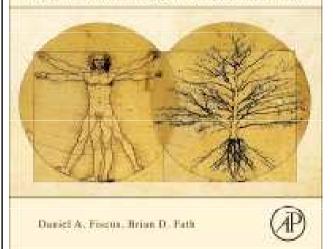
Foundations *for* Sustainability

A Coherent Framework of Life-Environment Relations



Foundations for Sustainability

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Professor, Towson University, Maryland, USA

Senior Research Scholar, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria Chapter 6: Life science lessons from ecological networks and systems ecology

Your reaction

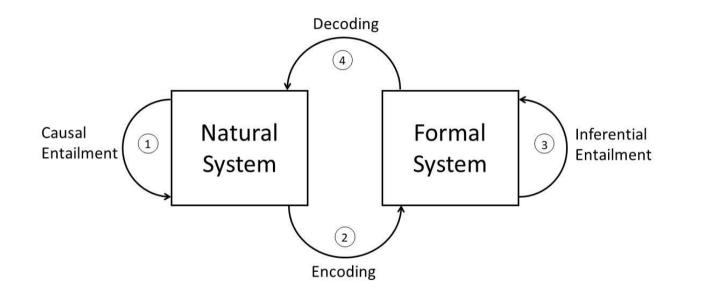
1) What do you think is a main conclusion from using network analysis? Why?

2) What questions do you have?

Ecological Network Analysis provides holistic tools

- 1) Discrete versus sustained life
- 2) Developmental tendencies of ecosystems are complementary
- 3) Indirect impacts are often greater than direct ones
- 4) All Life is connected—via ENA, we can quantify the connections
- 5) Ecosystems show mutualism between species
- 6) Ecosystems and networks naturally balance order and flexibility
- 7) A hypothetical new formalism prohibits fragmentation of life from environment and of life from life

Knowing what we know



Rosen's (1991) modeling relation: An elegant representation of the scientific process as heavily entangled with the real world it seeks to understand

Life's great advance as a complex adaptive system was to emerge as differentiations from and using the stuff of the background and simultaneously develop ways to interact and make sense of this background.

Network Primer

Networks are everywhere!

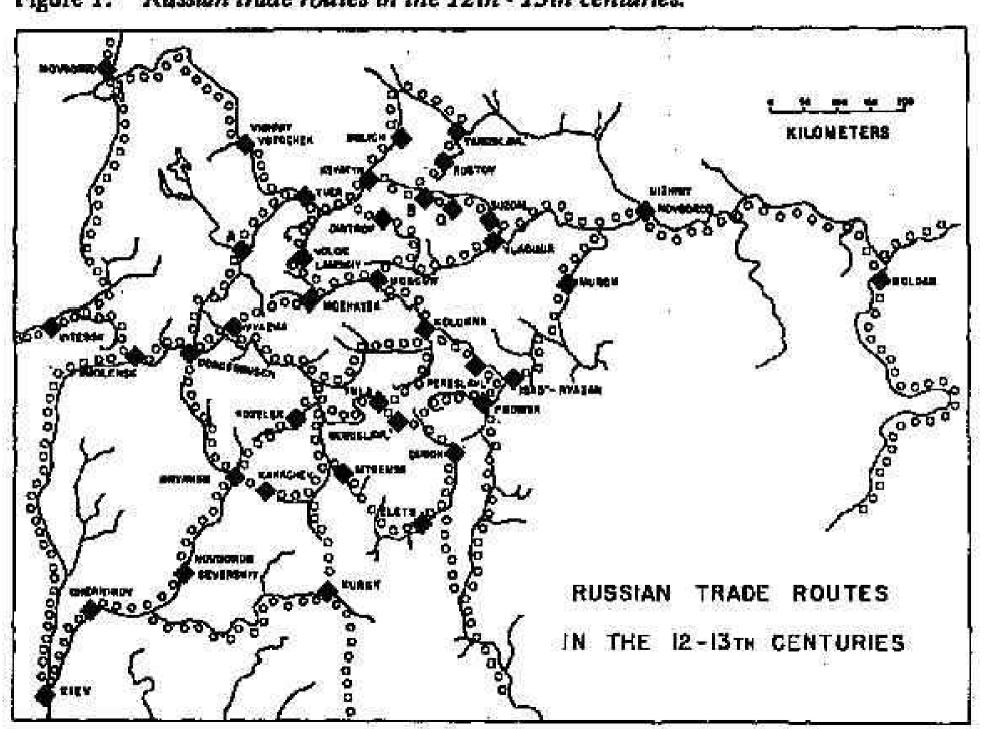
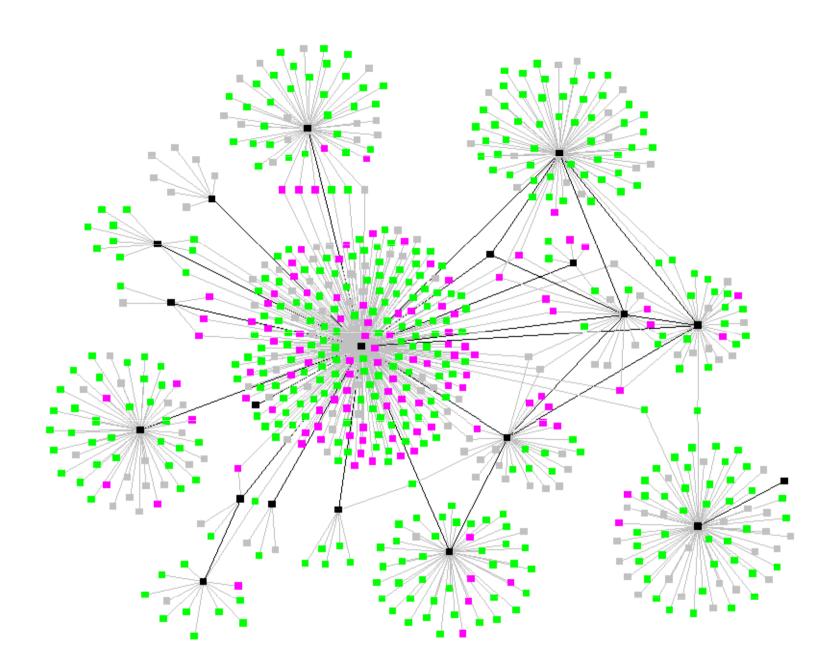
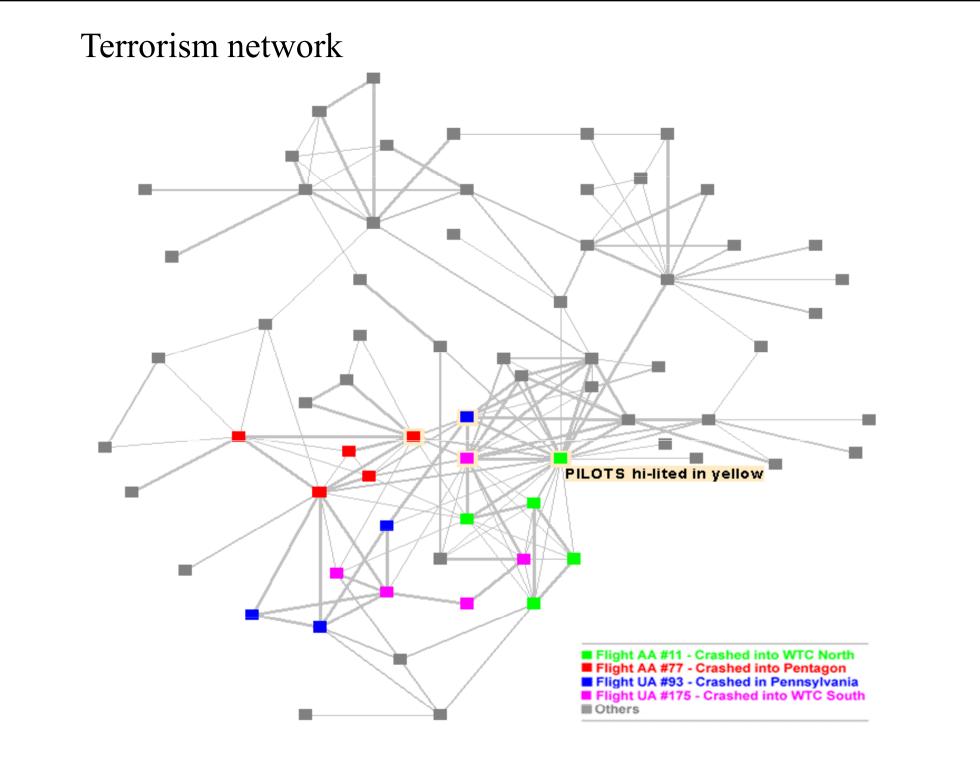
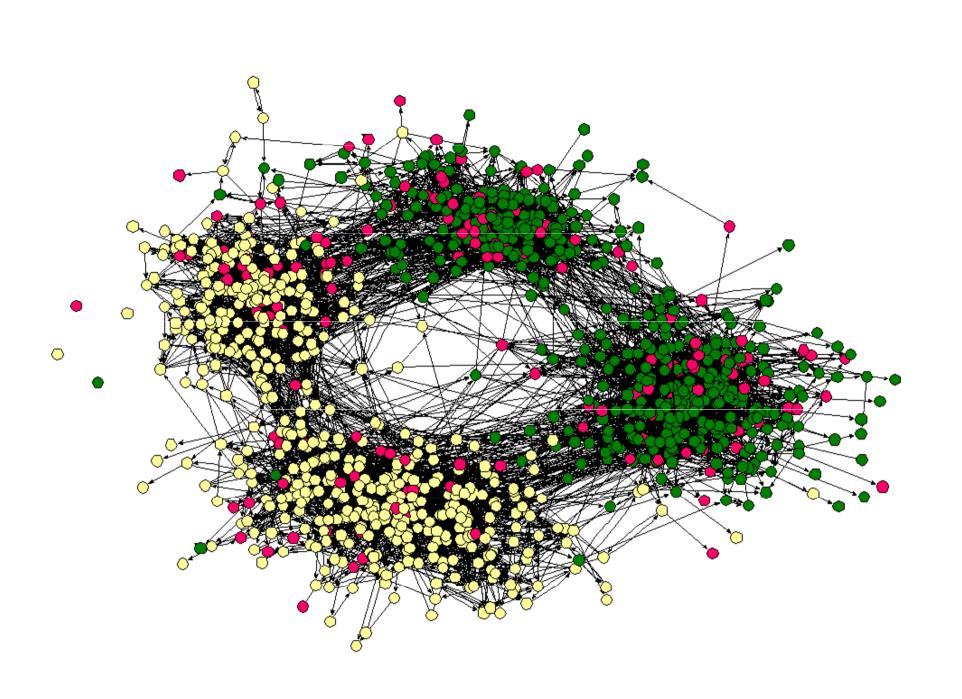


Figure 1. Russian trade routes in the 12th - 13th centuries.

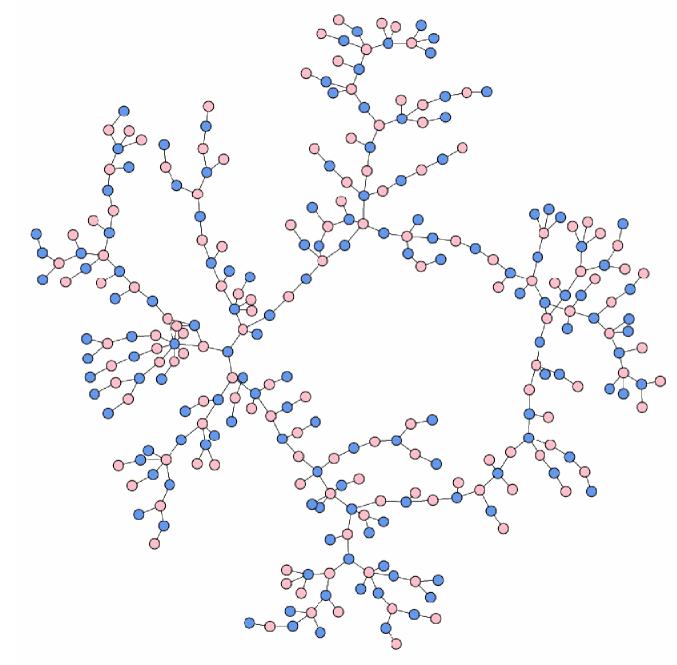


Communicable disease

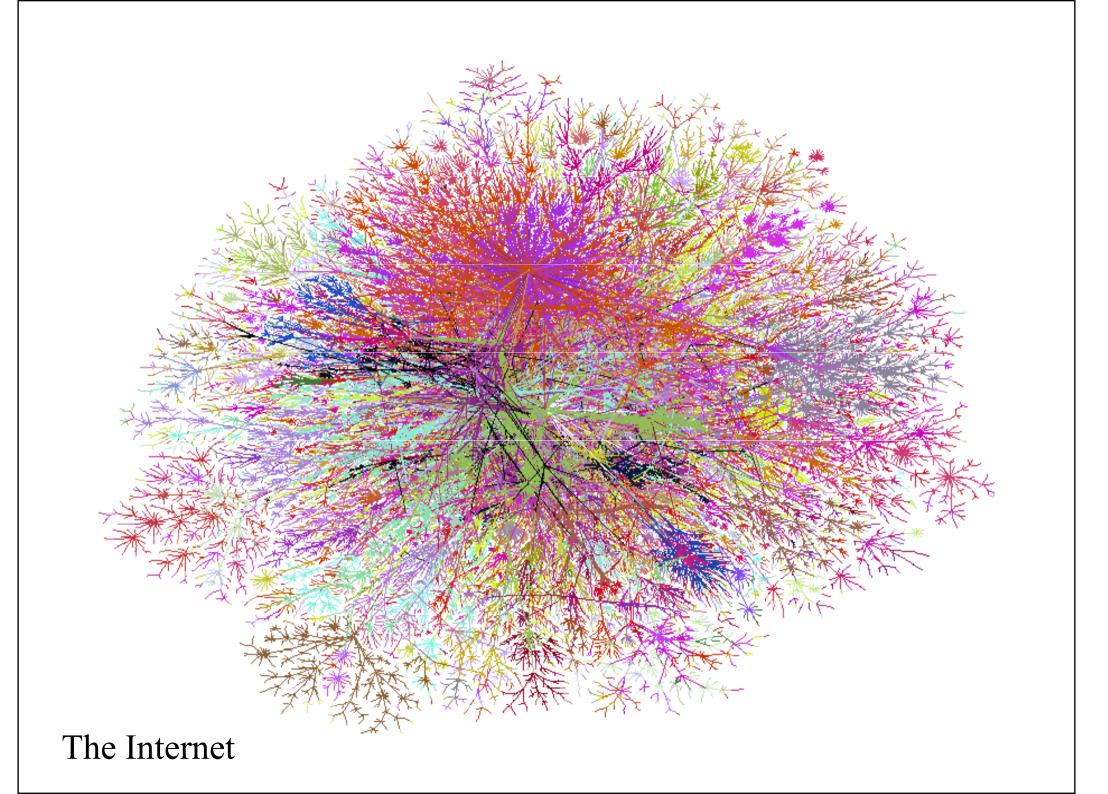




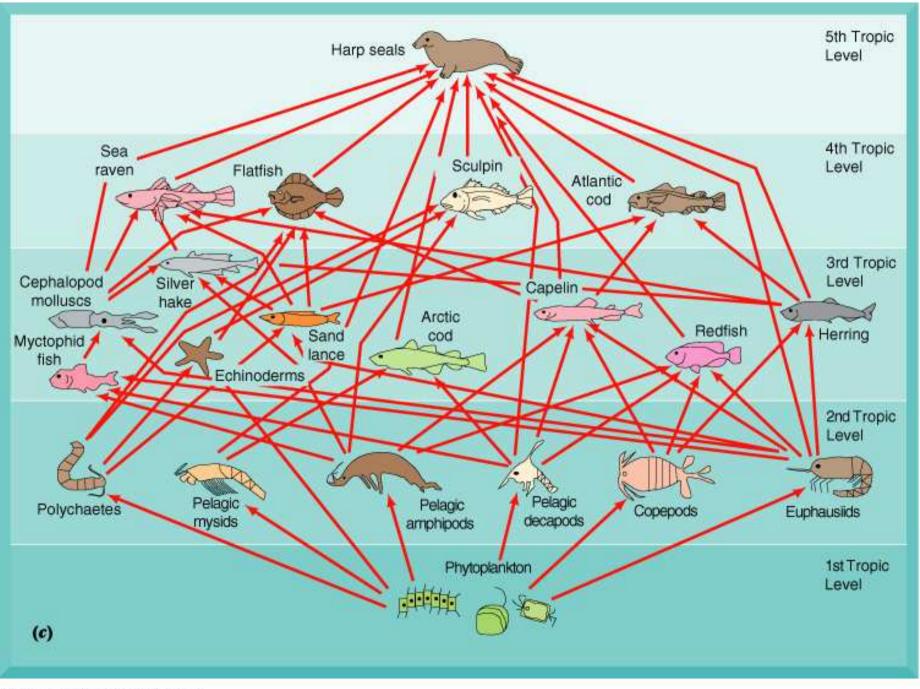
High School Friendship



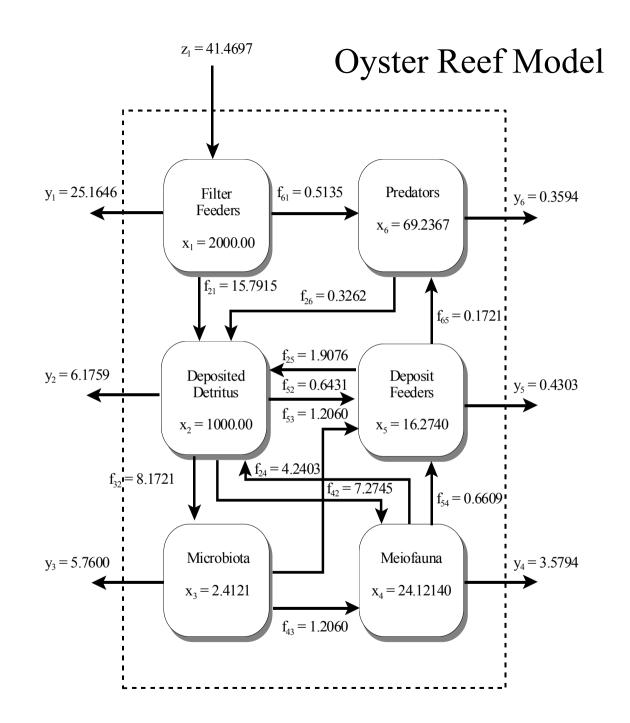
High School Dating



Ecological Food Web

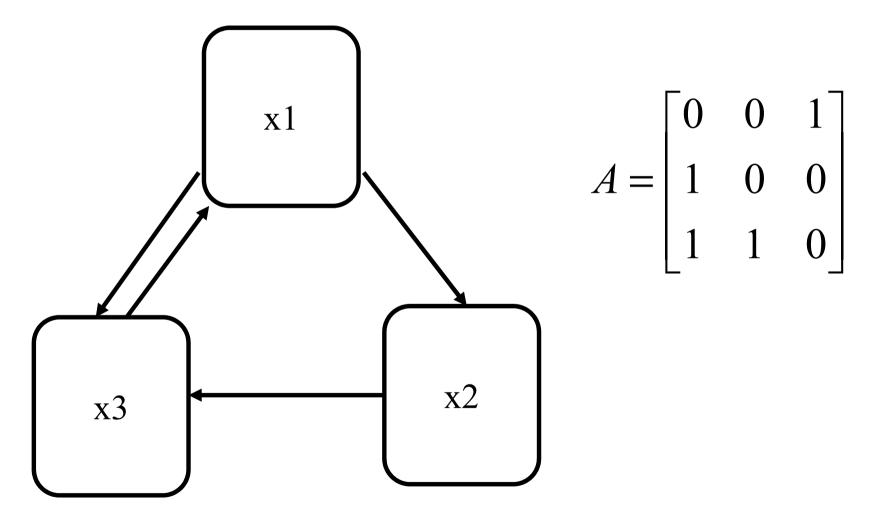


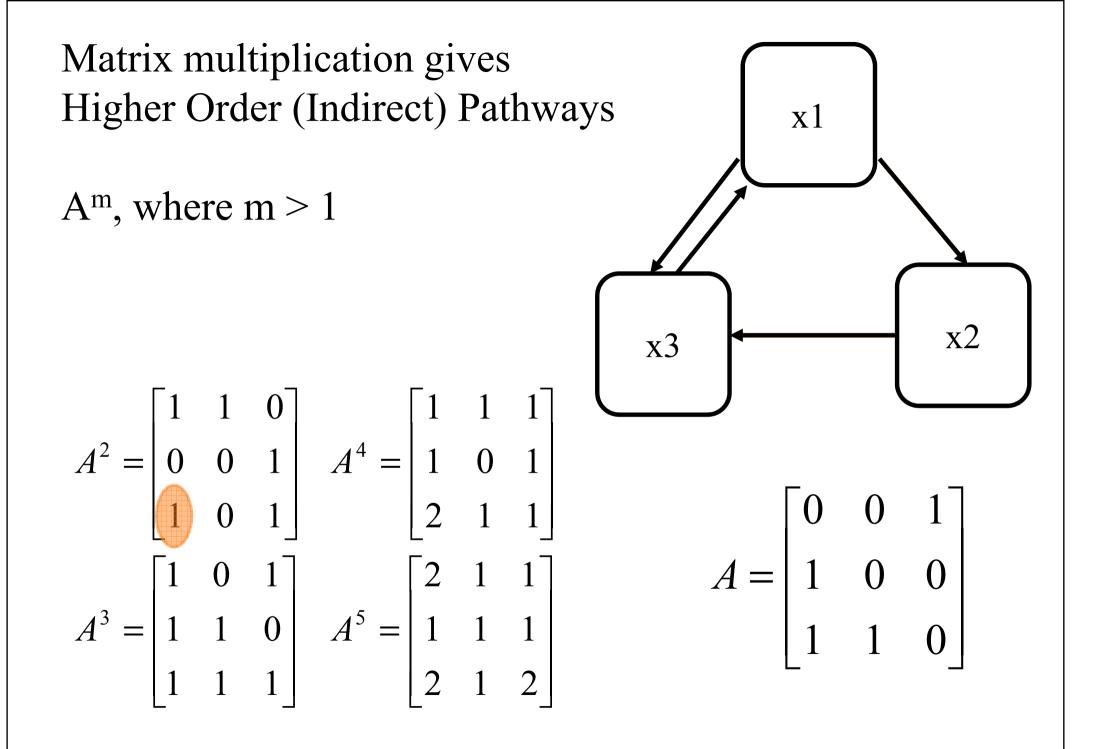
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Dame and Patten 1981 – flow is in kcal/(day m^2), storage in kcal/ m^2

How to measure structure and indirectness Example – digraph to adjacency matrix





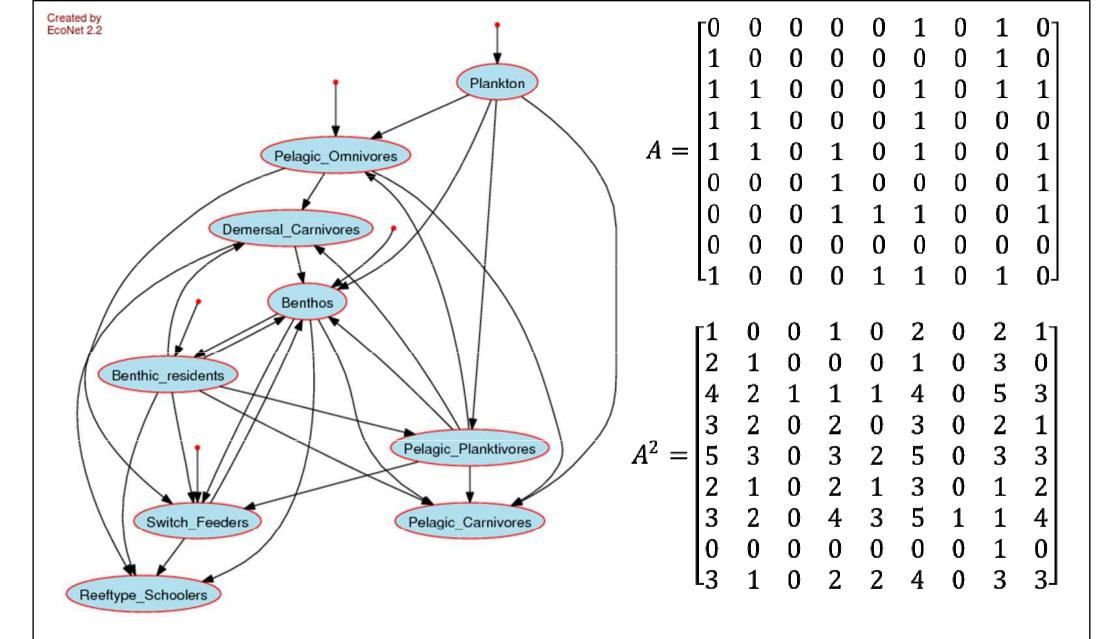
Powers of a matrix!!

The matrix A^m gives exactly the number of paths between two nodes of length m.

A¹ are the direct paths.
A² are the paths that take two steps
A³ are the paths that take three steps, etc.

Notice that some elements which were zero originally get filled in.

In other words we have a way to identify the indirect, i.e., m>1, walks in the matrix, and hence in the graph.



Food web model Gulf of Mexico ecosystem

Very many pathways as path length increases

	г13263	6193	0	9397	4260	16467	0	13083	ן 9397
	6014	2810	0	4260	1933	7464	0	5927	4260
	41273	19276	1	29238	13271	51236	0	40696	29248
	21998	10274	0	15591	7069	27315	0	21696	15590
$A^{10} =$	51245	23931	0	36317	16467	63631	0	50548	36317
	29247	13657	0	20727	9397	36317	0	28852	20727
	65743	30698	0	46590	21122	81635	1	64860	46590
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	L42510	19850	0	30123	13658	52783	0	41935	30124 []]

As m increases, the number of paths typically increases greatly

Flow Analysis

$$100 \quad x_1 \quad 20 \quad x_2 \quad x_3 \quad y_2$$
Adjacency matrix Inter-compartmental flows inputs outputs

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad F = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 20 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad z = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad y = \begin{bmatrix} 80 & 18 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$
Total flow through each compartment
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 20 \\ 20 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

The outflow (time forward, input driven) fractions are given by g_{ij} where

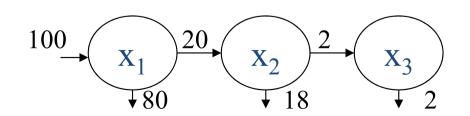
$$g_{ij} = \frac{f_{ij}}{T_j} \qquad \qquad G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Just as powers of A gave higher order pathways, Powers of G give flow transfers along higher order pathways.

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

G² gives the fraction of flow leaving j that took 2 steps to reach i.

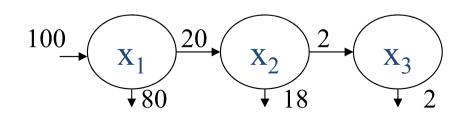
$$G^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.02 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



Continuing:

 G^3 gives the fraction of flow leaving j that took 3 steps to reach i. $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$G^{3} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

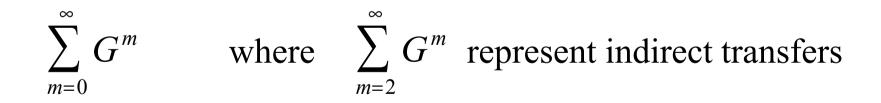


Summarizing:

G² gives transfers over pathways of length 2 G³ gives transfers over pathways of length 3, etc., i.e.,

G^m gives transfers over pathways of length m

Summing over $m=1 \rightarrow \infty$ gives powers over all pathways

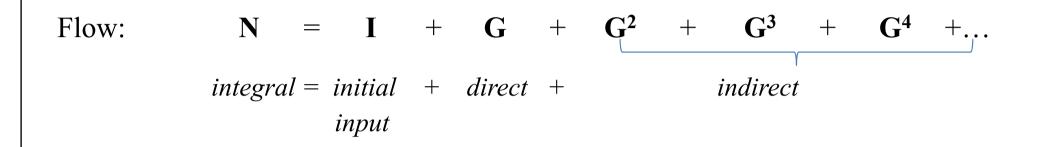


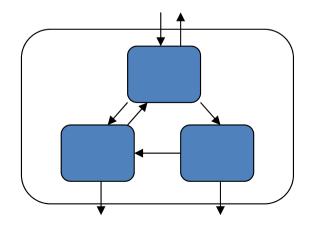
Unlike like powers of A, powers of G get smaller and the series converges

$$N = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} G^m \equiv (I - G)^{-1}$$

N is the INTEGRAL output flow matrix since it includes direct and all indirect flows

Propagation of network indirect effects

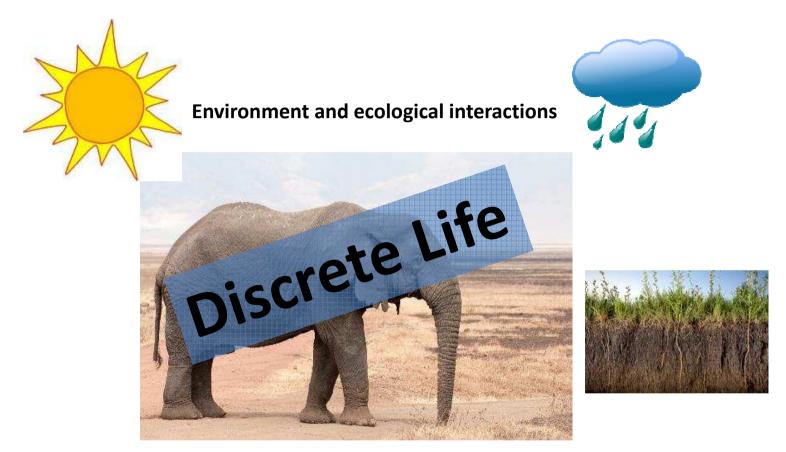




Key findings:

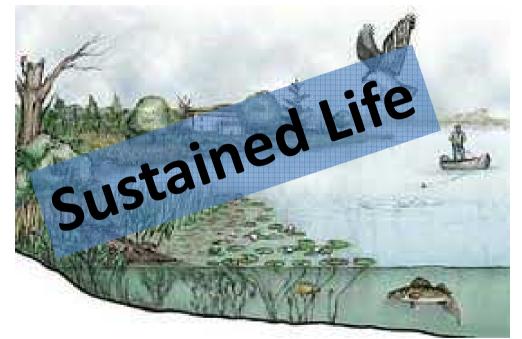
- Quantify input and output flow
- Indirect flows > direct flows
- Flows are well mixed
- Mutualistic relations dominate

L1: Coupled Complementary Life has Discrete and Sustained Aspects



A single organism possesses all the necessary aspects to be alive

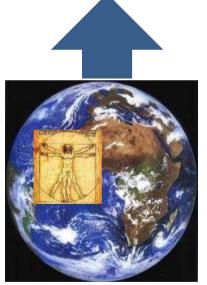
Interacting ecological community and its environment is an ecosystem



An ecosystem possesses all the necessary aspects to sustain life

Life and environment are best understood and modeled as unified as a single "life-environment" system.

Bounty of the Commons Humans win, environment improves



Fiscus D, Fath BD, Goerner S. 2012. E:CO 14(3), 44-88.

Evolution of an undifferentiated whole

"Biologists have rather been in the habit of reflecting upon the evolution of individual species. This point of view does not bear the promise of success, if our aim is to find expression for the fundamental law of evolution. We shall probably fare better if we constantly recall that the physical object before us is an undivided system, that the divisions we make therein are more or less arbitrary importations, psychological rather than physical, and as such, are likely to introduce complications into the expression of natural laws operating upon the system as a whole." (Lotka p. 158)

And later:

"... the concept of evolution, to serve us in its full utility, must be applied, not to an individual species, but to groups of species which evolve in mutual interdependence; and further to the system as a whole, of which such groups form inseparable part." (Lotka p. 277)

L2: Complementarity of Ecological Goal Functions

 Ecological Goal Functions are assumed to measure given properties or tendencies of ecosystems, emerging as a result of self-organization processes in their development (Marques 1998). Examples of Goal functions from the literature

1 Minimize specific entropy production (Prigogine 1947). Decrease in the respiration to biomass ratio.

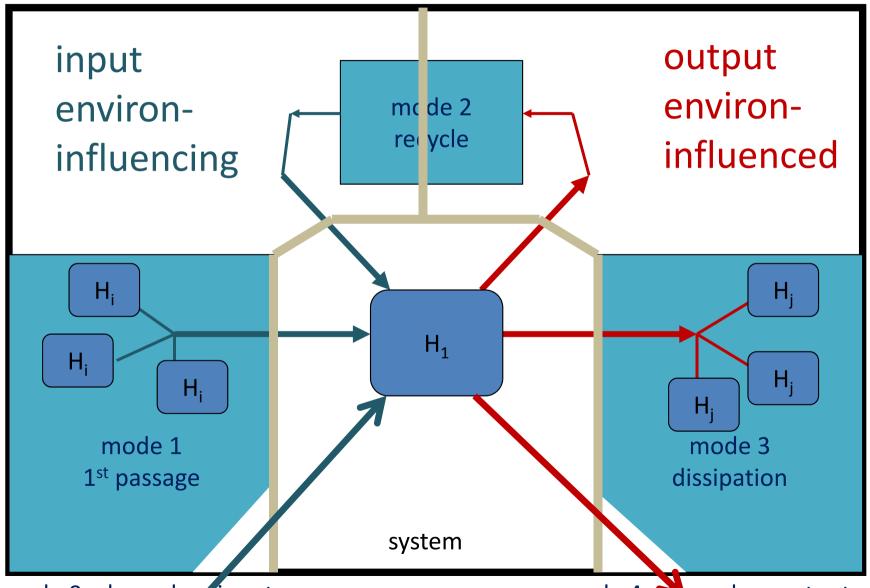
2 Maximize energy throughflow (Odum 1983). Increase in the internal energy flow.

3 Maximize exergy degradation (Kay 1984). As the amount of exergy captured increases, so does the amount dissipated.

4 Maximize exergy storage (Jørgensen & Mejer 1977). Exergy storage (biomass) and information increase due to shift to more complex species composition.

5 Maximize retention time (Cheslak & Lamarra 1981). Biological components develop mechanisms to increase time lags to maintain the energy stores longer.

Environs form a partition of the system.



mode 0 – boundary input

mode 4 — **Soundary output**

Network representation of flow and storage partitioning for any (i,j) pair in the system.

	FLOW pair-wise interactions	STORAGE pair-wise interactions
mode 1 (first passage)	$\mathbf{f}_{ij}^{(1)} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{n}_{ij}}{\mathbf{n}_{ii}} - \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}\right) \mathbf{z}_{j}$	$\mathbf{x}_{ij}^{(1)} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{q}_{ij}}{\mathbf{q}_{ii}} - \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}\right) \mathbf{z}_{j} \Delta \mathbf{t}$
mode 2 (cyclic)	$f_{ij}^{(2)} = \frac{n_{ij}}{n_{ii}} (n_{ii} - 1) Z_j$	$x_{ij}^{(2)} = \frac{q_{ij}}{q_{ii}}(q_{ii} - 1)z_j \Delta t$
mode 3 (dissipative)	$\mathbf{f_{ij}}^{(3)} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{n_{ij}}}{\mathbf{n_{ii}}} - \boldsymbol{\delta_{ij}}\right) \mathbf{Z}_{j}$	$\mathbf{x}_{ij}^{(3)} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{q}_{ij}}{\mathbf{q}_{ii}} - \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}\right) \mathbf{z}_{j} \Delta \mathbf{t}$

Goal	Ecological	Network Parameter	Network Analysis		
Function	Representation		Formulation		
max	max(TST)	$TST = f^{(1)} + f^{(2)}$	$TST = \sum (n_{ij})z_j$		
power					
max exergy	max(TSS)	$TSS = x^{(1)} + x^{(2)}$	$TSS = \sum \tau_i(n_{ij})z_j$		
storage					
max	max(TSE)	$TSE = f^{(3)}$	$TSE = \sum \sum (n_{ij}/n_{ii})z_j$		
dissipation					
max	max(TSC)	$TSC = f^{(2)}$	TSC = $\sum \sum (n_{ij}/n_{ii})(n_{ii}-1)z_j$		
cycling					
min	min(TSE/TSS)	TSE/TSS =	TSE/TSS =		
specific		$f^{(3)}/(x^{(1)}+x^{(2)})$	$\sum \sum ((n_{ij}/n_{ii})z_j)/x_{ij}$		
dissipation			$=\sum \sum 1/(\tau_i n_{ii})$		
max	max(TSRT)	$TSRT = \tau$	$TSRT = \sum x_i / (n_{ij}) z_j$		
residence			$=\sum \tau_i$		
time					

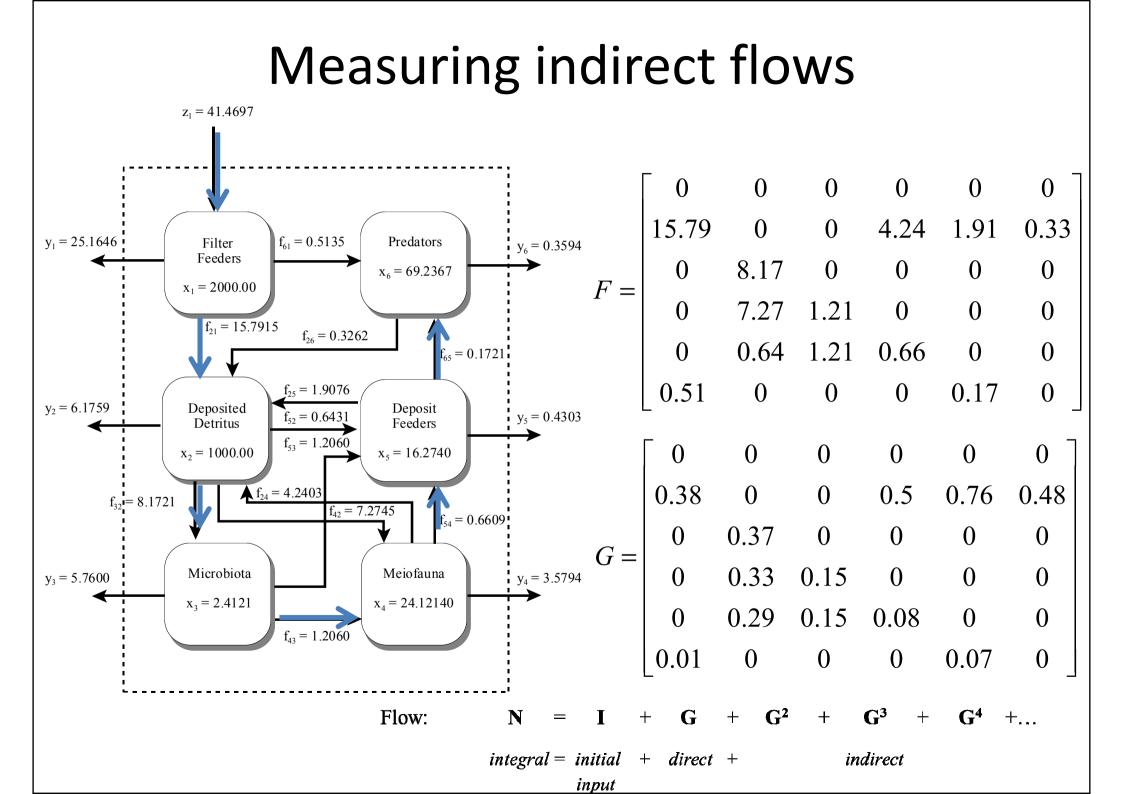
Conclusion

Goal functions are consistent and mutually implicating

Three common properties:
 1) First passage flow
 2) Cycling
 3) Retention time

Get as much as it can (maximize first passage flow); Hold on to it for as long as it can (maximize retention time); and If it must let it go, then try to get it back (maximize cycling).

L3: Dominance of Indirect Effects



G =					
0	0	0	0	0	0
0.3808	0	0	0.5000	3750	0.4758
0 0	.3670	TCT	FLO	NN C	0
0 0	- DIR	FCI	-0	0	0
	.0259-0	.1476	0.0779	0	0
0.0124	0	0	0	0.0686	0
$G^2 =$					
0	0	0	0	0	0
0.0059	0.1853	0.1859	0.0592	0.0326	0
0.1398	0	0	0.1835	0.2789	0.1746
0.1244	0.0542	0	0.1634	0.2483	0.1554
0.0110	0.0796	0.0115	0.0144	0.0220	0.0137
0	0.0020	0.0101	0.0053	0	0
$G^{3} =$					
0	0	0	0	0	0
0.0706	0.0885	0.0136	0.0952	0.1408	0.0882
0.0022	0.0680	0.0682	0.0217	0.0120	0
0.0226	0.0605	0.0608	0.0464	0.0518	0.0258
0.0305	0.0096	0.0054	0.0415	0.0615	0.0379
0.0008	0.0055	0.0008	0.0010	0.0015	0.0009
$G^{4}=$					
0	0	0	0	0	0
0.0348	0.0401	0.0348	0.0552	0.0733	0.0421
0.0259	0.0325	0.0050	0.0349	0.0517	0.0324
0.0234	0.0390	0.0145	0.0343	0.0478	0.0288
0.0041	0.0173	0.0152	0.0096	0.0099	0.0046
0.0021	0.0007	0.0004	0.0028	0.0042	0.0026

N =0 1.0000 NTEGRAL FLOWS 0 0 0 1.3885 0.277 .6606 0.5369 0.1971 0.2425 0.2045 0.4192 0.2516 2971 0.0605 0.1904 0.1659 1.1241 0.0745 0.1565 0.0771 0.0165 0.0107 0.0131 0.0114 1.0051



Indirect/direct= sum(sum(N–I–G))/sum(sum(G)) =

<u>5.0523</u> 3.2932 =1.5341

Dominance of Indirectness occurs when indirect contribution is greater than direct. This occurs in the majority of food web models studied so far and is one of the key results of ecological network analysis and insights into understanding the role of networks on system organization.

Indirectness increases with increasing: connectivity cycling system order direct effects

Make the direct observation, but analyze the whole system. Direct observations give less than half the story.

L4: All Life is Physically and Relationally Connected

Relation – qualitative, value-oriented, direct or indirect interaction types. Nine possible interaction types

Transaction – transfer of energy or matter between two directly connected components

+
$$(+,+)$$
 $(+,0)$ $(+,-)$
0 $(0,+)$ $(0,0)$ $(0,-)$
- $(-,+)$ $(-,0)$ $(-,-)$

+

0

Utility Analysis

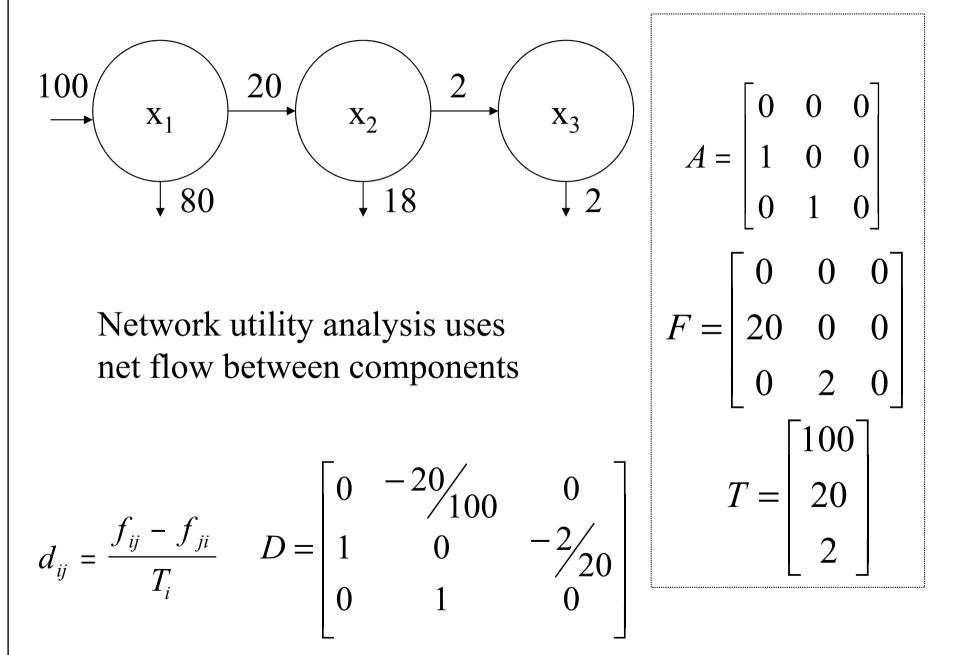
- determines relationship types
- demonstrates network synergism and mutualism

$$d_{ij} = \frac{\left(f_{ij} - f_{ji}\right)}{T_i}$$

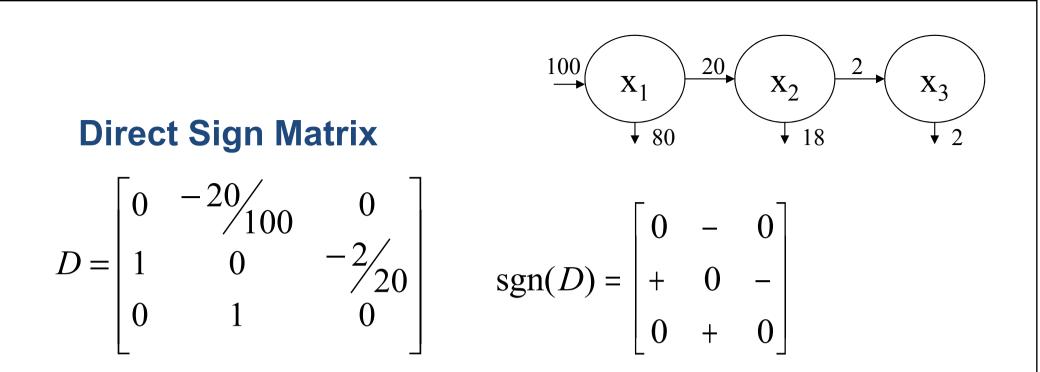
Let

Normalized net flow between components

Three compartment food chain



100



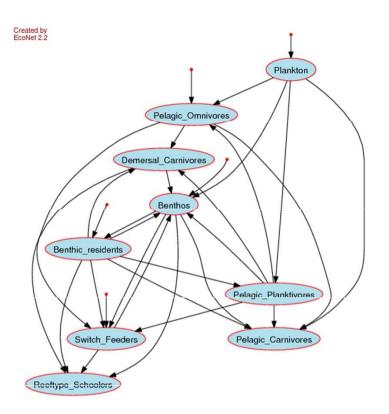
Direct relations – from comparing terms across the main diagonal:

 $(sd_{21}, sd_{12}) = (+, -) \rightarrow predation$ $(sd_{32}, sd_{23}) = (+, -) \rightarrow predation$ $(sd_{31}, sd_{13}) = (0, 0) \rightarrow neutralism$

	Integral Utility: $100 \qquad x_1 \qquad 20 \qquad x_2 \qquad 2 \qquad x_3 \qquad y_{18} \qquad y_{1$
Utility:	$U = I + D + D^2 + D^3 + D^4 + \dots$
	integral = initial + direct + indirect
	input
	$U = \begin{bmatrix} 0.846 & -0.154 & 0.015 \\ 0.769 & 0.769 & -0.077 \\ 0.769 & 0.769 & 0.923 \end{bmatrix}$

All terms are non-zero indicating relational connectivity

Direct interaction matrix, shows null (0,0) relations



	L O	-2.9000	-1.2	-0.2000	-0.5	7.0637	0	92.9363	ך 0.9–
	0.1236	0	-2.1	-0.1000	-0.4	0	0	0.8909	0
	1.7935	73.6704	0	0	0	10.5572	0	10.4176	3.5613
	1.0510	12.3349	0	0	-1.2	85.7141	-0.4	0	0
D * 100 =	0.0213	0.4003	0	0.0097	0	0.3012	-0.3	0	-0.8968
	-0.3	0	-0.3	-0.6927	-0.3	0	-0.2	0	0.7156
	0	0	0	0.4589	42.4193	28.3905	0	0	28.7313
	-4.0	-0.9	-0.3	0	0	0	0	0	-0.8
	L0.0378	0	-0.1	0	0.8827	-0.7071	-0.2	0.7801	0]

Integral (direct + indirect) relations are all non-zero, indicating everything affects everything, at least indirectly

	⁻ 96.373	-4.621	-1.345	-0.233	-0.497	6.473	-0.007	89.372	–1.582
	0.056	98.45	-2.069	-0.097	-0.392	-0.297	0.002	0.713	-0.078
	1.336	72.32	98.39 4	-0.147	-0.306	10.324	-0.0216	12.164	3.464
	0.764	11.844	-0.516	99.395	-1.734	85.027	-0.563	0.765	0.431
U * 100 =	0.020	0.394	-0.008	0.006	99.862	0.229	-0.298	0.014	-0.980
	-0.298	-0.287	-0.288	-0.688	-0.364	99.298	-0.196	-0.305	0.652
	-0.071	0.118	-0.116	0.265	42.479	28.458	99.758	0.146	28.49
	-3.86	-0.918	-0.222	0.011	0.018	-0.281	0.002	96.38	-0.746
	L0.0074	-0.076	-0.098	0.005	0.799	-0.767	-0.201	0.775	99.92 J

L5: Mutualism is Common and Crucial

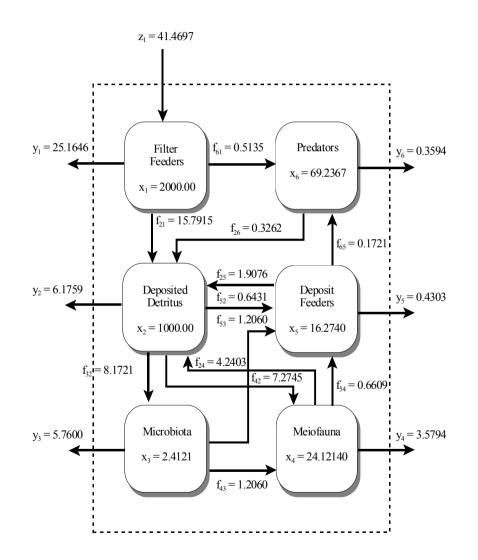
I	ntegral	Utility	•		<u>10</u>	x_1 20 x_1 80	x_2 2 x_2 x_2 x_1 x_2 x_2 x_2 x_2 x_2 x_3 x_4 x_2 x_2 x_3 x_4 x_2 x_3 x_4 x_4 x_2 x_3 x_4	$ x_3$ $+ 2$
Utility:		=) +		D ³ +	D ⁴ +	
int	tegral =	initial inpu		ect +	i	ndirect		
$\operatorname{sgn}(D) =$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & - \\ + & 0 \\ 0 & + \end{bmatrix}$	- 0 0 - + 0				s indirect n X1 and		
sgn(U) =	[+ - + + + +	· + · - · +]	(sd_{21}) (sd_{32}) (sd_{31})	$, sd_{12}) =$ $, sd_{23}) =$ $, sd_{13}) =$	(+, -) - (+, -) - (+, +) -	→ predati → predati → mutua	ion ion lism	

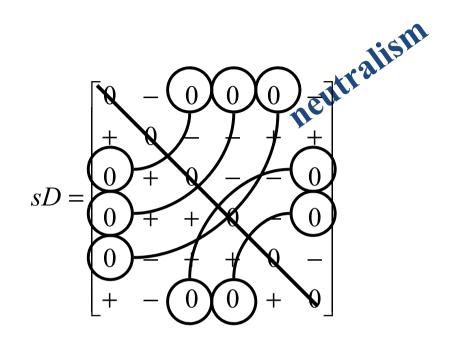
Community-level relations are more positive than the direct relations that produced them: **This is network mutualism**.

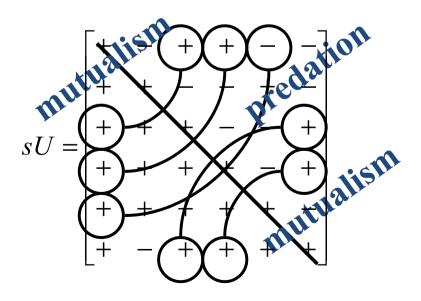
	[96.373	-4.621	-1.345	-0.233	-0.497	6.473	-0.007	89.372	–1.582
	0.056	98.45	-2.069	-0.097	-0.392	-0.297	0.002	0.713	-0.078
	1.336	72.32	98.394	-0.147	-0.306	10.324	-0.0216	12.164	3.464
	0.764	11.844	-0.516	99.395	-1.734	85.027	-0.563	0.765	0.431
U * 100 =	0.020	0.394	-0.008	0.006	99.862	0.229	-0.298	0.014	-0.980
	-0.298	-0.287	-0.288	-0.688	-0.364	99.298	-0.196	-0.305	0.652
	-0.071	0.118	-0.116	0.265	42.479	28.458	99.758	0.146	28.49
	-3.86	-0.918	-0.222	0.011	0.018	-0.281	0.002	96.38	-0.746
	L0.0074	-0.076	-0.098	0.005	0.799	-0.767	-0.201	0.775	99.92 J

43 are positive and 38 are negative

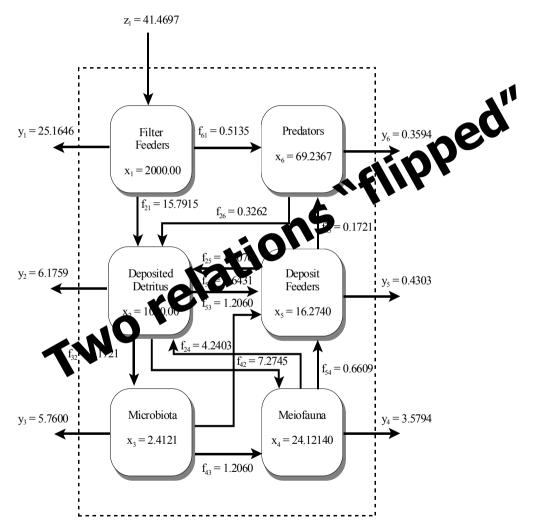
Oyster Reef Model

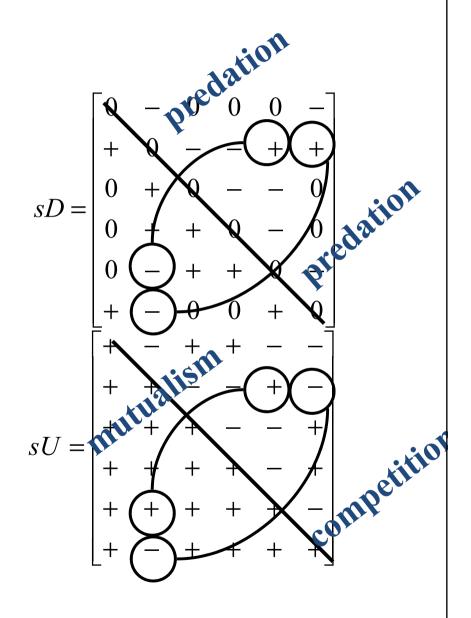






Oyster Reef Model

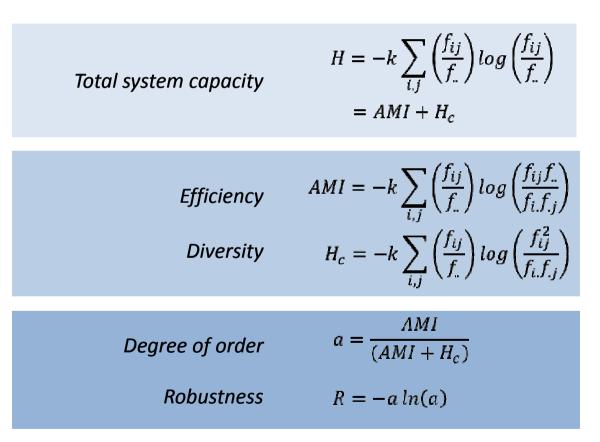




L6: Ecosystems Balance Efficiency and Adaptability

Information-based Ecological Network Analysis

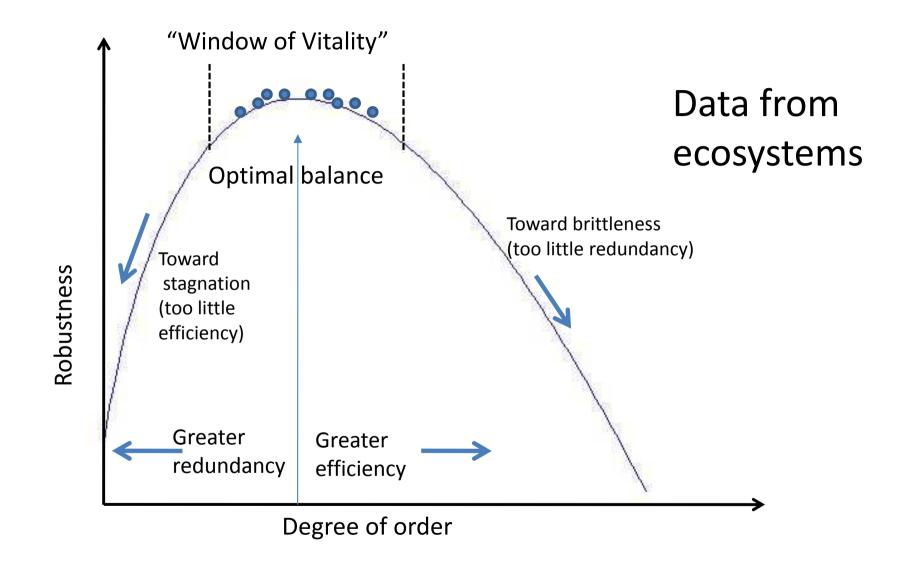
Robustness as a trade-off between efficiency and diversity



Two example networks



Robustness combines both efficiency and redundancy

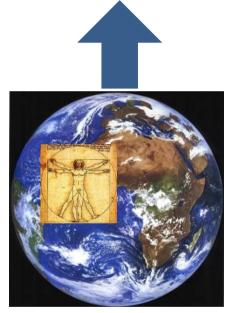


Ulanowicz 2009 A Third Window

L7: A Hyperset Formalism of Life Prohibits Fragmentation of Life from Environment

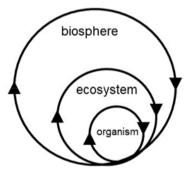
Recursive nature of nature

Bounty of the Commons Humans win, environment improves



1) A hyperset equation explicitly and formally *prohibits fragmentation of life from environment*

> Three holons and Life unit-models



life-environment =
{environment{ecosystems{organisms{environment}}}}

Fiscus D, Fath BD, Goerner S. 2012. E:CO 14(3), 44-88.

Summary of the six principles

 Network insight and tools can give new understanding and contribute to a new holistic, interconnected, reflective science

 "With an eco-mind, we move from 'fixing something' outside ourselves to realigning our relationships within our ecological home." (Lappe 2011, p. 16)

Discussion questions

 could a plant exist alone with a "very slow working cycle"

• What if all organisms incorporated chloroplast cells? Is it sufficient?

Discussion questions

- How can the hyperset formulation help us think like an ecosystem?
 - Practical implementations of it?