

# THREE-PREY SWITCHING BEHAVIOR OF TWO GENERALIST PREDATORS WITH ASYMMETRIC INTRAGUILD PREDATION: A COYOTE-FOX-TWO RODENTS SYSTEM

RDI BMB – 16 mai 2023 – Besançon  
Ségolène Lireux



# An interaction Ecology - Mathematics

■ Ecology

■ Mathematics

**CHRONO**  
**ENVIRONNEMENT**



Pr. Francis Raoul



Dr. Michael Coeurdassier



Ségolène Lireux

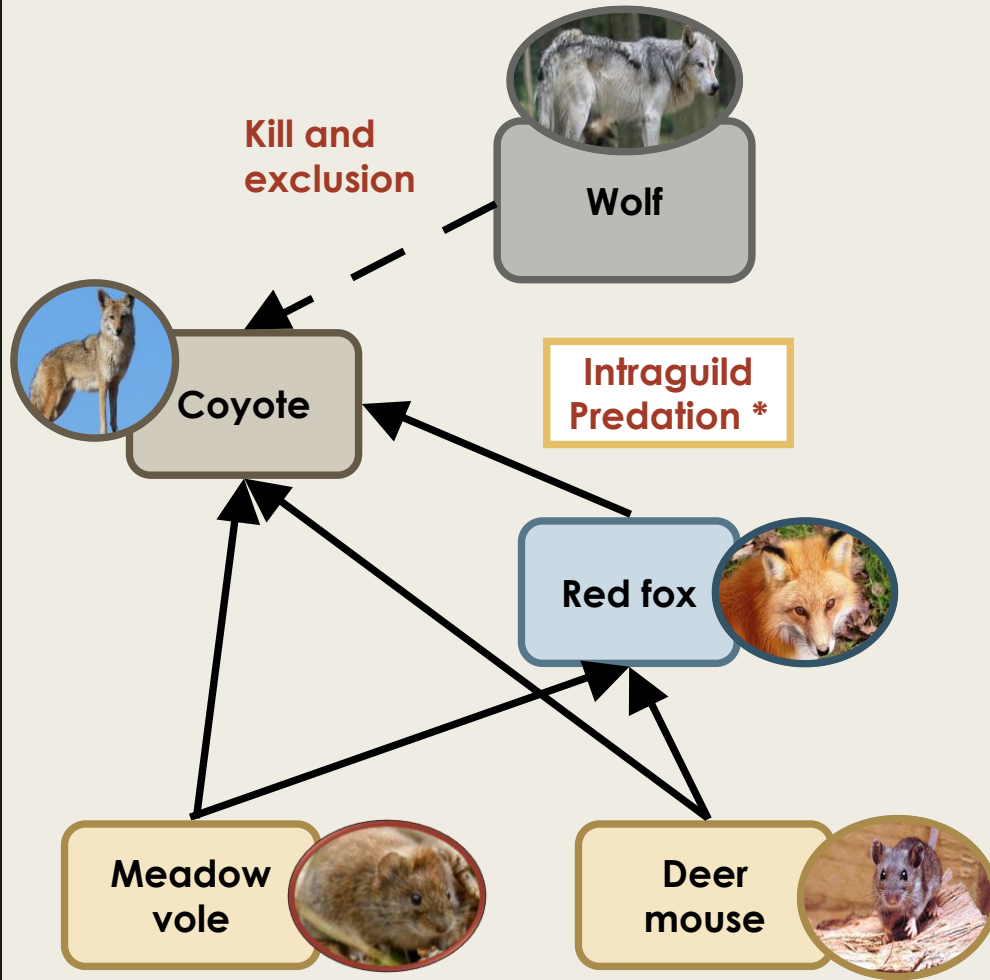


Antoine Perasso

Pr. Ezio Venturino  
University of Turin



# CONTEXT



\* : a predator and one of its preys share a same prey

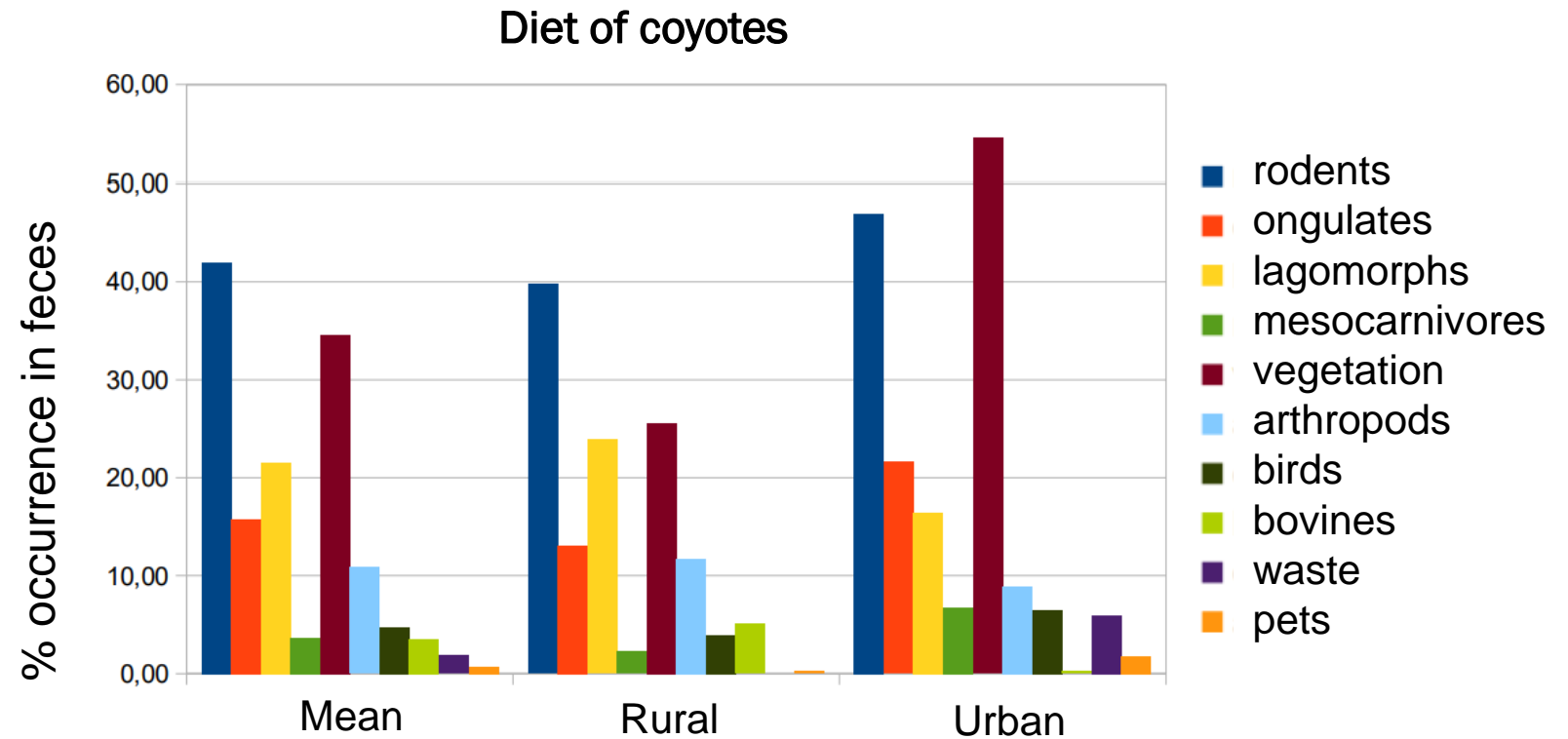
## Modelling specificities

- Multi-prey model
- Multi predators model with several emergent effects:
  - Competition
  - Exclusion
  - Intraguild predation⇒ Total predation decreased
- Generalist predators

# CONTEXT

- Rural vs. Urban contexts

Foxes and coyotes densities higher in cities (Fedriani *et al.* 2020, Banfield *et al.* 1977, Rosatte *et al.* 1991)



Yaël Henriët, data from literature review

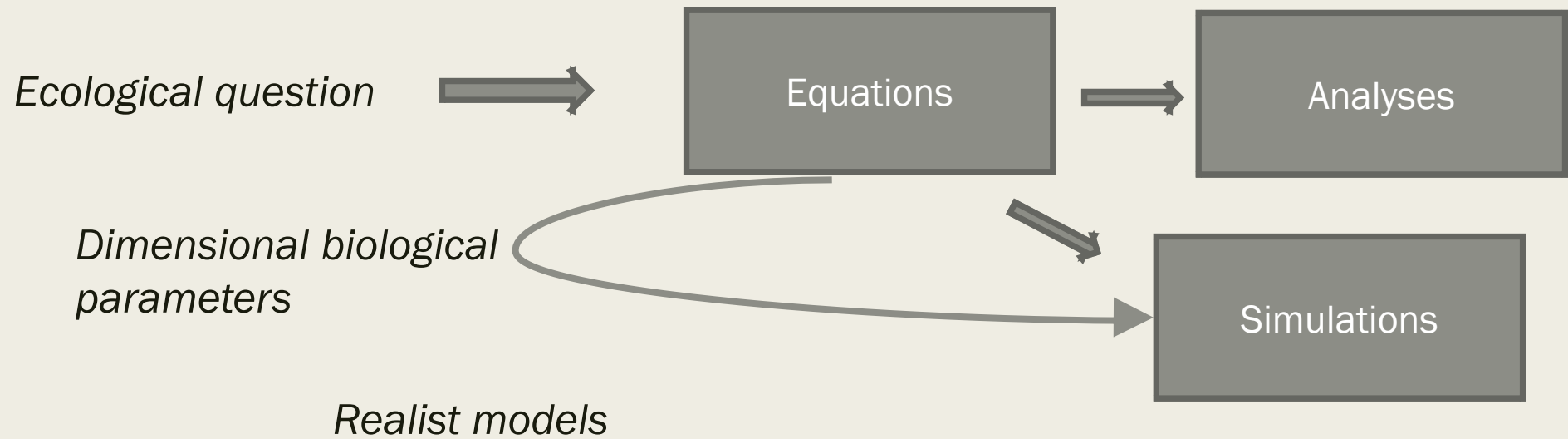
- Outbreaks of voles in rural areas:  
Densities from 5 to 427 ind/ha (Witmer *et al.*, 2010)
- Top-down control can be exercised on coyotes:
  - presence of wolves (Flagel *et al.* 2017)
  - shooting (Chamberlain *et al.* 2001)



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## ■ Ecology

## ■ Mathematics

*Ecological question*



Equations



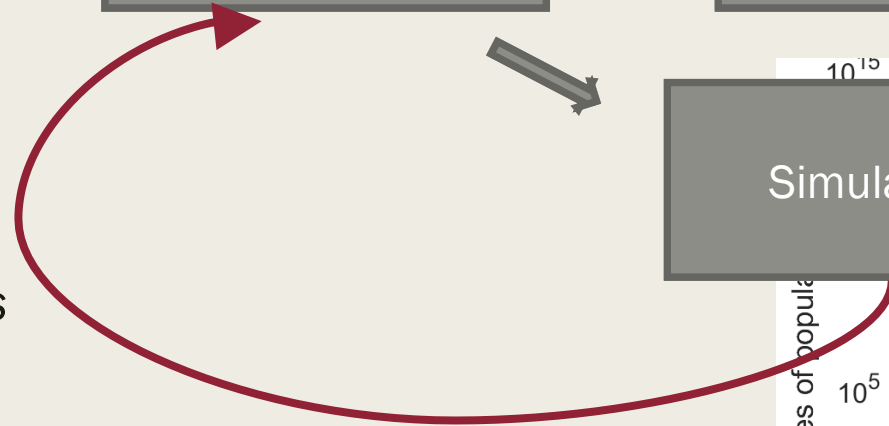
Analyses

*Dimensional parameters*

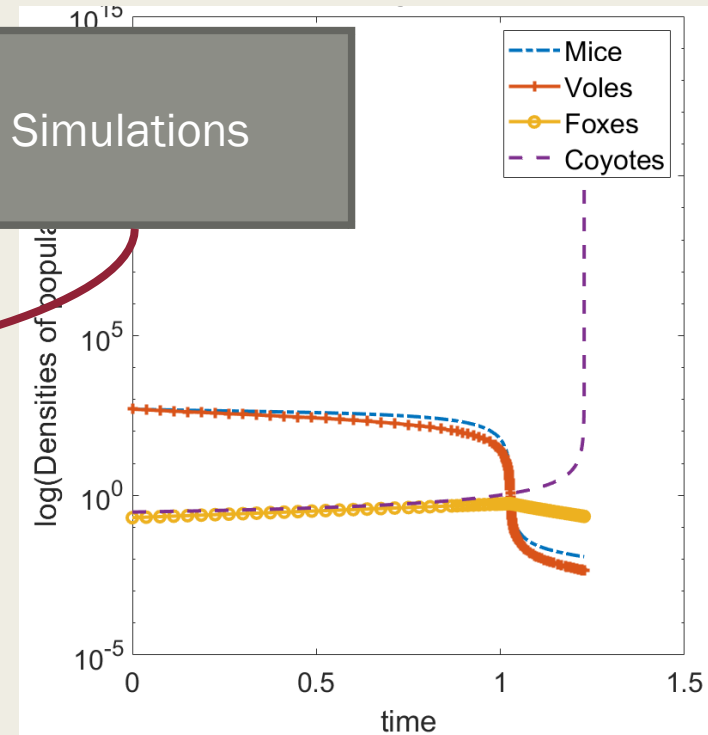


Simulations

*Realist models*



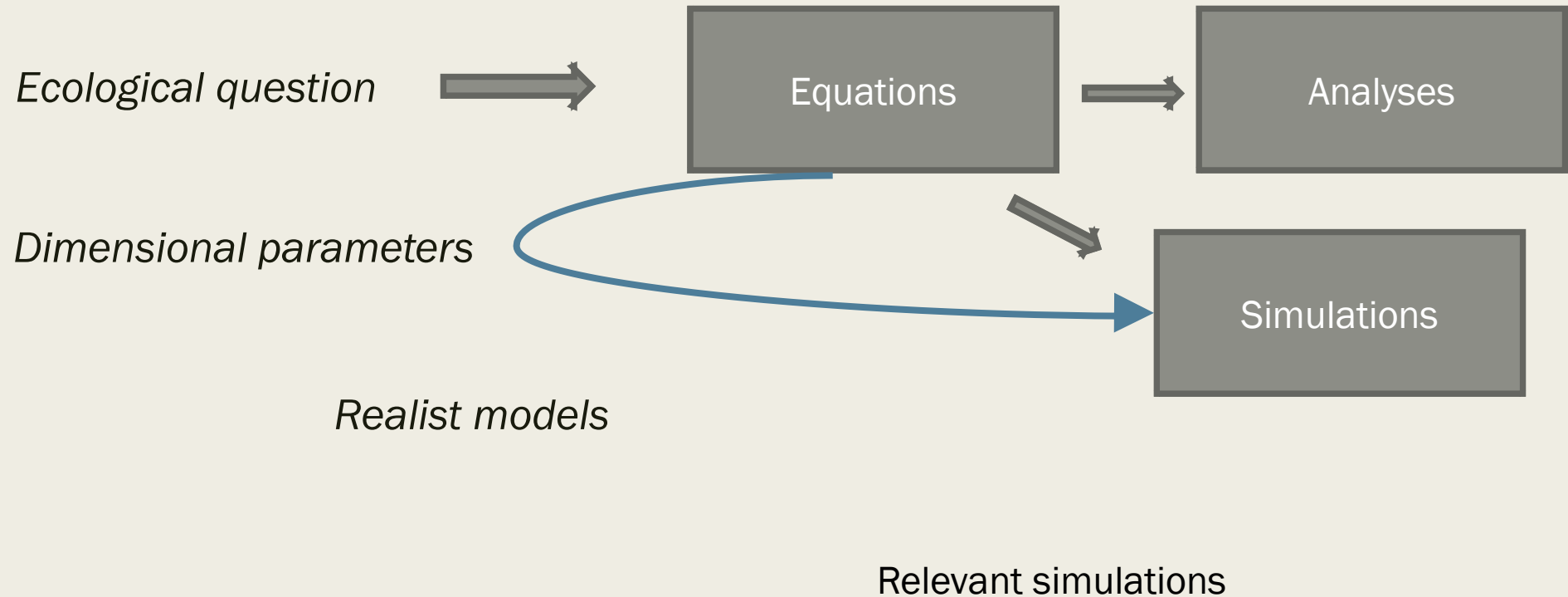
Relevant simulations



# An interaction Ecology - Mathematics

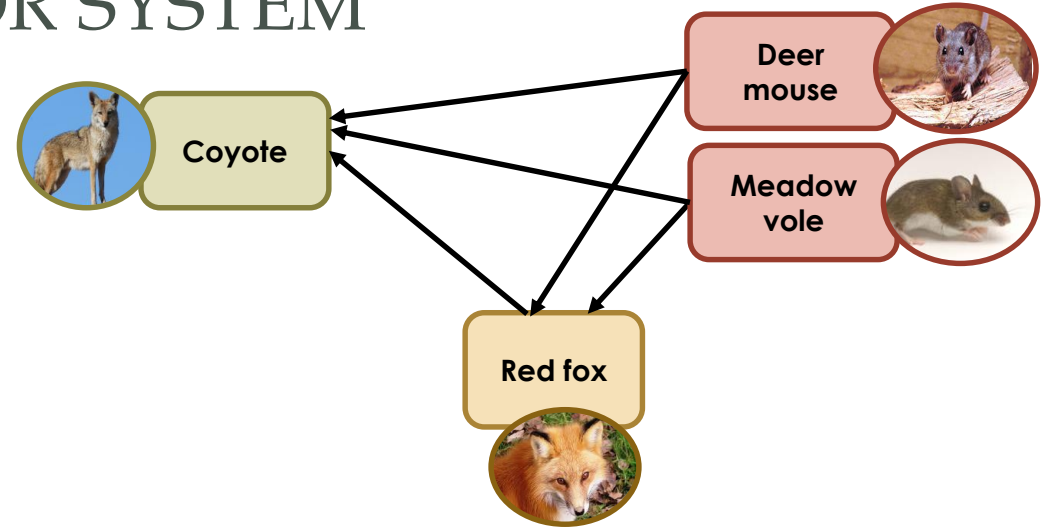
## ■ Ecology

## ■ Mathematics



# CONSTRUCTION OF PREY/PREDATOR SYSTEM

- Adapted from Wei *et al.*, 2019, *Math Comput Simul*, finalized thanks to discussion with Alessandro Massolo (ecologist, parasitologist, University of Pisa)
- 2 generalist predators with intraguild predation, 2 preys, Holling equations



**Mice** 
$$\frac{dX_1}{dt} = r_1 X_1(t) \left( 1 - \frac{X_1(t)}{K_1} \right)$$

**Voles** 
$$\frac{dX_2}{dt} = r_2 X_2(t) \left( 1 - \frac{X_2(t)}{K_2} \right)$$

**Foxes** 
$$\frac{dF}{dt} = r_F F(t) \left( 1 - \frac{F(t)}{K_F} \right)$$

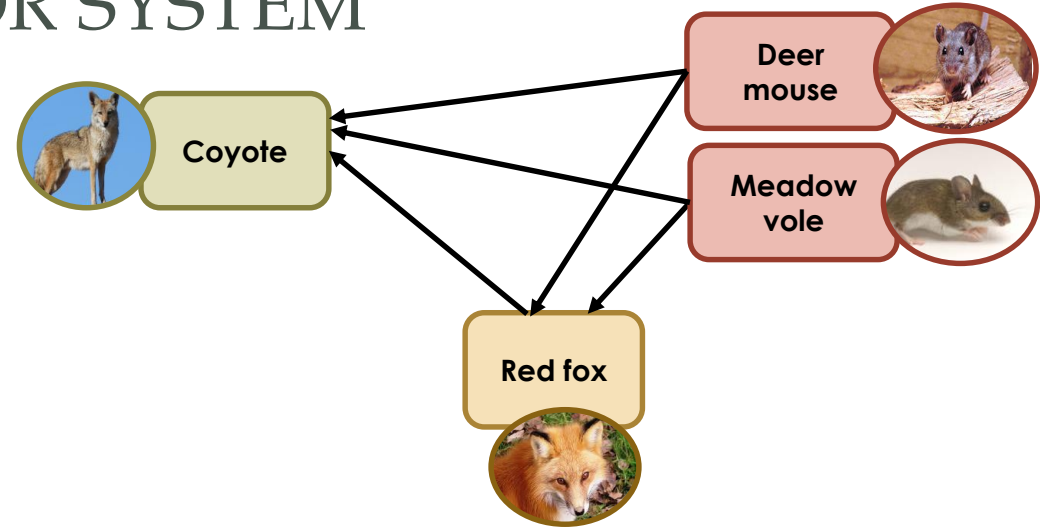
**Coyotes** 
$$\frac{dC}{dt} = r_C C(t) \left( 1 - \frac{C(t)}{K_C} \right)$$

Logistic growth



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**Mice**  $\frac{dX_1}{dt} = r_1 X_1(t) \left( 1 - \frac{X_1(t)}{K_1} \right) - \phi_{\mathbf{F},1} F(t)$

**Voles**  $\frac{dX_2}{dt} = r_2 X_2(t) \left( 1 - \frac{X_2(t)}{K_2} \right)$

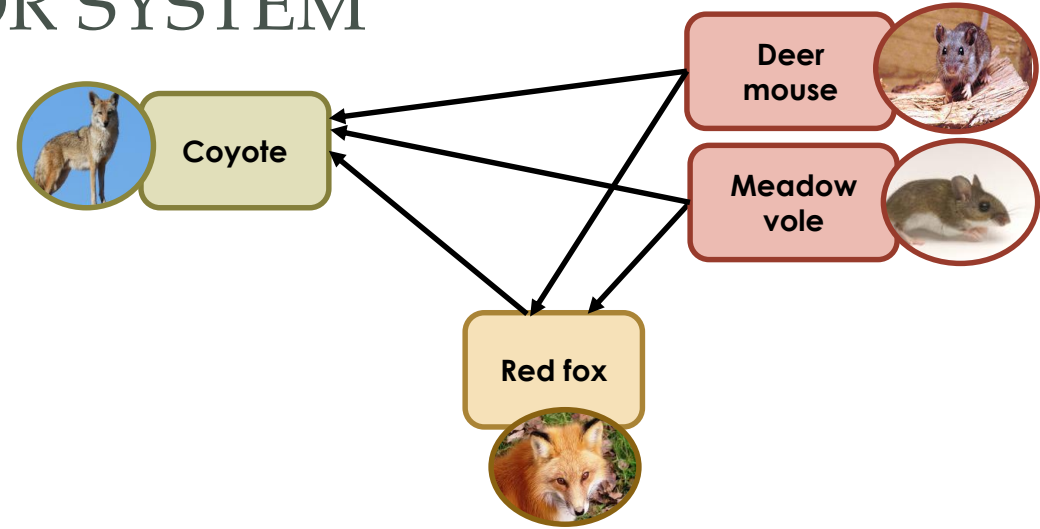
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**Predation of  
foxes on prey 1**

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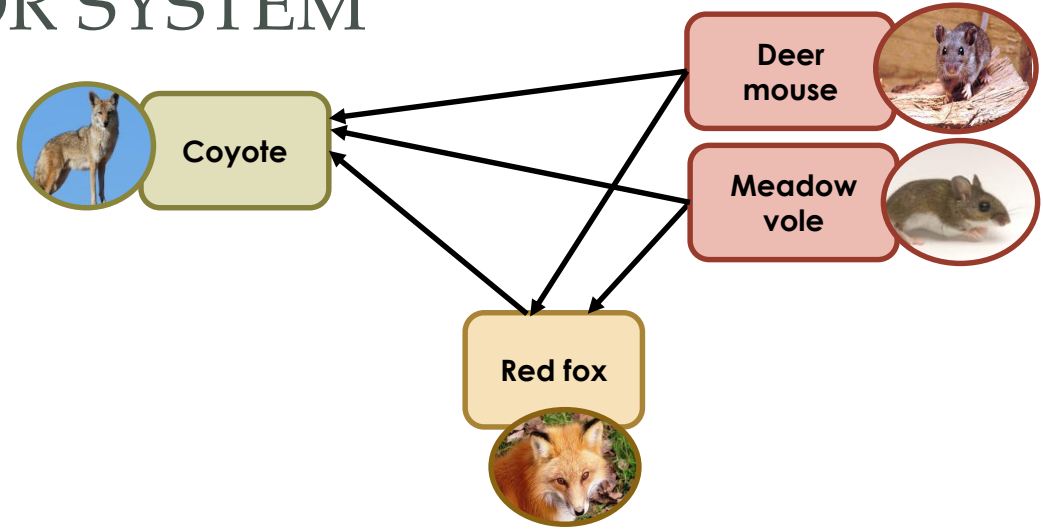
**Voles**  $\frac{dX_2}{dt} = r_2 X_2(t) \left( 1 - \frac{X_2(t)}{K_2} \right) - \phi_{\mathbf{F},2} F(t)$  **Predation of foxes on prey 2**

**Foxes**  $\frac{dF}{dt} = r_F F(t) \left( 1 - \frac{F(t)}{K_F} \right)$

**Coyotes**  $\frac{dC}{dt} = r_C C(t) \left( 1 - \frac{C(t)}{K_C} \right)$

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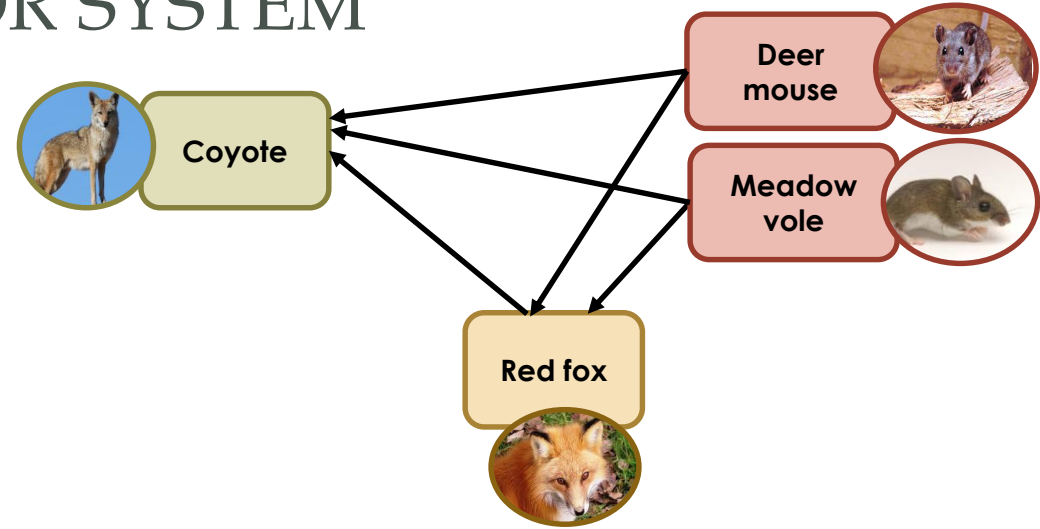
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**Predation of  
coyotes on prey 1**

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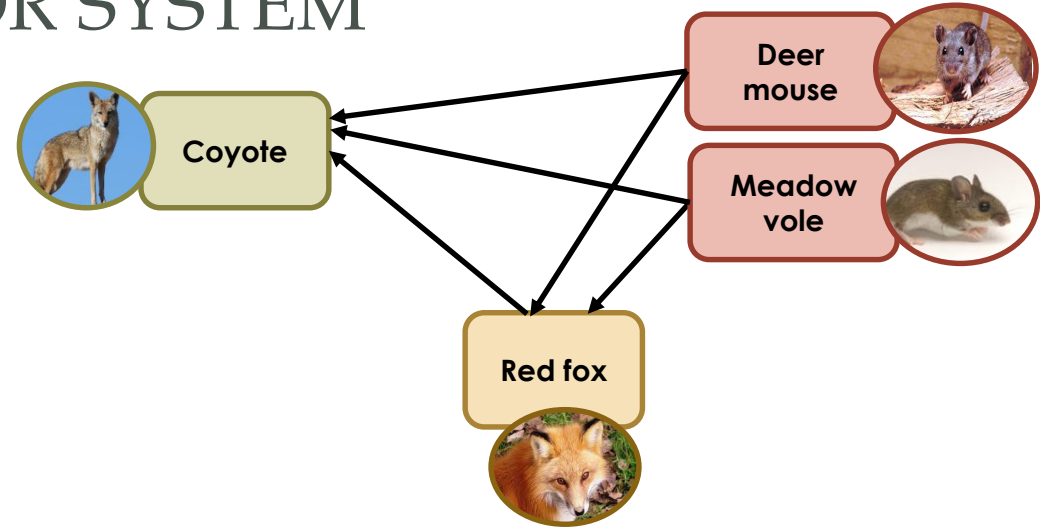
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**Predation of  
coyotes on prey 2**

# CONSTRUCTION OF PREY/PREDATOR SYSTEM

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$$\frac{dC}{dt} = r_C C(t) \left( 1 - \frac{C(t)}{K_C} \right)$$

**Intraguild predation**

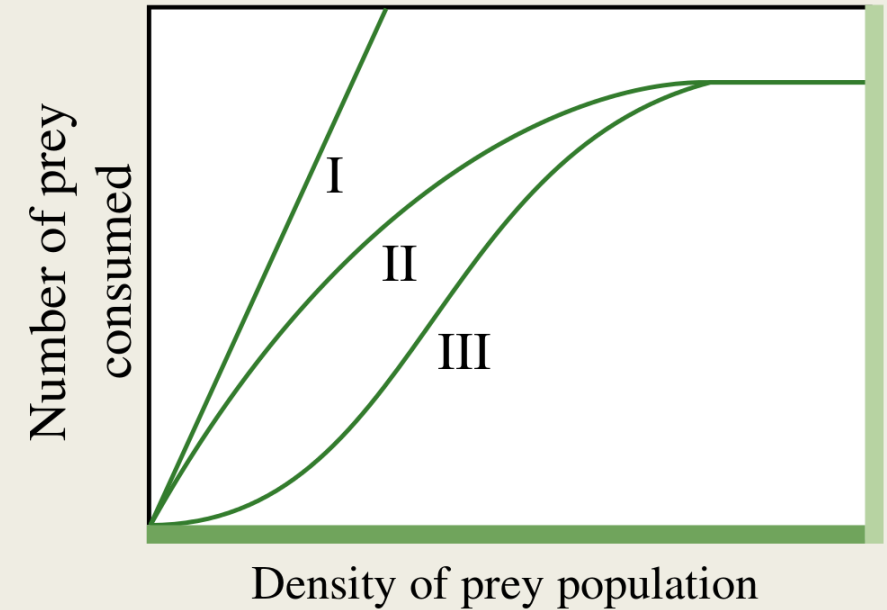
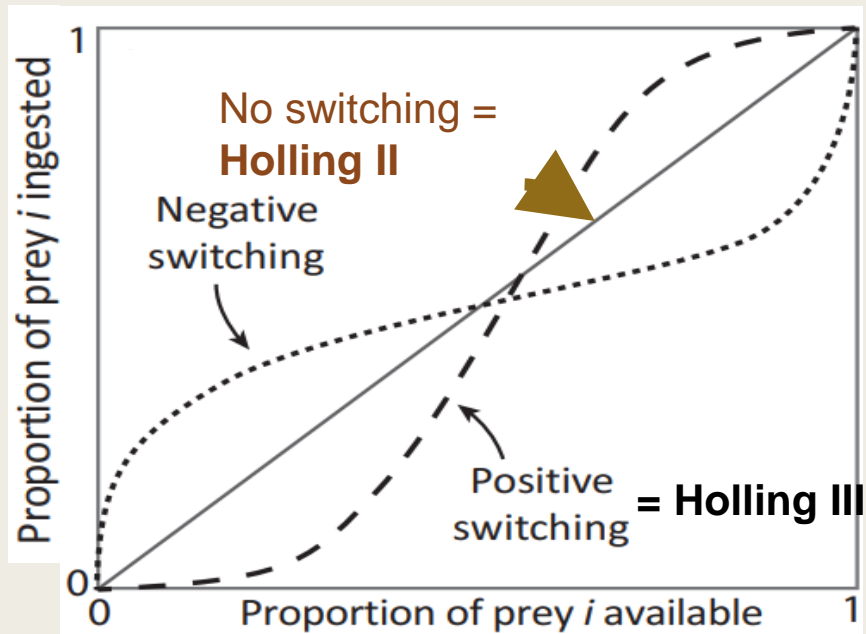
# CONSTRUCTION OF PREY/PREDATOR SYSTEM

- Holling type III

$$\phi_{\mathbf{F},1} = \frac{p_1 X_1(t)^2}{1 + hp_1 X_1(t)^2 + hp_2 X_2(t)^2}$$

Attack rates

Handling times



## Switching

⇒ Known to stabilize coexistence of species

⇒ Observed for foxes and coyotes

Baudrot *et al.* 2016, *Ecology*

# CALCULATION OF PARAMETERS

- **Carrying capacity:** maximal density observed, **different according to context**
- **Intrinsic growth rate**

$$r = b - m$$

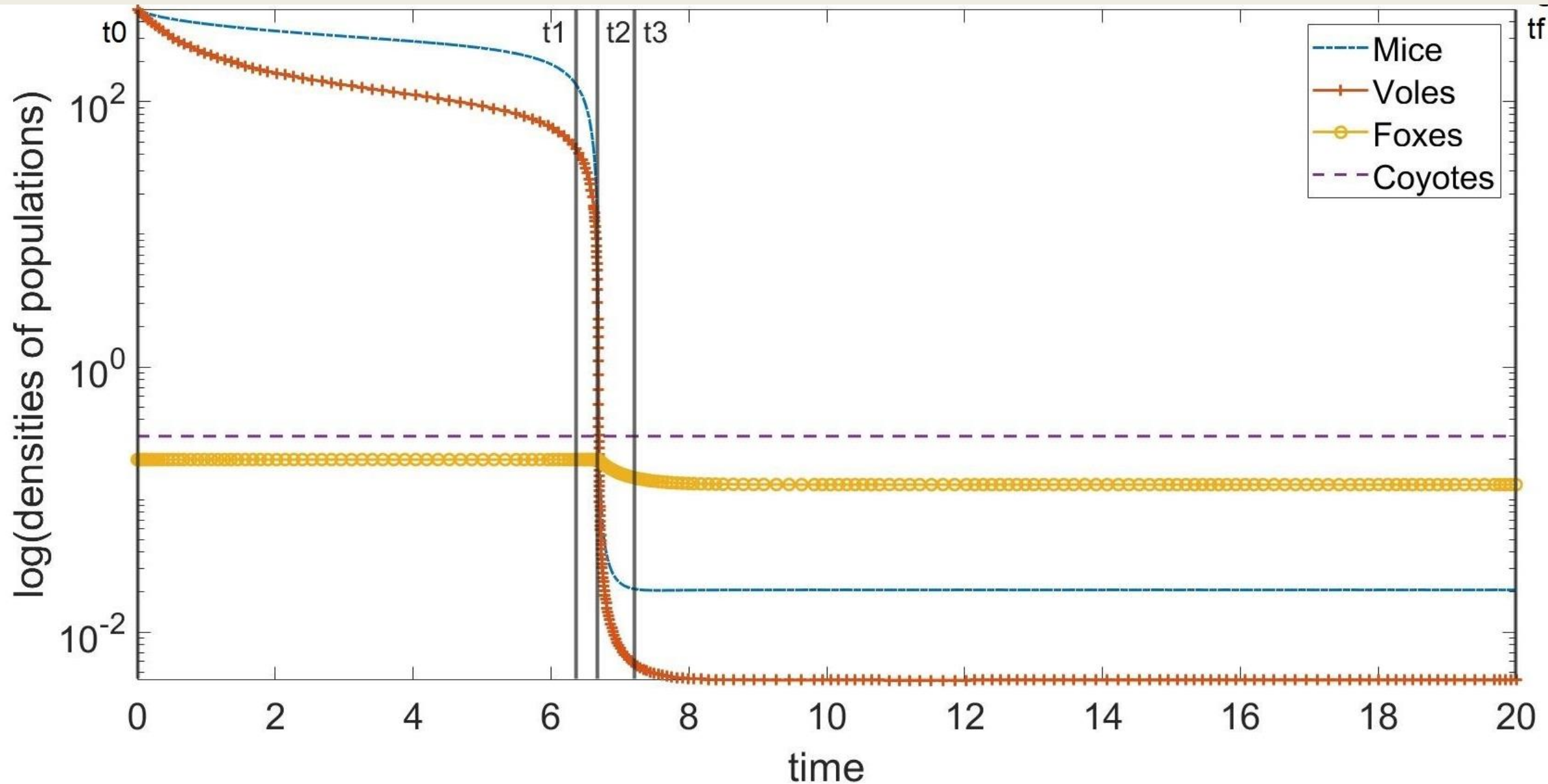
Intrinsic birth rate

Intrinsic mortality rate

- Energetic needs calculated thanks to Field Metabolic Rate (Laundré et al. 2003) AND Energy given by a single prey
- Rodents represents ca. 50% of the diet of both predators in all context.
- Voles are a preferred prey because they are bigger:  **$p_2 = 2p_1$**

**=> Calculation of attack rates.**

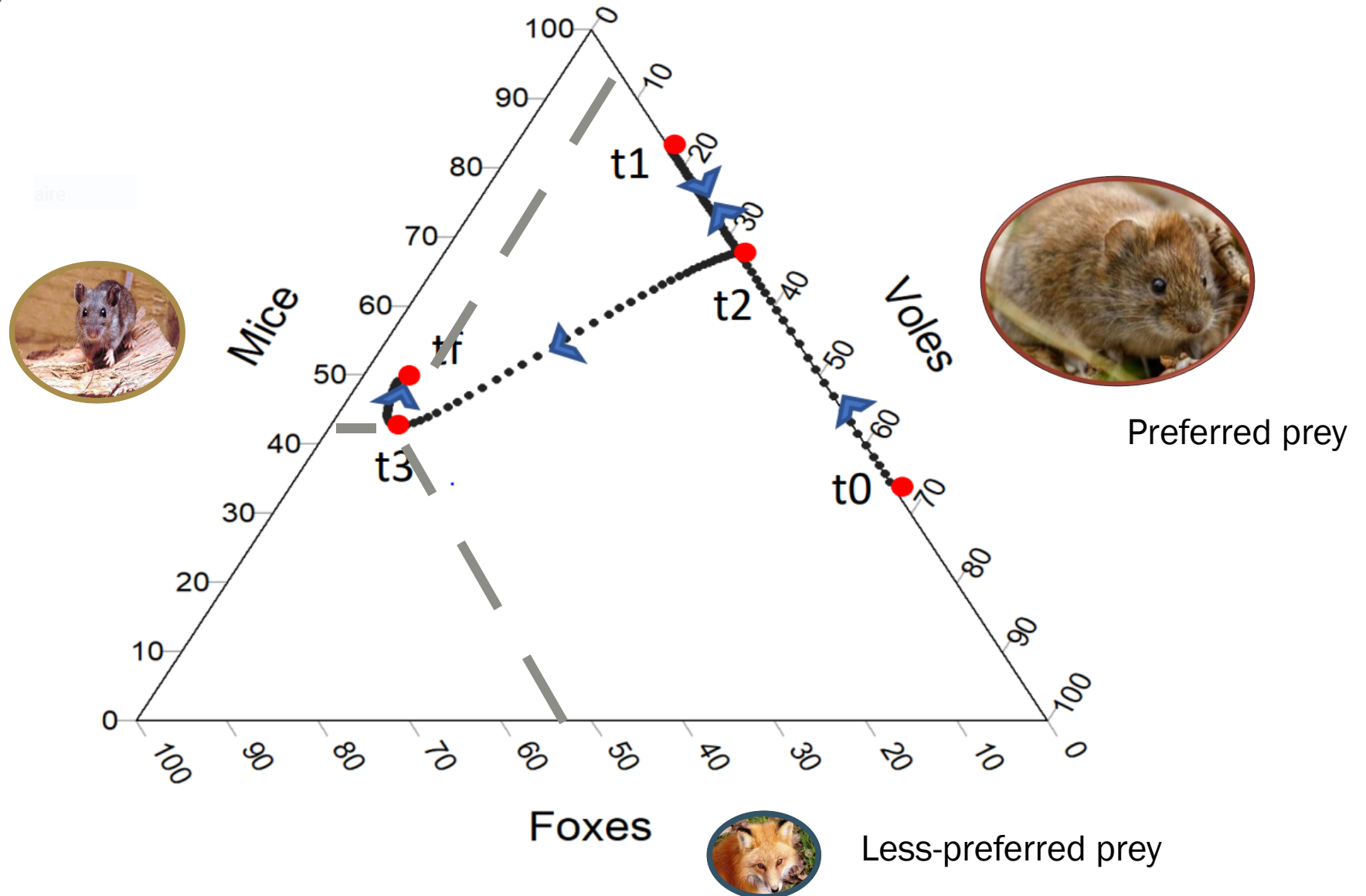
# Dynamics in the rural context, no outbreak



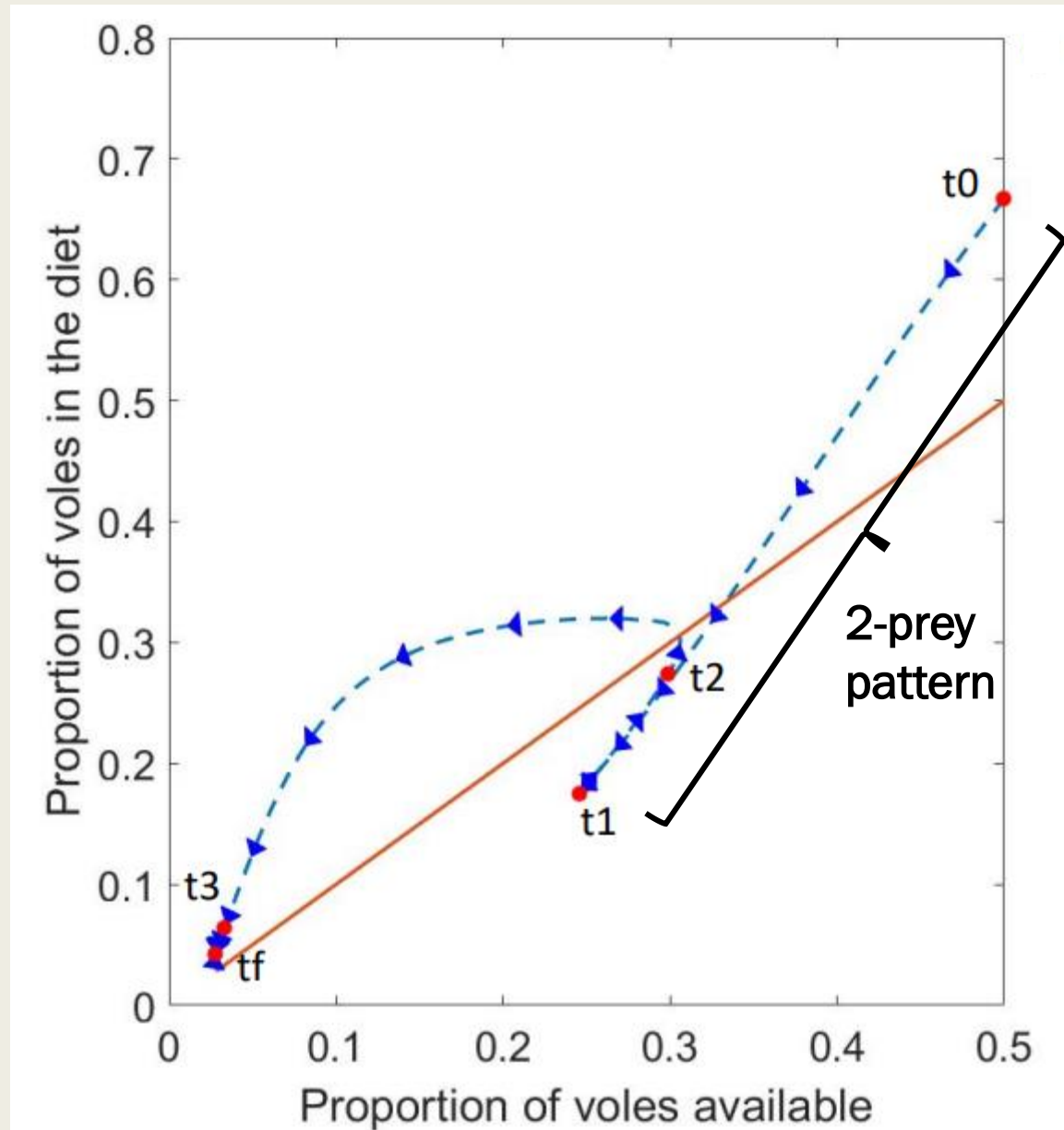




# % Presence in the Diet of Coyotes (#)



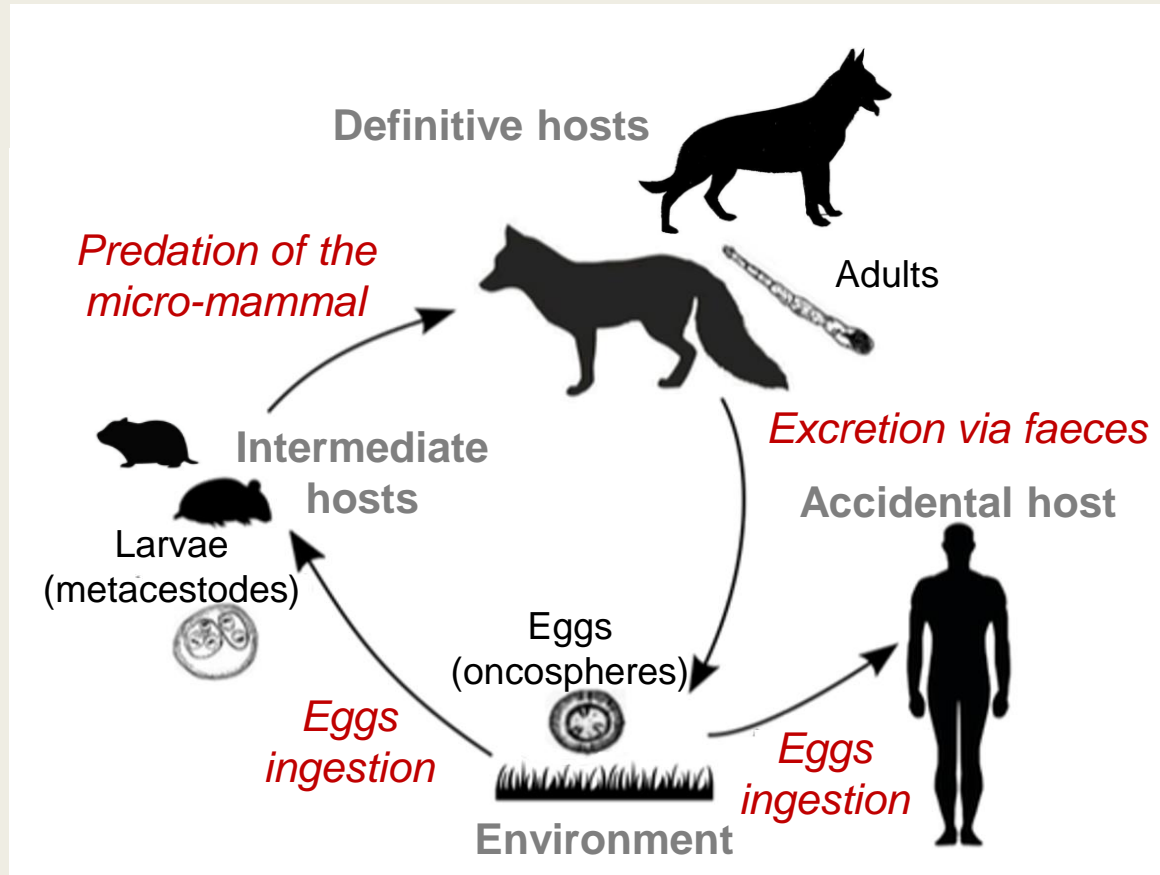
# 3-prey switching



# Last part of my PhD



*Echinococcus multilocularis*  
Class : Cestoda  
Family : Taeniidae



Life cycle of *Echinococcus multilocularis*,  
Adapted from Baudrot et al. 2016

## Goals

- ➡ To build an eco-epidemic model
- ➡ Calculation of  $R_0$