

Trophic Pyramid in Ecosystems

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Introduction

- Universal characteristics of Ecosystems
: in dominance/competition/hierarchy
- Behavioral choice with Preference
: dynamics with two Time Scales
- Lotka-Volterra with Parametric Variation
- Quantitative Predictions w/o ad hoc assumption

Pray-Predator System

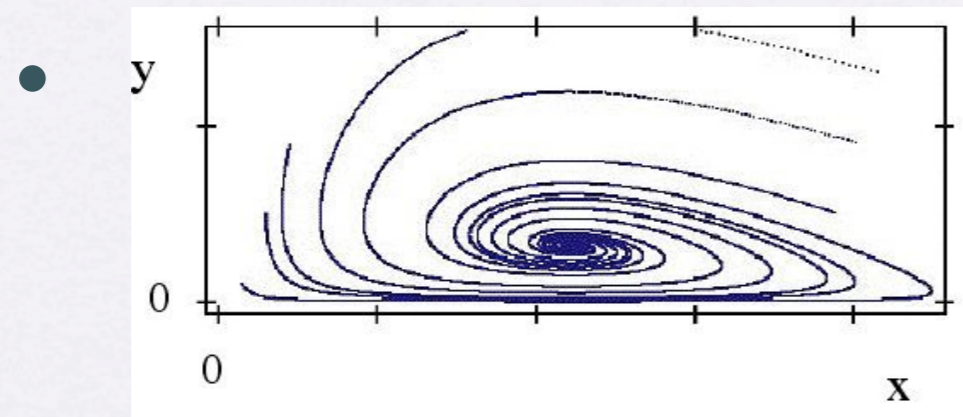
- Lotka-Volterra eq. for N=2 Food web
$$\frac{1}{x} \frac{dx}{dt} = b x - a x^2 - R x y$$
$$\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dt} = -d y + f R x y$$
- (a, b, d, f) fixed parameters
- aggression {R} varies adiabatically to maximize predator y

Fixed Point Solution

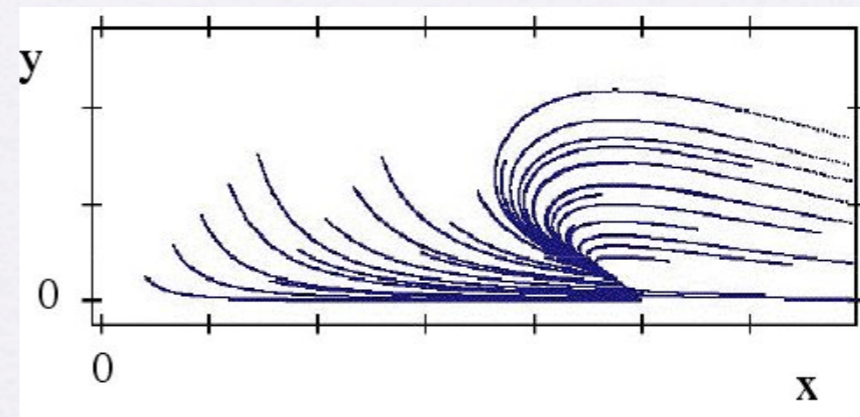
- System evolves toward (X, Y) :

$$0 = b - aX - RY$$

$$0 = -d + fRX$$



“right” R



“wrong” R

Optimal Aggression

- Fixed point $(X[R], Y[R])$
stability eigenvalues < 0 ($fRb \gg ad$)
- Maximize $Y[R] = -b/R + ad/fR^2$
- Evol. stability at $R^* = 2ad/fb$
 $X^* = b/2a, Y^* = b/2R^*$
- half of natural population $X=b/a$ taken

Tritrophic System

- $N=3$ Food web

$$1/x \, dx/dt = b x - a x^2 - R_2 x y$$

$$1/y \, dy/dt = -d_2 y + f_2 R_2 x y - R_3 y z$$

$$1/z \, dz/dt = -d_3 z + f_3 R_3 y z$$

- Fixed point (X, Y, Z)
- Maximize $Z[R_3], Y[R_2]$ simultaneously

Separation to 2 Systems

- $0 = b/2 - a (X - b/2a) - R_2 Y$
 $0 = -d_2/2 + f_2 R_2 (X - b/2a)$
- $0 = b_2 - a_2 Y - R_3 Z$ $a_2 := f_2 R_2^2 / a$
 $0 = -d_3 + f_3 R_3 Y$ $b_2 := f_2 b R_2 / a - d_2$
- $R_2^* = 2ad_2 / f_2 b,$ $X^* = 3b/4a,$ $Y^* = b/2 R_2^*$
 $R_3^* = 8ad_2 d_3 / f_2 f_3 b^2,$ $Z^* = d_2 / 2 R_3$

Pyramidal Hierarchy

- N-trophic food web chain $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$

- Fibonacci : eg. $N=5,$

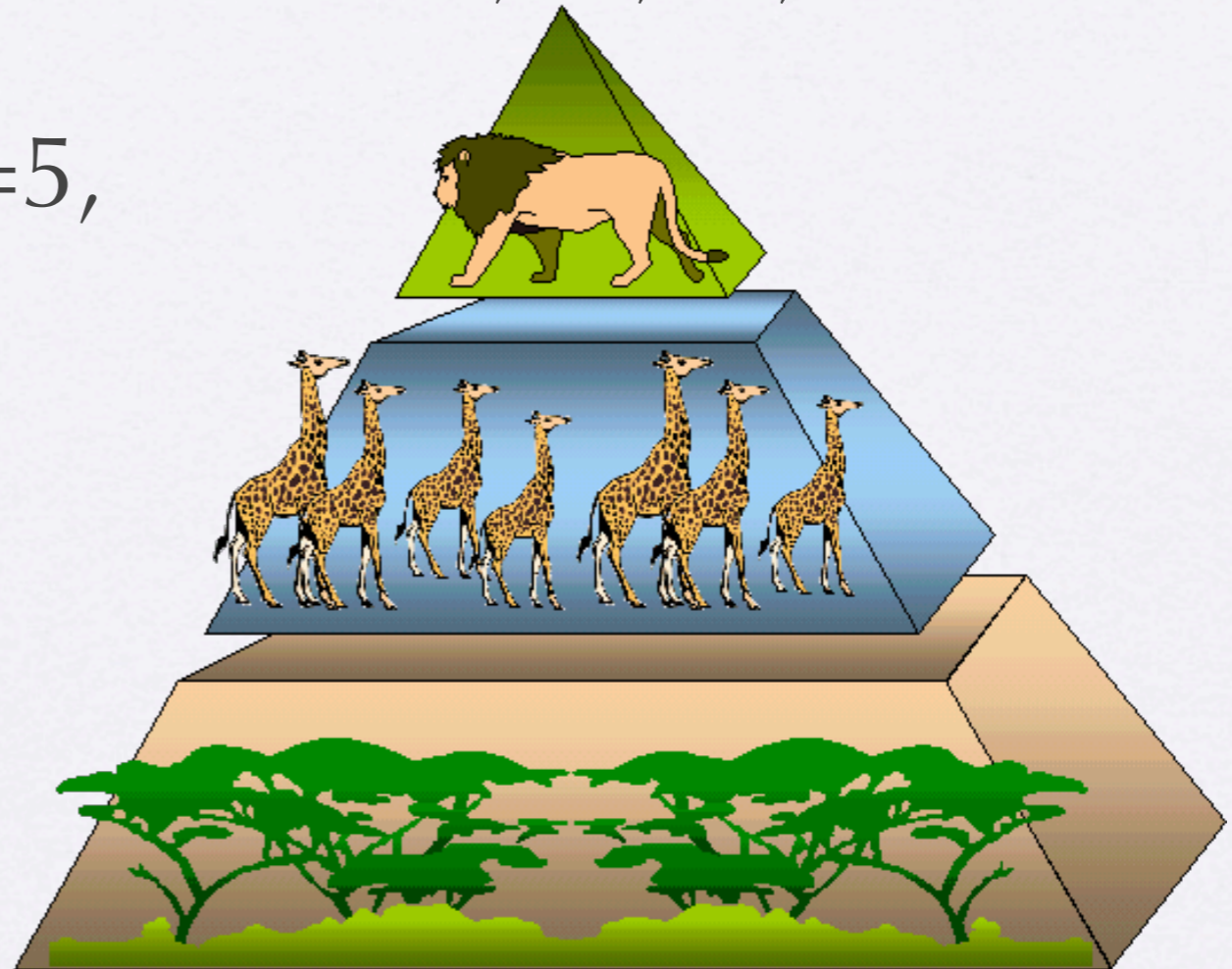
$$X_5^* \sim (1/256) X_1^*$$

$$X_4^* \sim (1/128) X_1^*$$

$$X_3^* \sim (3/64) X_1^*$$

$$X_2^* \sim (5/32) X_1^*$$

$$X_1^* = (11/16) b/a$$



Shape of Ecosystems

- Multidimensional Lotka-Volterra eq. with adiabatic parameter shift
- Elton's Universal Pyramid
- Extensions to multi-species in a trophic level : Stabilization by Dominance

References

- T. Cheon, “Evolutionary stability of ecological hierarchy”, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 90 (2003) 258105(4).
- T. Cheon and S. Ohta, “Suppression of ecological competition by apex predator”, *cond-mat/0305351* (2003).
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