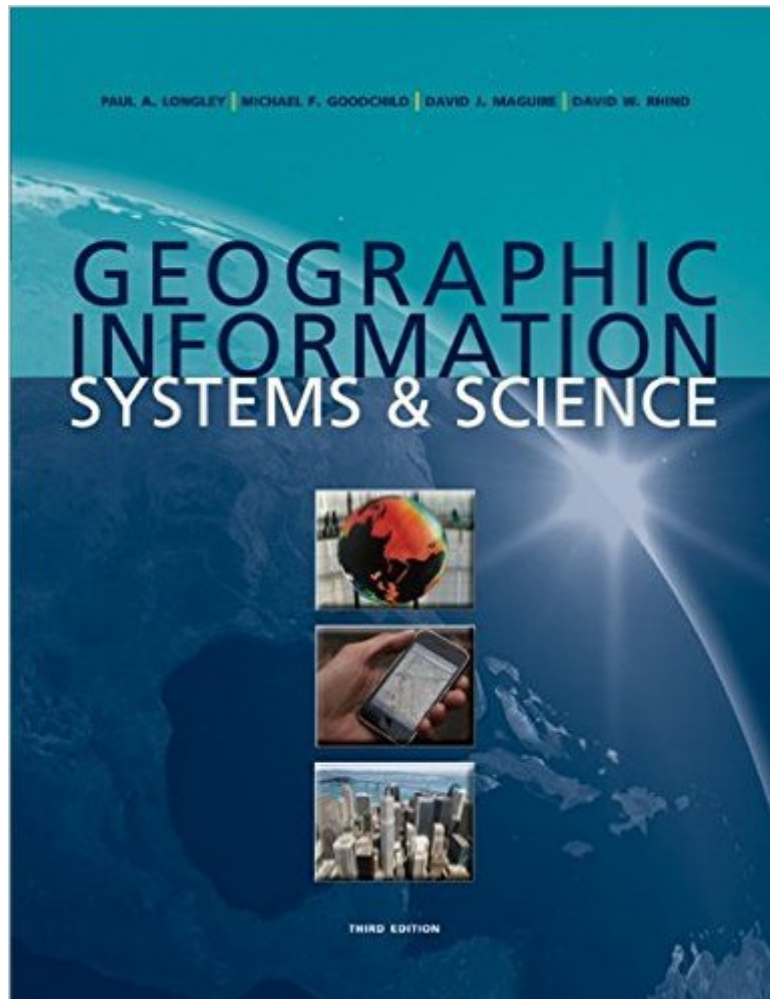# Geographic Information Systems And Science

Synopsis

The Third Edition of this bestselling textbook has been fully revised and updated to include the latest developments in the field and still retains its accessible format to appeal to a broad range of students. Now divided into five clear sections the book investigates the unique, complex and difficult problems that are posed by geographic information and together they build into a holistic understanding of the key principles of GIS. This is the most current, authoritative and comprehensive treatment of the field, that goes from fundamental principles to the big picture of: GIS and the New World Order security, health and well-being digital differentiation in GIS consumption the core organizing role of GIS in Geography the greening of GIS grand challenges of GIScience science and explanation Key features: Four-colour throughout Associated website with free online resources Teacherâ ™s manual available for lecturers A complete learning resource, with accompanying instructor links, free online lab resources and personal syllabi Includes learning objectives and review boxes throughout each chapter New in this edition: Completely revised with a new five part structure: Foundations; Principles; Techniques; Analysis; Management and Policy All new personality boxes of current GIS practitioners New chapters on Distributed GIS, Map Production, Geovisualization, Modeling, and Managing GIS

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you're a teacher, don't use this book. Use the excellent books from ESRI instead. Just as an example, the authors wasted half the first chapter discussing the difference between knowledge and

wisdom. Then they spent considerable effort building nuanced definitions of common terms such as data. Someone studying GIS on a short time schedule doesn't need these philosophical essays about terminology. Perhaps they were just padding the book so it would qualify as a textbook or maybe they really believed that they were the only ones who had ever pondered the difference between knowledge and wisdom and they needed to educate the rest of us. Then they go on to describe the internet and it's history as if they spent the last 20 years in a bomb shelter. Then an essay about the scientific method which we learned in third grade. But the real problem is the long, complicated, boring and redundant sentences, page after never-ending page. They should have contracted it out to professional writers. Compare it to the ESRI books and you'll see what I mean.

I am currently taking the companion online training course offered via ESRI with this reference. I have a Bachelor's degree in GIS and 12+ years experience. This is a very good, overall GIS reference that explains higher level GIS . . and gives a good background on elementary GIS concepts (for those of us who have been in the field long enough to need a review). I highly recommend this book for GIS professionals.

This book covers many ideas you need to know, however, it does a poor job of explaining those ideas. It may be useful if you have an instructor who can elaborate on the concepts. Often, the explanations will be long winded yet not even thorough, just obtuse. This approach tends to make the material seem more difficult than it actually is. Also, Chapter 6 belongs in the back of the book. The Chang text has much better structure and clarity.I remember taking linguistics classes where the textbook writing was dense, but that was just the nature of the material. The writing in this book is dense as well, however, the density of this book is more of a function of expository style.

The paper is too thin so the pages cling together making it a pain to turn pages. The text is a bit too small and has poor contrast so it's difficult to read.The content itself is much too wordy and pretentious! The authors spent more time thinking up big words to use, then they did on the content itself. This book is a VERY poor choice for people new to the field, and too vauge and pretentious for people who are already familiar with the concepts in the book.It was torture to read and I would NOT recommend it to anyone.

I used this book as a textbook for a intro-level GIS course offered at an R1 university. While it contains some of the basic ideas, most of it is very tedious, unhelpful, and repetitive, e.g. many

sentences and paragraphs in many chapters describe how impressed the authors are with the technological advances offered by cell phones. A lot of unreflective philosophy of science jargon takes center stage instead of interesting conceptual discussions. This appears to be a poor 'how-to' book as well as a poor 'big ideas' book. Moreover, it is expensive. I would not recommend this as a textbook or a reference book.

This is an extremely comprehensive text book that I'm glad I bought, so will have to reference throughout my career and even beyond. Even though technology will change, the concepts that are taught and explained in the text should be applicable in any environment of Geospatial Information.

What is it with some of these fields (disaster research is another good one) - they spend an inordinate amount of time gushing on and on about the 'fathers of the field' as if to suggest that no other humans alive could have done what they did. Don't get me wrong, the pioneers of this and other fields are remarkable people, but if I want to read a biography, I'll buy one. This book spends far too much time on the history of the field and too little on today's practical applications. It gets the job done, but you can tear a lot of pages out when you get it and it won't diminish your knowledge a hoot.

There are multiple authors who use the same terminology in a different context. It makes for maddening moments of confusion. I bought this book for a Master's class so I cant really say I enjoyed it in any matter. Its a foundation basics book for GIS.

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