

Contents

<i>Prologue: Models, concrete and wooden shoes</i>	vii
1 The forms of change	1
Thinking about change and development	1
Iterates in space	14
Notes	30
2 Developmental paths and systems	31
The paths of change	31
Cyclical transitory paths	38
States and transitions	45
The many faces of dynamic systems	49
The topological forms of dynamic systems	56
Developmental theories and dynamic systems	61
3 Observing and measuring dynamic processes	66
Errors, mistakes and failures of observation	66
Investigation as communication	76
The science of change and difference	78
Model and reality	85
Notes	94
4 The dynamic growth model	95
The growth metaphor	95
The basic growth model	98
Properties of the logistic growth equation	102
Properties of growth in mental and behavioural development	107
Modelling real growth	115
Notes	124

5	Transitions and developmental fractals	125
	Transitions and sudden changes	125
	Fractals and self-similarity in development	130
	Fractal development and the quantity of transitions	135
	A mathematical model of transitions	140
	Transitions as catastrophes	145
	Notes	152
6	Oscillations	153
	Oscillations in development	153
	The well model	159
	From credit cards to predators	163
	Notes	177
7	Connected growers	178
	Development and uncertainty	178
	Some basic mathematics of connected growth and development	187
	The unexpected complexity of simple reciprocal dynamics	195
	Notes	212
8	Building a model: a case history	213
	The first steps	213
	Foundations for model building	216
	The characteristic data pattern and the dynamic building block	220
	Building the model	228
	Notes	241
9	The dynamics of mutual interaction	242
	Development as a social process	242
	The unexpected complexity of a simple mutualist dynamics	247
	Social interaction and the management of the carrying capacity	255
	Vygotsky's dynamic systems	262
	Epilogue: Towards an experimental theoretical developmental psychology	271
	Unsolved problems abound	271
	Towards an experimental theoretical developmental psychology	276
	References	278
	Index	285

