

"Populační ekologie živočichů"

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# Predator-prey model

continuous model of Lotka & Volterra (1925-1928)

*H* .. density of prey*r* .. intrinsic rate of prey population*a* .. predation rate

*P* .. density of predators*m* .. predator mortality rate*b* .. reproduction rate of predators

 $\frac{dH}{dt} = rH$ 

 $\frac{dP}{dt} = -mP$ 

• in the absence of predator, prey grows exponentially  $\rightarrow$ 

• in the absence of prey, predator dies exponentially  $\rightarrow$ 

predation rate is linear function of the number of prey .. *aHP*each prey contributes identically to the growth of predator .. *bHP*

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = rH - aHP$$
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = bHP - mP$$

### **Analysis of the model**

#### Zero isoclines:

for prey population:

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = 0 \qquad 0 = rH - aHP$$

$$P = \frac{r}{a}$$

m

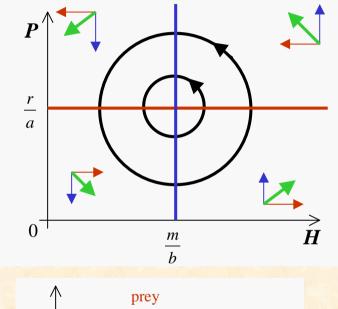
for predator population:

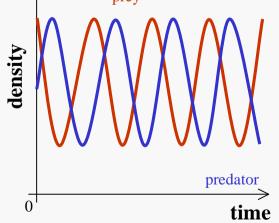
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0 \qquad 0 = bHP - mP \qquad H =$$

 do not converge, has no asymptotic stability (trajectories are closed lines)

- unstable system, amplitude of the cycles is determined by initial numbers
  - POOR model

prey isoclinepredator isocline





### **Incorporation of density-dependence**

• in the absence of the predator prey population reaches carrying capacity K

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = rH\left(1 - \frac{H}{K}\right) - aHP$$
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = bHP - mP$$

• for given parameter values: r = 3, m = 2, a = 0.1, b = 0.3, K = 10

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = 3H\left(1 - \frac{H}{10}\right) - 0.1HP \qquad \qquad \frac{dP}{dt} = 0.3HP - 2P$$

### <u>Zero isoclines:</u> • for prey population: $\frac{dH}{dt} = 0$ $0 = 3H\left(1 - \frac{H}{10}\right) - 0.1HP$

0

if H = 0 (trivial solution) or if

$$= 3\left(1 - \frac{H}{10}\right) - 0.1P \qquad P$$

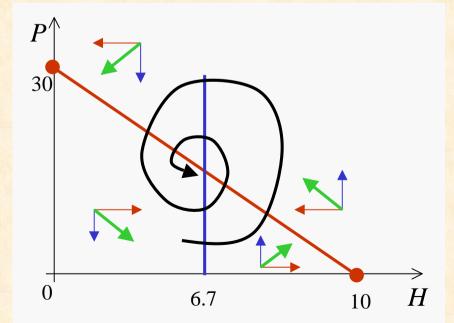
$$P=30-3H$$

• for predator population:  $\frac{dP}{dt} = 0$  0.3HP - 2P = 0

if P = 0 (trivial solution) or if 0.3H - 2 = 0

H = 6.667

• if gradient of prey isocline is negative .. approached stable equilibrium



### **Incorporation of functional response**

functional response Type II:

 $H_a = \frac{aHT}{1 + aHT_h}$ 

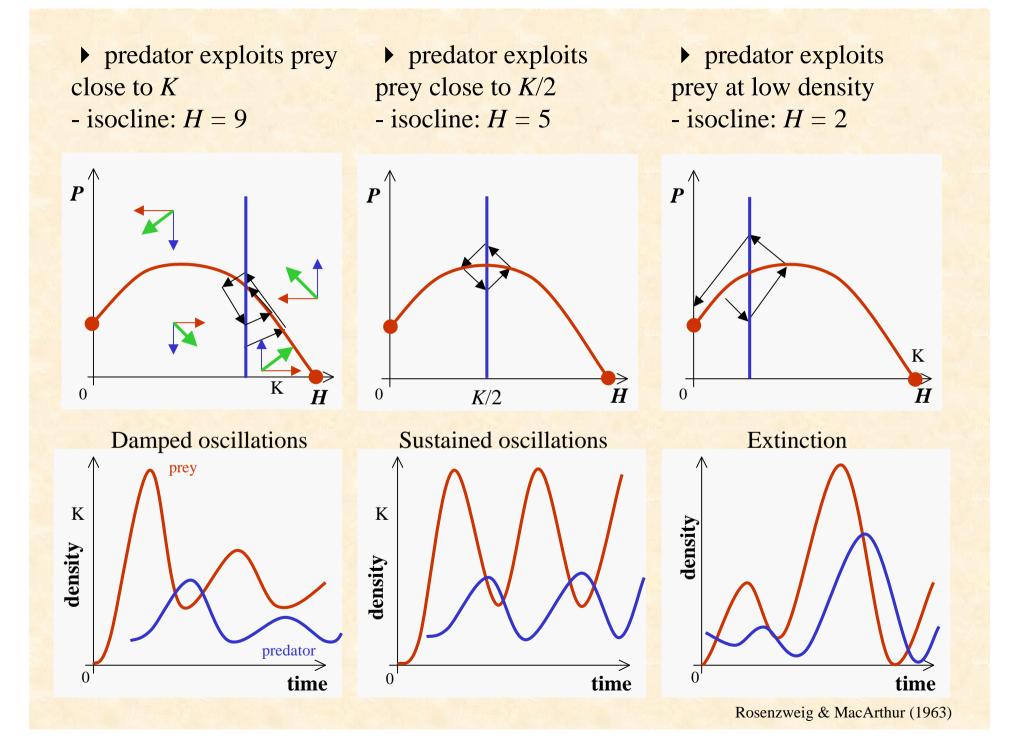
rate of consumption by all predators:

 $\frac{H_a P}{T} = \frac{aHP}{1 + aHT_h}$ 

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = r_H H \left( 1 - \frac{H}{K} \right) - \frac{aHP}{1 + aHT_h} \qquad \frac{dP}{dt} = bHP - mP$$

• for parameters:  $r_H = 3$ , a = 0.1,  $T_h = 2$ , K = 10

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = 0 \qquad 0 = 3H\left(1 - \frac{H}{10}\right) - \frac{0.1HP}{1 + 0.1H2}$$
  
prey isocline:  $P = 30 + 6H - 0.6H^2$ 



### **Incorporation of predator's carrying capacity**

logistic model with carrying capacity proportional to *H k* .. carrying capacity of the predator
 *r<sub>p</sub>* = *bH* - *m*

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = bHP - mP$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = r_P P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{kH} \right) \qquad \frac{dH}{dt} = r_H H \left( 1 - \frac{H}{K} \right) - \frac{aHP}{1 + aHT_h}$$

 $P = 30 + 6H - 0.6H^2$ 

H = 5P

• for parameters: 
$$r_P = 2, k = 0.2$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0 \qquad 0 = 2P \left( 1 - \frac{P}{0.2H} \right)$$

predator isocline:

prey isocline:

### Host-parasitoid model

discrete model of Nicholson & Bailey (1935)

 $H_t$  = number of hosts in time t  $H_a$  = number of attacked hosts  $\lambda$  = finite rate of increase of the host

 $P_t$  = number of parasitoids c = conversion rate, no. of parasitoids for 1 host (=1)

$$H_{t+1} = \lambda (H_t - H_a)$$
$$P_{t+1} = cH_a = H_a$$

### **Incorporation of random search**

parasitoid searches randomly, has unlimited ability to lay eggs
encounters (x) are random (Poisson distribution)

$$p_x = \frac{\mu^x e^{-\mu}}{x!}$$
  $x = 0, 1, 2, ...$   $p_0 = e^{-\mu}$ 

 $p_0$  = proportion of not encountered,  $\mu$  ... mean number of encounters

 $E_t$  = total number of encounters a = searching efficiency (proportion of hosts encountered)

$$E_t = a H_t P_t \qquad \qquad \mu = \frac{E_t}{H_t} = a P_t \qquad \qquad p_0 = e^{-a P_t}$$

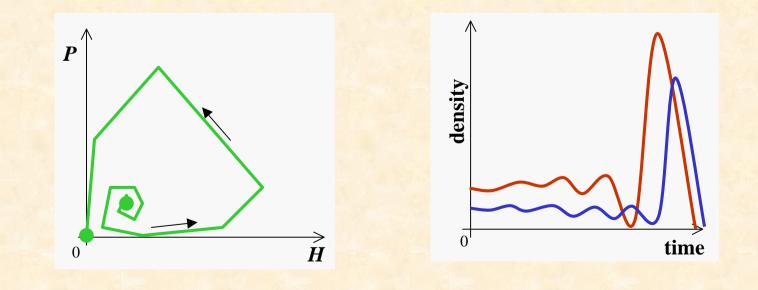
• proportion of encounters (1 or more times):  $p = (1 - p_0)$ 

$$p = (1 - e^{-aP_t})$$
$$H_a = H_t \left(1 - e^{-aP_t}\right)$$

$$H_{t+1} = \lambda (H_t - H_a)$$
$$P_{t+1} = H_a$$

$$H_{t+1} = \lambda H_t e^{-aP_t}$$
$$P_{t+1} = H_t \left(1 - e^{-aP_t}\right)$$

highly unstable model for all parameter values:
 equilibrium is possible but the slightest disturbance
 leads to divergent oscillations (extinction of parasitoid)



### **Incorporation of density-dependence**

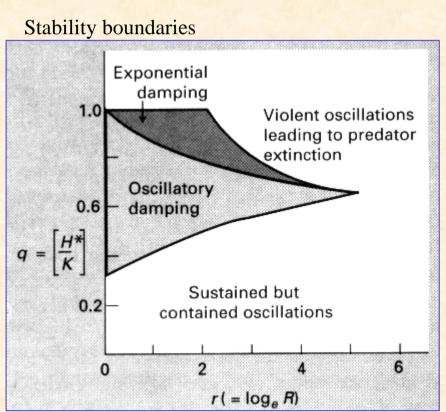
exponential growth of hosts is replaced by logistic equation

$$H_{t+1} = \lambda H_t e^{\left(1 - \frac{H_t}{K}\right) - aP_t}$$
$$P_{t+1} = H_t \left(1 - e^{-aP_t}\right)$$

$$q = \frac{H^*}{K}$$

*H*\*.. new host carrying capacity → depends on parasitoids' efficiency - when *a* is low then  $q \rightarrow 1$ - when *a* is high then  $q \rightarrow 0$ 

density-dependence have
 stabilising effect for moderate r and q



Beddington et al. (1975)

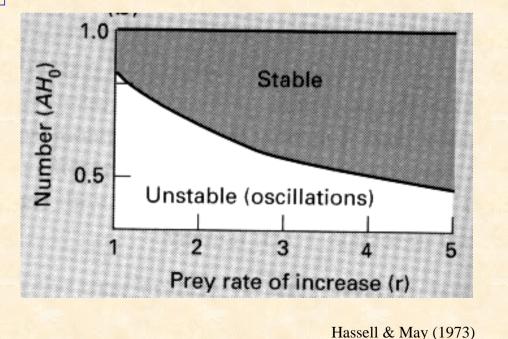
### **Incorporation of the refuge**

▶ if hosts are distributed non-randomly in the space

<u>Fixed number refuge</u>:  $H_0$  hosts are always protected

$$H_{t+1} = \lambda H_0 + \lambda (H_t - H_0) e^{-aP_t}$$
$$P_{t+1} = (H_t - H_0) (1 - e^{-aP_t})$$

▶ have strong stabilising effect even for large r



### **Incorporation of aggregated distribution**

 distribution of encounters is not random but aggregated (negative binomial distribution)

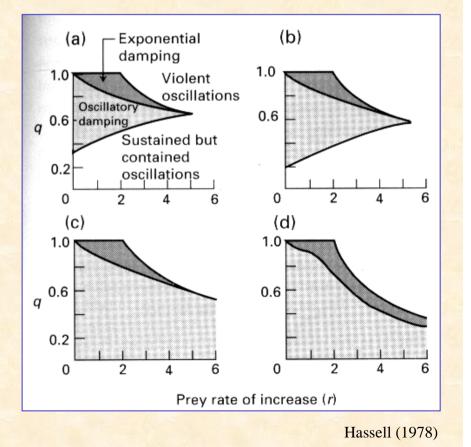
- proportion of hosts not encountered  $(p_0)$ :  $p_0 = \left(1 + \frac{aP_t}{k}\right)^{-k}$ 

where k = degree of aggregation

$$H_{t+1} = \lambda H_t e^{\left(1 - \frac{H_t}{K}\right)\left(1 + \frac{aP_t}{k}\right)^{-k}}$$
$$P_{t+1} = H_t \left(1 - \left(1 + \frac{aP_t}{k}\right)^{-k}\right)$$

• very stable model system if  $k \le 1$ 

Stability boundaries: a)  $k = \infty$ , b) k = 2, c) k = 1, d) k = 0



## Example 16

You want to control population of mites. Before introduction of predatory mites you want to simulate the predator-prey dynamic using the following model:

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = r_H H \left( 1 - \frac{H}{K} \right) - \frac{aHP}{1 + aHT_h} \qquad \frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{aHP}{1 + aHT_h} - dP$$

To estimate parameters you need to run the following experiments:

1. Keep prey population without predators, record densities over a month and estimate intrinsic rate of increase  $(r_H)$  and carrying capacity (K). You found that  $r_H = 0.2$  and K = 500.

2. Keep predators at constant density of prey, record predator densities over a month and estimate natural predators' mortality (*d*). You found that d = 0.1.

3. Offer one predator different prey densities and estimate the functional response. You find that a = 0.001 and  $T_h = 0.5$ .

4. How long it takes for the predatory mite to control mite pests if pests has a density of 200 individuals and the predators is only 1?

```
predprey<-function(t,y,pa){
H<-y[1]
P<-y[2]
with(as.list(pa),{
    dH.dt<-rH*H*(1-H/K)-a*H*P/(1+a*H*Th)
    dP.dt<- a*H*P/(1+a*H*Th)-d*P
    return(list(c(dH.dt,dP.dt)))})</pre>
```

```
H<-200; P<-1
time<-seq(0,500,0.1)
pa<-c(rH=0.2,K=500,a=0.001,Th=0.5,d=0.1)
library(deSolve)
out<-data.frame(ode(c(H,P),time,predprey,pa))
matplot(time,out[,-1],type="l",lty=1:2,col=1)
legend("right",c("H","P"),lty=1:2)</pre>
```

# Example 17

Aphids has increased their population density to 50 individuals/plant. You have observed that their  $\lambda = 3$ , K = 800,  $T_h = 0.3$  You need to control aphids using a parasitoid. You can choose from three parasitoid species (A, B, C). The three species differ in the number of hosts they infect (*c*) and in their search efficiency (*a*):

	Α	В	С
С	1	2	5
а	0.3	0.07	0.001

Use the discrete Nicholson-Bailey host-parasitoid model with functional response of the type II within POPULUS. Introduce a single parasitoid and find which of the three species will achieve the quickest control.