PREFACE

Mr. Hartmut Asche's assistant Jan-Arne Schwarz discussed several problems in a weekly rhythm during the winter term 2003/2004. We worked with state-of-the-art GIS software, such as ESRI's ArcGIS suite. Attendance in this course was mandatory but all students were present all the time. These exercises provided interesting insights into the standard software used nowadays in the area of analyzing and visualizing spatial information.

My solutions are available online as PDF files which can be read by using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader. Nowadays, this tool is found on most systems – both main platforms Windows and Linux. If do not have the Acrobat Reader installed on your computer then you can either download it from www.adobe.com or just buy a good computer magazine – most of them come with a CD that contains it. Unfortunately, I cannot afford an expensive tool to generate these PDFs and have to use the free Ghostscript suite. The only drawback is the missing ability to embed hyperlinks: even though they are blue and underlined there is no possibility to actually click them, they are passive.

I am quite happy to receive any annotations, corrections and hints: feel free to write your comments to mail@stephan-brumme.com!

To make it finally clear: I do not take on any responsibility concerning the correctness of my solutions. They may contain errors, wrong assumptions or buggy code.

Sincerely yours, Stephan Brumme

The trick is to keep breathing.