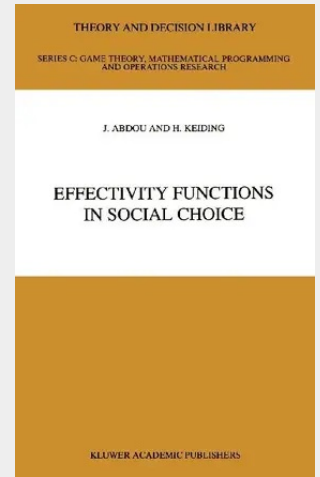


Effectivity Functions in Social Choice

The present book treats a highly specialized topic, namely effectivity functions, which are a tool for describing the power structure implicit in social choice situations of various kind. One of the advantages of effectivity functions is that they seem to contain exactly the information which is needed in several problems of implementation, that is in designing the rules for individual behaviour given that this behaviour at equilibrium should result in a prescribed functional connection between preferences and outcome. We shall be interested in both formal properties of effectivity functions and applications of them in social choice theory, and among such applications in particular the implementation problem. This choice of emphasis necessarily means that some other topics are treated only superficially or not at all. We do not attempt to cover all contributions to the field, rather we try to put some of the results together in order to get a reasonably coherent theory about the role of the power structure in cooperative implementation. The authors are indebted to many persons for assistance and advice during the work on this book. In particular, we would like to thank Peter Fristrup and Bodil Hansen for critical reading of the manuscript, and Lene Petersen for typesetting in $\text{\LaTeX}$.

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