

Evolutionary dynamics in networks

The role of indirect evolutionary effects

EEE321 – Ecological Networks

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Picture: Pedro Jordano























Disruption of an ant-plant mutualism shapes interactions between lions and their primary prey





Indirect effects that occur in an ecological time scale and through changes in the abundances of species







What mediates ecological interactions?









The outcome of interactions depend on species traits







Ecological interactions can be a source of selective pressures that drive the evolution of species traits



Reciprocal evolutionary changes between interacting species: coevolution!







What happens when we have a third interacting species?



How the structure of ecological networks shape coevolution?





What are the consequences of coevolution among three or more species?



Pairwise interactions: changes in the trait matching between two interacting partners



What are the consequences of the first coevolutionary change for a third interacting species?



Indirect evolutionary effects emerge from chains of coevolutionary changes



How coevolution operates in networks?



Species may indirectly affect each other's evolution



Chains of evolutionary effects



Chains of evolutionary effects

(Art by Aslam Narváez)



Chains of evolutionary effects

(Art by Aslam Narváez)



Do these indirect evolutionary effects matter?

Early argument – coevolution in multispecies communities is "diffuse"

The structure and dynamics of reciprocal selection can not be identified




(Art by Aslam Narváez)



Quantify indirect evolutionary effects

Indirect effects drive coevolution in mutualistic networks

Paulo R. Guimarães Jr 🖂, Mathias M. Pires, Pedro Jordano, Jordi Bascompte & John N. Thompson

<u>Nature</u> 550, 511–514 (2017) Cite this article



Coevolutionary model – two sources of selective pressures



Selection from mutualistic interactions



Selection from other sources – environmental optimum





Analytical study Numerical simulations using empirical networks (Web-of-Life)







Traits depend on a matrix



 $T = (I - Q)^{-1}$









$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & q_{12} & 0 & q_{14} \\ q_{21} & 0 & q_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & q_{32} & 0 & q_{34} \\ q_{41} & 0 & q_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$



Matrix *Q* = Direct evolutionary effects





What is the meaning of Q^2 ?





 Q^2 contains the evolutionary effects that come from pathways of length 2





 Q^2 contains the evolutionary effects that come from pathways of length 2





Q^2 contains the evolutionary effects that come from pathways of length 2





What about Q^3 ?





 Q^3 contains the evolutionary effects that come from pathways of length 3!























MYRMECOPHYTES & ANTS	Cecropia purpuracens	Cecropia concolor Cecropia distachva	Cecropia ficifolia	Pouruma heterophylla	Hirtella myrmecophila	Hirtella physophora	Durota saccifera Cordia nodosa	Cordia aff. nodosa	Tococa bullifera	Maieta guianensis	Maieta poeppiggi	Tachigali polyphylla	Tachigali myrmecophila	Amaioua aff. guianensis	
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Unoccupied plants	14	0 0	0	0	0	3	8 0	31	0	5	5	6	5	0	(Fonseca & Ganade 1996



But...do they always contribute a lot?








(Art by Aslam Narváez)



How much indirect evolutionary effects contribute along this mutualism-antagonism continuum?

The Role of Indirect Effects in Coevolution along the Mutualism-Antagonism Continuum

Fernando Pedraza,^{1,*,†} Hanlun Liu,^{1,2,†} Klementyna A. Gawecka,^{1,†} and Jordi Bascompte¹



	0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1	
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Fraction of antagonistic interactions

Pedraza et al. 2023, Am. Nat.

0.6



Fraction of antagonistic interactions

Pedraza et al. 2023, Am. Nat.

0.6 Network trait matching 0.4 0.2

Fraction of antagonistic interactions



Fraction of antagonistic interactions

The contribution of indirect effects decreases as we move from mutualisms to antagonisms







How indirect effects shape the fitness of species?





In mutualisms, coevolution is expected to increase the mean fitness of populations – species fitness



Trait values

Mapping trait values into fitness – fitness landscape of species



Trait values

Mapping trait values into fitness – fitness landscape of species



Mapping trait values into fitness – fitness landscape of species



Indirect effects shape species fitness in coevolved mutualistic networks

Leandro G. Cosmo [™], <u>Ana Paula A. Assis</u>, <u>Marcus A. M. de Aguiar</u>, <u>Mathias M. Pires</u>, <u>Alfredo Valido</u>, <u>Pedro</u> Jordano, John N. Thompson, Jordi Bascompte & Paulo R. Guimarães Jr</u>

Nature **619**, 788–792 (2023) Cite this article

$$\overline{w_i}^* \cong e^{-\frac{1}{2}\varrho_i \left\{ m_i \left[(\langle \theta \rangle - \theta_i)(m_i + F_i) - \theta_i + \langle z \rangle \right]^2 + (1 - m_i)(\theta_i - \theta)^2 (m_i + F_i)^2 \right\}}$$



Cosmo et al. 2023, *Nature*

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Cosmo et al. 2023, Nature



Cosmo et al. 2023, Nature

(Art by Aslam Narváez)



(Art by Aslam Narváez)



Indirect evolutionary effects are conflicting selective pressures, hindering adaptations



Coevolution in networks is not "diffuse": specialists vs generalists



We are only beginning to understand how indirect evolutionary effects drive the ecology and evolution of species!







Previous coevolutionary model was limited to continuous traits











How indirect evolutionary effects can shape the maintenance of polymorphisms within mutualistic species?







Cosmo, Guimarães and Bascompte, in review



Cosmo, Guimarães and Bascompte, in review



Indirect evolutionary effects are a **source of conflict** that equalize the fitness of the different morphs **within species**





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Picture: Pedro Jordano