

This thesis is about the influence of the theory and thoughts of Egon Brunswik (1903-1955) in contemporary psychology. The introduction of this work is important for a deliberation of his central ideas as they apply to probability in the history of man. By looking at this background, we can obtain a deeper understanding of the criticism of modern theories of judgment under uncertainty proposed by Kahneman and Tversky created by Brunswikian followers. The proposal of representative research design, the formation of the lens model, and the notion of ecological validity of cues and vicarious functioning are Brunswik's biggest contributions in psychology. With regard to the origin of this thesis, I was delighted to find information about the attempt to replicate Brunswik's experiments with perceptual constancy by a member of the Prague Psychology Department, Jaromir Kasperek, PhD, in the 1950's. Brunswik was a real inspiration for a number of contemporary psychological and other theories, from Hammond's theory of social judgment and the theory of cognitive continuum to Funder's innovative approach in personality judgment and the theory of probabilistic mental models and fast and frugal heuristics of G. Gigerenzer and the multiple cue learning theory.