



## The Mathematics of Collective Action (Paperback)

By James S. Coleman

Taylor Francis Inc, United States, 2006. Paperback. Condition: New. New edition. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Philosophers, social scientists, and laymen have used two perspectives in analyzing social action. One sees man's action as the result of causal forces, and the other sees action as purposive and goal directed. Mathematical treatment of social action has shown this same dichotomy. Some models of behavior describe a causal process, in which there is no place for intention or purpose. Most stochastic models of behavior, whether individual or group, are like this. Another body of work, however, employs purpose, anticipation of some future state, and action designed to maximize the proximity to some goal. Classical microeconomic theory, statistical decision theory, and game theory exemplify this direction. This book examines these two directions of work, and makes original contributions to the second. An introductory chapter outlines these two bodies of work, and casts them in a common frame, to display their similarities and differences. Chapter 2 reviews at length recent work in stochastic processes that makes up the first body of work, which sees social action as the resultant of causal forces. The remaining chapters develop a mathematical framework...



**READ ONLINE**  
[ 9.49 MB ]

### Reviews

*It is an remarkable pdf that I actually have actually read. It really is packed with knowledge and wisdom I am very happy to tell you that this is the finest ebook i actually have go through during my very own life and may be he very best book for actually.*

-- Hailey Jast Jr.

*It in a of my personal favorite ebook. It is probably the most awesome publication i have read through. You wont really feel monotony at anytime of the time (that's what catalogs are for regarding in the event you check with me).*

-- Juliet Kertzmann