
Contents

	Preface	ix
Chapter 1	A perspective on economic geography	1
	What is an economic system?	2
	The viewpoint of economic geography	6
	Theories and models in economic geography	8
	The concept of “system”	10
	Systems in economic geography	11
Chapter 2	Spatial organization of economic activities: a simplified model	19
	Prologue	20
	Spatial organization of the production of one good	23
	Spatial organization of production of other goods	28
	Spatial organization of production of “bundles” of goods: the arrangement of central places	29
	The central place system	32
	Spatial organization of agricultural production	33

	Spatial organization of land uses within urban centers	43
	A reconsideration of the central place hierarchy	44
	Movement and interaction in the economic landscape: people, objects, and information	54
	A summary view of the simplified economic landscape	65
Chapter 3	Empirical evidence of spatial order	67
	The urban hierarchy	69
	Spacing of urban centers	86
	Spatial regularity of agricultural production	95
	Spatial regularities within urban areas	102
	Distance and interaction	106
Chapter 4	A heterogeneous land surface	117
	Relaxing the simplifying assumptions	118
	Spatial variations in resource quality and availability	118
	Weber's analysis of the minimum transport point	120
	Isard's substitution framework	127
	Smith's space cost curve	131
	Weber's theory and reality: two case studies	134
	Localized industrial raw materials and the space economy: summary and historical perspective	139
	Spatial variations in the quality of agricultural resources	148
Chapter 5	Transportation and the spatial organization of economic activities: routes, networks, transportation costs	157
	The location of transportation routes and networks	158
	The structure of transportation costs	166
	Transportation costs and the location of economic activity	176
	Transportation improvements and their spatial impact	186
Chapter 6	Spatial variations in production costs	197
	Labor	206
	Capital	223
	Technical knowledge	231
	The locational impact of spatial variations in factor costs	240

Chapter 7	Demand, scale and agglomeration	245
	Spatial variations in demand	248
	Economies of scale	260
	Economies of scale in reality	273
	Scale, demand and location	280
	Agglomeration-localized external economies of scale	286
Chapter 8	Decisions in an uncertain world	301
	The problem of uncertainty	304
	Payoff values and choice criteria	314
	The crucial role of information	315
	A search-based model of decision-making	320
	Spatial behavior in an uncertain world	323
	The location decisions of a simple manufacturing organization	325
Chapter 9	Spatial behavior of multi-plant business enterprises	341
	The increasing scale of business enterprise	343
	Why firms grow	354
	How firms grow	358
	Geographical organization of multi-plant enterprises	368
Chapter 10	The time dimension: cumulative development in space	385
	Prologue	386
	Initial triggers to development	386
	Cumulative development in space	389
	Transmission of growth impulses: center-periphery relationships	413
	Cumulative growth and time-space convergence: a summary model	425
Chapter 11	“Growth creates form but form limits growth”: an epilogue	441
	Bibliography	449
	Index	465