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Nota di contenuto	Metaphors and the Dynamics of Knowledge; Copyright; Contents; List of figures and tables; Acknowledgements; Foreword; Metaphors and the dynamics of knowledge: preliminary thoughts; 1 Analysing knowledge dynamics, in general, and the role of metaphors, in particular; Observing the dynamics of 'ideas' in society; Changing the observatory: a systems-theoretical and discourse-analytical approach; 2 Metaphors as targets and tools in the analysis of knowledge dynamics; Troubling terms; Metaphor analysis from 'above', from 'below', and from 'in between'; Metaphor analyses of knowledge dynamics 3 'Struggle for existence': selection, retention and extinction of a metaphor Vignette; Functions and dysfunctions of metaphors in science; Kampf urns Dasein - popularization and contexts of usage; change of context: Weismann and the Krupp competition; The metadiscourse on 'struggle for existence'; 4 Of paradigms, shifts, and changes - the Kuhnian metaphor; Vignette; Thomas Kuhn's Structure - 'The right text at the right time'; The 'Kuhnianization' of the social sciences; Paving the way for postmodernism - the Kuhnian metaphor at

work; Kuhn, bartenders, theologians, and ice-cream parlours
5 The order of meaning: the career of chaos as a metaphor Vignette;
Introduction; The career of chaos as a metaphor; Chaos in
contemporary social science discourses; Metaphor transfer - discursive
order out of/within chaos?; 6 Metaphors and the dynamics of
knowledge; Struggle, Kuhn, and chaos: changing metaphors denoting
change; Struggle, Kuhn, and chaos: how metaphors create something
new; Dynamics of knowledge: from memes to metaphors; Notes;
References; Author index; Subject index

Sommario/riassunto

This book opens up a new route to the study of knowledge dynamics and the sociology of knowledge. The focus is on the role of metaphors as powerful catalysts, and the book dissects their role in the construction of theories of knowledge. It is of vital interest to social and cognitive scientists alike.
