

# CIFREM SEMINARS

## A DYNAMICAL MODEL OF EXAPTIVE INNOVATION PROCESSES

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***Thursday, 11 February 2010  
3.00 PM – DISA seminar room  
Faculty of Economics***

A major problem in research on innovations is that of understanding their origins. In this presentation, we (the team being composed by Marco Villani, David Lane and Roberto Serra) propose that radical innovations are created by a process of “exaptation”. After a brief introduction to the peculiarities of the phenomenon, we introduce a dynamical model that describes how it may happen. In particular, our model is focused on the interplay between artifact innovation and attributions of functionality. We propose that the explicit representation of artifacts and categories eases the understanding of the exaptation phenomenon, seen in this context as a shift in terms of ‘leading attributions’ and allows the identification of the elements favoring the emergence of innovations.

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