1. Record Nr. UNINA990002962090403321 Gordon, A. D. Autore **Titolo** Classification / A.D. Gordon Pubbl/distr/stampa Boca Raton: Chapman & Hall, 1999 **ISBN** 1-58488-013-9 [2nd ed] Edizione x, 256 p.; 23 cm Descrizione fisica Monographs on statistics and applied probability; 82 Collana 519.535 Disciplina Locazione MAS **FSPBC**

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Record Nr. UNINA9910299745703321 Autore Green David G Titolo Of Ants and Men: The Unexpected Side Effects of Complexity in Society // by David G. Green Pubbl/distr/stampa Berlin, Heidelberg:,: Springer Berlin Heidelberg:,: Imprint: Copernicus, , 2014 **ISBN** 3-642-55230-7 Edizione [1st ed. 2014.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (270 p.) Collana Green Energy and Technology Disciplina 155.24 620 621 Soggetti Computational complexity Statistical physics **Dynamics** Complexity Complex Systems Statistical Physics and Dynamical Systems Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. From Bad to Worse -- Of Ants and Men -- A Tangled Web -- The Eye of Nota di contenuto the Beholder -- The Animal Within -- More things in heaven and earth -- The Sting in the Tail -- Divide and Rule -- One thing leads to another -- The Snowball Effect -- A Deadly Cascade -- Collateral damage -- The Straw that Broke the Camel's Back -- The Herd Instinct -- The Subatomic Family -- The Global Village -- The Root of All Evil -- Fouling the Nest -- Shaping the Future. Sommario/riassunto Why do things go wrong? Why, despite all the planning and care in the world, do things go from bad to worse? This book argues that it is because we are like the ants. Just as ants create an anthill without being aware of it, unintended side effects of human activity create all manner of social trends and crises. The book traces the way these trends emerge and the role they play in some of the major issues of our time. One of the greatest challenges today is the complexity of our

social and economic systems. Every action has side effects that people

often ignore or fail to see. The book examines the ways in which limitations in our thinking and behaviour lead to unintended side effects. It looks at the role played by complex networks of interactions. Finally, it looks at the way side effects of new technologies, especially computers and communication, have created an Information Revolution, the full repercussions of which are yet to be seen. In our race to create new technologies and sustain indefinite economic growth, we are at best dimly aware of the ways in which we are transforming society and threatening our environment.