

## B. Generalized Lotka-Volterra Model.

$$\frac{dP_i}{dt} = r_i P_i + A_{ij} P_i P_j \quad (\text{gLV})$$

- simple, generic formulation of multi-species interaction

$$\begin{cases} A_{ij} < 0 & \text{competition} \\ A_{ij} > 0 & \text{cooperation} \end{cases}$$

- wide range of dynamical behaviors
- not mechanistic

(more mechanistic-based models, e.g.,  
Consumer-Resource Model  $\rightarrow$  effective gLV  
with restricted parameter space)

- small density expansion.

(higher-order term can be important)

$\Rightarrow$  Central problem in ecology: diversity of species

### 1. Two-species Competition.

$$\dot{P}_1 = r_1 P_1 \left( 1 - P_1/\tilde{P}_{11} - P_2/\tilde{P}_{12} \right)$$

$$\dot{P}_2 = r_2 P_2 \left( 1 - P_1/\tilde{P}_{21} - P_2/\tilde{P}_{22} \right)$$

$\tilde{P}_{ij} > 0$ :  $\tilde{P}_{11}, \tilde{P}_{22}$ : carrying capacities

$\tilde{P}_{12}, \tilde{P}_{21}$ : competitive interaction

(large  $\tilde{P}_{ij}$  = small interaction)

dimensionless variables:  $u_1 = \frac{P_1}{\tilde{P}_{11}}, u_2 = \frac{P_2}{\tilde{P}_{22}}, T = \tau_1 t$

dimensionless parameters:  $r = r_2/r_1, a_{12} = \frac{\tilde{P}_{22}}{\tilde{P}_{12}}, a_{21} = \frac{\tilde{P}_{11}}{\tilde{P}_{21}}$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du_1}{dT} = u_1(1 - u_1 - a_{12}u_2) = f_1(u_1, u_2) \\ \frac{du_2}{dT} = r u_2(1 - a_{21}u_1 - u_2) = f_2(u_1, u_2) \end{cases}$$

Strength of interaction  
( $a_{12} > 0, a_{21} > 0$  for competition)

\* nullclines

$$f_1(u_1^*, u_2^*) = 0 \rightarrow u_1^* = 0 \text{ or } u_1^* + a_{12}u_2^* = 1$$

$$f_2(u_1^*, u_2^*) = 0 \rightarrow u_2^* = 0 \text{ or } a_{21}u_1^* + u_2^* = 1$$

\* non-trivial fixed pt:  $u_1^* = \frac{1-a_{12}}{1-a_{12}a_{21}}, u_2^* = \frac{1-a_{21}}{1-a_{12}a_{21}}$

- feasibility:  $u_1^* > 0, u_2^* > 0$  requires  $a_{12} < 1 + a_{21} < 1$  or  $a_{12} > 1 + a_{21} > 1$

- Stable (coexistence)

- unstable (bistability, limit cycle)

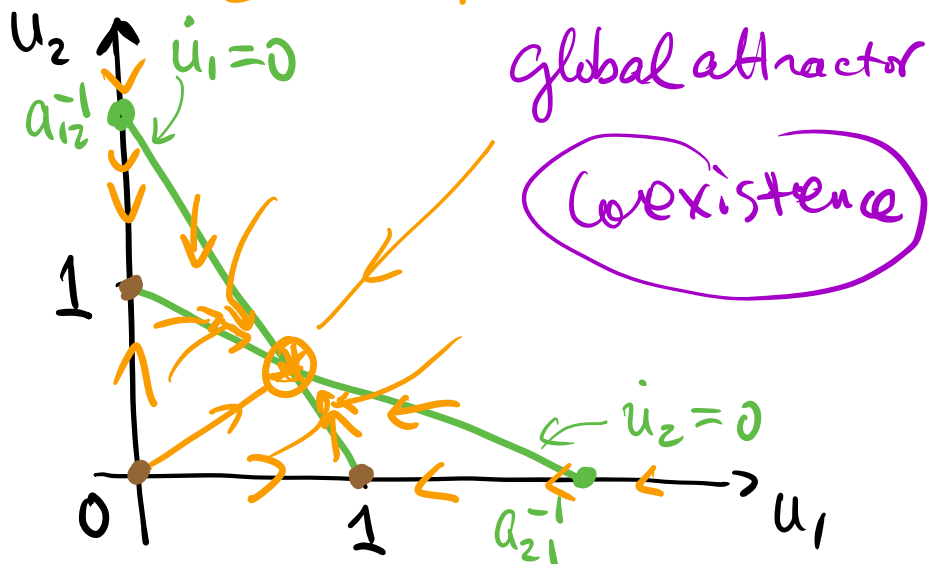
Case (i)

$$a_{12} < 1, a_{21} < 1$$

$$\text{(or } \tilde{P}_{ii} < \tilde{P}_{ij} \text{)}$$

weak interaction

①, ②



$\Rightarrow$  weak competition merely reduces the values of  $u_1^*, u_2^*$  from 1 (smaller carrying capacity)

Case (ii)

$$a_{12} > 1, a_{21} > 1$$

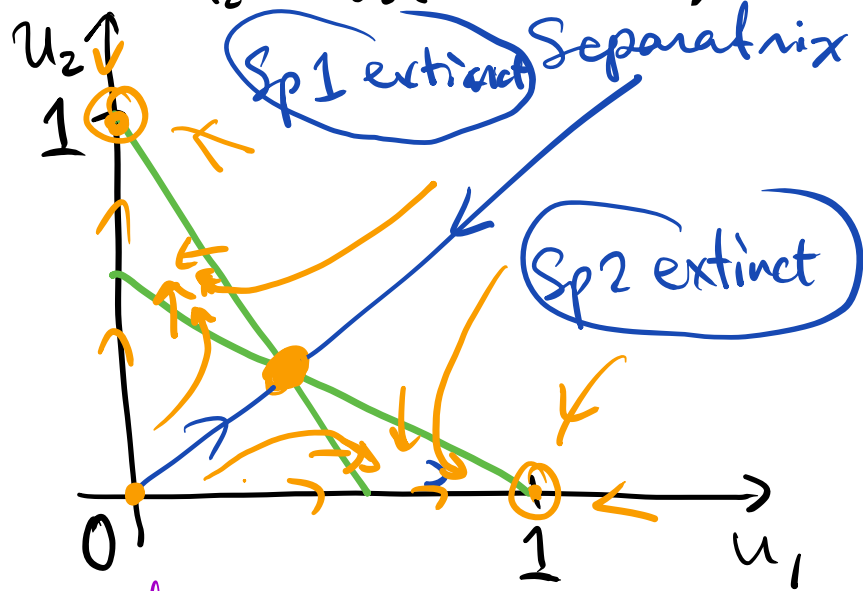
$$(\text{or } \tilde{p}_{ii} > \tilde{p}_{i \neq j})$$

Strong interaction



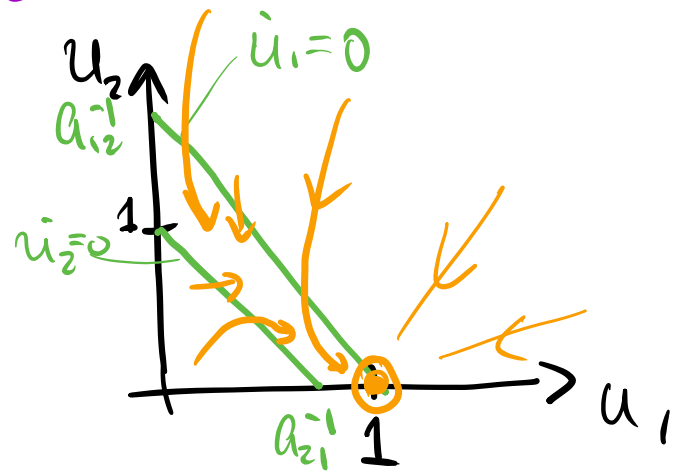
$$\dot{u}_1 = u_1(1 - u_1 - a_{12}u_2)$$

$$\dot{u}_2 = r u_2(1 - a_{21}u_1 - u_2)$$

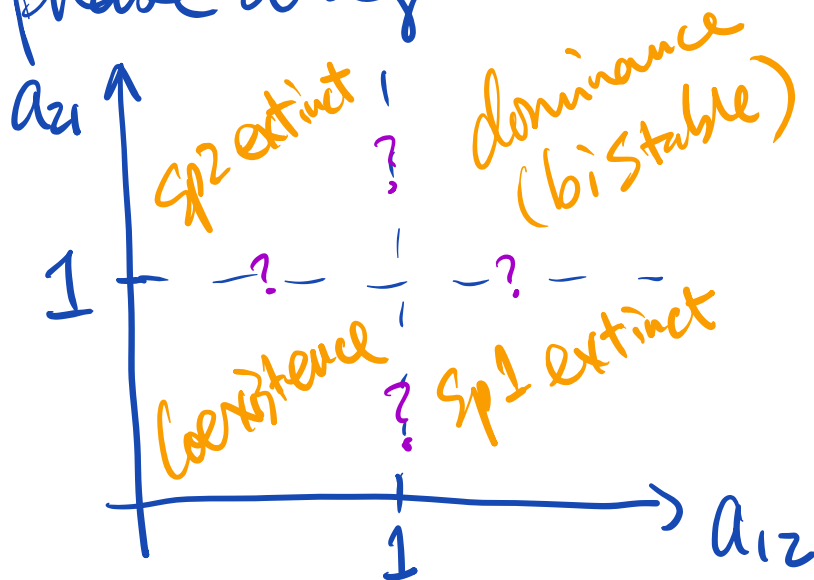


$\Rightarrow$  Strong competition drives each other to extinction; determined by init conditions; exclusive dominance (c.f. toggle switch)

Case (iii)  $a_{12} < 1, a_{21} > 1$



phase diagram



Note: phase diagram independent of rate constants  $r_1, r_2$  (no effect on stationary st.)

## 2. two "Cooperating" Species

$$\dot{P}_1 = r_1 P_1 \left( 1 - \frac{P_1}{\tilde{P}_{11}} + \frac{P_2}{\tilde{P}_{12}} \right)$$

$$\dot{P}_2 = r_2 P_2 \left( 1 - \frac{P_1}{\tilde{P}_{21}} + \frac{P_2}{\tilde{P}_{22}} \right)$$

dimensionless:  $u_1 = \frac{P_1}{\tilde{P}_{11}}, u_2 = \frac{P_2}{\tilde{P}_{22}} \quad \tau = r_1 t$   
 $r = r_2/r_1, \quad b_{12} = \frac{\tilde{P}_{22}}{\tilde{P}_{12}}, \quad b_{21} = \frac{\tilde{P}_{11}}{\tilde{P}_{21}}$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du_1}{d\tau} = u_1 (1 - u_1 + b_{12} u_2) = f_1(u_1, u_2) \\ \frac{du_2}{d\tau} = r u_2 (1 - u_2 + b_{21} u_1) = f_2(u_1, u_2) \end{cases}$$

\* nullclines:  $u_1^* = 0$  or  $u_1 - b_{12} u_2 = 1$   
 $u_2^* = 0$  or  $u_2 - b_{21} u_1 = 1$

\* nontrivial fixed point:

$$u_1^* = \frac{1+b_{12}}{1-b_{12}b_{21}} \quad u_2^* = \frac{1+b_{21}}{1-b_{12}b_{21}}$$

Case i)  $b_{12} \cdot b_{21} < 1$

$$\text{or } \tilde{P}_{12} \tilde{P}_{21} < \tilde{P}_{11} \tilde{P}_{22}$$

(weak coop.)

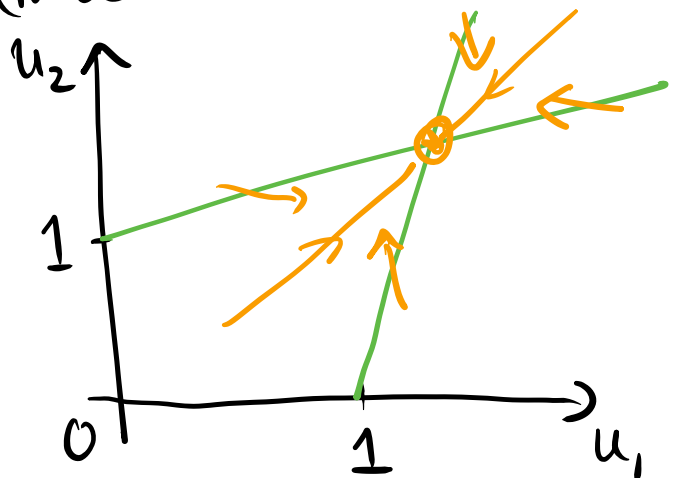
$\Rightarrow$  weak cooperativity

Moderately increase

Carrying capacity ( $u_1^*, u_2^* > 1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} u_2 = 0 & \quad u_2^* = 1 + b_{21} u_1^* \\ u_1 = 0 & \quad u_2^* = \frac{1}{b_{12}} (u_1^* - 1) \end{aligned}$$

(nullclines cross since  $b_{21} < \frac{1}{b_{12}}$ )

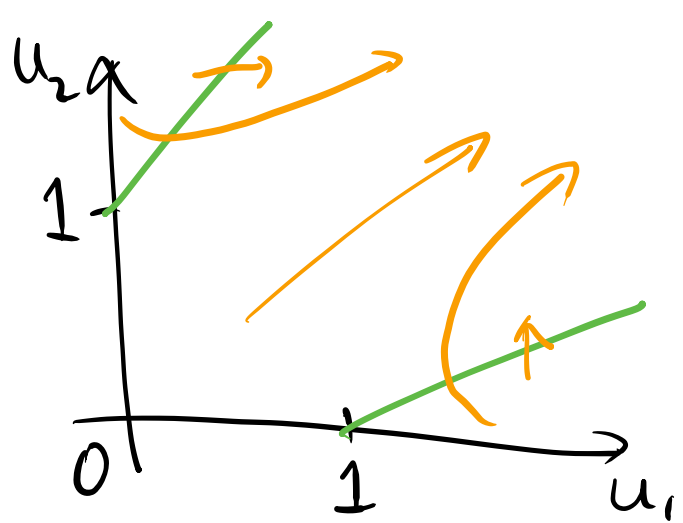


Case ii)  $b_{12} \cdot b_{21} > 1$

$$\text{or } \tilde{P}_{12}^{-1} \tilde{P}_{21}^{-1} > \tilde{P}_{11}^{-1} \tilde{P}_{22}^{-1}$$

(Strong cooperativity)

$\Rightarrow$  population "blow up"



\* Look at dynamics of

freq  $p \equiv \frac{u_1}{u_1 + u_2}$  and total pop  $\bar{u} = u_1 + u_2$

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = \frac{1}{u_1 + u_2} \frac{du_1}{dt} - \frac{u_1}{(u_1 + u_2)^2} \left( \frac{du_1}{dt} + \frac{du_2}{dt} \right) = \frac{u_2 \cdot u_1}{(u_1 + u_2)^2} \left[ \frac{\dot{u}_1}{u_1} - \frac{\dot{u}_2}{u_2} \right]$$

$$= p(1-p) \left[ (1-r) + \bar{u}(r+b_{12}) - (1+rb_{21} + r+b_{12}) p \bar{u} \right]$$

$$\bar{u} \gg 1 \Rightarrow \bar{u} p(1-p) \left[ (r+b_{12}) - (1+rb_{21} + r+b_{12}) p \right] \quad (\text{neg. freq. depd.})$$

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = 0 \rightarrow p^* = \frac{r+b_{12}}{1+rb_{21} + r+b_{12}} < 1 \quad \text{fixed freq.}$$

dynamics for  $\bar{u}$ : use  $u_1 = p^* \bar{u}$ ,  $u_2 = (1-p^*) \bar{u}$

$$\begin{aligned} p^* \frac{d\bar{u}}{dt} &= p^* \bar{u} \left( 1 - p^* \bar{u} + b_{12} (1-p^*) \bar{u} \right) \\ &= \bar{u} \left( 1 + \bar{u} \frac{r(b_{12} \cdot b_{21} - 1)}{1+rb_{21} + r+b_{12}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sim O(\bar{u}^2 r) \text{ if } b_{12} \cdot b_{21} > 1.$$

$\rightarrow$  blows up in finite time (need higher order terms)

$\rightarrow$  generic problem for GLV description of symbiosis

### 3. algebraic analysis of stability (for arbitrary $a_{12}, a_{21}$ with $u_1^* > 0, u_2^* > 0$ )

to restore symmetry

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = r_1 u_1 (1 - u_1 - a_{12} u_2) = f_1(u_1, u_2)$$

$$\frac{du_2}{dt} = r_2 u_2 (1 - u_2 - a_{21} u_1) = f_2(u_1, u_2)$$

nontrivial fixed pt:  $f_1(u_1^*, u_2^*) = 0, f_2(u_1^*, u_2^*) = 0$

let  $u_1 = u_1^* + x$   
 $u_2 = u_2^* + y$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_2} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u_2} \end{pmatrix}}_{u_1^*, u_2^*} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

Community matrix  $M$

$$\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_1} = r_1 (1 - u_1^* - a_{12} u_2^* - u_1^*) = -r_1 u_1^*$$

$$\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_2} = -r_1 a_{12} u_1^*; \quad \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u_1} = -r_2 a_{21} u_2^*; \quad \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u_2} = -r_2 u_2^*$$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} -r_1 u_1^* & -r_1 a_{12} u_1^* \\ -r_2 a_{21} u_2^* & -r_2 u_2^* \end{pmatrix}; \quad \det(M - \lambda I) = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + (r_1 u_1^* + r_2 u_2^*) \lambda + (1 - a_{12} a_{21}) r_1 u_1^* r_2 u_2^* = 0$$

$$2\lambda = -(r_1 u_1^* + r_2 u_2^*) \pm \sqrt{\Delta}$$

$$\Delta = (r_1 u_1^* + r_2 u_2^*)^2 - 4(1 - a_{12} a_{21}) r_1 u_1^* r_2 u_2^*$$

$$= (r_1 u_1^* - r_2 u_2^*)^2 + 4 a_{12} a_{21} r_1 u_1^* r_2 u_2^*$$

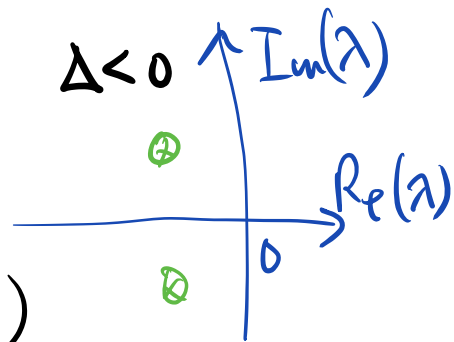
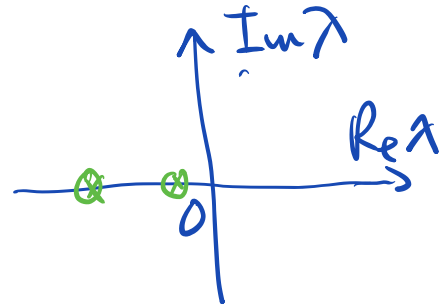
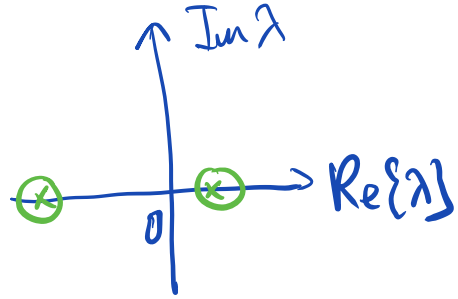
As long as  $u_1^* > 0, u_2^* > 0$ .

- $a_{12} \cdot a_{21} > 1$ :  $\Delta > (r_1 u_1^* + r_2 u_2^*)^2$   
 $\lambda_+ > 0, \lambda_- < 0$ , bistable

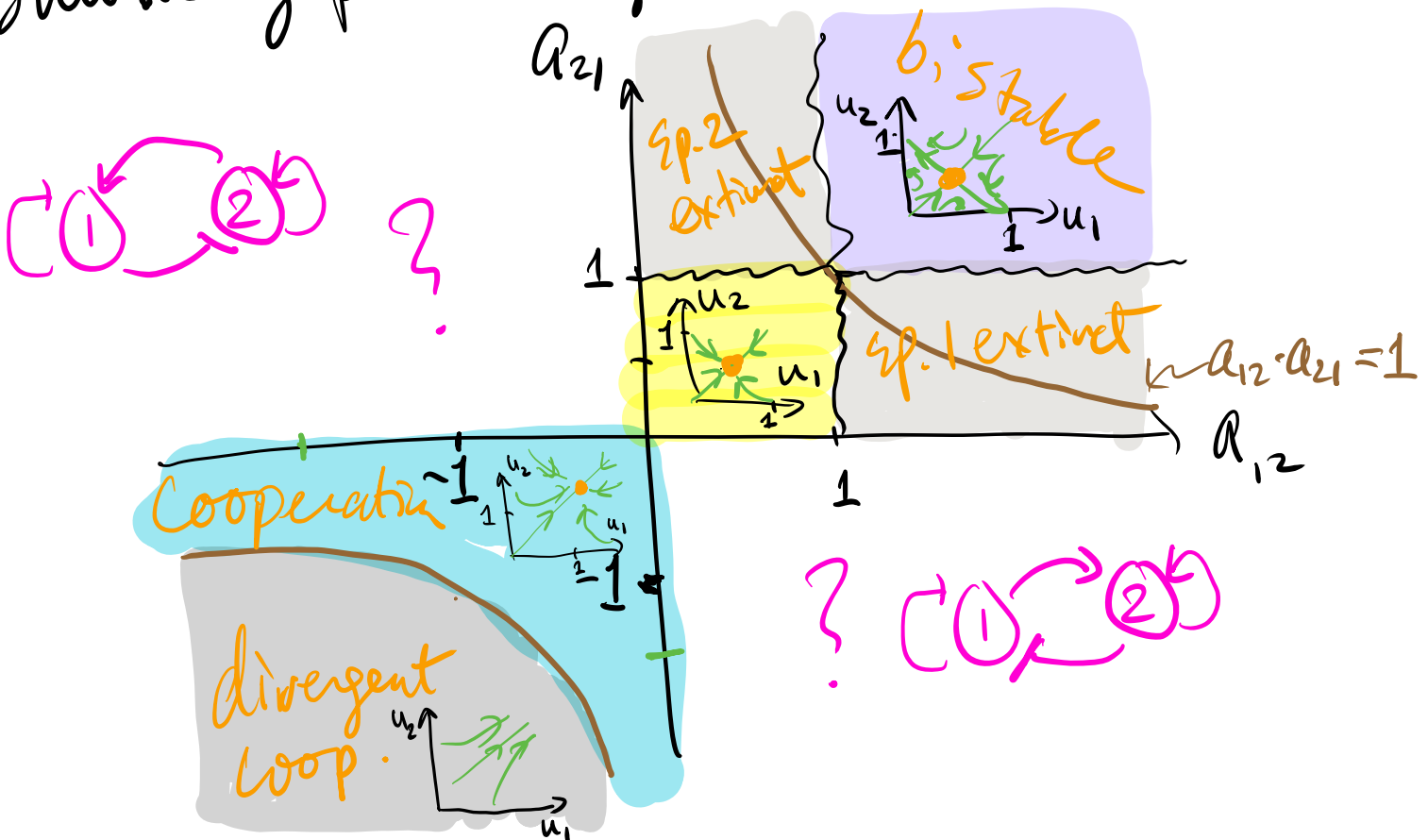
- $0 < a_{12}, a_{21} < 1$ :  
 $(r_1 u_1^* - r_2 u_2^*)^2 < \Delta < (r_1 u_1^* + r_2 u_2^*)^2$   
 $\lambda_+ < 0, \lambda_- < 0$ , Stable coexistence

- $\Delta < 0$ :  $\lambda = -(r_1 u_1^* + r_2 u_2^*) \pm i\sqrt{|\Delta|}$   
 for some  $a, a_2 < 0$  damped osc

$\Delta = 0 \rightarrow$  Condition on  $(a_{12}, a_{21}, r_1/r_2)$   
 for the onset of damped osc.



Summary phase diagram:



#### 4. Stability criterion for many-species gLV systems (R.H. May 1972)

Consider a large  $N$ -species system,  
with densities  $\{P_1(t), P_2(t), \dots, P_N(t)\} = \vec{P}(t)$

gLV model:  $\frac{dP_i}{dt} = f_i(\vec{P}(t))$

fixed point:  $\vec{P}^*$  such that  $f_i(\vec{P}^*) = 0$ .

Jacobian matrix:  $J_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(\vec{P}(t))}{\partial P_j}$

Community matrix:  $M_{ij} = \left. \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial P_j} \right|_{\vec{P}^*}$

• Stability of fixed point:

look at eigenvalues of  $M_{ij}$ :  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N\}$

(since  $M_{ij}$  are real,  $\lambda_k = a \pm ib$ )

→ fixed pt stable if  $\max_k \{ \text{Re}\{\lambda_k\} \} < 0$

• Solving for  $J_{ij}$  and  $\vec{P}^*$  complicated

→ May (1972): directly look at  $M_{ij}$



take another look at  $M_{ij}$  for  $2 \times 2$  toy system

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} -u_1^* & -a_{12}u_1^* \\ -r u_2^* a_{21} & -r u_2^* \end{bmatrix}$$

$$u_1^* = \frac{1-a_{12}}{1-a_{12}a_{21}}$$

$$u_2^* = \frac{1-a_{21}}{1-a_{12}a_{21}}$$

$$r = r_2/r_1$$

Consider  $r_1 \sim r_2$ ,  $u_1^* \sim u_2^*$   
(i.e. same order of magnitude)

then  $M$  has the form

$$M \propto \begin{bmatrix} -1 & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (a_{ij} \text{ could be } +ve \text{ or } -ve)$$

May generalize  $M_{ij}$  to:

$$M_{ii} = -1, \quad M_{i \neq j} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with prob } 1-c \\ \text{random \#} & \text{with prob } c \end{cases}$$

↑  
from dist with  
variance  $\sigma^2$

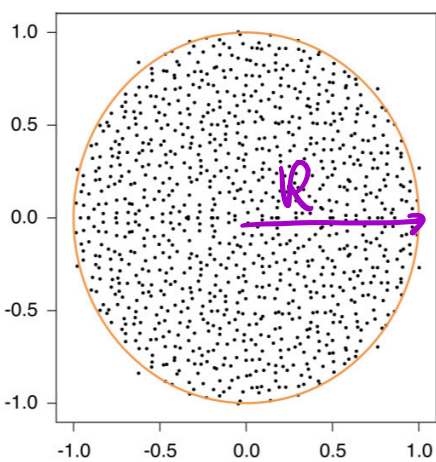
attempt to mimic the sparse and random  
nature of species-species interaction

i) invoked/guessed "circular law"

for  $N \times N$  random matrix  $A$  where each matrix element  $A_{ij}$  is real and uncorrelated, whose distribution has  $\text{mean} = 0$ ,  $\text{var} = \sigma^2$ , in the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , eigenvalue  $\lambda_k$  is populated uniformly in a disc in the complex plane,

with radius  $R = \sigma \sqrt{N}$  (proved for arb. dist. by Terence Tao, 2010)

$\text{Im}\{\lambda\}$



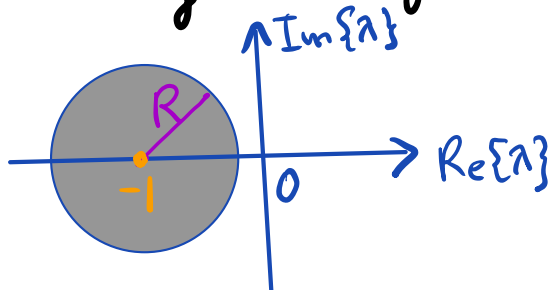
$\text{Re}\{\lambda\}$

Eigenvalues of a  $1000 \times 1000$  matrix generated with each element drawn from a Gaussian dist with  $\text{mean} = 0$  and  $\text{variance} = 1/1000$

ii) generalization:

- only a fraction  $c$  of non-zero entries  $\rightarrow R = \sigma \sqrt{c \cdot N}$

-  $M_{ij} = A_{ij} - \delta_{ij}$ ,  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda - 1$ .



$$\max \text{Re}\{\lambda\} = R - 1 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow R < 1$$

$$\text{or } \sigma \sqrt{cN} < 1$$

- Regardless of how sparse the matrix ( $c \ll 1$ ) and how weak the interaction ( $\sigma \ll 1$ ), for sufficiently large  $N$ , this system becomes unstable!
- Posed a challenging question for the coexistence of many species in interacting community.

iii) Recent progress ( Allesina & Tang, 2010)

include correlation between  $M_{ij}$  and  $M_{ji}$

$$\text{let } \langle M_{ij} M_{ji} \rangle = p \sigma^2. \quad \langle M_{ij}^2 \rangle = \sigma^2$$

$\uparrow$  +ve correlation  
 $\downarrow$  -ve anti-correlation

get "elliptical law"

$$\text{with } |\text{Re}\{\lambda\}| < (1+p) \sigma \sqrt{cN}$$

$$|\text{Im}\{\lambda\}| < (1-p) \sigma \sqrt{cN}$$

→ for anti-correlated interactions (e.g. fox/hare)

$p < 0$ , so  $1+p < 1$ ; improved stability

We will see that biologically realistic

interaction matrix (e.g. consumer-resource model)

can have much different stability criterion