

# Session 7: ODE Simulation + Noise

## Foundations of Quantitative Ecology (EEOB 8896.11)

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# The Rosenzweig-MacArthur Model

**Classical predator-prey (consumer-resource) model. Assumptions?**  
 Logistic prey ( $R$ ) growth, type-II predation, consumption drives predators ( $C$ ) reproduction, and age-independent mortality:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dR}{dt} &= rR(1 - R/K) - \frac{aRC}{1 + aT_h R} \\ \frac{dC}{dt} &= \chi \frac{aRC}{1 + aT_h R} - \mu C\end{aligned}$$

**Dynamics:** Steady-state coexistence at

$$R_* = \frac{\mu}{a(\chi - \mu T_h)}; \quad C_* = \frac{r}{a} \left(1 - \frac{R_*}{K}\right) (1 + aT_h R_*)$$

if

$$K < \frac{1}{aT_h} \left( \frac{\chi + \mu T_h}{\chi - \mu T_h} \right)$$

# Simulating ODEs

Simulate ODEs using the `deSolve` package:

```
library(deSolve) #install.packages('deSolve') if needed
dydt <- function(ts, y, params) {
  r = params[1]
  K = params[2]
  a = params[3]
  Th = params[4]
  conv = params[5]
  mu = params[6]
  dy1dt = r * y[1] * (1 - y[1]/K) - a * y[1] * y[2]/(1 + a * Th * y[1])
  dy2dt = conv * a * y[1] * y[2]/(1 + a * Th * y[1]) - mu * y[2]
  return(list(c(dy1dt, dy2dt)))
}
y0 = c(50, 5)
times = 0:500
prms = c(r = 0.2, K = 100, a = 0.02, Th = 1, conv = 1, mu = 0.4)
out1 = ode(y0, times, dydt, prms, method = "lsoda")
```

# Simulating ODEs

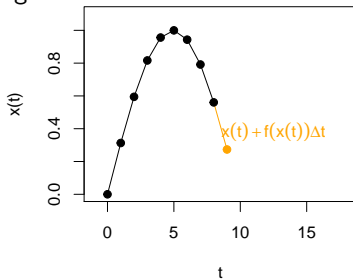
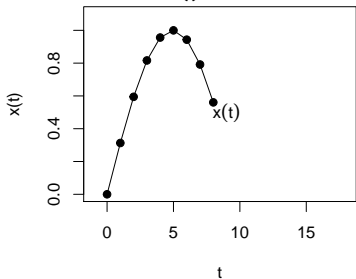
How does `ode()` work? A differential equation (e.g.  $\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$ ) models *rates of change in  $x$* . Since the derivative is approximately

$$\frac{x(t + \Delta t) - x(t)}{\Delta t} \approx f(x(t))$$

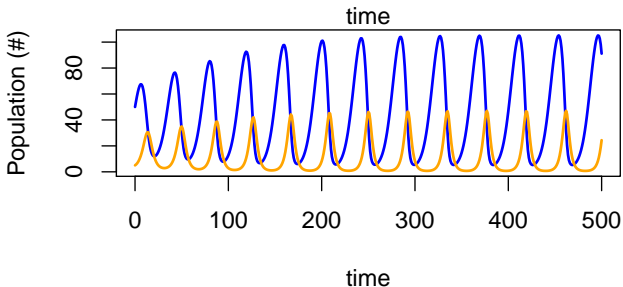
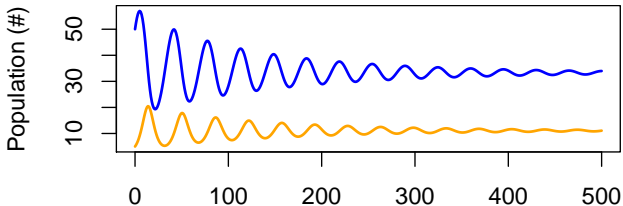
we can rearrange things to approximate a step forward in time by

$$x(t + \Delta t) \approx x(t) + f(x(t)) \cdot \Delta t$$

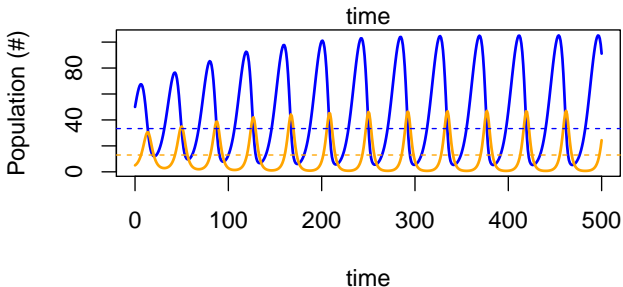
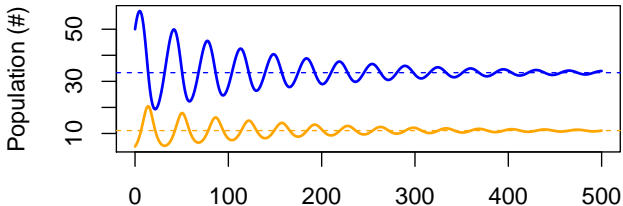
That is, we add a change given by rate  $f(x)$  times time step,  $\Delta t$ . The function `ode()` does something similar.



# Simulating ODEs



# Simulating ODEs



# Simulating ODEs

Code for the plots on the previous slide:

```
matplot(out1[,1], out1[,-1], type="l", lwd=2, col=c("blue","orange"),
        lty=1, xlab="time",ylab="Population (#)")
with(as.list(prms),{
  abline(h = mu/(a*(conv-mu*Th)), col="blue", lty=2)
  abline(h = r/a*(1-(mu/(a*(conv-mu*Th)))/K)*
        (1+a*Th*(mu/(a*(conv-mu*Th)))), col="orange", lty=2)
})
prms2 <- prms; prms2["K"] <- 150;
out2=ode(y0, times, dydt, prms2, method="lsoda");
matplot(out2[,1], out2[,-1], type="l", lwd=2, col=c("blue","orange"),
        lty=1,xlab="time",ylab="Population (#)")
with(as.list(prms2),{
  abline(h = mu/(a*(conv-mu*Th)), col="blue", lty=2)
  abline(h = r/a*(1-(mu/(a*(conv-mu*Th)))/K)*
        (1+a*Th*(mu/(a*(conv-mu*Th)))), col="orange", lty=2)
})
```

**Exercise:** Recreate these plots using the `ggplot2` package instead of `matplot()`. *Hint: start by googling “matplot ggplot2 -python”.*

# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

**Exercise #1:** Implement the Stochastic Simulation Algorithm (SSA; aka Gillespie Algorithm) for the above model with demographic stochasticity.

- 1 Compute a rate for some event (birth, death, predation)
- 2 Draw a random exponential time step to the next event
- 3 Use a random uniform to decide which event happened
- 4 Update the state variables, then repeat.



# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

## Pseudocode for Exercise #1:

```
## Use the parameter values from the ODE script
#
## Setup for iterating forward in time...
times = c(0) # initialize
y      = y0  # initial conditions from above
i      = 0   # initialize indexing/count variable
#
## Iterate forward in time until we hit t=500...
# recompute rates, total event rate, event probs
# Pick a random time step and update times
# Pick which event happened and update y values
# Repeat
#
### Plot and compare with ODE output from above
```

# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

## Components we'll need to put together:

```
event_rates = c(
  r*y[1],          # Increment y[1] only (birth)
  r*y[1]^2/K,     # Decrement y[1] only (natural death)
  a*y[1]*y[2]/(1+a*Th*y[1]), # Decrement y[1] (predation)
  conv*a*y[1]*y[2]/(1+a*Th*y[1]), # Increment y[2] (birth)
  mu*y[2] ## Decrement y[2] (predator death)
)
# Total event rate
S = sum(event_rates) # rate of "something" happening
# Proportions for picking event type
event_probs = event_rates/S
# Check cases with if-else statements, e.g.
if(event1) { y[,i+1] <- update_accordingly(y[,i]) }
else if(event2) { ... }
...
else if(lastevent) {...}
# OR use something like switch(). Ex:
switch(sample(1:5),"one","two","three","four","five")
switch(which(runif(1) < cumsum(event_probs))[1],
  c(1,0), c(-1,0), c(-1,0), c(0,1),c(0,-1))
```

# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

## Solution:

```
prms = c(r=0.2,K=100,a=0.02,Th=1,conv=1,mu=0.4)
y0 = c(50, 5) # initial conditions
## Unpack our parameter values
r = prms[1]
K = prms[2]
a = prms[3]
Th = prms[4]
conv = prms[5]
mu = prms[6]
## Set up the while loop to iterate steps..
i = 1
times = c(0)
y = cbind(P=y0[1],C=y0[2])
```

# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

## Solution (continued):

```
## Set up the while loop to iterate steps..  
i = 1 # index for while loop  
times = c(0) # store time values here  
y = cbind(P=y0[1],C=y0[2]) # store state values  
while(times[i] < 500) {  
  # Update which step we're on  
  # Recompute our rates  
  # ... and total event rate  
  # Recompute proportions & pick which event occurred  
  # Update y[i,] accordingly  
  # update time  
}  
# plot output
```

# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

```
while(sum(y[i,]) > 0 & times[i] < 500) { # Stop if both extinct, t>500
  i <- i+1 # Update which step we're on
  event_rates = c( # Recompute our rates. Events are:
    r*y[i-1,1], # Increment y[1] only (birth)
    r*y[i-1,1]^2/K, # Decrement y[1] only (natural death)
    a*y[i-1,1]*y[i-1,2]/(1+a*Th*y[i-1,1]), # Decrement y[1] (predation)
    conv*a*y[i-1,1]*y[i-1,2]/(1+a*Th*y[i-1,1]), # Increment y[2] (birth)
    mu*y[i-1,2] ## Decrement y[2] (predator death)
  )
  # Total event rate
  S = sum(event_rates) ## rate of "something" happening
  # Proportions for picking which event type occurred
  event_probs = event_rates/S
  # Pick an event type and update y[i,] accordingly
  y <- rbind(y, y[i-1,]+switch(which(runif(1) < cumsum(event_probs))[1],
    c(1,0), c(-1,0), c(-1,0), c(0,1),c(0,-1)) )
  times[i] = times[i-1] + rexp(1,rate=S) # update time
}
matplot(times,y,type="l",col=c("blue","orange"),lty=1,lwd=2,
  xlab="time",ylab="Population (#)",main="Stochastic")
```

# Simulating ODEs

**Exercise #1:** Modify the above solution so that it all takes place inside a function `SimModel()` that takes a parameter list (like `prms`) and returns `cbind(times,y)`.

**Exercise #2:** Use that function to create a 2x2 figure with the above ODE model output in the first column, and the stochastic model output for the corresponding parameter values in the second column.

**Exercise #3:** Modify the solution to **#2** to plot multiple replicates of the stochastic simulations in the second column.

# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

Q: So what did we just do?

## Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

**Q:** So what did we just do?

**A:** We used our ODE terms to parameterize and then simulate a *marked poisson process*.



# Simulating ODEs + 'Intrinsic Noise'

**Q:** So what did we just do?

**A:** We used our ODE terms to parameterize and then simulate a *marked poisson process*.

## Basic Poisson Process Assumptions:

- 1 Event probabilities are *memoryless*. The probability of an event in a small time interval of length  $\Delta t$  is  $\lambda\Delta t$ .
- 2 For  $N$  individuals, we can pick  $\Delta t$  small enough so almost always get at most 1 event per time interval. In the limit as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ , we get a continuous time process.

# Poisson Processes

## Homogeneous Poisson Process:

- 1 Times between events are exponentially distributed with rate  $\lambda$ .
- 2 The number of events in a time interval of length  $T$  is Poisson distributed with rate  $\lambda T$ .

## Inhomogeneous Poisson Process:

- 1 Events happen at time-dependent rate  $\lambda(t)$ .
- 2 If there is some upper bound  $\lambda$  on  $\lambda(t)$  we can simulate our IPP by *thinning* the HPP with rate  $\lambda$  by throwing out events with probability  $\lambda(t)/\lambda$ .

Events can be *marked*, according to some other process, to specify event types.

# Poisson Processes

**Exercise 1:** Simulate a poisson process using *rexp* and confirm it has the appropriate poisson distribution.

**Exercise 2:** Simulate a poisson process with a periodic rate  $\lambda(t)$  by thinning the appropriate homogeneous poisson process.