



Modeling for All Scales: An Introduction to System Simulation

Howard T. Odum, Elisabeth C. Odum

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All manner of models are used to describe, simulate, extrapolate, and ultimately understand the function of dynamic systems. These sorts of models are usually based upon a mathematical foundation that can be difficult to manipulate especially for students. **Modeling for All Scales** uses object-oriented programming to erect and evaluate the efficacy of models of small, intermediate and large scale systems. Such models allow users to employ intuitively based symbols and a systems ecology approach. The authors have been leaders in the systems ecology community and have originated much of the scientific vocabulary of the field. After introducing modeling and its benefits, there is a series of chapters detailing the more particular elements of successful simulation. There follows another series of chapters, each devoted to models of different sorts of systems. Small scale models of growth, competition, and evolution give way, successively, to larger and larger scale models such as international trade and the global geobiosphere. Anyone interested in an easy to use approach to modeling complex systems authored by perhaps the most original systems ecologists of the century will want this book. To further enhance the users ability to apply the lessons of this book, there is included a CD-ROM disc which provides the fundamental tools for modeling at all scales.

Key Features

- * The book makes it possible to teach modeling and simulation without much prior knowledge of mathematics
- * Reasons for modeling and simulation are discussed
- * The book makes modeling and simulation fun by keeping focused on simplified overview minimodels that have important principles to science and society
- * The steps in successive chapters are arranged so that readers can teach themselves modeling, simulation, and the programming necessary to simulate the systems they diagram
- * The CD-ROM has minimodel programs and versions of QuickBasic and EXTEND to run them

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