MANAGING COMPLEXITY

George Rzevski & Petr Skobelev

The first book to comprehensively define complexity and show how it can be tuned and managed
Description

This is the first book to describe large-scale complex adaptive systems and their application to practical business problems so as to yield excellent returns on investment. Various case studies are included: real-time scheduling of 2,000 taxis in London; 10% of world capacity of seagoing tankers transporting crude oil around the globe; adaptive cargo delivery to the International Space Station; semantic processing of scientific abstracts; dynamic patterns discovery from large quantity of data; real-time management of global supply chains; adaptive management of design modifications of large aircraft wings.

The book provides an insight into the connection between digital technology and the ever-increasing complexity of contemporary social and economic environments. It describes in some detail a powerful method of managing complexity. In addition, to back up the applications presented, it gives a concise outline of the fundamental concepts, principles and methods of Complexity Science.

The book contains an extensive description of the fundamentals of multi-agent technology, which has been developed by the authors and used in the design of complex adaptive software and complex adaptive business processes.

Audience

Managing Complexity is suitable for business executives, administrators, politicians, IT professionals, engineers, scientists, and students who are determined to prosper under conditions of rapidly increasing complexity of the Internet-based global market or need help in adjusting their mindsets to the reality of the relentlessly increasing complexity of The Information Society.

It may also be helpful to general readers who are perplexed by the complexity of the environment in which we live.

This topic has applications in all business areas, and therefore is of interest globally.
PART 1: Fundamentals
1 What is complexity?
2 A method for managing complexity
3 Multi-agent technology
4 Emergent intelligence

PART 2: Commercial applications
5 Adaptive scheduling of seagoing tankers
6 Adaptive scheduling of taxis
7 Adaptive scheduling of car rentals
8 Adaptive scheduling of road transport
9 Adaptive data mining
10 Adaptive semantic processing
11 Adaptive detection of clashes caused by design changes
12 Adaptive scheduling of supply networks
13 Adaptive scheduling of services for the international space station
14 Adaptive scheduling of a fleet of satellites
15 Adaptive scheduling of high-speed railways
16 Adaptive scheduling of manufacturing
17 Adaptive management of service teams
18 Adaptive project management

PART 3: A roadmap into the future
19 A vision and ideas
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