#### **DUCKING RESPONSIBILITY**

How Laziness Pays off in Arctic Duck Populations



Advisor: Nessy Tania



Producer / Scrounger Behavior

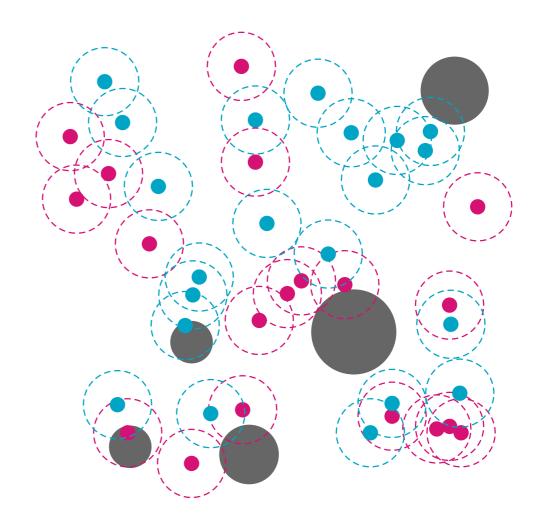
Scarce Food Patchy Distribution

#### **ODE Model**

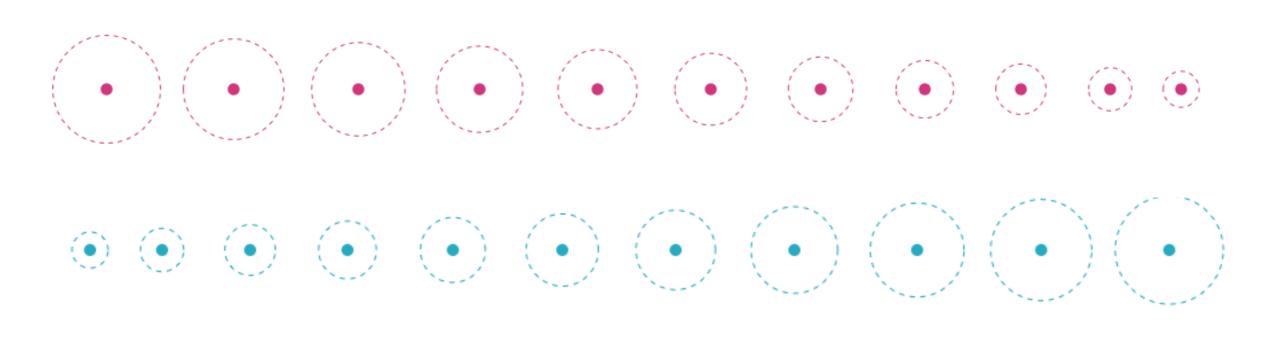
# PS Model F, D, S in millions 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5

- Observe how populations change over time
- Steady-state analysis

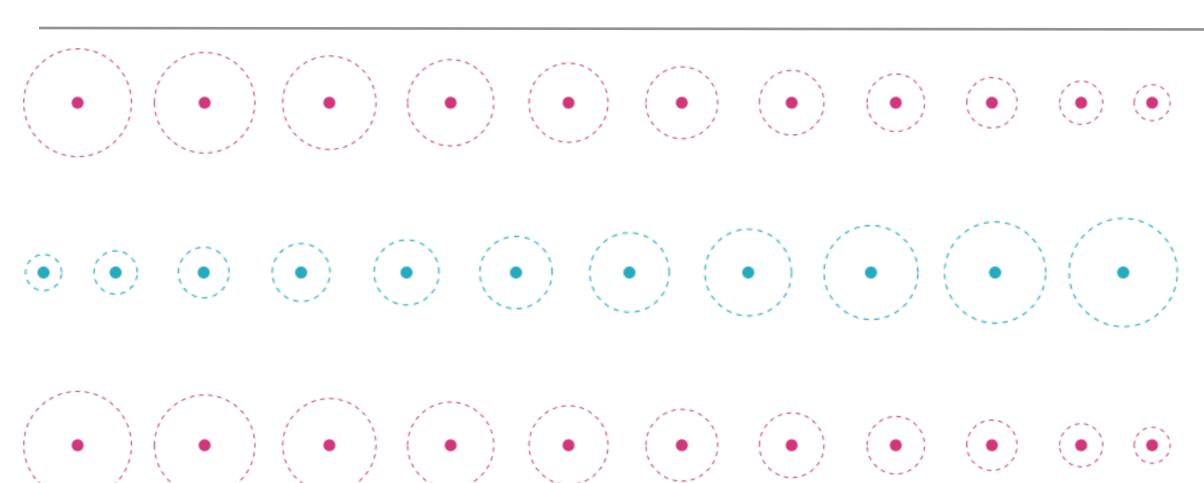
#### Discrete Model



- Spatial reasons for P/S behavior?
- Compare P/S to Predator/Prey
- Measure population success

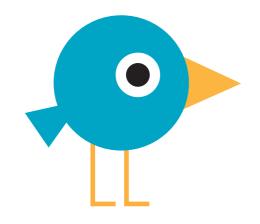


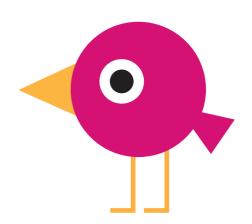
#### DISCRETE MODEL



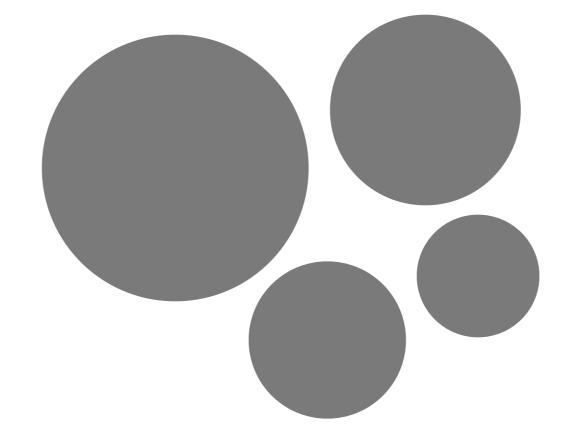
#### **PRODUCERS**

#### SCROUNGERS





#### FOOD BLOBS



NOTE: DRAWINGS NOT TO SCALE



BLOBS to represent patches of food



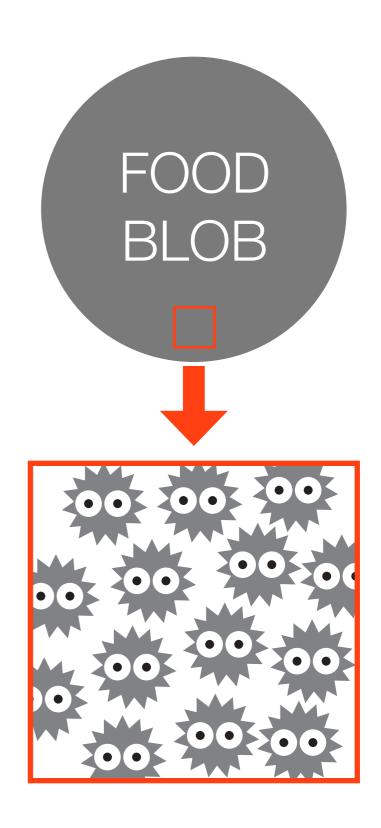
- BLOBS to represent patches of food
- Random Placement



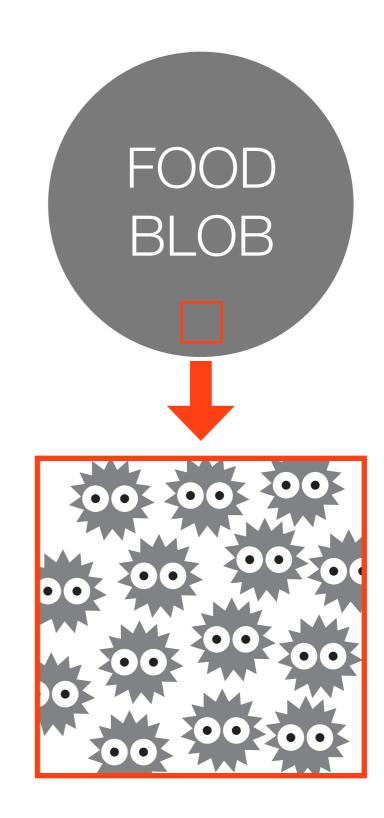
- BLOBS to represent patches of food
- Random Placement
- Comprised of Living Individuals!



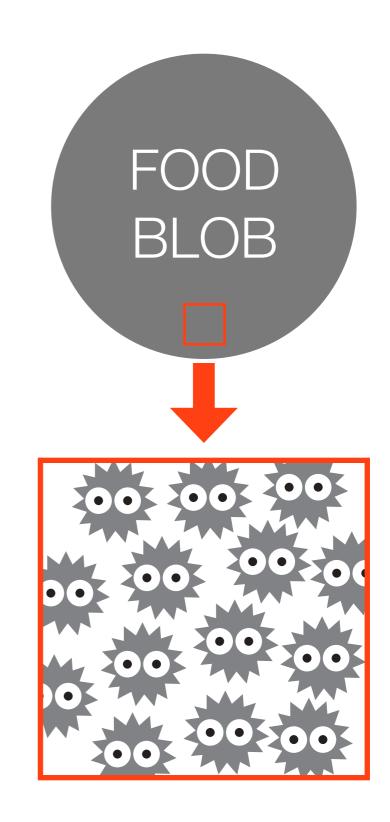
- BLOBS to represent patches of food
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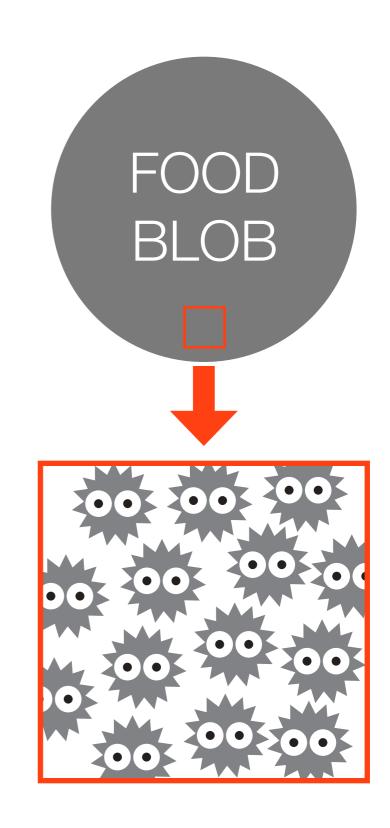
- BLOBS to represent patches of food
- Random Placement
- Comprised of Living Individuals!
- Growth Rate



- BLOBS to represent patches of food
- Random Placement
- Comprised of Living Individuals!
- Growth Rate
- Shrink as Eaten

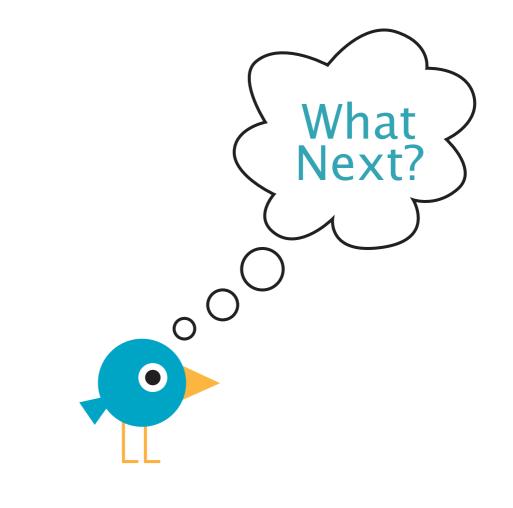


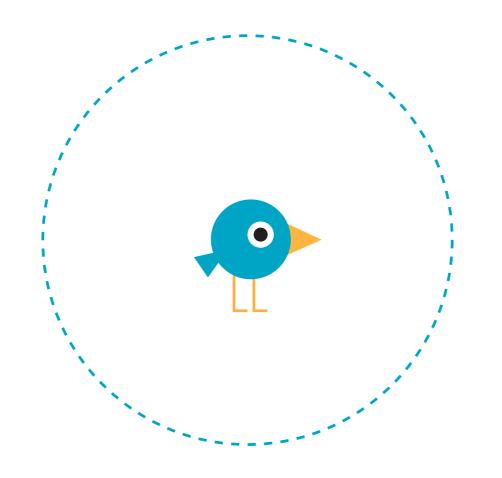
- BLOBS to represent patches of food
- Random Placement
- Comprised of Living Individuals!
- Growth Rate
- Shrink as Eaten
- Consumed → New



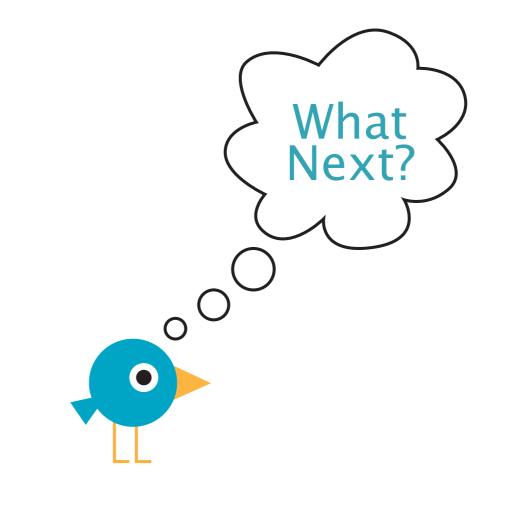


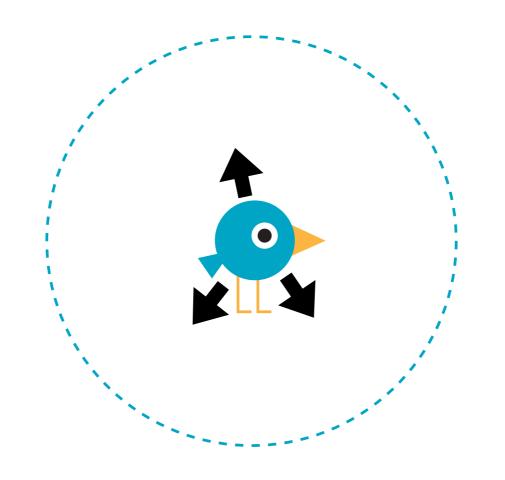
 Move in random direction in search of Food





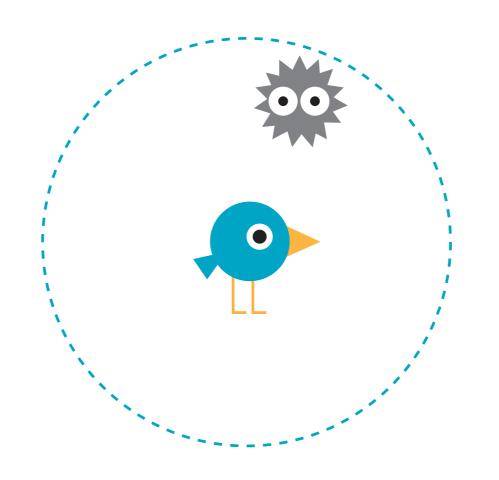
 Move in random direction in search of Food





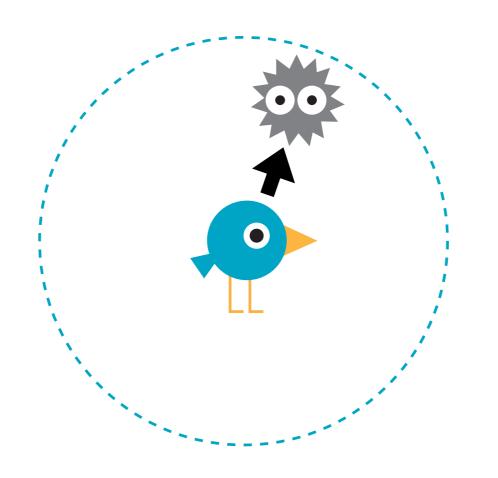
- Move in random direction in search of Food
- Move toward Food if seen



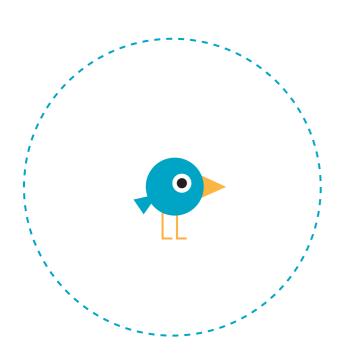


- Move in random direction in search of Food
- Move toward Food if seen



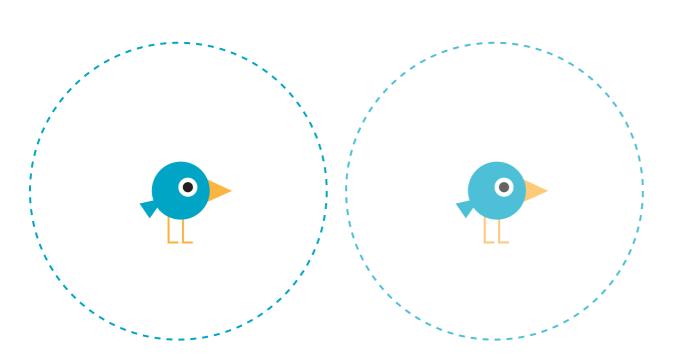


- Move in random direction in search of Food
- Move toward Food if seen
- No Food: Decrease Satisfaction Level





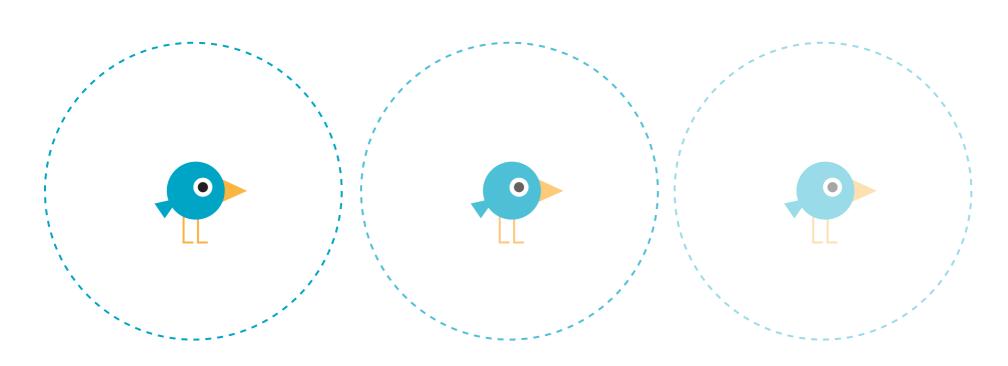
- Move in random direction in search of Food
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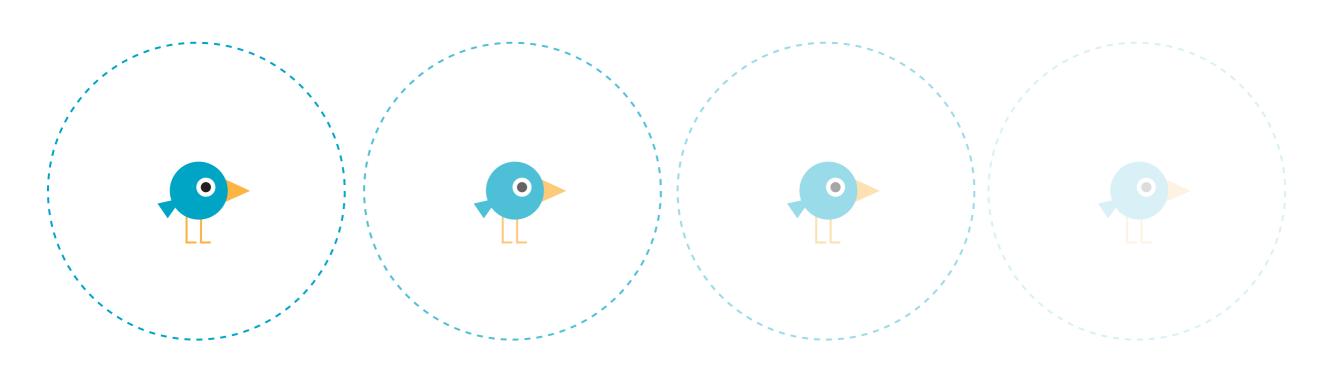
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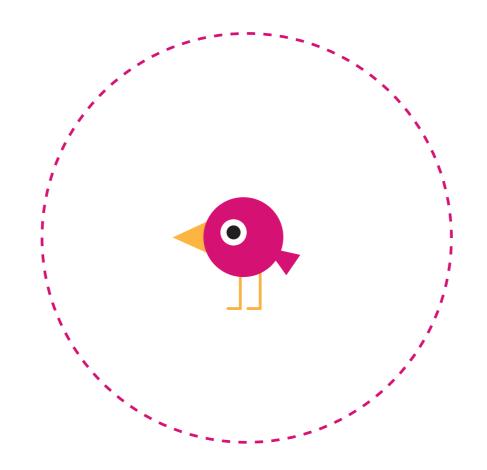






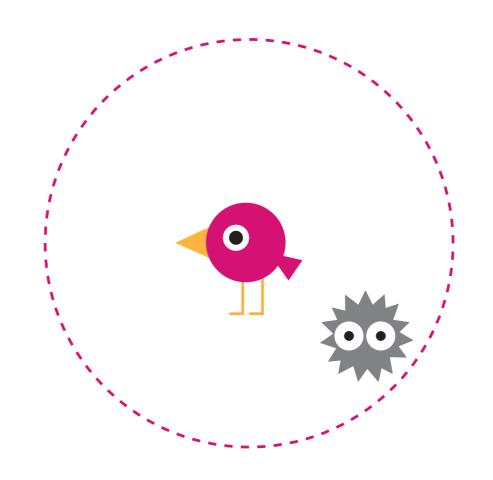
See nothing: Stay Put





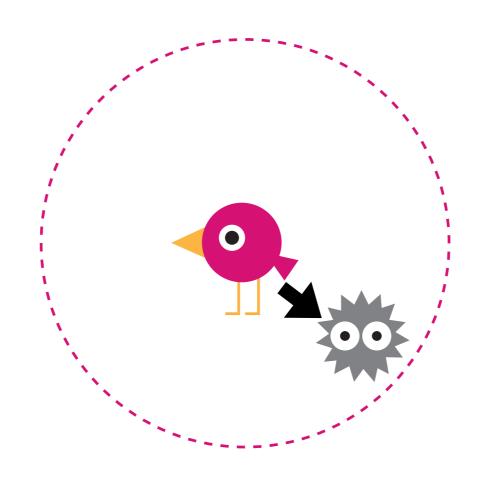
- See nothing: Stay Put
- Move toward Food if seen



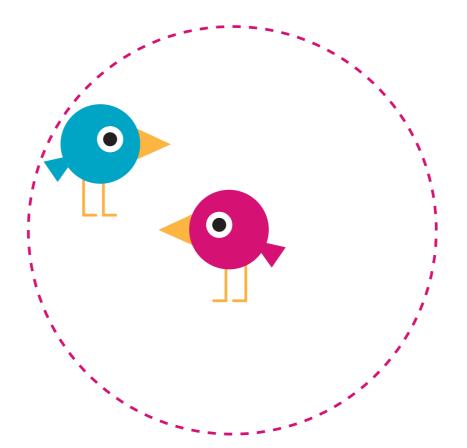


- See nothing: Stay Put
- Move toward Food if seen



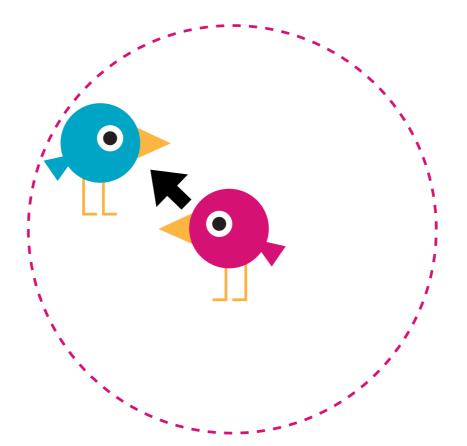


- See nothing: Stay Put
- Move toward Food if seen
- Move toward Producer if seen



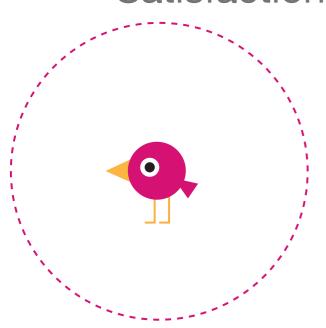


- See nothing: Stay Put
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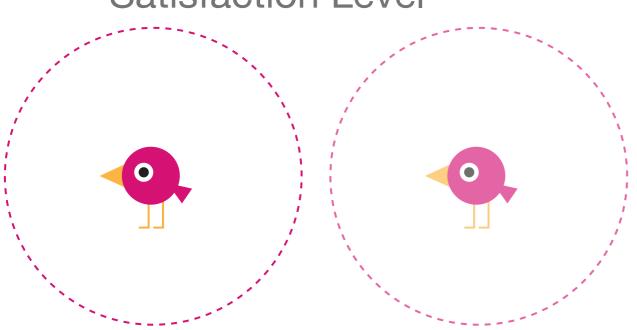


- See nothing: Stay Put
- Move toward Food if seen
- Move toward Producer if seen
- No Food: Decrease Satisfaction Level



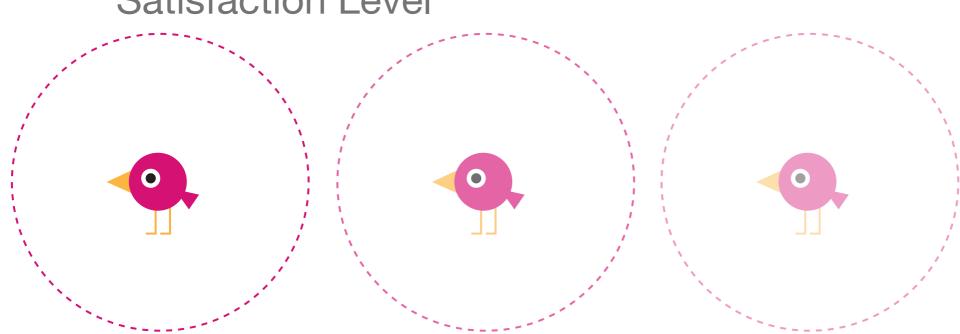


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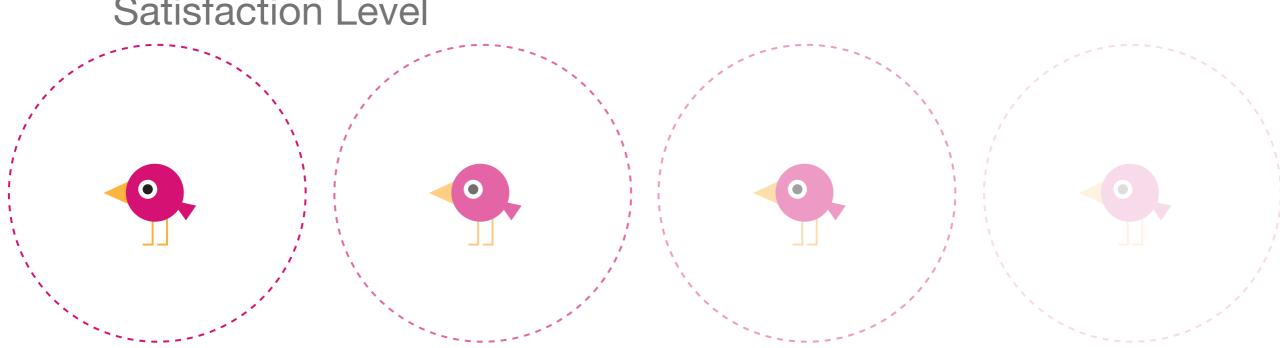


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- No Food: Decrease Satisfaction Level

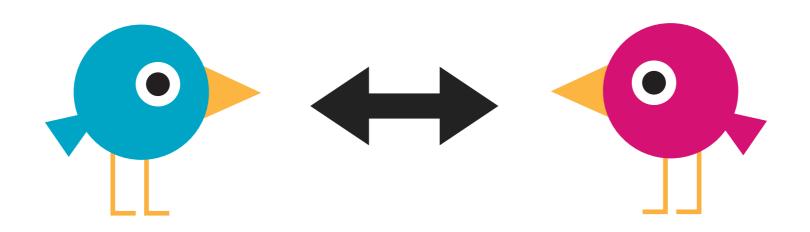


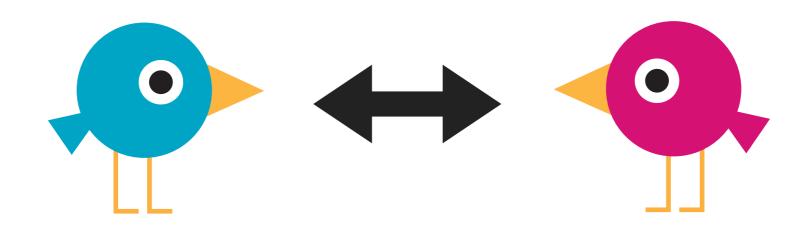


- See nothing: Stay Put
- Move toward Food if seen
- Move toward Producer if seen
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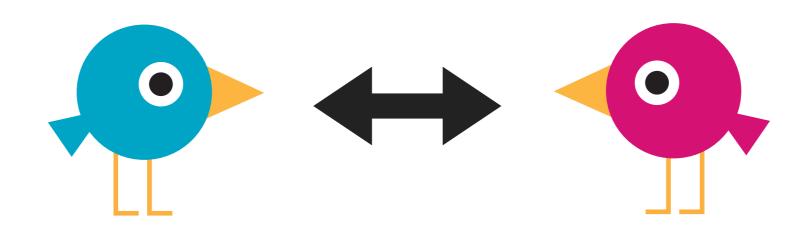




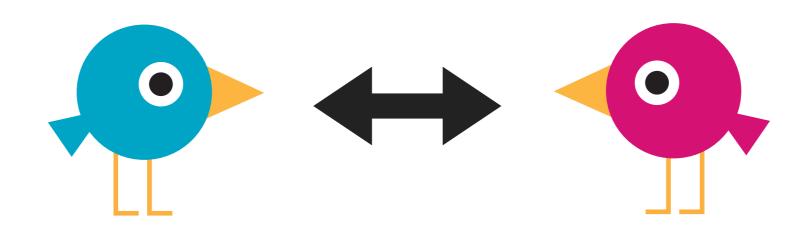




Every duck assigned a Producing Probability p

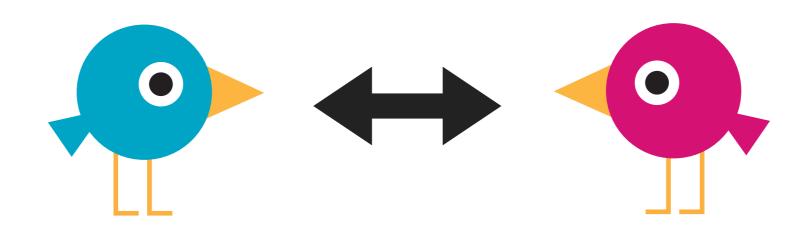


- Every duck assigned a Producing Probability p
- When satisfaction below a certain threshold, re-select a Foraging Strategy



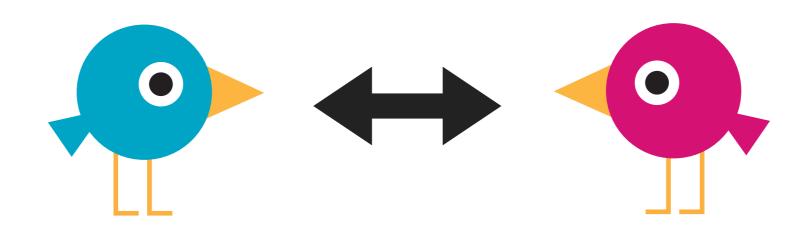
- Every duck assigned a Producing Probability p
- When satisfaction below a certain threshold, re-select a Foraging Strategy
- Bernoulli Trial:

## SWITCHING STRATEGIES



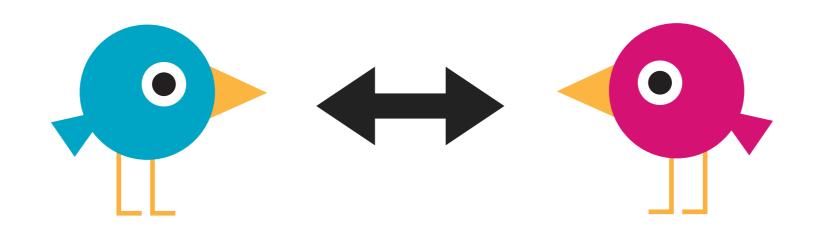
- Every duck assigned a Producing Probability p
- When satisfaction below a certain threshold, re-select a Foraging Strategy
- Bernoulli Trial:
  - Producer with probability p

## SWITCHING STRATEGIES



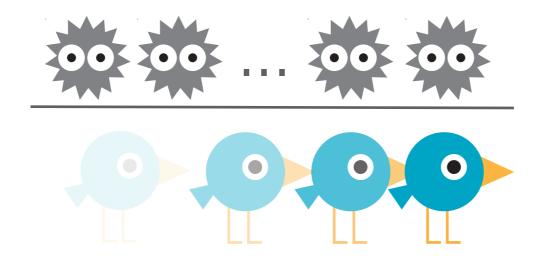
- Every duck assigned a Producing Probability p
- When satisfaction below a certain threshold, re-select a Foraging Strategy
- Bernoulli Trial:
  - Producer with probability p
  - Scrounger with probability 1-p

## SWITCHING STRATEGIES

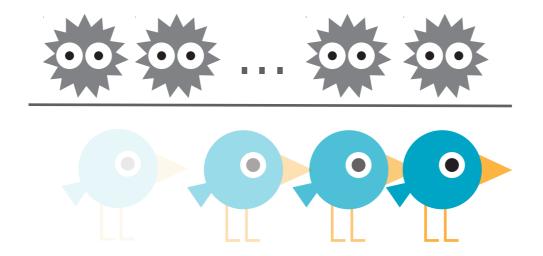


- Every duck assigned a Producing Probability p
- When satisfaction below a certain threshold, re-select a Foraging Strategy
- Bernoulli Trial:
  - Producer with probability p
  - Scrounger with probability 1-p
- Model can learn from past population successes

## MEASURING SUCCESS

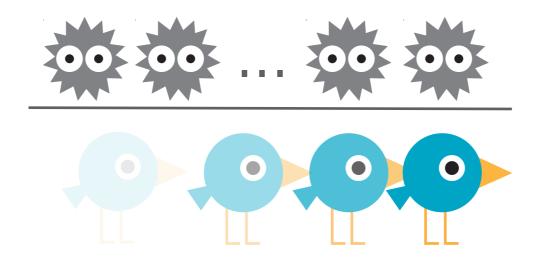


## MEASURING SUCCESS



Food Eaten

## MEASURING SUCCESS

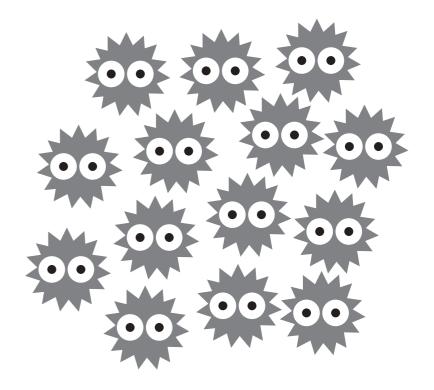


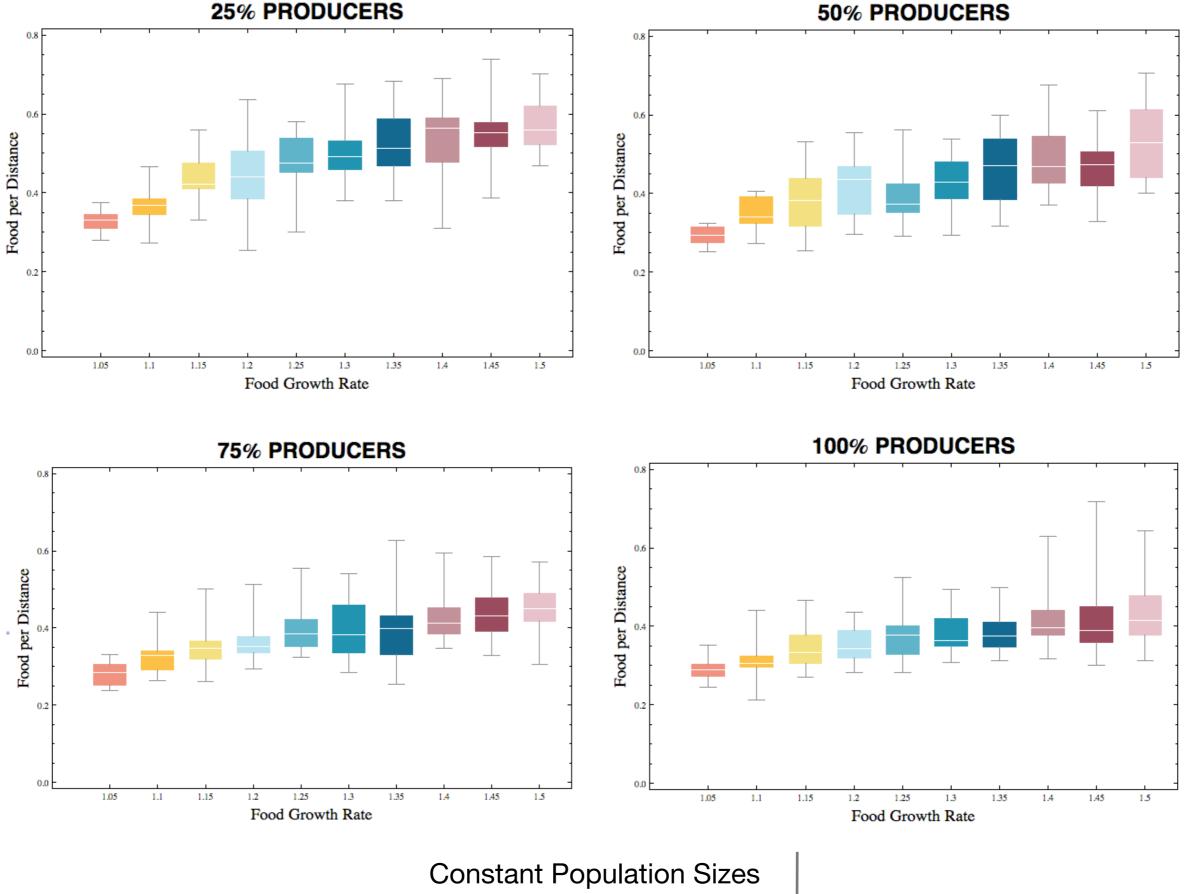
Food Eaten

Distance Traveled

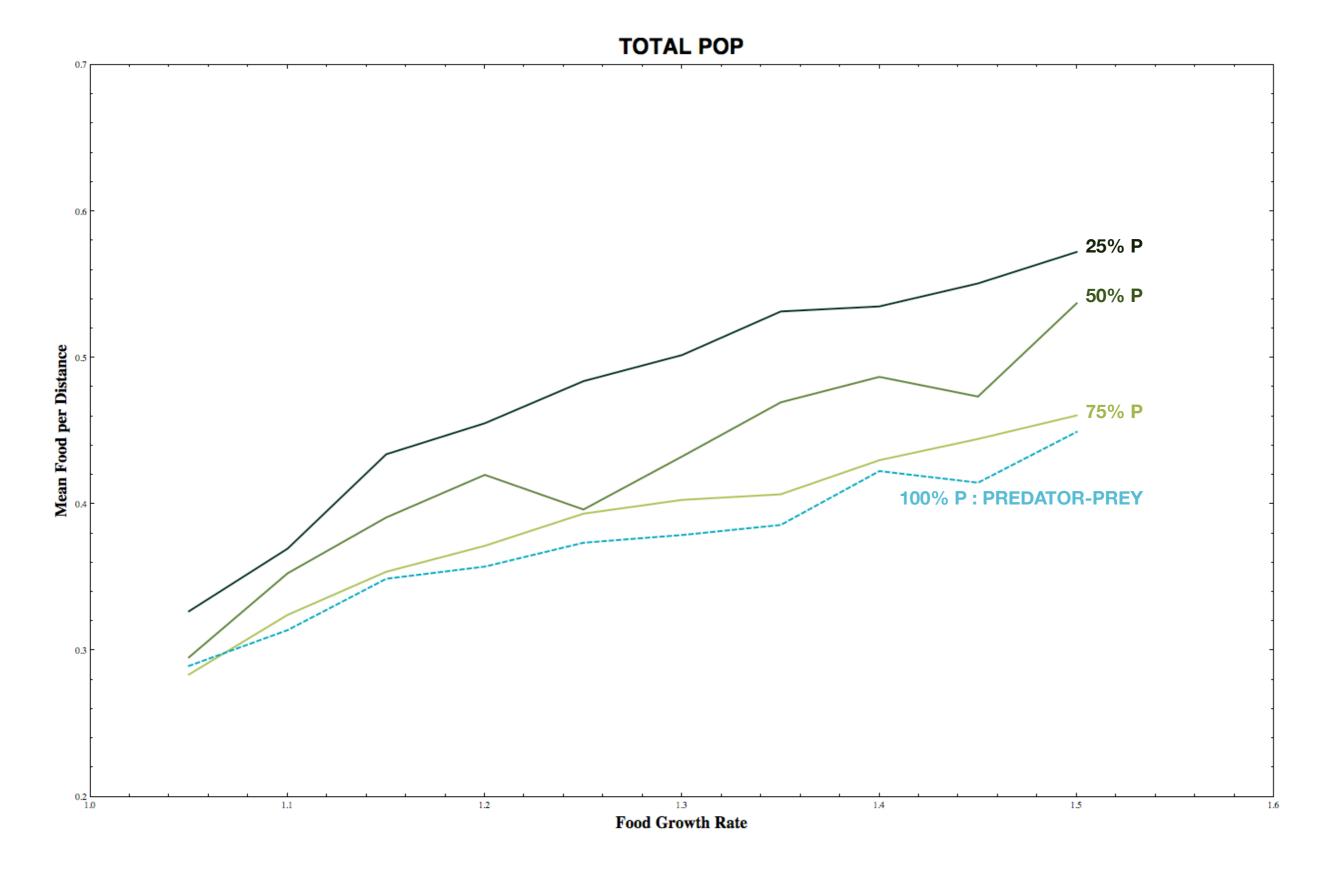
## MATHEMATICA SIMULATIONS

## VARYING FOOD GROWTH RATE

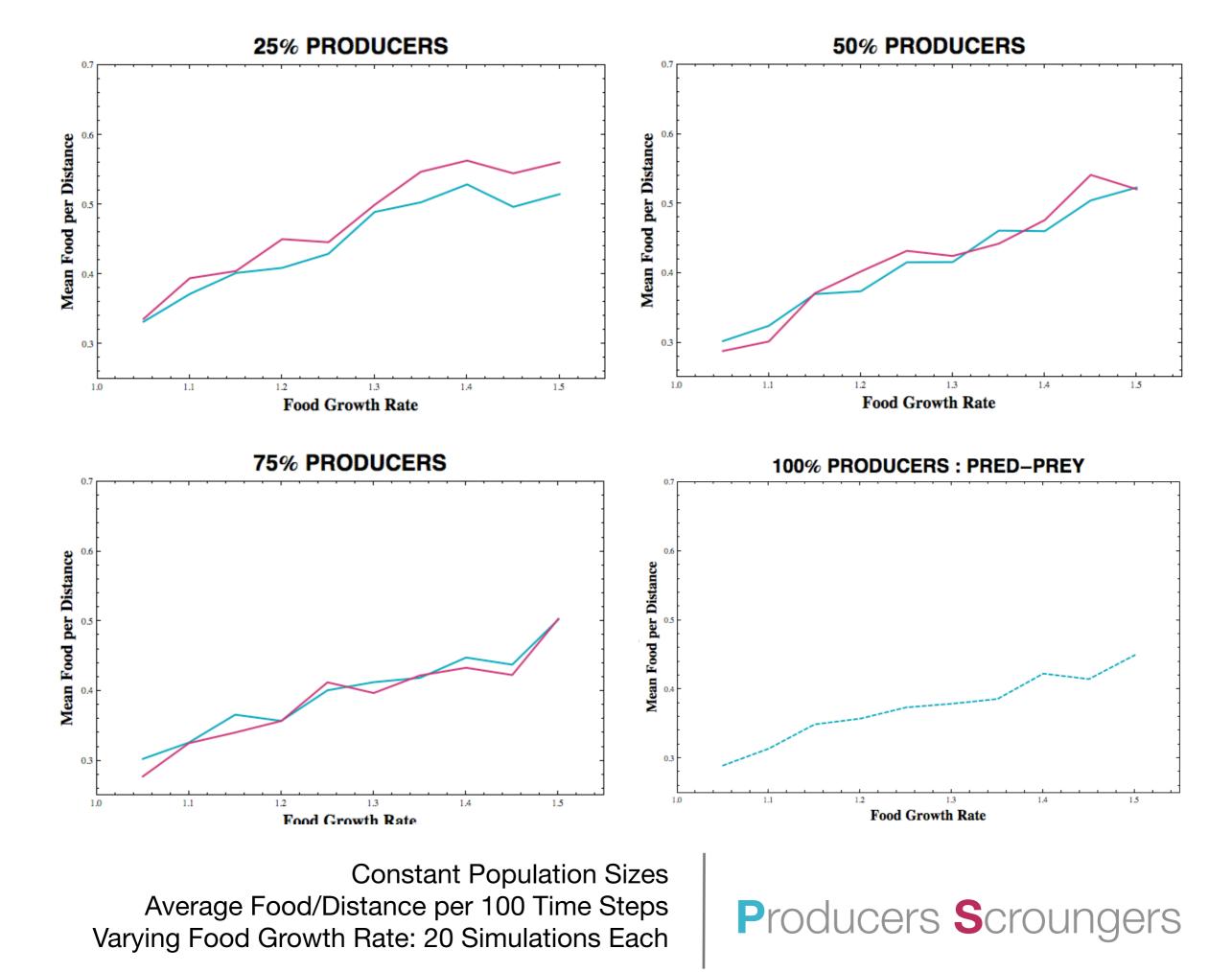


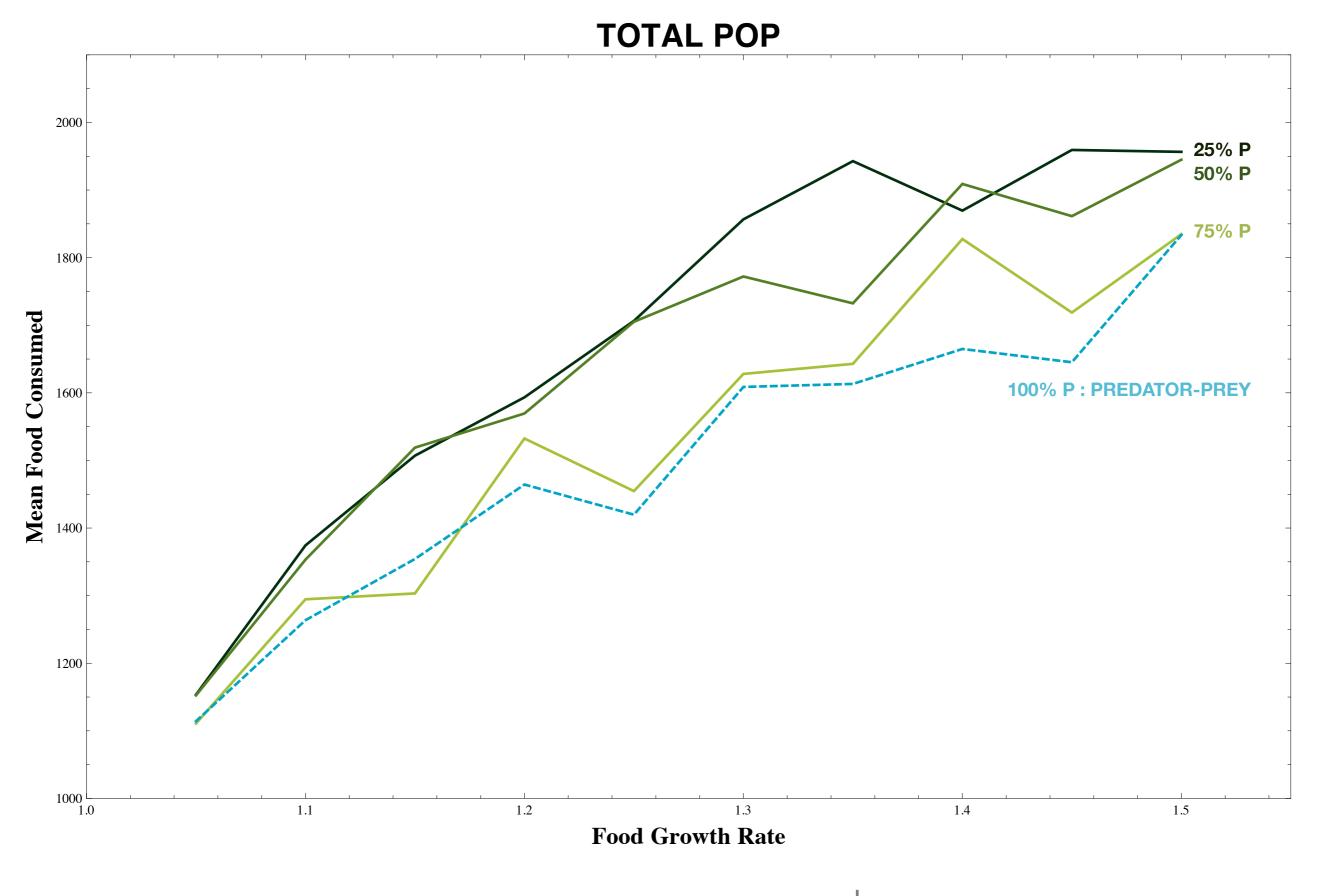


Constant Population Sizes
Average Food/Distance per 100 Time Steps
Varying Food Growth Rate: 20 Simulations Each



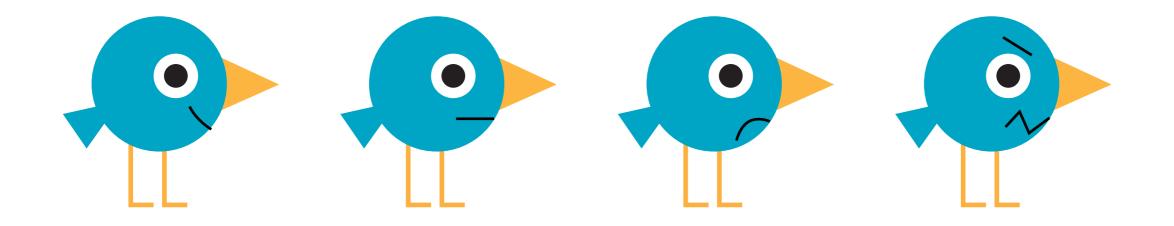
Constant Population Sizes Average Food/Distance per 100 Time Steps Varying Food Growth Rate: 20 Simulations Each



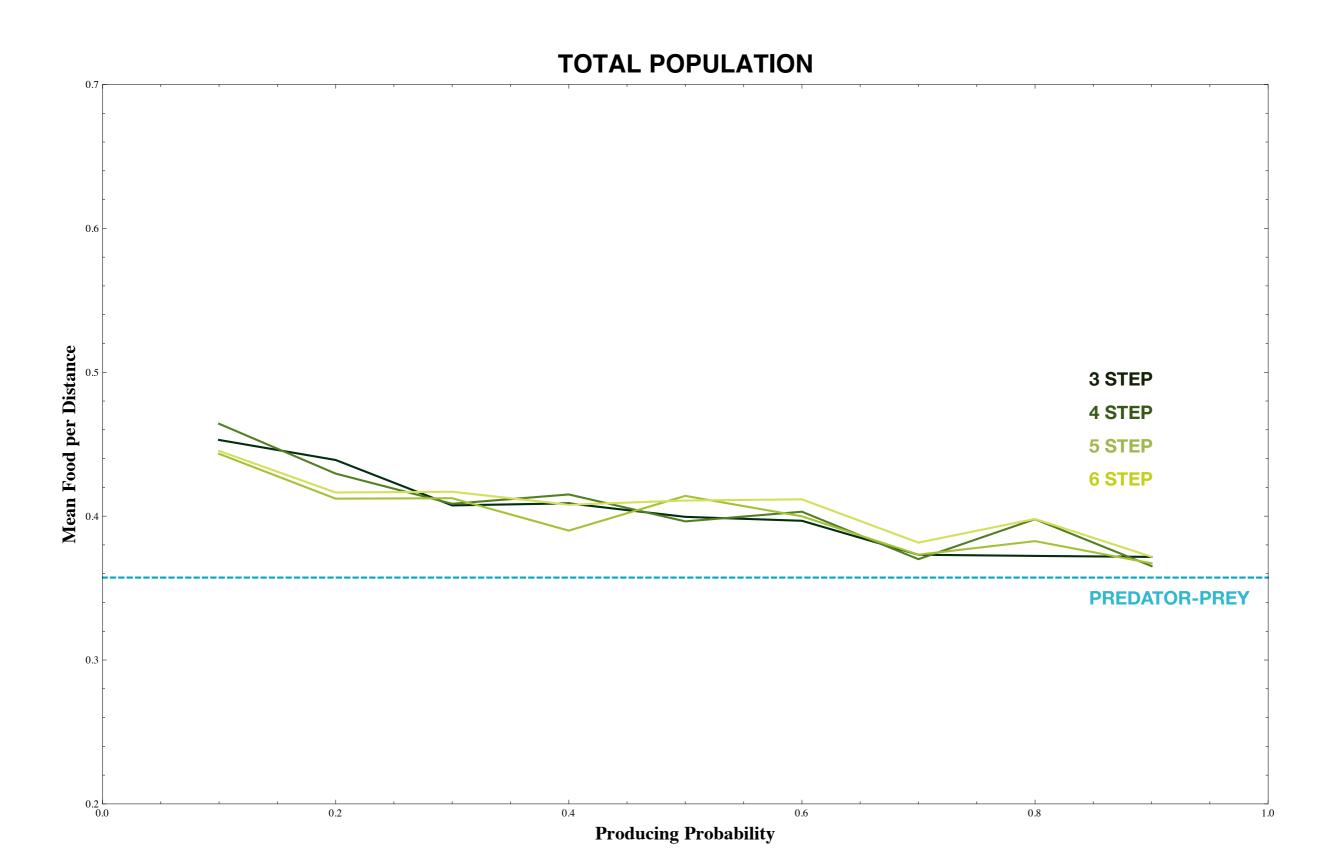


Constant Population Sizes **Average Food** per 100 Time Steps

Varying Food Growth Rate: 20 Simulations Each

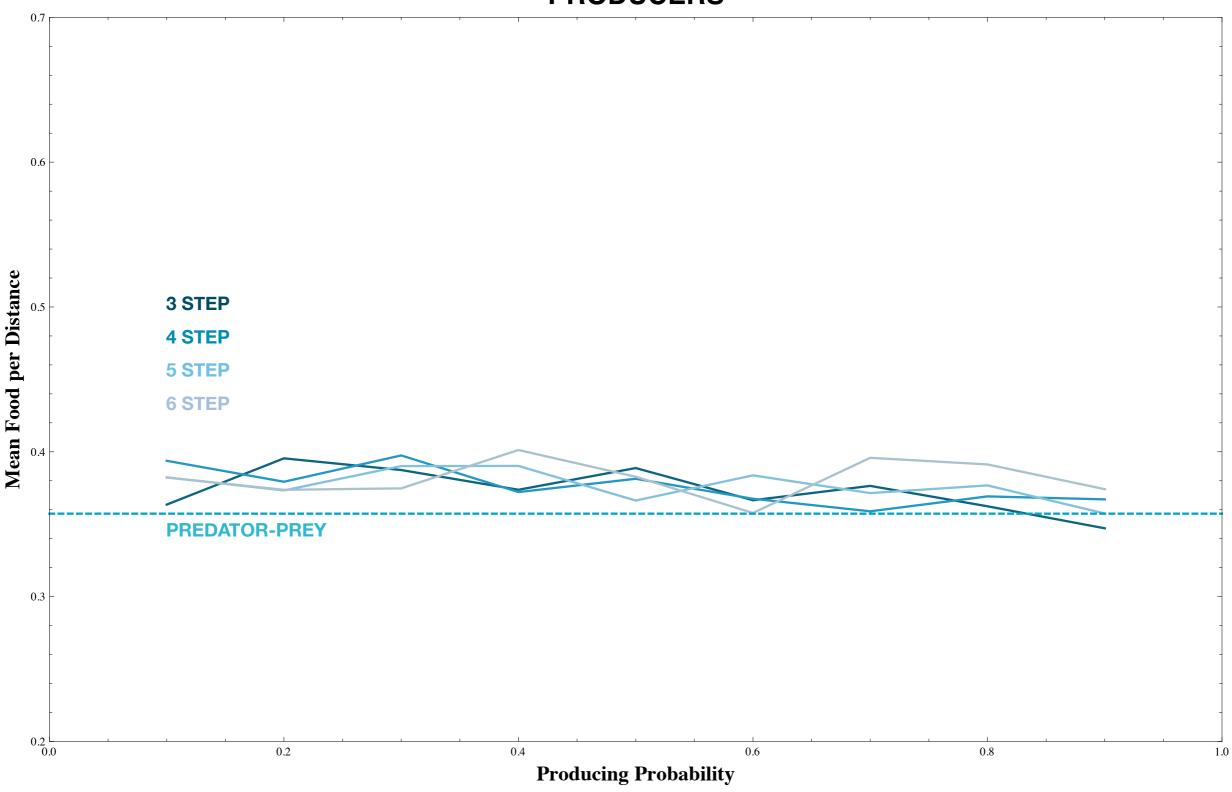


## VARYING TOLERANCE THRESHOLD



Varying Tolerance Thresholds Average Food/Distance per 100 Time Steps Varying Producing Probability: 20 Simulations Each

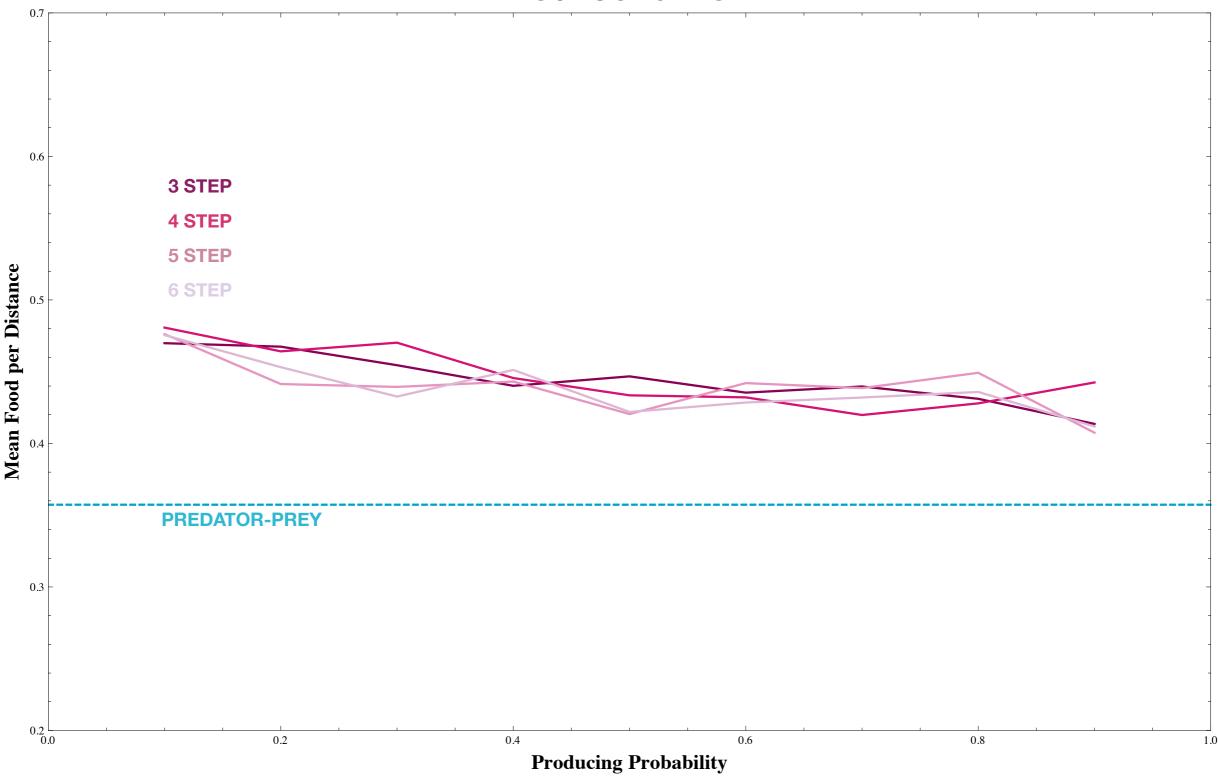




Varying Tolerance Thresholds Average Food/Distance per 100 Time Steps Varying Producing Probability: 20 Simulations Each

Producers

### **SCROUNGERS**



Varying Tolerance Thresholds Average Food/Distance per 100 Time Steps Varying Producing Probability: 20 Simulations Each

Scroungers

# ODE MODEL

# Producer-Scrounger Model Inspired by the Predator-Prey Model

$$\frac{dF}{dt} = aF\left(1 - \frac{F}{L}\right) - b(P + S)F$$

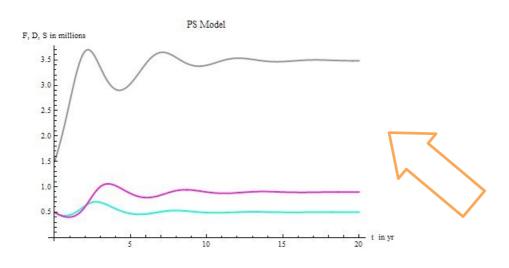
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -dP + cPF - cPF\frac{S}{S + x_0}$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -dS + cPF\frac{S}{S + x_0}$$

food, producers, scroungers coexist

only food survives

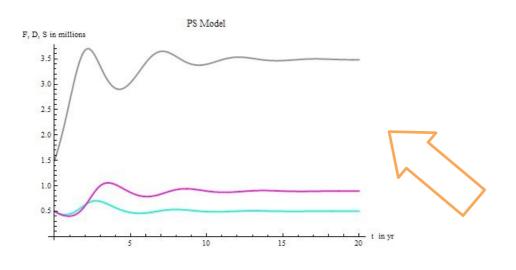
only scroungers die



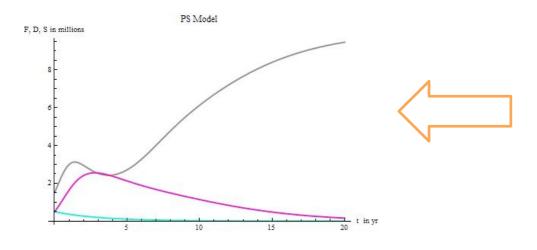
food, producers, scroungers coexist

only food survives

only scroungers die

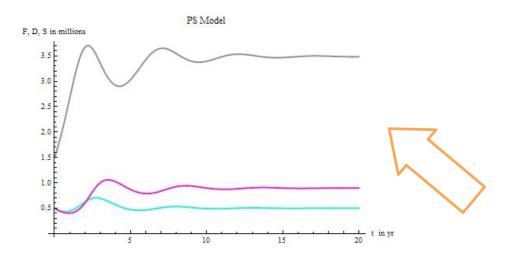


food, producers, scroungers coexist

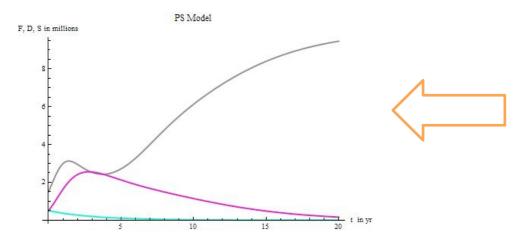


only food survives

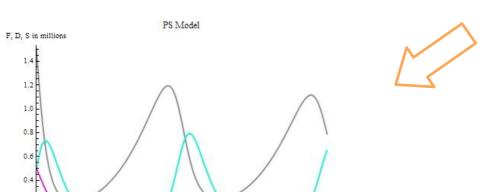
only scroungers die



food, producers, scroungers coexist



only food survives



only scroungers die

## Summary

- Producer-Scrounger Interaction
  - Patchy, sparse food distribution
- Effect on Population
  - Food eaten/energy expended (Discrete Model)
  - Long-term population levels (ODE Model)

## Future Work

Refining behavior rules

## Special Thanks To

- Advisor: Nessy Tania
- Center for Women in Mathematics, Smith College
- National Science Foundation (DMS1143716)
- Smith College Department of Mathematics and Statistics