CONTENTS

	Preface	ix
Chapter 1	**The Scope of Mathematical Modeling**	1
1	Models, Mathematical and Otherwise	1
2	Steps in Building a Mathematical Model	13
3	Approximate and Limited Models—Gravity, Rockets, and Raindrops	23
4	Macro and Micro Population Models I—Exponential Growth	39
5	Macro and Micro Population Models II—The Leslie Matrix	43
6	Macro and Micro Population Models III—Family-Planning Models	53
7	Descriptive and Prescriptive Models—Inventory Policy	60
Chapter 2	**The Relation of Models to Data**	69
1	Sources of Error—Underground Exploration of the Earth	69
2	Adjusting Data I (The Easy Way)—The Mean and the Maximum Likelihood	81
3	Adjusting Data II (The Hard Way)—Miscellaneous Methods and Examples	100
4	Testing Models—Weighted-Voting Games	121
5	Putting the Facts in Order—Mendeleev and the Periodic Table	132
Chapter 3	**Evaluation of Mathematical Models**	139
1	A Bird's-Eye View of Evaluation—College Enrollment	139
2	Descriptive Realism—Simple Linear Regression	150
3	Descriptive Realism—Correlation Is Not Causation	170
4	Accuracy—Multiple Linear Regression	180
5	Precision—Malthus and the Dismal Theorem	198
6	Generality and Fruitfulness—From Astrology to Technology with Kepler and Newton	211
7	Robustness—The Ups and Downs of Ancient Astronomy	222

Chapter 4 Optimization 236

1 Classical Optimization 236
2 Linear Programming—Formulation and Graphical Solution 246
3 An Outline of the Simplex Method 266
4 Integer Programming—The Knapsack and Traveling Salesman Problems 274
5 The Transportation Problem 282
6 Combinatorial Optimization—The Chinese Postman Problem 298

Chapter 5 Choosing the Mathematics for the Model 310

1 Simulation versus Analytic Solution—Queueing Up in the Doctor's Waiting Room 310
2 Discrete versus Continuous Models 324
2A Introduction to Difference Equations 325
2B Exponential Population Growth—Difference and Differential Equations 331
2C Logistic Population Growth—Difference and Differential Equations 339
2D Equilibrium, Stable and Unstable 345
2E Stability of Linear Difference Equations—Commodity Prices and Cobweb Analysis 354
2F Stability of Some Nonlinear Difference Equations—Logistic Population Growth 363
3 Deterministic versus Stochastic Models—Forecasting Epidemics 376
3A An Outline of Probability 377
3B A Day in the Life of an Epidemic—Stochastic and Deterministic Views 392
3C The Lifetime of a Deterministic Epidemic 400
3D The Lifetime of a Simple Stochastic Epidemic 405

Answers to Selected Exercises 417

Index 433