in ways which are unpredictable. The farmer goes to the market, so a normal market which has an economic function is now acting as part of the structure for the transmission of Bird Flu. Policy-makers need to understand how these sub-systems would interact with each other. Complex System Science can help us understand all kinds of problems through a mixture of modelling, of mathematics and the use of simulation to try and see what would happen in the future.