

BISC-838, Population Dynamics

January 25, 2021



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Office Location: Irrelevant

- Syllabus

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- Course format

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- Introductions

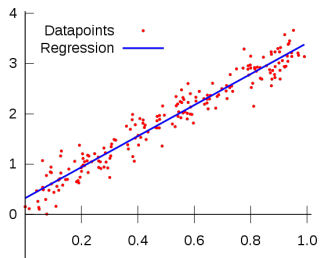
This is a class about **models**.



It can be helpful to differentiate two major classes of models:

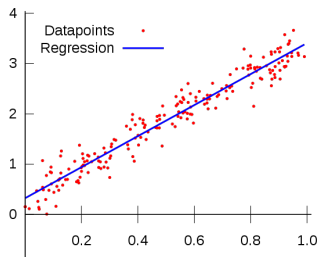
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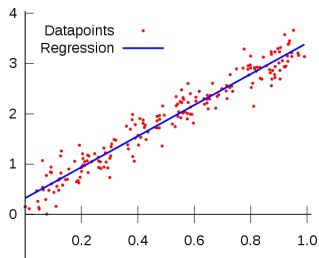
1. Statistical models



These are *data-dependent* models that require data in order to test hypotheses about the empirical world.

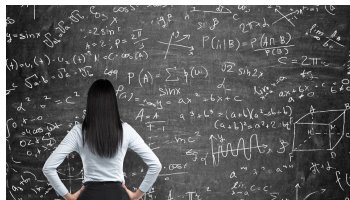
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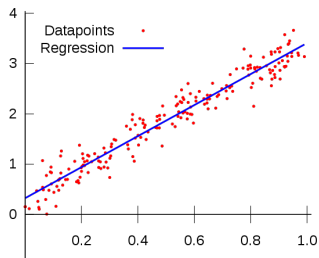
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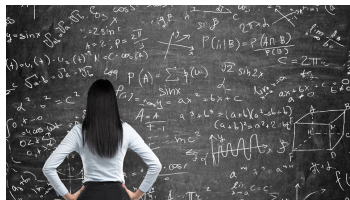
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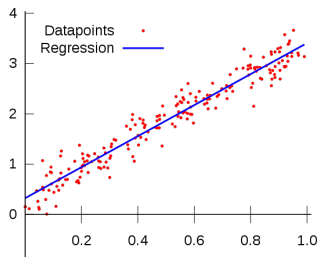
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These can intersect (e.g., you could fit statistical models to generate parameter estimates that then go into a mathematical model). We will focus on the latter here.

2. Mathematical models



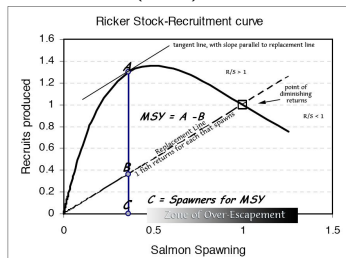
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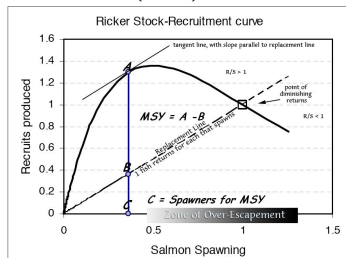
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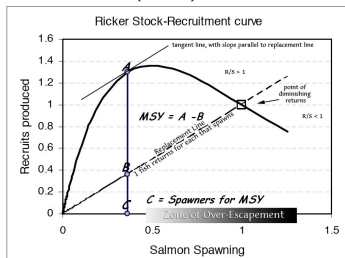


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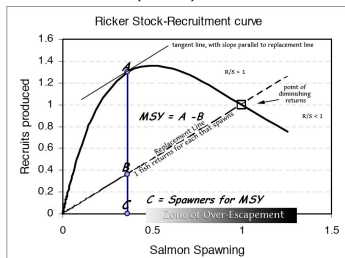
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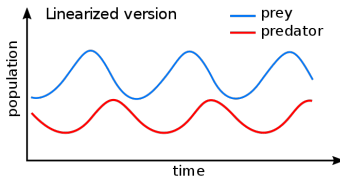


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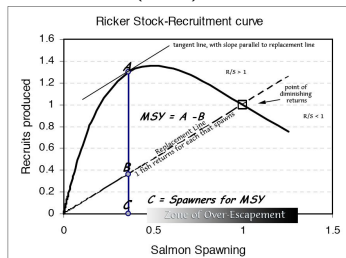
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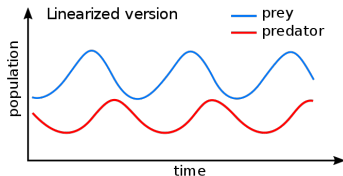


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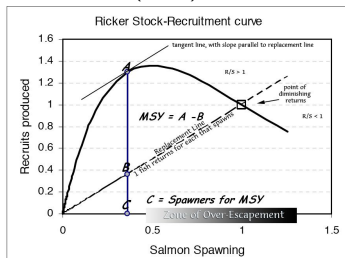


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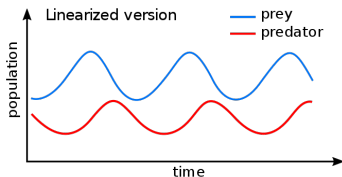


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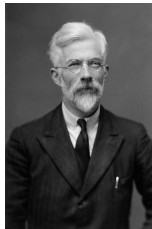
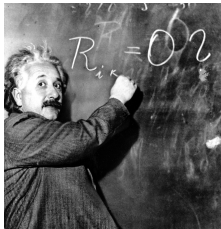
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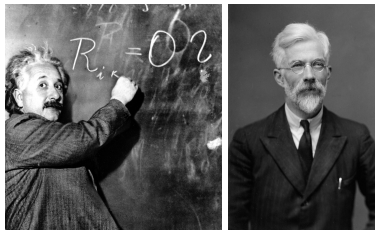


These models aim to provide general insights that improve our overall understanding about how things could/should work.

However, they lack the realism to be accurately model specific systems.



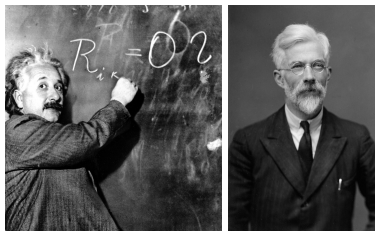
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Today, we are fortunate to live in the age of computers. It is no longer necessary to be mathematicians to analyze fairly sophisticated models.



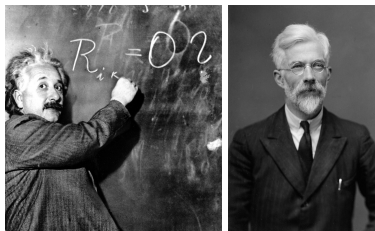


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Our goal in this class is to learn to use computer simulations to model basic population dynamics. Ultimately, in three weeks, you should be able to analyze your own models!

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A good example is a paper by Phillips:

Phillips, A. N., 1996. Reduction of HIV Concentration During Acute Infection: Independence from a Specific Immune Response. Science 271:497-499.



Excerpts from the paper:

- The model is defined by four equations describing the interrelated changes over time in the number of activated, uninfected CD4 lymphocytes (R), latently infected cells (L), actively infected cells (E), and free virions (V).

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- These equations can be explained as follows.

Activated, uninfected CD4 lymphocytes arise at a constant rate $\Gamma\tau$, where Γ is the rate at which new, uninfected CD4 lymphocytes arise and τ is the proportion that are activated and are removed by HIV-independent death at rate μ or by infection at rate βV .

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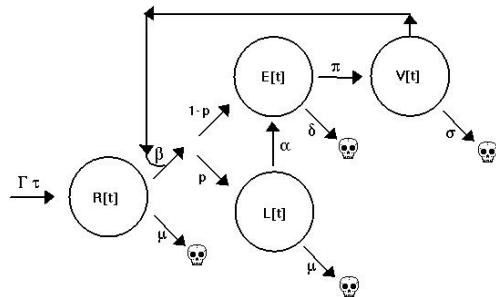
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Free virions are produced at rate π by actively infected cells and removed at rate σ .

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \pi E - \sigma V \quad (3)$$



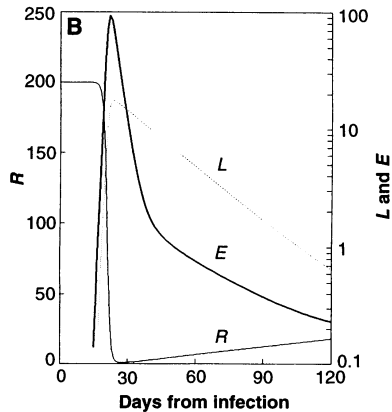
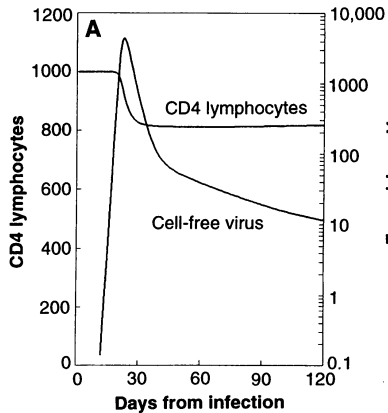
$R[t]$: Activated and uninfected CD4 lymphocytes

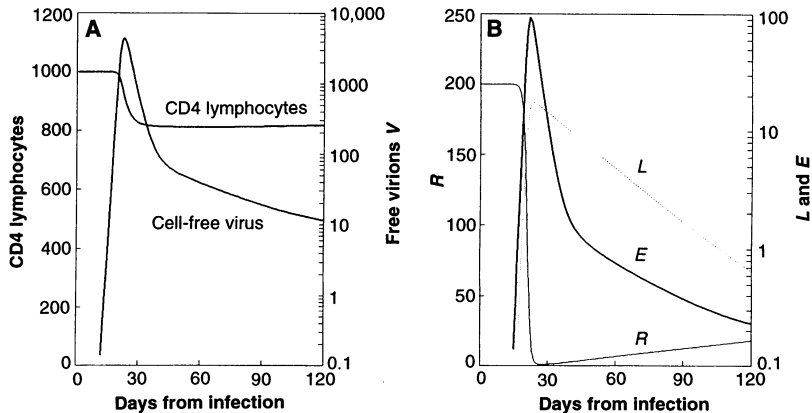
$L[t]$: Latently infected CD4 lymphocytes

$E[t]$: Actively infected CD4 lymphocytes

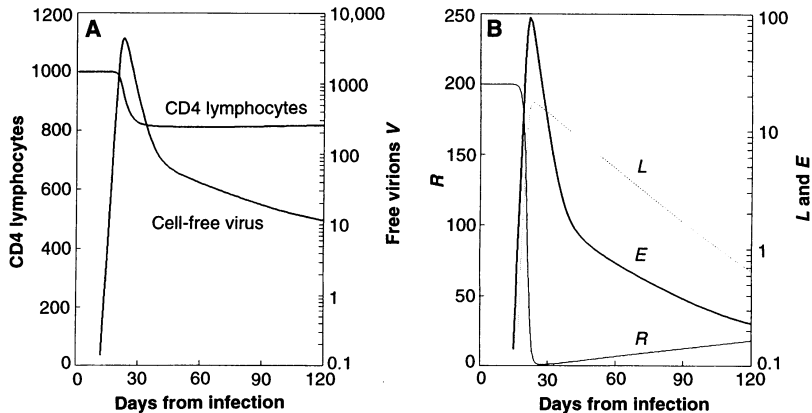
$V[t]$: Free virions

Figure: Flow diagram.





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The model presented here does not include any increases in the rate of removal of HIV after infection and shows such a decrease can still occur.

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This equation will form the basis for the first models we will investigate in this class.