# Exploring the interaction between models and data

Jonathan Dushoff, McMaster University

http://lalashan.mcmaster.ca/DushoffLab

2016 Summer Course on Mathematical Modeling and Analysis of Infectious Diseases

National Taiwan University

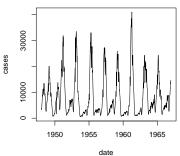
### Goals

- Explore some ideas of using a model to explore disease data
- Use estimates of HIV prevalence from Zimbabwe as an example

### **Bridging**

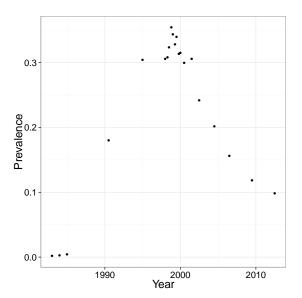


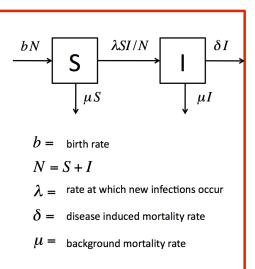
#### Measles reports from England and Wales



- Models are the tool we use to bridge between data and mechanisms
- In both directions

# Estimated HIV prevalence in Zimbabwe

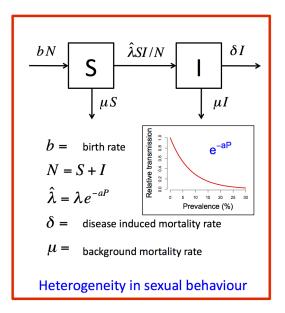


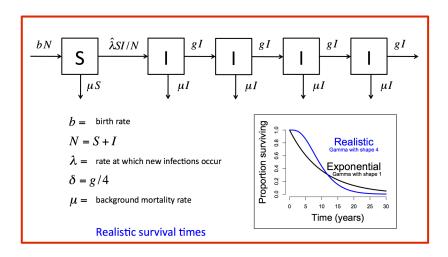


The basic model

# Phenomenological heterogeneity

- ▶ Just assume that you can approximate this complicated phenomenon with a simple functional form,  $\beta = f(P)$ 
  - Original study used  $\beta = \beta_0 \exp(-\alpha P)$
  - We will use  $\beta = \beta_0 (1 P)^{\kappa}$
- ▶ Both forms start with  $\beta = \beta_0$  and decline smoothly with prevalence





# Are people *responding* to the epidemic?

