Autecology, Population Ecology and Community Ecology

Autecology

Ecological life cycle of plants



Fig. 6.1. Ecological life cycle of a plant—an ecological or biological clock. Note that each stage in the life cycle is actually influenced by so many factors operating in conjunction as an environmental complex and not as shown in the diagram, that only one particular factor influences particular stage(s) of the life cycle of a plant.

Human crocodile-conflict A & N Islands

Number of SWC attacks from 2004 to 2015



Principles of Relationship between Organisms & their Environment

Everything influencing the life processes of an organism constitutes its environment.

 Environment in a habitat - <u>biotic and abiotic components</u> and its <u>combined effects</u> affects activities of the organisms.

 <u>Materials and energy</u> of the environment and <u>energy exchange process</u> between the organism and environment <u>sustains life</u>

• An organism **cannot exist in vacuum**.

• The environment <u>requirements of different organisms differ</u> from individual to individual and also <u>with age and need</u>.

 Life activities are influenced by that environmental component which occurs in <u>minimum quantity (Liebig's law of limiting factor)</u>. A minimum quantity of every essential element is necessary for the growth of an organism. The growth of an organism is limited by whatever essential element is in short supply, regardless of whether the total amount required is large or small.

 Life activities of an organism are influenced by the minimum or maximum quantity of the environmental component or factor, as for example, nutrients, light, temperature, moisture. Based on this principle Shelford founded the law of tolerance.



- <u>Tolerance limits</u> of an individual for different environmental factors may be different.
- An organism may show <u>different tolerance limit for a</u> <u>particular environmental factor in different habitats and at</u> <u>different age</u> and stage of life history. (Law of optimum)
- Organisms having wide tolerance limits for many environmental factors are widely distributed. Eg. Crow, Cockroach)
- An <u>organism is a product of nature (genetic set-up)</u> & nurture (environmental upbringing). The inherited qualities are unfolded in proper environment.



13. Organisms <u>react with the external stimuli</u> caused by the environmental changes. The reactions may be exhibited by movements <u>(migration) or adaptational</u> <u>changes</u> in the body or physiological activities. All such adaptations have survival value.

14. Widely distributed species are adapted to various habitat conditions by evolving <u>ecotypes.</u>

15. Every habitat has potential to support a certain number of organisms. This is known as <u>carrying</u> <u>capacity</u> of the habitat. Knowledge of carrying capacity is essential for proper management of the habitat.

| Earthworm | Living Environment | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | |
| Compost earthworm | Live in warm and moist environment with a ready supply of fresh compost material. | | | |
| Epigeic earthworm | Live on the surface of soil in leaf litter and tend not to make burrows but live in feed on the leaf litter. | | | |
| Endogeic earthworm | Live and feed on the soil, making horizontal burrows through the soil to move around and to feed and they will reuse these burrows to certain extent. | | | |
| Anecic earthworm | They make permanent vertical burrows in soil, feeding on leaves on the soil surface that they drag into the burrows. | | | |

Farth Marma Faatur

The World's Most Incredible Bird Migrations

Longest annual migration distances recorded for bird species Arctic Tern 96,000/60,000 km/m Sooty Shearwater 64.000/40.000 Short-tailed Shearwater 43,000/27,000 Northern Wheater 30.000/18.000 Pectoral Sandpiper 30 000/18 000 **Pied Wheater** 18,000/11,000 Adélie Penguin 18.000/11.000 * The selected data is based on several sources and could evolve based on new scientific discoveries.

Sources: Birdlife.org, Worldatlas.com, Newcastle University, Statista research

statista 🖍

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- Energy flow from the sun to the plant to the other organisms and then to the space is always unidirectional. Niche place vital role in organism survival
- Energy and space relationships of the organisms cause niche differentiation within the habitat which brings about ecological stability in the community life. In any habitat a community is born, it grows with passage of time and through succession it is stabilized to form <u>a climax community.</u>

Energy flows through trophic levels in ecosystems





Functional address of the organism in a system w.r.t. to specific parameters.

Or the profession of an organism in the system (activity or parameter)

NICHE WIDTH

High N.W : species is generalist, can survive overlapping of species - with limited resources, the competition will set.

- Broad Niches less species but more numbers
- Narrow Niches more species & less abundance if resources are constant

An organism's habitat is its "address" while its niche is its "occupation"





Fig. 7-15, p. 135

Population ecology

 Population ecology is the study of populations in relation to environment, including environmental influences on <u>density and</u> <u>distribution, age structure, and population size</u>.

• A population is a group of individuals of a single species living in the same general area

- **Population**
 - Ecological
 - Group of organisms or individuals of the same species occupying a particular space at a particular time
- Mono specific (individual of same sp.)
 - no. of animals of a species inhabiting a common geographic area

- Poly specific (individual of several sp.)
 - an assemblage or collective group of organism (plant or animal) of several closely related sp. occupying a definite area



BIOLOGICAL ATTRIBUTES/ CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION STRUCTURE (COMPONENTS)

Density: the size of a population in relation to a definite unit of space is its density.

Density varies with seasons, weather conditions, and food supply.

Density is <u>determined by energy flow, resources availability and utilization,</u>
 <u>physiological stress, dispersal and productivity of a population</u>

No. of animals/ unit area

- <u>Crude density</u>: no. Of individual/ unit of total area
- <u>Ecological density</u>: no...../ unit of area it actually occupies
- <u>Density is the result of an interplay</u> between <u>processes that add</u> individuals to a population <u>and</u> those that <u>remove individuals</u>

Dispersion

 <u>Dispersion</u> is <u>the pattern of spacing</u> among individuals within the boundaries of the population

Spatial Distribution

- Pattern of dispersion <u>results from responses by plants and animals to</u> <u>habitat differences, daily and seasonal weather and environmental</u> <u>changes,</u> reproductive pattern and social behaviour.
- <u>Temporal dispersion</u>
 - **Daily changes in light and dark**, humidity and temperature, seasons, lunar cycle and tidal cycles.
 - Seasonal changes: migration of birds, blooming of wild flowers
- <u>Causes</u>: Insufficient resources, deteriorating habitats, alleviation of inbreeding.
- Benefits: Improve potential fitness, colonization of new area, expansion of species range, spread of genes.
- **<u>Types</u>**: Emigration /: one way movement, out of a habitat.
 - Immigration: one way movement, into another habitat.
 - Migration: dispersal with a return to the place of origin.



Patterns of Dispersion

- Environmental and social factors influence <u>spacing</u> of individuals in a population
- In a <u>clumped</u> dispersion, <u>individuals aggregate</u> in patches
- A clumped dispersion may be <u>influenced by</u> resource availability and behavior



(c) <u>Random</u>. Dandelions grow from <u>windblown</u> seeds that <u>land at random</u> and later <u>germinate</u>.



Clumped. For many animals, such as these wolves, <u>living in</u> <u>groups increases the effectiveness of hunting, spreads the</u> <u>work of protecting and caring for young</u>, and helps exclude other individuals from their territory.



(b) Uniform. Birds nesting on small islands, such as these king penguins on South Georgia Island in the South Atlantic Ocean, often exhibit <u>uniform spacing</u>, maintained by aggressive interactions between neighbors.

2. SEX RATIO

- It is expressed by convention as males per 100 females
- computing sex ratio :

raw data 3males, 7 females 3 = x7 100 x = 43 sex ratio - 43:100

3. AGE RATIO'S

- <u>Age determination</u> in the field
 - Age of wild animals is determined <u>by body size, weight, hair, feather colour</u> and texture, stage of feather, moult, changes in anatomical structures, <u>teeth, horns</u>, <u>antlers, eye lenses, ear lobes</u>

• Age classification

- Young, sub-adult, adult
- Pre-reproductive; Reproductive and post-reproductive stages

• Age ratio suggests pop' productivity, vulnerability and hunting pressure

-Three types of indication on pop' growth age pyramid







- NARROW BASE AND TAPERS LESS SHARPLY

C. DECLINING POP'





- The production of new individuals in a population
- Individuals produced per unit of time (natality rate) or per unit time per breeding individual (specific natality rate) in a pop'
- NET REPRODUCTION RATE:
- No of young surviving till some pre-specified age
- It is the total young born minus the death in the 1st year of life (or some specified time)

NATALITY IS DEPENDENT ON

1.Clutch /litter size

- a) Genetic build up of the species litter size
 - -Sambar-1; Chital-1-3; Tiger-1- 4; Elephant-1-2
- 2. Parental care
- 3. Length of breeding season and no. Of clutches or litter/year
- 4. Breeding age
- 5. Sex ratio and mating habit
- 6. Density
- 7. Potential natality

Allocation of energy to

- egg production
- Avoidance of Predators
- Competitive ability (Cody 1966)

Temperate areas → Climatic catastrophes → Pop below carrying capacity

Tropical areas → stable climates → Pop near carrying capacity → more energy in competition

MORTALITY

No of individuals which die per unit of time

Potential or minimum mortality:

- no. of deaths occurring per unit of time under ideal natural condition

<u>Realized mortality</u> :

actual no of individuals which die per unit of time

DECIMATING FACTORS

A) <u>Predation</u>

- killing of any animal by other animal
- natural balance in ecosystem
- generalized predators
 - leopard, tiger, lion, owl
- specialized predators

cheetah, clouded leopard, fishing eagles
sp. dependent on the abundance of special prey
Predation success rate - 7% in wolves, Tiger - one in 20 attempts

PREDATION DEPENDS ON

- a. Species specific predatory behaviour
- **b.** Prey species richness
- c. Prey species biomass
- d. Cover
- e. Density and quality of alternate food to predator
- f. Prey defenses: protective colouration, alertness swiftness, high reproductive rates
- g. Predators ability :speed, strength in claws and teeth, smell, vision

PREY - PREDATOR RELATIONSHIP

Prey pop' high - predators increase; Increased predation - prey pop' falls

Low prey pop' - predators decrease

- Social intolerance in predators when pop' high

Energy and time budgeting is essential for a predator to survive depredation

- Mutual depredation а.
 - predators fight and kill each other
- Chance depredation b.
 - sudden encounter



Time

Predation as a density dependent factor. Predation regulates population size of prey, and prey size regulates population size of predator.



B) Disease and Parasites

- Small population : often more vulnerable (inbreeding depression)
- Domestic or wild animals may serve as reservoirs or vectors

Rinderpest - Mudumalai Gaur pop. almost eliminated – 1968

Periyar - 1974

Frequency of disease is density dependent

Demography

- <u>Demography</u> is the study of the <u>vital statistics</u> of a population and how they change over time
- <u>Death rates and birth rates</u> are of particular interest to demographers
- A <u>life table is an age-specific summary</u> of the <u>survival pattern of a population</u>
- It is best made by following the fate of a cohort
- cohort is a group of subjects who have shared a particular event together during a particular time span (e.g., people born in India between 1918 and 1939)
- The life table of Belding's ground squirrels reveals many things about this population

 Table 52.1
 Life Table for Belding's Ground Squirrels (Spermophilus beldingi) at Tioga Pass, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California*

| FEMALES | | | | | MALES | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Age (years) | Number Alive at Start of Year | Proportion Alive at Start of Year | Number of Deaths During Year | Death Rate [†] | Average Additional Life Expectancy (years) | Number Alive at Start of Year | Proportion Alive at Start of Year | Number of Deaths During Year | Death Rate⁺ | Average Additional Life Expectancy (years) |
| 0-1 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-5 5-6 6-7 7-8 8-9 9-10 | 337 252** 127 67 35 19 9 5 4 1 | 1.000 0.386 0.197 0.106 0.054 0.029 0.014 0.008 0.006 0.002 | 207 125 60 32 16 10 4 1 3 1 | 0.61 0.50 0.47 0.48 0.46 0.53 0.44 0.20 0.75 1.00 | $ \begin{array}{r} 1.33 \\ 1.56 \\ 1.60 \\ 1.59 \\ 1.59 \\ 1.50 \\ 1.61 \\ 1.50 \\ 0.75 \\ 0.50 \\ \end{array} $ | 349 248 ⁺⁺ 108 34 11 2 0 | 1.000 0.350 0.152 0.048 0.015 0.003 | 227 140 74 23 9 0 | 0.65 0.56 0.69 0.68 0.82 1.00 | 1.07 1.12 0.93 0.89 0.68 0.50 |

*Males and females have different mortality schedules, so they are tallied separately.

[†]The death rate is the proportion of individuals dying in the specific time interval.

^{††}Includes 122 females and 126 males first captured as one-year-olds and therefore not included in the count of squirrels age 0–1.

Source: Data from P. W. Sherman and M. L. Morton, "Demography of Belding's Ground Squirrel," Ecology 65(1984): 1617–1628.



Survivorship Curves

- A <u>survivorship curve</u> is a graphic way of <u>representing the data in a</u> <u>life table</u>
- The survivorship curve for Belding's ground squirrels shows a relatively constant death rate
- Survivorship curves can be classified into three general types: Type I, Type II, and Type III



 A <u>reproductive table</u>, or fertility schedule, is an <u>age-specific summary of the reproductive</u> <u>rates in a population</u>. It describes <u>reproductive patterns of a population</u>

| Ground Squirrels at Tioga Pass | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Age (years) | Proportion of Females Weaning a Litter | Mean Size of Litters (Males + Females) | Mean Number of Females in a Litter | Average Number of Female Offspring* | | |
| 0-1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| 1–2 | 0.65 | 3.30 | 1.65 | 1.07 | | |
| 2–3 | 0.92 | 4.05 | 2.03 | 1.87 | | |
| 3-4 | 0.90 | <mark>4</mark> .90 | 2.45 | 2.21 | | |
| 4–5 | 0.95 | 5.45 | 2.73 | 2.59 | | |
| 5-6 | 1.00 | 4.15 | 2.08 | 2.08 | | |
| 6-7 | 1.00 | 3.40 | 1.70 | 1.70 | | |
| 7–8 | 1.00 | 3.85 | 1.93 | 1.93 | | |
| 8-9 | 1.00 | 3.85 | 1.93 | 1.93 | | |
| 9–10 | 1.00 | 3.15 | 1.58 | 1.58 | | |
| | | | | | | |

 Table 52.2
 Reproductive Table for Belding's

*The average number of female offspring is the proportion weaning a litter multiplied by the mean number of females in a litter.

Data from P. W. Sherman and M. L. Morton, "Demography of Belding's Ground Squirrel," *Ecology* 65 (1984): 1617–1628.

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Most weedy plants, such as this dandelion, grow quickly and <u>produce a large number</u> of seeds, ensuring that at least some will grow into plants and eventually produce seeds themselves.



(b) Some plants, such as this coconut palm, produce a moderate number of very large seeds. The <u>large</u> <u>endosperm provides nutrients for the embryo, an</u> <u>adaptation that helps ensure the success of a</u> relatively large fraction of offspring.

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The <u>exponential model</u> describes population growth in an idealized, unlimited environment

- It is useful to study population growth in an <u>idealized</u> <u>situation</u>
- Idealized situations help us understand the capacity of species to increase and the conditions that may facilitate this growth
- In animals, parental care of smaller broods may facilitate survival of offspring

- If immigration and emigration are ignored, a population's growth rate (per capita increase) equals birth rate minus death rate
- <u>Zero population growth</u> occurs when the <u>birth rate equals the death</u> <u>rate</u>
- Most ecologists use <u>differential calculus</u> to express population growth as growth rate at a particular instant in time:

 $\frac{dN}{dt} = rN$ N is the number of individuals, Tt is time

Exponential Growth

- <u>Exponential population growth is population increase</u> under <u>idealized conditions</u>
- Under these conditions, the rate of <u>reproduction is at its</u> <u>maximum</u>, called the <u>intrinsic rate of increase</u>

 $\frac{dN}{dt} = r_{max} N K_{ti}^{r_n}$

r_{max} is the maximum rate of growth, N is the number of individuals, K is the carrying capacity t is time

 Exponential population growth results in a <u>J-shaped</u> curve



The logistic growth model includes the concept of carrying capacity

- Exponential growth cannot be sustained for long in any population
- A more realistic population model limits growth by incorporating carrying capacity
- <u>Carrying capacity (K) is the maximum</u> population size the environment can <u>support</u>
- In the logistic population growth model, <u>the</u> per capita rate of increase declines as carrying capacity is reached
- We construct the <u>logistic model by starting</u> with the exponential model and adding an expression that reduces per capita rate of increase as *N* increases

K comes from the German word for capacity is **Kapazität**



• The logistic growth equation includes *K*, the carrying capacity



r_{max} is the maximum rate of growth,N is the number of individuals,K is the carrying capacityt is time

 The logistic model of population growth produces a sigmoid <u>(S-shaped) curve</u>



| Table 52.3A Hypothetical Example of Logistic Population Growth, Where $K = 1,000$ and $r_{max} = 0.05$ per Individual per Year | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Popu- lation Size: N | Intrinsic Rate of Increase: | $\left(\frac{K-N}{K}\right)$ | Per Capita Growth Rate: $r_{max}\left(\frac{K-N}{K}\right)$ | Population Growth Rate:* $r_{max}N\left(\frac{K-N}{K}\right)$ | | |
| 20 | 0.05 | 0.00 | 0.040 | | | |
| 20 | 0.05 | 0.98 | 0.049 | ± 1 | | |
| 100 | 0.05 | 0.90 | 0.045 | +5 | | |
| 250 | 0.05 | 0.75 | 0.038 | +9 | | |
| 500 | 0.05 | 0.50 | 0.025 | +13 | | |
| 750 | 0.05 | 0.25 | 0.013 | +9 | | |
| 1,000 | 0.05 | 0.00 | 0.000 | 0 | | |

*Rounded to the nearest whole number.

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Factors Limiting Populations
 Density-Dependent factors intensify as the size of a population increases.

- Examples: Suitable nesting sites for cliff nesting birds such as gannets, competition for light and water among prairie grasses.
- Density-Independent factors are independent of population size.
- Examples: Winter temperatures greatly affect the populations of yellowjackets, sawflies and *Melanopus* grasshoppers.

Population Change and Population Density

- In density-independent populations, birth rate and death rate do not change with population density
- <u>Density-dependent birth and death rates</u> are an example of **negative feedback that regulates population growth**
- They are affected by many factors, such as <u>competition for resources</u>, <u>territoriality</u>, <u>health</u>, <u>predation</u>, <u>toxic</u> <u>wastes</u>, <u>and intrinsic factors</u>
- In crowded populations, increasing population density intensifies intraspecific competition for resources
- In density-dependent populations, birth rates fall and death rates rise with population density



The Logistic Model and Life Histories

- Life history traits favored by natural selection may vary with population density and environmental conditions
- K-selection, or density-dependent selection, selects for life history traits that are sensitive to population density
- *r*-selection, or density-independent selection, selects for life history traits that maximize reproduction
- The concepts of *K*-selection and *r*-selection are somewhat controversial and have been criticized by ecologists as oversimplifications

Population Dynamics, Stability and Fluctuation

- The study of population dynamics focuses on the complex interactions between biotic and abiotic factors that cause variation in population size
- Long-term population studies have challenged the hypothesis that populations of large mammals are relatively stable over time
- Extreme fluctuations in population size are typically more common in invertebrates than in large mammals





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EVOLUTIONARY STRATEGIES

K-selected species - Reproductive Strategies

- Species high on the food chain / Few effective enemies
- **<u>Stable environments-</u>** climax vegetation
- Less energy devoted for reproduction and care of young / Usually large body size
- Can reach high levels of abundance- <u>energy devoted to intraspecific</u> <u>interactions</u>: territoriality, aggression, cannibalism, specialization
- Population live near carrying capacity(k)



r-SELECTED SPECIES - Reproductive Strategies

- Low on the food chain
- Occupy marginal or <u>early succession habitats</u> where resources are temporarily abundant
- <u>Rapid rate of reproduction</u>
- **Generalist** species
- <u>High dispersal ability</u>
- <u>Small size:</u> energy devoted to reproduction; <u>Less on intra-</u> <u>specific conflicts</u>
- Rodents, quails, flocking birds (starlings, quellas, sparrows)
- **Explosive populations**





500,000,000 8,000 200 12 2 1 a year a year a year a year a year every 5 years

Oysters are an example of a very *r*-strategy. They produce 500 million fertilized eggs per year and provide no parental care. The great apes are an example of a very *k*-strategy. They produce one infant every five or six years and provide extensive parental care.

Sources: Unabridged edition, Race Evolution, and Behavior (p 202)

Position of r and k species on the sigmoid population growth curve



r-selection

K-selection

Climate Mortality

Survivorship Population size

Intra- and interspecific competition Selection favors

Length of life Leads to Stage in succession Variable and unpredictable; uncertain Often catastrophic, nondirected, density independent Often Type III Variable in time, nonequilibrium; usually well below carrying capacity of environment; unsaturated communities or portions thereof; ecologic vacuums; recolonization each year Variable, often lax

- 1. Rapid development
- High maximal rate of increase, r_{max}
- 3. Early reproduction
- 4. Small body size
- 5. Single reproduction
- Many small offspring

Short, usually less than a year Productivity

Early

Fairly constant or predictable; more certain More directed, density dependent

Usually Types I and II Fairly constant in time, equilibrium; at or near carrying capacity of the environment; saturated communities; no recolonization necessary

Usually keen

Slower development
 Greater competitive ability

3. Delayed reproduction
4. Larger body size
5. Repeated reproduction
6. Fewer, larger progeny
Longer, usually more than a year
Efficiency
Late, climax

Community ecology

Community ecology

- Community Assemblage of <u>interacting species</u> occupying a particular position in the landscape.
- **Biotic community**-an **assemblage of plants, animals, microorganism** that live in an environment and interact with one another, forming a distinctive living system with its own composition, structure, environmental relations, development and function.
- Plant community, Animal community, Microbial community
- Community vs organism
 - Born, grow, matures, reproduces and dies

Synecology or Study of Communities

- The <u>study of the relationship of plants and animals making</u> up a natural community is termed as *community ecology or synecology*. A group of individuals of the same species is commonly known as *population*.
- **Community Composition**: The following points characterised the community:
- 1. Species diversity
- 2. Coexistence
- 3. Interdependency: Thallophytes, mosses, ferns and <u>many shade loving herbs that are</u> found on the forest floor are dependent on the forest trees because trees provide shadow and moist conditions.

4. <u>Species Dominance</u>: in the forest, tallest trees, for example, <u>influence the under-</u><u>storey plants</u> and ground vegetation not only by decreasing the intensity of light reaching the forest floor and increasing the moisture content of air but also by changing the soil structure and its chemical composition.

 5. <u>Stratification</u>: In plant community, plants form, more or less, distinct strata or layers or storeys on vertical as well as in horizontal planes. This is characteristically known as *stratification*. The individual of different layers represent different "Life forms". Each layer of community may sometimes include individuals of different morphological classes, as for example, the top layer or canopy of forest may be formed by tallest trees and lianes (woody climbers). • **6.** Succession: The sequence of communities showing a gradual change in composition is called *continuum* (Curtis 1959). As regards the composition of community, there are two opposing philosophies:



Biological structure

- Species diversity
 - Alpha diversity (Local diversity) variety of organism occupying a given place or habitat.
 - Beta diversity (Regional diversity) variety of organism occupying a number of <u>different habitat over a</u> region.
 - Gamma diversity Diversity difference between similar habitats in widely separated <u>geographic</u> regions.

Measurements of Biodiversity within Ecosystems



Interaction between species in a community

(2 species system)

| Type of Interaction | Effect on species 1 | Effect on species 2 | Definition |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Mutualism | Positive | Positive | Both species 1 and species 2 are benefitted. |
| Competition | Negative | Negative | Species 1 and species 2 have a negative effect on each other. |
| Predation or parasitism | Positive | Negative | Species 1 is benefitted and species 2 is harmed. |
| Commensalism | Positive | None | Species 1 is benefited, but species 2 is neither benefitted nor harmed. |
| Amensalism | None | Negative | Species 1 has a negative effect on species 2, but species 1 is neither affected nor benefited. |
| Neutralism | None | None | Species 1 and species 2 interact without affecting each other. |





Carrying capacity:

- Maximum capacity of habitat to support animals, without damaging future capacities
- Carrying capacity is the user specified quality biomass of a particular species or a group of species, under the influence of social and behavioural constraints, for which a particular area having user specified objectives, will supply all energetic and physiological requirement over a long but specified period



- : Species specific
- : Composite species

<u>Actual C.C.</u> - Current based on local or temporal factors

Potential C.C. - Theoretical maximum under a given set of natural conditions



TIME

Five types of population regulation in relation to the sigmoid population model.

TERRITORY AND HOME RANGE

- <u>Territory</u> relates to a space, which is <u>vigorously</u>
 <u>defended</u> by an animal
- Home range is the area where <u>animal spends</u> most of his time to secure its requirement for energy (food), shelter, water and breeding space



Marking and active protection of territory by tiger

A B F1 F2

Home ranges of two male tigers ('A' and 'B') are overlapped but territories never get overlapped. However, terrotories of female (F) get overlapped with that of a male (M). Sometimes territory of a single male is overlapped by more than one female (F1 & F2)

Territorial behavior in tiger:

Home range is a space required for regular activities of an individual e.g. prowling, foraging, water body, mating etc.

Territory is protected strictly for the requirement of basic niche like food, water and shelter. Territories are regularly **marked by urination and defecation**.

TIGER HOME RANGE (km²)

- -<u>Territorial markings</u>: to avoid intraspecific encounters as high intolerance and antagonism exists
- -Territoriality is an innate species characteristic: mostly seen in mammals, birds and fishes
- -Territories are flexible
- -Territorial advertisement : visual,
- vocalizations, olfactory, defecation

| MALE | FEMALE | LOCATION |
|----------|---------|----------|
| 60-72 | 16-20 | Chitwan |
| 90-105 | 26-39 | Chitwan |
| 30-35 | 10-20 | Kanha |
| 38-50 | 12-42 | Palamau |
| 800-1000 | 100-400 | USSR |

MONITORING OF HOME RANGE IS DONE BY

- 1. Radio tele metry
- 2. Capture mark recapture
- 3. Tracking and mapping routes followed by animal