

# Stochastic Modeling of Chemical Reactions (and more ...)

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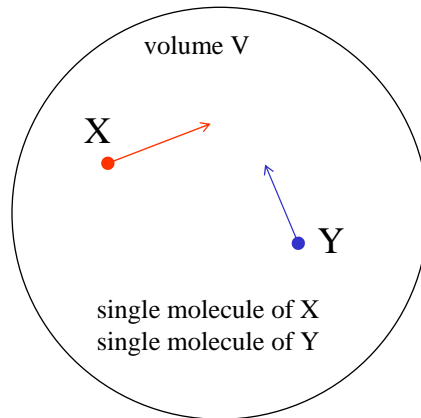
## Outline



1. Basics behind stochastic modeling of chemical reactions  
(elementary probability  $\rightarrow$  stochastic model)
2. BE derivation of Dynkin's formula for Markov processes  
(stochastic model  $\rightarrow$  ODEs)
3. Moment dynamics
4. Examples (unconstrained birth-death, African bees, the RPC Island)

BE  $\equiv$  back-of-the-envelop  
RPC  $\equiv$  Rock-paper-scissors

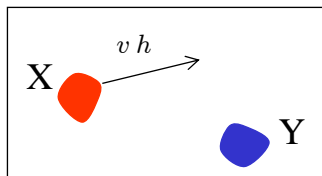
## A simple chemical reaction



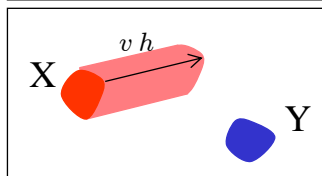
now  $\swarrow$   $\searrow$   
 $h$  seconds into future

$$\text{Prob}(X \text{ reacts with } Y \text{ in interval of time } [0, h]) = \text{Prob}(X \text{ collides with } Y) \times \text{Prob}(X \ \& \ Y \text{ react once they collide})$$

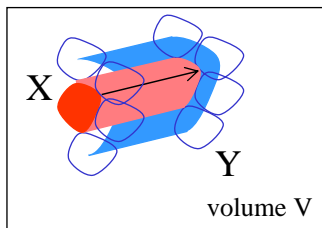
## Probability of collision (one-on-one)



$v$   $\equiv$  velocity of X with respect to Y  
 $vh$   $\equiv$  motion of X with respect to Y in interval  $[0, h]$



volume where collision can occur

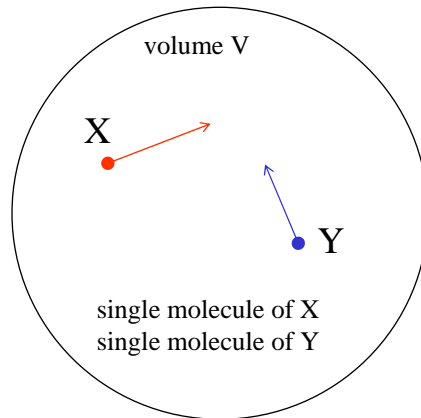


possible positions for center of Y so that collision will occur

volume =  $ch$   $c$  depends on the velocity & geometry of the molecules

$$\text{Prob}(\text{collision}) = \frac{ch}{V} \quad \text{assumes well-mixed solution (Y equally likely to be everywhere)}$$

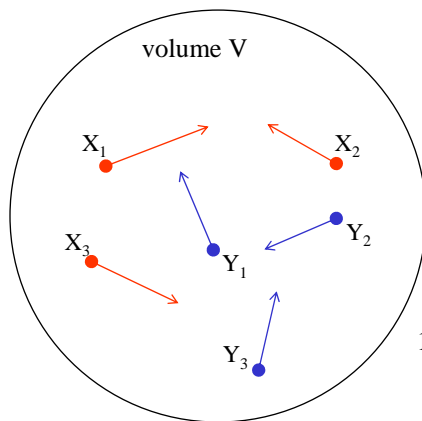
## Probability of reaction (one-on-one)



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prob}(X \text{ reacts with } Y \text{ in interval of time } [0, h]) &= \text{Prob}(X \text{ collides with } Y) \times \text{Prob}(X \text{ \& } Y \text{ react once they collide}) \\ &= c \text{Prob}(X \text{ \& } Y \text{ react once they collide}) \frac{h}{V} \end{aligned}$$

generally determined experimentally

## Probability of reaction (many-on-many)



$x$  molecules of X  
 $y$  molecules of Y

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prob}(\text{at least one } X \text{ reacts with one } Y) &= \text{Prob}(X_1 \text{ reacts with } Y_1) \\ &+ \text{Prob}(X_1 \text{ reacts with } Y_2) \\ &\quad \vdots \\ &+ \text{Prob}(X_2 \text{ reacts with } Y_1) \\ &+ \text{Prob}(X_2 \text{ reacts with } Y_2) \\ &\quad \vdots \end{aligned}$$

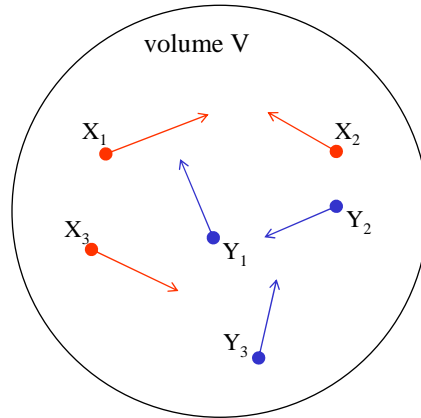
# terms =  
# Y molec.

# terms =  
# Y molec.

total # terms =  
# X molec.  $\times$  # Y molecules =  $x \times y$

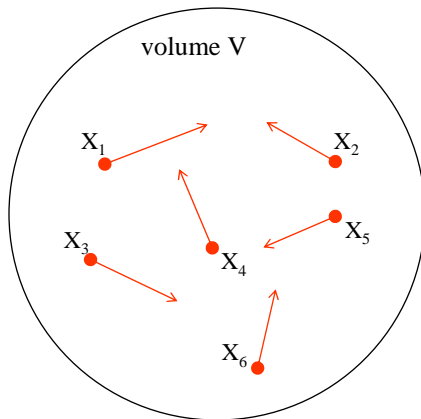
1. Assumes small time interval  $[0, h]$  so that 2 reactions are unlikely (otherwise double counting)
2. Each term  $\text{Prob}(X_i \text{ reacts with } Y_j)$  is the probability of one-on-one reaction computed before

## Probability of reaction (many-on-many) UCSB



$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Prob( at least one X reacts with one Y in interval of time } [0, h] \text{ )} \\ &= \text{Prob } (X_i \text{ collides with } Y_j) \text{ } xy \\ &= c \text{Prob}(X \& Y \text{ react once they collide)} \frac{xyh}{V} \\ & \text{generally determined experimentally} \end{aligned}$$

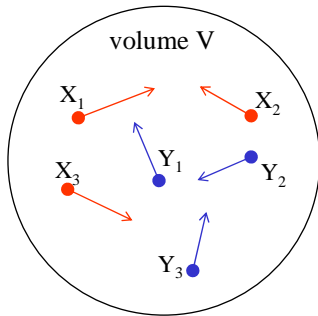
## Probability of reaction (many-on-many) UCSB



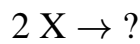
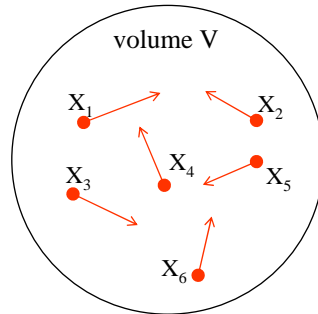
$x$  molecules of X  
 $y$  molecules of Y

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Prob ( at least one X reacts with one X )} \\ &= \text{Prob } (X_1 \text{ reacts with } X_2) \\ &+ \text{Prob } (X_1 \text{ reacts with } X_3) \\ &\quad \vdots \\ &+ \text{Prob } (X_1 \text{ reacts with } X_x) \\ &+ \text{Prob } (X_2 \text{ reacts with } X_3) \\ &+ \text{Prob } (X_2 \text{ reacts with } X_4) \\ &\quad \vdots \\ &+ \text{Prob } (X_{x-1} \text{ reacts with } X_x) \\ & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{total \# terms} = x \times (x - 1) / 2} \end{aligned}$$

## Probability of reaction (many-on-many) UCSB



$$\text{Prob}(\text{one X \& Y react in } [0, h]) = \alpha_1 \frac{xyh}{V}$$



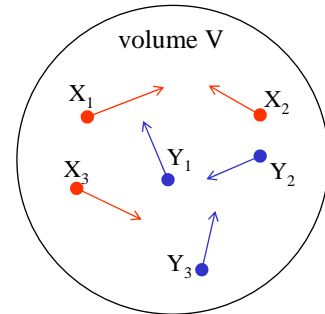
$$\text{Prob}(\text{two X react in } [0, h]) = \alpha_2 \frac{x(x-1)h}{2V}$$

determined experimentally

propensity functions  
(recall Brian's talk!)

1. Covers all "elementary reactions"
2. Only valid when  $h$  is small

## Questions UCSB



If we leave system to itself for a while...

Q1: How many molecules of X and Y can we expect to have after some time  $T (\gg h)$  ?

$$\mu_x = E[x] = ?$$

$$\mu_y = E[y] = ?$$

Q2: How much variability can we expect around the average ?

$$\sigma_x^2 = E[(x - \mu_x)^2] = E[x^2] - \mu_x^2 ?$$

$$\sigma_y^2 = E[(y - \mu_y)^2] = E[y^2] - \mu_y^2 ?$$

Q3: How much correlation between the two variables ?

$$C_{xy} = E[(x - \mu_x)(y - \mu_y)] = E[xy] - \mu_x \mu_y ?$$

(e.g., positive correlation  $\equiv x$  below mean is generally consistent with  $y$  below mean)

## Empirical interpretation of averages



X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	...
time = $h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	...
time = $2h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 2$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 2$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	...
time = $3h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 3$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 3$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}} - 2$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}} - 2$	...

$$E[x(T)] = \frac{\sum \mathbf{x}_i(T)}{\# \text{ universes}}$$

$$E[y(T)] = \frac{\sum \mathbf{y}_i(T)}{\# \text{ universes}}$$

## Empirical interpretation of averages



X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	...
time = $h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...

$$E[x(h)] = \frac{\sum \mathbf{x}_i(h)}{\# \text{ universes}}$$

$$= \frac{(x_{\text{init}} - 1) \times \# \text{ univ with one react} + x_{\text{init}} \times \# \text{ univ with no react}}{\text{total \# of universes}}$$

$$= \frac{x_{\text{init}} \times \text{total \# of universes} - 1 \times \# \text{ univ with one react}}{\text{total \# of universes}}$$

## Empirical interpretation of averages

X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	...
time = $h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...

$$E[x(h)] = \frac{x_{\text{init}} \times \text{total \# of universes} - 1 \times \text{\# univ with one react}}{\text{total \# of universes}}$$

$$= x_{\text{init}} - 1 \times \frac{\text{\# univ with one react}}{\text{total \# of universes}}$$

initial # of molecules

stoichiometry  
(change in # molecules due to reaction)

Prob(one reaction in  $[0, h]) = \alpha \frac{x_{\text{init}} y_{\text{init}} h}{V}$

## Empirical interpretation of averages

X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	...
time = $h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...

$$E[x(h)] = \frac{x_{\text{init}} \times \text{total \# of universes} - 1 \times \text{\# univ with one react}}{\text{total \# of universes}}$$

$$= x_{\text{init}} - 1 \times \frac{\text{\# univ with one react}}{\text{total \# of universes}}$$

→  $E[x(h)] - x(0) = -1 \times \alpha \frac{x(0) y(0) h}{V}$

## Empirical interpretation of averages

X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...
	(one reaction)	(no reaction)	(no reaction)	
time = $h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}(t)]_{t=0} \approx \frac{\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}(h)] - \mathbf{x}(0)}{h} = -1 \times \alpha \frac{\mathbf{x}(0) \mathbf{y}(0)}{V}$$

derivative of average at  
 $t = h/2 \approx 0$   
(recall that  $h$  is very small)

stoichiometry  
(change in # X  
molecules due to  
reaction)

probability of one  
reaction

## Empirical interpretation of averages

X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...
		⋮		
time = $t$	$x_1 = ?$ $y_1 = ?$	$x_2 = ?$ $y_2 = ?$	$x_3 = ?$ $y_3 = ?$	...

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}(t)] = \mathbb{E} \left[ -1 \times \alpha \frac{\mathbf{x}(t) \mathbf{y}(t)}{V} \right]$$

derivative of average

stoichiometry  
(change in # X  
molecules due to  
reaction)

probability of one  
reaction



## Empirical interpretation of averages

X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	...
time = $h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[x(h)^2] &= \frac{\sum_{\text{all universes}} x_i(h)^2}{\# \text{ universes}} \\
 &= \frac{(x_{\text{init}} - 1)^2 \times \# \text{ univ with one react} + x_{\text{init}}^2 \times \# \text{ univ with no react}}{\text{total } \# \text{ of universes}} \\
 &= x_{\text{init}}^2 + \left( (x_{\text{init}} - 1)^2 - x_{\text{init}}^2 \right) \times \frac{\# \text{ univ with one react}}{\text{total } \# \text{ of universes}}
 \end{aligned}$$

initial  
value

change due to  
single reaction

$\text{Prob}(\text{one reaction in } [0, h]) = \alpha \frac{x_{\text{init}} y_{\text{init}} h}{V}$

## Empirical interpretation of averages

X + Y → Z	universe #1	universe #2	universe #3	...
time = 0	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(one reaction)</span>	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$ <span style="color: purple;">(no reaction)</span>	...
time = $h$	$x_1 = x_{\text{init}} - 1$ $y_1 = y_{\text{init}} - 1$	$x_2 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_2 = y_{\text{init}}$	$x_3 = x_{\text{init}}$ $y_3 = y_{\text{init}}$	...

$$E[x(h)^2] = x_{\text{init}}^2 + \left( (x_{\text{init}} - 1)^2 - x_{\text{init}}^2 \right) \times \alpha \frac{x_{\text{init}} y_{\text{init}} h}{V}$$

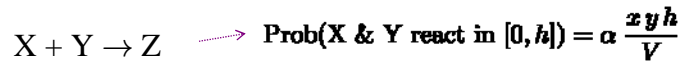
$$\frac{d}{dt} E[x(t)^2]_{t=0} \approx \left( (x(0) - 1)^2 - x(0)^2 \right) \times \alpha \frac{x(0) y(0)}{V}$$

change due to a  
single reaction

probability of  
one reaction

cf. with  $\frac{d}{dt} E[x(t)] = E \left[ -1 \times \alpha \frac{x(t) y(t)}{V} \right]$

## Dynkin's formula for Markov processes UCSB



$$\frac{d}{dt} E[\psi(x, y)] = E \left[ \left( \psi(x-1, y-1) - \psi(x, y) \right) \times \alpha \frac{xy}{V} \right]$$

derivative of average

change due to a  
single reaction

probability of  
one reaction

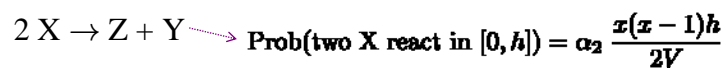
$$\frac{d}{dt} E[x(t)] = E \left[ -1 \times \alpha \frac{xy}{V} \right] = -\frac{\alpha}{V} E[xy]$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} E[x(t)^2] = E \left[ \left( (x-1)^2 - x^2 \right) \times \alpha \frac{xy}{V} \right] = -\frac{\alpha}{V} E[(2x-1)xy]$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} E[x(t)y(t)] = E \left[ \left( (x-1)(y-1) - xy \right) \times \alpha \frac{xy}{V} \right] = -\frac{\alpha}{V} E[(x+y-1)xy]$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_x^2(t)}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( E[x(t)^2] - E[x(t)]^2 \right) = -\frac{\alpha}{V} E[(2x-1)xy] + \frac{2\alpha}{V} E[x] E[xy]$$

## Dynkin's formula for Markov processes UCSB



$$\frac{d}{dt} E[\psi(x, y, z)] = E \left[ \left( \psi(x-1, y-1, z+1) - \psi(x, y, z) \right) \times \alpha_1 \frac{xy}{V} \right. \\ \left. + \left( \psi(x-2, y+1, z+1) - \psi(x, y, z) \right) \times \alpha_2 \frac{x(x-1)}{2V} \right]$$

derivative of average

change due to one reaction

probability of  
one reaction



sum over all reactions

## A birth-death example

$2 X \rightarrow 3 X$     2 molecules meet and reproduce     $\longrightarrow$      $\text{Prob}(\text{two } X \text{ react in } [0, h]) = b \frac{x(x-1)}{2} h$

$X \rightarrow \emptyset$     1 molecule spontaneously die     $\longrightarrow$      $\text{Prob}(X \text{ decays } [0, h]) = d x h$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dE[x]}{dt} &= -\left(\frac{b}{2} + d\right) E[x] + \frac{b}{2} E[x^2] \\ \frac{dE[x^2]}{dt} &= -\left(\frac{b}{2} - d\right) E[x] - \left(\frac{b}{2} + 2d\right) E[x^2] + b E[x^3] \\ \frac{dE[x^3]}{dt} &= -\left(\frac{b}{2} + d\right) E[x] - (b - 3d) E[x^2] - 3d E[x^3] + \frac{3b}{2} E[x^4] \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

*(does not capture finiteness of resources in a natural environment)*  
 1. when  $x$  too large reproduction-rate should decrease  
 2. when  $x$  too large death-rate should increase

## African honey bee

$\emptyset \rightarrow X$     1 honey bee is born     $\longrightarrow$      $\text{Prob}(\text{birth in } [0, h]) = (a_1 - b_1 x)xh$

$X \rightarrow \emptyset$     1 honey bee dies     $\longrightarrow$      $\text{Prob}(\text{death in } [0, h]) = (a_2 + b_2 x)xh$

Stochastic Logistic model  
 (different rates than in a chemical reactions,  
 but Dynkin's formula still applies)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} E[\psi(x)] &= E \left[ \left( \psi(x+1) - \psi(x) \right) \times (a_1 - b_1 x)x \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left( \psi(x-1) - \psi(x) \right) \times (a_2 + b_2 x)x \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dE[x]}{dt} &= (a_1 - a_2) E[x] - (b_1 + b_2) E[x^2] \\ \frac{dE[x^2]}{dt} &= (a_1 + a_2) E[x] + (2a_1 - 2a_2 - b_1 + b_2) E[x^2] - 2(b_1 + b_2) E[x^3] \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

For African honey bees:  $a_1 = .3$ ,  $a_2 = .02$ ,  $b_1 = .015$ ,  $b_2 = .001$  [Matis et al 1998]

## Predicting bee populations

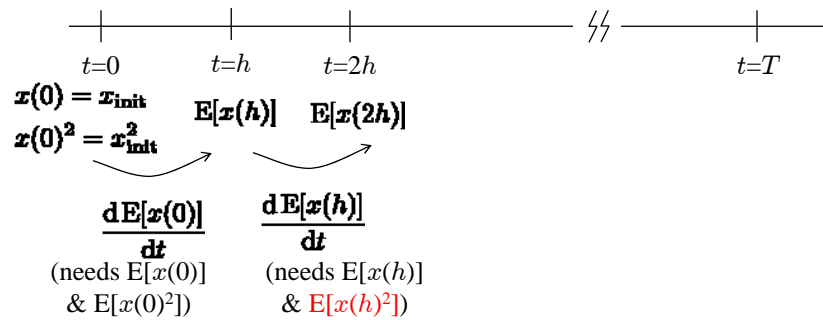
UCSB

$\emptyset \rightarrow X$  1 honey bee is born  $(a_1 - b_1 x)x$        $X \rightarrow \emptyset$  1 honey bee dies  $(a_2 + b_2 x)x$

$$\frac{dE[x]}{dt} = (a_1 - a_2)E[x] - (b_1 + b_2)E[x^2]$$

$$\frac{dE[x^2]}{dt} = (a_1 + a_2)E[x] + (2a_1 - 2a_2 - b_1 + b_2)E[x^2] - 2(b_1 + b_2)E[x^3]$$

$\vdots$



## Predicting bee populations

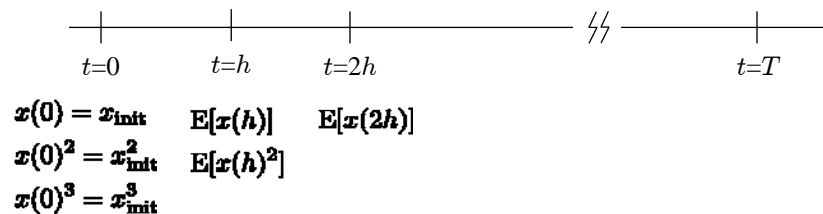
UCSB

$\emptyset \rightarrow X$  1 honey bee is born  $(a_1 - b_1 x)x$        $X \rightarrow \emptyset$  1 honey bee dies  $(a_2 + b_2 x)x$

$$\frac{dE[x]}{dt} = (a_1 - a_2)E[x] - (b_1 + b_2)E[x^2]$$

$$\frac{dE[x^2]}{dt} = (a_1 + a_2)E[x] + (2a_1 - 2a_2 - b_1 + b_2)E[x^2] - 2(b_1 + b_2)E[x^3]$$

$\vdots$



## Predicting bee populations

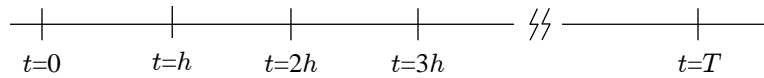
UCSB

$$\emptyset \rightarrow X \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{1 honey bee is born} \\ (a_1 - b_1 x)x \end{array} \quad X \rightarrow \emptyset \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{1 honey bee dies} \\ (a_2 + b_2 x)x \end{array}$$

$$\frac{dE[x]}{dt} = (a_1 - a_2)E[x] - (b_1 + b_2)E[x^2]$$

$$\frac{dE[x^2]}{dt} = (a_1 + a_2)E[x] + (2a_1 - 2a_2 - b_1 + b_2)E[x^2] - 2(b_1 + b_2)E[x^3]$$

⋮



$$\begin{array}{l} x(0) = x_{\text{init}} \quad E[x(h)] \quad E[x(2h)] \quad E[x(3h)] \\ x(0)^2 = x_{\text{init}}^2 \quad E[x(h)^2] \quad E[x(2h)^2] \\ x(0)^3 = x_{\text{init}}^3 \quad E[x(h)^3] \\ x(0)^4 = x_{\text{init}}^4 \end{array}$$

not sustainable if  $T \gg h$

## Moment truncation

UCSB

$$\emptyset \rightarrow X \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{1 honey bee is born} \\ (a_1 - b_1 x)x \end{array} \quad X \rightarrow \emptyset \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{1 honey bee dies} \\ (a_2 + b_2 x)x \end{array}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - a_2 & -b_1 - b_2 \\ a_1 + a_2 & 2(a_1 - a_2) - b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2(b_1 + b_2) \end{bmatrix} E[x^3]$$

Moment truncation  $\equiv$  Substitute  $E[x^3]$  by a function  $\varphi$  of both  $E[x]$  &  $E[x^2]$

$$E[x^3] \approx \varphi(E[x], E[x^2])$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - a_2 & -b_1 - b_2 \\ a_1 + a_2 & 2(a_1 - a_2) - b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2(b_1 + b_2) \end{bmatrix} \varphi(E[x], E[x^2])$$

How to choose  $\varphi(\cdot)$  ?

## Option I – Distribution-based truncations

UCSB

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - a_2 & -b_1 - b_2 \\ a_1 + a_2 & 2(a_1 - a_2) - b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2(b_1 + b_2) \end{bmatrix} E[x^3]$$

$$E[x^3] \approx \varphi(E[x], E[x^2])$$

Suppose we knew the distribution was {BLANK}, then we could guess  $E[x^3]$  from  $E[x]$  and  $E[x^2]$ , e.g.:

Normal  $E[x^3] = 3E[x^2]E[x] - 2E[x]^3$

Log Normal  $E[x^3] = \left(\frac{E[x^2]}{E[x]}\right)^3$

Binomial  $E[x^3] = 2\frac{(E[x^2] - E[x]^2)^2}{E[x]} - E[x^2] + E[x]^2 + 3E[x^2]E[x] - 2E[x]^3$

Poisson  $E[x^3] = E[x] + 3E[x^2]E[x] - 2E[x]^3$

or  $E[x^3] = E[x^2] - E[x]^2 + 3E[x^2]E[x] - 2E[x]^3$

*these equalities hold for every distribution of the given type*

## Option II – Derivative-matching truncation

UCSB

Exact dynamics

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - a_2 & -b_1 - b_2 \\ a_1 + a_2 & 2(a_1 - a_2) - b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2(b_1 + b_2) \end{bmatrix} E[x^3]$$

Truncated dynamics

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - a_2 & -b_1 - b_2 \\ a_1 + a_2 & 2(a_1 - a_2) - b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2(b_1 + b_2) \end{bmatrix} \varphi(E[x], E[x^2])$$

Select  $\varphi$  to minimize derivative errors

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{exact}} - \left. \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{truncated}}$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{exact}} - \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{truncated}}$$

⋮

## Option II – Derivative-matching truncation

It is possible to find a function  $\varphi$  such that for every initial population  $x_{\text{init}}$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{exact}} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{truncated}}$$

$$\frac{\left\| \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{exact}} - \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \Big|_{\text{truncated}} \right\|}{\left\| \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{exact}} \right\|} \approx \frac{c}{x_{\text{init}}^2} \quad \forall k \geq 2$$

There are a few “universal”  $\varphi$ , e.g.,

$$E[x^3] = \left( \frac{E[x^2]}{E[x]} \right)^3$$

the above property holds  
for every set of chemical reactions  
(and also for every  
stochastic logistic model)

## We like Option II ...

1. Approach does not start with an arbitrary assumption of the population distribution. Distribution should be discovered from the model.
2. Generalizes for high-order truncations:

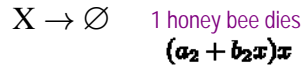
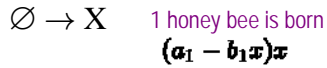
It is possible to find a function  $\varphi$  such that for every initial population  $x_{\text{init}}$

$$\frac{\left\| \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \\ \vdots \\ E[x^n] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{exact}} - \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \\ \vdots \\ E[x^n] \end{bmatrix} \Big|_{\text{truncated}} \right\|}{\left\| \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \begin{bmatrix} E[x] \\ E[x^2] \\ \vdots \\ E[x^n] \end{bmatrix} \right|_{\text{exact}} \right\|} \approx \frac{c}{x_{\text{init}}^n} \quad \forall k \geq 2$$

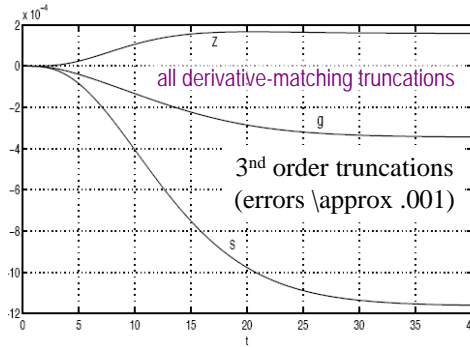
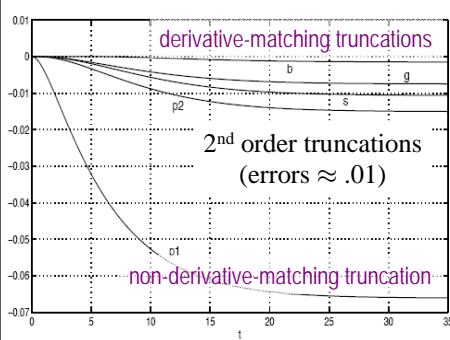
smaller and smaller  
error as  $n$  increases

but two options **not incompatible** (on the contrary!)

## Back to African honey bees

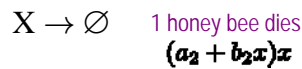
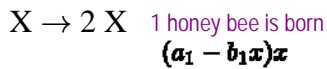


Errors in the mean for an initial population of 20 bees

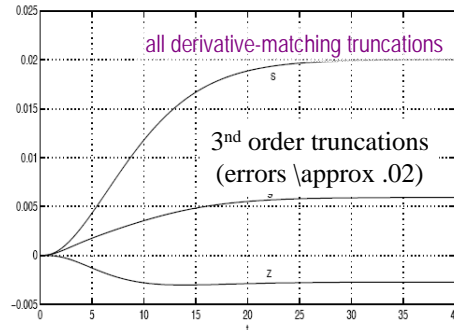
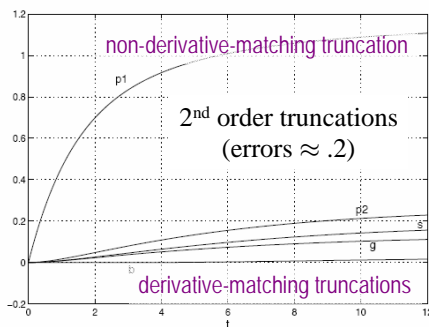


For African honey bees:  $a_1 = .3$ ,  $a_2 = .02$ ,  $b_1 = .015$ ,  $b_2 = .001$  [Matis et al 1998]

## Back to African honey bees



Errors in the variance for an initial population of 20 bees



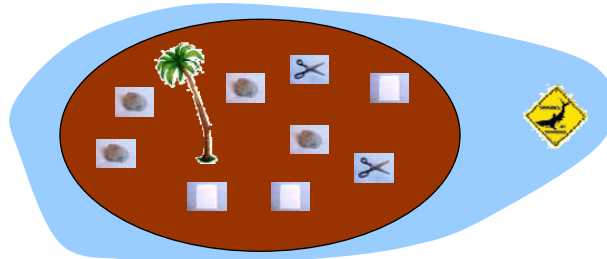
For African honey bees:  $a_1 = .3$ ,  $a_2 = .02$ ,  $b_1 = .015$ ,  $b_2 = .001$  [Matis et al 1998]



## The Rock-Paper-Scissors island

UCSB

Each person in the Island has one of three genes  
This gene only affects the way they play RPS



Periodically, each person seeks an adversary and plays RPS  
Winner gets to have exactly one offspring, loser dies (high-stakes RPS!)

(total population constant)

Scenario I: offspring always has same gene as parent




Scenario II: with low probability, offspring suffers a mutation (different gene)

## The Rock-Paper-Scissors island

UCSB

For a well-mixed population, this can be modeled by...

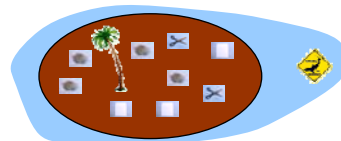
Scenario I: offspring always has same gene as parent

$R + P \rightarrow 2P$	with rate prop. to $r \cdot p$	$r \equiv \#$ of 
$R + S \rightarrow 2R$	with rate prop. to $r \cdot s$	$p \equiv \#$ of 
$P + S \rightarrow 2S$	with rate prop. to $p \cdot s$	$s \equiv \#$ of 

Scenario II: with low probability, offspring suffers a mutation (different gene)

$R + P \rightarrow P + S$	with rate prop. to $r \cdot p$
$R + S \rightarrow R + P$	with rate prop. to $r \cdot s$
$P + S \rightarrow S + R$	with rate prop. to $p \cdot s$
$2R \rightarrow R + P$	with rate prop. to $r \cdot (r - 1)/2$
$2R \rightarrow R + S$	with rate prop. to $r \cdot (r - 1)/2$
$2P \rightarrow P + R$	with rate prop. to $p \cdot (p - 1)/2$
$2P \rightarrow P + S$	with rate prop. to $p \cdot (p - 1)/2$
$2S \rightarrow S + R$	with rate prop. to $s \cdot (s - 1)/2$
$2S \rightarrow S + P$	with rate prop. to $s \cdot (s - 1)/2$

*Q: What will happen in the island?*



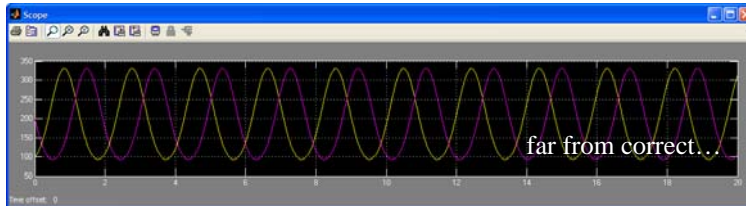
## The Rock-Paper-Scissors island

Q: What will happen in the island?

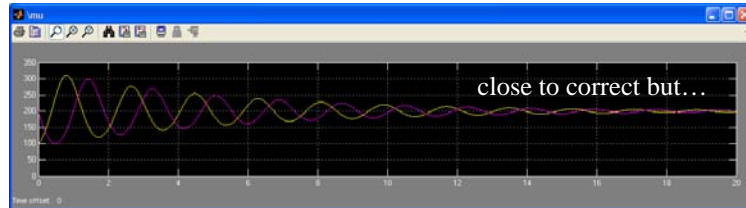
$$r(0) = 100, p(0) = 200, s(0) = 300$$

Answer given by a deterministic formulation  
(chemical rate equation/Lotka-Volterra-like model)

Scenario I: offspring always has same gene as parent



Scenario II: with low probability, offspring suffers a mutation (1/50 mutations)



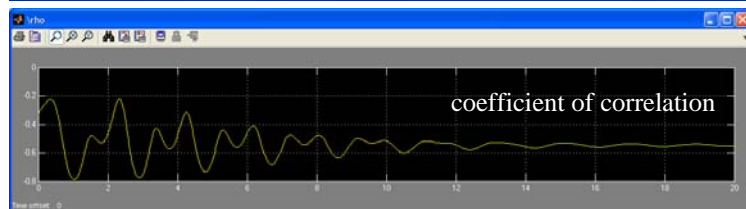
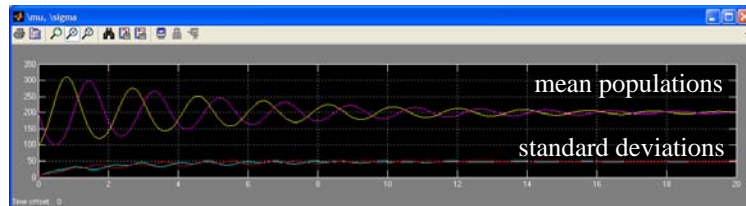
## The Rock-Paper-Scissors island

Q: What will happen in the island?

$$r(0) = 100, p(0) = 200, s(0) = 300$$

Answer given by a stochastic formulation (2<sup>nd</sup> order truncation)

Scenario II: with low probability, offspring suffers a mutation (1/50 mutations)

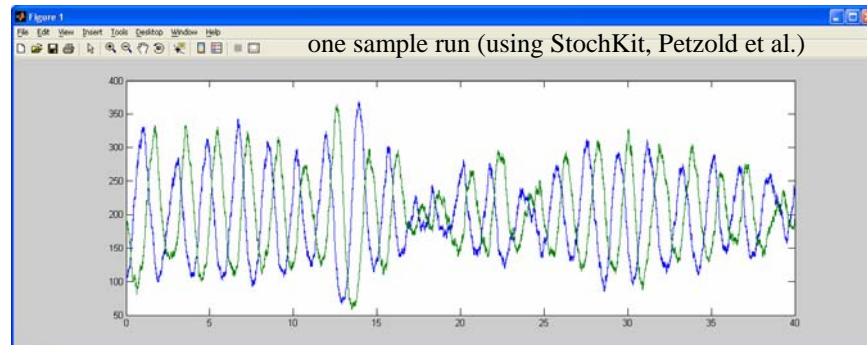


Even at steady state, the populations oscillate significantly with negative coefficient of correlation

## The Rock-Paper-Scissors island

*Q: What will happen in the island?*  $r(0) = 100, p(0) = 200, s(0) = 300$   
*Answer given by a stochastic formulation (2<sup>nd</sup> order truncation)*

Scenario II: with low probability, offspring suffers a mutation (1/50 mutations)



Even at steady state, the populations oscillate significantly with negative coefficient of correlation

## What next?

Gene regulation:  $X \rightarrow \emptyset$  natural decay of X

$\text{Gene\_on} \rightarrow \text{Gene\_on} + X$  protein X produced when gene is on

$\text{Gene\_on} + X \rightarrow \text{Gene\_off}$  X binds to gene and inhibits further production of protein X

$\text{Gene\_off} \rightarrow \text{Gene\_on} + X$  X detaches from gene and activates production of protein X

(binary nature of gene allows for very effective truncations)

Times to extinction/Probability of extinction:

Sometimes truncations are poorly behaved at times scales for which extinctions are likely  
(predict negative populations, lead to division by zero, etc.)

Temporal correlations:

Sustained oscillations are often hard to detected solely from steady-state distributions.