

Integration of ecological networks in a theoretical stochastic model of biogeography

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Macroecological signals of species interactions in the Danish avifauna

Nicholas J. Gotelli^{a,1}, Gary R. Graves^b, and Carsten Rahbek^c

^aDepartment of Biology, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405; ^bDepartment of Vertebrate Zoology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20013; and ^cCenter for Macroecology, Evolution and Climate, Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark

Communicated by Thomas W. Schoener, University of California, Davis, CA, December 21, 2009 (received for review August 6, 2009)

The role of intraspecific and interspecific interactions in structuring continental mainland regions (23). Inferences of community

Biogeography and interactions

- It may be a matter of scale. The question must be recast :
How interaction consequences propagate over spatial scales ?



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The geographic scaling of biotic interactions

Miguel B. Araújo and Alejandro Rozenfeld

- Improvements are required in the theory of Biogeography.

Variables of interest

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Theoretical development

- Recent attempt for integrating a subset of the above mentioned variables :

PNAS

Bitrophic interactions shape biodiversity in space

Franck Jabot^{a,b} and Jordi Bascompte^{b,1}

^aLaboratoire d'Ingénierie pour les Systèmes Complexes, Institut National de Recherche en Sciences et Technologies pour l'Environnement et l'Agriculture, 63172 Aubière, France; and ^bIntegrative Ecology Group, Estación Biológica de Doñana, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, E-41092 Sevilla, Spain

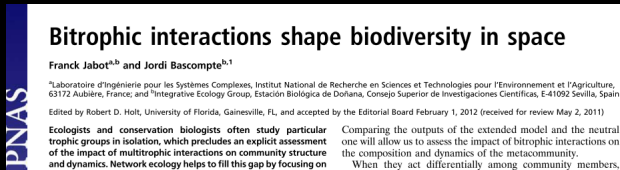
Edited by Robert D. Holt, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, and accepted by the Editorial Board February 1, 2012 (received for review May 2, 2011)

Ecologists and conservation biologists often study particular trophic groups in isolation, which precludes an explicit assessment of the impact of multitrophic interactions on community structure and dynamics. Network ecology helps to fill this gap by focusing on

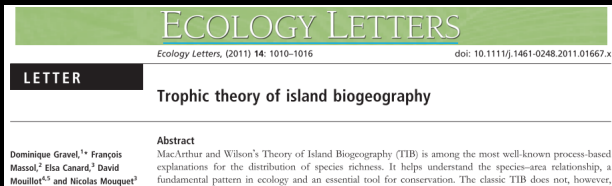
Comparing the outputs of the extended model and the neutral one will allow us to assess the impact of bitrophic interactions on the composition and dynamics of the metacommunity.
When they act differentially among community members,

Theoretical development

- Recent attempt for integrating a subset of the above mentioned variables :



- Trophic extension of the Theory of Island Biogeography (TTIB) :



Our Aim

- Supporting the development of the theory of Biogeography.

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- Generalizing the TTIB model to any kind of networks.

Theory of Island Biogeography (1967)

- 1 The theory of MacArthur and Wilson is often summarized as follows :

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = c(P - S) - eS$$

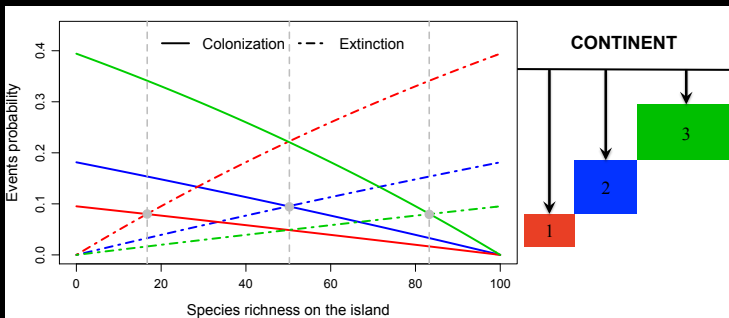
Theory of Island Biogeography (1967)

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- 2 Equilibrium reached for :

$$S_{eq} = P \frac{c}{c + e}$$



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- Let us consider 2 species 1 and 2
- Presence on the island : $X_t = (X_{1,t}, X_{2,t})$
- 4 possible states for X_t :
 $S_1 = (1, 1), S_2 = (1, 0), S_3 = (0, 1), S_4 = (0, 0)$

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- How to switch from X_t to X_{t+dt} ?
- Markov chain !

Transition Matrix of the Markov Chains

For independent species :

$(X_{1,t}, X_{2,t})$	$(X_{1,t+dt}, X_{2,t+dt})$			
	$(1,1)$	$(1,0)$	$(0,1)$	$(0,0)$
$(1,1)$	$(1 - e_1 dt)(1 - e_2 dt)$	$(1 - e_1 dt)e_2 dt$	$e_1 dt(1 - e_2 dt)$	$e_1 dt e_2 dt$
$(1,0)$	$(1 - e_1 dt)c_2 dt$	$(1 - e_1 dt)(1 - c_2 dt)$	$e_1 dt c_2 dt$	$e_1 dt(1 - c_2 dt)$
$(0,1)$	$c_1 dt(1 - e_2 dt)$	$c_1 dt e_2 dt$	$(1 - c_1 dt)(1 - e_2 dt)$	$(1 - c_1 dt)e_2 dt$
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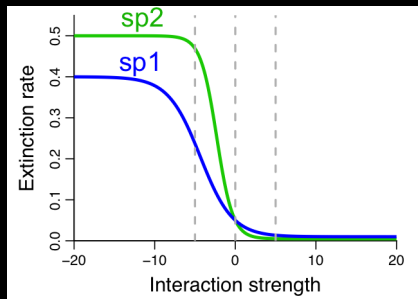
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- Generally applicable to n species.
- Probabilities of all communities at the equilibrium.

Transition Matrix of the Markov Chains

- How interactions impact presence probabilities ?

$$(\text{Interaction Strength})_t = BX_t$$



- Without interaction, classical model with $e = c$ and c is fixed.

Simulations

Given :

- ecological network

We get :

- presence probability of all communities at equilibrium
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Simulations

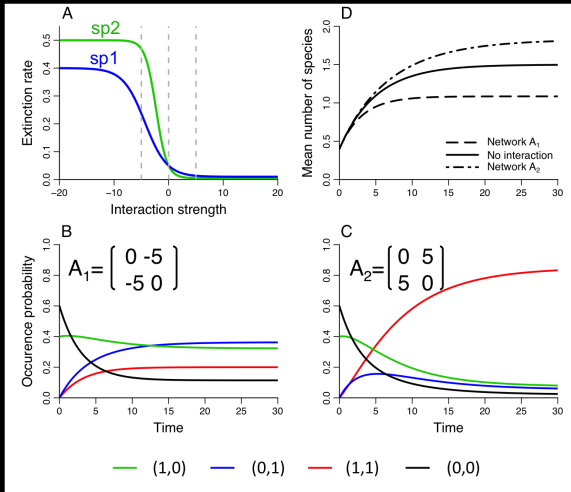
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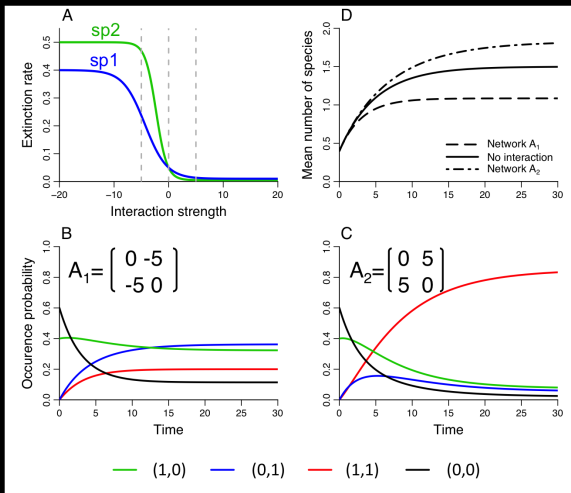
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Example with two species



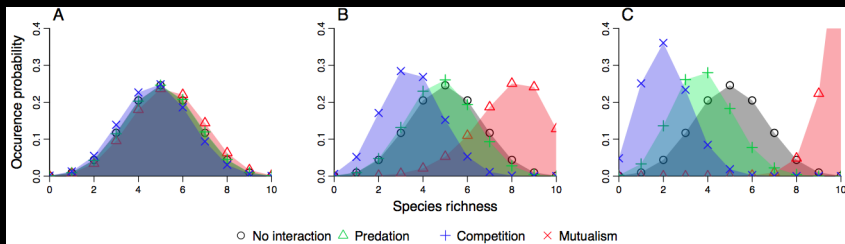
Example with two species



Exploration for networks of 10 species (niche model).

Presence probability of communities of a given diversity

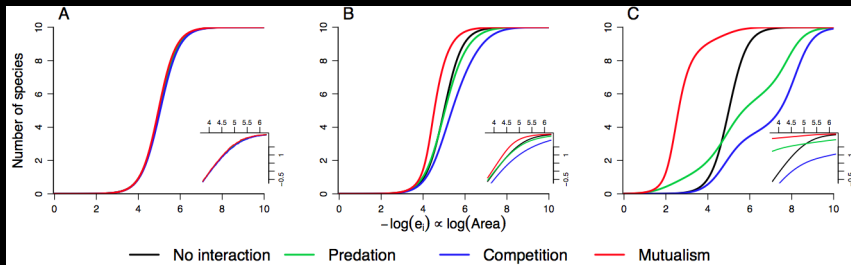
$$\mathbb{P}(S_{eq} = n) = \sum_{i \mid |S_i|^2 = n} \mathbb{P}(X_{eq} = S_i)$$



From A to C we increase the interaction strengths.

Species Area Relationship for interacting species

$$S_t = \sum_i \mathbb{P}(S_i) |S_i|^2$$



From A to C we increase the interaction strengths.

Towards applications ?

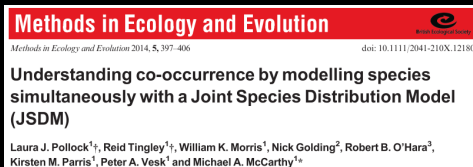
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- How to fit data ?
- Theoretical foundations for emerging approaches :



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- How the interaction propagate over spatial scales ?
- What the meaning of matrix B at large scale ?
- Is there a way to scale $B(\sigma)$?
- Are correlations sufficient to capture “signals” and conclude?

Towards applications ?

