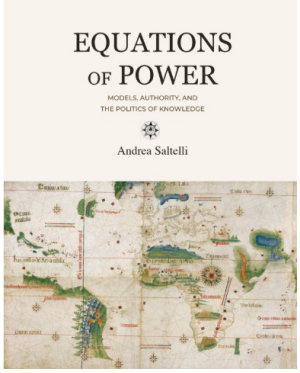

Equations of Power

Models, Authority, and the Politics of Knowledge

By Andrea Saltelli

Pub Date: 12 January 2027
Binding: Hardback
Price: £80.00 / $120.00
ISBN: 9781801361781
Extent: 150 pages
Size: 153 x 229 mm /6 x 9 inches

BISAC CATEGORY: SCIENCE / Philosophy & Social Aspects POLITICAL SCIENCE / Public Policy / Science & Technology Policy, SOCIAL SCIENCE / Sociology / General
BISAC CODE: SCI075000
RIGHTS Exclusive: WORLD

Explores how mathematical models have become powerful sources of authority in science, policy and public debate, arguing that their growing influence demands greater transparency, accountability and epistemic scrutiny. Combines an insider's perspective from four decades of modelling practice with a critical analysis of how quantification shapes governance and public reasoning.

Key selling points

Develops a general framework for understanding how mathematical models acquire authority across policy domains—including finance, climate, health, economics and environmental governance—rather than focusing on a single sector.
Written by one of the leading scholars working at the intersection of modelling, science for policy and the sociology of quantification, drawing on four decades of experience at the science–policy interface and a record of influential contributions to debates on responsible modelling.
Combines technical understanding of modelling with perspectives from science and technology studies (STS), political economy and the sociology of quantification, offering a rare insider's account of how quantitative expertise acquires legitimacy and influence.
Goes beyond critique by presenting practical approaches to improving the quality, transparency and accountability of quantitative evidence, including global sensitivity analysis and sensitivity auditing.
Written in a non-technical style requiring no mathematical background, making it suitable both as a research monograph and as a teaching text in STS, public policy, environmental governance, economics, risk analysis, AI governance and the ethics of technology.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Andrea Saltelli is senior lecturer at the UPF Barcelona School of Management and affiliated with the Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities, University of Bergen. A long-time practitioner of mathematical modelling and sensitivity analysis, he works at the intersection of model quality assessment, the sociology of quantification, science for policy and research ethics.

Ordering in North America, Latin America and Caribbean
Ingram Publishers Services (US)
1 Ingram Blvd. Mail stop
#512 Lavergne, TN 37086, United States
Tel: +1 866 400 5351
ips@ingramcontent.com

Ordering in the UK/Rest of the World
Ingram Publishers Services (UK)
1 Deltic Avenue, Rooksley
Milton Keynes, MK13 8LD
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1752 202300
IPSUK.Orders@ingramcontent.com

Ordering in Australia
NewSouth Books
C/O Alliance Distribution Services (ADS)
9 Pioneer Avenue
Tuggerah 2259 NSW, Australia
Tel: +61 (02) 4390 1300
adscs@alliancedist.com.au

75-76 Blackfriars Road | London SE1 8HA | United Kingdom | Tel: +44 (0)20 7193 7371
244 Madison Ave. #116 | New York | NY 10016 | United States | Tel: +1 646 736 7908
info@anthempress.com | sales@anthempress.com | publicity@anthempress.com | www.anthempress.com