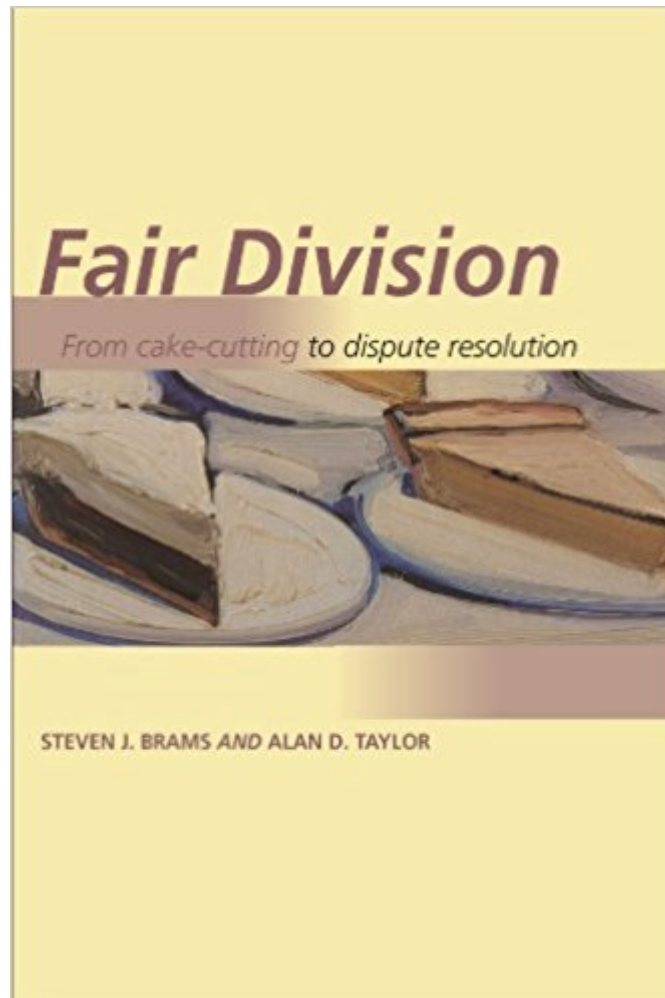




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Fair Division: From Cake-Cutting To Dispute Resolution



Synopsis

Fair Division, unlike most research on fairness in the social sciences and mathematics, is devoted solely to the analysis of constructive procedures for actually dividing things up and resolving disputes, including indivisible items or issues, such as the marital property in a divorce or sovereignty in an international dispute.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Cambridge University Press (February 23, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0521556449

ISBN-13: 978-0521556446

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

This was easily the book I referred to most in my Master's paper on fair division. It covers a lot of topics, including envy-free and equitable division, fair division by auctions, and fair division by elections. The authors devote a chapter to their favorite method, the so-called "combined procedure" that is equitable, envy-free, and Pareto-optimal for two players and would be invaluable to any divorce lawyer. For those accustomed to reading mathematics or economics, this book is readable. For the layperson, it might be a little bit too technical in spots. While it has many practical examples, it isn't really a fair division manual for the do-it-yourselfer. But it's as close as you're going to get, for now.

Steven Brams and Alan Taylor accomplish something quite interesting and worth paying attention to. They move concepts traditionally treated in policy debate and law with simple hit-or-miss human judgment and discretion into concrete analyzable mathematical processes. In the more than ten years that I've worked on the mathematics of child support, I have not yet been so convincing that

such a transformation from subjective into objective is possible. Let the games continue!Roger F. Gay, Project Leader Project for the Improvement of Child Support Litigation Technology [...]

Voting systems are quirkier than we generally knew. Good insight into what works and what the problems are.

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