



# Models of metapopulation and metacommunity dynamics

*Toward incorporating environmental filtering and  
biotic interactions*

François Munoz

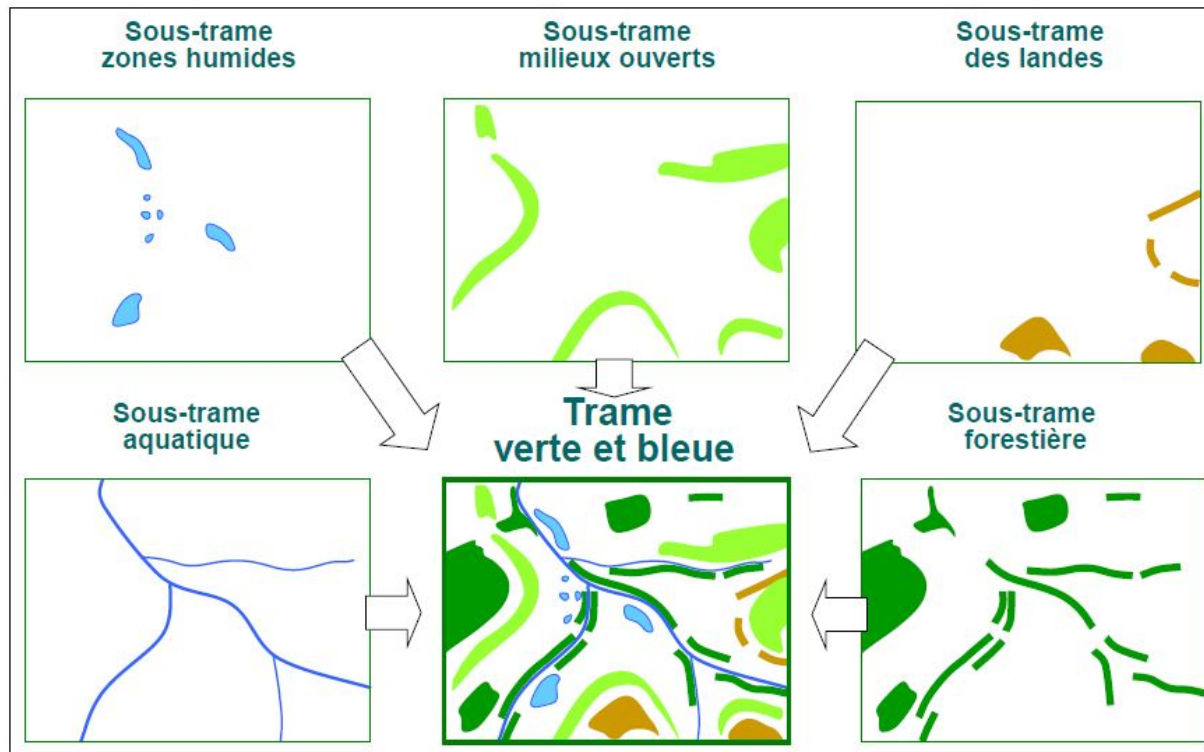
02/12/2022

EverEvol – Population dynamics: from rare  
events to evolution

# Life in a fragmented world

Local populations occupy localized separate habitat patches

➤ Example: « Green and Blue Network » (Trame Verte et Bleue)

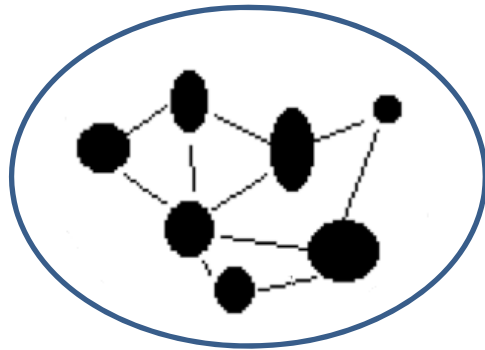


(source: IRSTEA)

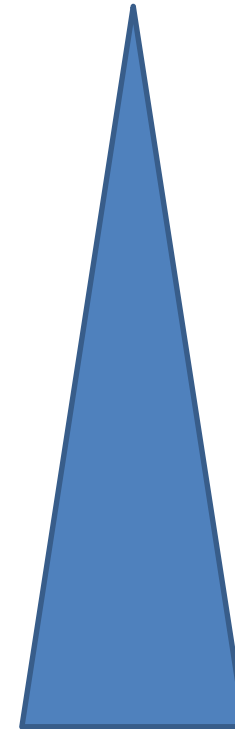
# Understanding and predicting biodiversity dynamics in spatially and temporally changing environments



Community dynamics



Metapopulation and metacommunity dynamics



Fine

Spatial and temporal scale

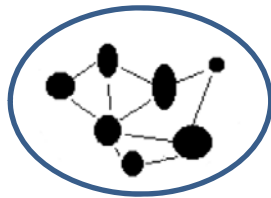
Broad

# Understanding and predicting biodiversity dynamics in spatially and temporally changing environments



How do biotic interactions determine species diversity?

How do temporally fluctuating environment shape functional composition?

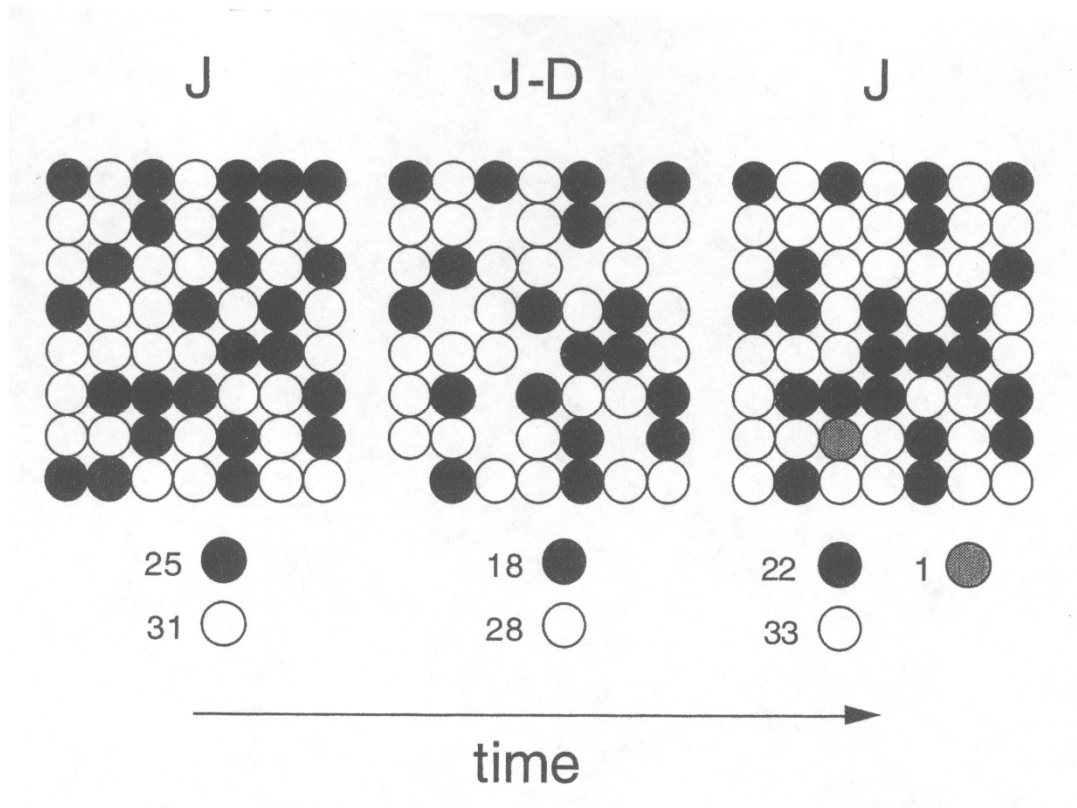


How does habitat fragmentation affect long-term dynamics of local populations?



# Niche-based dynamics

Zero-sum stochastic community dynamics

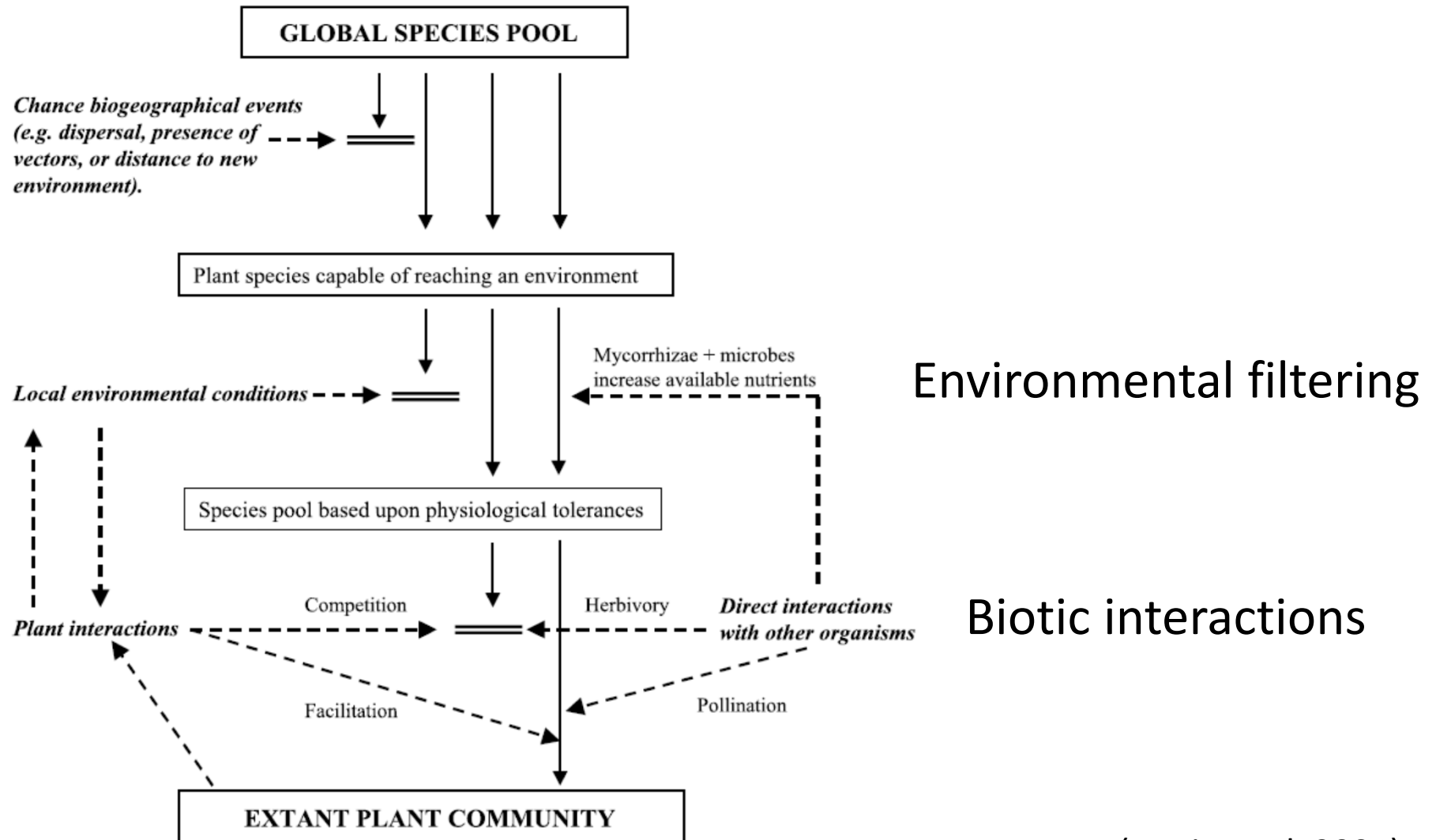


- Nombre fixé d'individus (J)
- Mortalité (D) et remplacement
- Possibilité de remplacement par migrant



# Community

## Niche-based dynamics



Environmental filtering

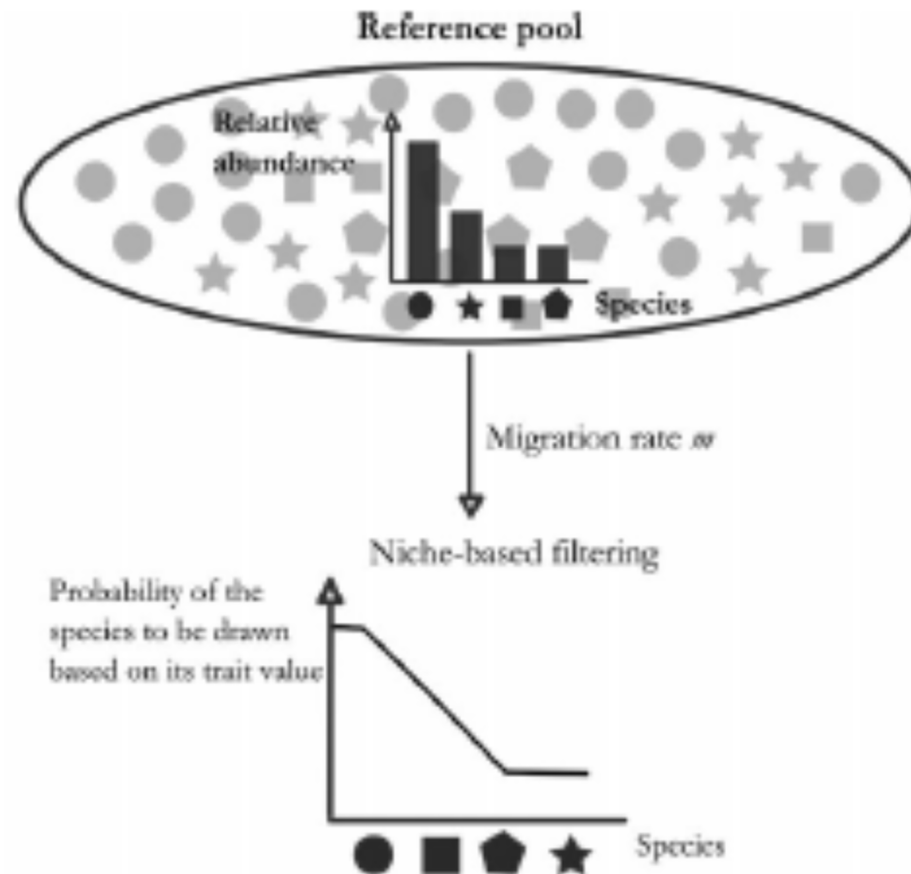
Biotic interactions

(Lortie et al. 2004)



# Niche-based dynamics

- The case of environmental filtering

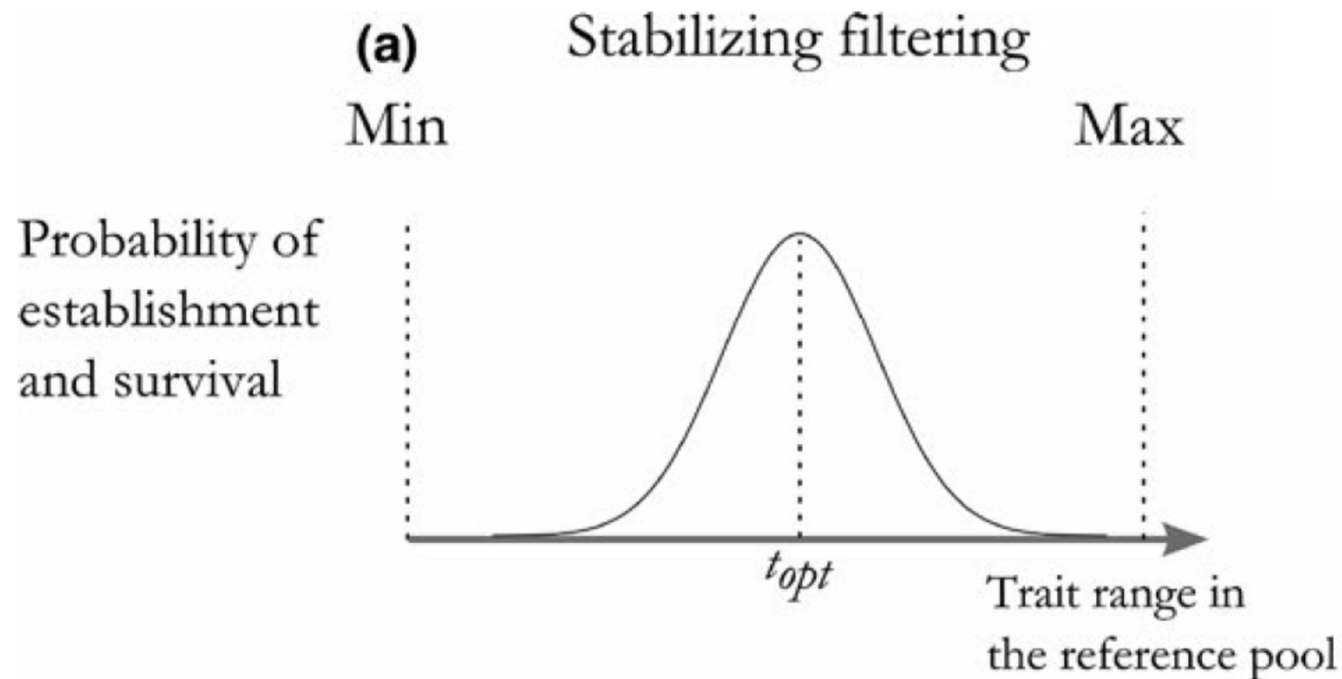


(Munoz et al. 2018)



# Niche-based dynamics

- The case of environmental filtering
  - Hypothesis of local functional optimum



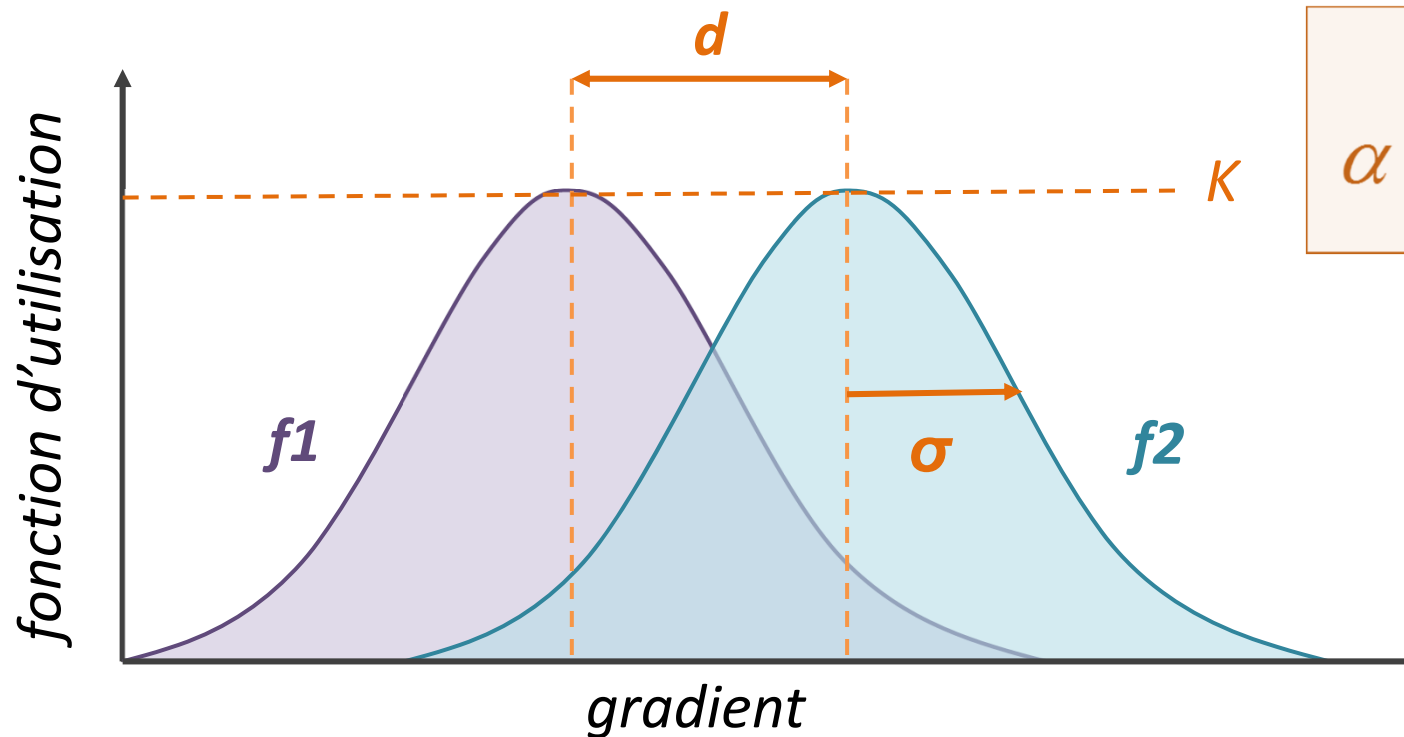
(Munoz et al. 2018)





# Niche-based dynamics

- The case of biotic interactions
  - Competition due to niche overlap



$$\alpha = e^{\frac{-d^2}{4\sigma^2}}$$



## Niche-based dynamics

- The case of biotic interactions
  - Competition due to niche overlap
- Alternative expected outcomes
  - Dominance of more fit species
  - Coexistence of species with different traits



# Niche-based dynamics

## Simulation of community dynamics

- Individuals die depending on how close they are to a local functional optimum (**environmental filtering**)
- Replacement by migrants with probability  $m$ , by local offspring with probability  $(1-m)$
- Selection of established individuals
  - weighted by how close they are to local functional optimum (**environmental filtering**)
  - Weighted depending on distance to other residents (**limiting similarity**)

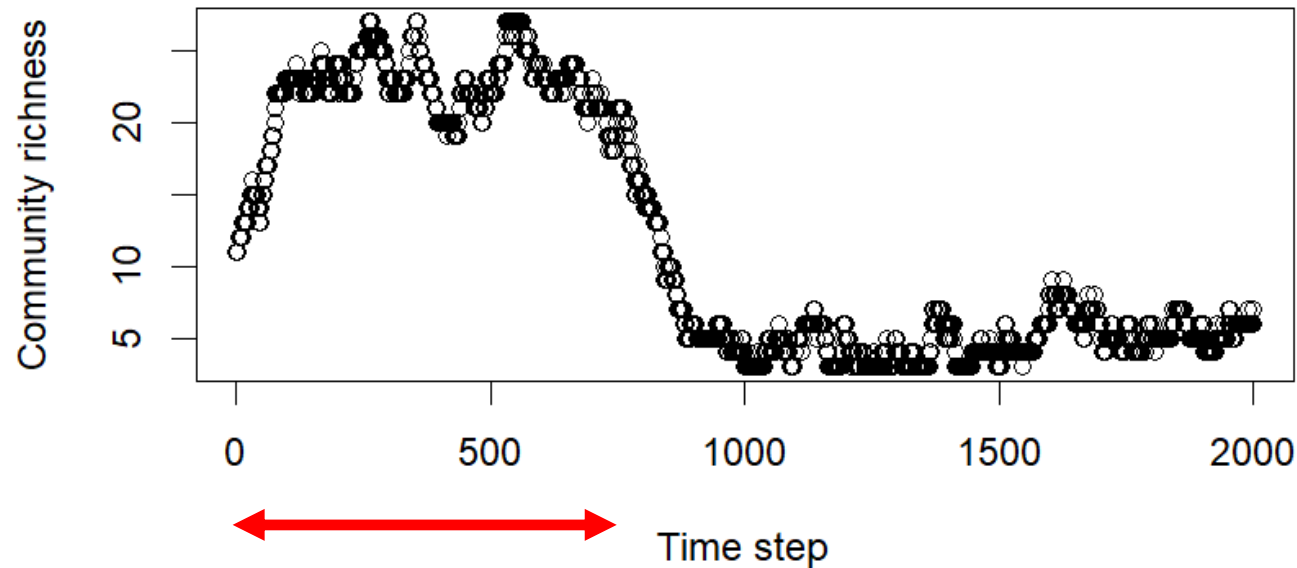
*forward function of package ecolottery*



# Limiting similarity

## Simulation of community dynamics

- With limiting similarity, without environmental filtering



**Transient coexistence  
of many species**

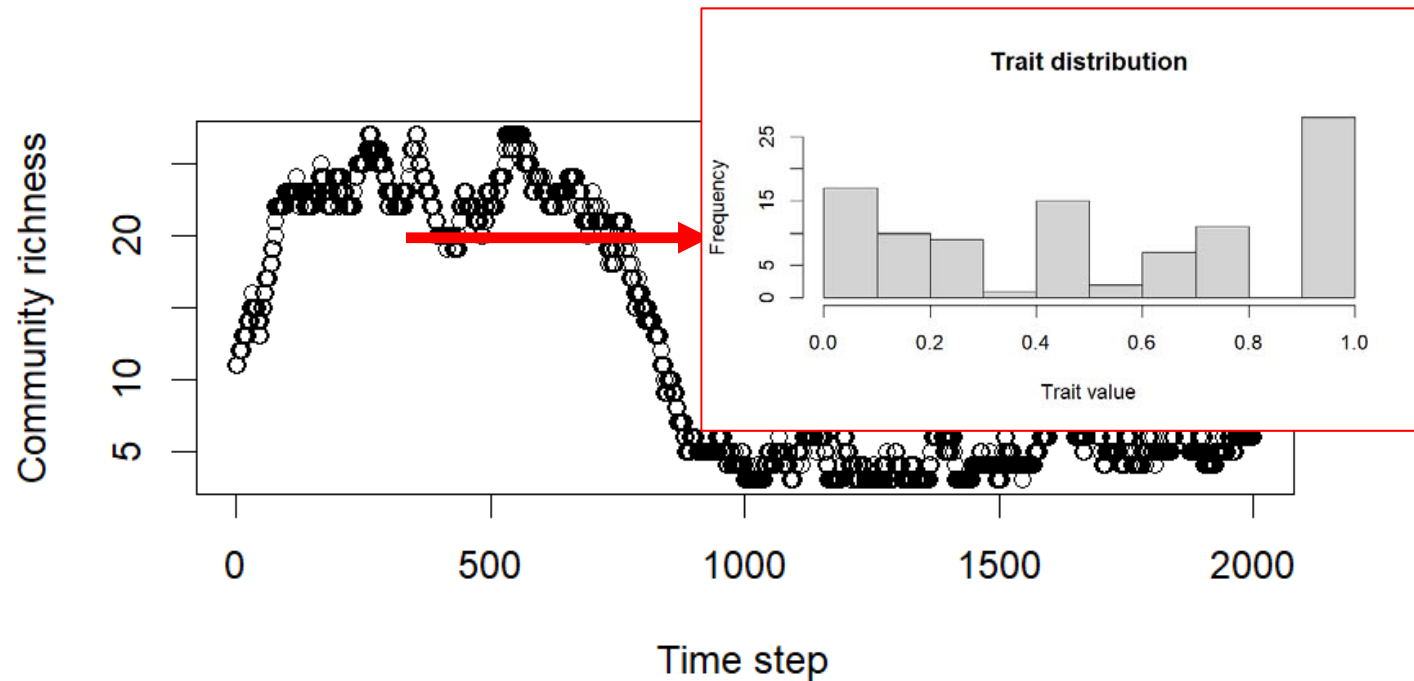
$m = 0,1$



# Limiting similarity

## Simulation of community dynamics

- With limiting similarity, without environmental filtering



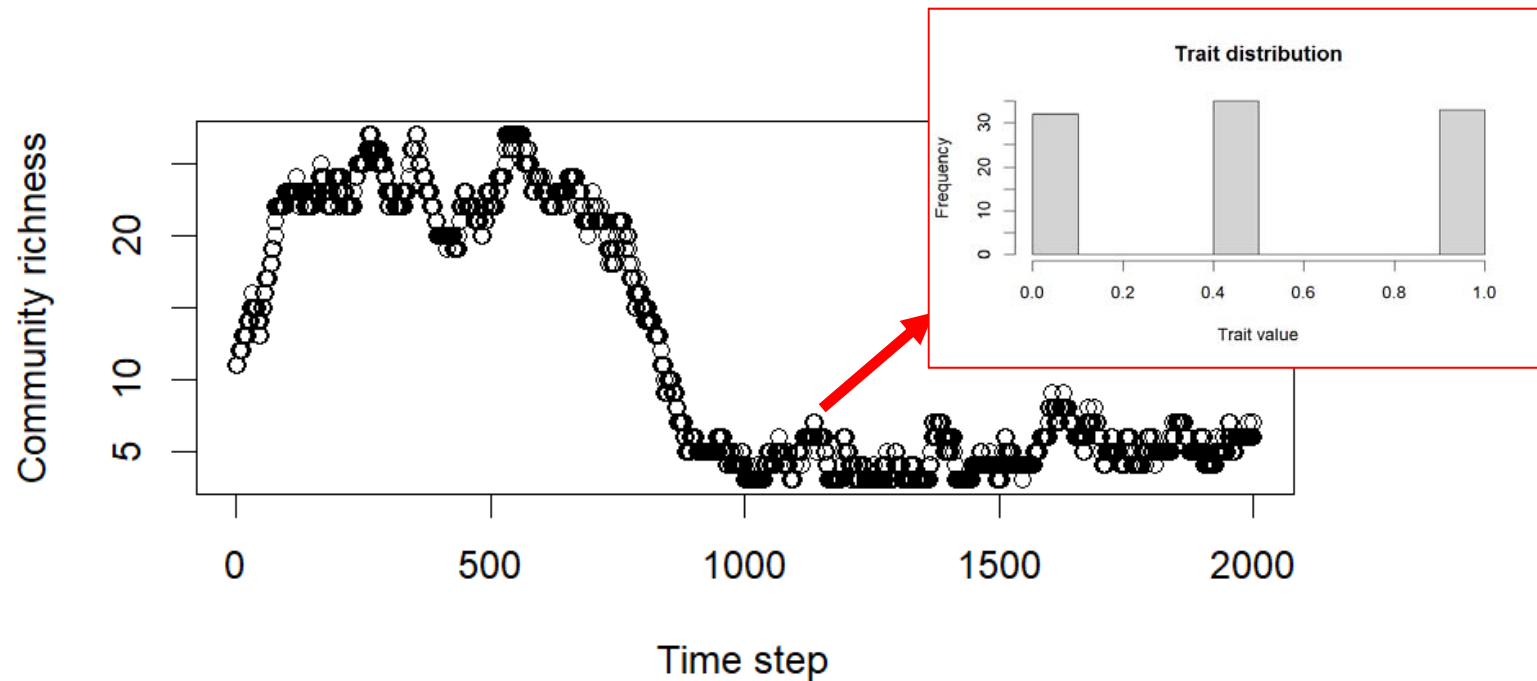
$$m = 0,1$$



# Limiting similarity

## Simulation of community dynamics

- With limiting similarity, without environmental filtering



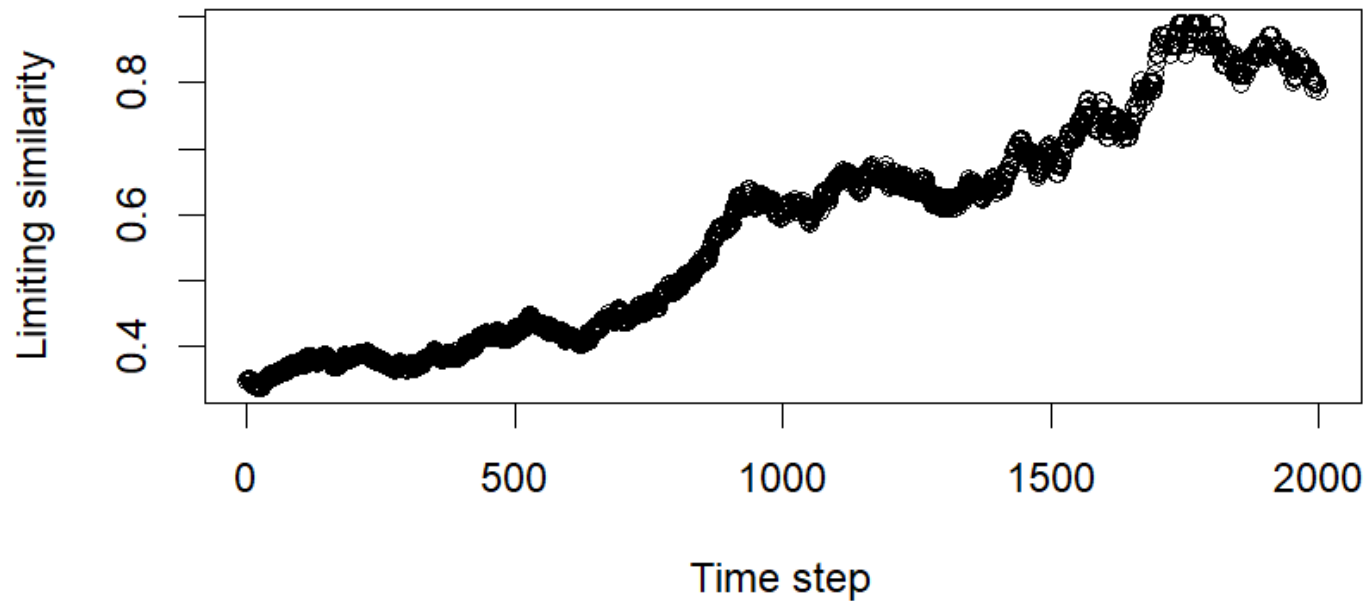
$$m = 0,1$$



# Limiting similarity

## Simulation of community dynamics

- With limiting similarity, without environmental filtering



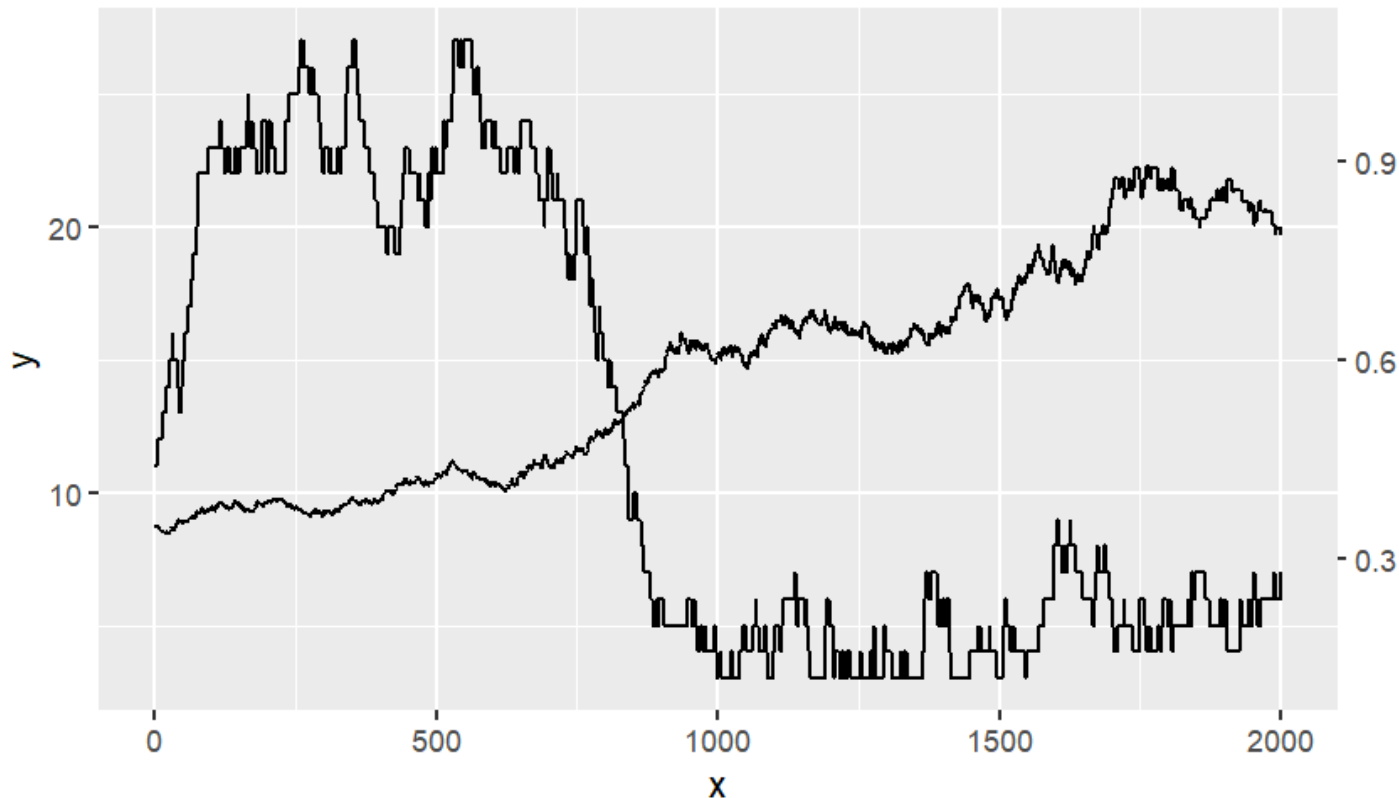
$$m = 0,1$$



# Limiting similarity

## Simulation of community dynamics

- With limiting similarity, without environmental filtering



$m = 0,1$

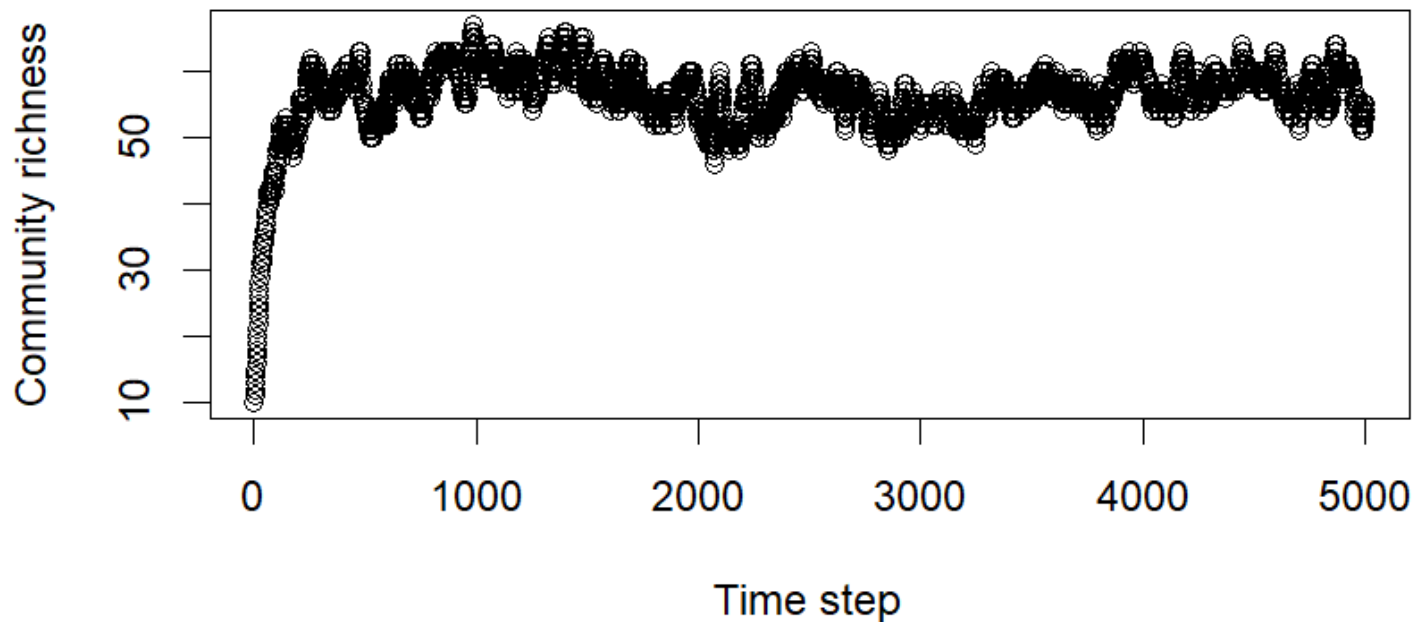




# Limiting similarity

## Simulation of community dynamics

- With limiting similarity, without environmental filtering
- **High migration rate**



**Source-sink dynamics**

$m = 0,7$



# Limiting similarity

## Ecological insights

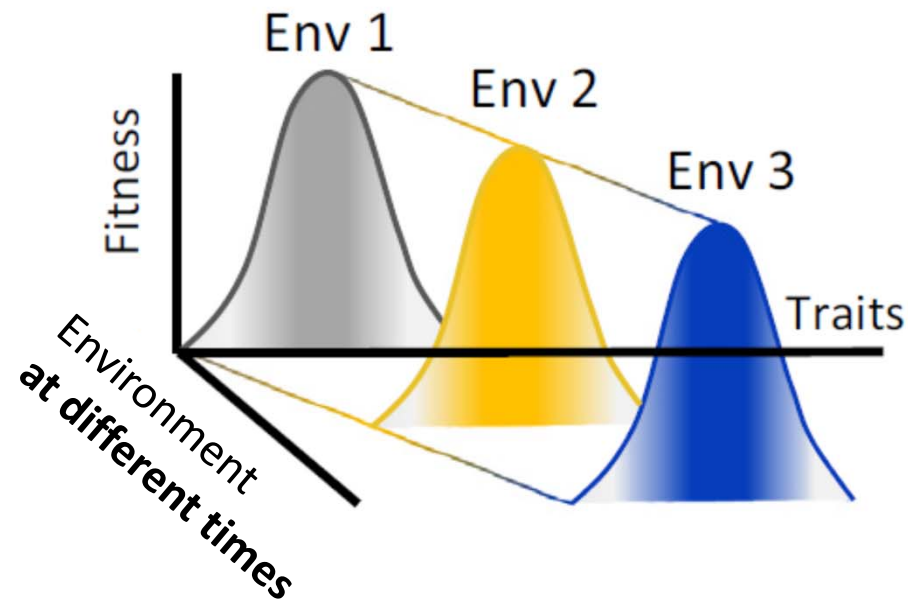
- Species-rich communities can persist long time although competition plays
- Transient dynamics and collapse of local richness in the case of biological invasion



# Fluctuating environmental filtering

Temporal fluctuation of environment

**Gaussian fitness functions in multiple environments**



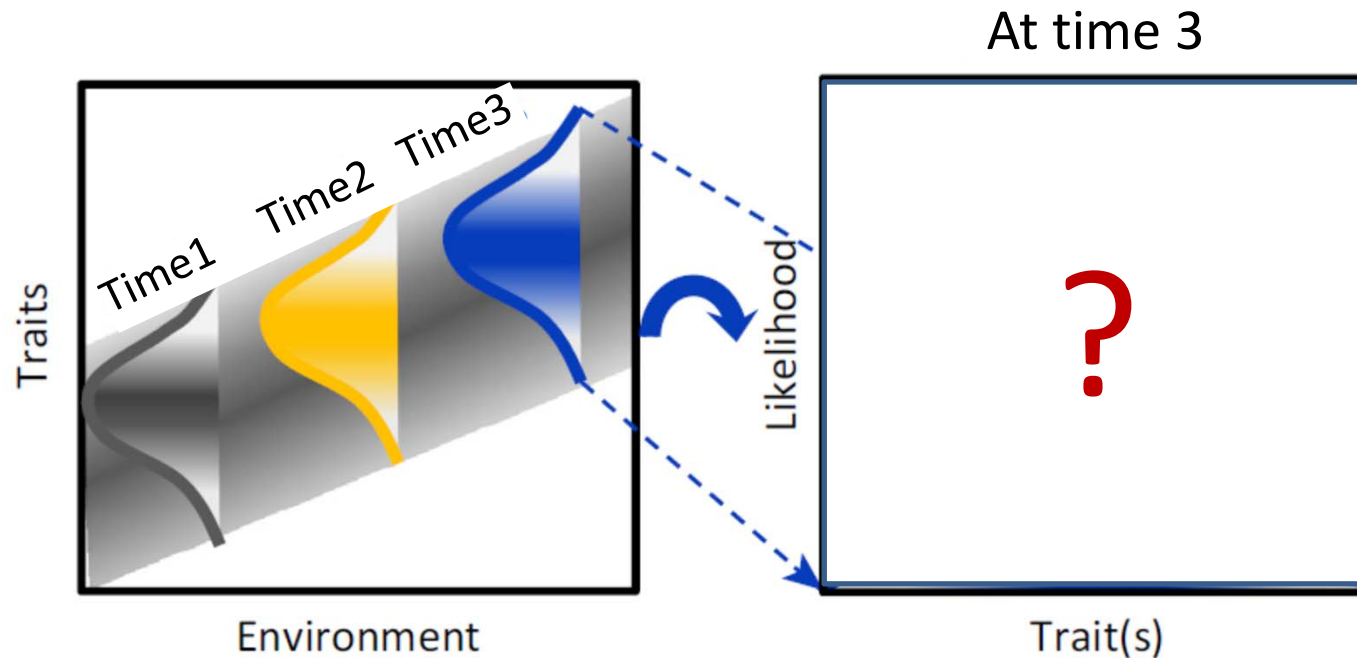
(Laughlin and Messier 2015)



# Fluctuating environmental filtering

## Temporal fluctuation of environment

- How will the trait distribution be affected by the temporal variation of environmental filtering?

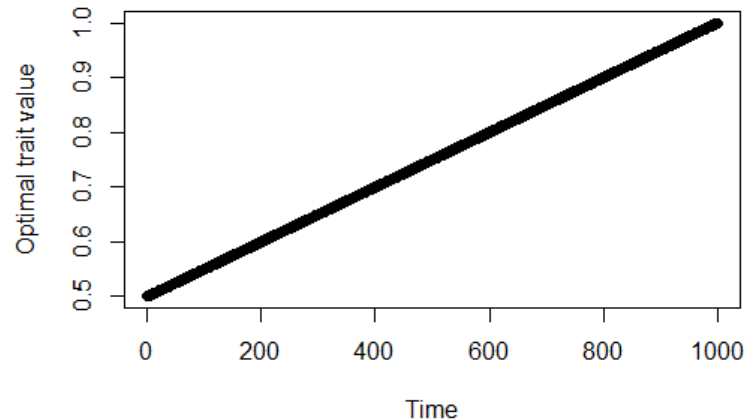


(modified from Laughlin and Messier 2015)

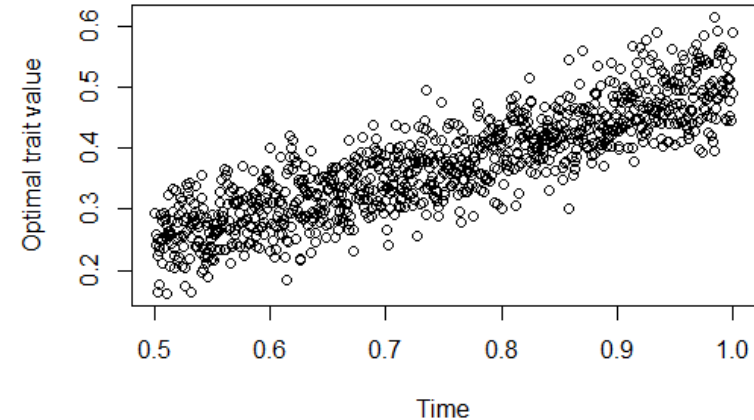


# Fluctuating environmental filtering

- **Expectation:** equilibrium distribution of trait values depends on the direction and on the amplitude of stochastic variation around the direction



Strictly directional

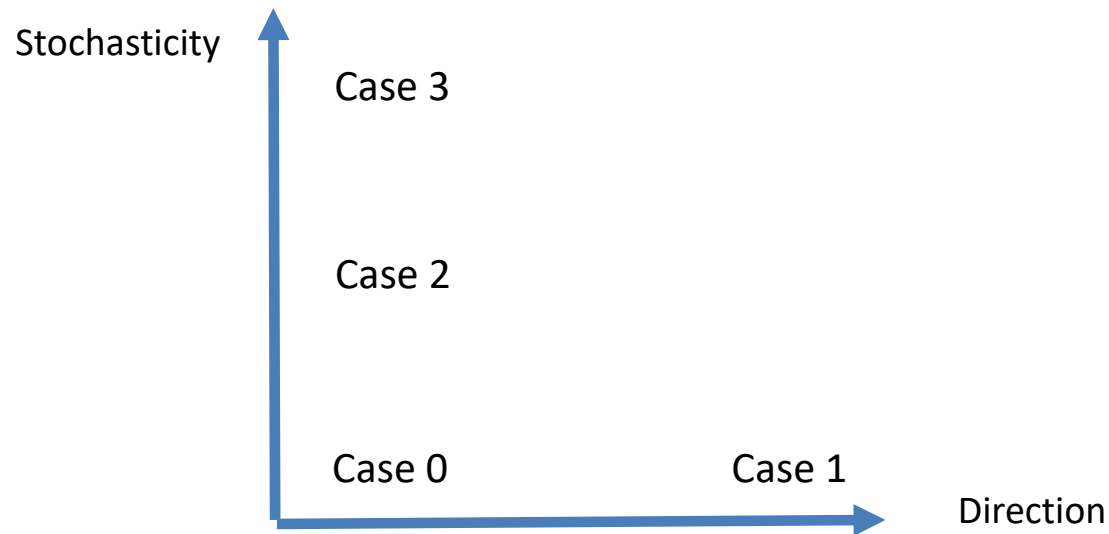


Directional with stochasticity



# Fluctuating environmental filtering

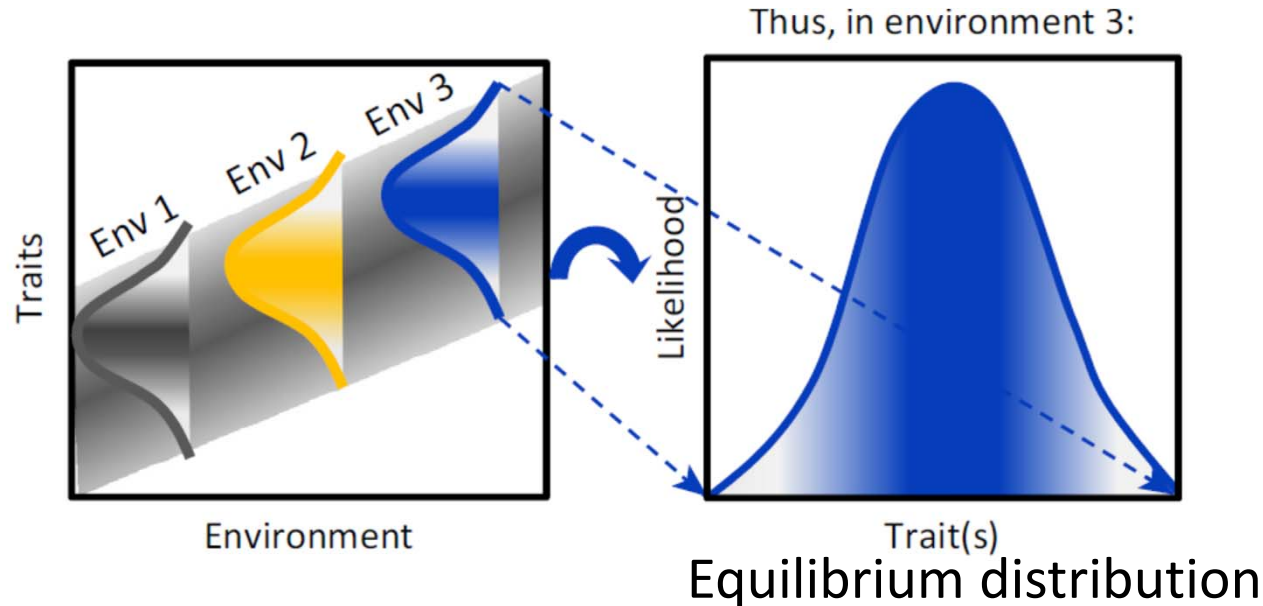
- **Objective** : to characterize basic kinds of trait distributions for varying values of directionnality and stochastic variation





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

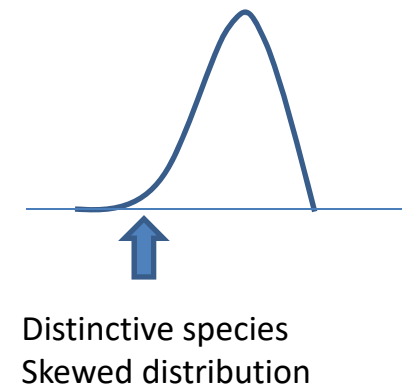
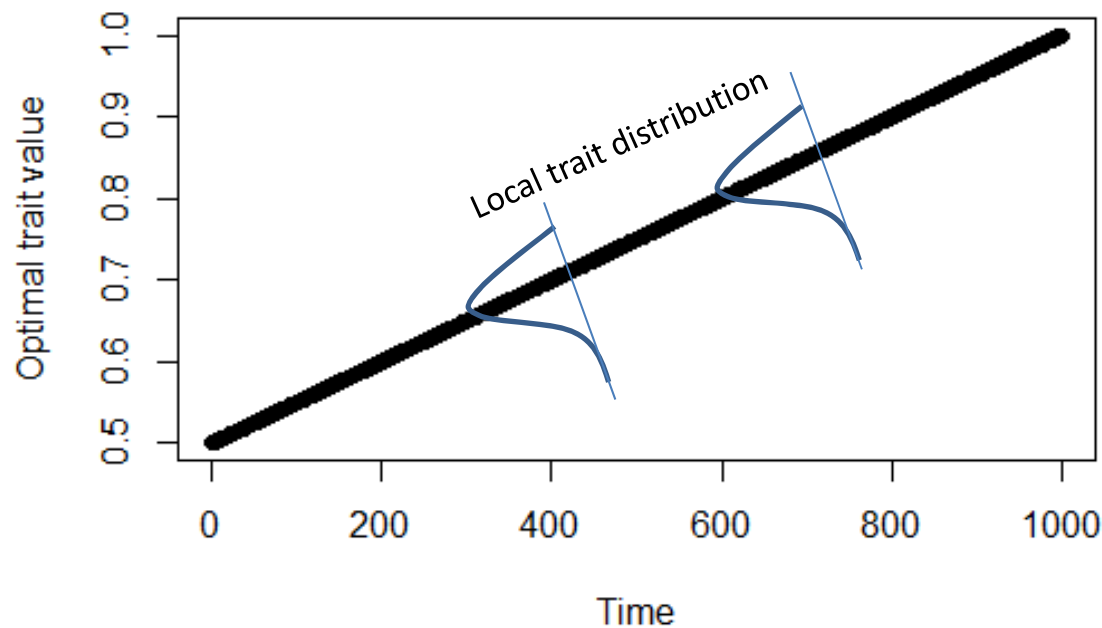
- **Case 0 - Stable environment:** We expect that functional trait convergence in a community mirrors the influence of environmental filtering





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

- **Case 1-directional environmental change:** depending on the speed of environmental change, maladapted phenotypes can persist over time



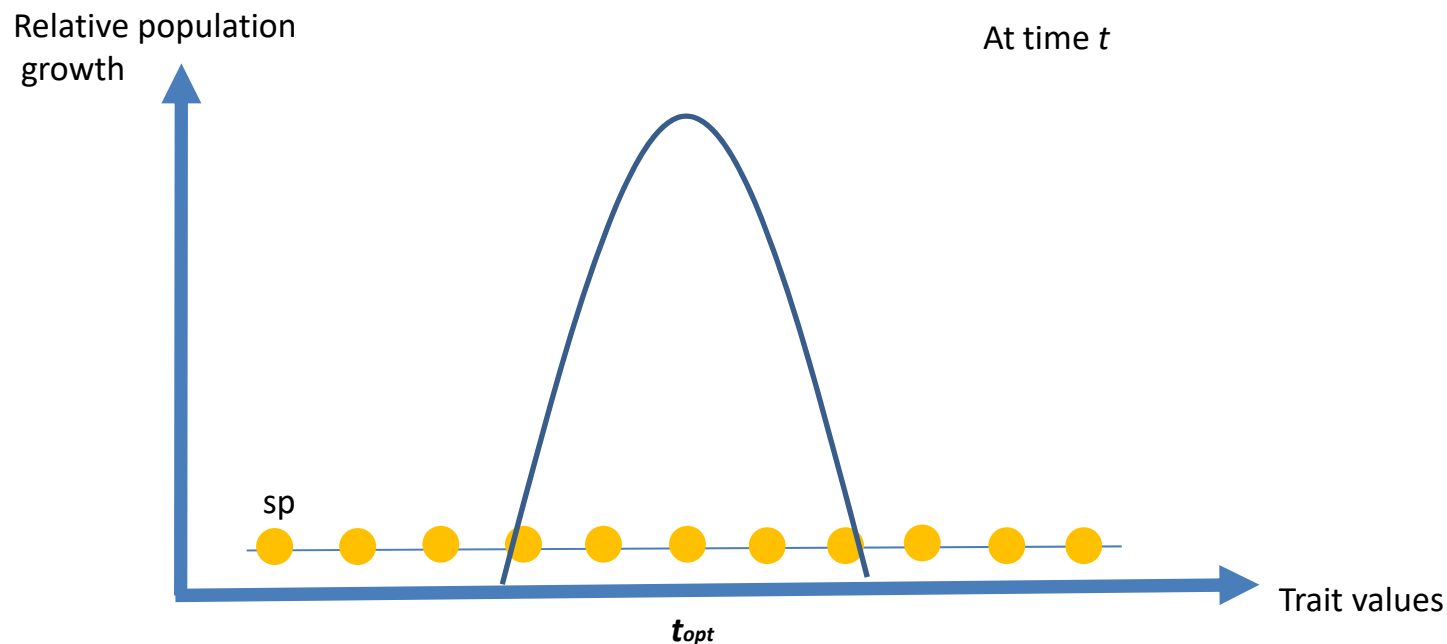
(Enquist et al. 2015)





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

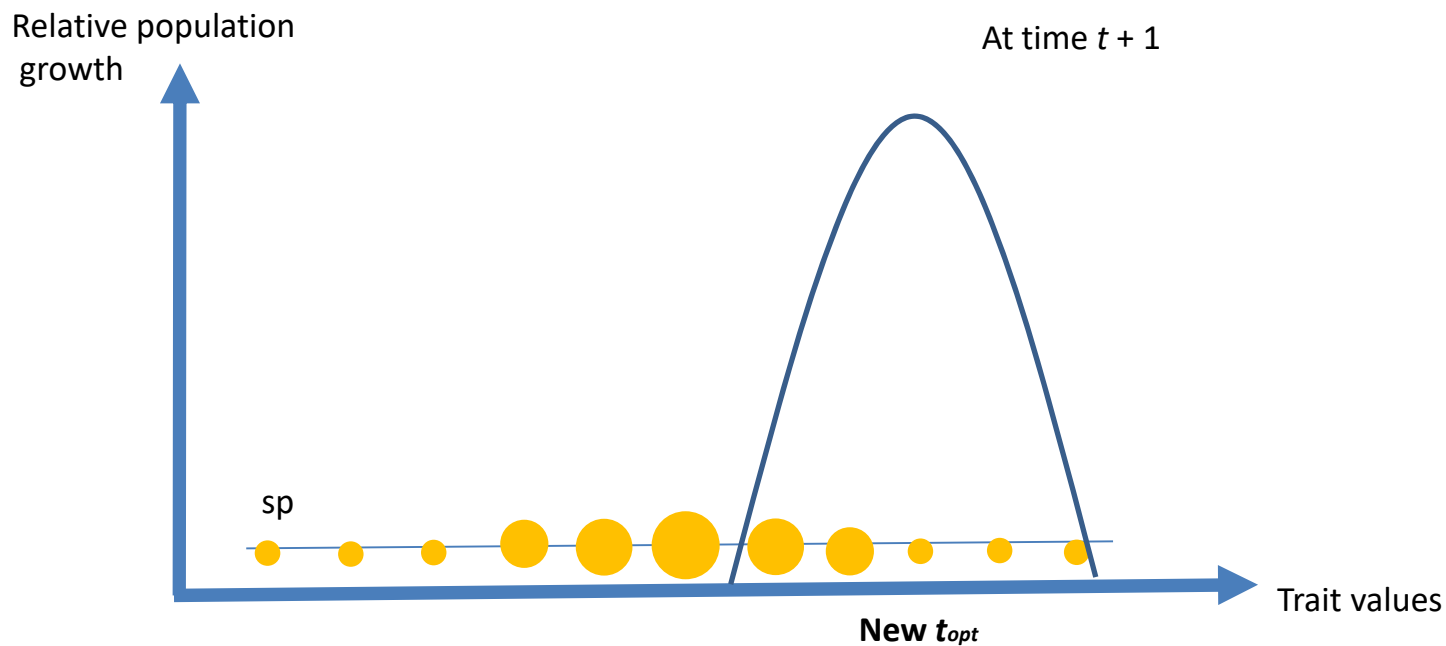
- **Case 2 - moderate environmental fluctuation :**  
Temporal variation in the success of phenotypes around some focal value





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

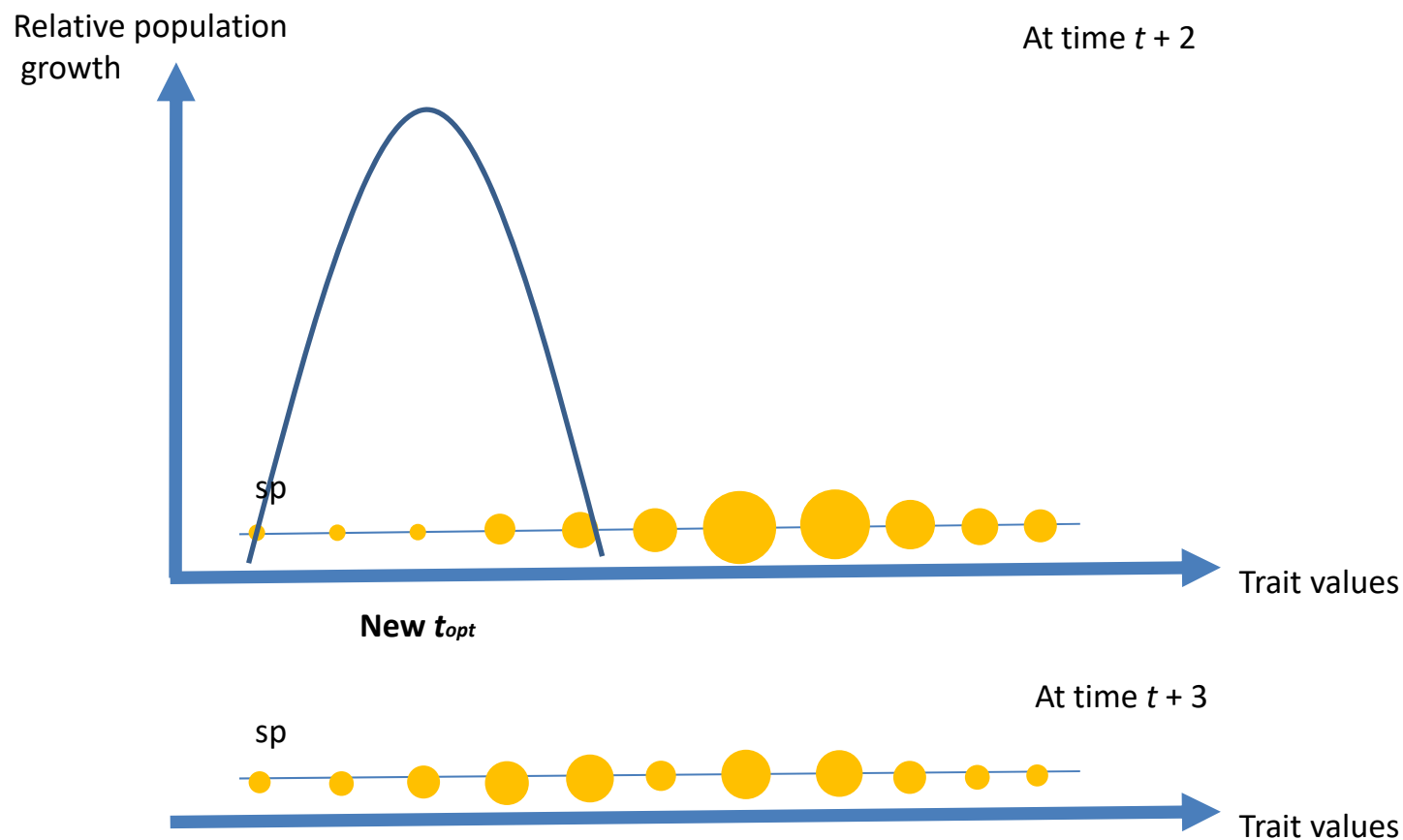
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# Fluctuating environmental filtering

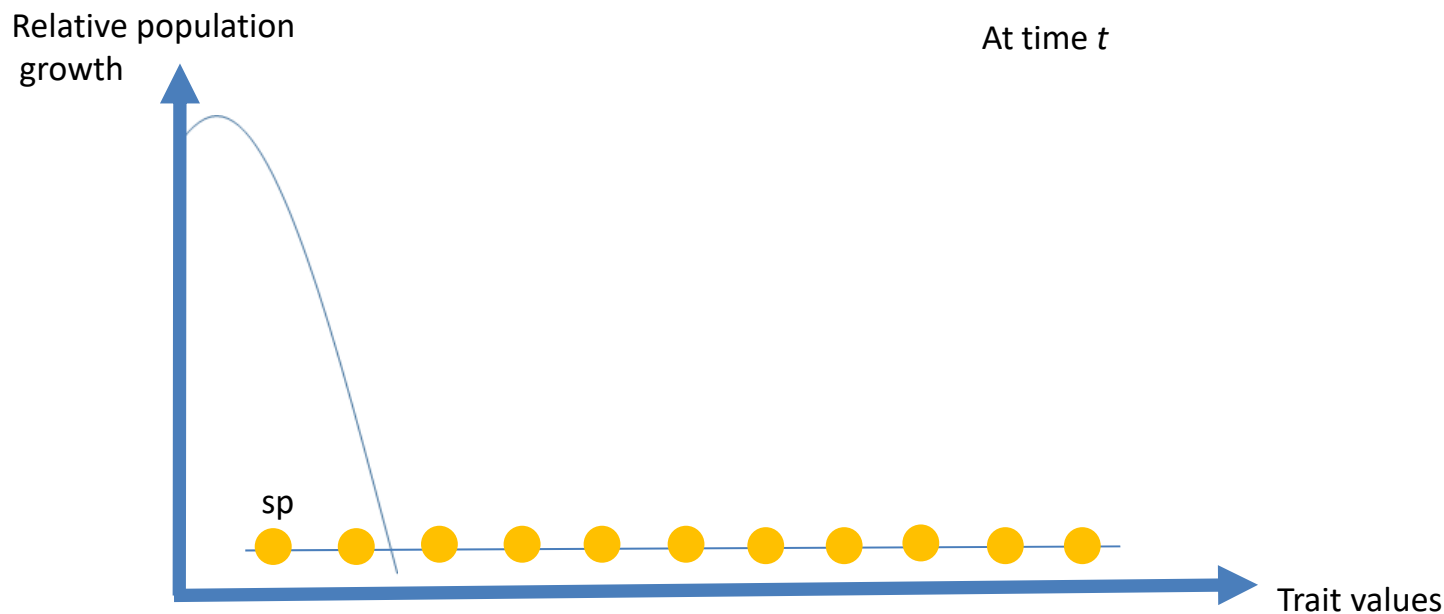
- **Case 2 - moderate environmental fluctuation**





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

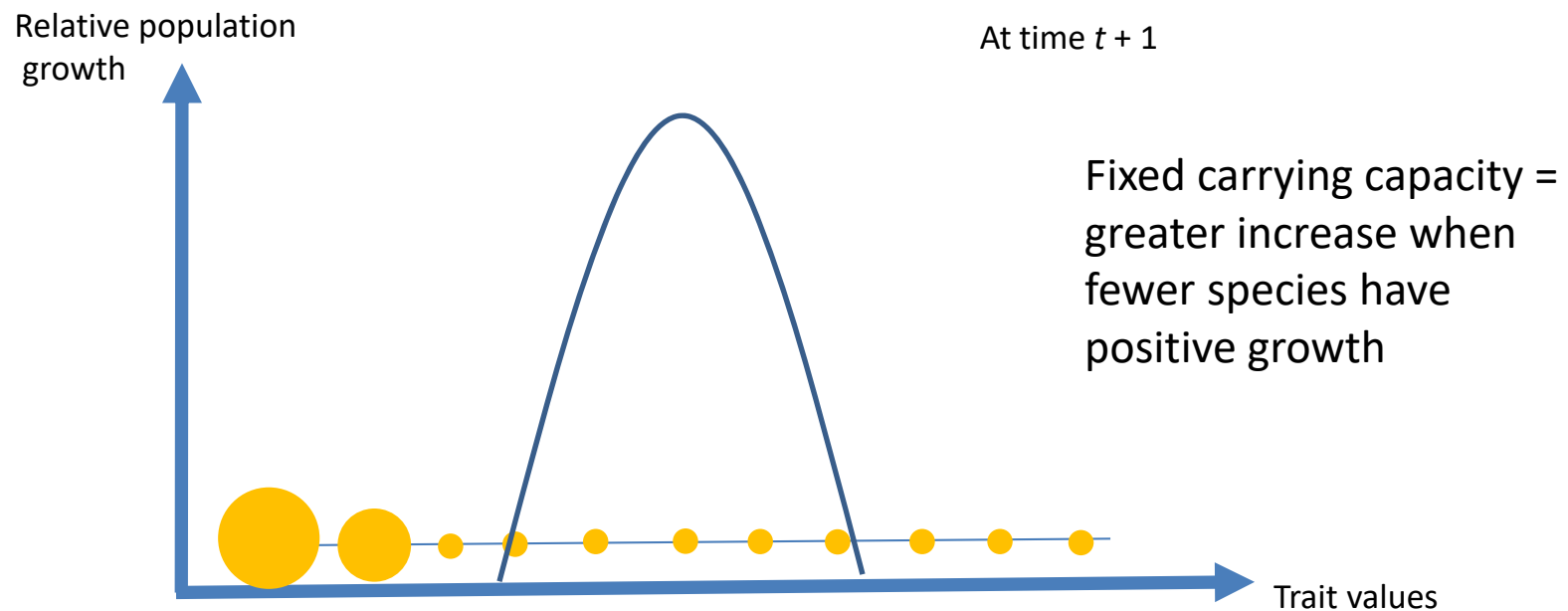
- **Case 3 - large environmental fluctuation:** Extreme environmental conditions select traits at the extreme of phenotypic space





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

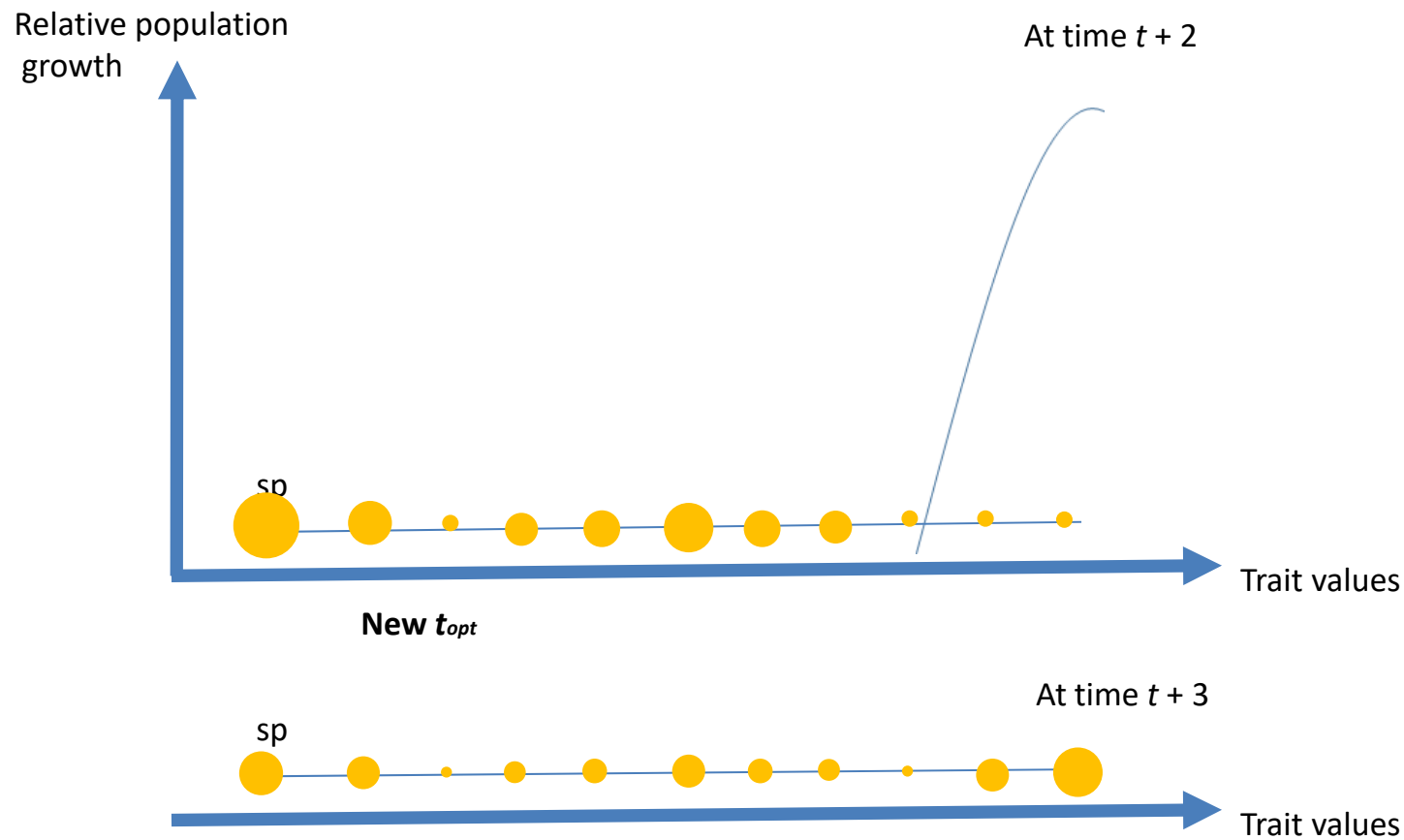
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# Fluctuating environmental filtering

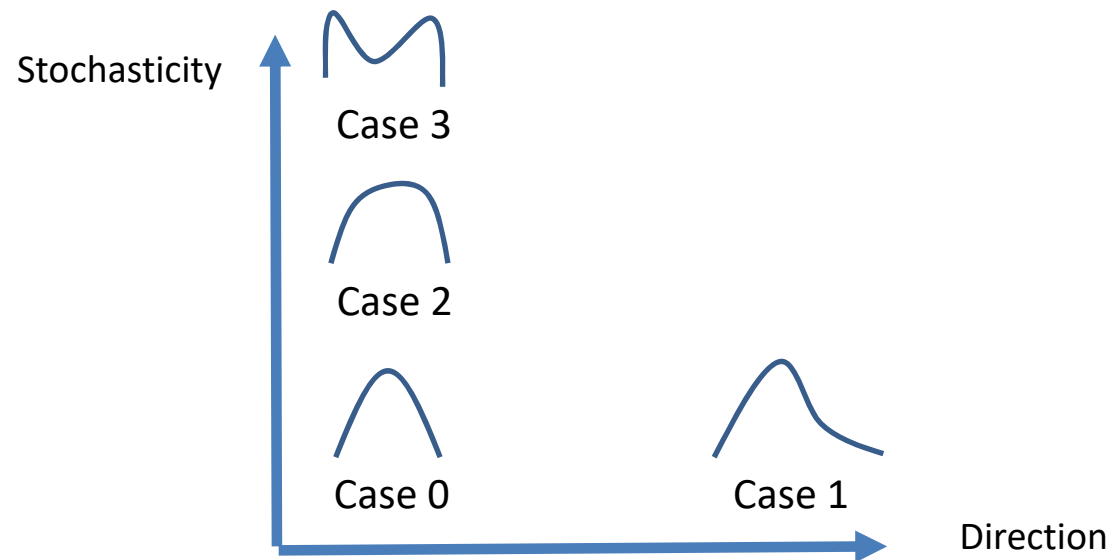
- **Case 3 - large environmental fluctuation**





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

- **Objective** : to characterize basic kinds of trait distributions for varying values of directionality and stochastic variation

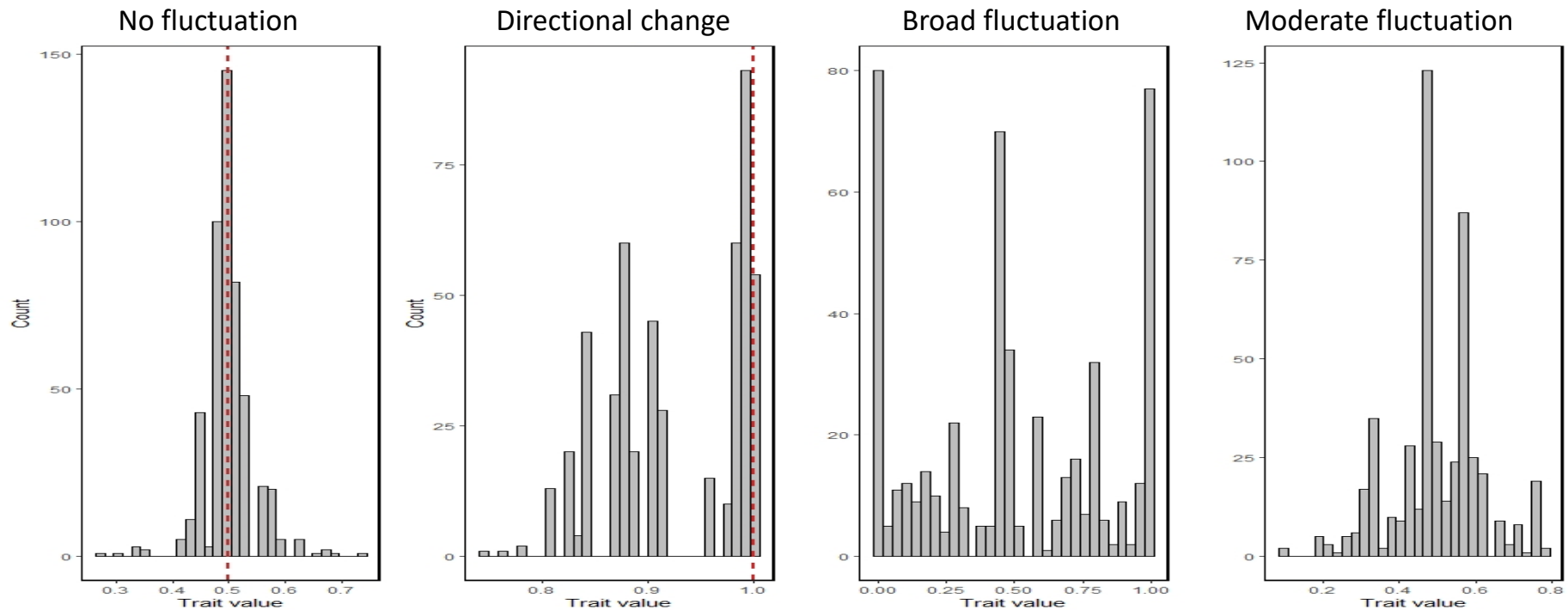


Different expectations in terms of distinctiveness,  
But also other moments:  
variance, skewness, kurtosis



# Fluctuating environmental filtering

- **Simulation outcomes:** distinctiveness is highest with broad fluctuation, lowest with steady filtering

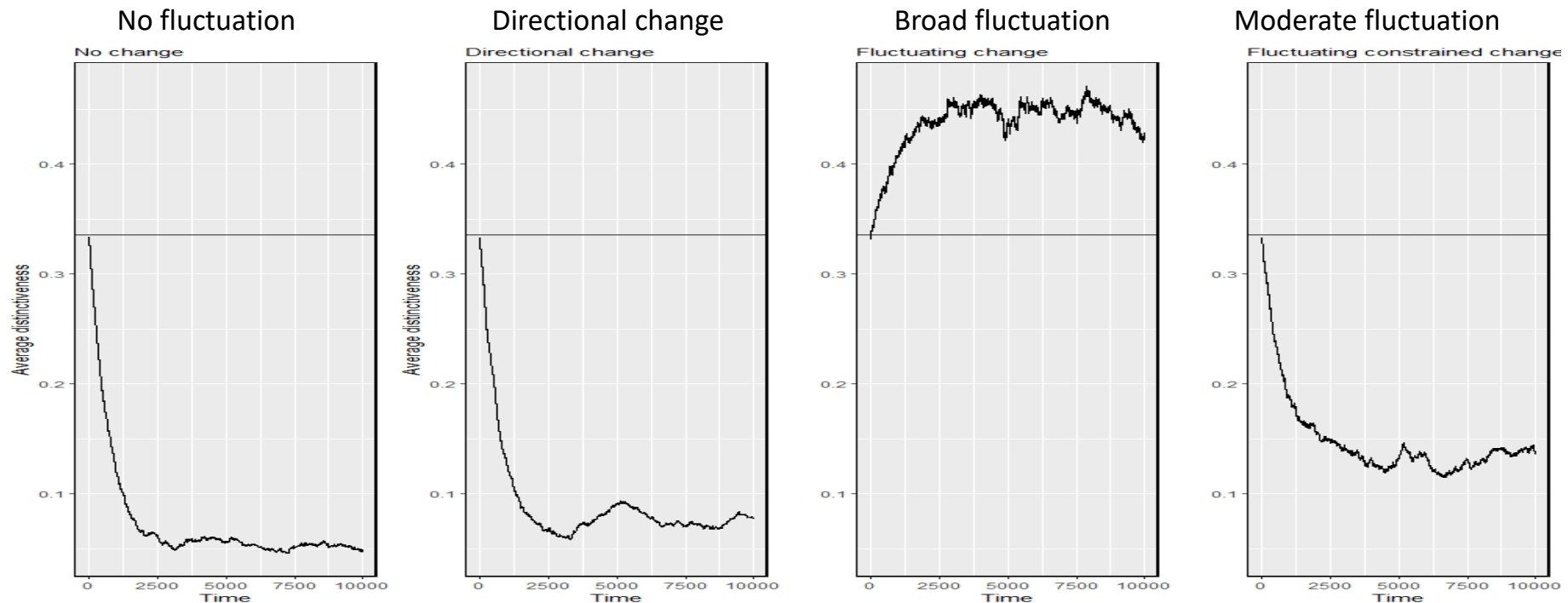






# Fluctuating environmental filtering

- **Simulation outcomes:** distinctiveness is highest with broad fluctuation, lowest with steady filtering





# Fluctuating environmental filtering

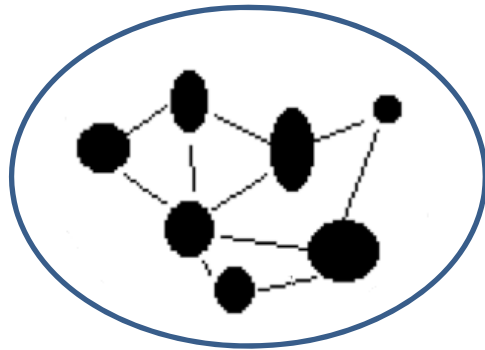
## Ecological insights

- Mechanism of balancing selection considered in ecological context
- Maintenance of functional diversity and distinctiveness under variable environmental conditions

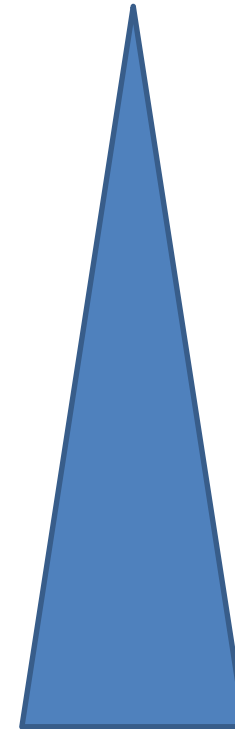
# Understanding and predicting biodiversity dynamics in spatially and temporally changing environments



Community dynamics



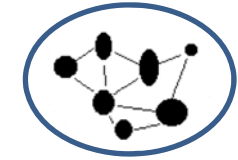
Metapopulation and metacommunity dynamics



Fine

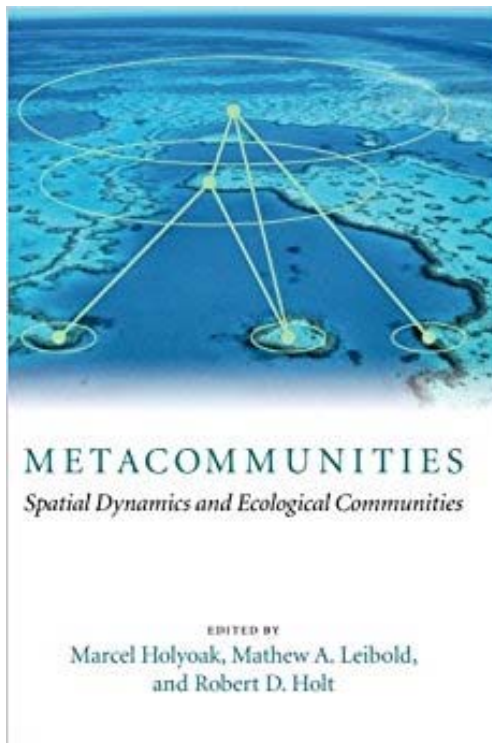
Spatial and temporal scale

Broad



## Spatial ecological networks

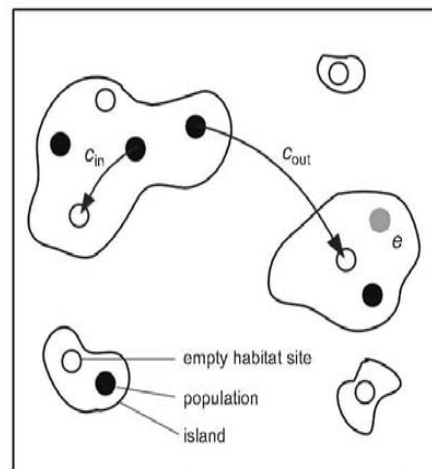
Influence of environmental spatial heterogeneity



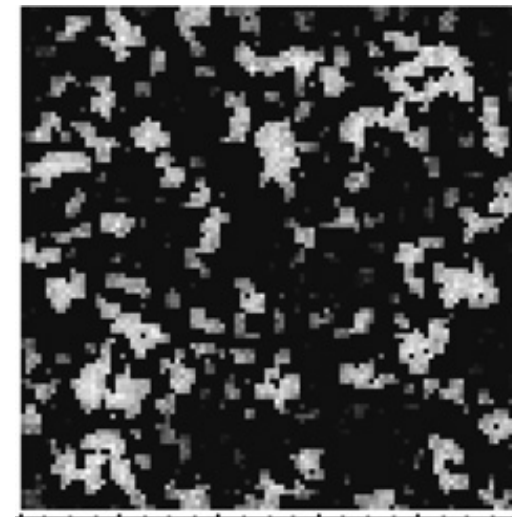
### Colonisation-extinction dynamics

→ Modeling population persistence, density and spatial arrangement

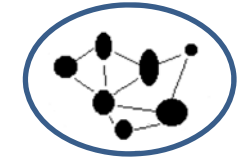
→ Predicting local to regional biodiversity patterns



(Huth et al., AmNat 2015)



Densité de populations dans habitat fragmenté (Munoz et al. 2007)



# Impact of fragmentation

Variation in patch geometry

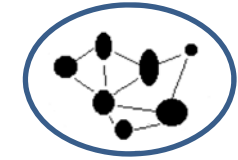


Patch area



Patch number

Rapport périmètre/surface des îles  
Distance entre îles



## Impact of fragmentation

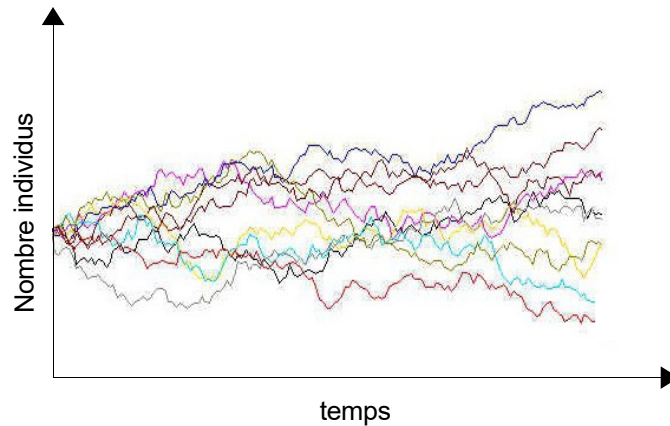
At patch level

Tailles des îles

Variations stochastiques de la taille des populations



Extinction stochastique

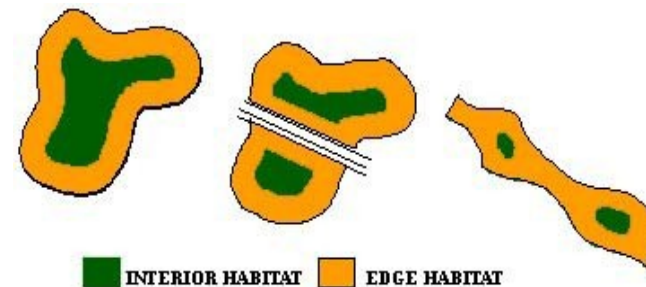


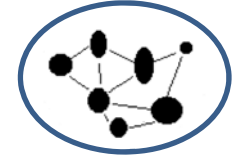
Quantité de lisières

Lisière : Changements biotiques et abiotiques



Effets négatifs ou positifs





# Impact of fragmentation

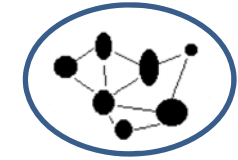
At the level of spatial habitat network

→ Comment la matrice entre îles facilite ou empêche les mouvements entre îles ?

**Connectivité structurale  
Habitat**  
=  
Indépendante des espèces

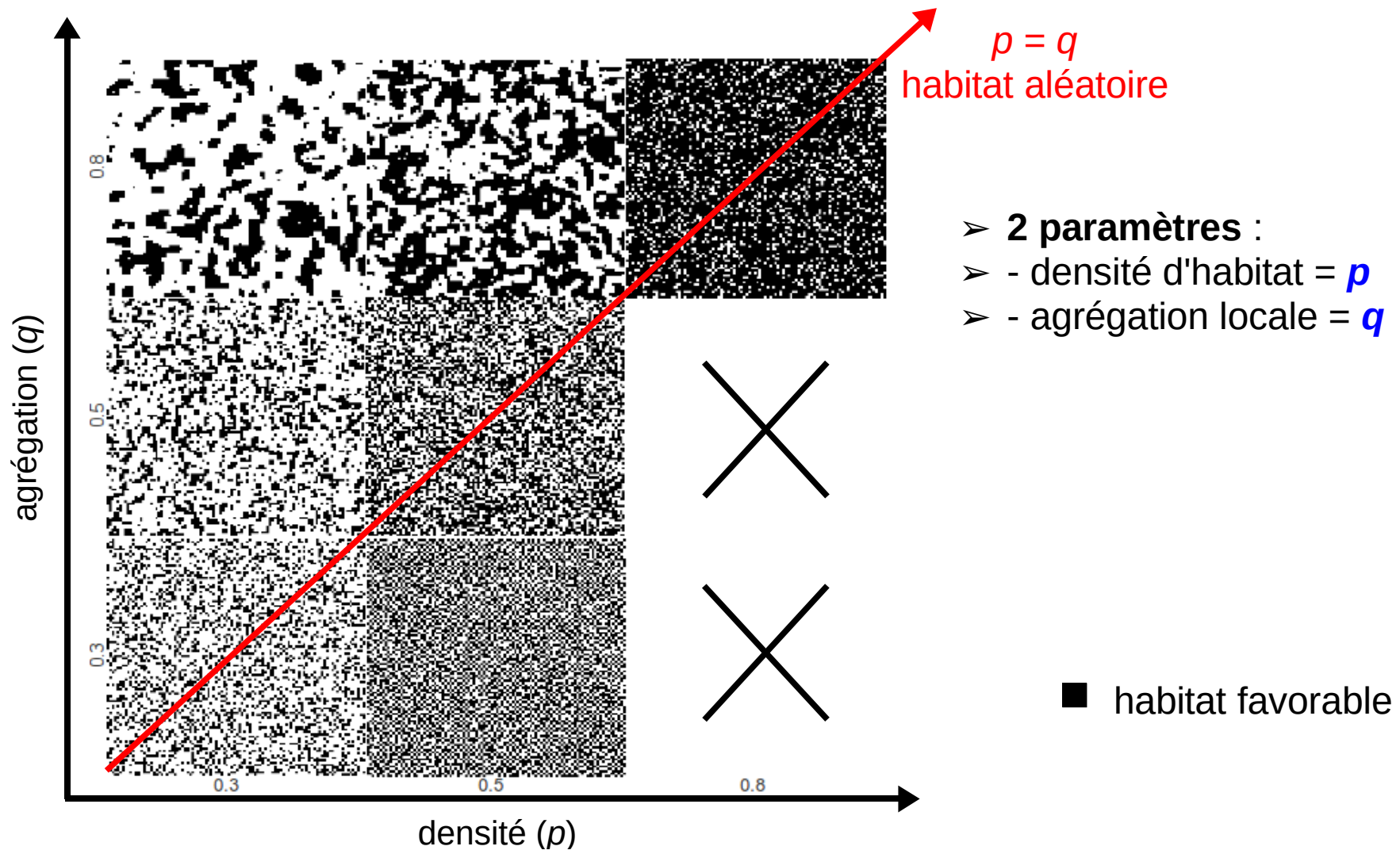
**Connectivité fonctionnelle  
Dispersion**  
=  
Perception des contraintes de  
l'habitat par les espèces

- **Dispersion** = mouvements conduisant potentiellement à des flux de gènes
  - **Distances de dispersion = limitées dans l'espace**  
→ rôle structure de l'habitat
  - **Dispersion à longue distance = rare + peu prévisible**



## Impact of fragmentation

Connectivité structurale et percolation

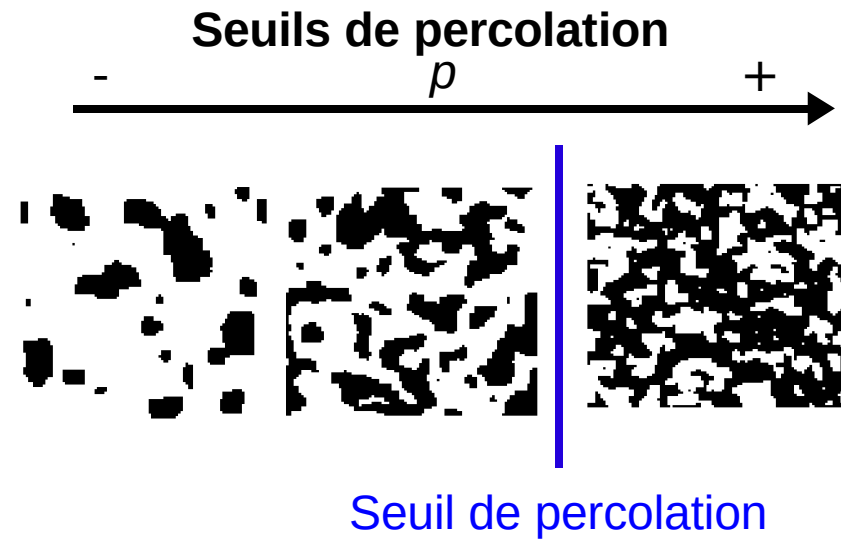
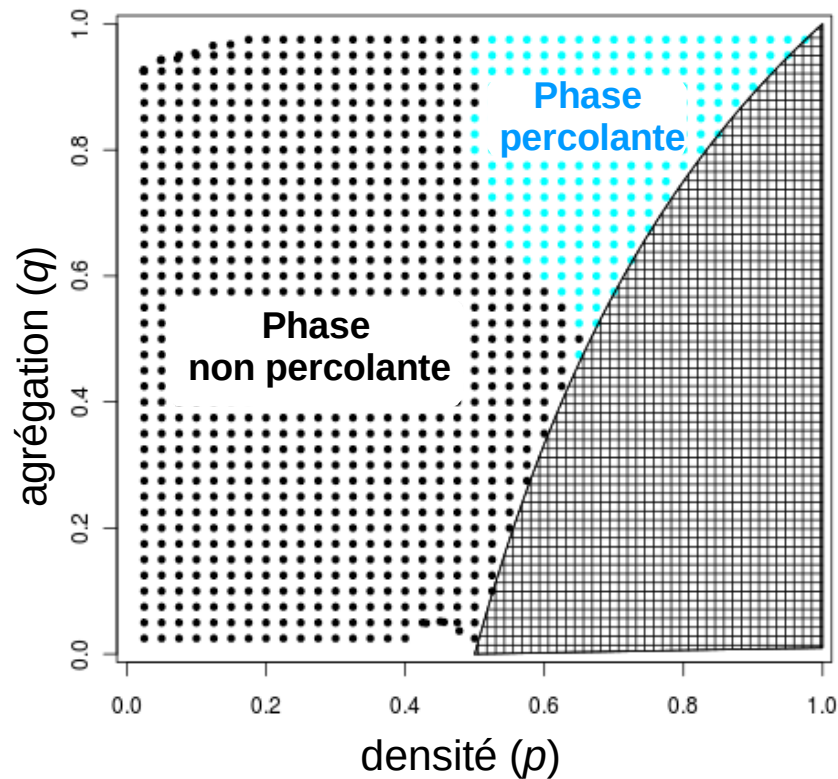




## Impact de la fragmentation

Connectivité structurale et percolation

Diagramme de phase

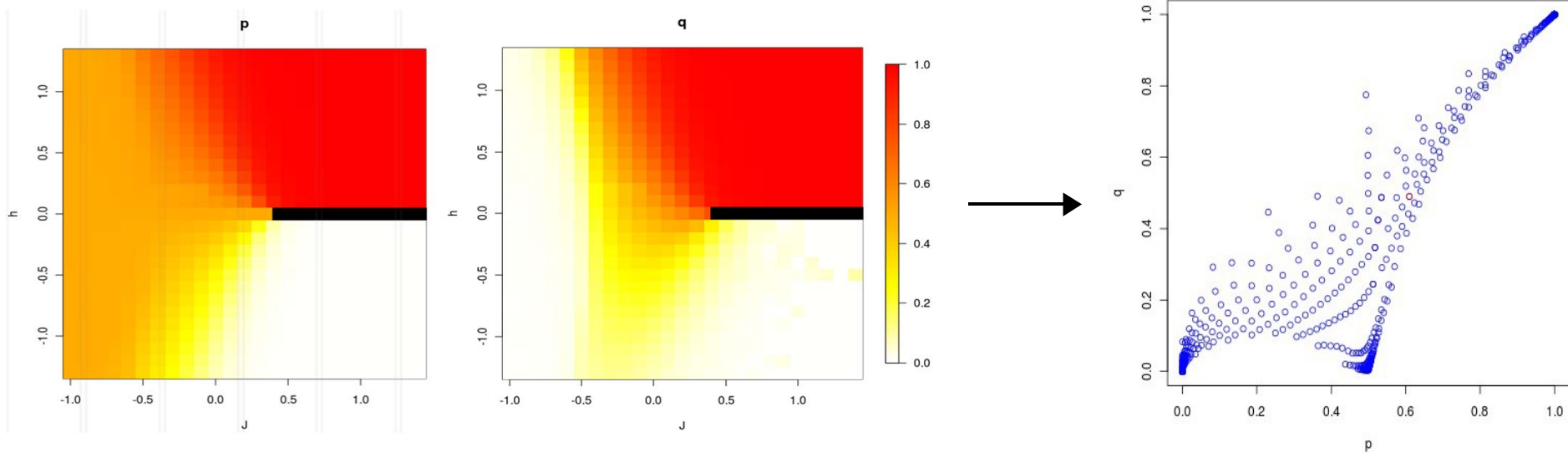


## Impact de la fragmentation

Connectivité structurale et percolation

Lien avec modèle d'Ising

- Interactions locales entre particules → deux paramètres  $J$  et  $h$
- Correspondance avec les paramètres  $p$  et  $q$



→ Modèle d'Ising = paysages moins riches

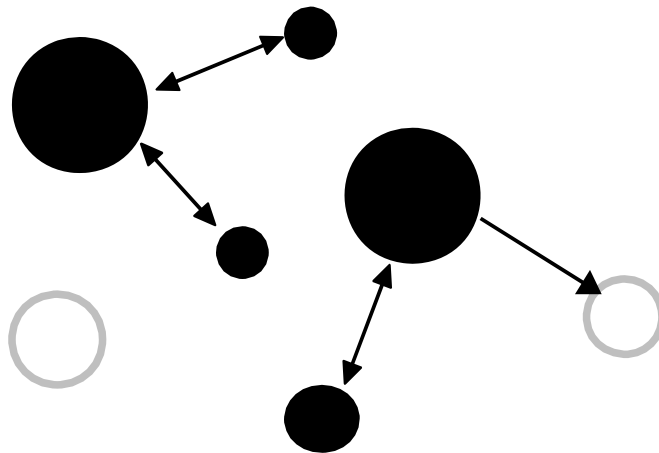
(Huth et al. 2014)

## Métopopulation

# Réseaux écologiques spatiaux

Dynamique d'un organisme dans un habitat: notion de métopopulation

{ } de populations connectées par des flux de dispersion



**Colonisation = Dispersion +  
Établissement**

**Extinction = disparition d'une  
population**

# Réseaux écologiques spatiaux

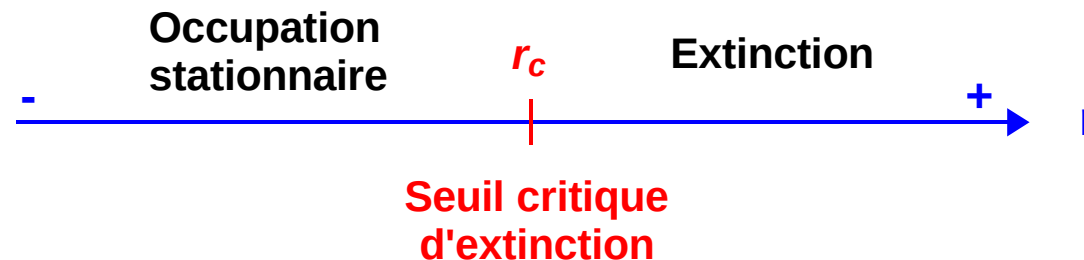
Modèle spatialement implicite: néglige la structure spatiale de l'habitat

Variation densité sites occupés

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \underbrace{c \cdot \rho \cdot (1 - \rho)}_{\text{colonisation}} - \underbrace{e \cdot \rho}_{\text{extinction}}$$

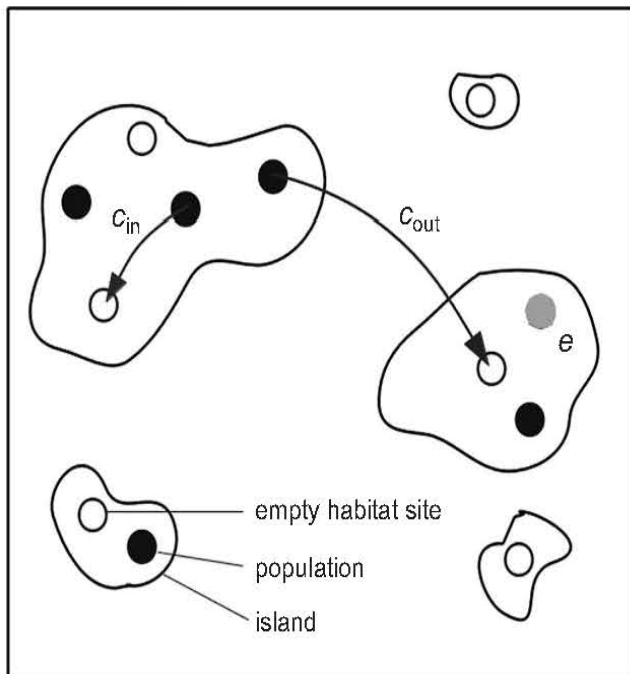
$c = \text{colonisation}$   
 $e = \text{extinction}$  }  $r = e/c$

→ États d'équilibre de l'occupation:



## Réseaux écologiques spatiaux

### Influence de l'hétérogénéité spatiale de l'environnement



At a given time, each habitat site is either occupied by a population or empty. We denote by  $p_k^{(n)}$  the probability that  $k$  sites are occupied in an island of size  $n$ . Hence, the average fraction  $f^{(n)}$  of occupied sites in islands of size  $n$  is given by

$$f^{(n)} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{n} p_k^{(n)}, \quad (1)$$

and the average fraction  $f$  of occupied sites in the regional metapopulation is given by

$$f = \sum_n \frac{nP(n)}{\sum_m mP(m)} f^{(n)} = \sum_n \frac{nP(n)}{\bar{n}} f^{(n)}. \quad (2)$$

$$k \rightarrow k+1 \quad \text{with rate } \lambda_k = c_{\text{in}} \frac{k}{n} (n-k) + c_{\text{out}} f(n-k),$$

$$k \rightarrow k-1 \quad \text{with rate } \mu_k = ek.$$

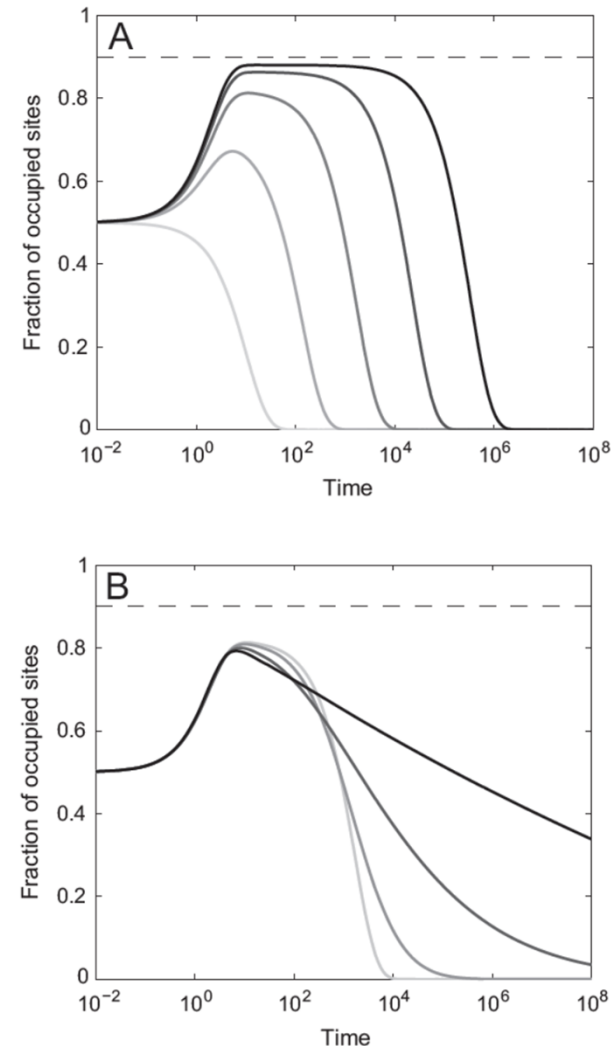
## Réseaux écologiques spatiaux

Influence de l'hétérogénéité spatiale de l'environnement

$$\frac{dp_k^{(n)}}{dt} = \lambda_{k-1}p_{k-1}^{(n)} + \mu_{k+1}p_{k+1}^{(n)} - \lambda_k p_k^{(n)} - \mu_k p_k^{(n)}$$

$$\frac{df^{(n)}}{dt} = (c_{\text{in}} f^{(n)} + c_{\text{out}} f) (1 - f^{(n)}) - e f^{(n)}$$

**Figure 2:** Dynamics of regional occupancy  $f$  without colonization between islands ( $c_{\text{out}} = 0$ ). A, Homogeneous island size distributions (ISDs; i.e., all islands have the same size). The darker the curve, the larger the island ( $n = 1, 3, 5, 7, 9$ ). B, Heterogeneous ISDs with mean island size  $\bar{n} = 5$  and different variances  $\sigma^2$ . The darker the curve, the larger the ISD variance. Explicit ISDs are given in appendix A. For both panels, parameter values are  $c_{\text{in}} = 1.0$  and  $e = 0.1$ . The equilibrium occupancy of the corresponding Levins model is given by  $1 - e/c_{\text{in}} = 0.9$  (horizontal dashed line). As initial conditions, habitat sites are filled randomly with probability 0.5.



# Understanding and predicting biodiversity dynamics in spatially and temporally changing environments

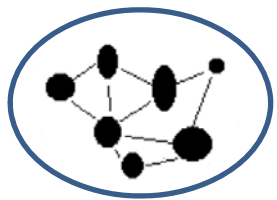


How do biotic interactions determine species diversity?

**Transient species-rich communities**

How do temporally fluctuating environment shape functional composition?

**Maintenance of functional diversity**



How does habitat fragmentation affect long-term dynamics of local populations?

**Slow extinction dynamics**



# Models of metapopulation and metacommunity dynamics

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02/12/2022

EverEvol – Population dynamics: from rare  
events to evolution