Contents

List of contributors vii
Preface ix
Acknowledgements x
Introduction Enrichment of ecosystem theory. 1
M. Higashi and T. P. Burns

Part I Perspectives on the network approach to ecosystems 39
1 Networks in ecology. 41
R. Margalef
2 Formal agency in ecosystem development. 58
R. E. Ulanowicz
3 Network thermodynamics: a unifying approach to dynamic nonlinear living systems. 71
D. C. Mikulecky
4 Improving predictability in networks: system specification through hierarchy theory. 101
T. F. H. Allen and R. V. O’Neill

Part II Network approaches to problems in ecosystems ecology 115
5 Network trophic dynamics: an emerging paradigm in ecosystems ecology. 117
M. Higashi, B. C. Patten and T. P. Burns
6 Positive feedback and ecosystem organization. 155
D. L. DeAngelis and W. M. Post
7 Structure, stability and succession of model competition systems. 179
K. Kawasaki, H. Nakajima, N. Shigesada and E. Teramoto
8 Hierarchical evolution in ecological networks: environs and selection. 211
T. P. Burns, B. C. Patten and M. Higashi
## Contents

9  Control theory in the study of ecosystems: a summary view  
   **B. Hannon and J. Bentsman**  
   240

10 Do economics-like principles predict ecosystem behavior under changing resource constraints?  
   **R. Herendeen**  
   261

**Concluding remarks**

Network ecology: indirect determination of the life-environment relationship in ecosystems.  
   **B. C. Patten**  
   288

Author index  
   352

Subject index  
   356