

eco-evolutionary models

Ben Bolker

what are eco-evolutionary models?

- Hutchinson: evolutionary theater, ecological play
(i.e. ecological rates \gg evolutionary rates)
- what if the rates are similar?
 - ecological dynamics (e.g. logistic equation)
 - evolutionary dynamics (changes in traits)
- alternatively, population genetics plus population dynamics

why aren't all models like this?

- eco/evo time scales are often different
- it's hard!
 - most population genetic models assume constant population size
 - most ecological models assume constant traits

how do we do it?

- range of realism/complexity
- individual or agent-based models
 - each individual has a genotype and a phenotype
 - rules for life history and interactions
- models for the distribution of a continuous trait
 - partial differential equations
 - reaction-diffusion equations
 - includes demography, mutation
- moment equations
 - simplify PDEs to equations for the means and variances of traits, plus population densities
- Price equations:
 - further simplify to equations for the means of traits (assume constant variance)

individual-based models

- maximum detail

population-based models

distribution models

moment equations

Price equations

PDE basics