# How Quorum Sensing Interactions Affect Population Structure 02-712 Final Project

Sid Reed, Neel Mehtani, Sarah Wenger, Deepika Yeramosu, Evan Trop

Computational Biology Department, Carnegie Mellon University

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# Background

## Quorum-Sensing Systems

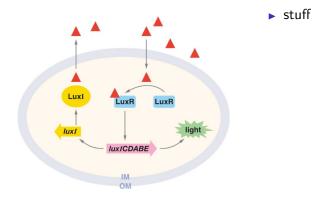


Figure 1: Waters and Bassler (2005)

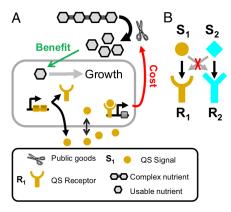


Figure 2: Eldar (2011)

When quorum is reached, bacteria produce a "public good"

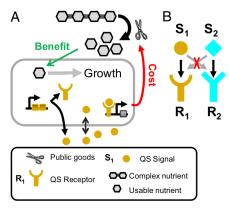


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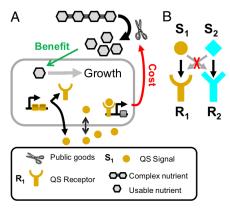


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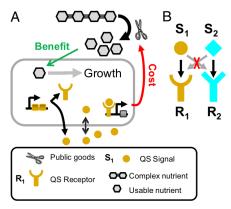


Figure 2: Eldar (2011)

- When quorum is reached, bacteria produce a "public good"
- Everyone benefits from this even if they don't contribute
- Must produce the receptor, signal molecule and good to contribute
- Cheaters DO prosper (if you are a bacterium)

## Who Cares?

▶ check the discussion from Eldar (2011) for references

Maintaining Freeloaders as a Diversity Reservoir

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Kin Recognition for Strains

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Maintaining Freeloaders as a Diversity Reservoir

Kin Recognition for Strains

Designing Cheaters to Disrupt Pathogen Growth

#### Model

# Signal-Receptor Activation Matrix $K_{ac}$

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- ▶ Represents all receptors-signal pairs  $(R_iS_i)$  present in at least 1 OTU in the population
- ▶ Different sets of receptor-signal combinations can produce the same  $K_{ac}$
- $K_{ac}$  is of dimension  $|R| \times |S| = |N| \times |N|$

#### Facultative Cheaters

Matrix for 2 strains  $R_1S_1$  and  $R_2S_2$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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#### **Custom Matrix**

Matrix for 2 strains  $R_1R_2S_1$  and  $R_2S_2$ or 3 strains  $R_1S_1$ ,  $R_2S_1$  and  $R_2S_2$ 

## Results

## Bibliography I

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