
Types of Models: WHAT's in the BOX

Conceptual.....Mathematical

Static.....Dynamic :*TIME*

Lumped.....Spatially Distributed: *SPACE*

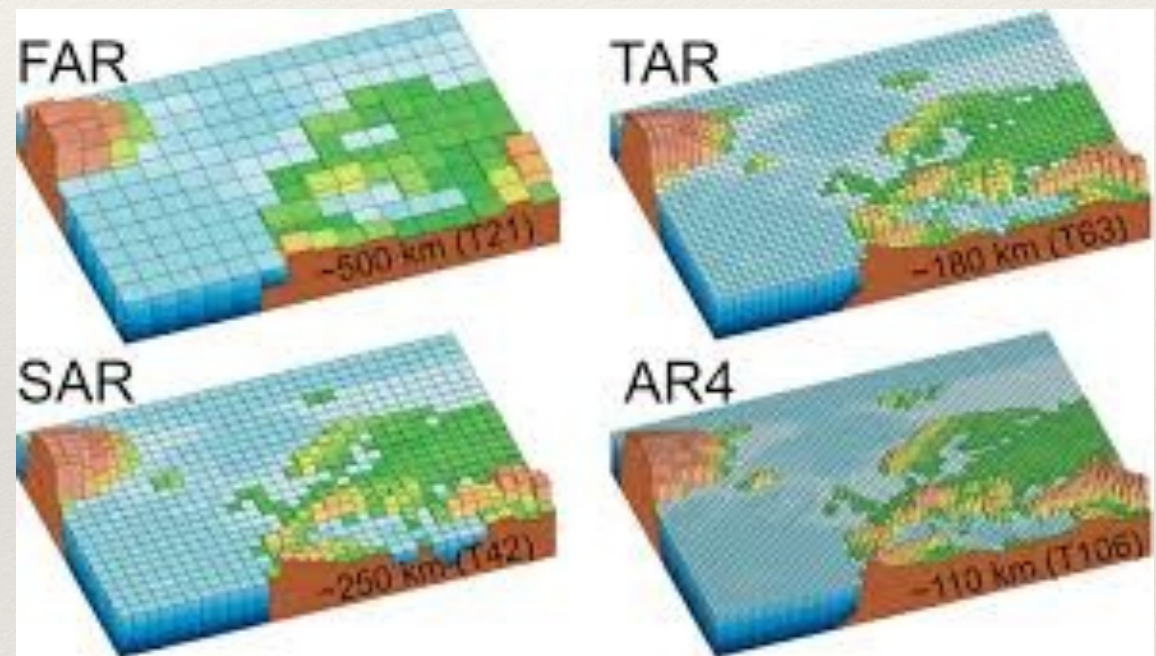
Stochastic.....Deterministic

Abstract.....Physically / Process Based

but biggest differences may often be the degree specific
processes / parameters are accounted for

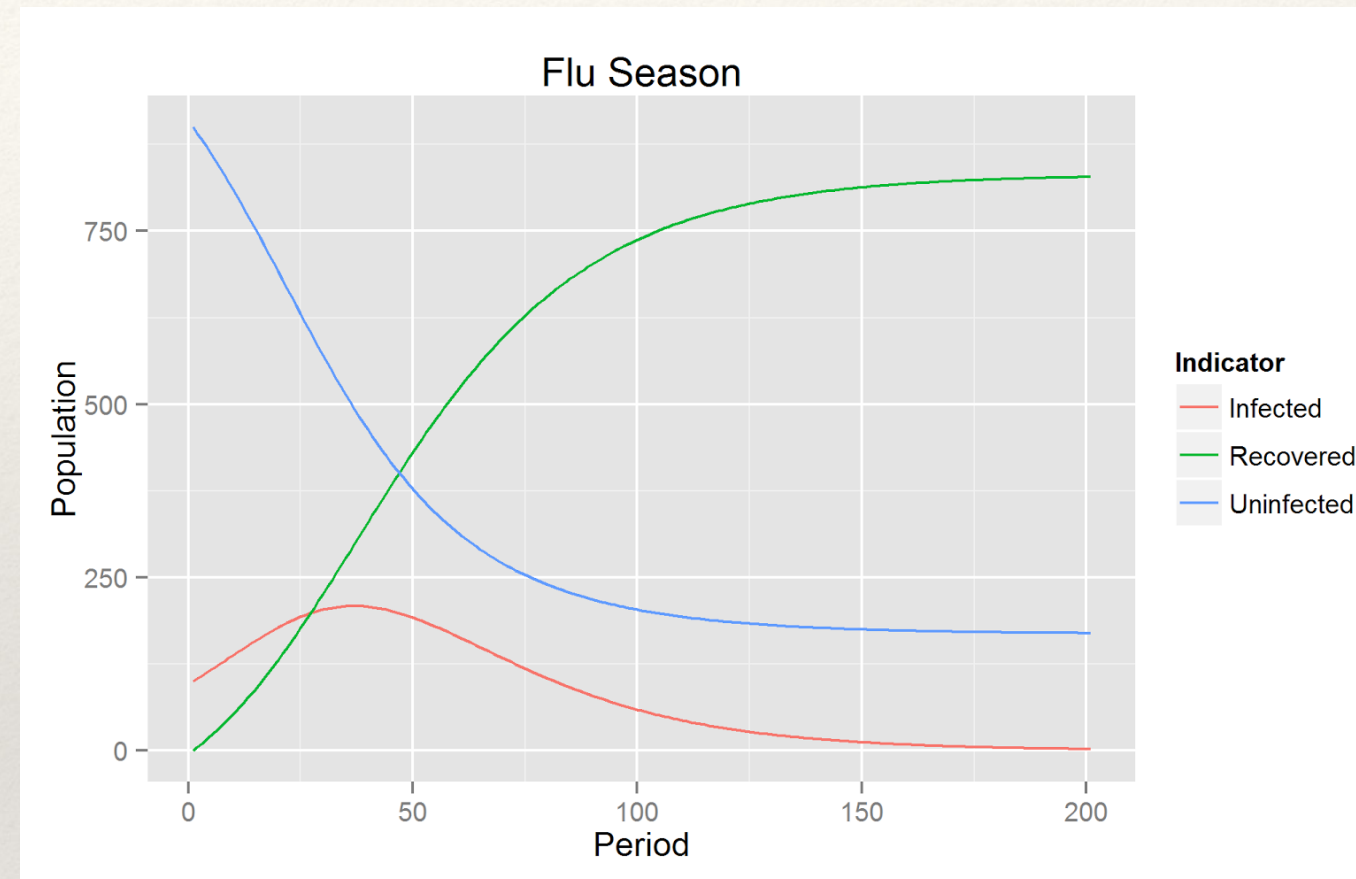
Lumped ...Spatially distributed

- ❖ Lumped - single point in space, or space doesn't matter
- ❖ Spatially distributed - model is applied to different “patches” in space
 - ❖ spatial units are independent
 - ❖ **spatial units interact with each other**



Static- Dynamic Time Varying

- ❖ Static - Processes or Variables modeled do not evolve with time
- ❖ Dynamic - model elements evolve through time - and variables / results at one time step typically depends on previous time step



<http://www.econometricsbysimulation.com/2013/05/sir-model-flu-season-dynamic.html>

Dynamics - connection in space and time

- ❖ Dynamic modeling is common in environmental problems solving
- ❖ Similar issues: what happens at one place, depends on neighbors; what happens at one time; depends on previous time
- ❖ Space - two way; Time is usually one-way
- ❖ Dynamic system modeling - quickly becomes complex (Engineering degrees spend a lot of time on this; there are books, entire journals etc on this topic)

Dynamics models

- ❖ Many environmental problems and questions can be related to
 - ❖ Diffusion
 - ❖ Population
- ❖ Both often require dynamics models; and both often require thinking about dynamics in space and in time

Dynamic Systems

Some useful terminology

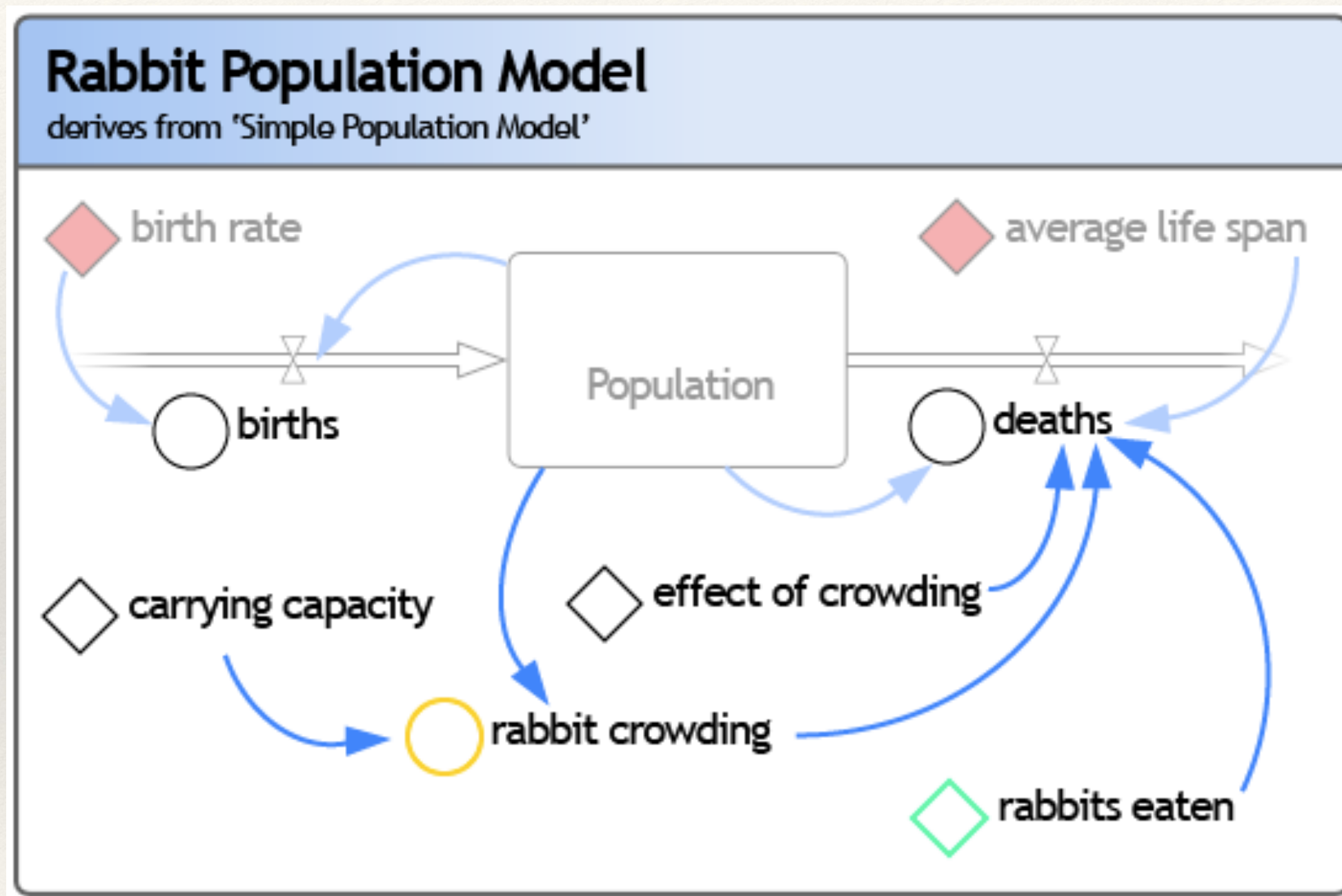
- ❖ *stocks* - variables that evolve over time
- ❖ *flows* - transfers between variables or from the system
- ❖ *parameters* - values that controls the relationship between stocks and flows
- ❖ *sink* - something that absorbs flows
- ❖ *source* - something that generates flows

Dynamic Systems

- ❖ *System state*: value of all variables need to describe the “entity that evolves through time” at a particular point in time
 - ❖ usually think of these as stores (soil moisture, bank account balance, number of individuals in a particular age class)
- ❖ *State-space*: description of the entity may require multiple variables - for a watershed this could be soil moisture, water currently in dam and water stored in trees, and for each “grid” in a watershed)
- ❖ *State-space trajectories*: how the system state evolves through time, often involving transfers / flows between different stocks
- ❖ *Initial conditions*: values to describe the system state at the beginning
- ❖ *Dynamic systems modeling*: there at least one feedback loop

Dynamic Systems

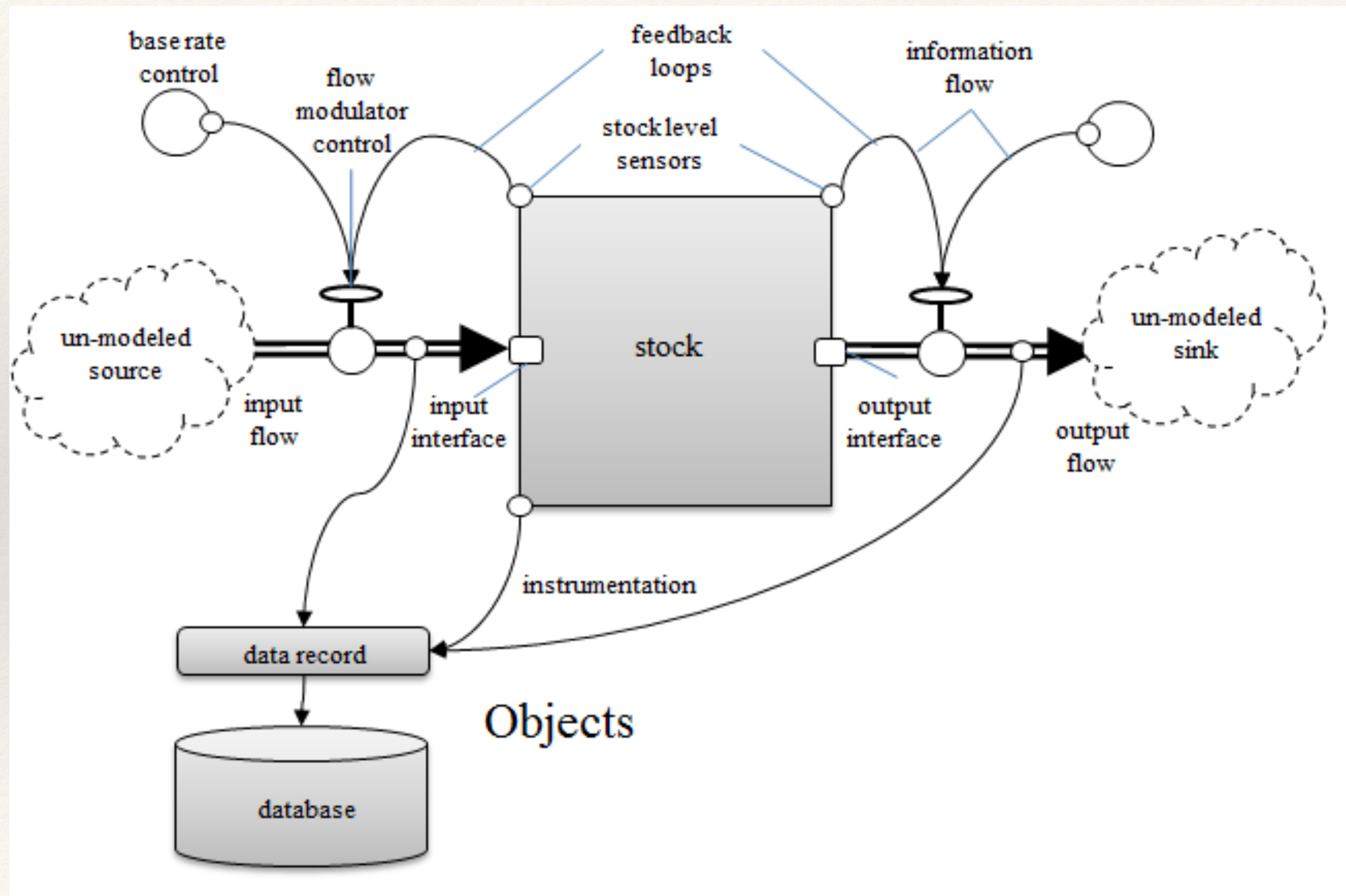
Nature



Notice how the change (flow in/ out) of stock (population) depends on current value of stock
Feedback loop!

Dynamic Systems

Human Engineered



Dynamic Systems

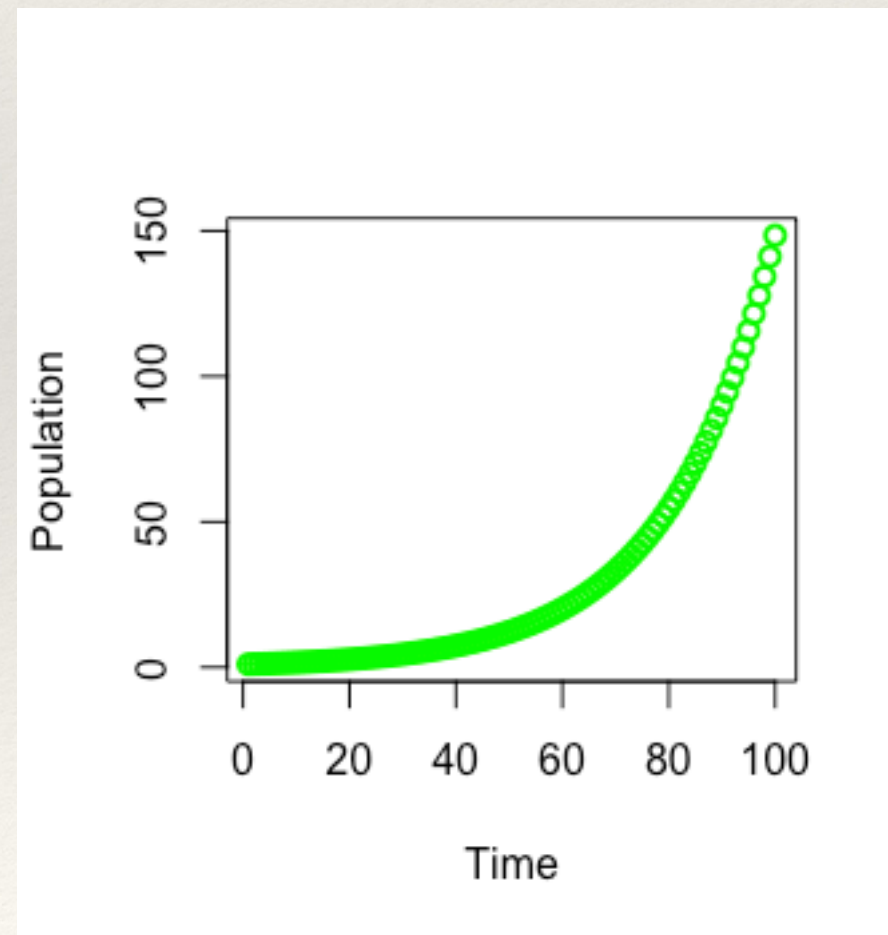
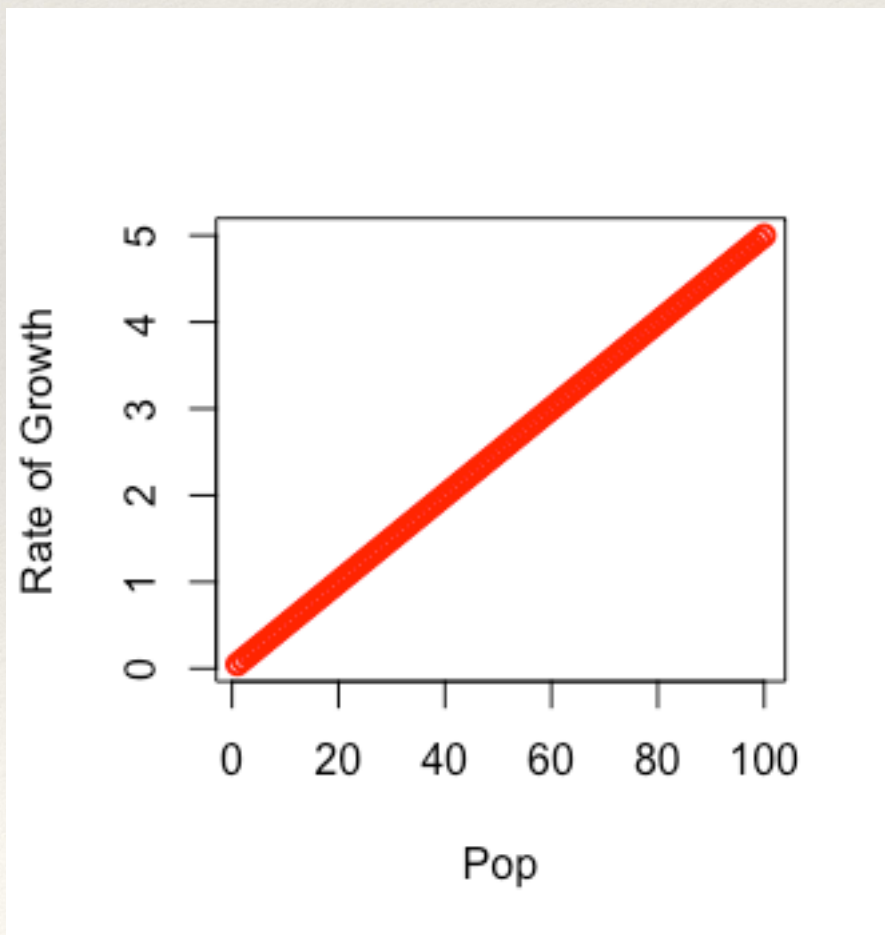
- ❖ dynamic systems have **feedback** loops
 - ❖ positive feedback
 - ❖ negative feedback
- ❖ feedback loops often lead to highly non-linear responses
- ❖ IF you have a feedback loop you need:
 - ❖ *difference* and *differential* equations: basically describe how the state evolves through time

Dynamic Systems

- ❖ Dynamic system may lead to stable or unstable states over time
 - ❖ stable ...converge over time to a set of values or a repeated pattern
 - ❖ unstable...grow to infinity
 - ❖ chaotic - high sensitivity to initial conditions
 - ❖ for the same dynamic system (same set of equations), whether you are stable or unstable can depend on initial conditions and parameters

Exponential Growth - Simple Dynamic System

- ❖ rate of growth(change) = $r * \text{population(density)}$
- ❖ differential equation
- ❖ $dP / dt = rP$

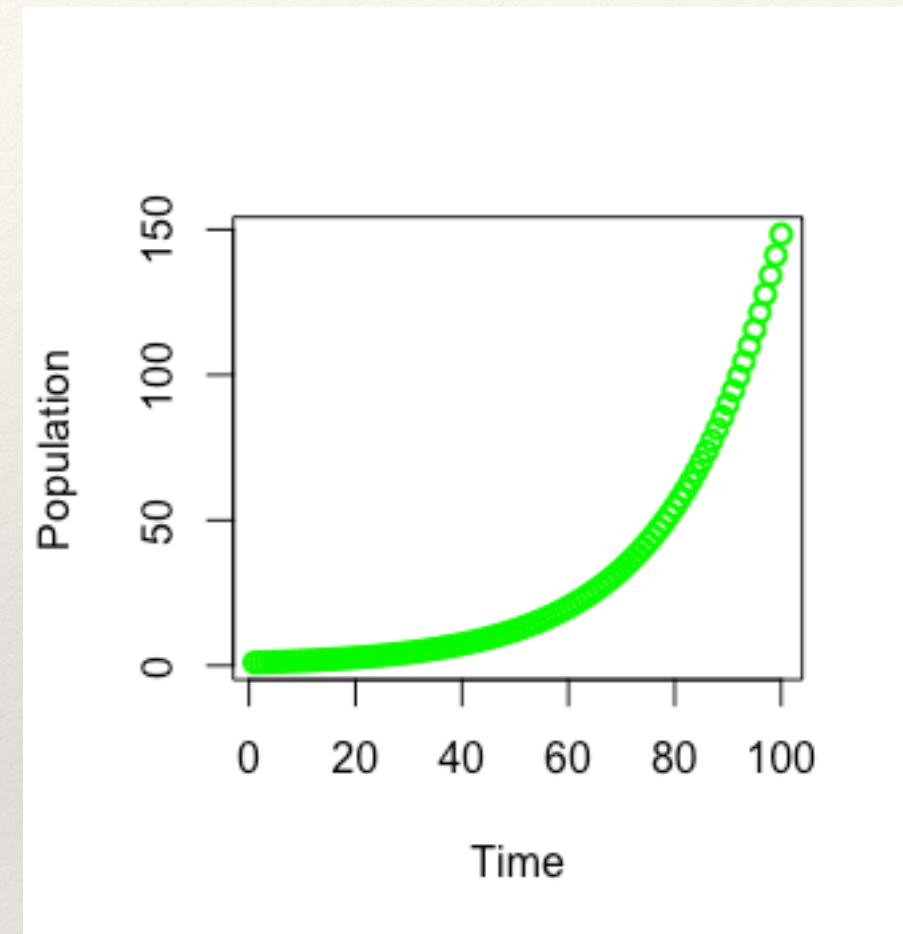


Exponential Growth - Simple Dynamic System

- ❖ differential equation
- ❖ $dP / dt = rP$
- ❖ an analytic solution exists so we can write Population as a function of time (integrating both sides)
 - ❖ $P = P_0 * \exp(rt)$

Exponential Growth - Simple Dynamic System

```
#' Simple population growth
#' @param T period of growth
#' @param P initial population
#' @param r intrinsic growth rate
#' @return population at time T
#'
exppop = function(T,P0,r) {
  P = P0 * exp(r*T)
  return(P)
}
```



See Rmarkdown *SimpleDynamicModels.Rmd*

Exponential Growth - Simple Dynamic System

But what if we couldn't 'solve' it analytically ????

Integrate the differential equation step by step

Also called numerical integration!

R has tools to help you do this!

First you need to code your differential equation as a function

Exponential Growth - Simple Dynamic System

Use R's ODE solver in the deSolve package - note the S

ODE works with ordinary differential equations...

Ordinary differential equations have derivatives of only one variable ((population) with respect to (time)).,..it can have multiple order derivatives

$$dp/dt + d^2p/dt^2 + c = 0$$

Partial differential equations have derivatives with respect to more than one variable (think of spatial issues $3du/dx + 4du/dy = 0$)

Exponential Growth - Simple Dynamic System

Numerical Integration

Use R's ODE solver in the deSolve package

ODE requires initial conditions

Values of independent variable that you want results for

The function itself and parameters (as a single list)

Example: Dynamic Systems

- ❖ Diffusion - Ficks Law

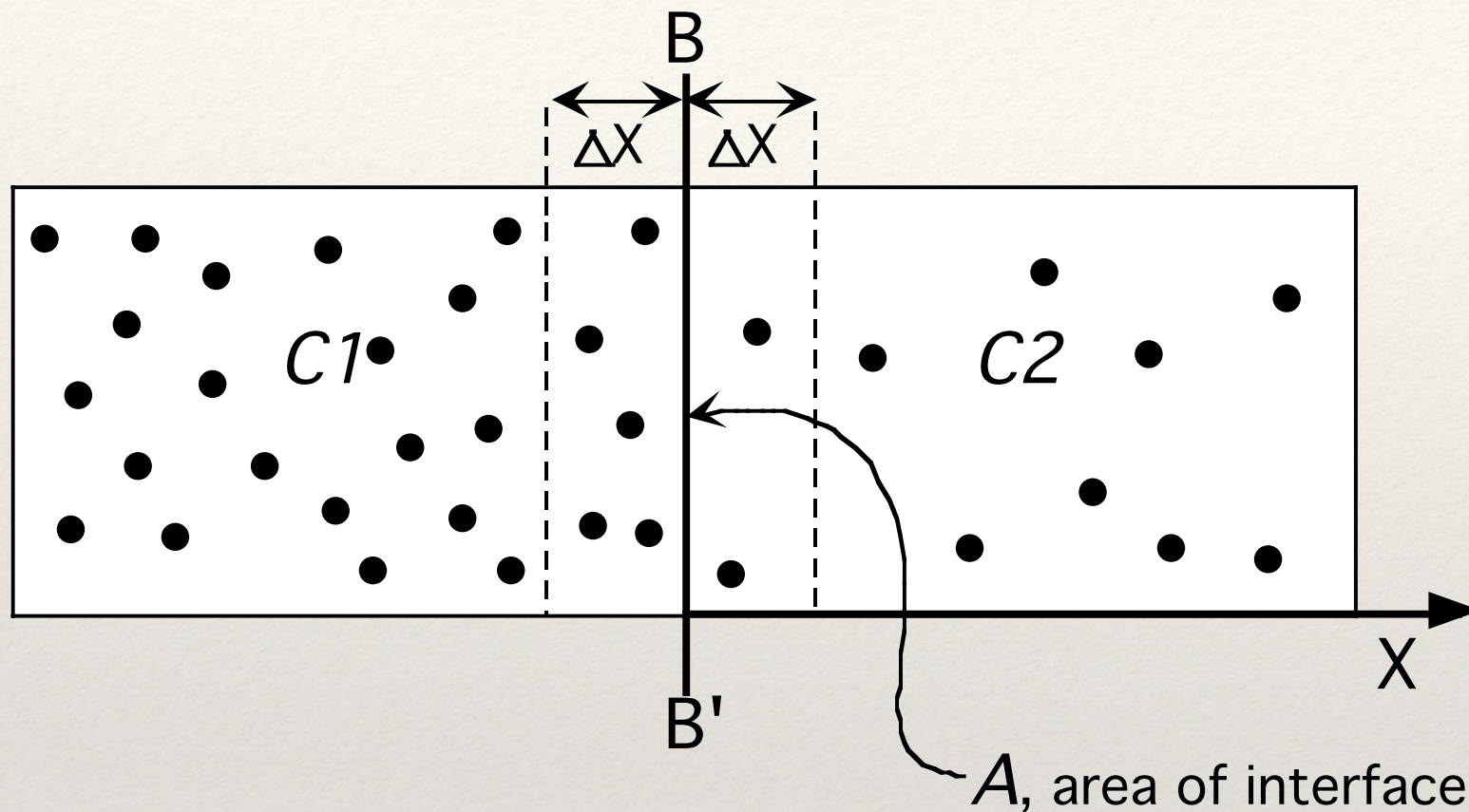
- ❖ flux (mass / time) =

 - Diffusivity * concentration gradient * area

 - a concentration gradient is $C_2 - C_1 / \text{length}$

Example: Dynamic Systems

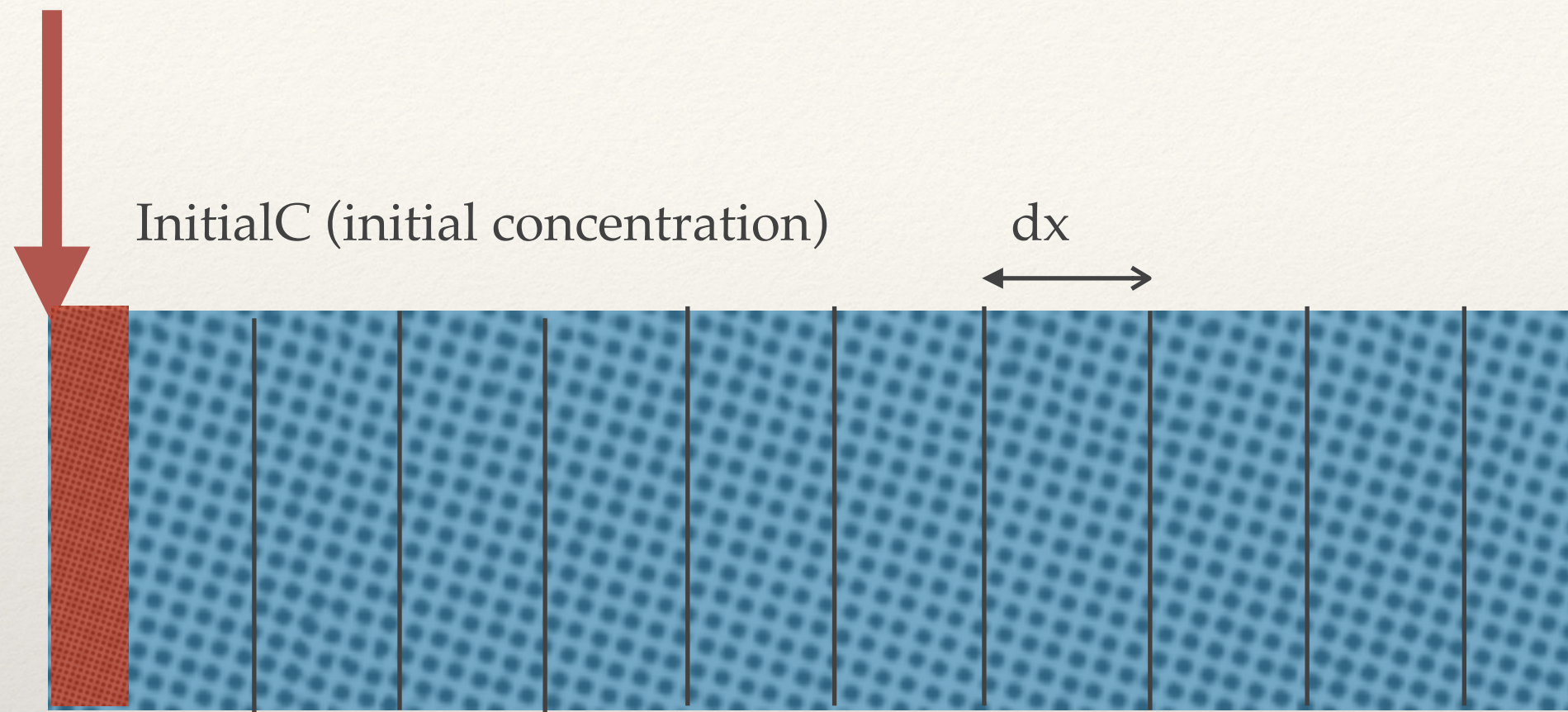
❖ Diffusion



How big that delta X is, depends on characteristics of the particles - often represented as a diffusivity (D) term

$$(5) \quad q_x = \frac{0.5\Delta X A (C1 - C2)}{\Delta t}.$$

Diffusion Example: Difference equation

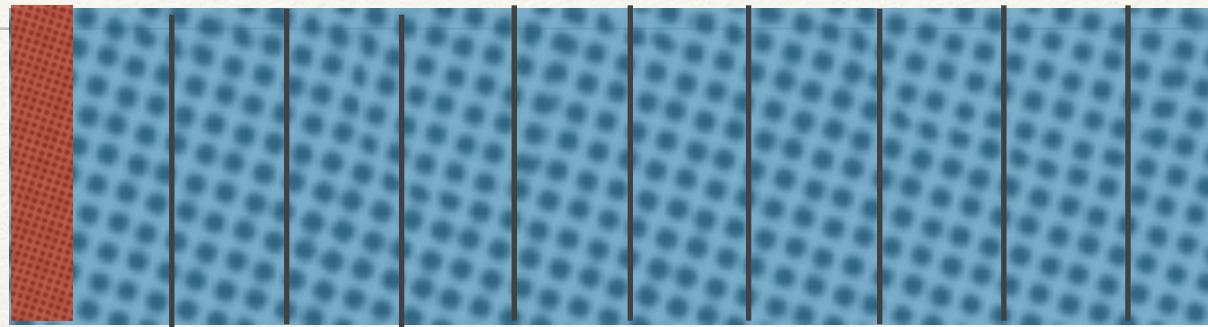


$$\text{Length} = n_x * dx$$

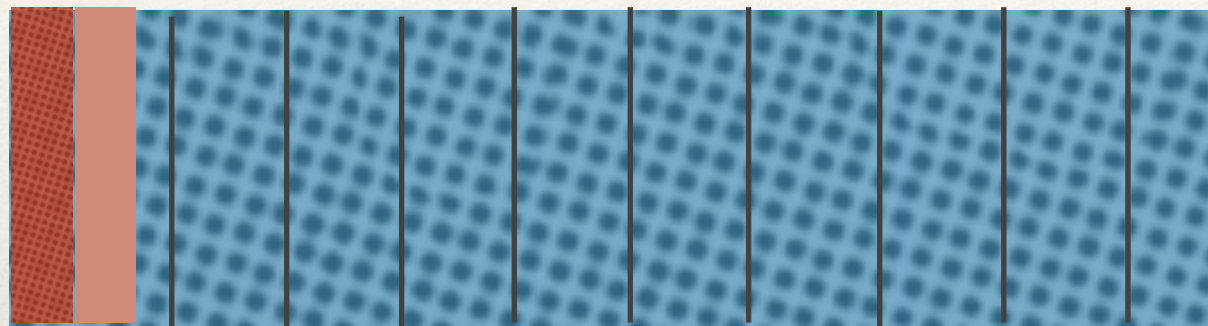
N_x : number of “boxes”

dx : discretization of space

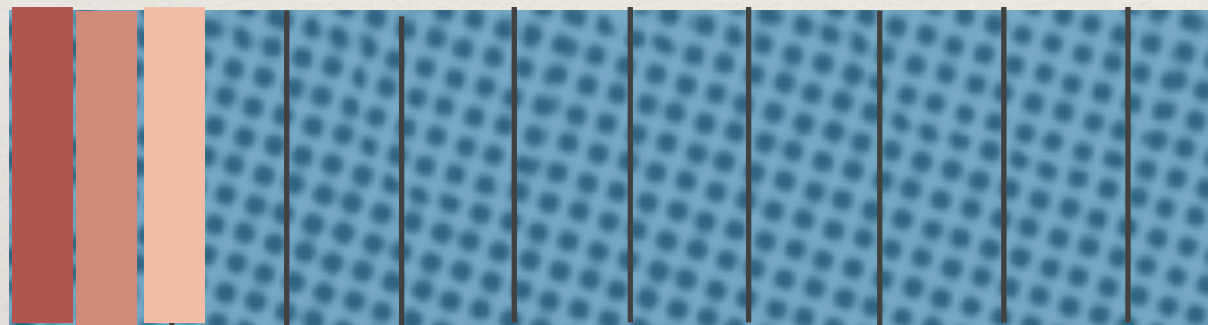
Diffusion Example



Timestep 1



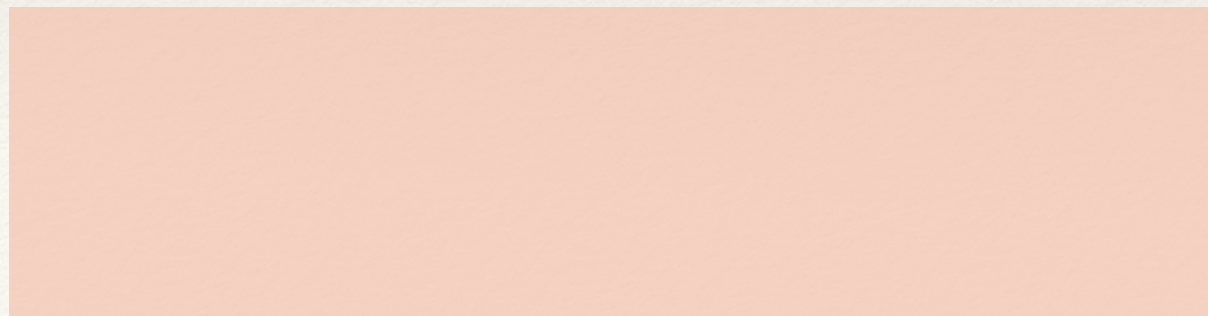
Timestep 2



Timestep 3

...

Total Simulation time = $nt \cdot dt$



nt : number of time steps
 dt - discretization of time

State evolves through time
(state space trajectory)

Dynamic - Diffusion modeling

- ❖ Choosing the appropriate time and space step is important - if either are too large then it is easy to overshoot and create unstable oscillations
- ❖ These are a due to using a discrete model (dividing things into units) to model what is actually a continuous process
- ❖ Trade-off - computational efficiency vs stability
- ❖ Differential equations help us to think through this problem - but often implemented in discrete ways