Acknowledgments

Formally, this book traces its roots to a manual I wrote for the Disrupting Dark Networks class I began teaching in the Fall of 2007. Professors Nancy Roberts and Doug Borer, who at the time were co-directors of the CORE Lab, which is housed in the Defense Analysis Department at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, used funding from the Pentagon's Rapid Reaction Technology Office (RRTO) to hire me as a postdoc in order to write the manual's first iteration and teach classes in SNA. The initial manual simply brought together notes and labs from the Dark Networks course. It then underwent several iterations based on feedback from students and advances in the SNA field. The manual forms the basis of the book's first eight chapters, although each one has been substantially rewritten because the original manual did not include worked examples using ORA. Moreover, the datasets have been updated, requiring that all of the tables and figures be redone. Chapters 9 through 11 grew out of labs and lectures I prepared for another class, Dynamic Network Analysis, the title of which was borrowed from the type of analysis advocated and incorporated in ORA.

Informally, this book can be traced back to a time when one of my fellow graduate students, Jen van Stelle, invited me to join Mark Granovetter's Networks of Silicon Valley working group at Stanford University. Within a couple of weeks of joining, I was assigned the task of using existing software packages (i.e., UCINET and Pajek – NetDraw and ORA were not around at the time) to visualize social networks, a task that not only resulted in the writing of a visualization manual for the working group (Everton 2004) but helped further my own interest in SNA, which was initially piqued by the work of social scientists who highlighted the important role that social ties play in the recruitment of individuals to various groups (see, e.g., Lofland and Stark 1965; McAdam 1986; McAdam and Paulsen 1993; Snow, Zurcher, and Ekland-Olson 1980; Stark and Bainbridge 1980). Mark ultimately became my advisor

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on a dissertation that examined (from a social network perspective) the causes and consequences of status within the venture capital industry (Everton 2007). To say that Mark's influence on my own work has been profound would be an understatement, as is evidenced by the numerous times I draw on his work in the pages that follow. That said, he should not be held responsible for any of the conclusions I draw here.

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