# Generational spreading speed and the dynamics of ecological invasions

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# Generational spreading speed and the dynamics of ecological invasions







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# (Spatial) Demography

- In many cases, simple quantities can characterise changes in population size or density:
  - $-\lambda$ : (annual) rate of population growth
  - $R_0$ : net reproductive number (generational population growth)
- Versions of  $R_0$ , in particular, are used across ecology and epidemiology

#### "... $R_0$ is arguably the most important quantity in the study of epidemics..."

Heesterbeek, J. (2002). Acta Biotheoretica, 50, 189–204.

- Integrodifference equations (IDEs) can represent both scalar and stage-structured (age, size, maturity) populations growing and spreading in space
- Can be used to calculate theoretical spreading speed for a population (re)colonising empty habitat
  - applies to both scalar (Kot *et al.* 1996) and stage-structured (Neubert & Caswell 2000) demography
- These measures of spreading speed are analogous to the population growth rate, λ, in discrete-time population dynamics models
- A measure of generational spread analogous to  $R_0$  is missing

Kot, M., Lewis, M., & van den Driessche, P. (1996). *Ecology*, 77(7), 2027–2042. Neubert, M., & Caswell, H. (2000). *Ecology*, *81*(6), 1613–1628.

# Outline

- Background: IDEs, annual spreading speed
- Next-generation matrix,  $R_0$ , and motivation
- Generational spreading speed
- Example

• Consider an invasion in a single continuous spatial dimension, *x* 



• Consider an invasion in a single continuous spatial dimension, *x* 



 ${\mathcal X}$ 

 Population density will level off as density dependence takes effect behind the invasion front



• In many cases, it is possible to derive the spreading speed of the advancing population by considering dynamics at the invasion front



- When this occurs we say the spreading speed is *linearly determined*
- It is this case that we focus upon

• Here, we consider the case of a stage-structured population:



# Stage-structured IDEs

• Model:

$$\mathbf{n}(x,t+1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\mathbf{K}(x,y) \circ \mathbf{A}] \, \mathbf{n}(y,t) \, dy$$

- A is a population projection matrix
- K(x,y) is a matrix of dispersal kernels, with entries k<sub>ij</sub>(x,y) describing movement to x of a stage-*i* individual, produced at y by a stage-*j* individual
- o is the Hadamard (elementwise) product

- Native to Eurasia, wild teasel (*Dispacus fullonum*) is now an invasive of increasing concern in eastern North America
- Teasel rosettes develop into plants that put up tall flower stalks and finally drop seed



#### Growth and dispersal matricies for teasel



FIG. 6. The life cycle of teasel (*Dipsacus sylvestris*). Dashed lines represent transitions during which dispersal occurs.

• Model:

$$\mathbf{n}(x,t+1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\mathbf{K}(x,y) \circ \mathbf{A}] \, \mathbf{n}(y,t) \, dy$$

• Assume K(x,y) = K(x-y) and consider solutions of the form:

$$\mathbf{n}(x,t) = \mathbf{w}e^{-s(x-ct)}$$

- s determines the shape of the low-density wave front
- w gives the relative stage abundances in the wave
- -c > 0 is the wave speed



• Rearrangement and change of variables yields

$$\mathbf{w}e^{sc} = \mathbf{H}(s)\mathbf{w}$$

where  $\mathbf{H}(s) = \mathbf{M}(s) \circ \mathbf{A}$ , and  $\mathbf{M}(s)$  is the matrix of moment-generating functions,

$$m_{ij}(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{sx} k_{ij}(x) \, dx$$

corresponding to the dispersal kernels

From we<sup>sc</sup> = H(s)w we can equate e<sup>sc</sup> to the dominant eigenvalue of H(s), with eigenvector w, to give:

$$c(s) = \frac{1}{s} \ln \left( \rho_1 [\mathbf{H}(s)] \right),$$

where  $\rho_1[\cdot]$  denotes the dominant eigenvalue of a matrix

• The asymptotic spreading speed for the invading population is

$$c^* = \inf_{s \in \Omega} \left[ \frac{1}{s} \ln \left( \rho_1 [\mathbf{H}(s)] \right) \right]$$

where  $\Omega$  is the domain of existence for  $\mathbf{M}(s)$ 

Lui, R. (1989). *Math. Biosci.*, 93, 269–295. Neubert, M., & Caswell, H. (2000). *Ecology*, *81*, 1613–1628.



Neubert, M., & Caswell, H. (2000). Ecology, 81, 1613–1628.

### Spreading speed for teasel



FIG. 7. Invasion speed c as a function of the spatial decay rate s for teasel (Field M).

# Stage-structured invasion

- So, we can calculate a theoretical invasion speed, given descriptions of life history and dispersal
- Can also calculate sensitivity of wave speed to parameters (Neubert & Caswell 2000)

BUT...

- For complicated life-histories, calculations are numerical (eigenvalue of an NxN matrix involves solving an N<sup>th</sup>-order polynomial)
- Any other way to gain analytical insight?

- Each generation produces the next as it ages, reproduces, and dies
- Consider the processes that go into demographic change:

 $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{F} + \mathbf{T}$ 

**T** is the *transition* matrix – survival and maturation **F** is the *fecundity* matrix – reproduction

- If we start with a (stage-structured) vector,  $\mathbf{u}(g)$ , of population density in generation g
- then:

$$\mathbf{u}(g+1) = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{u}(g) + \mathbf{F}\mathbf{T}\mathbf{u}(g) + \mathbf{F}\mathbf{T}^{2}\mathbf{u}(g) + \mathbf{F}\mathbf{T}^{3}\mathbf{u}(g) + \dots$$
$$= \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{T}^{2} + \mathbf{T}^{3} + \dots]\mathbf{u}(g)$$
$$= \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}]^{-1}\mathbf{u}(g)$$

•  $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}]^{-1}$  is the *next-generation matrix* 

- $\lambda$ , the asymptotic annual population growth rate is  $\rho_1[\mathbf{A}]$
- ρ<sub>1</sub>[Q] is the asymptotic *generational population growth* rate (or net reproductive number), R<sub>0</sub>
- Calculation of λ, like c\*, commonly involves solving an N<sup>th</sup>-order polynomial
- Q = F[I T]<sup>-1</sup>, however, is typically of rank one because of its direct dependence on the fecundity matrix, F, and all reproduction commonly passes through a single stage (*e.g.* adults, seeds)

 Also, R<sub>0</sub>-1 and λ - 1 have the same sign (Cushing & Yicang 1994), so that both R<sub>0</sub> and λ indicate:

population decline	$R_0$ , $\lambda < 1$
population stability	$R_0$ , $\lambda = 1$
population growth _	$R_0$ , $\lambda > 1$

- Analytical insight gained about changes to  $R_0$  can carry information about population growth more generally
- Motivated by potential for similar insight into process of spatial spread

• Consider the process of generational spread:



• To begin, we decompose the linearised IDE into spatiopemporal transition and fecundity operators:

$$\mathbf{n}(x,t+1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \mathbf{K}(x-y) \circ (\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{T}) \right] \mathbf{n}(y,t) \, dy$$
$$= \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \mathbf{K}(x-y) \circ \mathbf{F} \right] \mathbf{n}(y,t) \, dy}_{\mathscr{U}_{F}\mathbf{n}(x,t)} + \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \mathbf{K}(x-y) \circ \mathbf{T} \right] \mathbf{n}(y,t) \, dy}_{\mathscr{U}_{T}\mathbf{n}(x,t)}$$

• The dispersal-dependent next generation in space is:

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{u}(x,g+1) &= \mathscr{L}_{G}\mathbf{u}(x,g) = \mathscr{L}_{F}\mathbf{u}(x,g) + \mathscr{L}_{F}\mathscr{L}_{T}\mathbf{u}(x,g) + \mathscr{L}_{F}\mathscr{L}_{T}\mathscr{L}_{T}\mathbf{u}(x,g) + \dots \\ &= \underbrace{\mathscr{L}_{F}[\mathbf{I} + \mathscr{L}_{T} + \mathscr{L}_{T}^{2} + \dots]}_{\text{next-generation operator}} \mathbf{u}(x,g). \end{split}$$

• We look for exponential-form solutions

$$\mathbf{u}(x,g) = \mathbf{w}_G e^{-s_G(x - c_G g)}$$

with wave speed  $c_{\scriptscriptstyle G}$  and wave shape  $s_{\scriptscriptstyle G}$ ,

• and we define  $\mathbf{H}_{F}(s)$  and  $\mathbf{H}_{T}(s)$  so that

$$\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) = \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) \circ \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) \circ [\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{T}]$$
$$= \underbrace{\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) \circ \mathbf{F}}_{\mathbf{H}_{F}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) \circ \mathbf{T}}_{\mathbf{H}_{T}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) \circ \mathbf{T}}_{\mathbf{H}_{T}}$$

• We can show that:

$$\mathbf{w}_G e^{s_G c_G} = \mathbf{H}_F(s_G) [\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H}_T(s_G)]^{-1} \mathbf{w}_G$$

under the condition that  $\rho_1[\mathbf{H}_T(\mathbf{s}_G)] < 1$ .

• Here,  $\mathbf{H}_F(s_G)[I - \mathbf{H}_T(s_G)]^{-1} = \mathbf{H}_G(s_G)$  is the spatiodemographic analogue of the purely demographic next-generation matrix,  $\mathbf{Q}$ .

• We get a dispersion relation for the linearised system:

$$c_G(s_G) = \frac{1}{s_G} \ln \left( \rho_1 [\mathbf{H}_G(s_G)] \right)$$

• the generational spreading speed is:

$$c_G^* = \inf_{s_G \in \Omega_G} \left[ \frac{1}{s_G} \ln \left( \rho_1 [\mathbf{H}_G(s_G)] \right) \right]$$

where  $\Omega_G$  incorporates the condition  $\rho_1[\mathbf{H}_T(\mathbf{s}_G)] < 1; \ \Omega_G \subseteq \Omega$ 

#### Generational spreading speed



# Generational spreading speed

• We can also show that the following holds:

$$c_G^* < 0 \iff c^* < 0,$$
  

$$c_G^* = 0 \iff c^* = 0, \text{ or}$$
  

$$c_G^* > 0 \iff c^* > 0.$$

 $\rightarrow$  generational spreading speed,  $c_G^*$ , carries information about  $c^*$  comparable to that which  $R_0$  carries about  $\lambda$ .

# Population-change statistics

	annual	generational
demographic	$\lambda = \rho_1[\mathbf{A}]$	$\mathbf{R}_0 = \rho_1[\mathbf{Q}]$
spatiodemographic	$c^* = \inf_{s \in \Omega} \left[ \frac{1}{s} \ln \left( \rho_1 [\mathbf{H}(s)] \right) \right]$	$c_G^* = \inf_{s_G \in \Omega_G} \left[ \frac{1}{s_G} \ln \left( \rho_1 [\mathbf{H}_G(s_G)] \right) \right]$

• Recall the lifecycle is complex, with multiple dormant seed and rosette stages as well as adult plants



 Estimates for transition and fecundity parameters result in corresponding matrices (Werner & Caswell 1977):



Werner, P. & Caswell, H. (1977). *Ecology*, 58, 1103–1111.

- When seeds are mature, they drop a short distance from their parent plants.
- Seed dispersal can be characterised by a Laplace distribution with a mean dispersal distance of  $\alpha = 0.257$  m (Werner 1975):

$$k_{i6}(x-y) = \frac{1}{2\alpha} \exp\left(\frac{-|x-y|}{\alpha}\right)$$

• The wave-speed function can be simplified:

$$c_G(s_G) = \frac{1}{s_G} \ln[m(s_G)R_0]$$

• where  $m(s_G)=1/(1-\alpha^2 s_G^2)$  is the moment-generating function associated with seed dispersal

 We can solve for R<sub>0</sub> algebraically (Rueffler & Metz 2013) or using graph reduction (de-Camino-Beck & Lewis 2007):

$$R_{0} = \left[ \left( \frac{(\tau_{64} + \tau_{65}\tau_{54})[\tau_{41} + \tau_{42}\tau_{21} + \tau_{43}(\tau_{31} + \tau_{32}\tau_{21})]}{1 - \tau_{44}} + \tau_{65}[\tau_{51} + \tau_{53}(\tau_{31} + \tau_{32}\tau_{21})] \right) f_{16} + \left( \frac{(\tau_{64} + \tau_{65}\tau_{54})\tau_{43}}{1 - \tau_{44}} + \tau_{65}\tau_{53} \right) f_{36} + \frac{(\tau_{64} + \tau_{65}\tau_{54})}{1 - \tau_{44}} f_{46} + \tau_{65}f_{56} \right],$$

• Then the spreading speed is given by

$$c_{\rm G}^* = \min_{s_{\rm G} \in \Omega_{\rm G}} \left( \frac{1}{s_{\rm G}} \ln[m(s_{\rm G})R_0] \right)$$

Rueffler, C. & Metz, J. (2013). *J. Math. Biol.*, 66, 1099–1122. de-Camino-Beck, T. & Lewis, M. (2007). *Bull. Math. Biol.*, 69, 1341–1354.

 Although we cannot find a closed form for the generational spreading speed in this case, due to the non-normal dispersal kernel, we can use an approximation (Lutscher 2007):

$$\widetilde{c}_G^* = 2\sigma \sqrt{\frac{\ln(R_0)}{2}} + \frac{\sigma}{3} \left( \sqrt{\frac{\ln(R_0)}{2}} \right)^3 \gamma$$

where  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation and  $\gamma$  is the excess kurtosis, relative to the normal distribution, of the moment-generating function

• This gives

$$\widetilde{c}_{G}^{*} = 0.514\sqrt{\ln(R_{0})} + 0.1285\left(\sqrt{\ln(R_{0})}\right)^{3},$$

• Compare to the case of normal dispersal:

$$c_G^* = 2\sigma \sqrt{\frac{\ln(R_0)}{2}}$$

Lutscher, F. (2007). Bull. Math. Biol., 69, 1615–1630.

# Summary

- We can calculate generational wave speed, a spatiotemporal *R*<sub>0</sub>—analogue, for stage-structured populations growing and spreading in space
- This quantity completes a set of four statistics to assess the potential for population growth and spread
- Generational spreading speed can be easier to calculate and offer greater analytical insight than often-numerical calculations of annual spreading speed.
- However, we have been unable to find a simple way to connect  $c_G^*$  to c\* via the mean generation time or something similar.

$$\lambda = \rho_1[\mathbf{A}] \qquad \mathbf{R}_0 = \rho_1[\mathbf{Q}]$$
$$c^* = \inf_{s \in \Omega} \left[ \frac{1}{s} \ln(\rho_1[\mathbf{H}(s)]) \right] \qquad c^*_G = \inf_{s_G \in \Omega_G} \left[ \frac{1}{s_G} \ln(\rho_1[\mathbf{H}_G(s_G)]) \right]$$

# **Thank You**



$$\mathbf{W}_{G} \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{s}_{G} \mathbf{c}_{G}} = \mathbf{H}_{F}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) \left[ \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H}_{T}(\mathbf{s}_{G}) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{W}_{G}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{G}}^{*} = \inf_{\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{G}} \in \Omega_{\mathbf{G}}} \left( \frac{1}{\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{G}}} \ln \left[ \rho_{1} \left( \mathbf{H}_{F}(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{G}}) \left[ \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H}_{T}(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{G}}) \right]^{-1} \right) \right] \right)$$

• Teasel rosettes develop into flowering plants that drop seeds

![](_page_39_Picture_2.jpeg)