

# Growth Rates for Populations in Random Environments

## OxWaSP Module 2: Probability and Approximation

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2 November 2018

# Overview

1 Introduction

2 Estimation of the growth rate and errors

3 Lyapunov exponents and the Multiplicative Ergodic Theorem

# The Leslie model

## Elements

- $K$  age classes
- Fecundity  $f_k \geq 0$
- Survival between classes  $0 \leq p_k \leq 1$
- $N_{t+1} = L_t N_t$
- Growth rate  $a_t$  given by  $\|N_t\| = e^{a_t} \|N_{t-1}\| \implies a_t = \log \frac{\|N_t\|}{\|N_{t-1}\|}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} n_0^{(t+1)} \\ n_1^{(t+1)} \\ n_2^{(t+1)} \\ \vdots \\ n_K^{(t+1)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_0^{(t)} & f_1^{(t)} & f_2^{(t)} & \dots & f_K^{(t)} \\ p_0^{(t)} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & p_1^{(t)} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p_{K-1}^{(t)} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} n_0^{(t)} \\ n_1^{(t)} \\ n_2^{(t)} \\ \vdots \\ n_K^{(t)} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Background

- $L_t$  i.i.d
- Normalised population distribution  $w_t = \frac{N_t}{\|N_t\|} = \frac{L_t L_{t-1} \dots L_1 v}{\|L_t L_{t-1} \dots L_1 v\|}$
- $\{w_t : t > 0\}$  forms a (continuous state space) Markov chain on the simplex  $S$
- Stationary distribution  $\pi$  stable under the transformation  $(u, L) \rightarrow (Lu/\|Lu\|, L')$
- The growth rate  $a_t = \log \frac{\|N_t\|}{\|N_{t-1}\|}$  converges to the stochastic growth rate given by the top Lyapunov exponent

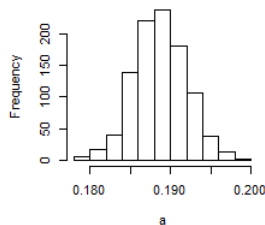
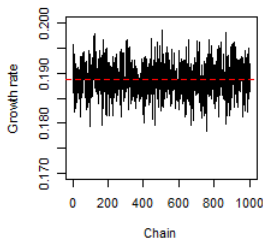
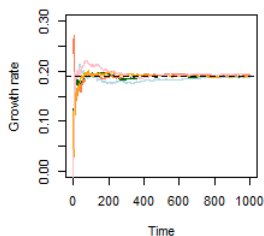
$$a = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{\sum_{i=0}^K N_t(i)}{\sum_{i=0}^K N_0(i)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{\|L_t L_{t-1} \dots L_1 v\|}{\|v\|} = E[\log \|Lu\|]$$

# Estimation of the growth rate and errors

- The Monte-Carlo estimate with  $J$  samples is given by

$$\hat{a}_T \approx \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \left( \log \frac{\|L_T^{(j)} \dots L_1^{(j)} v\|}{\|L_{T-1}^{(j)} \dots L_1^{(j)} v\|} \right)$$

- Systematic error  $\left| \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{\|L_{t+1} L_t \dots L_1 U\|}{\|L_t \dots L_1 U\|} \right] - \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{\|L_{t+1} L_t \dots L_1 v\|}{\|L_t \dots L_1 v\|} \right] \right|$
- Sampling error  $\left| \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \left( \log \frac{\|L_T^{(j)} \dots L_1^{(j)} v\|}{\|L_{T-1}^{(j)} \dots L_1^{(j)} v\|} \right) - \mathbb{E} [\log \|L U\|] \right|$



# Lyapunov exponents and the Multiplicative Ergodic Theorem

Asymptotic behavior of random product of matrices :

$$P_n(\omega) = L_n(\omega) \dots L_2(\omega) L_1(\omega) \quad \text{where } L_t \in \{M_1, \dots, M_k\}$$

## Example

2 fixed matrices  $A$  and  $B$  and a coin

$$P_n = ABBBAABA \dots$$

# Lyapunov exponents and the Multiplicative Ergodic Theorem

Generalization of the eigen-decomposition of  $L \in S_k(\mathbf{R})$  :

$$L = S^{-1}DS \quad \text{where } D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k)$$

Then for  $v = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i v_i$ , in the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$L^n v \approx \lambda_1^n a_1 v_1$$

## Multiplicative ergodic theorem

$L_1, L_2, \dots$  stationary sequence of random matrices in  $\mathbf{R}^{k \times k}$ . There exists  $k$  Lyapunov exponents  $\lambda_k \geq \dots \geq \lambda_1$  and a random subdivision of  $\mathbf{R}^k$  such that for  $v \in \mathbf{R}^k$  (random) :

$$L_n \dots L_2 L_1 v \approx e^{\lambda_k \cdot n} \times c \times V_\infty$$

# Distribution of the random vector $V_\infty$

- $V_\infty \sim \mu$  and  $\mu$  is the stationary distribution of the Markov chain  $\{w_t\}$
- No general explicit expression !
- Numerical approximation : distribution of  $\{w_t\}$  after some "burn-in" time  $B$

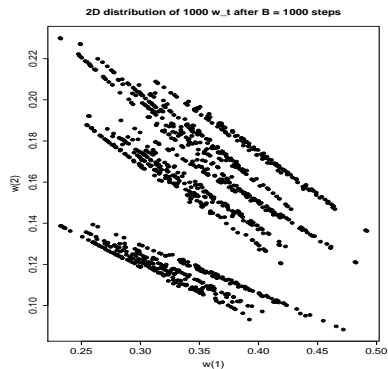
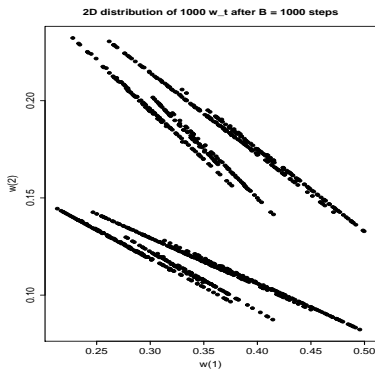


FIGURE – 1000 values of the Markov chain after  $B = 1000$  time steps with 2 matrices (left) and 3 matrices (right)



## Link with top eigen-vectors ?

With  $N = 2$  matrices

- $v_1$  top eigen-vector of  $L_1$   
 $\{L_1^t\}_t$  is a possible sequence  $\rightarrow v_1$  belongs to  $\mu$
- idem for  $L_2$

But also for any finite product of  $n$  matrices :

$$L_{i_1} L_{i_2} \cdots L_{i_n}$$

# Plots of the stationary distribution

Where are some top eigenvectors ?

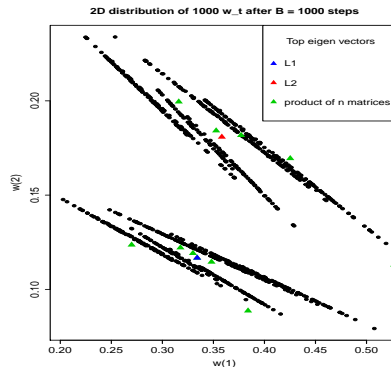


FIGURE — 1000 values of the Markov chain after  $B = 1000$  time steps with 2 matrices

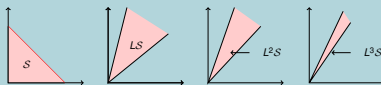
Extension : Pollicott's approximation of  $a$

# Hilbert Projective Metric and Contraction

$$\rho(u, v) = \max_{0 \leq i, j \leq N} \log \frac{u_i v_j}{u_j v_i}$$

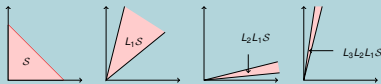
$$\rho(\lambda u, \lambda v) = \rho(u, v) \quad \forall \lambda$$

## Same Leslie matrix



Contraction in one direction

## Different Leslie matrices



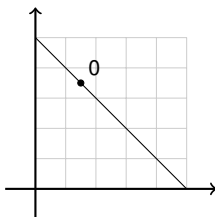
Contraction in a random direction → study the backward process

# Time Reversal

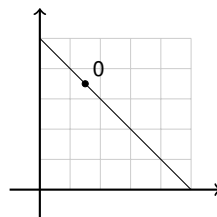
The sequence considered

$$L_1 L_2 L_2 L_1 v$$

Forward process  $w$



Backward process  $\hat{w}$

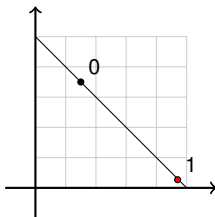


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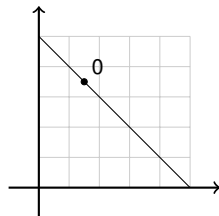
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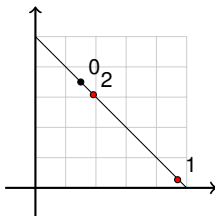


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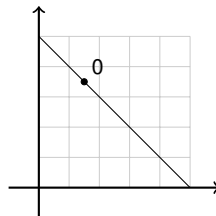
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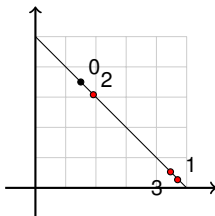


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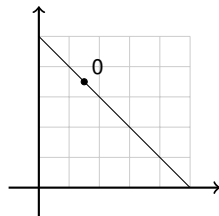
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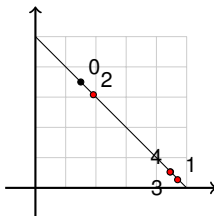


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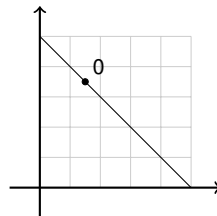
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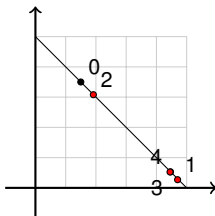


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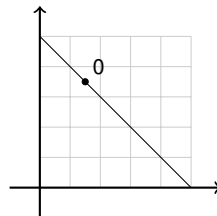
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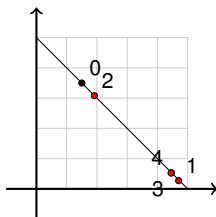


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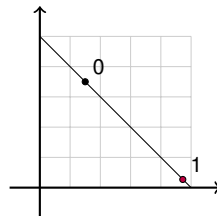
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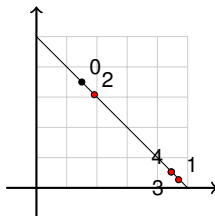


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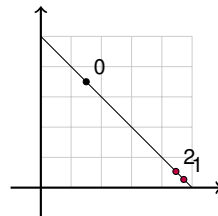
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Forward process  $w$



Backward process  $\hat{w}$

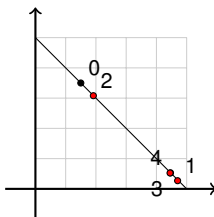


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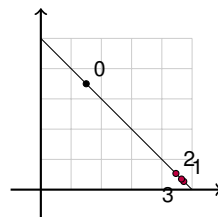
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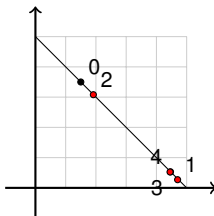


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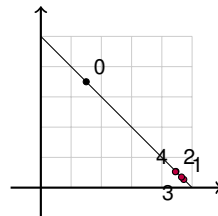
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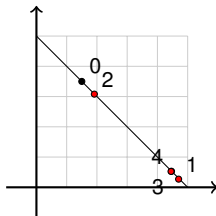


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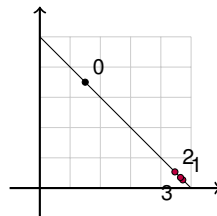
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Forward process  $w$



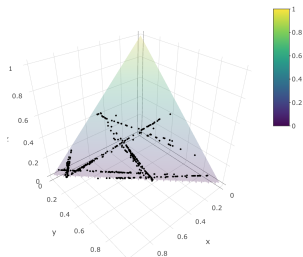
Backward process  $\hat{w}$



$$\forall q, p > m$$

$$\rho(\hat{w}_q, \hat{w}_p) = \rho\left(\frac{L_{i_1} \cdots L_{i_q} v}{\|L_{i_1} \cdots L_{i_q} v\|}, \frac{L_{i_1} \cdots L_{i_p} v}{\|L_{i_1} \cdots L_{i_p} v\|}\right) = \rho(L_{i_1} \cdots L_{i_m} \cdots L_{i_q} v, L_{i_1} \cdots L_{i_m} \cdots L_{i_p} v) \leq kr^m$$

# Plots of the stationary distribution



**FIGURE** — 1000 values of 1 Markov chain after 9000 time steps

$$L_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.4 & 0.1 \\ 0.8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0.5 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p = (0.2, 0.7, 0.1)$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_1 \approx 0.9 \\ \lambda_2 = 1 \\ \lambda_3 \approx 2.1 \end{cases}$$

## Annex I : Pollicott's approximation

Computation of the Lyapunov exponent using the top eigenvalue of a parametrized transfer operator acting on the function space of the function acting on  $S$  :

$$(\mathcal{L}_t f)(x) = \sum_{i=1}^M p_i e^{t \mathbb{E}[\log \|A x\|]} f\left(\frac{L_i x}{\|L_i x\|}\right)$$

where  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  real parameter

$\mathcal{L}_t$  has a top eigenvalue  $\lambda(t)$  and  $\lambda'(0) = \lambda_k$



## Annex I : Pollicott's approximation

It can also be expressed in another way using the determinant of the transfer operator

$$d^{(i)}(z, t) = \det(\mathbb{I} - z\mathcal{L}_t) = 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_j^{(i)}(t) z^j :$$

$$\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{\frac{\partial d^{(i)}}{\partial t}(1, 0)}{\frac{\partial d^{(i)}}{\partial z}(1, 0)}$$

where the  $a_j^{(i)}$  can be written explicitly in terms of top eigenvectors and eigenvalues of product of up to  $j$  matrices. Then a  $n$ -th approximation of  $\lambda_k$  is obtained by truncating the sums :

$$\lambda_n = \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n a_j^{(i)'}(0)}{\sum_{j=1}^n j a_j^{(i)}(0)}$$

Better rate of convergence compared to the Monte-Carlo method :

$$|\lambda_n - \lambda| \sim O(e^{-n^{1+1/k}})$$