Stochastic foundations of movement ecology I: Biological invasions are non-Markovian reaction-transport processes

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- An invader is a new species (animal, plant, microorganism,...) introduced in a new territory where it spreads and reproduce. Invasion concludes when the new species drives the native species to the extinction
- It affects Biodiversity and has important economical consequences



Plants: An estimated 18.6 km<sup>2</sup> of public natural areas are lost to invasive exotic plant species every day.

Cheatgrass Invasion



Native Shadscale/Bunchgrass

Invasive Cheatgrass

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#### Or in our own garden



V. Méndez

Non-Markovian Reaction-Transport: Modelling BI

## **Orey Squirrel invasion in Britain in 1900**



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## Grey Squirrel invasion in Britain in 1900



2 Zebra mussel invasion in USA



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# The physics behind BI

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#### Assumption

## A $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{BI}}$ can be regarded as a Reaction-Transport process

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## **Reproduction:**

- It takes place during the pauses
- Obey the classical kinetics laws

# Old model

### The Oldest model: Fisher's model

Assumptions:

- Animals move by diffusion. There are no pauses, i.e., it is a Markovian process
- Reproduction obeys a logistic growth

The model obeys the Reaction-diffusion equation:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2} + r\rho(1-\rho)$$

where  $\rho(x,t)$  is the number density of individuals.

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We can sum up both rates because they are Markovian (independent) processes

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## **Reaction-Dispersal**

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- Animals jump according to a dispersal kernel  $\Phi(x)$ . Pause's duration are exponentially distributed, i.e., it is a Markovian process
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The model obeys the Reaction-dispersal equation:

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Dispersal kernels in biological invasions:

$$\begin{split} \Phi(z) &= \frac{1}{2\alpha} e^{-|z|/\alpha} \text{ (Laplace)} \\ \Phi(z) &\sim |z|^{-2n-2} \text{, } 0 < n < \frac{1}{2} \text{ (Power law)} \\ \Phi(z) &\sim e^{-(z/z_0)^c} \text{, } c < 1 \text{ (Stretched exponential)} \\ \Phi(z) &\sim \frac{e^{-\ln^2(z/z_0)/\alpha}}{z} \text{ (Log-normal)} \end{split}$$

## Diffusion with memory

Assumptions:

- Animals move by diffusion but there is memory, inertia or correlation between jumps. It is a non-Markovian process
- Reproduction obeys a logistic growth

The diffusion equation with memory, inertia or correlation between jumps obeys the Telegrapher's equation:

$$\tau \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2}$$

How can it be obtained?

• By combining continuity equation  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial x} = 0$  and the Cattaneo equation for J,  $\tau \frac{\partial J}{\partial t} + J = -D \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}$ 

#### Diffusion with memory

- Following the derivation by Goldstein and Kac based on the balance equations for particle moving to the right and to the left and introducing a persistence probability.
- From Continuous-Time Random Walk formalism by considering a waiting-time PDF of the form  $\varphi(t) = te^{-t/\tau}/\tau^2$  and the diffusion limit for the dispersal kernel.

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More details in:

V. Méndez, S. Fedotov and W. Horsthemke, *Reaction-Transport Systems: Mesoscopic Foundations, Fronts, and Spatial Instabilities* (Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2010)

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Some authors simply add the reaction rate term to the rhs of the Telegrapher's equation:

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#### Comment

They "**forget**" that diffusion with memory is no longer a Markovian processes. There is no macroscopic of mesoscopic derivation. It exhibits a undesirable property: It does not reduce to the kinetic equation in the homogeneous case: When  $\rho(x,t) = \rho(t)$  it follows

$$\tau \frac{d^2 \rho}{dt^2} + \frac{d\rho}{dt} = r\rho(1-\rho)$$

Recently, some authors (N. Isern and J. Fort, Phys. Rev. E **80**, 057103 (2009)) proposed the finite-time difference equation

$$\rho(x,t+T) - \rho(x,t) = [\rho(x,t+T) - \rho(x,t)]_m + [\rho(x,t+T) - \rho(x,t)]_g$$

where m means migration and g growth.

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where m means migration and g growth.

#### Comment

The premise that the growth and dispersal processes remain uncoupled during a finite time interval and contribute simply additively to the total change of the density holds **only** if the dispersal process is Markovian

However, the authors do the following:

$$\begin{aligned} [\rho(x,t+T) - \rho(x,t)]_m &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \rho(x-z,t) \Phi(z) dz - \rho(x,t) \\ &\simeq \frac{\sigma^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2} \end{aligned}$$

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and Taylor-expanding up to  ${\cal O}(T^2)$ 

$$[\rho(x,t+T) - \rho(x,t)]_g = T\left(\frac{\partial\rho}{\partial t}\right)_g + \frac{T^2}{2!}\left(\frac{\partial^2\rho}{\partial t^2}\right)_g$$

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Identifying  $\left(\frac{\partial\rho}{\partial t}\right)_g=r\rho(1-\rho)$  and Taylor-expanding the LHS up to  $O(T^2)$ 

$$\rho(x,t+T) - \rho(x,t) = T\frac{\partial\rho}{\partial t} + \frac{T^2}{2!}\frac{\partial^2\rho}{\partial t^2}$$

## they obtain

$$\tau \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2} + F(\rho) + \tau F'(\rho) F(\rho)$$
  
where  $F(\rho) = r\rho(1-\rho)$ ,  $D = \sigma^2/2T$  and  $\tau = T/2$ .

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This equation has some undesirable behaviors:

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- The density  $\rho$  can eventually take negative values for pure death processes

For additional undesirable properties of this equation see: V. Méndez, D. Campos and W. Horsthemke, Phys. Rev. E **90**, 042114 (2014)

## How to include reactions?

#### CTRW

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#### CTRW

**Generalized Master Equation** for the mean field density  $\rho(x, t)$ 

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \int_0^t \frac{K(t-t')}{K(t-t')} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^\infty \rho(x-x',t-t') \Phi(x') dx' - \rho(x,t') \right] dt'$$

where K(t) is the **memory kernel** defined in the Laplace space as  $K(s)=\frac{s\varphi(s)}{1-\varphi(s)}$  and  $\varphi(t)$  is the **waiting-time** PDF

- Markovian CTRW:  $\varphi(t)$  is an exponential distribution
- non-Markovian CTRW:  $\varphi(t)$  is NOT an exponential distribution

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Can we add a non-linear reaction kinetic to the RHS of the non-Markovian ME?

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Can we add a non-linear reaction kinetic to the RHS of the non-Markovian ME? In general, the answer is NO!!

Consider a reaction kinetics  $\frac{d\rho}{dt}=F(\rho)$  where  $F(\rho)$  is a positive non-linear function of  $\rho$ 

Define

$$F(\rho) = r(\rho)\rho$$

with

$$r(\rho) = r_{+}(\rho) - r_{-}(\rho)$$

where  $r_{\pm}(\rho)$  are the **per-capita growth and death rates**.

• Model A: the waiting-time of the newborn individuals is the same as that of their progenitors. After the waiting time all of them jump to new positions. The Reaction-CTRW equation reads

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$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \int_0^t K(t-t') \left[ \int_{-\infty}^\infty \rho(x-x',t') e^{\int_{t'}^t r(\rho(x-x',v))dv} \Phi(x') dx' - \rho(x,t') e^{\int_{t'}^t r(\rho(x,v))dv} \right] dt' + F(\rho),$$

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• Model B: the waiting-time of the newborn individual is reset to zero. So newborns and progenitors jump independently.

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} &= \int_0^t K(t-t') \left[ \int_{-\infty}^\infty \rho(x-x',t') e^{-\int_{t'}^t r_-(\rho(x-x',v))dv} \Phi(x') dx' \right. \\ &- \rho(x,t') e^{-\int_{t'}^t r_-(\rho(x,v))dv} \right] dt' + F(\rho), \end{aligned}$$

For most populations  $F(\rho)$  is logistic, i.e,  $F(\rho) = r\rho(1-\rho)$  with r the intrinsic growth rate and  $r_+(\rho) = r$ ,  $r_-(\rho) = r\rho$ .

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- We assume the existence of a travelling wave from an initial condition with compact support connecting the un-invaded state ( $\rho = 0$ ) to the invaded state ( $\rho = 1$ )
- Since the invasion wave propagates into the unstable state we can determine the invasion velocity by analyzing the motion of the tail of  $\rho(x,t)$ .



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- For Model A

$$\frac{H-r}{\hat{K}(H-r)} = \tilde{\Phi}(p) - 1$$

For Model B

$$\frac{H-r}{\hat{K}(H)} = \tilde{\Phi}(p) - 1$$

with  $H=-\partial G/\partial t$  and  $p=\partial G/\partial x$ 

$$\hat{K}(H) = \int_0^\infty e^{-Ht} K(t) dt, \ \tilde{\Phi}(p) = \int_0^\infty e^{xp} \Phi(x) dx$$

$$v = \min_{H,p} \left(\frac{H}{p}\right)$$

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- The waiting-time PDF  $\varphi(t)$  and the intrinsic growth rate r can be obtained from Life statistics

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- Let  $a_0$  and  $a_f$  be the initial and final age of female's fertility period
- Survival function : l(t) number density of newborn females surviving to age t

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- Maternity function: l(t)m(t)
- The intrinsic growth rate r is solution to the Euler's equation

$$\int_{a_0}^{a_f} e^{-rt} l(t)m(t)dt = 1$$

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• The waiting-time PDF is the time between two successive generations

$$\varphi(t) = \frac{l(t)m(t)}{\int_{a_0}^{a_f} l(t)m(t)dt}$$

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- For invasion in 2D

$$\tilde{\Phi}(p) = 2\pi \int_0^\infty r \Phi(r) I_0(rp) dr$$

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# Example: Muskrat Invasion

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• The observed invasion velocity was **11 km/yr** between 1905 and 1930



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- Model A is adequate for species that take their brood with them during the first stages of their life
- From histograms of dispersal distances, fertility and survival as function of the age we can estimate r,  $\varphi(t)$  and  $\Phi(r)$ . The invasion speed predicted by Model A is **8.74 km/yr**.

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## Thank you!

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