

Game Theory

An Application in Behavioral Simulation

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Project Overview

Food appears in pairs daily; creatures move randomly towards these pairs.

Creature Strategies:

- Doves: Share food equally (50/50 split).
- Hawks: Attempt to take all food, leading to aggressive interactions.

Survival Rules:

- 1 food unit: Creature survives to the next day.
- 2 food units: Creature survives and reproduces.

Interaction Outcomes:

- Dove vs. Dove: Each gets 1 unit, both survive.
- Hawk vs. Dove: Hawk takes 1.5 units, might reproduce; Dove gets 0.5 units, survival chance 50%.
- Hawk vs. Hawk: Each gets 1 unit, high energy cost leads to no reproduction.

Vultures

Character Traits of Vultures:

- Extremely social; cannot survive alone. Alone at food pair = death.
- Meet another vulture at food pair = reproduce.
- Meet a dove at food pair = reproduce; dove survives.
- Hostile to hawks; always kills hawks when encountered. Vulture survives.



Theoretical Setup for the Baseline Model

$$D = H$$

$$d \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot h = d \cdot \frac{3}{2} + 0 \cdot h$$

$$\because 1 = d + h \therefore h = 1 - d$$

$$d \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot (1 - d) = d \cdot \frac{3}{2} + 0 \cdot (1 - d)$$

$$d = 0.5, \quad h = 0.5$$

	Dove	Hawk
Dove	1,1	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}$
Hawk	$\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$	0,0

Figure 2.1: Baseline Payoff Matrix

Changes in Payoff Matrix

	Dove	Hawk
Dove	1,1	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}$
Hawk	$\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}$

Figure 2.2: Altered Payoff Matrix

$$d = 0.\overline{3} \quad , \quad h = 0.\overline{6}$$

	Dove	Hawk
Dove	1,1	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}$
Hawk	$\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}$

Figure 2.3: Prisoner's Dilemma Case

$$d = -1 \quad , \quad h = 2$$

Code Overview

processInteractions Structure

```
1 processInteractions[pairs_] := Module[{newDoves = 0, newHawks = 0, u=  
    RandomReal[]},  
2     Do[  
3         Switch[pair,  
4             {1}, newDoves += 2; oneDove++,  
5             {2}, newHawks += 2; oneHawk++,  
6             {1, 1}, newDoves += 2; twoDoves++,  
7             {2, 2}, Null; twoHawks++,  
8             {1, 2} | {2, 1},  
9             If[RandomReal[] < 0.5, newHawks += 1, newHawks += 2];  
10            If[RandomReal[] < 0.5, newDoves += 0, newDoves += 1];  
11            doveAndHawk++  
12        ],  
13        {pair, pairs}  
14    ];  
15    {newDoves, newHawks}  
16 ];
```

- Interactions at each location are processed by **simulatePopulations**, using nested loops and a **Switch** statement to apply predefined hawk/dove behavior rules.
- Food allocation for hawks and doves is determined through random chance mechanisms, with results tracked using specific counters like **oneDove**, **twoHawks**, etc.

Scenario 2: Changing Payoffs

Changes in the Switch statement

```
1 ....  
2 {2, 2}, If[RandomReal[] > 0.75, newHawks += 1];  
3 If[RandomReal[] > 0.75, newHawks += 1];twoHawks++  
4 ....
```

- We change the payoff matrix so that if two hawks meet their probability of surviving is **25%**
- So, the probability of a hawk surviving will happen if **RandomReal[]** is more than **0.75**, which happens **25%** of the time.

Scenario 3: Prisoner's Dilemma

Changes in the Switch statement

```
1 ....  
2 {2, 2}, If[RandomReal[] > 0.25, newHawks += 1];  
3 If[RandomReal[] > 0.25, newHawks += 1];twoHawks++  
4 ....
```

- We change the payoff matrix so that if two hawks meet their probability of surviving is **75%**
- So, the probability of a hawk surviving will happen if **RandomReal[]** is more than **0.25**, which happens **75%** of the time.

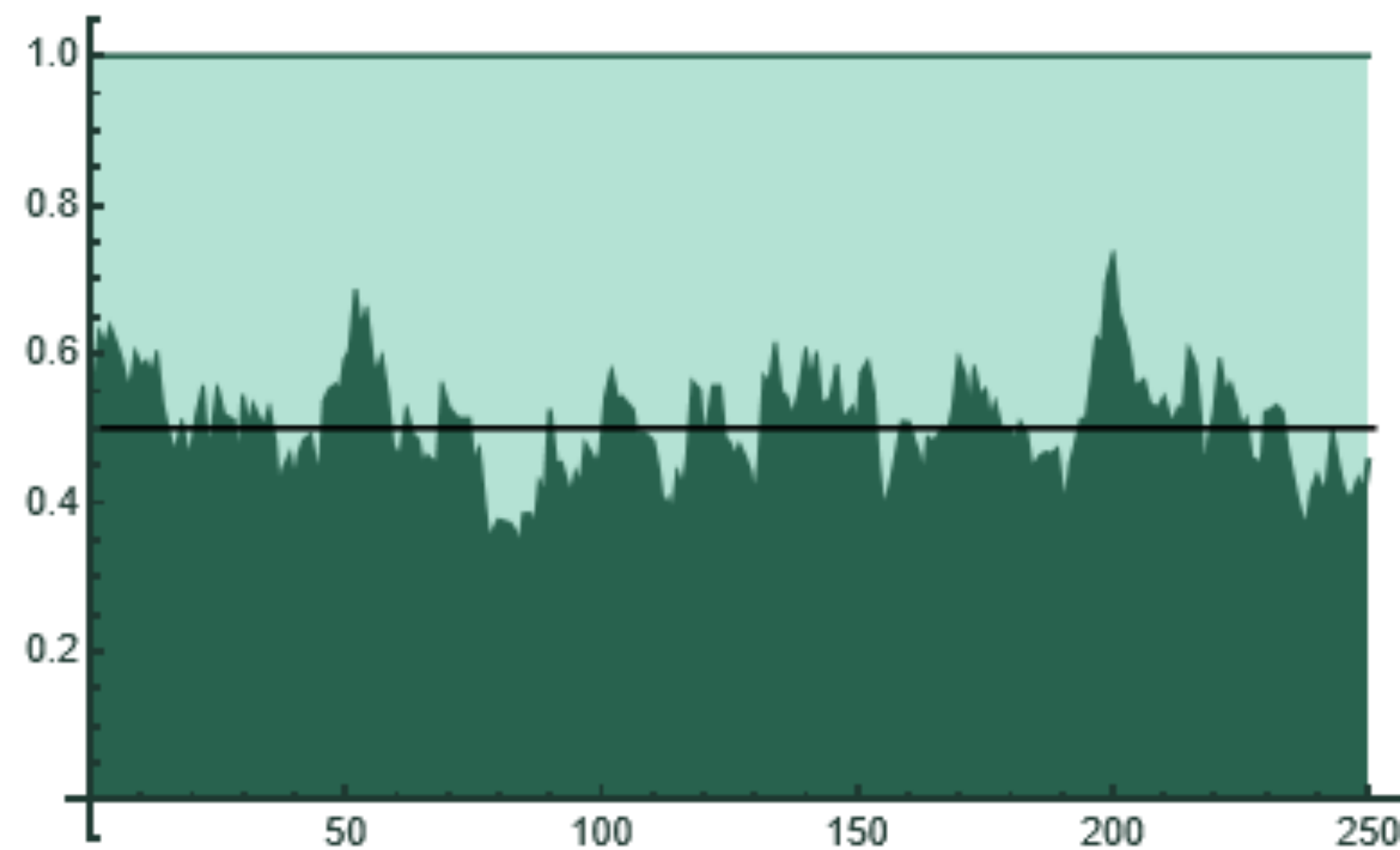
Vultures Code

processInteraction

```
1 {3}, Null; oneV++,  
2 .....  
3 {3, 3}, newV += 3; twoV++,  
4 {3, 2} | {2, 3}, newV += 1; VH++,  
5 {3, 1} | {1, 3}, newV += 2; newDoves++; VD++,  
6 .....
```

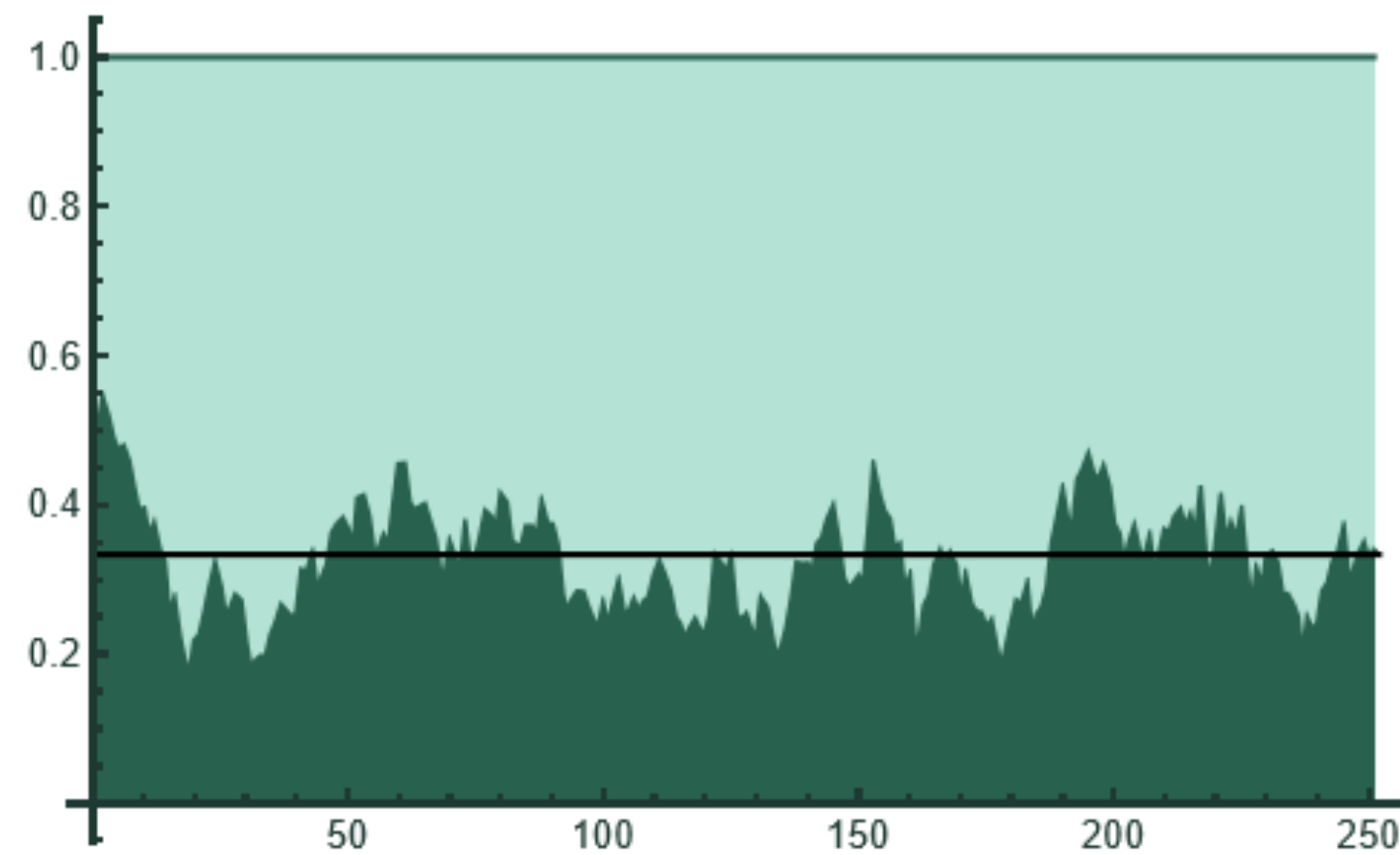
- We changed the **processInteraction** module where we add new conditions which reflects the characteristics of the **vultures**.

Baseline Scenario Results



0.487 ± 0.014 (95% CI)

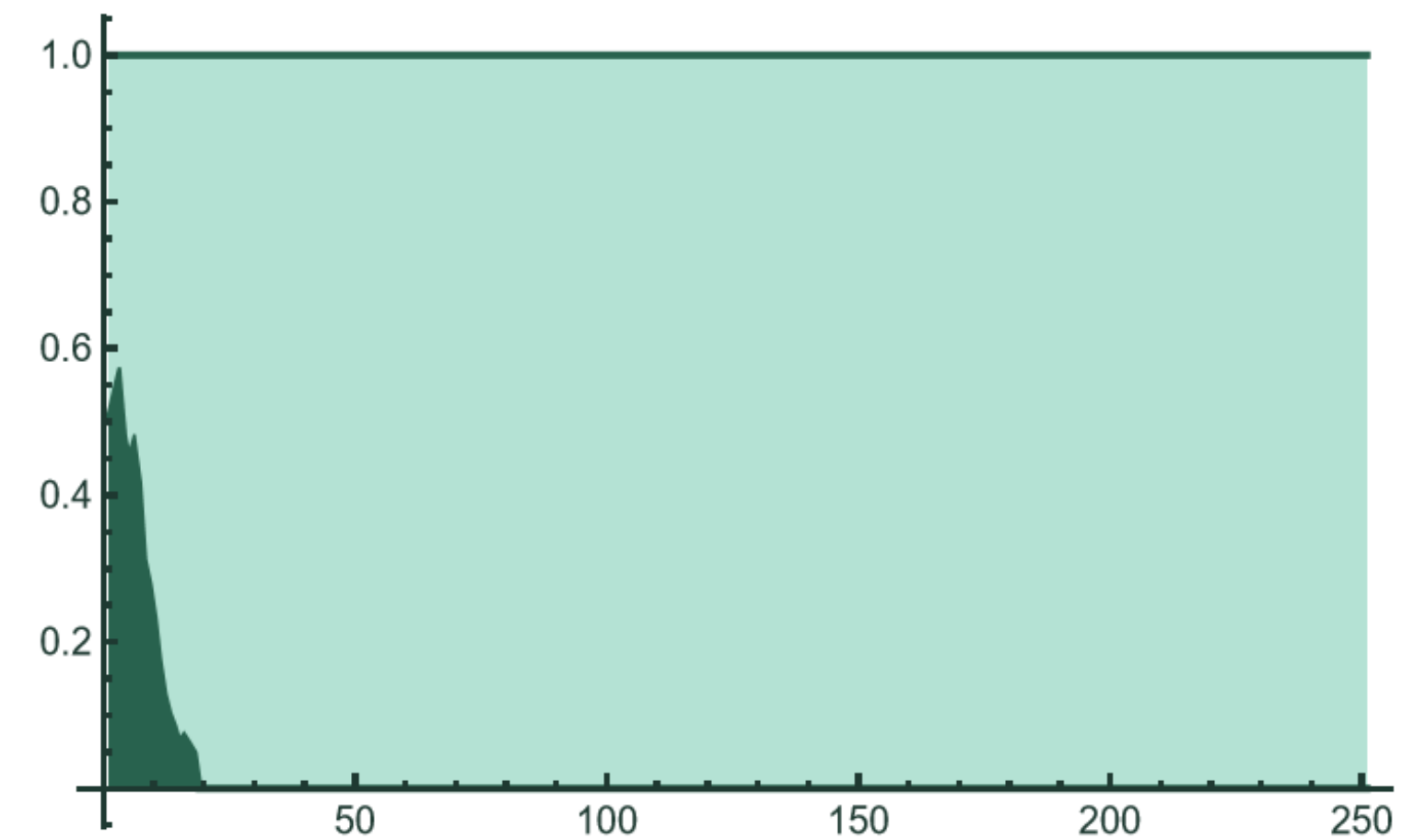
Changing Payoff Matrix Results



0.319 ± 0.015 (95% CI)



Hawks



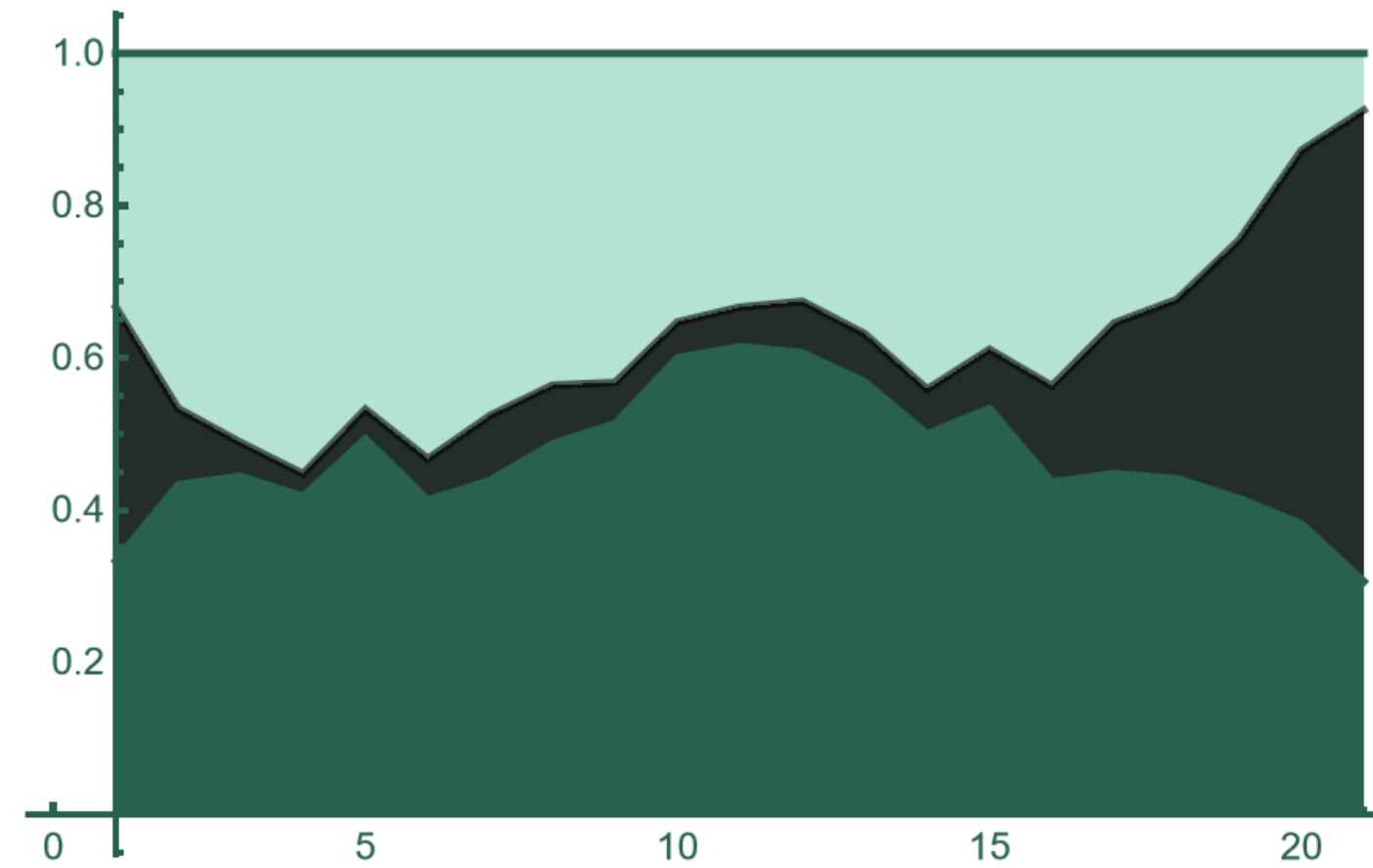
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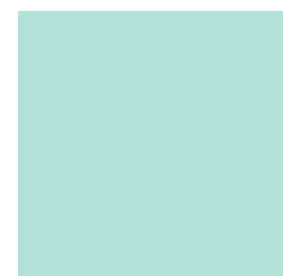
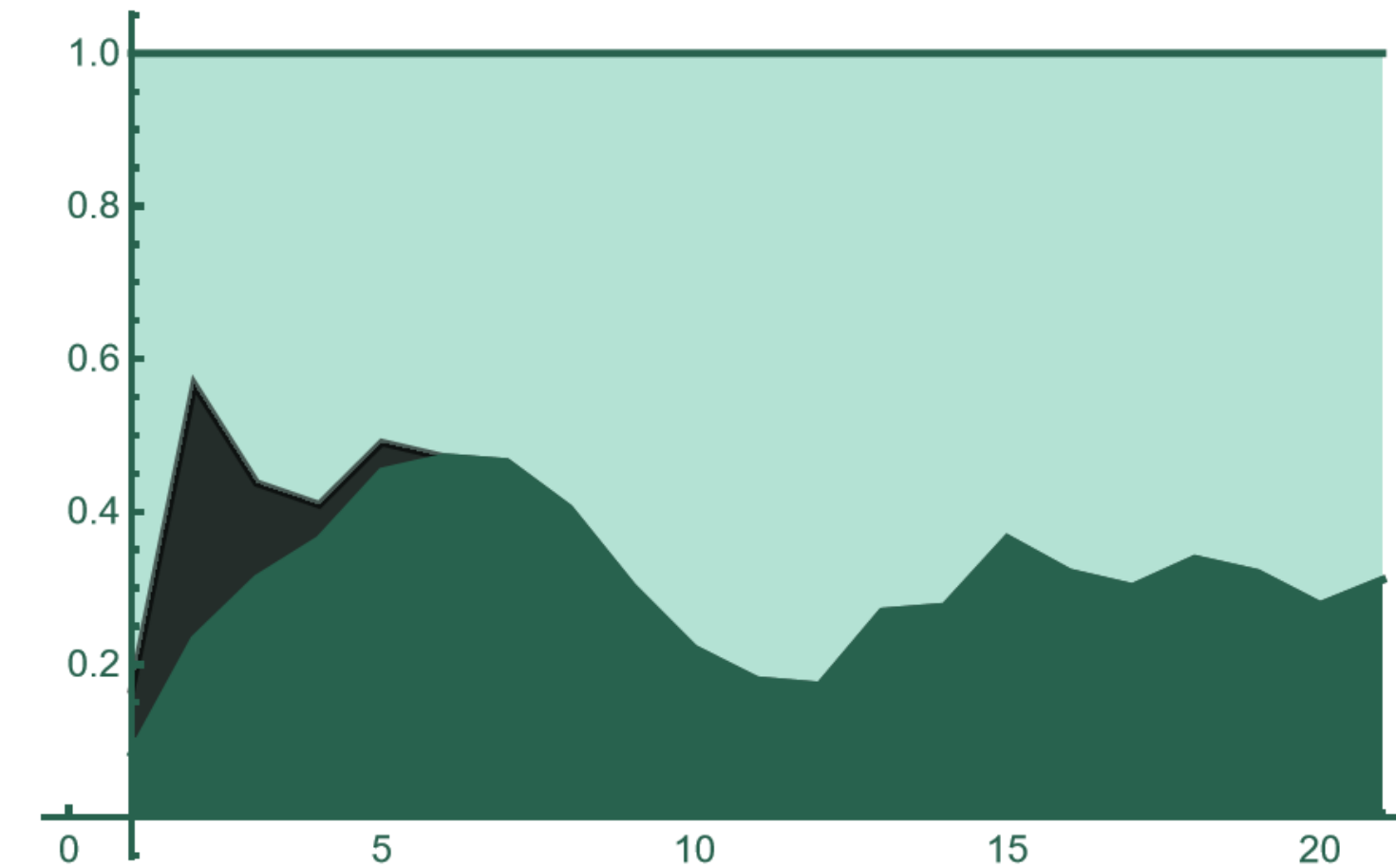
Doves

Simulating Vulture Behavior

Less Food



More Food



Hawks



Doves



Vultures

Thank you!



Time for questions

