



Was Léon Walras a rational choice theorist?

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Abstract: The study reexamines the interpretation of Walras's contribution to economics according to the Neo-Walrasians following K. Arrow. According to them, this contribution would be reduced to a combination of rational individual choice and competitive market equilibrium. The study shows that the use of the theory of rational choice is limited in Walras. His pure economics is not grounded on individual contracts and arrangements and its goal lies in the determination of the exchange values. The concept of "personnalité morale" with its physiological and psychological dimensions, the social aspects of the individual behaviours are far away from the theory of rational choice.

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