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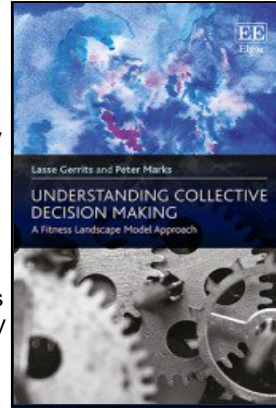
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Understanding Collective Decision Making

A Fitness Landscape Model Approach

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One of the main challenges facing contemporary society is to understand how people can make decisions together. Understanding Collective Decision Making builds on evolutionary theories and presents an analytical tool to analyse and visualise collective decision making. By combining theoretical research with real world case studies, the authors provide a coherent and conclusive solution to the often fragmented and dispersed literature on the subject.



'Brilliant! Grounded in the concept of fitness landscapes – as well as the latest advances in case-based modeling and critical realism, and also visual and social complexity – this book is a significant breakthrough in the study of collective decision making, particularly as it unfolds across conceptual time/space. To do so, Gerrits and Marks appeal to the readers' intuition, helping them navigate two fictional worlds (clock and cloud) to arrive at four different real-world empirical examples, which are wonderfully illustrated. There is also a web-based software package (un-code.org), which the authors developed and which readers can now use to employ these new tools. An absolute must-read!

– Brian Castellani, Kent State University, US

'For a while, complexity theory holds the promise of a new paradigm for the planning sciences. This book is a major step forward in that endeavour. It provides a unique blend of analytical reasoning and in-depth case studies within an original and coherent framework.'

– Koen Frenken, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

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