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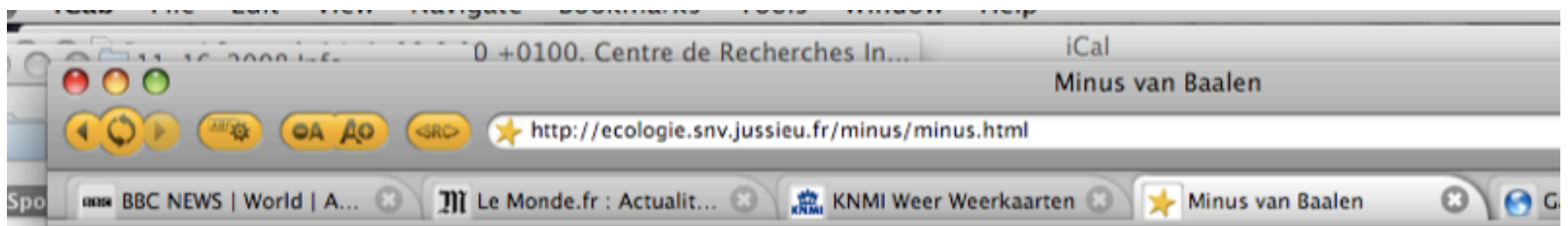
The Interaction Between Evolution and Ecology

Minus van Baalen (CNRS, UMR 7625 EcoEvo, Paris)

Who am I

Minus van Baalen

- Researcher at the CNRS
- Ex-head of UMR 7625 « Ecologie et Evolution »
- Dutch
- Thesis Evolutionary Biology 1994
- Theoretician



Minus van Baalen

Research Interests

Ecology and evolution

When mutant individuals with a changed trait are successful, they will increase in numbers and thus start affecting population dynamics, resource availability, the prevalence of parasites, the intensity of interspecific competition, community structure, and so on. Together, these effects will cause a feedback because ecological parameters will, in general, affect the traits that are favoured. More on this can be found in the introduction to my [thesis](#).

Interacting populations

Such eco-evolutionary feedback loops will be particularly intense in systems with interacting populations: adaptation and counteradaptation often have population dynamical consequences. A good example is the evolution of virulence. If avirulent parasites are common, host density increases and, with it, the force of infection. But so does the intensity of within-host competition, which favours more virulent parasites. Ecological effects will modify or sometimes even revert selection pressure on virulence.

Space

How spatial dynamics affect evolution (and vice versa) is still poorly understood. When a mutant invades a 'viscous' system it typically does so in the form of an expanding cluster of relatives. Ultimately it is therefore the characteristics of these clusters that determine whether the invasion will be successful. On other words, the unit of selection in a viscous systems is a cluster of

Research Interests

- Ecology and evolution
- Interacting populations
- Space
- Dangerous Liaisons
- Communication
- Kin selection, coloniality and disease
- Immune functioning and virulence

Ecology+Evolution=

- Population Genetics
- Game Theory
- Life History Theory
- Community Ecology



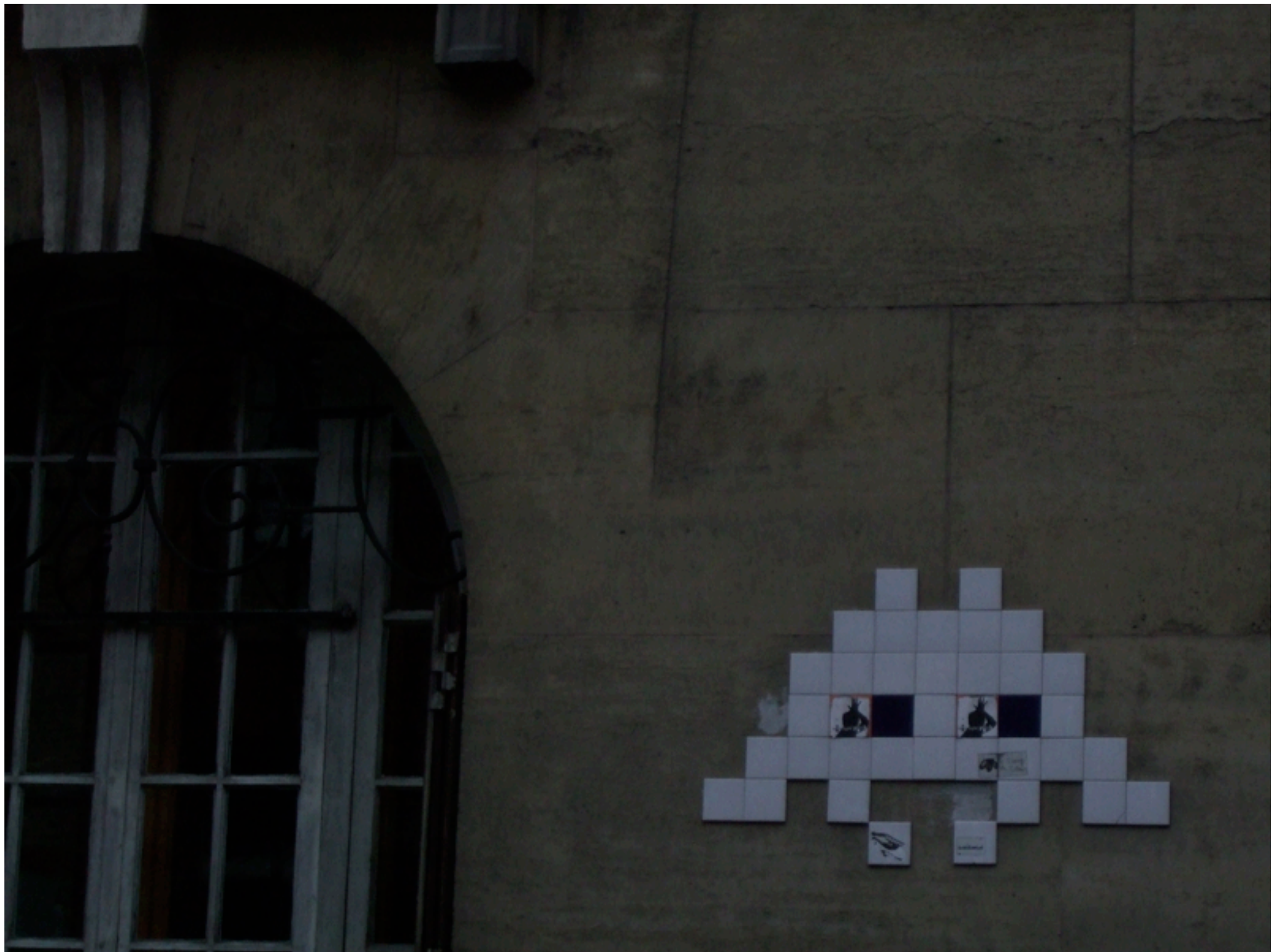
Adaptive Dynamics



Invasion

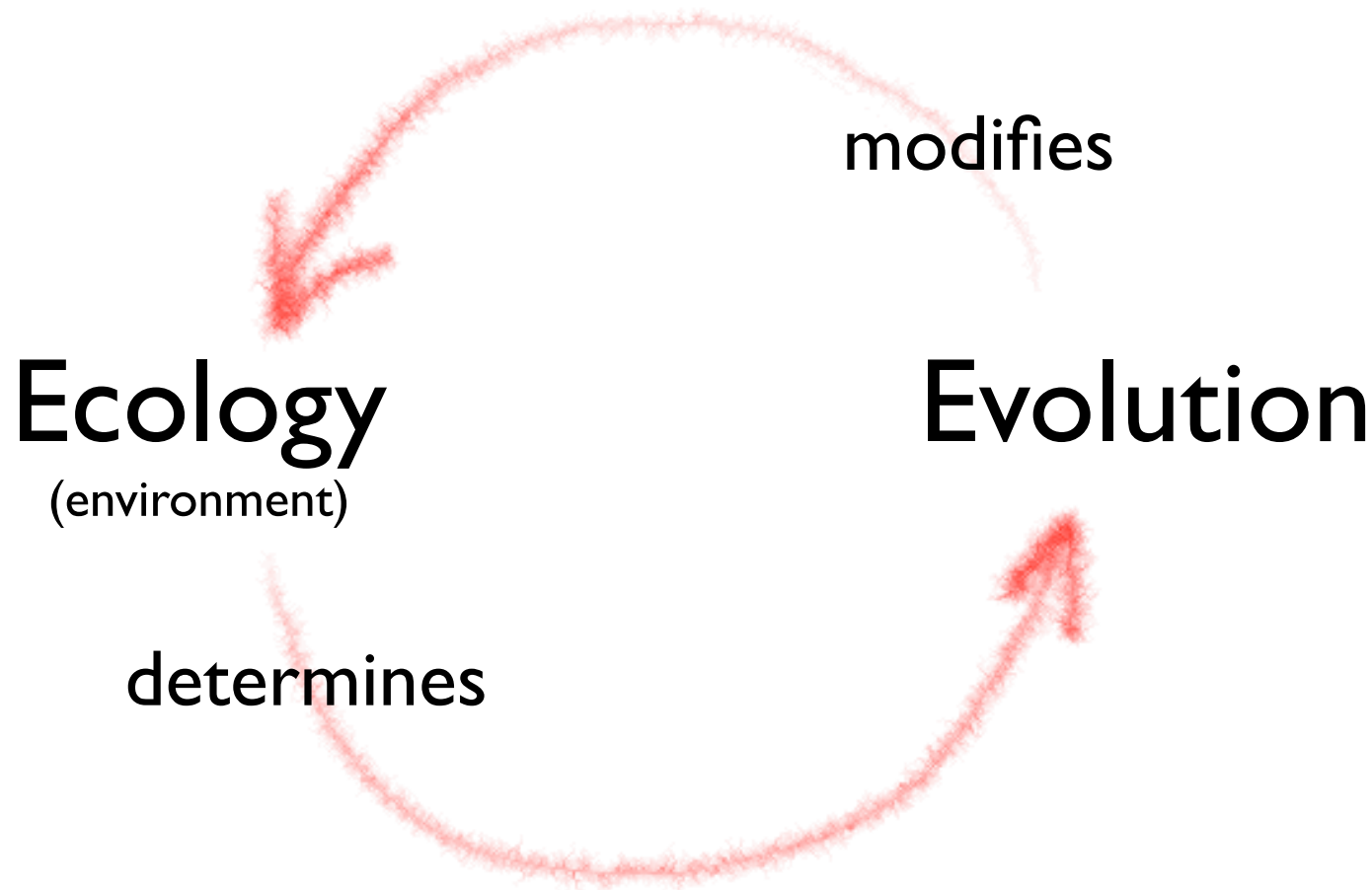
Invasion as a unifying conceptual tool

Invasion as a unifying conceptual tool





Eco-Evolutionary Feedback



Evolution

History

Before 1800

- various theories of evolution
- species evolve

Lamarck, Erasmus Darwin

After 1800

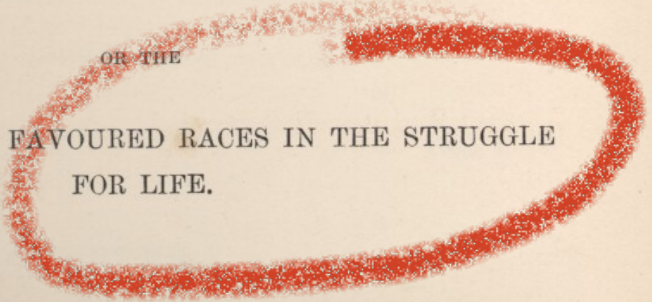
- mechanism: **natural selection**

Charles Darwin, Alfred R. Wallace

ON
THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES

BY MEANS OF NATURAL SELECTION,

OR THE
PRESERVATION OF FAVOURED RACES IN THE STRUGGLE
FOR LIFE.



By CHARLES DARWIN, M.A.,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL, GEOLOGICAL, LINNÆAN, ETC., SOCIETIES;
AUTHOR OF 'JOURNAL OF RESEARCHES DURING H. M. S. BEAGLE'S VOYAGE
ROUND THE WORLD.'

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

1859.

Darwin's Insight

(& Wallace's)

- + Reproduction generates **variation**
 - + Individuals **compete**
 - + Traits affect individuals' **differential survival**
- = 'Evolution by Natural Selection'



Rediscovery of Mendel

Early 1900s

- rediscovery of Mendel's work
- **phenotypes** change because **genotypes** change
- genes remain the same
 - no evolutionary change

!?!

Synthesis

Genes are not fixed

- rare **mutations** modify genes

Hugo de Vries

‘Neo-Darwinian Synthesis’

- **fixation** of mutations

Ronald A. Fischer

Invasion as a unifying conceptual tool in ecology and evolution

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Invasion

Invasion is a notion that underpins

- Population Genetics
- Game Theory
- Life History Theory
- Community Ecology

Invasion

Notions of invasion underpin

- Population Genetics
- Game Theory
- Life History Theory
- Community Ecology

Life History Theory

Life History Theory

All organisms grow, reproduce and eventually die

What is the result:

- a growing population?
- extinction?

Need to **integrate** life-history components

Hal Caswell

Evolutionary Life History Theory

All organisms grow, reproduce and eventually die

Given finite resources, how should an individual
invest in growth, reproduction and survival

Kooijman

Since 1960s : Evolutionary Life History Theory

Eric Charnov, Steve Stearns

Life History Theory

Population-level view:

- Net rate of reproduction: $r = b - d$
 - where the rates of **reproduction** b and **mortality** d may depend on environmental conditions
- A population **invades** if (and only if) r is positive

Life History Theory

Individual-level view

- A population increases on average an individual has more than one offspring
- Average lifetime: $1/d$
- Expected lifetime reproductive success or '**Basic Reproduction Ratio**' $R_0 = b/d$
- **Invasion** if (and only if) $R_0 > 1$

Life History Theory

Hypothesis

- Natural Selection maximizes $R_0 = b/d$
- Basic Reproduction Ratio

Most theory is about how individuals might achieve this

Life History Theory

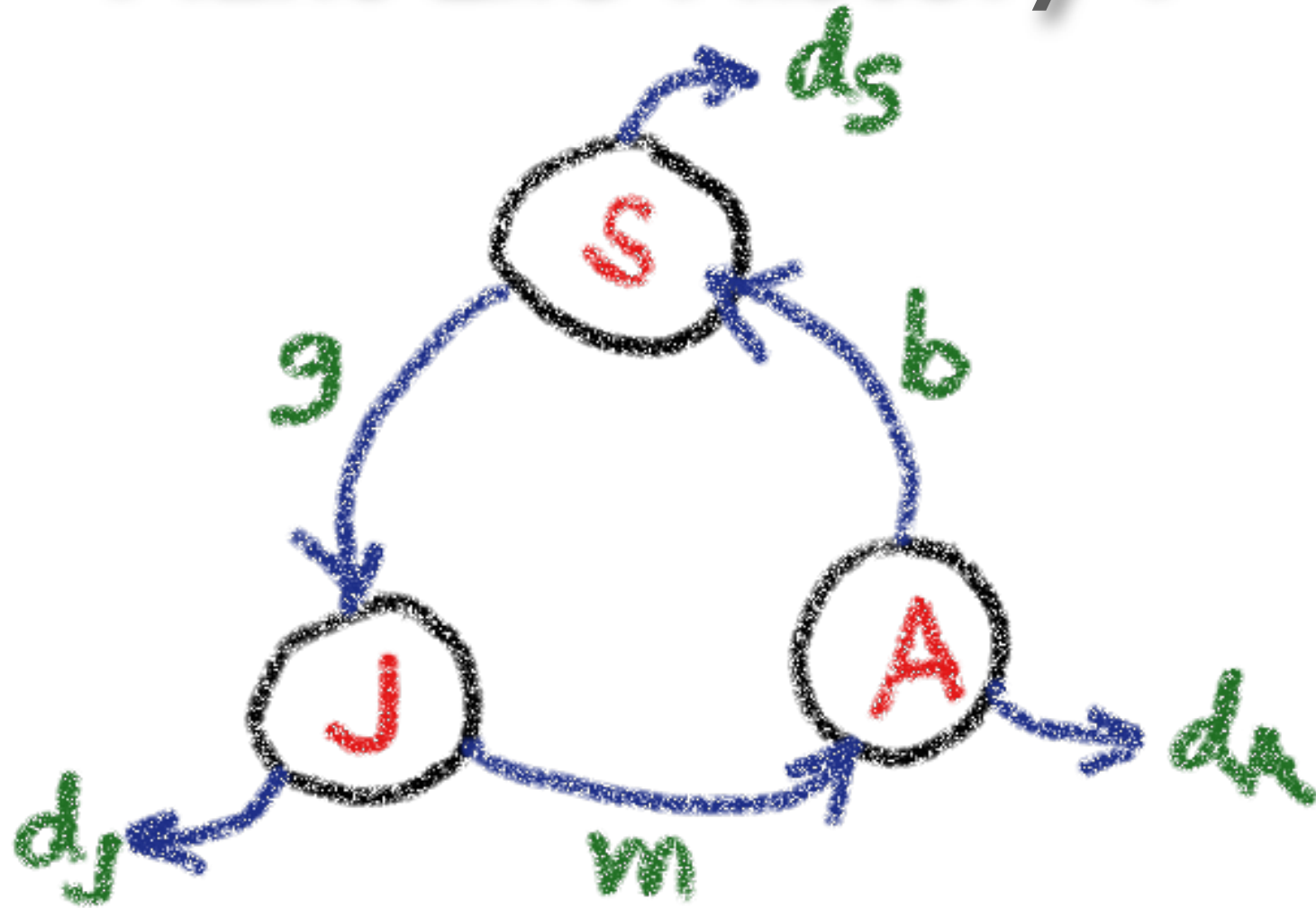
Caricature

- ‘Individuals try to maximize their **lifetime reproductive success** by adopting the **optimal allocation** of resources into **reproduction** and **survival**.’

Plant Life History I

- Continuous time
- Three stages
 - Seeds S
 - Juveniles (non-reproducing) J
 - Adults (reproducing) A

Plant Life History I



Plant Life History I

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = bA - d_S S - gS$$

$$\frac{dJ}{dt} = gS - d_J J - m_J J$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = m_J J - d_A A$$

Plant Life History I

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} S \\ J \\ A \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -d_S - g & 0 & b \\ g & -d_J - m & 0 \\ 0 & m & -d_A \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} S \\ J \\ A \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = M X$$

Analysis of linear models

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = Mx$$

Linear model

$$\text{Solution } x(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i U_i e^{\lambda_i t}$$

U_i i-th eigenvector
 λ_i i-th eigenvalue

Dominant eigenvalue λ

Solution converges to $x(t) \propto U e^{\lambda t}$

Population increases if $\lambda > 0$, decreases if $\lambda < 0$

Analysis of linear models

$$MU = \lambda U$$

$$(M - \lambda I)U = \vec{0}$$

↑ identity matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$|M - \lambda I| = 0$$

characteristic equation

Analysis of linear models

$$|M - \lambda I| = 0$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} -d_s - g - \lambda & 0 & b \\ g & -d_j - m - \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & m & -d_A - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$-(d_s + g + \lambda)(d_j + m + \lambda)(d_A + \lambda) + bgm = 0$$

complicated cubic equation

but solution gives all three eigenvalues

Output generated by Mathematica

Output generated by Mathematica

Analysis of linear models

Often one is not so much interested in the **precise rate** of invasion, but in whether a population can invade **at all**.

What is the **invasion threshold**?

Invasion Threshold

λ solution of $|M - \lambda I| = 0$

Invasion threshold $\lambda = 0$

Given by $|M| = 0$

Invasion threshold

Example: $M = \begin{pmatrix} -d_S - g & 0 & b \\ g & -d_J - m & 0 \\ 0 & m & -d_A \end{pmatrix}$

$$|M| = 0$$

$$-(d_S + g)(d_J + m)d_A + bgm = 0$$

$$\frac{bgm}{(d_S + g)(d_J + m)d_A} = 1$$

$$R_0 = 1$$

basic reproduction ratio

$$b \frac{g}{d_S + g} \frac{m}{d_J + m} - d_A = 0$$

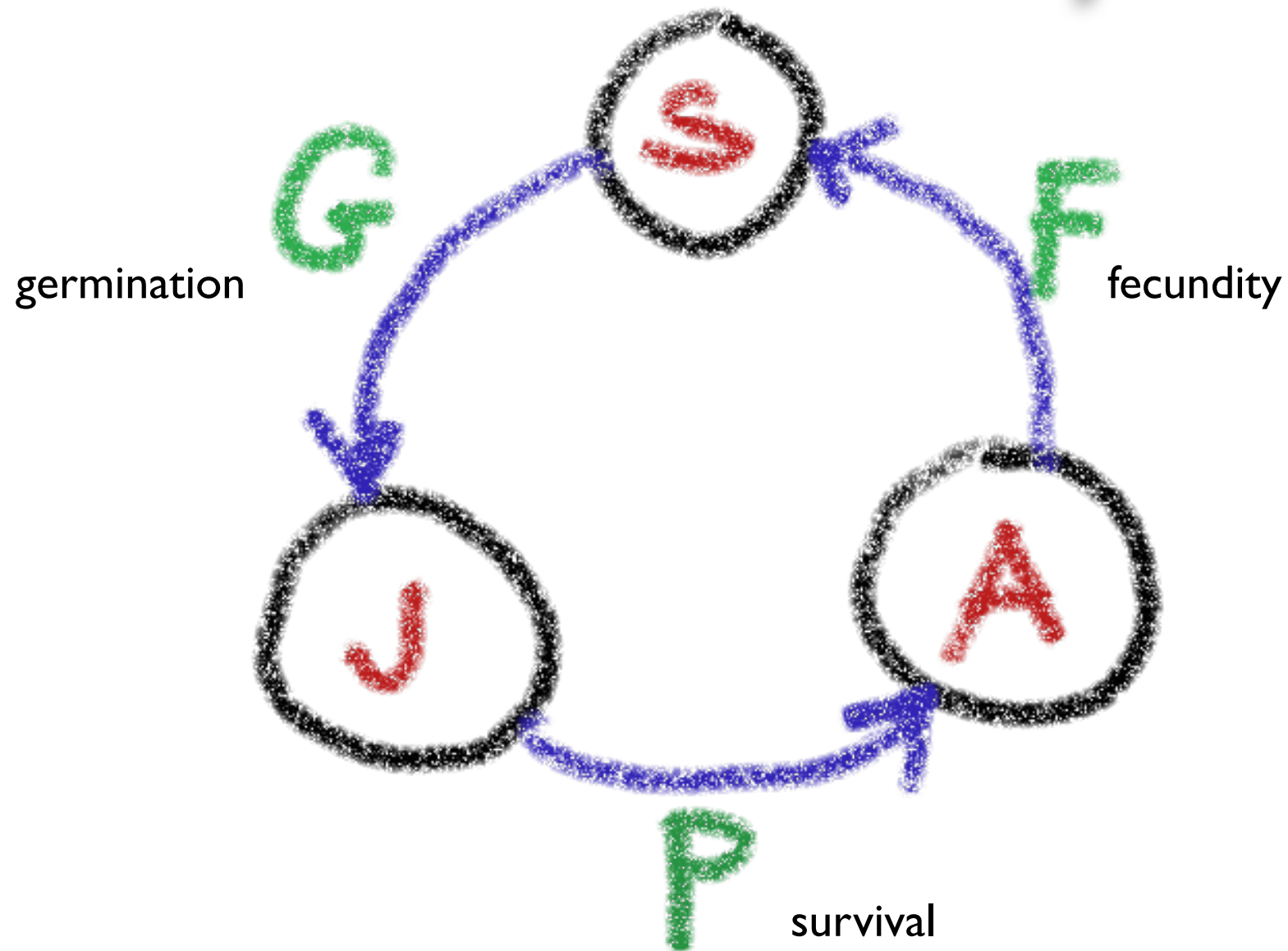
$$r = 0$$

per capita growth rate

Plant Life History II

- *Discrete time*
- Three stages
 - Seeds S
 - Juveniles (non-reproducing) J
 - Adults (reproducing) A

Plant Life History II



Plant Life History II

$$S_{t+1} = F A_t$$

$$J_{t+1} = G S_t$$

$$A_{t+1} = P J_t$$

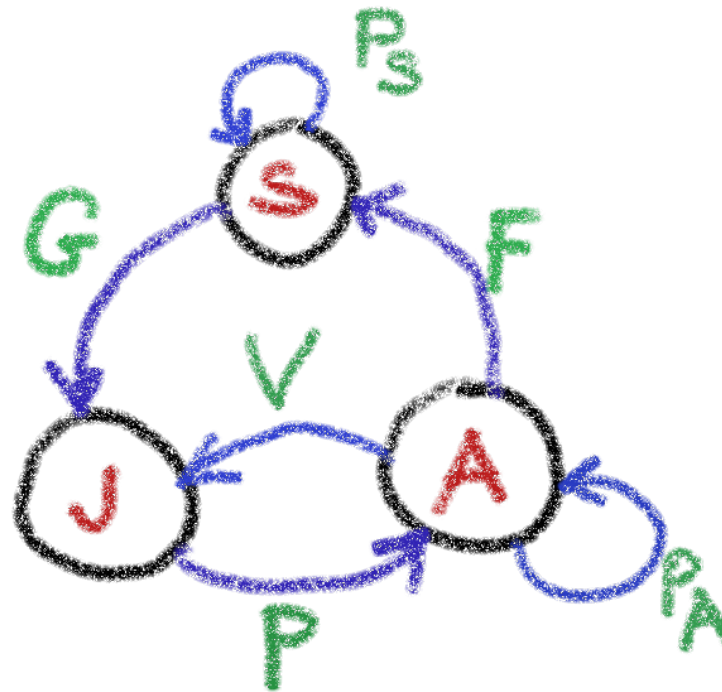
Plant Life History II

$$\begin{pmatrix} S_{t+1} \\ J_{t+1} \\ A_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & F \\ G & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} S_t \\ J_t \\ A_t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_{t+1} = M X_t$$

M: Leslie matrix

Plant Life History II



- +Adult survival (perennial plants)
- +Seed survival (seed bank)
- +Vegetative reproduction

Analysis of linear models

$$X_{t+1} = M X_t$$

Linear model

Solution
$$X_t = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i U_i \lambda_i^t$$

U_i i -th eigenvector
 λ_i i -th eigenvalue

Dominant eigenvalue λ

Solution converges to $X_t \propto u \lambda^t$

Population increases if $|\lambda| > 1$, decreases if $|\lambda| < 1$

Applications

Conservation biology

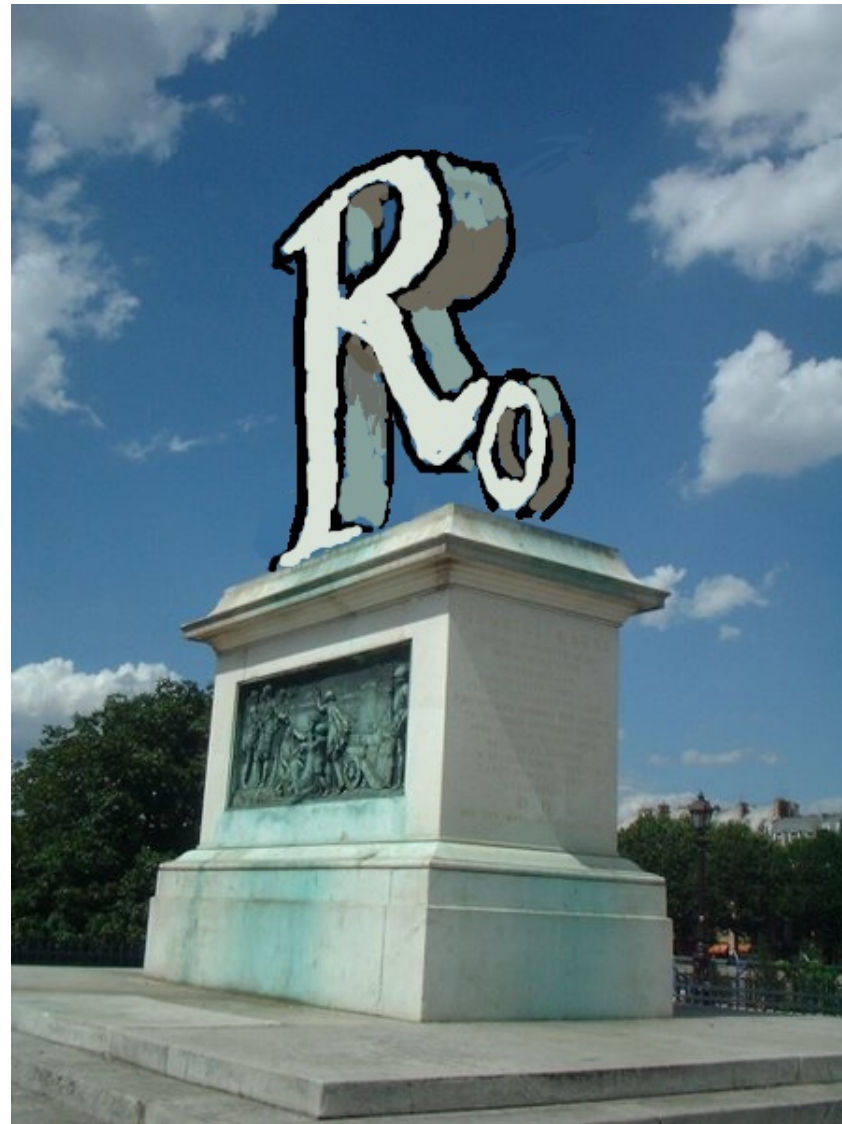
- how can we **prevent extinction** of menaced populations?

Epidemiology

- how can we **prevent invasion** of dangerous disease?

References

Caswell, H. (2001). Matrix Population Models. Construction, Analysis, and Interpretation. Sinauer, Sunderland, Mass, 2nd edition edition.



Measures of increase

Subtle differences

- λ rate of population increase
 - invasion continuous time : $\lambda > 0$
 - invasion discrete time : $\lambda > 1$
- R_0 basic reproduction ratio
 - invasion : $R_0 > 1$

‘typical’ individual
- r net average rate of reproduction
 - invasion : $r > 0$

population property



Apologies to Daumier

Life History Theory

Generally

- environment is usually taken to be constant
- whereas in reality demographic rates are likely to be **density dependent**:

$$b = b(x, y, \dots), d = d(x, y, \dots)$$

Need to incorporate **feedback**

Life History Theory

Invasion in a **dynamically changing** environment

Realm of ...

Original Proposition

- Introduction into Adaptive Dynamics
- Application: Virulence Evolution
- Application: Kin Selection, Cooperation, and Units of Adaptation

Potential Topics

Synthetic Biology, Experimental Evolution

Mechanisms and Evolutionary Outcomes

Invasion Biology & Evolution

Genomics & Information Theory

Community Ecology

(Ecosystem Dynamics)

Invasion

Evolution and Ecology

- Population Genetics
- Game Theory
- Life History Theory
- Community Ecology

Ecosystem Dynamics

Species are fixed entities

But there are potentially many of them

Which of these can **coexist**?

How does coexistence depend on their ecology?

How does it depend on external parameters?

Ecosystem Dynamics

Without ecological feedback

- only **one** species will dominate!
- species with the highest **net rate of reproduction** (r)

So how do we explain biodiversity?

Coexistence

Every species needs resources

- nutrients, light, space...
- species compete for these resources

Mathematical result:

- Number of species \leq Number of resources
- if populations in **ecological equilibrium**
(MacArthur in the 60s, Tilman 90s)

Coexistence

Nobody really knows how many different physical and chemical resources there are

But 100000000 different resources?

- 100000000 is a low estimate of the number of currently existing species

Nonequilibrium Coexistence

Many if not most ecosystems are

- not in equilibrium
- but **fluctuate**

Fluctuating systems allow more species

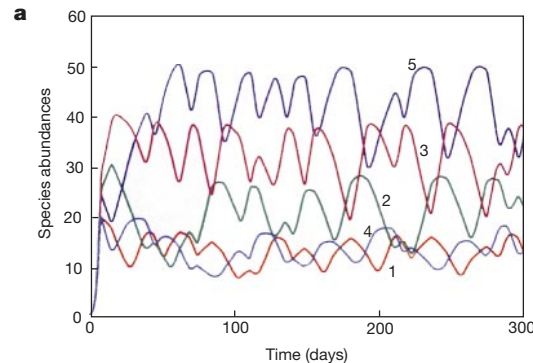
Armstrong & McGehee 1980s, Weissing & Huisman

Attractors

Every combination of species is represented by a dynamical system

Every dynamical system has its **attractor**(s)

● equilibrium/periodic orbit/chaos



Hofbauer & Sigmund, Rinaldi

Permanence

In a **permanent** ecosystem no species will go extinct

Every participating species will **invade** when **rare**

(ignoring 'Humpty Dumpty' effects)

Therefore to work out which species coexist we
have to calculate their **invasion exponent**

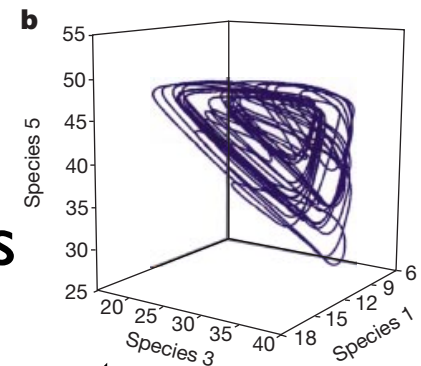
Hofbauer & Sigmund, Rand

Invasion exponent

If a species' **invasion exponent** is positive
it will invade the ecosystem

Invasion exponents can (in principle)
be derived from the dynamical system

- work out attractor without species
- calculate long-term average growth rate



Invasion exponent

We can calculate invasion exponent λ of species i

- by considering the attractor of the $n - 1$ species system $(x_j(t))$

- $r_i(t) = f(\dots, x_j(t), \dots) = f(E(t))$

- then
$$\lambda = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T r_i(t) dt$$

Ecosystem Dynamics

Caricature

- 'Species dynamics depends on other species **directly** or **indirectly**
- **Biodiversity** is given by how many species from a given **species pool** can invade the **community**
- If no new species can invade, the community is **saturated**'

Jonathan (Joan) Roughgarden, Stuart Pimm

Ecosystem Dynamics

References

- Jonathan (now Joan) Roughgarden

- *Theory of Population Genetics and Evolutionary Ecology: An Introduction* (1979)

- Josef Hofbauer & Karl Sigmund

- *The Theory of Evolution and Dynamical Systems* (1988)

Invasion

Evolution and Ecology

- Population Genetics
- Game Theory
- Life History Theory
- Community Ecology