Multiagent Scheduling

Models and Algorithms

Scheduling theory has received a growing interest since its origins in the second half of the 20th century. Developed initially for the study of scheduling problems with a single objective, the theory has been recently extended to problems involving multiple criteria. However, this extension has still left a gap between the classical multi-criteria approaches and some real-life problems in which not all jobs contribute to the evaluation of each criterion.

Features
- The first monograph on models and problems of multiagent scheduling
- Comprehensive presentation focused on applications and solution methods
- Numerous examples help the reader to understand the content
- Tables with summary of complexity results allow to find quickly needed data
- Bibliography with about 200 items and bibliographic remarks simplify familiarization with literature

Contents
1. Multiagent Scheduling Fundamentals.

Field of interest
Operation Research/Decision Theory; Models and Fields of interest
Processing Times.

References.

Family Firms and Private Equity

Family firms are of particular importance for many economies. We know little about family firm buyouts and how they are different from non-family firm buyouts. Oliver Ahlers investigates this under-researched topic. After a comprehensive literature review on family firm buyouts, the focus of his book is on the key steps of the investment process such as family firm valuation and negotiations between PE investors and family sellers. Additionally, it is investigated how “soft factors” such as trust, reputation or commitment could play an important role when PE and family firms interact. Throughout the book, differences between family and non-family firm buyouts are highlighted.

Feature
- Publication in the field of economic science

Contents
Research Overview on PE, Family Firms, and Buyouts.
- Valuation of Family Firms.
- Negotiations between PE Investors and Family Firm Sellers.
- Importance of „Soft“ Factors throughout Dealmaking.

Field of interest
Management/Business for Professionals

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Empirical Economic and Financial Research

Theory, Methods and Practice

Contents
Abberger, Nierhaus; Findings of the Signal Approach - A Case Study for Kazakhstan.- Allende; Prediction Intervals in Linear and Nonlinear Time Series with Sieve - Bootstrap Methodology.- Assemacher, Czudaj; Do Industrial Metals Prices Exhibit Bubble Behavior?- Badgian, Kaiser, Peña; Comparing Time Series Segmentation Procedures to Detect, Locate and Estimate Change-Points.- Baksalary, Trenkler; On a Craig–Sakamoto Theorem for Orthogonal Projectors.- Beran, Feng, Gosh; On EPARIMA and ESEMIAR Models.- Bruckner, Jeske; Investigating Bavarian Beer Consumption.- Deistler; Generalized Dynamic Factor Models – A System Theoretic Approach.- Giratis; Forecasting under Structural Change.- Grote, Sibbertsen; Testing for Cointegration in a Double-LSTR Framework.- Hamerle, Scherr; Dynamic Modeling of the Correlation Smile.- Hartung, Elpelt-Hartung, Knapp; A Modified Gauss Test for Correlated Samples with Application to Combining Dependent Tests or P-Values.- Hassler, Hosseinkouchack; Distribution of the Durbin-Watson Statistic in Near Integrated Processes.- Hebbel, Steuer; Decomposition of Time Series with the Generalized Berlin Method (VBB).- Koenker; Adaptive Estimation of Regression Parameters for the Gaussian Scale Mixture Model.- Krumholz, Starke; Minimax Versions of the Two-Step-Two-Sample-Gauss- and t-Test.- Lütkepohl; Forecasting Unpredictable Variables. [..]

Fields of interest
Econometrics; Financial Economics; Environmental Economics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due December 2013

2013. Approx. 240 p. 33 illus. (Familienunternehmen und KMU, Volume 5) Softcover
- approx. $89.99

Due April 2014

- approx. $179.00
ISBN 978-3-319-03121-7
Corporate Governance in Emerging Markets

Theories, Practices and Cases

This book fills the gap between theories and practices of corporate governance in emerging markets by providing the reader with an in-depth understanding of governance mechanisms, practices and cases in these markets. It is an invaluable resource not only for academic researchers and graduate students in law, economics, management and finance, but also for people practicing governance such as lawmakers, policymakers and international organizations promoting best governance practices in emerging countries.

Features
- Presents the state of art, current issues and new trends in corporate governance in emerging market countries
- Includes insights on the adaptation and adjustment strategies used by corporations to secure their corporate governance systems during times of crisis
- Examines in detail corporate governance theories, evaluates the effectiveness of corporate governance practices and illustrates the theories using real governance cases

Contents
Part I: Corporate Governance and Firm Performance.
- Part II: Corporate Governance and Firm Behaviour.
- Part V: Corporate Governance Matters: Lessons from Practitioners.

Fields of interest
Emerging Markets/Globalization; Financial Economics; Non-Profit Enterprises/Corporate Social Responsibility

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Supply Chain Transformation
Evolving with Emerging Business Paradigms

Today, supply chain transformation for creating customer value continues to be a priority for many companies, as it enables them to gain a competitive advantage. While value creation is shaped by external drivers such as market volatility, technology, product and service offering and disruption, it can be stymied by the internal stresses arising from the need to minimize costs, limitations in process redesign, waste minimization and the unavailability of knowledge capital. Therefore, for companies to survive and prosper, the relevant questions to ask would be how to identify the external/internal forces driving changes and how to map the business drivers to the attributes of transformation.

Features
- Case Studies form different industries
- Special chapters on green supply chain and supply chain disruption
- Restructuring exercises Real world examples useful for benchmarking

Contents

Fields of interest
Production/Logistics/Supply Chain Management; Industrial and Production Engineering; Sustainable Development

Target groups
Graduate

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

The Future of Public Housing
Ongoing Trends in the East and the West

Public housing was once an important strand in western housing policies, but is seldom seen as a mainstream policy instrument for the future. In contrast, in many East Asian countries large public housing programs are underway. Behind these generalizations, there are exceptions, too. By including perspectives of scholars from across the world, this book provides new insights into public housing in its various forms. It contains in-depth chapters on public housing in five East Asian countries and six Western countries, together with three comparative overview chapters.

Features
- The most comprehensive and in-depth updates of public housing programs worldwide
- Will be of interest to both researchers and policymakers in their pursuit of better understanding and design of affordable housing policies and programs in the world
- Uses both a theoretic and a comparative approach in the discussion of public housing policies and issues in the East and the West

Contents
Preface.- Public Housing in the East.- Public Housing in the West.- Concluding Part.

Fields of interest
Public Finance & Economics; Political Economy

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due March 2014
2014. Approx. 380 p. (CSR, Sustainability, Ethics & Governance) Hardcover
► approx. $179.00
ISBN 978-3-642-44954-3

Due March 2014
► $99.00
ISBN 978-3-642-41910-2

Due December 2013
2014. XXV, 312 p. 36 illus., 27 in color. Hardcover
► $129.00
ISBN 978-3-642-41621-7
Infrastructure and Economic Growth in Asia

Public spending on infrastructure plays an important role in promoting economic growth and poverty alleviation. Empirical studies unequivocally show that under-investment in infrastructure limit economic growth. At the same time, numerous other studies have shown that investment in infrastructure can be a highly effective tool in fighting poverty reduction. In that context, the financing of infrastructure has been a critical element of most economic growth and poverty reduction strategies in developing countries, since the start of this millennium. This book provides a comparative analysis of the aggregate and sectoral implications of higher spending on infrastructure in three very different Asian countries: China, Pakistan, and the Philippines. Particular attention is paid to the role of alternative financing mechanisms for increasing public infrastructure investment, namely distortionary and non-distortionary means of financing.

Features
- Investigates the role of public infrastructure investment on economic growth and poverty reduction
- Provides a comparative analysis of the aggregate and sectoral implications of higher spending on infrastructure
- Includes case studies based on China, Pakistan, and the Philippines

Contents

Fields of interest
Development Economics; Economic Growth; Public Finance & Economics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Understanding Policy Decisions

This book proposes a model for understanding how innovative policy decisions are taken in complex political and organizational systems as well as the possible strategies that the promoter of the innovation can employ in order to maximize the probability of successful adoption and implementation. It presents a conceptual framework for the analysis of decisional situations in order to design the most appropriate strategies for overcoming conflict (e.g. of the NIMBY variety) and/or increasing the engagement of potentially interested actors. The book includes a template for decisional case studies, a protocol for the definition of a decisional strategy, and an exercise in decisional analysis.

Features
- Defines a model for analysis of public policy decisions
- Clearly identifies the elements of decision making
- Highlights possible decisional strategies

Contents

Fields of interest
Operation Research/Decision Theory; Statistics for Social Science, Behavioral Science, Education, Public Policy, and Law; Political Theory

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due December 2013

2014. VIII, 148 p. 16 illus., 14 in color. (Economic Studies in Inequality, Social Exclusion and Well-Being) Hardcover
- $59.99
ISBN 978-3-319-03136-1

Due March 2014

- approx. $229.00
ISBN 978-1-4899-8067-0

Due December 2013

2014. VI, 147 p. 11 illus. (SpringerBriefs in Applied Sciences and Technology / PoliMi SpringerBriefs) Softcover
- $49.99
ISBN 978-3-319-02519-3
Joining Decisions in Open Collaborative Innovation Communities
A Discrete Choice Study

Daniel Ehls analyzes the impact of contextual factors on attracting volunteers into open initiatives. He answers challenging questions like why do users join one community over another and what are attractive conditions for user and open innovation. With a discrete choice experiment, Daniel Ehls identifies openness trade-offs and joining preferences contingent on access, usage and sponsorship. Also, he reveals causes of taste heterogeneity and shows how context and personality determine joining decisions. Management insights target organizational behavior, e.g. how the governance structure affects user actions, and competitive strategy, e.g. how to source external distributed knowledge.

Feature
► Publication in the field of economic sciences

Contents

Fields of interest
Innovation/Technology Management; Business Strategy/Leadership

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Production of Ethanol from Sugarcane in Brazil
From State Intervention to a Free Market

M. A. Ferraz Dias de Moraes, University of São Paulo, San Dimas, Brazil; D. Zilberman, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA

Contents
Production of Ethanol from Sugarcane in Brazil. - From State Intervention to a Free Market. - Introduction. - PART I. - STATE INTERVENTION IN THE SUGARCANE ETHANOL INDUSTRY IN BRAZIL. - State intervention in the chain of production of ethanol from sugarcane in Brazil: its forms and effects on the development of the sector between the 1930s and 1980s. - PART II. - THE GOVERNMENT DISTANCES ITSELF IN THE 1990S: THE BREAK AND THE LEARNING CURVE. - The 1990s: deregulation of the sector. - Organizational changes within the public sphere. - Organizational changes within the private sphere. - Changes related to production and marketing controls on sugar: fixed production levels, crop plans, exports, and the differential collection of the Industrialized Products Tax. - The marketing of sugarcane and ethanol: changes resulting from deregulation. - Activities of the Inter-Ministerial Council on Sugar and Ethanol during the deregulation process. - Interested parties come to the defense of the sugarcane ethanol industry. - The process of deregulating the sugarcane ethanol industry. - Political determinants of the decision-making processes: the players, their power resources, and the redefinition of their roles in the new institutional environment. - The free market: the profound changes and the new agenda.

Fields of interest
Environmental Economics; Energy Policy, Economics and Management; Environmental Law/Policy/Ecojustice

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Exploiting Linkages for Building Technological Capabilities
Vietnam’s Motorcycle Component Suppliers under Japanese and Chinese Influence

M. Fujita, IDE-JETRO, Chiba, Japan

Contents

Fields of interest
Development Economics; International Economics; Production/Logistics/Supply Chain Management

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical
Disentangling the Sources of Hysteresis

This work investigates the time series properties of the unemployment rate of the Spanish regions over the period 1976-2011. For that purpose, the authors employ the PANIC procedures of Bai and Ng (2004), which allows to decompose the observed unemployment rate series into common factor and idiosyncratic components. This enables the authors to identify the exact source behind the hysteretic behaviour found in Spanish regional unemployment. Overall, the analysis with three different proxies for the excess of labour supply renders strong support for the hysteresis hypothesis, which appears to be caused by a common stochastic trend driving all the regional unemployment series.

Features
- Provides an insightful analysis of the sources of hysteresis in Spanish regional unemployment
- Shows how econometric techniques allow to decompose the observed unemployment rate series into an idiosyncratic and common component
- Offers a policy bundle to combat the sources of underlying regional unemployment in Spain

Contents
Introduction - PANIC Analysis of Spanish Regional Unemployment - Explaining the Common Stochastic Trend in Spanish Regional Unemployment - Granger-Causality Analysis - Policy Considerations Drawn From Our Results - Concluding Remarks - Appendix

Fields of interest
Labor Economics; Macroeconomics/Monetary Economics; Economic Policy

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due January 2014
2014. Approx. 70 p. (SpringerBriefs in Economics) Softcover
► approx. $69.99
ISBN 978-3-319-03685-4

Due February 2014
2014. Approx. 250 p. 60 illus., 40 in color. Hardcover
► approx. $129.00
ISBN 978-1-4614-9562-8

Due December 2013
► $54.99
ISBN 978-3-319-03427-0

A. García-Cintado, D. Romero-Ávila, C. Usabiaga, Pablo de Olavide University, Seville, Spain

University of Foggia, Foggia, Italy

A. R. Gurrieri, M. Lorizio, A. Stramaglia

Entrepreneurship Networks in Italy

The Role of Agriculture and Services

In light of the recent dynamics of the recession sparked by the global economic crisis, a roadmap for the growth and recovery of national economies is urgently needed. As such, this book focuses on the potential offered not only by the manufacturing sector but also by the agricultural and tertiary sectors. In fact, during the crisis these sectors demonstrated remarkable resilience in the Italian economy and there have even been positive trends in specific segments. This book points out how an exit strategy could be applied that involves all economic sectors and which can be replicated in various national economies.

Features
- Focuses on the unique organisation of Italian enterprises as networks
- Presents the economic potential of the agricultural and tertiary sector

Contents
Entrepreneurship and Network - The New Path of Agriculture - Tourism: A Service Sector

Fields of interest
Entrepreneurship; Industrial Organization; Agricultural Economics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical
Quantitative Easing and Its Impact in the US, Japan, the UK and Europe

This volume empirically analyzes the effects of quantitative easing (QE) on interest rates and the economy in the US, Japan, UK and Europe. Using an event-study methodology, the authors find that the measures undertaken by the Federal Reserve and Bank of England, which focus primarily on bond purchases, are much more effective in lowering interest rates than those undertaken by the Bank of Japan and the European Central Bank, which have relied more heavily on lending to private financial institutions.

Features
- Analyses the impact of quantitative easing on interest rates and the economy of the US, Japan, UK and Europe
- Demonstrates that the Federal Reserve and Bank of England, focusing primarily on bond purchases, have been more effective in lowering interest rates than the Bank of Japan and the European Central Bank
- Uses large Bayesian vector autoregression (BVAR) models to analyze the impact of quantitative easing on the wider economy

Contents
1 Introduction.- 2 Transmission Channels for Quantitative Easing and Effects on Interest Rates.- 3 The Central Bank Loss Function and Quantitative Easing as a Stackelberg Game.- 4 The Effect of Quantitative Easing on Interest Rates.- 5 Broader Economic Effects on Quantitative Easing.- 6 Conclusion.

Fields of interest
Macroeconomics/Monetary Economics; Economic Growth; Economic Policy

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical
Earnings Accruals and Real Activities Management around Initial Public Offerings

The beginning of the new millennium was characterized by company scandals in accounting around the world. A transparent and fair presentation of financial statements is beneficial for capital market participants. Especially around initial public offerings different incentives of these players exist to influence financial statements in diverse aspects. Therefore, studies of earnings management try to identify abnormal behavior. This thesis covers additional aspects to shed light on substantial drivers of discretionary reporting behavior around going public. Factors like influence on real activities, industry affiliation, and specific years in the IPO process add further insight to this theoretical and practical topic. The dependence on these factors is high and confirm that company specifics are important for interpretation of results.

New Series
Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics

Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics brings the most current research presented at conferences and workshops to a global readership. The series features volumes (in electronic and print formats) of selected contributions from conferences in all areas of economics, business, management, and finance. In addition to an overall evaluation by the publisher of the topical interest, scientific quality, and timeliness of each volume, each contribution is refereed to standards comparable to those of leading journals, resulting in authoritative contributions to the respective fields. Springer's production and distribution infrastructure ensures rapid publication and wide circulation of the latest developments in the most compelling and promising areas of research today. The editorial development of volumes may be managed using Springer's innovative Online Conference Service (OCS), a proven online manuscript management and review system. This system is designed to ensure an efficient timeline for your publication, making Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics the premier series to publish your workshop or conference volume.
The Rocky Road to Publishing in the Management and Decision Sciences

This book documents the history of two research papers, from the first drafts to the final polished published articles, including the reviewer comments and the author responses. The documentary provides unique insights into the publishing process, which at times is filled with uncertainties, not only for young researchers. The book discusses lessons learned and also provides an experienced editor’s and reviewer’s perspective. In the light of the high pressure on young faculty to publish successfully, this book offers itself as a guide to publishing efficiently and effectively in a highly competitive scientific environment.

Features
► Provides unique insights into the publishing process for PhD students and young faculty ► Presents examples of model responses to reviewers’ comments ► Explains the perspectives of experienced editors and reviewers

Contents

Fields of interest
Operation Research/Decision Theory; Operations Research, Management Science; Business/Management Science, general

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due January 2014
2014. Approx. 120 p. (SpringerBriefs in Business)
Softcover ► $54.99
ISBN 978-3-642-42047-4

Board Governance in Bank Foundations

The Italian Experience

Bank foundations serve an important purpose in the Italian nonprofit sector. This book presents the legal grounds, areas of intervention, and basic tools involved in the asset management and grant-making activities that such organizations undertake. A special emphasis focuses on the analyses of the organizational structure of bank foundations and the relevant aspects of governance, particularly with regard to the composition, roles, and responsibilities of bank foundation boards. The general reduction in the resources to which they have access requires a new strategy that clearly defines long-term goals and the necessary procedures to achieve them. The topic of strategic planning is therefore also central to this text, which examines its peculiarities, content and governing bodies.

Features
► The book investigates a topic that has received little attention by the international literature ► Numerous case studies facilitate the understanding ► Presentation of some operational measures to achieve better efficiency in foundations

Contents

Fields of interest
Non-Profit Enterprises/Corporate Social Responsibility; Finance/Investment/Banking; Organization/Planning

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due March 2014
2014. 150 p. (Contributions to Management Science)
Hardcover ► approx. $139.00
ISBN 978-3-642-41305-6

Financial Crises, Sovereign Risk and the Role of Institutions

The recent world economic crisis showed very clearly that financial crises and sovereign defaults are severe threats to economic and social prosperity. In addition, it became apparent that currency crises and banking crises often occur together and are closely related to sovereign debt crises and defaults.

Features
► New research on financial crises and sovereign default risk and their interdependencies ► Discussion of institutional features of the EMU and the world financial system ► Interesting suggestions for crises solution and the improvement of financial stability

Contents

Fields of interest
Financial Economics; Public Finance & Economics; Macroeconomics/Monetary Economics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due December 2013
2014. VI, 198 p. 42 illus., 27 in color. Hardcover ► $129.00
ISBN 978-3-319-03103-3
Portfolio Analytics
An Introduction to Return and Risk Measurement

This textbook first introduces the reader to return measurement and then goes on to compare the time-weighted rate of return (TWR) with the money-weighted rate of return (MWR). To emphasize the importance of risk in conjunction with return, different tracking errors are analyzed and ex-post versus ex-ante risk figures are compared. The author then proceeds to modern portfolio theory (MPT) and illustrates how the constraints interfere substantially in the construction of optimized portfolios. As a conclusion, the book provides the reader with all the essential aspects of investment controlling.

Features
► Explains how to analyze key variables for constructing a portfolio ► Provides a rich collection of examples to assist the student in following the theory ► Equips the reader with essential performance measurement know-how extending to advanced research topics

Contents

Fields of interest
Finance/Investment/Banking; Quantitative Finance; Financial Economics

Target groups
Graduate

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due January 2014
ISBN 978-3-319-03508-6

M. Matsui, Kanagawa University, Yokohama, Japan
Manufacturing and Service Enterprise with Risks II
The Physics and Economics of Management

This book presents recent work in the physics and economics of management through the developmental theory and practice of management science/operations research (MS/OR) that goes beyond the author’s earlier book on the same subject. (Volume 125 in Springer’s MS/OR series)

This current work makes a useful contribution to the next-generation discrete system of science and management for a better society.

Features
► Matsui’s theory---Can be utilized in higher, real-time management in the cloud-ICT age for realization of enterprise-organizational behavior ► Presents two new forms of findings (Matsui’s form and Chameleon’s criteria) in areas of knowledge for discrete and complex sciences ► Contributes to advanced science of physics, management, and economics for a better society

Contents

Fields of interest
Operation Research/Decision Theory; Operations Research, Management Science; Production/Logistics/Supply Chain Management

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due January 2014
ISBN 978-4-311-54618-4

G. M. Mudacumura, Cheyney University, Cheyney, PA, USA; G. Morçöl, Penn State – Harrisburg W160 Olmsted Building, Middletown, PA, USA (Eds)
Challenges to Democratic Governance in Developing Countries

Contents

Fields of interest
Public Administration; Development Economics; Comparative Politics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due January 2014
2014. XX, 300 p. 15 illus., 14 in color. (Public Administration, Governance and Globalization, Volume 11) Hardcover ► $129.00
ISBN 978-3-319-03142-2
S. Rünger, Universität Graz, Graz, Austria

The Effect of Shareholder Taxation on Corporate Ownership Structures

Silke Rünger aims at investigating the influence of shareholder taxation on corporate ownership with respect to the level of ownership concentration as well as changes in corporate ownership. The empirical investigations show that shareholder taxes are found to influence both, the level of ownership concentration as well as the divestiture choice of single owners and a change in corporate ownership.

Feature

- Publication in the field of economic sciences

Contents


Fields of interest

Business/Management Science, general; Business Taxation/Tax Law; Finance/Investment/Banking

Target groups

Research

Discount group

Professional Non-Medical

Available

2014. XXI, 119 p. (Schriften zum Steuer-, Rechnungs- und Prüfungswesen) Softcover

- $89.99

ISBN 978-3-658-04130-4

Due December 2013


- $129.00

ISBN 978-3-642-42038-2

R. C. Sickles, Rice University, Houston, TX, USA; W. C. Horrace, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA (Eds)

Festschrift in Honor of Peter Schmidt

Econometric Methods and Applications

Contents


Fields of interest

Econometrics; Production/Logistics/Supply Chain Management; Operation Research/Decision Theory

Target groups

Research

Discount group

Professional Non-Medical

Due January 2014

2014. Approx. 400 p. 16 illus., 10 in color. Hardcover

- $179.00

ISBN 978-1-4899-8007-6
J. Tritschler, Universität Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria

Audit Quality

Association between published reporting errors and audit firm characteristics

Aiming from the author’s experience as a practicing CPA, this book is quite different from other research in this field, as it confronts the subject of audit quality from a pragmatic perspective. The first goal of Jonas Tritschler is to develop an audit quality metric on national audit firm level. Financial reporting errors, as detected by the German enforcement institutions during examinations, which subsequently are published in the German Federal Gazette by the involved companies, are the data basis for this measurement. Using the developed audit quality metric, the second goal of this study is to analyze audit quality differences of selected audit firms by comparing their deployed audit input factors such as employee’s competence (ratio of certified professionals to total audit staff), experience of employees (average tenure of employees in years) and client-specific experience (client fluctuation rate). Results indicate a correlation between audit quality according to the developed metric and the operationalized audit input factors mentioned above.

Feature
► Study in the field of economic sciences

Contents
Literature Review and Current Issues. - Audit Quality Measure Based on Reporting Errors. - Reporting Errors and Audit Firm Characteristics.

Fields of interest
Business/Management Science, general; Accounting/Auditing

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

J. Vitting Andersen, CNRS Institut Non-Linéaire de Nice, Valbonne, France; A. Nowak, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland

An Introduction to Socio-Finance

This introductory text is devoted to exposing the underlying nature of price formation in financial markets as a predominantly sociological phenomenon that relates individual decision-making to emergent and co-evolving social and financial structures. Two different levels of this sociological influence are considered: First, we examine how price formation results from the social dynamics of interacting individuals, where interaction occurs either through the price or by direct communication.

Features
► Authored by leading researchers in the field. ► Introductory, self-contained text for non-specialists. ► Bridges the gap between quantitative social science, financial market dynamics and complexity theory.

Contents

Fields of interest
Financial Economics; Socio- and Econophysics; Population and Evolutionary Models; Quantitative Finance

Target groups
Graduate

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

P. Wu, Central Queensland University, Rockhampon, QLD, Australia; S. P. Low, National University of Singapore, Singapore, Singapore

Lean and Cleaner Production

Applications in Prefabrication to Reduce Carbon Emissions

This book explains how in moving towards Cleaner Production, the Lean Production Philosophy can be applied to reduce carbon emissions in prefabrication - one major source of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions which contribute to global climate change.

Features
► Offers an innovative approach to applying the Lean Production Philosophy to reduce carbon emissions. ► Includes checklists to help precast concrete manufacturers and contractors to identify sources of carbon emissions. ► Provides step-by-step guidance to help precast concrete manufacturers and contractors to improve environmental performance in the building life cycle. ► Includes tips on how construction-related firms can perform better in sustainability-based rating systems, such as the Singapore Green Labelling Scheme and the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) Green Mark Scheme.

Contents
Introduction. - Sustainable Development and Global Climate Change. - Lean Production Philosophy. - The Precast Concrete Industry. - Modelling the Lean Production Philosophy. - Research Design and Methodology. - Applications in Precast Concrete Factories. - Case study of a Precast Concrete Factory. - Precast Concrete Products in Construction Sites. - Case study of a Construction Site. - Carbon Labelling and Reflections. - Conclusions and Recommendations.

Fields of interest
Economics/Management Science, general; Environmental Economics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical