CONTENTS

List of Figures xii
List of Tables xxi
Preface xxii
List of Acronyms xxiv
About the Authors xxv
Foreword xxvi

1 Agent-Based Modelling and Geographical Information Systems **1**

1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 Complexity and Geographical Systems 2
1.3 Models 5
1.4 Data 7
1.5 Individuals 7
1.6 Agent-Based Modelling and Geographical Information Systems 9
1.7 Outline of the Book 10
1.8 Annotated Bibliography 12

2 Introduction to Agent-Based Modelling **14**

2.1 Introduction 14
2.1.1 What Is an Agent? 15
2.1.2 Agent Rules 18
2.1.3 An Agent's World 19
2.2 Advantages of Agent-Based Modelling 20
2.3 Limitations of Agent-Based Modelling 22
2.4 A Gallery of Applications 23
2.4.1 `Segregation` 24
2.4.2 `SugarScape` 26
2.4.3 Transportation Modelling 28
2.4.4 Decision-Making 30
2.5 Discussion 31
2.6 Annotated Bibliography 33

3 Designing and Developing an Agent-Based Model 35

3.1 Introduction 35
3.2 Overview 37
3.2.1 Purpose and Process 38
3.2.2 Data Collection and Evaluation Plan 39
3.2.3 Development and Software 40
3.2.4 Visualisation 40
3.2.5 Biases, Uncertainty and Assumptions 41
3.3 World 42
3.3.1 External Systems 42
3.3.2 Space 43
3.3.3 Time 45
3.3.4 Populations 45
3.3.5 Physical Rules 46
3.4 Interactions 46
3.4.1 Physical Interactions 46
3.4.2 Communication 48
3.4.3 Resource Exchange 48
3.5 Agents 49
3.5.1 Characteristics 49
3.5.2 Decisions 50
3.5.3 Actions 51
3.6 Building a Segregation Model 52
3.6.1 Segregation Model: Overview 52
3.6.2 Segregation Model: World 54
3.6.3 Segregation Model: Interactions 56
3.6.4 Segregation Model: Agents 56
3.7 Other Frameworks and Approaches 58
3.7.1 Pattern-Orientated Modelling 58
3.7.2 Overview, Design Concepts and Details (ODD) Protocol 58
3.8 Discussion 59
3.9 Annotated Bibliography 60

4 Building Agent-Based Models with NetLogo 62

4.1 Introduction 62
4.2 NetLogo Basics 63
4.2.1 The NetLogo Program 65
4.2.2 Contexts: Observer, Turtle, Patch (and Link) 68
4.2.3 The `ask` Command 70

4.3 First NetLogo Model 73
4.3.1 Creating the World 74
4.3.2 Buttons and Procedures 75
4.3.3 Sliders and Variables 77
4.3.4 Creating Turtles and Patches 78
4.3.5 Making the Model `go` 80
4.4 Advanced NetLogo Model 83
4.4.1 Advanced Variables 84
4.4.2 Grass Grows … 87
4.4.3 Giving Birth 89
4.4.4 Creating a Graph 91
4.5 Annotated Bibliography 93

5 Fundamentals of Geographical Information Systems 95

5.1 Introduction 95
5.2 A (Very Brief) History of GIS 96
5.3 Representing the World 98
5.3.1 Raster Data 99
5.3.2 Vector Data 101
5.4 Time in GIS 102
5.5 GIS Software 103
5.6 Sources of Geographical Data 105
5.6.1 Volunteered and Ambient Geographical Information 106
5.6.2 Social Media Data 106
5.6.3 Remotely Sensed Data 108
5.7 Preparing GIS Data Using QGIS 110
5.7.1 Performing Spatial Operations 111
5.7.2 Manipulating Vector Table Data 113
5.8 Visualising Results 117
5.8.1 Map Types 117
5.8.2 Map Elements 119
5.8.3 Styling Trends 120
5.8.4 Interactivity 121
5.9 Discussion 122
5.10 Annotated Bibliography 124

6 Integrating Agent-Based Models and GIS 125

6.1 Introduction 125
6.2 Coupling and Embedding GIS and Agent-Based Models 127

6.3 Tools for Constructing and Developing Agent-Based Models 129
6.3.1 Swarm 132
6.3.2 MASON 132
6.3.3 Repast 132
6.3.4 NetLogo 135
6.3.5 GAMA 137
6.4 Integrating GIS Data into Agent-Based Models 138
6.4.1 Using Raster Data in NetLogo 139
6.4.2 Using Vector Data in NetLogo 149
6.5 Exporting Data 165
6.6 Discussion 169
6.7 Annotated Bibliography 170

7 Modelling Human Behaviour 172

7.1 Introduction 172
7.2 The Challenge of Simulating Human Behaviour 174
7.3 Behavioural Frameworks 176
7.3.1 Types of Behavioural Frameworks 177
7.3.2 Challenges 180
7.4 Mathematical Approaches 180
7.4.1 Probabilistic Models 181
7.4.2 Threshold Models 182
7.5 Conceptual Cognitive Models 183
7.5.1 Beliefs-Desires-Intentions Model 183
7.5.2 Fast and Frugal Model 184
7.5.3 Physical Conditions, Emotional State, Cognitive Capability and Social Status Model 186
7.6 Case Study: Simulating Consumer Behaviour Using Probabilistic Rules 187
7.7 Case Study: Simulating Behaviour in Riots Using a Cognitive Model 189
7.8 Discussion 190
7.9 Annotated Bibliography 192

8 Networks 194

8.1 Introduction 195
8.2 Basic Network Properties 196
8.2.1 Defining Graphs Mathematically 196
8.2.2 Building Graphs in NetLogo 197
8.2.3 Adjacency Matrices and Node Degree 198

8.2.4 Traversing Graphs 199
8.2.5 Graph Density 200
8.2.6 Calculating Node Importance 201
8.3 Social Networks 203
8.3.1 Random Networks 204
8.3.2 Small-World Networks 206
8.3.3 Scale-Free Networks 207
8.4 Transport Networks: Agents Navigating a Road Network 208
8.5 Linking Geographical and Social Networks 217
8.6 Discussion 223
8.7 Annotated Bibliography 224

9 Spatial Statistics 226

9.1 Introduction 227
9.2 Hypothetical Data 228
9.3 Goodness of Fit with Global Statistics 230
9.4 Visual Comparisons 233
9.5 Description of the Properties of Point Data 235
9.6 Local Indicators of Spatial Association (LISA) 237
9.6.1 Dual KDE 237
9.6.2 *GI** 237
9.7 Multi-scale Error Analysis 239
9.8 Discussion 241
9.9 Annotated Bibliography 242

10 Evaluating Our Models: Verification, Calibration, Validation 244

10.1 Evaluating Models: An Overview 244
10.2 Verification 245
10.2.1 Code Testing 246
10.2.2 Simplifying Environments 247
10.2.3 Expected Outcome Alignment 250
10.2.4 Docking 250
10.3 Calibration 251
10.3.1 Qualitative Calibration 253
10.3.2 Quantitative Calibration 254
10.3.3 Quantitative Calibration Example: WalkThisWay 259
10.4 Validation 261
10.5 Discussion 261
10.6 Annotated Bibliography 263

11 Alternative Modelling Approaches **265**

11.1 Introduction 265
11.2 An Overview of Different Modelling Approaches 266
11.2.1 Cellular Automata 266
11.2.2 Microsimulation 268
11.2.3 Discreet Event Simulation 270
11.2.4 System Dynamics 271
11.2.5 Spatial Interaction Models 272
11.3 Comparing Different Modelling Approaches 274
11.4 A Practical Comparison: The SIR Model 276
11.4.1 The System Dynamics Approach 276
11.4.2 The Agent-Based Approach 276
11.4.3 The Cellular Automata Approach 279
11.4.4 The Discrete Event Simulation Approach 279
11.4.5 Comparative Analysis 280
11.5 Discussion 283
11.6 Annotated Bibliography 283

12 Summary and Outlook **285**

12.1 Introduction 285
12.2 Remaining Challenges 286
12.2.1 Reasons for Modelling 286
12.2.2 Theory and Models 287
12.2.3 Inter-model Comparison 287
12.2.4 Replication and Experiment 288
12.2.5 Verification and Validation 289
12.2.6 Agent Representation, Aggregation and Dynamics 290
12.2.7 Behaviour 290
12.2.8 Sharing and Dissemination of the Model 291
12.2.9 Data Challenges 292
12.3 Looking Ahead 294
12.3.1 Big Data and Agent-Based Modelling 295
12.3.2 Model Integration 298
12.3.3 Uncertainty and Ensembles 303
12.3.4 Data Assimilation 304
12.3.5 Spatially Learning Agents 304
12.4 Discussion 305
12.5 Annotated Bibliography 306

Appendices 309

A Gallery of Applications 311

A.1 Disease Dynamics in a Refugee Camp 311
A.2 Hiker Movements in the Dolomites UNESCO World Heritage Site 313
A.3 Modelling the Emergence of Riots 313
A.4 The Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog Assessment Model 314
A.5 Understanding Artificial Anasazi 314
A.6 The Spread of Agriculture during the Neolithic Period 315
A.7 WalkThisWay 317
A.8 Natural Disasters and Humanitarian Relief 318
A.9 Using Social Media Content to Inform Agent-Based Models for Humanitarian Crisis Response 319
A.10 Modelling Transportation and Development for Reston, VA 320
A.11 Agent-Based Modelling for Community Resource Management 320
A.12 Agent-Based Modelling of Conflict Diamonds 322
A.13 Exploring the Growth of Slums 323
A.14 RiftLand: Analysing Conflict, Disasters and Humanitarian Crises in East Africa 325
A.15 Modelling Forced Migration 326
A.16 Studying Coupled Human-Artificial-Natural Systems in Boreal and Arctic Regions 327

References 329

Index 368