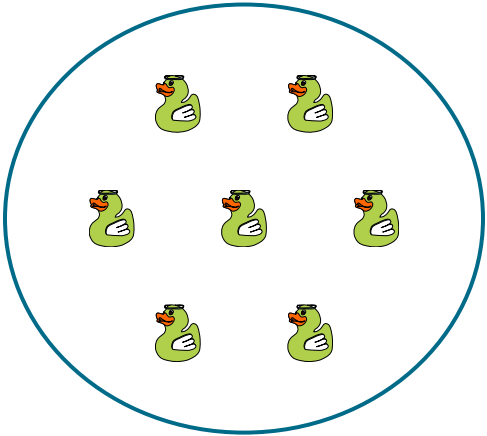
# Spatial structure and altruism



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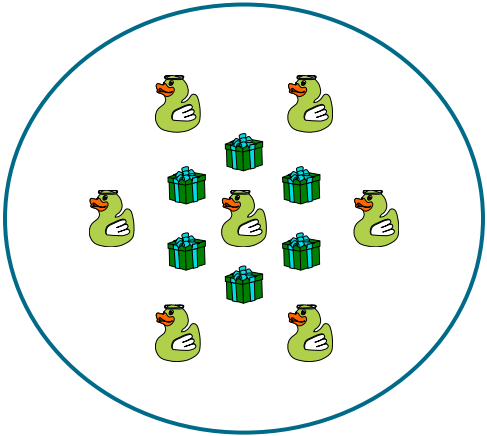

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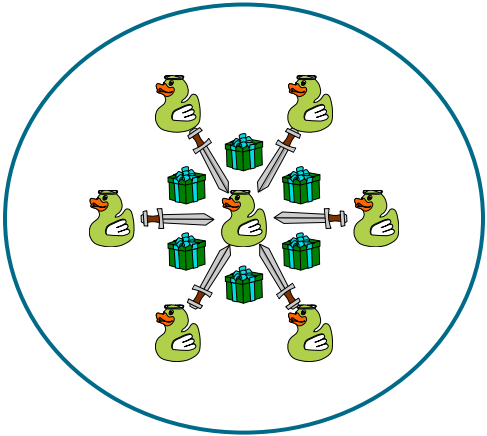

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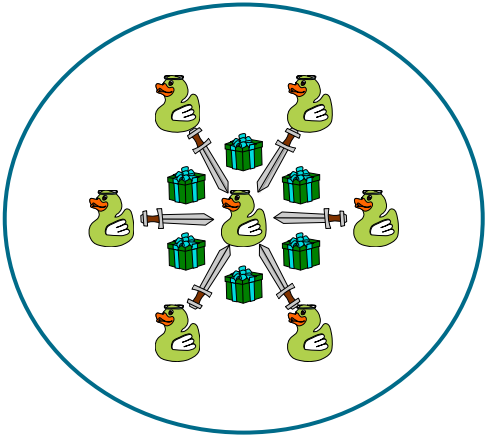

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## Altruism in viscous populations – an inclusive fitness model

P.D. TAYLOR
*Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Queen's University, Kingston Ont. K7L 3N6, Canada*

**Summary**

A viscous population (Hamilton, 1964) is one in which the movement of organisms from their place of birth is relatively slow. This viscosity has two important effects: one is that local interactions tend to be among relatives, and the other is that competition for resources tends to be among relatives. The first effect tends to promote and the second to oppose the evolution of altruistic behaviour. In a simulation model of Wilson *et al.* (1992) these two factors appear to exactly balance one another, thus opposing the evolution of local altruistic behaviour. Here I show, with an inclusive fitness model, that the same result holds in a patch-structured population.

*Keywords*: altruism; inclusive fitness; competition; viscosity