

***Developing Computational Models for
Exotic Invasive Species:
tools for prevention, control
and decision making***





BEEs

The LifeWatch ERIC Biodiversity & Ecosystem eScience Conference

Seville
22-24/05/23



Threats and challenges to biodiversity and ecosystem conservation from an eScience perspective



SCORE

*Developing Computational Models for Exotic Invasive
Species: tools for prevention, control and decision making*

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

We have **PROBLEMS** threatening biodiversity conservation



Habitat loss /
transformation/
fragmentation



Climate change



Pollution

INVASIVE SPECIES



Silurus glanis



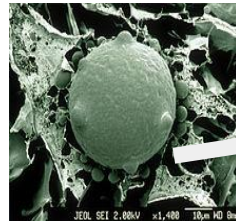
Procambarus clarkii



Azolla filiculoides



Alternanthera philoxeroides

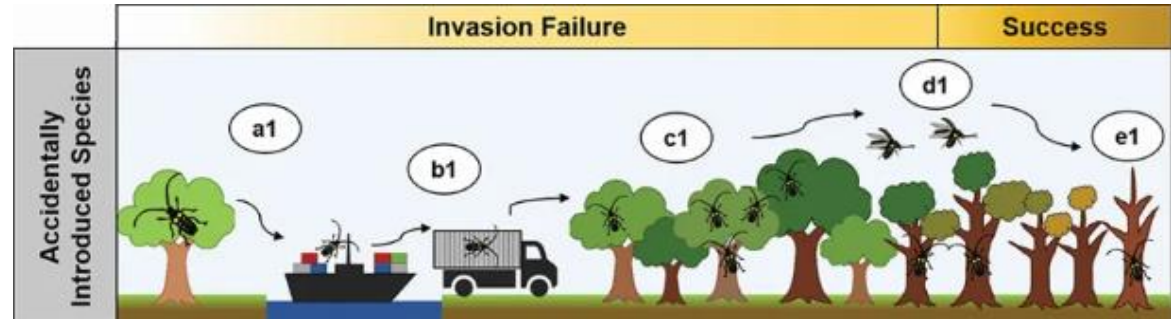


Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis

**+ MANY,
MANY,
MORE**

SOLUTIONS? NOT SO FAST

- **Understanding your system first**
- **Modelling**
 - Biodiversity
 - Biological invasions



Schulz et al 2021

WHAT IS A GOOD MODEL?

- **Explicative**

Does a model have even sense to exist if it does not explain a bit of reality?

(Gilbert, Boulter & Rutherford, 1998)

- **Predictive**

Will help us simulate scenarios, and making better choices

(Woodell & Peters, 1992; Di Castri & Hadley 1986)

- **Flexible**

Being useful in different context → best models

(Gilbert, Boulter & Rutherford, 1998)

Do “perfect” models like this exist? Maybe not...

(Gilbert, Boulter & Rutherford, 1998).

TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL MODELS

- **Explicative** ✓

Ecology focused on the processes, not numbers
(Anderegg & HilleRisLambers, 2019)

- **Predictive** ✗

More realistic or complex models requires a lot of data and computational power
(Civantos-Gómez et. al 2021)

MEMBRANE COMPUTING

Computational paradigm

- Bio-inspired in cells
- Objects, compartments, rules



Computing with membranes
Gheorghe Păun 2000

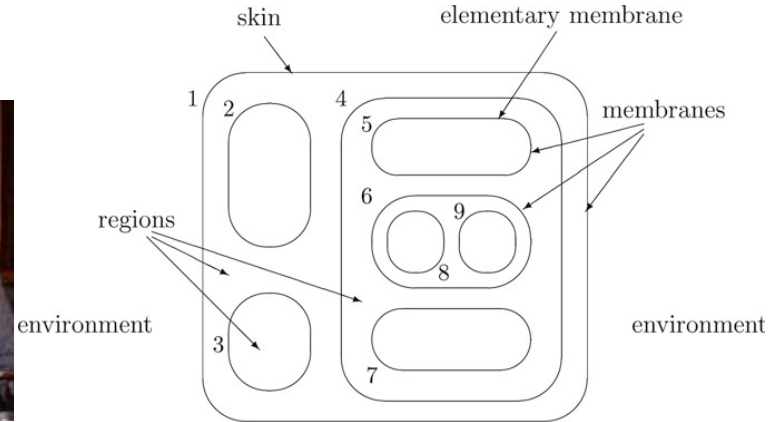
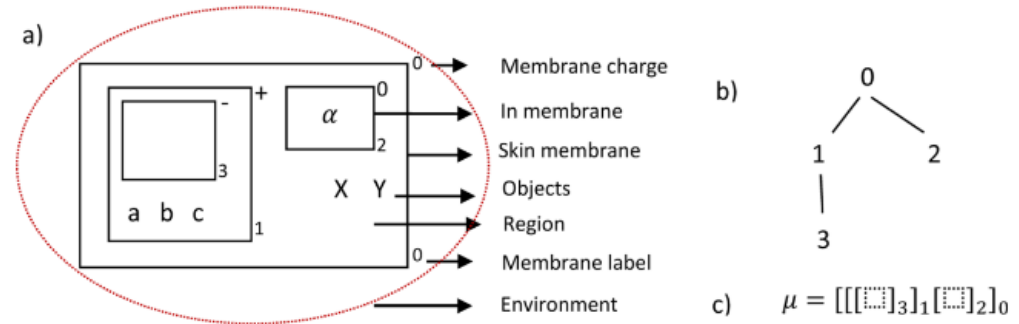


Fig. 1. A membrane structure.

POPULATION DYNAMICS P SYSTEMS (PDP)

- Computational tool based on membrane computing, used to model complex problems
- Can work in parallel
- Modular
- High computational efficiency
- Some examples (Colomer et al., 2014)

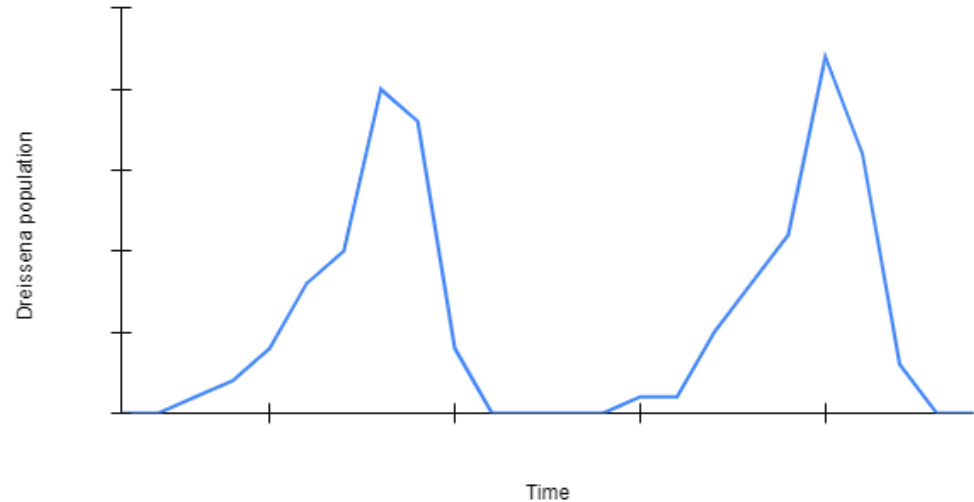


(Colomer, Margalida & Pérez-Jiménez, 2013)

OUR MODEL: EXPECTATION

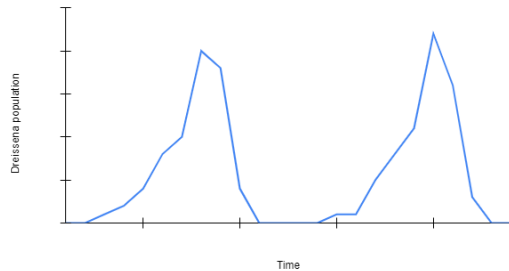


Dreissena polymorpha population dynamic



OUR MODEL: EXPECTATION

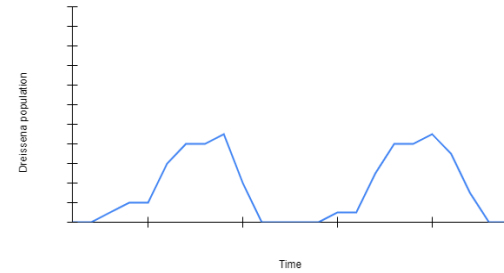
Dreissena polymorpha population dynamic



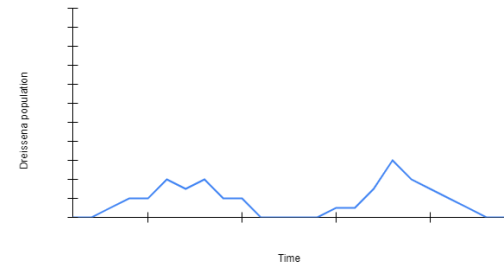
**REMOVING MANUALLY
1/2 OF ADULTS**

**INCREASING WATER
OUTPUT IN MAY**

Dreissena polymorpha population dynamic

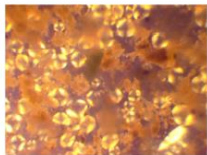


Dreissena polymorpha population dynamic



OUR MODEL: REALITY

EVOLUCION DE LA ESPECIE INVASORA "*Dreissena polymorpha*" (MEJILLON CEBRA) EN LA CUENCA DEL GUADALQUIVIR Y EN DIVERSAS INFRAESTRUCTURAS HIDRAULICAS. 2017.



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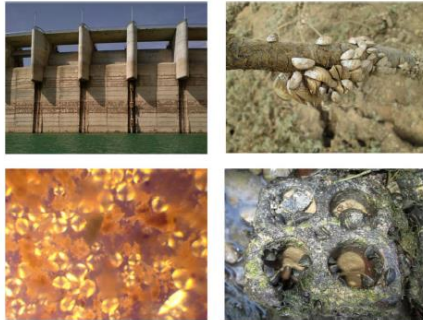
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Dams, channels, rivers, etc., sampled

- Iznájar dam
- Breña II dam
- Genil River
- Genil channel Cabra
- Bajo Guadalquivir channel
- La verduga dam
- El villar
- Bembézar channel
- Peñaflor dam
- Guadalmellato channel

**Lots of promising data,
lots of sampling points, but...**

OUR MODEL: CHALLENGES

- Amount of data (how many places/times?)
- Data quality (noise? missing info?
relevance of recorded attributes?)
- Computational cost
- Reading & validating the output

DATA NEEDED

PROBABILITIES

pro_1 : probability for an adult to die

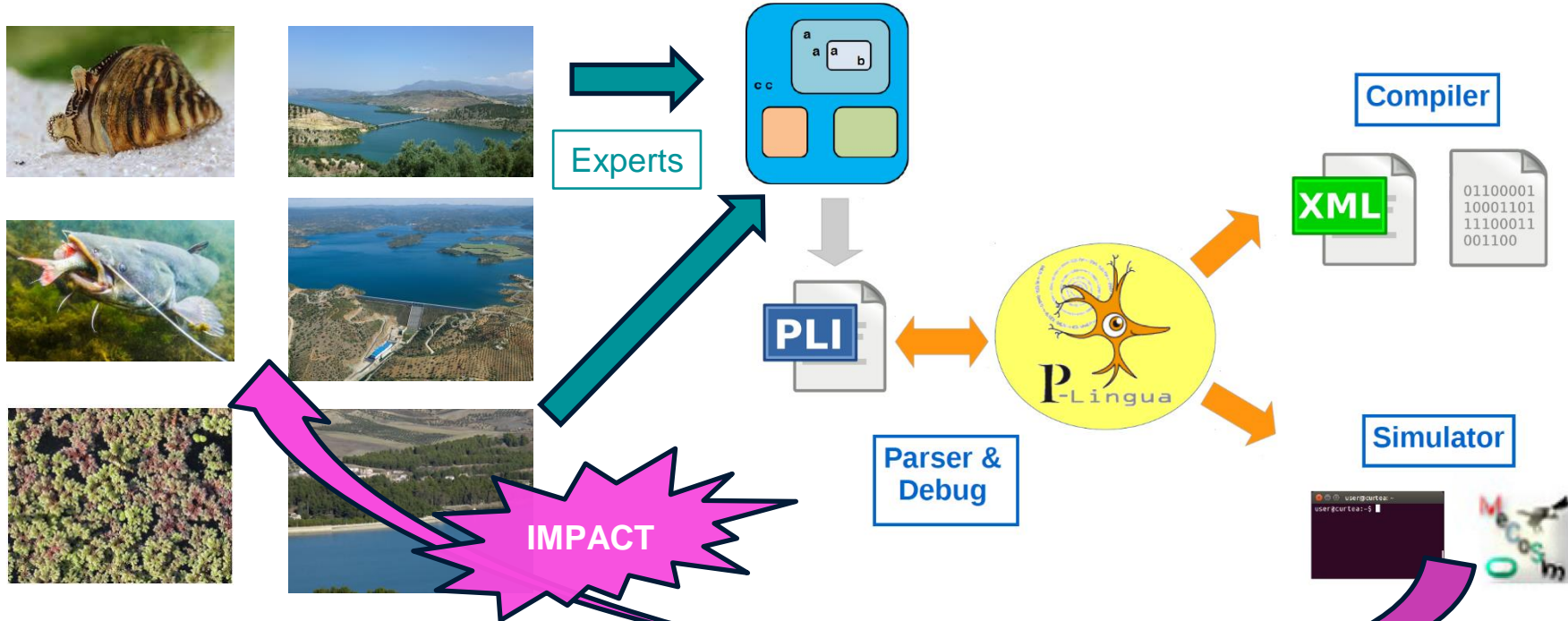
pro_2 : probability for a larvae to die

pro_{2+i} : probability for an adult to reproduce in the month i

PARAMETERS

par_i : multiplicity of larvae, adults, etc.

THIS IS THE WAY



MANY BRIDGES AHEAD

- Ecology
- Civil Engineering
- Management
- AI
- Software Engineering
- ...

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