Week 10 Reflection

**What have I learnt?**

This week I took the initiative to start exploring agent based models in more detail. While previous workshops explored a multitude of agent based models, I wanted to learn more about specific models, such as the Colonel Blotto Game. With a rough understanding of these models, I was curious to learn how these models translate into codes, which would be necessary in the assignment. Without any prior experience with coding languages such as java and python, I focused my knowledge onto understanding clearly how the models work and started to form a picture in my head on what our assignment would entail. As our topic was ‘Strategies to contain covid-19’, I was able to form strategic links with the Colonel blotto model, where I outlines the two main players; society vs covid. Furthermore, I attempted to learn more about the behavioural model, as this model seemed the most simplistic and easily adaptable model to work with. After watching several YouTube videos and visiting many websites, I was able to effectively communicate my new findings with the rest of my team members to gain their thoughts on what we should use for the assignment and whether we needed to alter any existing models.

**What insights have I gained?**

A major insight I have gained throughout this subject, and in particular for this assignment, is the significance of learning how to code. I believe learning this skill would have been beneficial in me gaining a deeper understanding on how certain models work and how they can be adapted to various scenarios. I also believe that with this additional skill, the work throughout the assignment could be fairly allocated, instead of relying on the people who know how to code.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

Following from last week, it was still a major challenge to try and allocate work and have constant meetings with the group. Some group members were also unfamiliar with the work that was required to complete. This was challenging as some parts of the assignment needed to be competed first in order to progress and start other parts of the assignment.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

From this week onwards, I will aim to establish deadlines with my group to ensure everyone is completing their work on time. This will minimise delays and any stress which may occur close to submission.