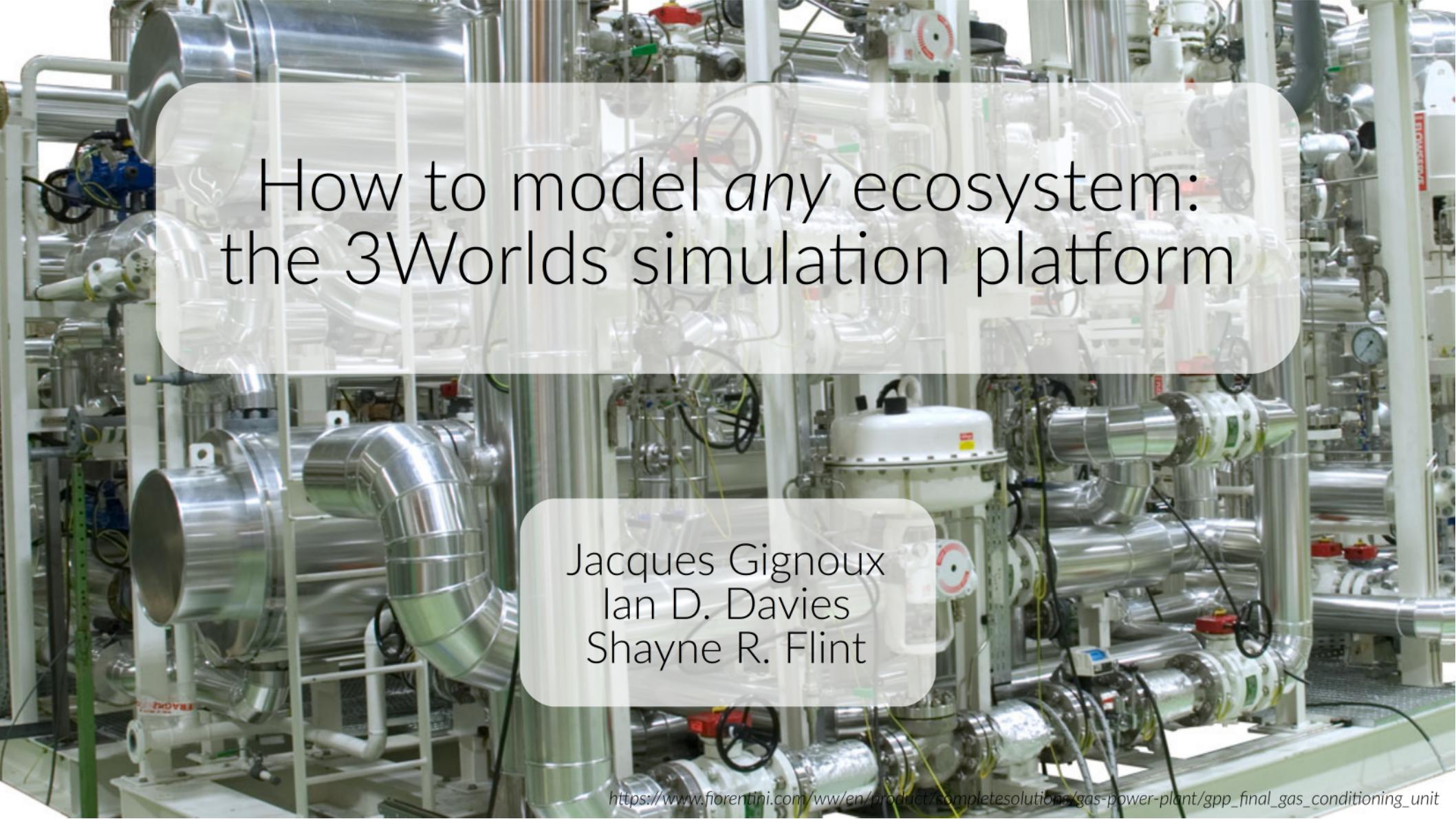




Australian
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University



How to model *any* ecosystem: the 3Worlds simulation platform

Jacques Gignoux
Ian D. Davies
Shayne R. Flint

Three difficulties of Ecology

Ecology:

- studies very different objects
- addresses very difficult questions
- uses many different methods

A dramatic photograph of a massive ocean wave crashing. The wave's face is a bright white spray and foam, contrasting with the deep blue-grey of the surrounding water. The spray is billowing upwards and outwards. The wave itself is a dark, textured mass of water, with smaller waves visible in the background.

Ecology looks at incredibly
different objects

Southern
Ocean

photo Michel de Saint Blanquat



Central
Australia

photo Jacques Gignoux

Indonesia





Southern
Australia

photo Jacques Gignoux



Deep in
some ocean



Brazil

<https://news.bloomberg.com/environment-and-energy/soy-and-the-cerrado-exports-ecology-collide-in-brazils-savanna>



a puddle in
Germany

<https://atoptics.wordpress.com/tag/bacteria-colours/>



Local group,
The Galaxy,
Orion arm,
Solar system



In a drop
of water

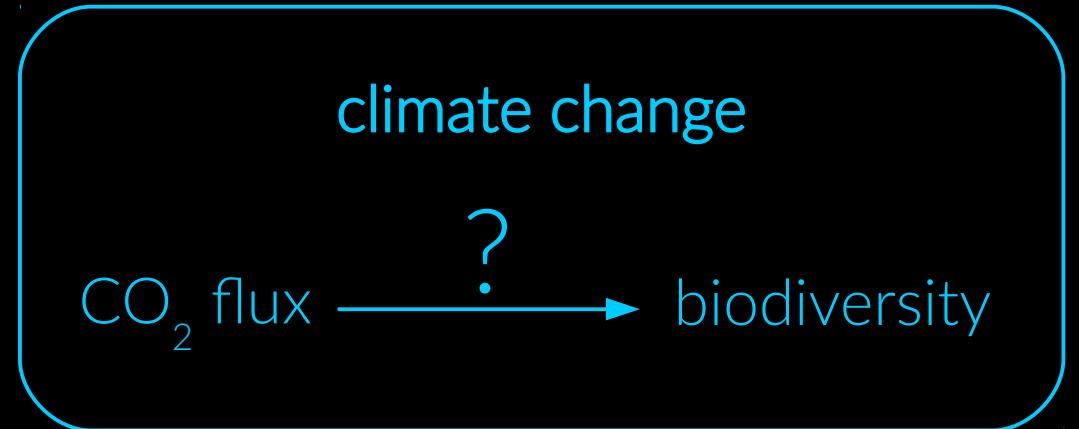
A microscopic image showing various microorganisms in a drop of water. In the center, a large, elongated ciliate with cilia along its body and internal organelles is visible. To its right, several smaller, oval-shaped microorganisms with internal structures are present. In the top right corner, there is a cluster of green, spherical phytoplankton. The background is light gray, representing the water. A prominent feature is a large, irregular blue-outlined rectangular box that covers the central and lower-left areas of the image, containing the text.

Can we find a common approach
to study all these objects?

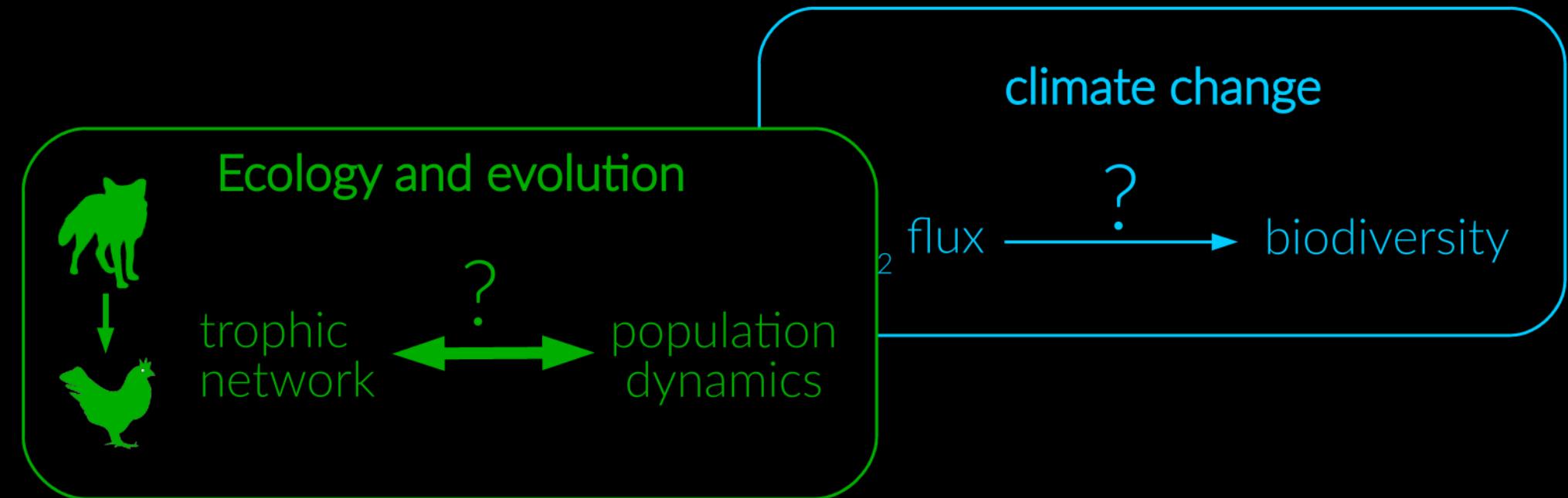
In a drop
of water

Ecology addresses *difficult* questions:

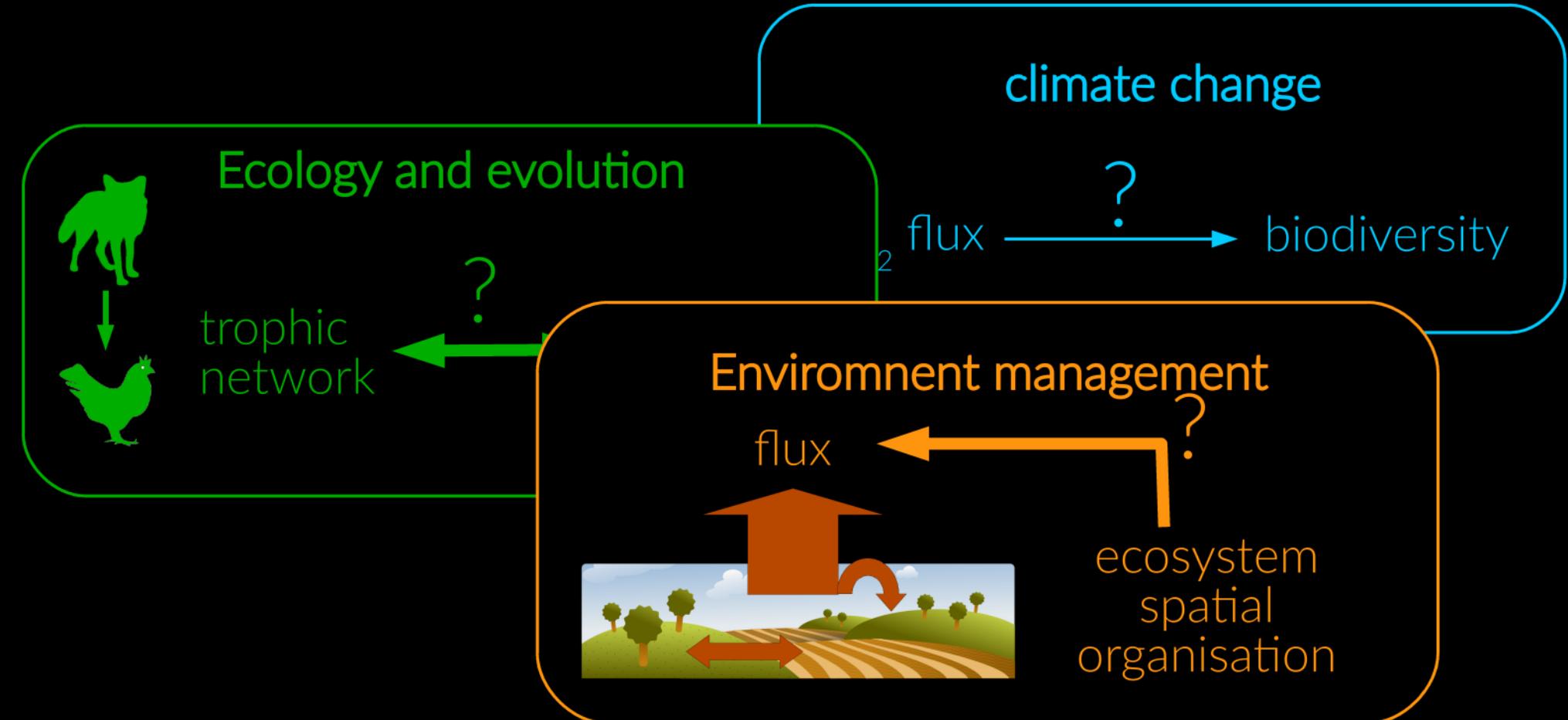
Ecology addresses *difficult* questions:



Ecology addresses difficult questions:



Ecology addresses difficult questions:



Ecology addresses difficult questions:

Ecology and evolution



trophic
network

These questions require
a coupling between
different ecological approaches

climate change

flux

?

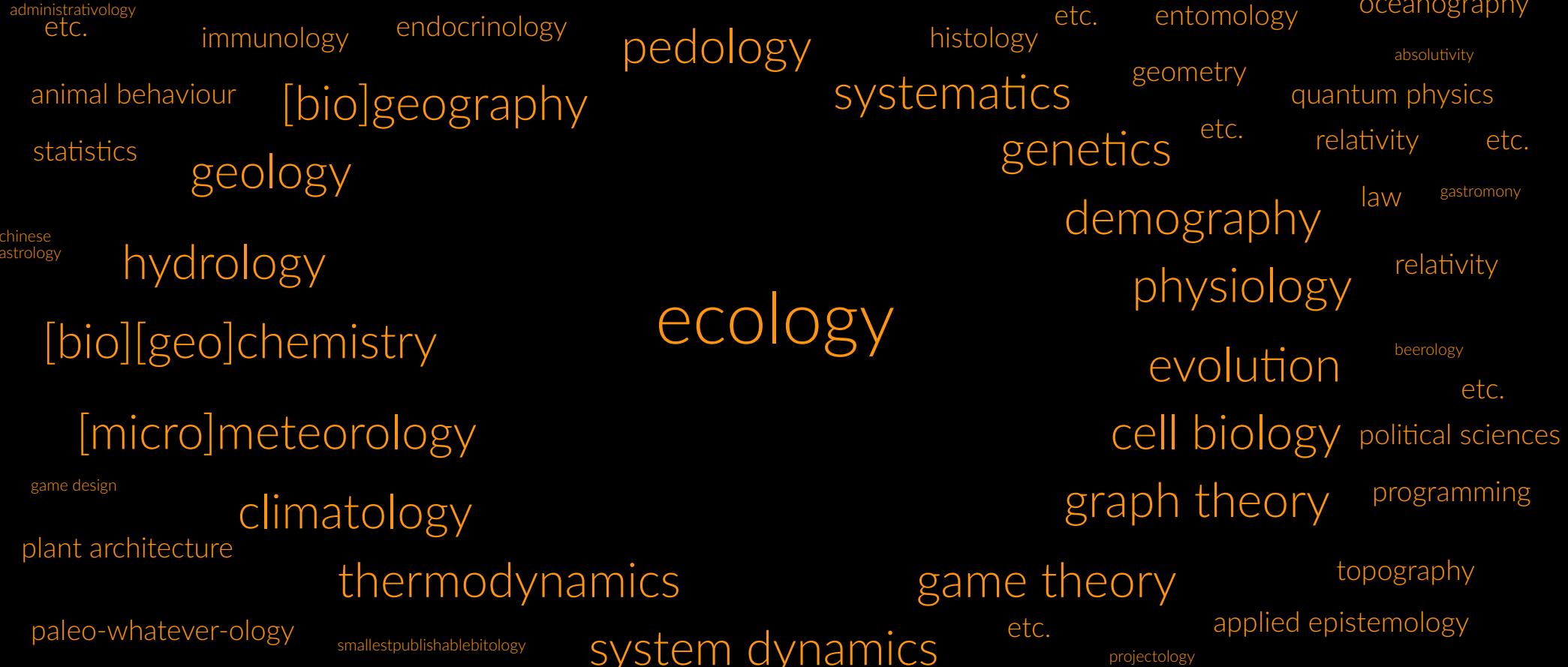
biodiversity

environment management

ecosystem
spatial
organisation



Ecology is an *integrative* science:



... borrowing methods from other sciences

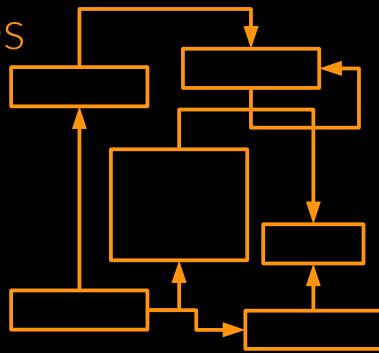
Ecological sub-fields use poorly compatible representations:

Matter and energy fluxes

Ecophysiology

Ecosystems

Dynamic systems

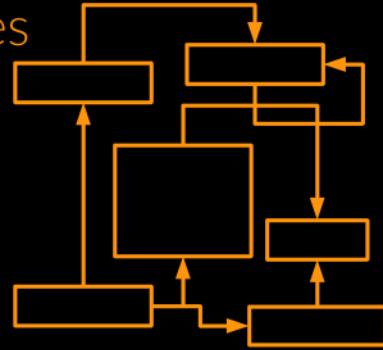


Ecological sub-fields use poorly compatible representations:

Matter and energy fluxes
Ecophysiology
Ecosystems



Dynamic systems



Demography
Genetics
Evolution

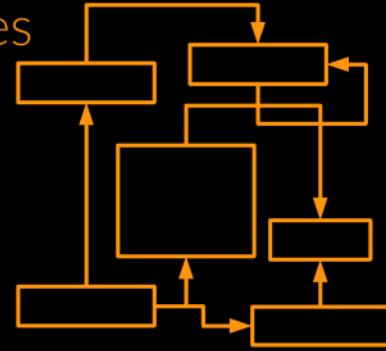


Population models
Individual-based models



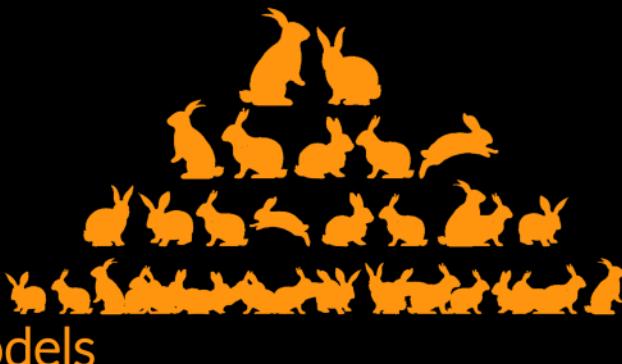
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Ecosystems

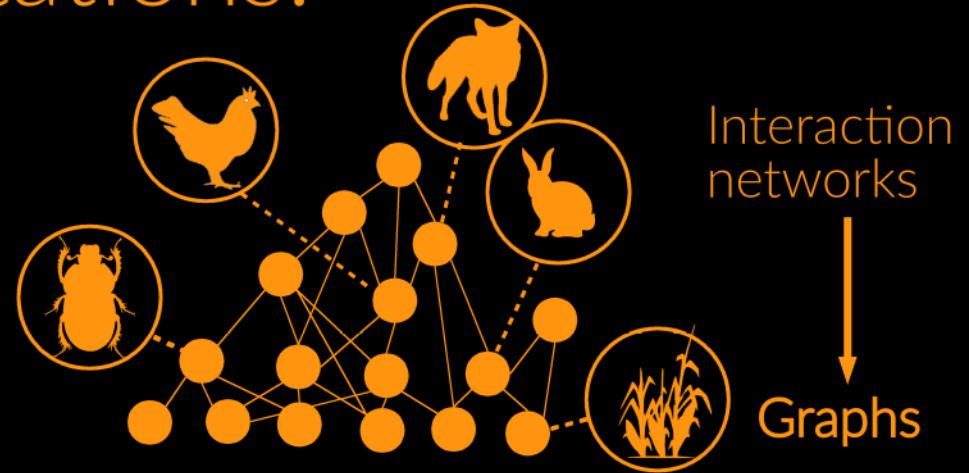


Dynamic systems

Demography
Genetics
Evolution



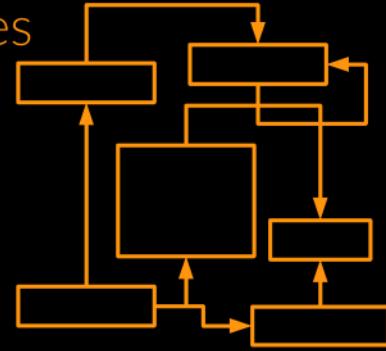
Population models
Individual-based models



Interaction networks
↓
Graphs

Ecological sub-fields use poorly compatible representations:

Matter and energy fluxes
Ecophysiology
Ecosystems

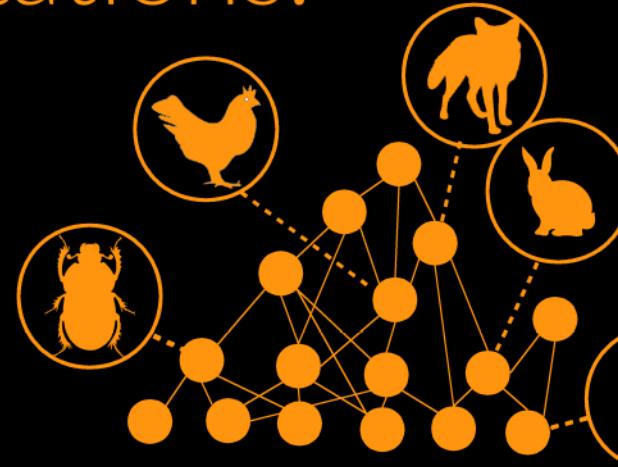


Dynamic systems

Demography
Genetics
Evolution

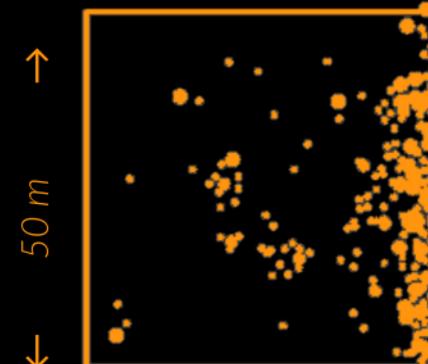


Population models
Individual-based models



Interaction networks

Graphs



Landscape ecology
Ecosystem structure

Cellular automata

Ecological sub-fields use poorly compatible representations:

Matter and energy fluxes
Eco-physiology
Ecosystems

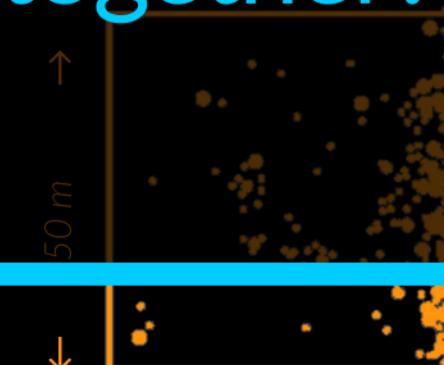
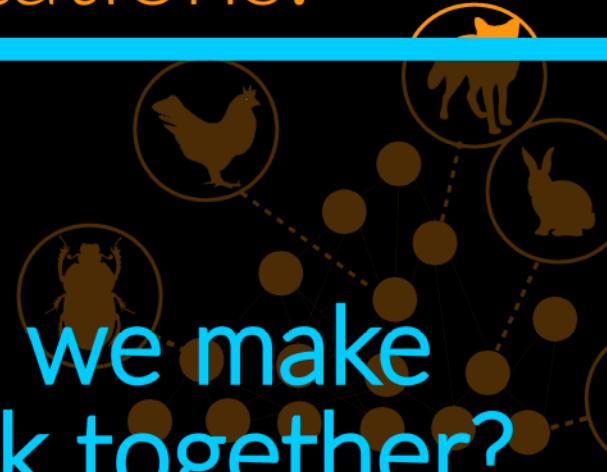
Dynamic systems

Demography
Genetics
Evolution

Population models
Individual-based models



How can we make
these work together?



Interaction networks

Graphs

Landscape ecology
Ecosystem structure

Cellular automata

Ecology focuses on *interactions*

From various definitions:

Ecology studies **interactions** among living beings and between them and their milieu (<https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%89cologie>)

Ecology - the study of the environment and the **relationships** between things in it (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english-french/ecology>)

Ecology - the **relation** of plants and living creatures to each other and to their environment; the study of this
(<https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/ecology?q=ecology>)

... that may help

I. The solution to the diversity of objects

The ecosystem concept (Tansley, 1935)

'Though the organisms may claim our primary interest, when we are trying to think fundamentally we cannot separate them from their special environment, with which they form one physical system.'

Ecosystems

- combine physics and biology into a single object
- are scale-independent
- are observer-dependent
- focus on interactions



The ecosystem concept (Tansley, 1935)

Ecosystems

- combine physics and biology into a single object
- are scale-independent
- are observer-dependent

Ecology consists in viewing everything as an ecosystem



even this:



or this:



II. The solution to the difficulty of these questions



We don't care!

Impossible is
not French.

It's more fun if questions are not easy!

Plus, practical environmental problems are *always* going to be *difficult, complex, wicked, multi-faceted*, without a unique clear definite solution. **We must get used to this.**



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huh... maybe a method would help

Systems thinking

Churchman, C. W., 1968; Kramer, N., 1977; Checkland, P. & J. Scholes, 1999; Senge, P., 1992.



Shayne Flint



Australian
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University

- a set of approaches that can be used to learn about / make decisions on *dynamically complex systems*
- focuses on *the whole* and the *interactions* among the *parts* of a system
- this way we can understand *emergent properties* of an entire system

Systems thinking

Churchman, C. W., 1968; Kramer, N., 1977; Checkland, P. & J. Scholes, 1999; Senge, P., 1992.



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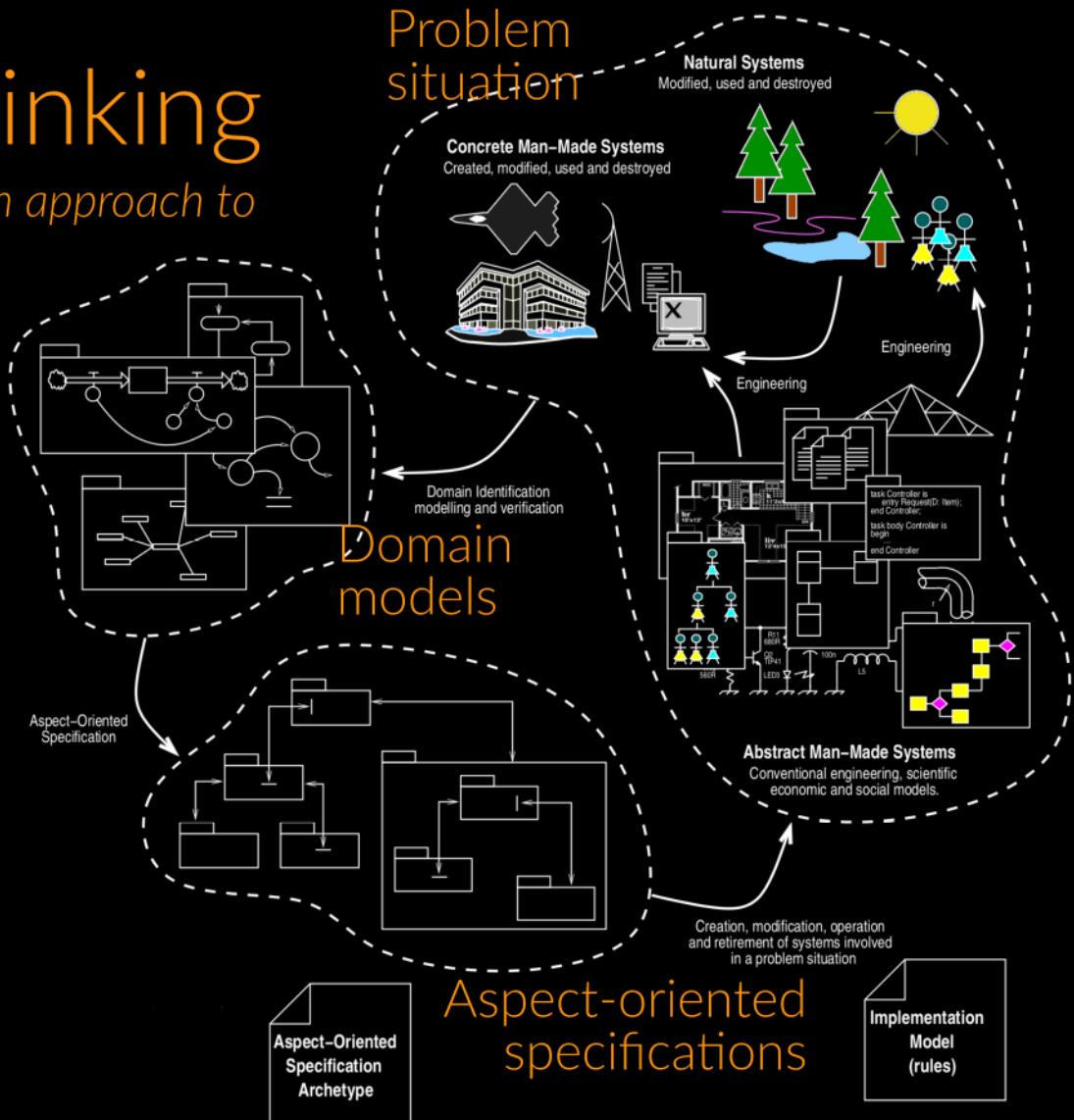
- a set of approaches that can be used to learn about / make decisions on *dynamically complex systems*
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- this way we can understand *emergent properties* of an entire system

sorry... do you call *this* a method?

Aspect-oriented thinking

Flint SR, 2006. Aspect-Oriented Thinking - An approach to bridging the disciplinary divides. PhD, ANU.

- independently model *aspects* of a problem
 - e.g. physics and biology in an ecosystem
- rules for combining these aspects into a new system
 - e.g. a model of **my favourite ecosystem**
- that can be used to improve the problem situation
 - e.g. test if **my favourite ecosystem** is stable or resilient



Aspect-oriented thinking

Flit SR, 2006. Aspect-Oriented Thinking - An approach to bridging the disciplinary divides. PhD ANU.

- independently model aspects of a problem
e.g. physics and biology in an ecosystem
 - rules for combining these aspects into a new system
e.g. Unite our ecosystems
 - that can be used to improve the problem situation
e.g. test if my favourite ecosystem is stable or resilient
- 1. We will not build the ultimate synthesis of all ecological knowledge rather,**
- 2. We provide a method to specify an ecological model addressing any particular problem**

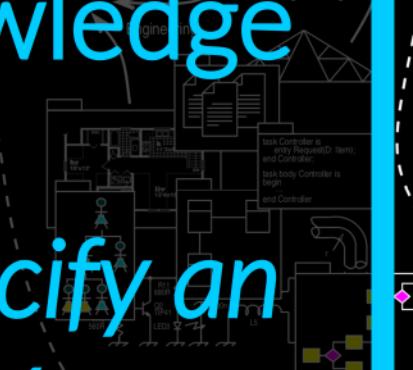
Problem situation

Natural Systems
Modified, used and destroyed

Concrete Man-Made Systems
Created, modified, used and destroyed



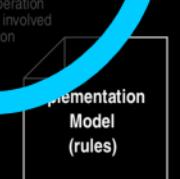
Engineering



Domain models



Abstract Man-Made Systems
Conventional engineering, scientific economic and social models.



Aspect-oriented specifications

Aspect-Oriented Specification Archetype

Implementation Model (rules)



III. The solution to the incompatibility of methods

Make them compatible!

Use good concepts that can be shared

e.g. the system, the ecosystem, etc...

... easy !
(use a steam hammer?)

1. Ecosystems are commonly considered as *complex systems*
2. Complex systems are assumed to display *emergent properties*

But what is an...

emergent
property?

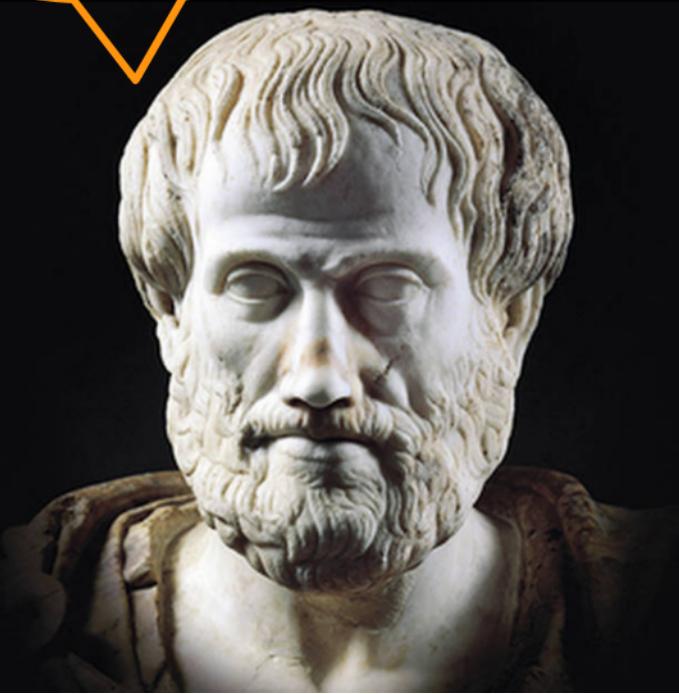


What does that mean?
(does it hurt?)

Not much:

The whole is
more than the
sum of its parts

Αριστοτέλης (-335)



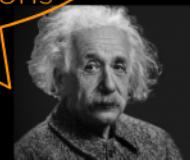
Not much:

The whole is
more than the
sum of its parts

Αριστοτέλης (-335)



Einstein (1915): 'the
mass of an atom is *smaller*
than the sum of the
masses of its nucleons'



Thank you, old chap, but this is not very helpful.
Modern specialists have much better definitions:

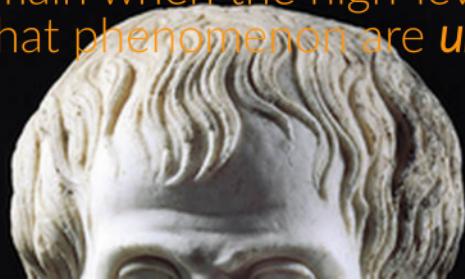
Bedau 1997: Macrostate P of S with microdynamic D is weakly emergent iff P can be derived from D and S's external conditions but **only by simulation**.

Ryan 2007: A property is weakly emergent iff it is present in a macrostate but it is not apparent in the microstate, and this macrostate differs from the microstate only in resolution. A weak emergent property is **a limitation of the observer**, not a property of the system.

Müller 2003: A phenomenon is emergent iff we have (1) a system of entities in interaction whose expression of the states and dynamics is made in an ontology or theory *D* ; (2) the production of a phenomenon [...] which is necessarily **global** regarding the system of entities ; (3) the interpretation of this global phenomenon **by an observer** [...] in another ontology or theory *D'* ; (4) *D'* is **irreducible** to *D*.

Chalmers 2006: We can say that a high-level phenomenon is weakly emergent with respect to a low-level domain when the high-level phenomenon arises from the low-level domain, but truths concerning that phenomenon are **unexpected** given the principles governing the low-level domain.

...



[gurgling]

1. Ecosystems are commonly considered as *complex systems*
2. Complex systems are assumed to display *emergent properties*
3. There are dozens of definitions of emergence (*Chérel G. 2013, PhD*)

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5. All emergence definitions imply a system with a *microscopic* and a *macroscopic* level of description

1. Ecosystems are commonly considered as *complex systems*
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4. This because they do not clearly define the system
5. All emergence definitions imply a system with a *microscopic* and a *macroscopic* level of description
6. With a formal definition of the system, we may be able to clearly define emergence.

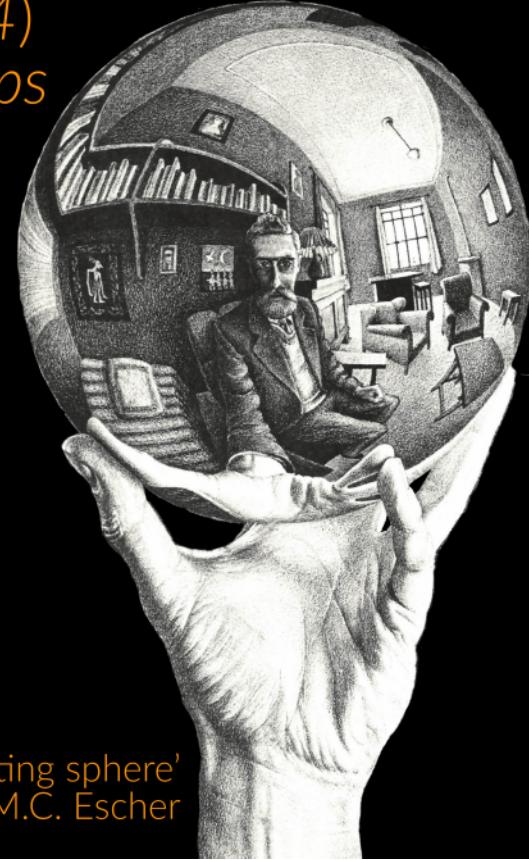
The hierarchical system

A **system** is

- a part of the world under consideration (Carnot 1824)
- composed of identifiable entities *and their relationships* (Jordan 1981)

All emergence definitions imply that a system has a microscopic and a macroscopic description

Let's call **Hierarchical System** a system ('macro'-scale) made of inter-related parts ('micro'-scale)



A hierarchical system is best represented by a mathematical graph

A hierarchical system S is defined as the graph:

$$S := (C, R, \gamma)$$

where C is the set of components (nodes) of the system:

$$C := \{c_u\} \quad u \leq n_c < \infty, c_u \in W$$

R is the set of relations (edges) between components of the system:

$$R := \{r_v\} \quad v \leq n_r < \infty, r_v \in W^2$$

and γ is the incidence function, which assigns a relation to a pair of components:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma : R &\rightarrow C \times C \\ r_v &\rightarrow (c_i, c_j) \quad i \leq n_c, j \leq n_c \end{aligned}$$

n_c is the number of components and n_r the number of relations of the system; W^2 is the set of applications from W to W .

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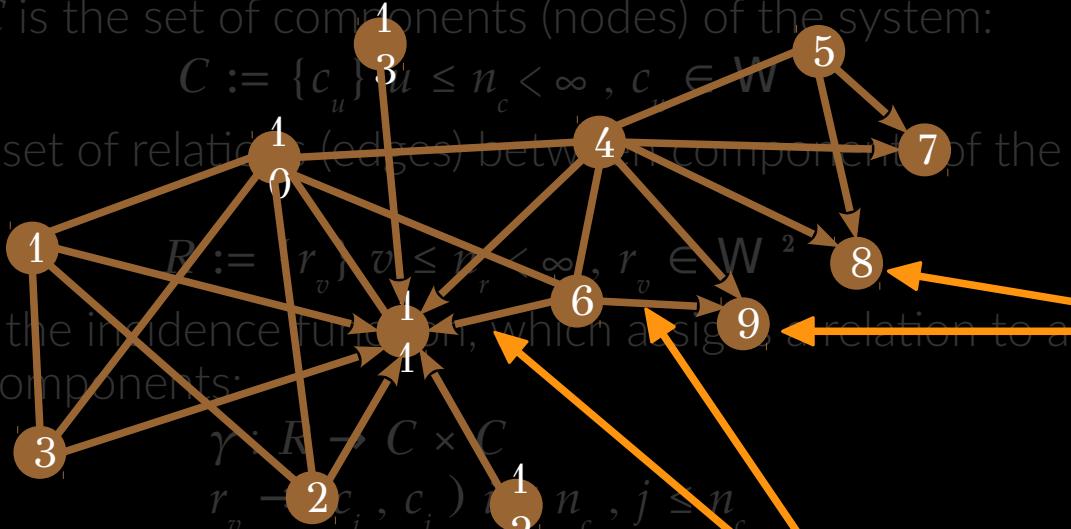
$$R := \{r_v\}_{v \leq n_r < \infty}, r_v \in W^2$$

and γ is the incidence function, which associates a relation to a pair of components:

$$\gamma: R \rightarrow C \times C$$

$$r_v = (c_i, c_j), i \leq n_c, j \leq n_c$$

the
system



the
components

the
interactions

n_c is the number of components and n_r the number of relations of the system; W^2 is the set of applications from W to W .

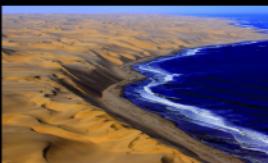
A hierarchical system is best represented by a mathematical graph

state =

descriptors

D_{10} label *beach*
surface $s \in]0; +\infty[$
location $M_b = (L, l) \in [0; 90] \times [-180; 180]$

D_S label *The Namib desert ecosystem*
location $M_b = (L, l) \in [0; 90] \times [-180; 180]$
productivity $P \in]0; +\infty[$
biomass $w \in]0; +\infty[$
monthly rainfall $p = (p_i)_{i \leq 12}, p_i \in \mathbb{R}^+$



D_1 label *lion No.1*
biomass $w \in]0; +\infty[$
sex $s \in \{m, f\}$
age $a \in \mathbb{N}$
location $M = (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$
mating probability $p \in [0; 1]$



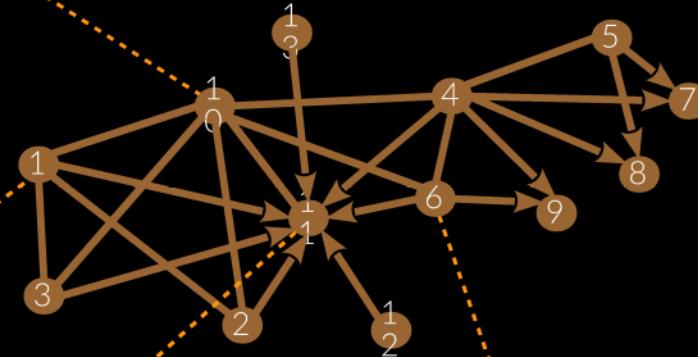
D_{11} label *whale*
biomass $w \in]0; +\infty[$
edible fraction $\alpha \in [0; 1]$
decay rate $t_d \in \mathbb{R}^+$
location $M = (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$
photo



D_6 label *lion No.6*
biomass $w \in]0; +\infty[$
sex $s \in \{m, f\}$
age $a \in \mathbb{N}$
location $M = (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$
mating probability $p \in [0; 1]$



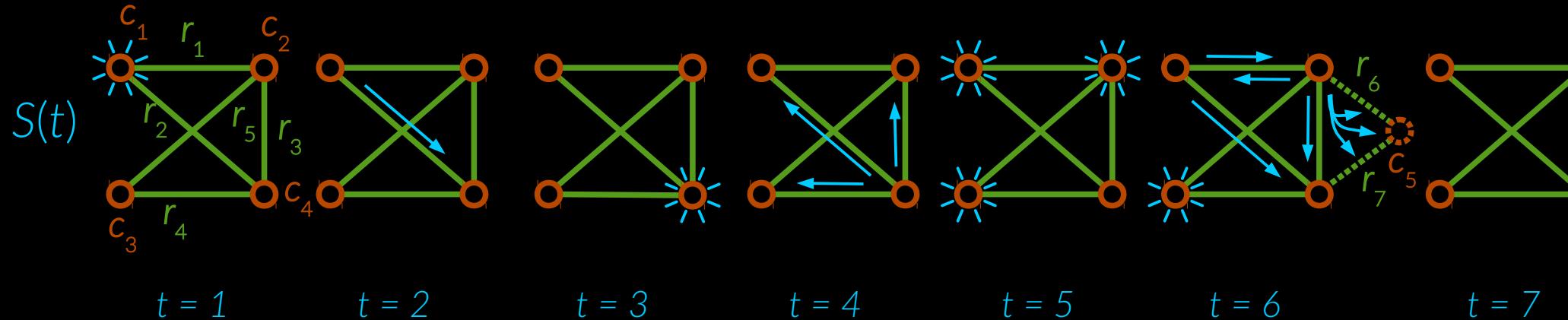
S_2 = an ecosystem of interest



structure
= graph

A dynamic graph

Harary & Gupta 1997. Dynamic graph models, Math. Comp. Model. 7:79-87



Changes propagate locally
State changes may be continuous
Structural changes are always discrete
Causality may be analysed

A dynamic graph

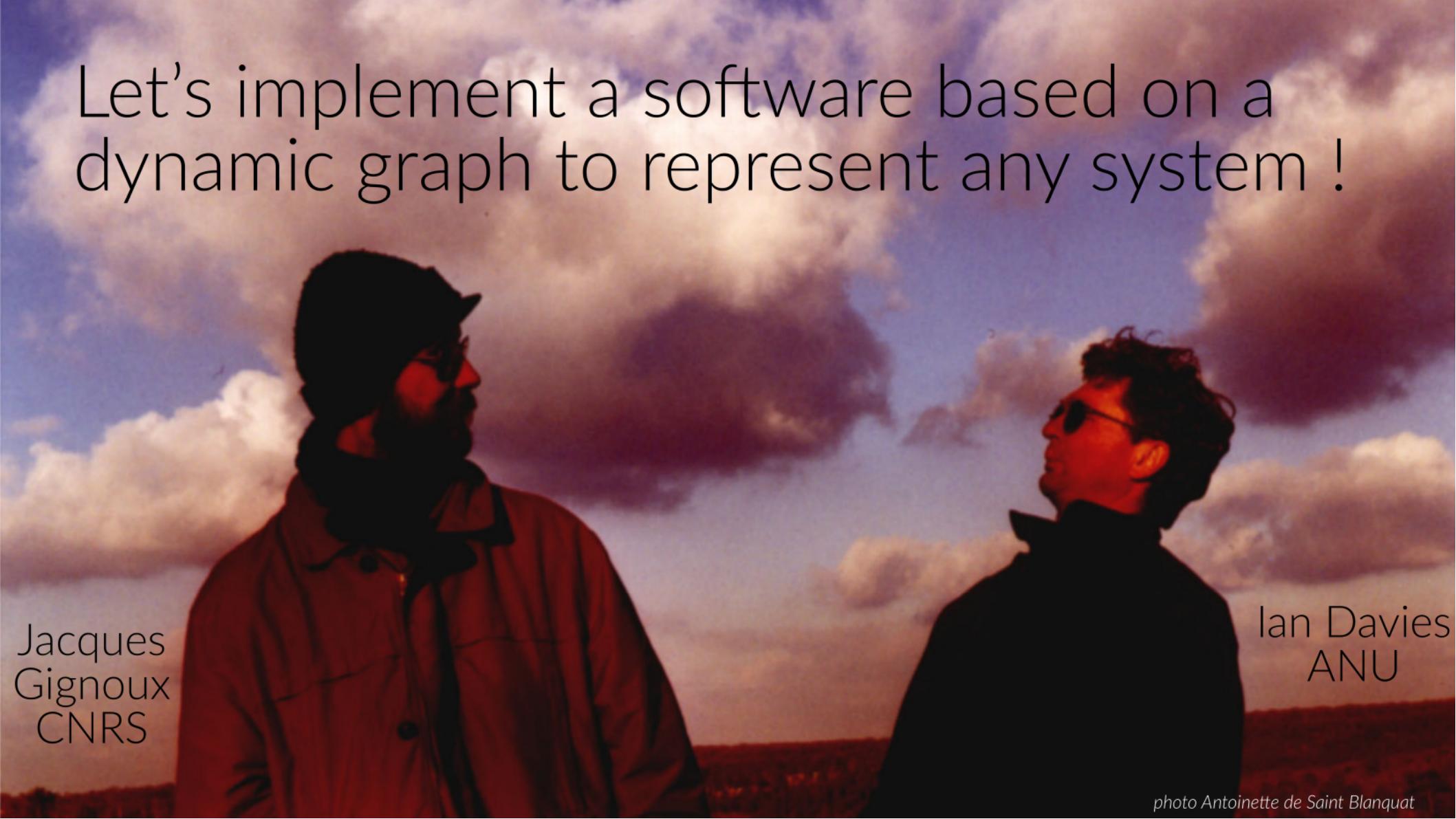
Harary & Gupta 1997. Dynamic graph models, Math. Comp. Model. 7:79-87



Changes propagate locally
State changes may be continuous

Structural changes are always discrete
Causality may be analysed

Let's implement a software based on a dynamic graph to represent any system !



Jacques
Gignoux
CNRS

Ian Davies
ANU

Let's implement a software based on a dynamic graph to represent any system !



Gotlib, M. (1971)
Incorrígibles rêveurs,
Rubrique à brac, 2:26-27

FYC, automatic translation:
'Then my dear, you are in the middle of science fiction!'

My translation:
'Sorry my dear, this is pure science-fiction!'

Or, more direct:
'Bullshit!'

Let's implement a software based on a dynamic graph to represent any system !



Gotlib, M. (1971)
Incorrígibles rêveurs,
Rubrique à brac, 2:26-27

Fundings:

PHC 2003-2004
CNRS LIA 2003-2006
ANR 2007-2011
CNRS 2008-2009

Nananèreuh...

IV. The 3Worlds simulation platform

'Three worlds'
lithograph by
M.C. Escher
1955



Aims of 3Worlds

To provide ecological modellers with a simulation tool able to :

1. Deal equally well with physics and biology
2. Handle multiple spatial and temporal scales
3. Play with the level of detail in system description
4. Enable modelling of any ecological problem one can think of
5. Provide quick feedback while building a model
6. Smoothly scale up to large scale simulation experiments
7. Facilitate model intercomparison

...all this without reinventing the wheel too many times, if possible

Aspect-oriented approach

The system to model: the Ecosystem

A selection of aspects: the ecosystem as...

...a hierarchical system

...a set of taxonomic (=classifiable) entities

...a dynamic system at all sorts of time scales

...a (possibly spatially) organised system

...an abstract representation at different levels of detail

...an easy-to-use functional concept

...a scientific object (that can be experimented on)

a specification
archetype

+

code to
interpret it

The build system: a **software** that can be further
specialised for particular problems

Aspect 1: a hierarchical system

The modelled system is a *dynamic graph* =
{ components, relations }

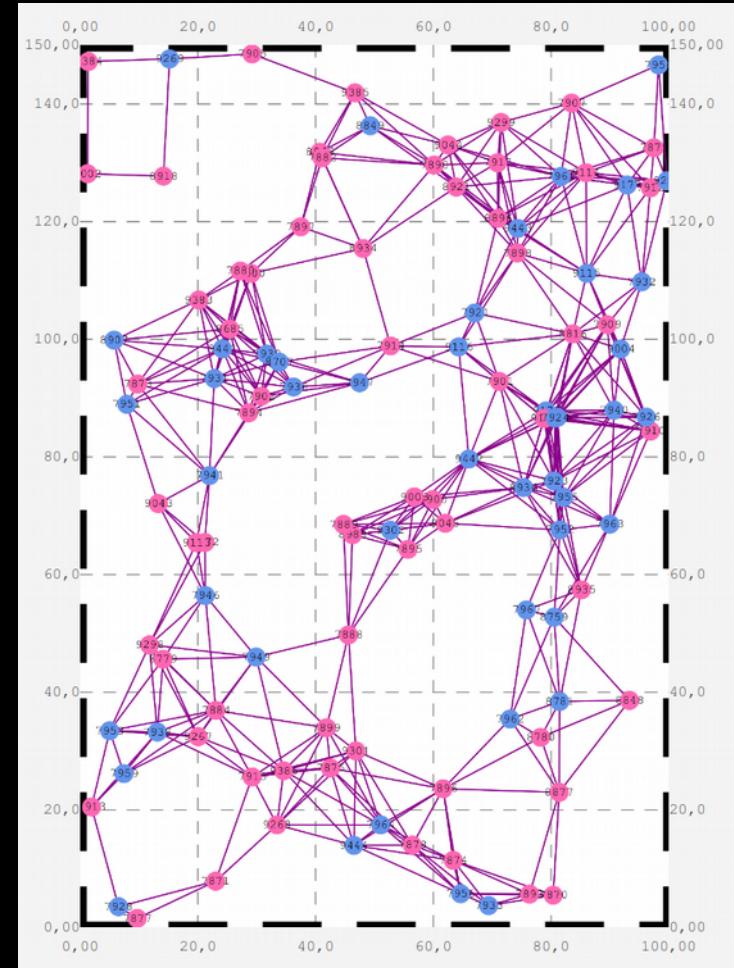
a generalisation for
individual-based models (IBMs)

Grimm V. & Railsback S. 2005. *Individual-based modelling and ecology*. Princeton U.P.

multi-agent systems (MASs)

Bousquet F. & Le Page C. 2004. *Multi-agent simulations and ecosystem management: a review*. *Ecol. Model.* 176:313-332.

...but with **explicit** relations



3Worlds screen capture

Aspect 2: classification

Categories to group components ‘that look like each other’

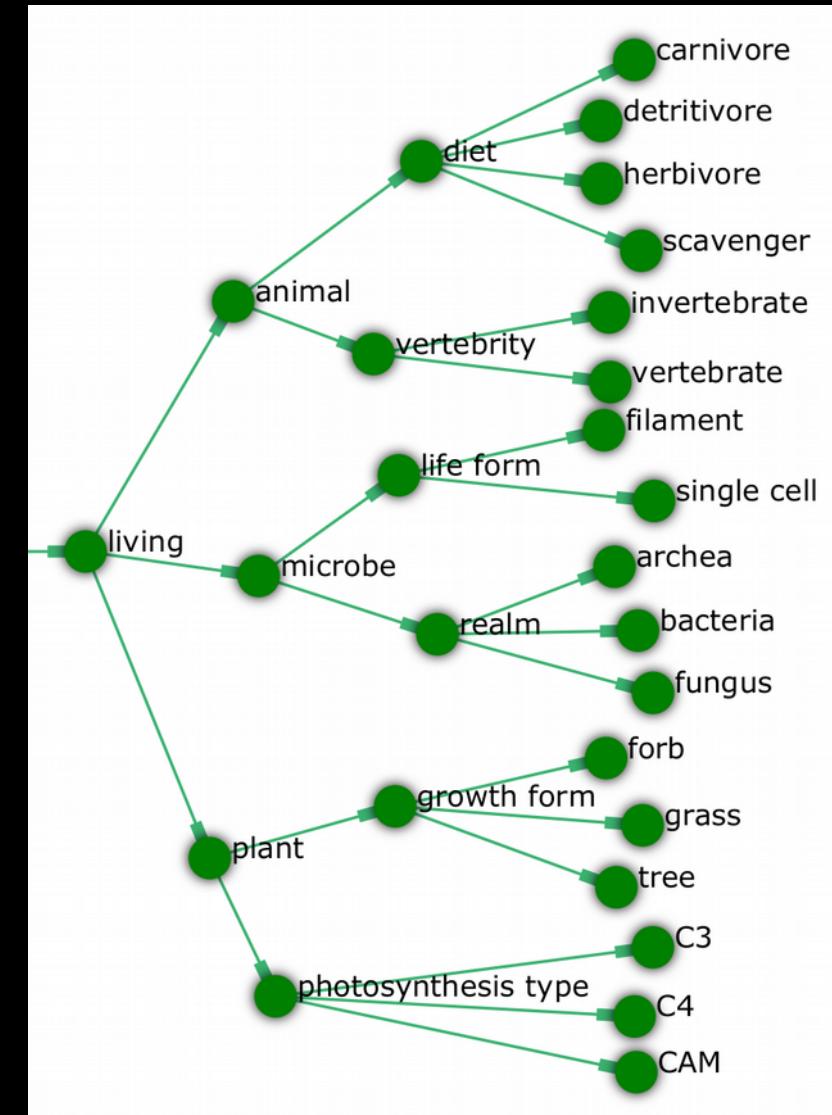
Members of a category:

- have the same descriptors
- are affected by the same processes

cf. the *class* concept in UML and OOP

<http://uml.org/what-is-uml.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Object-oriented_programming



Aspect 3: a dynamic system

Every possible *local* change in the graph state or structure is modelled by a specific function that can be modified to suit user needs:

- → ☀ **changeState & setInitialState**: changes the descriptor values of a component
- → ⚡ **deleteDecision**: a component decides to delete itself
- → ○ **createOther**: a component creates other components
- → ○ **changeCategoryDecision**: a component becomes member of other categories

Aspect 3: a dynamic system

Every possible *local* change in the graph state or structure is modelled by a specific function that can be modified to suit user needs:

- ○ → ○ — ○ **relateTo**: component establishes a relation to another component
- — ○ → ○ ⚡ ○ **maintainRelationDecision**: a component decides to keep/delete a relation
- — ○ → ○ — ○ **changeOtherState & setOtherInitialState**: a component changes the descriptor values of another component to which it is related
- — ○ → ○ ⚡ ○ — ○ **changeRelationState**: components at both ends of a relation change their descriptor values

Aspect 3: a dynamic system

Multiple *time models*

Simultaneous events as the rule
(contrary to MASS)

MONO_UNIT

single time unit, calendar-compatible (default value)

GREGORIAN

real calendar time

YEAR_365D

365-day years, no weeks, no months

YEAR_13M

28-day months, 13-month/52-week years

WMY

28-day months, 12-month/48-week years

MONTH_30D

30-day months, weeks replaced by 15-day fortnights

YEAR_366D

366-day year, months replaced by 61-day bi-months

LONG_TIMES

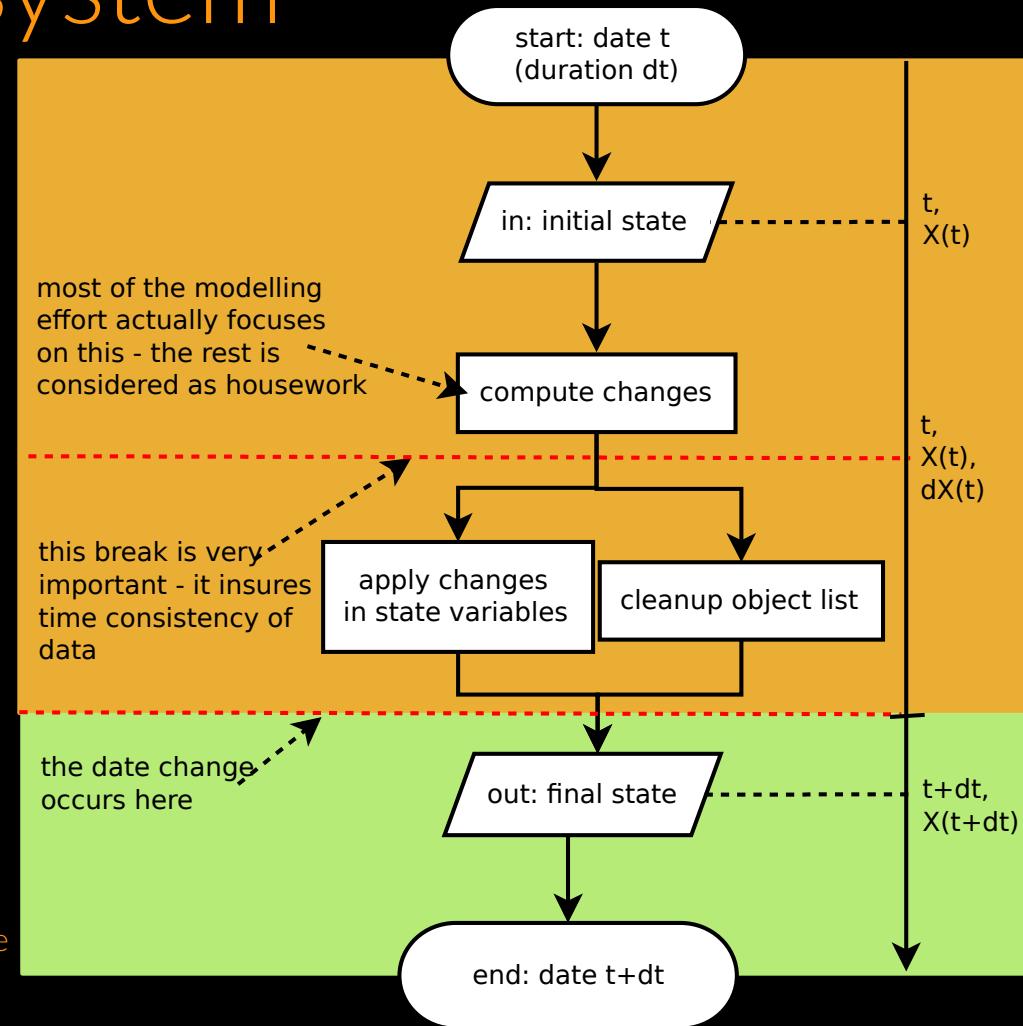
long time units only (month or longer), calendar-compatible

SHORT_TIMES

short time units only (week or shorter), calendar-compatible

ARBITRARY

arbitrary time units with no predefined name



Aspect 4: a (spatially) organised system

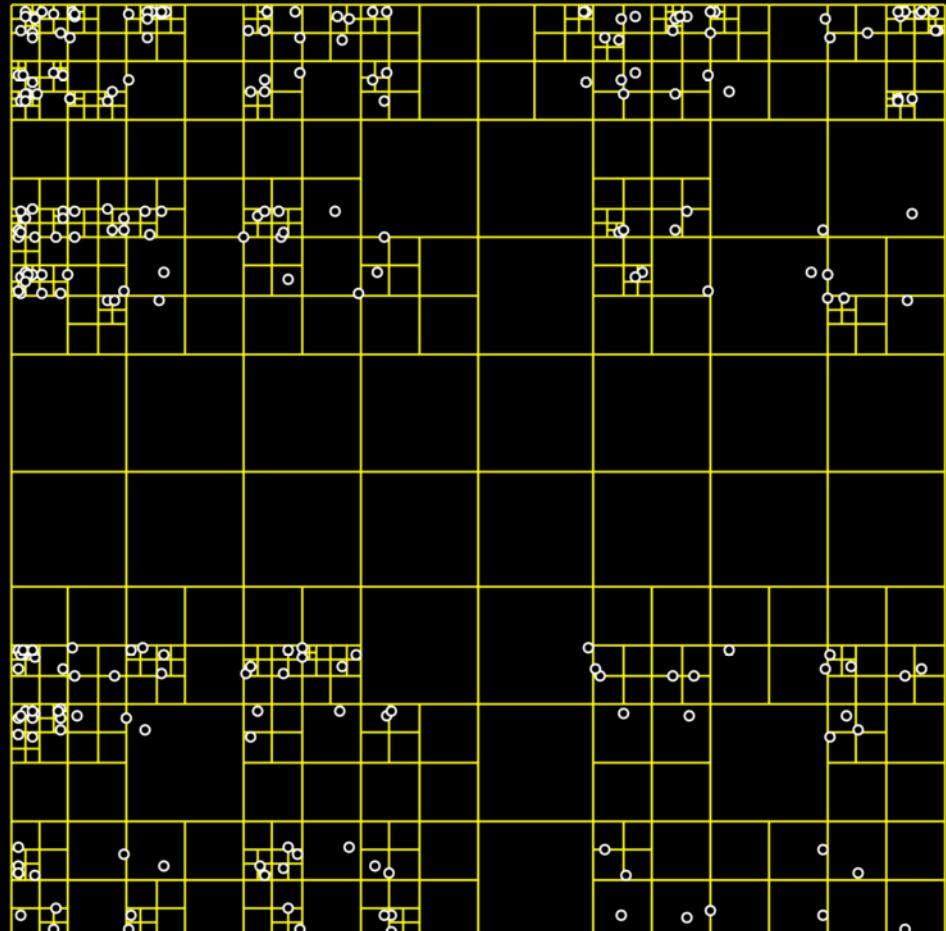
Space optional

Uses *Kd-trees* to optimize searches
for establishing relations

Samet H. 1984. *The Quadtree and Related
Hierarchical Data Structures*. Computing Surveys
16:187-260

6 different types of edge-effect
correction

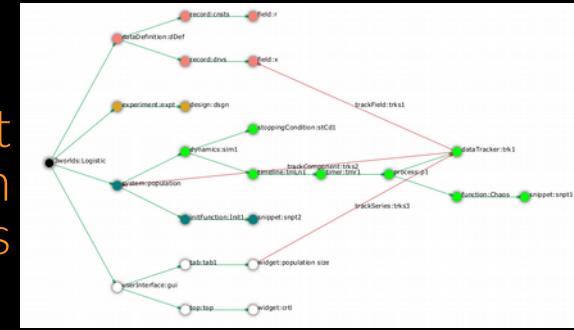
2 different types of space
[many more to come!]



Aspect 5: a representation of a system

the smallest configuration graph in 3Worlds

a bigger one

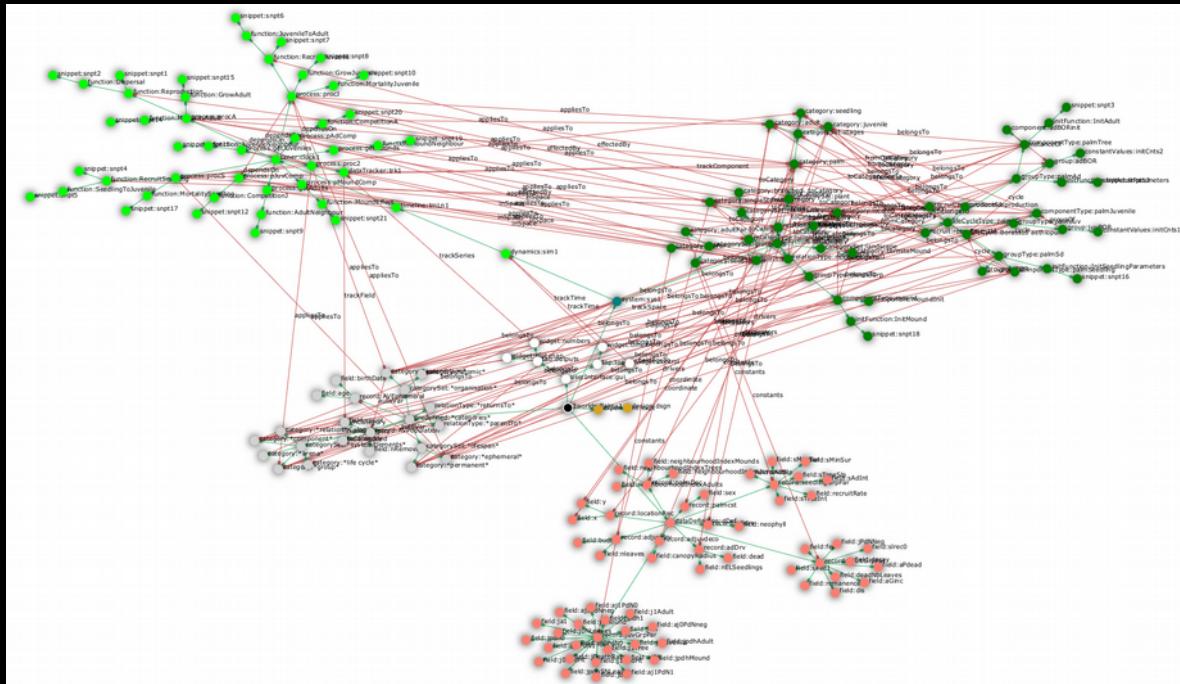


Configuration

- is a *graph* (static but editable)
 - is checked against an archetype

Flint S.R. 2006. Aspect-Oriented Thinking - An approach to bridging the disciplinary divides. PhD, Australian National University

- 's can be compared

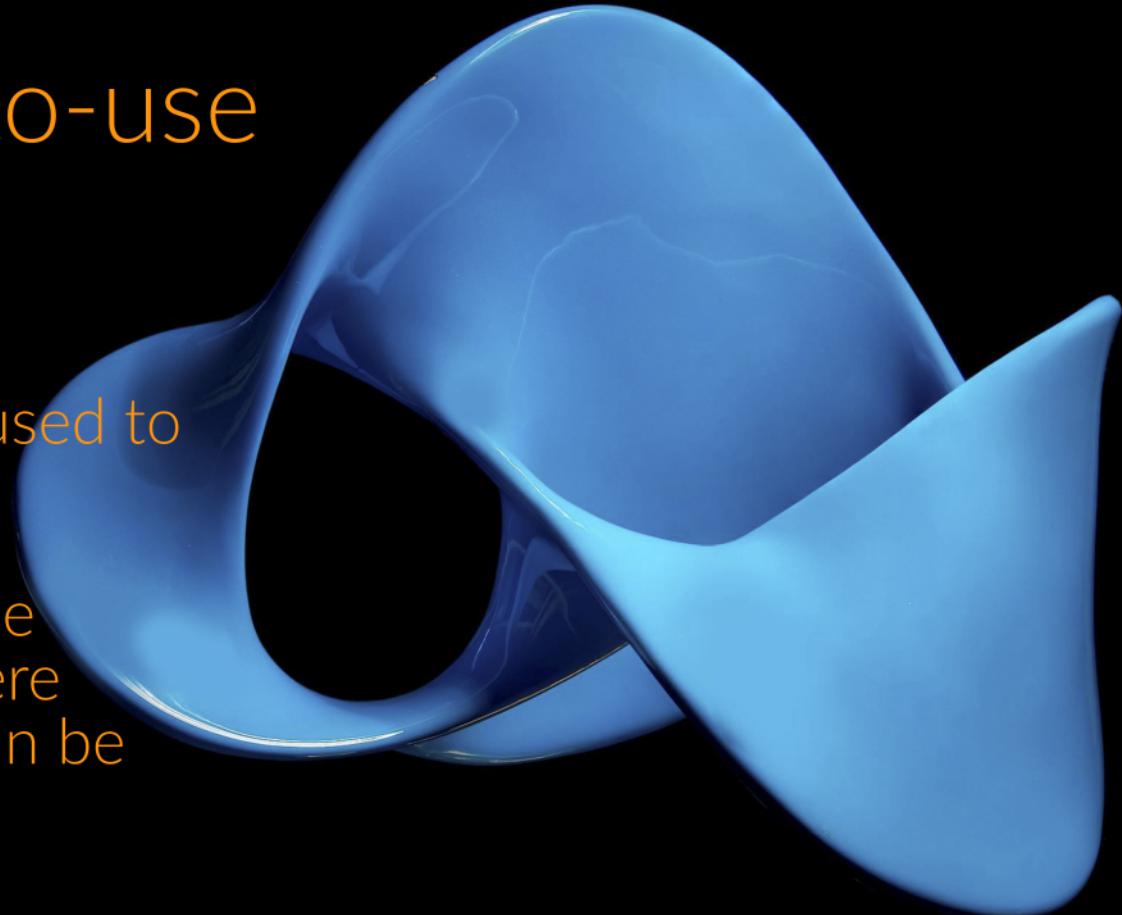


Aspect 6: an easy-to-use functional concept

Flexibility: any function can be used to represent an ecological process

For each 3Worlds model, a single 'user-code' file is generated where code for ecological processes can be edited

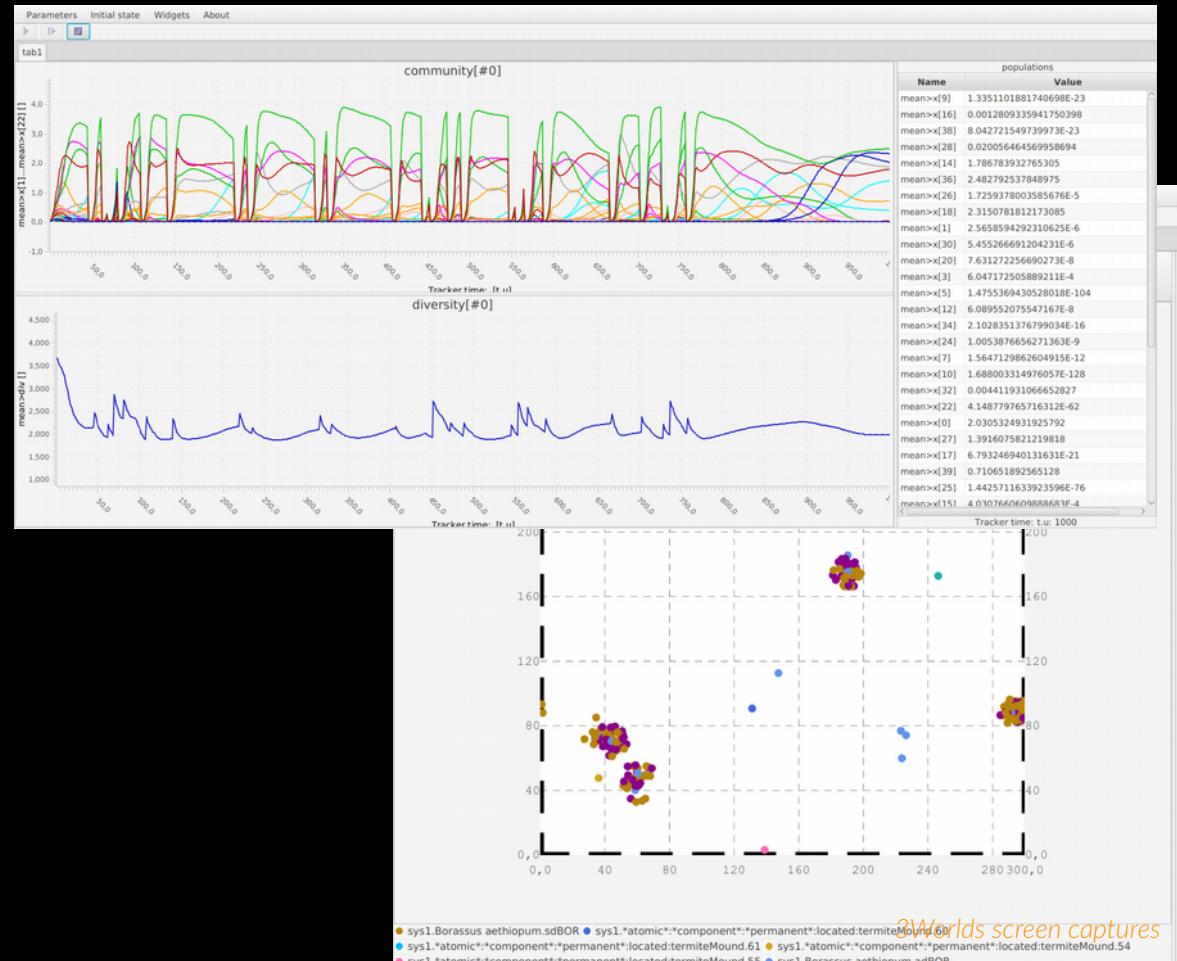
A complex IBM can be setup in one week of work.



this magnificent illustration of a 'figure eight knot' symbolizes the perfection and elegance of the 3Worlds software solutions. Of course it has nothing to do here

Aspect 7: a scientific object

Use case 1 :
developing model
quick feedback on outputs



Aspect 7: a scientific object

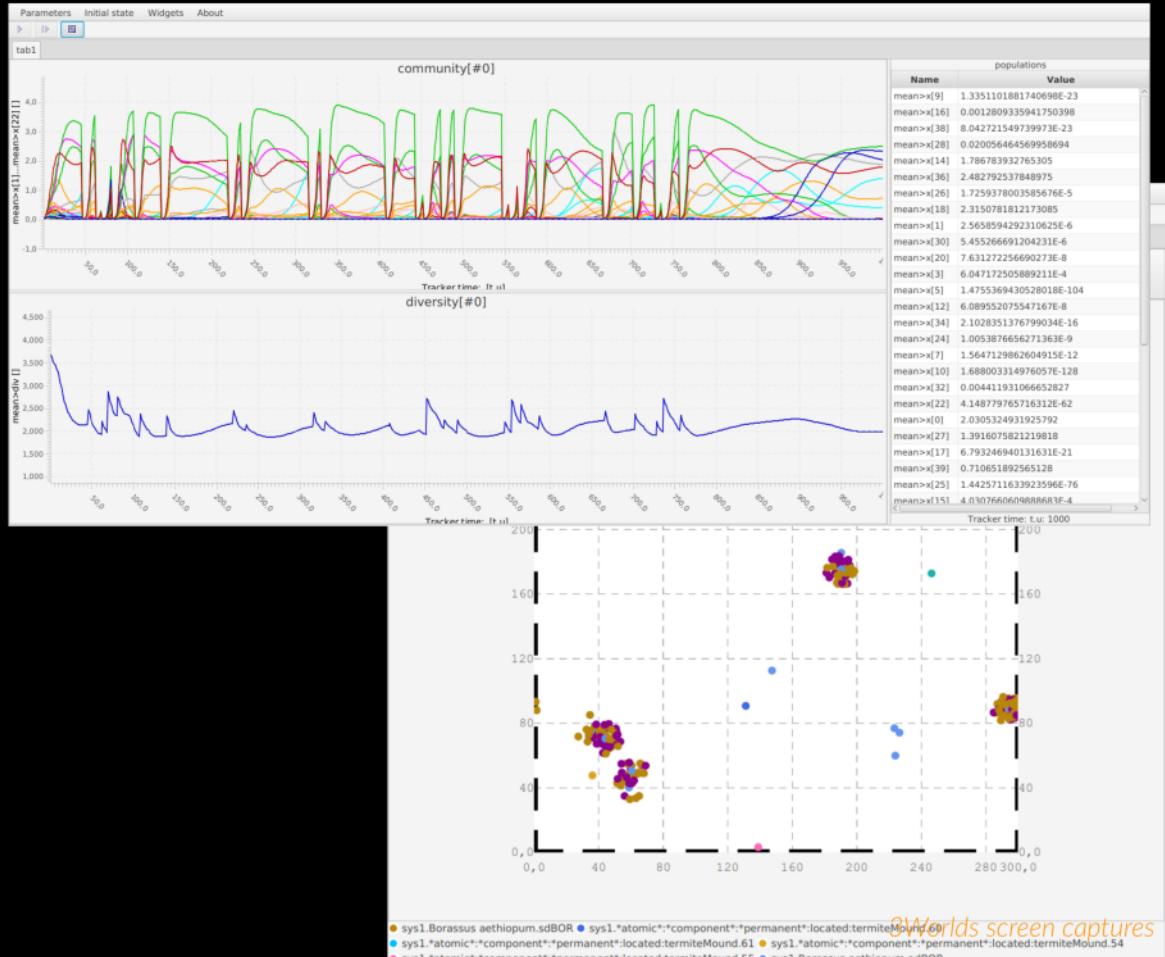
Use case 1 :
developing model
quick feedback on outputs

Use case 2 :
simulation experiment
parallel computing

[coming soon :
OpenMole integration
<https://openmole.org/>]



OpenMOLE
the model exploration software



Aspect 7: a scientific object

```
edge factory = java.lang.String(au.edu.anu.twcore.root.TwConfigFactory)
node factory = java.lang.String(au.edu.anu.twcore.root.TwConfigFactory)
// TREE
3worlds Palms
authors = au.edu.anu.rscs.aot.collections.tables.StringTable(([1] ""))
PUBLISHER = java.lang.String("Gignoux (21 déc. 2020)")
contacts = au.edu.anu.rscs.aot.collections.tables.StringTable(([1] ""))
precis = java.lang.String()
publication = au.edu.anu.rscs.aot.collections.tables.StringTable(([1] ""))
version = java.lang.String()
predefined *categories*
    categorySet *organisation*
        category *assemblage*
        category *atomic*
record AVEphemeral
    field birthDate
        interval = fr.ens.biologie.generic.utils.Interval()[-∞,+∞[)
        precision = java.lang.Double(0.0)
        type = fr.cnrs.iees.twcore.constants.DataElementType(Double)
        units = java.lang.String()
    field age
        interval = fr.ens.biologie.generic.utils.Interval([0.0,+∞[)
        precision = java.lang.Double(0.0)
        type = fr.cnrs.iees.twcore.constants.DataElementType(Double)
        units = java.lang.String()
record AVPopulation
    field count
        range = au.edu.anu.rscs.aot.util.IntegerRange(0..*)
        type = fr.cnrs.iees.twcore.constants.DataElementType(Integer)
        units = java.lang.String(#)
    field nRemoved-
```

Provenance made easy:

2 files fully describe a model (possibly more if input data): the configuration graph and the user java code

Aspect 7: a scientific object

```

edge factory = java.lang.String(au.edu.anu.twcore.root.TwConfigFactory)
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        units = java.lang.String(#)
field nRemoved-

```

Provenance made easy:

2 files fully describe a model (possibly more if input data): the configuration graph and the user java code

ODD (Overview, Design, Details): a standard for model description

Grimm et al. 2006. *Ecol. Model.* 198:115–126.

Grimm et al. 2010. *Ecol. Model.* 221:2760–2768.

3Worlds automatically generates an ODD skeleton for any model as an OpenOffice file

.it doesn't yet write the article, though.

Overview

1. Purpose
2. Entities, state variables, and scales
3. Process overview and scheduling

Design concepts

- 4. Design concepts
 - Basic principles
 - Emergence
 - Adaptation
 - Objectives
 - Learning
 - Prediction
 - Sensing
 - Interaction
 - Stochasticity
 - Collectives
 - Observation

Details

5. Initialization
6. Input data
7. Submodels

In practice so far...

java language for portability

~125,000 lines of code (GCMs 50-750,000)

2 applications:

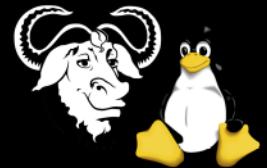
ModelMaker to edit configurations

ModelRunner to launch a simulation experiment
a **java IDE***, e.g. **eclipse** to write function details

runs on Linux, Mac, Windows

currently 15+ models [many more to come]

[optimisation to come]



We couldnt reproduce
the Windows and
MacOS logos because
they are not free

* integrated development
environment. A 'user friendly'
software to write code

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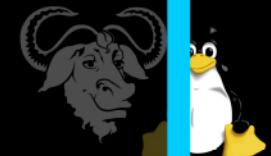
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Java™



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the Windows and
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* integrated development environment. A 'user friendly' software to write code

V. Some applications

'The garden of earthly delights'
triptych (closed) by
H. Bosch, 1503





The starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*).
Flies.
Loves being in a (huge) group.
Is very noisy and shits while perching.

A flock of starlings



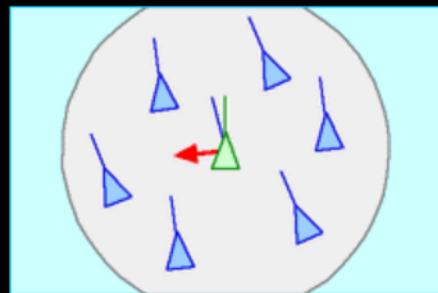
Fish also do it
(so one need not be very smart)



And it's very easy to model with only 3 rules:

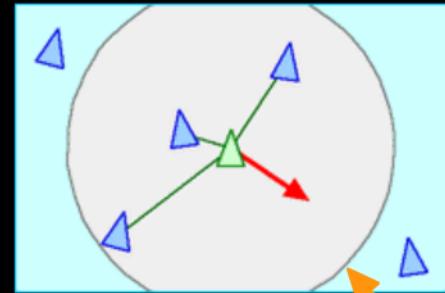
1

separation: avoid flockmates (close neighbours)



2

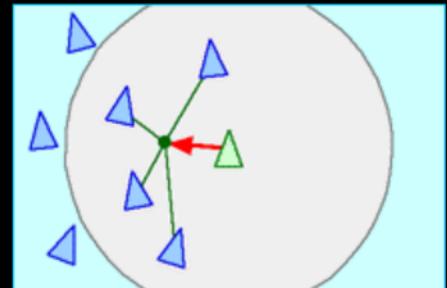
alignment: follow average heading of flockmates



visual field

3

cohesion: move towards barycentre of local flockmate group



Configuration:	
size	153
drivers	5
constants	3
decorators	8
component types	1

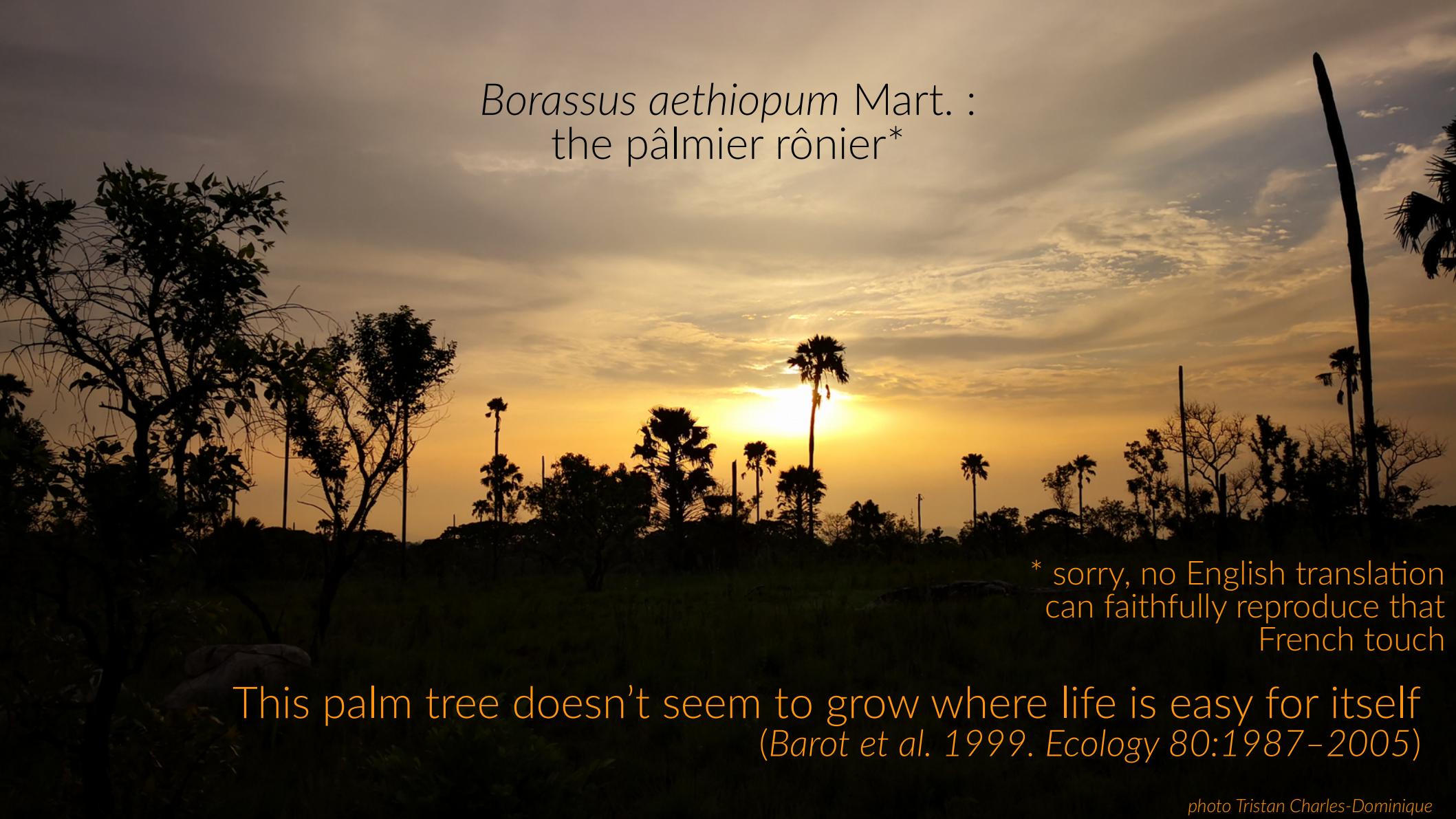
User code: 97 lines

```

move(...)
double x = xx;
double y = yy;
double incR = 0.0;
double incT = 0.0;
// default movement based on inertia, ie in the same direction as before + some random tilt
incR = speed;
incT = (random.nextDouble()*PI/4 - PI/8)/speed;
double radHeading = heading*PI/180+incT;
double moveX = incR*cos(radHeading);
double moveY = incR*sin(radHeading);
// if there are visible birds, add corrections:
if (nLocal>0){
    // rule 1: cohesion - flying towards the barycentre of the local group
    // move 1% towards the centre
    moveX += (avgX/nLocal-x)/100;
    moveY += (avgY/nLocal-y)/100;
    // rule 2: separation - avoid collision with other boids
    moveX += focalDec.avoidX/nLocal;
    moveY += focalDec.avoidY/nLocal;
    // rule 3: match movement to others
    moveX += (avgdX/nLocal-dX)/8;
    moveY += (avgdY/nLocal-dY)/8;
}
focalDrv.xx = x+moveX;
focalDrv.yy = y+moveY;
focalDrv.dX = moveX;
focalDrv.dY = moveY;
focalDrv.heading = acos(moveX/euclidianDistance(0.0,0.0,moveX,moveY))*180/PI;
if (moveY<0.0)
    focalDrv.heading = 360-focalDrv.heading;

prepareMove(...)
focalDec.avgHeading += other_heading;
focalDec.avgX += other_xx;
focalDec.avgY += other_yy;
focalDec.avgdX += other_dX;
focalDec.avgdY += other_dY;
focalDec.nLocal++;
// rule 2: avoid collisions
if (squaredEuclidianDistance(xx,yy,other_xx,other_yy)<safetyRange*safetyRange) {
    focalDec.avoidX -= (other_xx-xx);
    focalDec.avoidY -= (other_yy-yy);
}
focalDrv.xx = xx;
focalDrv.yy = yy;
otherDrv.xx = other_xx;
otherDrv.yy = other_yy;

```

A photograph showing the silhouettes of various trees, including palm trees, against a vibrant sunset or sunrise sky. The sky is filled with warm orange, yellow, and blue hues, with scattered clouds. The foreground is dark, making the tree silhouettes stand out.

Borassus aethiopum Mart. : the pâlmier rônier*

* sorry, no English translation
can faithfully reproduce that
French touch

This palm tree doesn't seem to grow where life is easy for itself
(Barot et al. 1999. Ecology 80:1987–2005)

A data-supported model

3 stages : seedling, juvenile, adult (categories)
adults reduce seedling and juvenile survival
termite mounds increase growth
reproduction starts at adult stage
seed dispersal is very short ranged
spatial pattern gets less aggregated with palm age

Barot & Gignoux 1999, *Biotropica*
Barot et al. 1999, *Oikos*
Barot & Gignoux 2003, *JVS*
Barot & Gignoux 1999, *Biotropica*
Barot et al. 1999, *Oikos*
Barot et al. 1999, *Ecology*

Hypotheses

1. *B. aethiopum* is lacking former dispersers (elephants and baboons) and its spatial pattern will change
2. Without termite mounds there will be no more palm trees in Lamto



photo Jacques Gignoux

Hypotheses

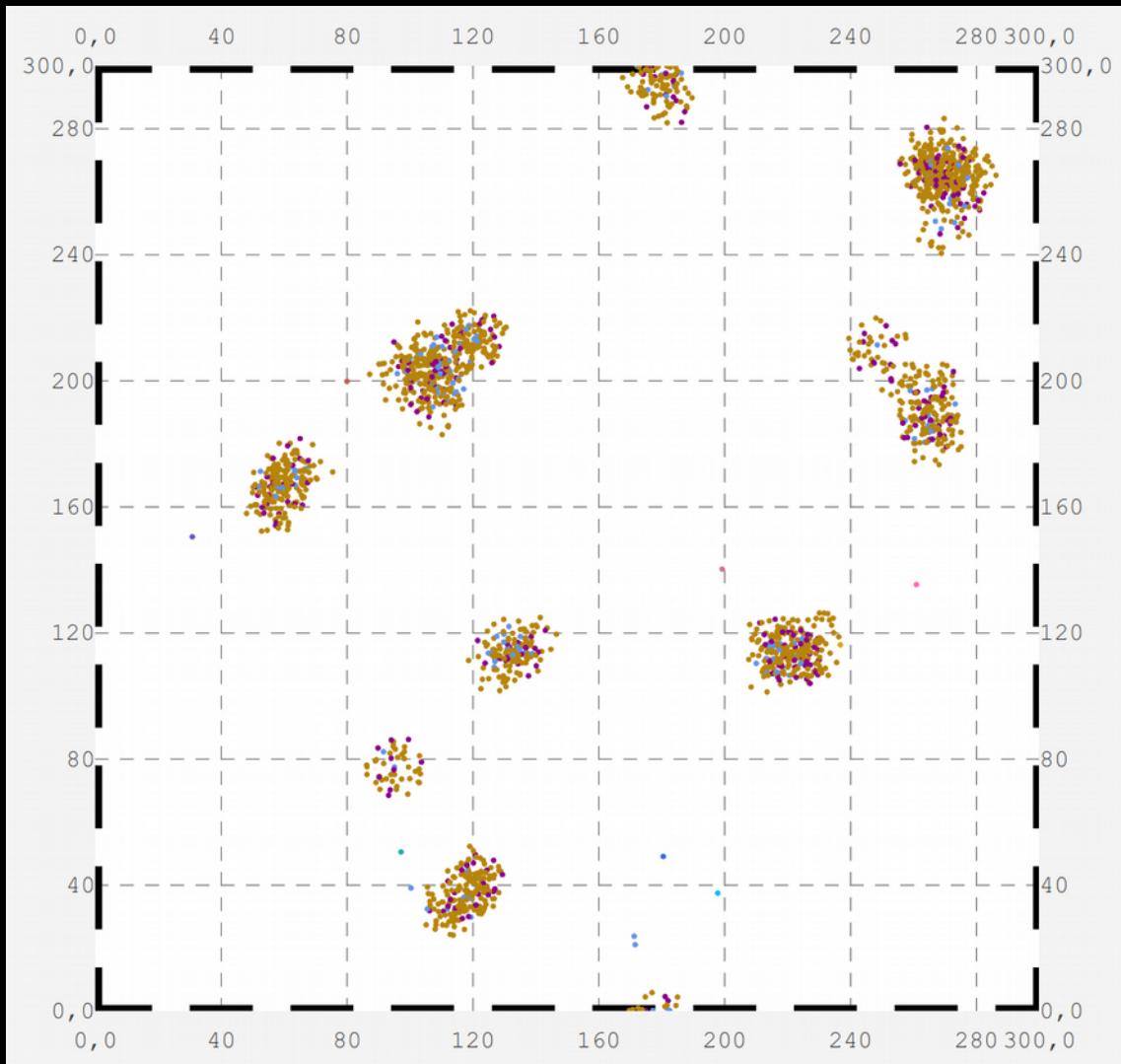
1. *B. aethiopum* is lacking former dispersers (elephants and baboons) and its spatial pattern will change

...

seedling and juveniles are still clumped around adults,

but

adults are much more clumped than in reality

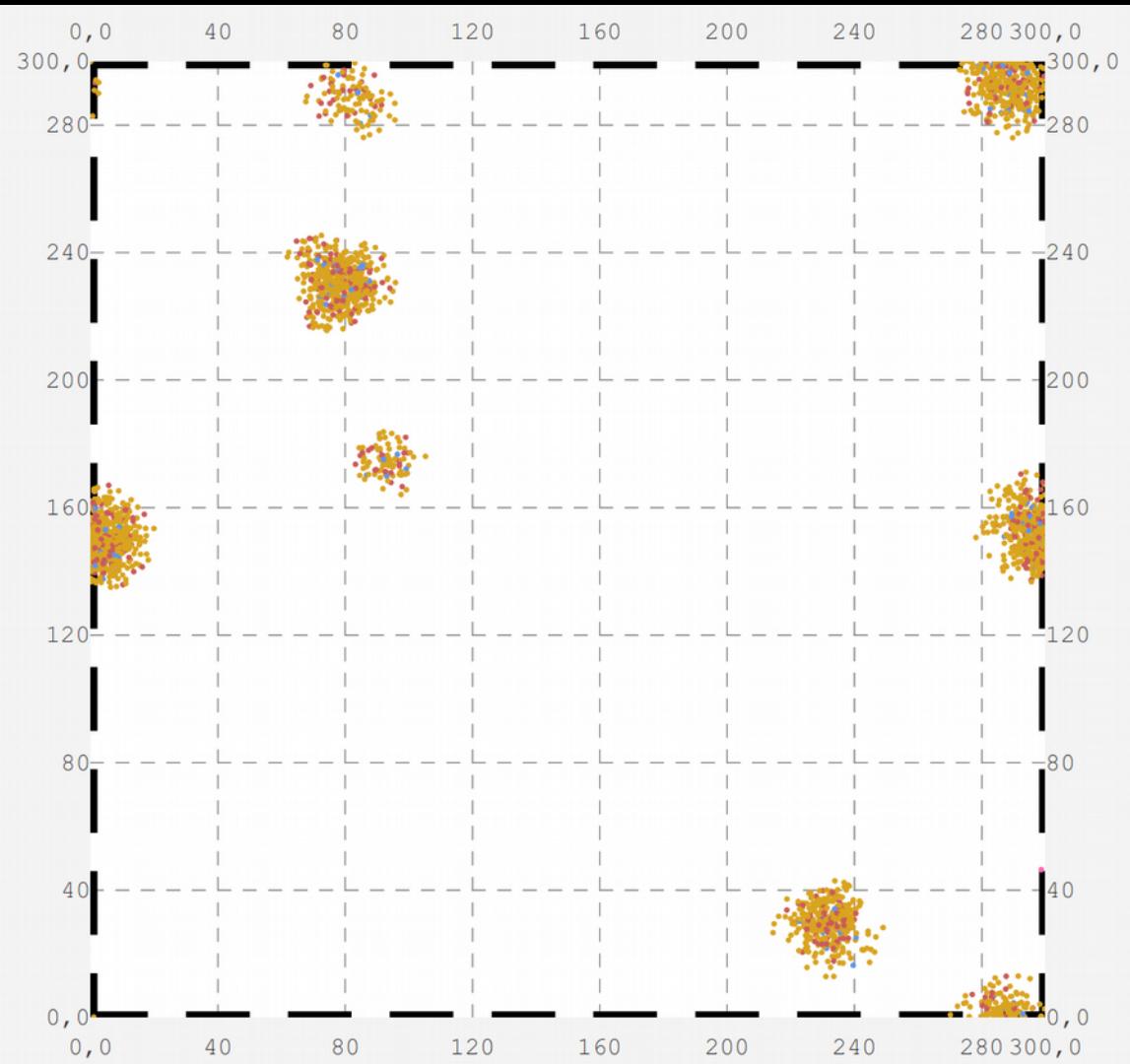


Hypotheses

2. Without termite mounds
there will be no more palm
trees in Lamto

...

The difference is not obvious.
A formal simulation
experiment is needed.



Configuration:

size	627
drivers	5
constants	43
decorators	5
component types	4
relation types	3

User code: 217 lines

```
moundEffect(...)
// relative distance weight, ie = 1 if at focal location, =0 at searchRadius distance
double weight = 1-euclidianDistance(x,y,other_x,other_y)/searchRadius;
focalDec.neighbourhoodIndexMounds += weight;

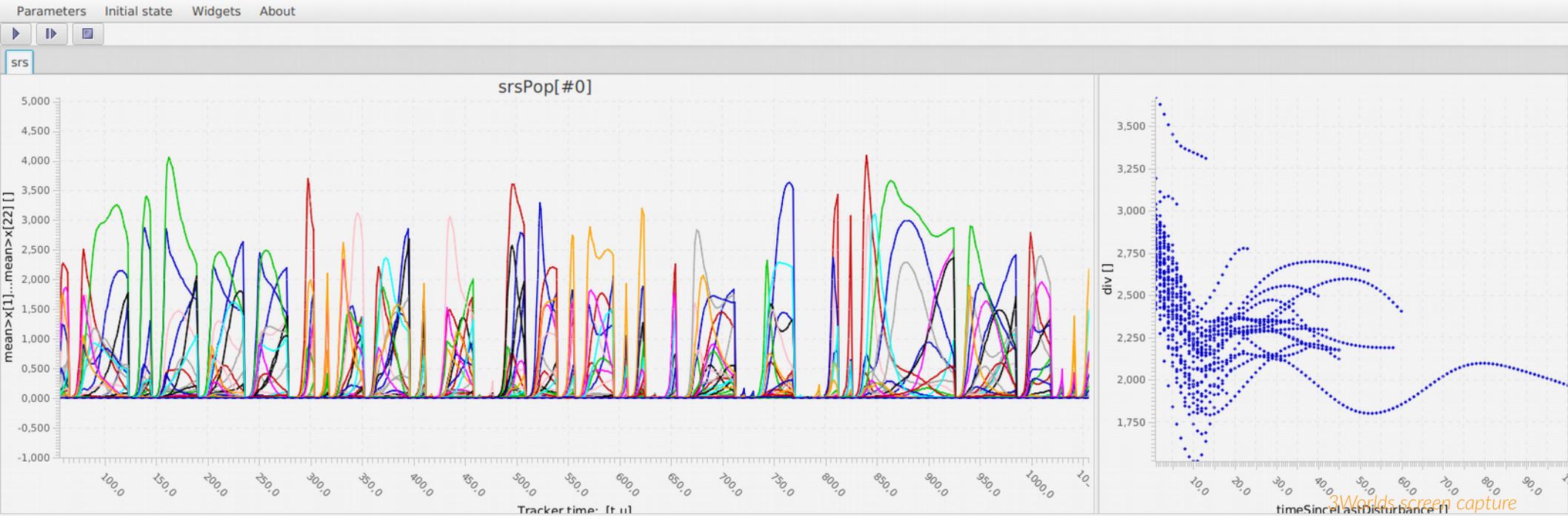
mortalityAdult(...)
if (dead>=group_remanence)
    return true;
else
    return false;

juvenileNeighbour(...)
return true;

growJuvenile(...)
double crownSurface = PI*sqr(canopyRadius);
double niMound = neighbourhoodIndexMounds/crownSurface; // TODO: replace by
neighbourhood index
double niTree=0;
double niAdult = neighbourhoodIndexAdults/crownSurface;
double niJuv = neighbourhoodIndexJuveniles/crownSurface;
// increment in number of leaves
double[] proba = new double[3];
if (budHt>0.0) {
    double neighb = group_j0Mound*niMound + group_j0NLeaves*nleaves;
    double logit = neighb + group_aj0PdNneg;
    proba[0] = 1/(1+exp(-logit));
    logit = neighb + group_aj0PdNO;
    proba[1] = 1/(1+exp(-logit));
    logit = neighb + group_aj0PdN1;
    proba[2] = 1/(1+exp(-logit));
}
else {
    double neighb = group_j1Tree*niTree + group_j1Adult*niAdult +
group_j1Juvenile*niJuv + group_j1BudHt*budHt;
    double logit = neighb + group_aj1PdNneg;
    proba[0] = 1/(1+exp(-logit));
    logit = neighb + group_aj1PdNO;
    proba[1] = 1/(1+exp(-logit));
    logit = neighb + group_aj1PdN1;
    proba[2] = 1/(1+exp(-logit));
}
double real = random.nextDouble();
int result = 3;
for (int i=0; i<3; i++)
    if (real<proba[i]) {
        result = i;
        break;
}
int dN = result-1; // possible outcomes: 1,0,1,2
```

Testing the intermediate disturbance hypothesis

40 species following Lotka-Volterra competition model (random parameters), 2 disturbances.



Configuration:

size	127
drivers	41
constants	122
decorators	2
component types	2

User code: 57 lines

```
effects(..)
for (int i=0; i<other_x.size(); i++) {
    if (other_x.getByInt(i)>other_K.getByInt(i)*intensity/100000)
        otherDrv.x.setByInt(otherDrv.x.getByInt(i)*other_K.getByInt(i)*intensity/
10000, i);
}
otherDrv.lastDistT = t;

initComm(..)
double initfreq = 1.0/x.size();
focalDrv.x.fillWith(initfreq);
for (int i=0; i<r.size(0); i++) {
    focalCnt.r.setByInt(random.nextDouble(),i);
    focalCnt.K.setByInt(5.0+initfreq+random.nextDouble(),i);
    for (int j=0; j<alpha.size(1); j++) {
        if (i==j)      focalCnt.alpha.setByInt(1.0,i,j);
        else          focalCnt.alpha.setByInt(max(0.0001,random.nextDouble()),i,j);
    }
}
focalDrv.lastDistT = 0.0;

setup(..)
return true;

growth(..)
// population growth
double[] dxdt = new double[x.size(0)];
for (int i=0; i<x.size(0); i++) {
    double sum = 0;
    for (int j=0; j<alpha.size(1); j++)
        sum += alpha.getByInt(i,j) * x.getByInt(j);
    dxdt[i] = r.getByInt(i) * x.getByInt(i) * (1-sum/K.getByInt(i));
}
for (int i=0; i<dxdt.length; i++)
    focalDrv.x.setByInt(max(x.getByInt(i)+dxdt[i]*dt,0.0), i);
// compute diversity
double xtot = 0.0;
for (int i=0; i<focalDrv.x.size(0);i++)
    xtot += focalDrv.x.getByInt(i);
focalDec.div = 0.0;
for (int i=0; i<focalDrv.x.size(0);i++)
    if (focalDrv.x.getByInt(i)>0.0)
        focalDec.div -= (focalDrv.x.getByInt(i)/xtot) *
log(focalDrv.x.getByInt(i)/xtot);
// compute time since last disturbance
focalDec.timeSinceLastDisturbance = t-lastDistT;

initDict(..)
```

VI. Conclusions

1. to couple approaches of a complex system, use aspect-oriented thinking
2. any ecosystem can be modelled with a dynamic graph
- 3Worlds is there*, use it!

*Well... come and see me after the talk

VII. Needs & future plans

testers:

- develop models
- check GUIs
- check checks

programmers:

- space library
- openMole integration
- optimisation
- graph analysis



VII. Needs & future plans

testers:

develop models

check GUIs

check checks

programmers

space library

openMole integration

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graph analysis

**And, anyway, what do you
have against science-fiction
when people spend billions
to grow tomatoes on Mars?**