

Some modelling and optimization problems for microalgal raceway ponds

Liu-Di LU

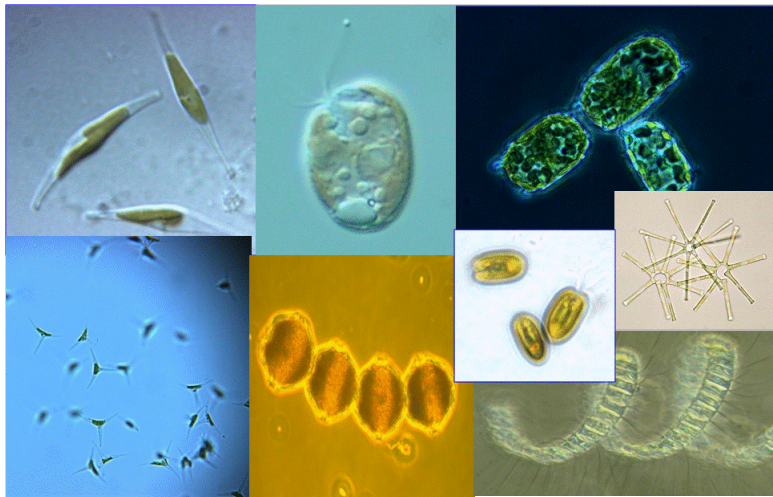
University of Geneva

Jouy-en-Josas, January 24, 2022

- 1 Motivation and Modelling
- 2 Topography
- 3 Mixing
- 4 Topography, Mixing and Volume
- 5 Depth and Biomass Concentration
- 6 Conclusion and Perspectives

Motivation and Framework

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Biological model

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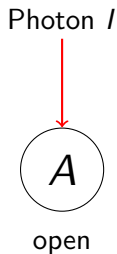
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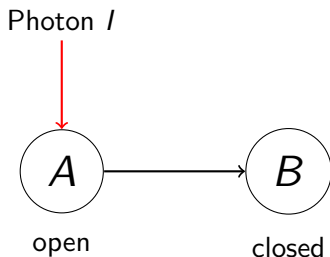
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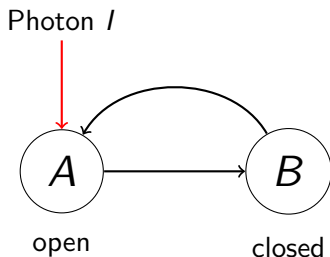
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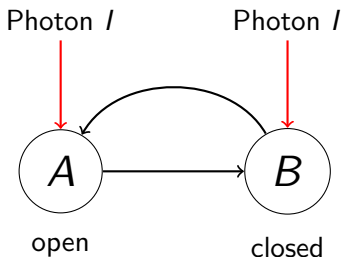
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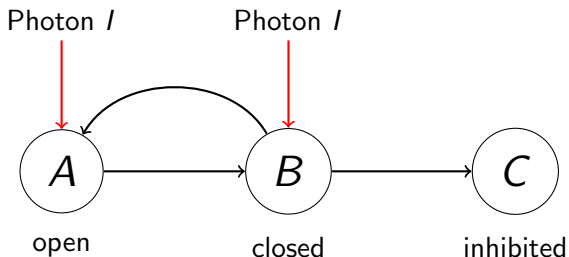
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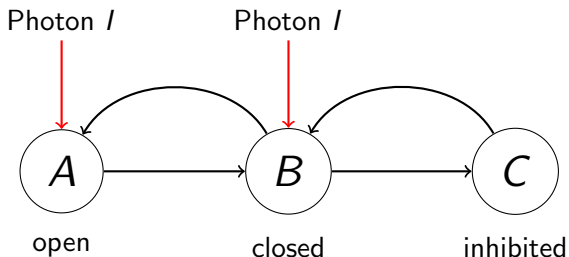
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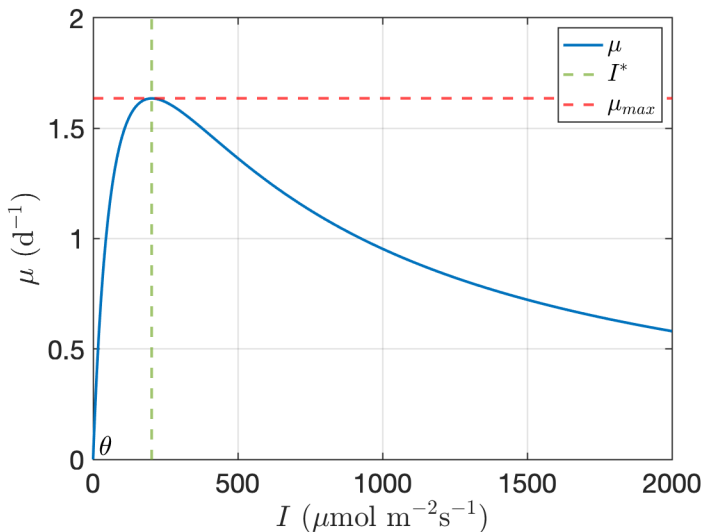


steady state

$$\mu(I) = \mu_{\max} \frac{I}{I + \frac{\mu_{\max}}{\theta} \left(\frac{I}{I^*} - 1\right)^2} \quad (\text{Haldane})$$

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Haldane description



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- The Beer-Lambert law: $I(z) = I_s \exp(-\epsilon z)$.

Raceway modelling

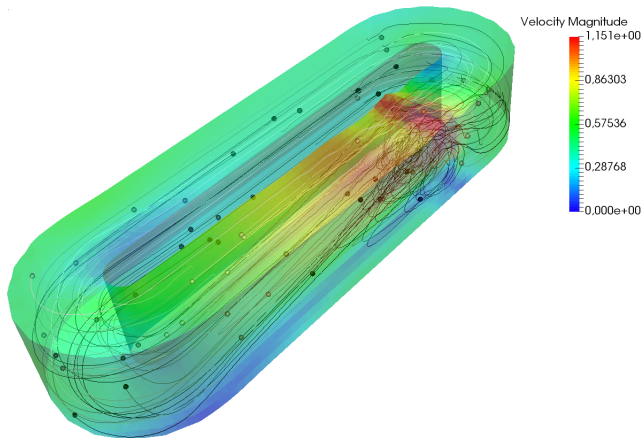
Raceway ponds:

- widely used and cheapest cultivation system,
- water tank and paddle wheel.



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Simulation of the trajectories with the code FreshKiss3D (*Demory et al. 2018*).



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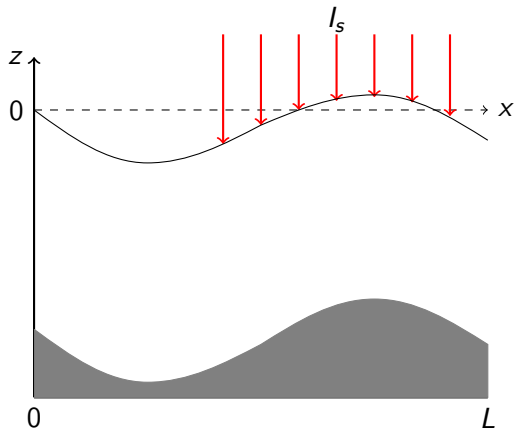
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Raceway modelling

1D illustration



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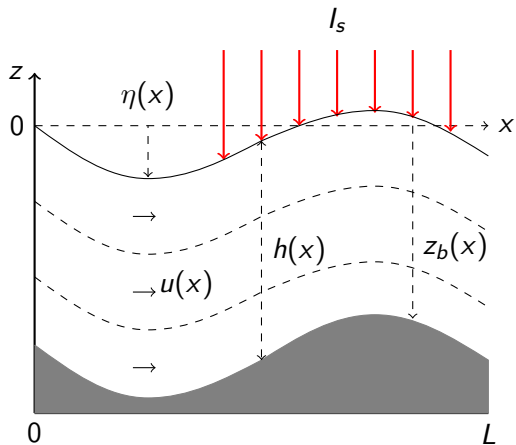
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Overview

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1D Illustration



Saint-Venant Equations

- 1D steady state Saint-Venant equations

$$\partial_x(hu) = 0, \quad \partial_x\left(hu^2 + g\frac{h^2}{2}\right) = -gh\partial_x z_b.$$

Saint-Venant Equations

- Relation between z_b and h

$$z_b = \frac{M_0}{g} - \frac{Q_0^2}{2gh^2} - h, \quad (1)$$

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- Froude number:

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$Fr < 1$: subcritical case (i.e. the flow regime is fluvial)

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- Given a smooth topography z_b , there exists **a unique** positive smooth solution of h which satisfies the subcritical flow condition (*Michel-Dansac et al 2016*).

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- Given a smooth topography z_b , there exists **a unique** positive smooth solution of h which satisfies the subcritical flow condition (*Michel-Dansac et al 2016*).
- A **time free** formulation of the Lagrangian trajectory starting from $z(0)$:

$$z(x) = \eta(x) + \frac{h(x)}{h(0)}(z(0) - \eta(0)). \quad (2)$$

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- Adjoint method $\rightarrow \nabla \bar{\mu}_{N_z}(a)$.

Optimal Topography

- Number of parameters: $N_a = 5$.
- Number of trajectories: $N_z = 40$.
- Initial guess: flat topography.

Assumption

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Theorem (Flat topography)

Assume the volume of the system V is constant. Then $\nabla \bar{\mu}_{N_z}(0) = 0$.

Optimal topography (C periodic)

- Number of parameters: $N_a = 5$.
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Summary on the topography

- In the case C non periodic, one can find no flat optimal topographies, however the increase is limited.

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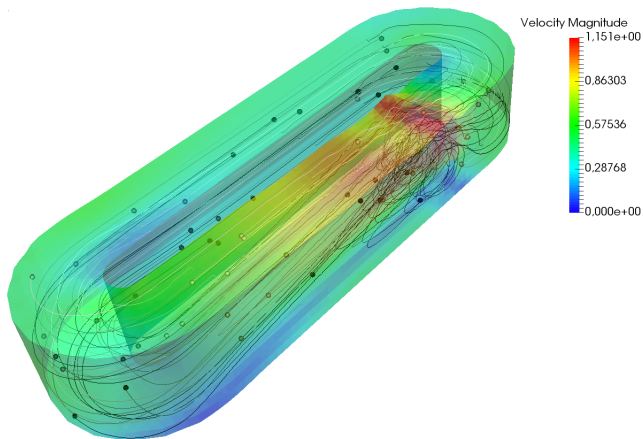
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- In the case C non periodic, one can find no flat optimal topographies, however the increase is limited.
- In the case C periodic, the flat topography is not only a critical point but also the optimal topography.
- What can be further optimized?

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Mixing devices

Simulation of the trajectories with the code FreshKiss3D (*Demory et al. 2018*).



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At each new lap, the algae at depth z_i **are entirely transferred into the position z_j** when passing through the mixing device.

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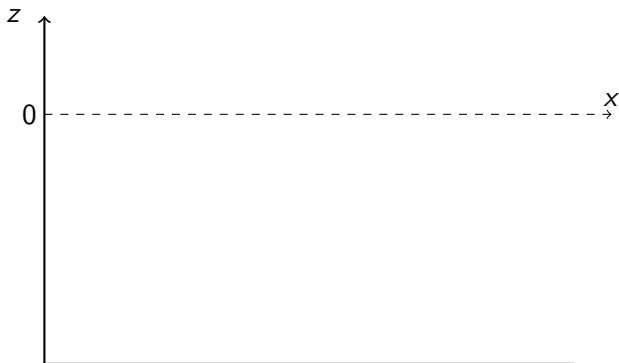
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Notations

We denote by \mathcal{P} the set of **permutation matrices** of size $N_z \times N_z$ and by \mathfrak{S}_{N_z} the associated set of permutations of N_z elements.

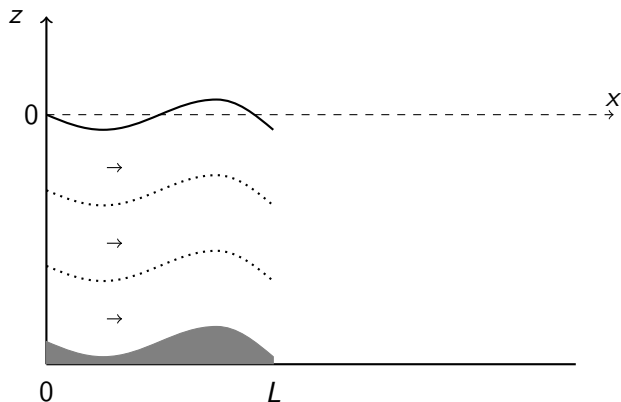
Mixing devices

- Illustration with the permutation $\sigma = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$.



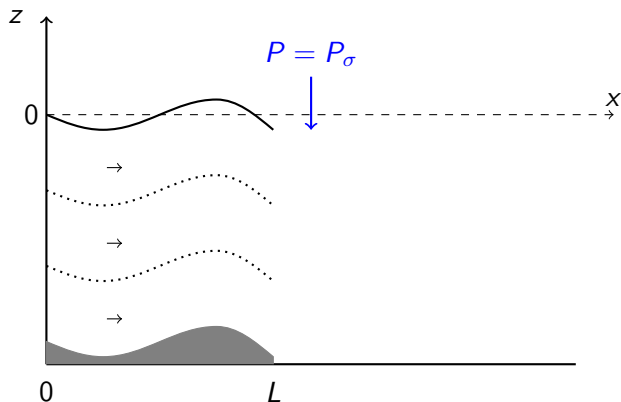
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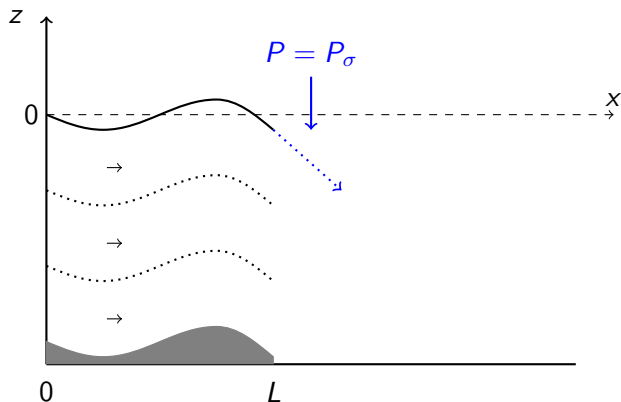
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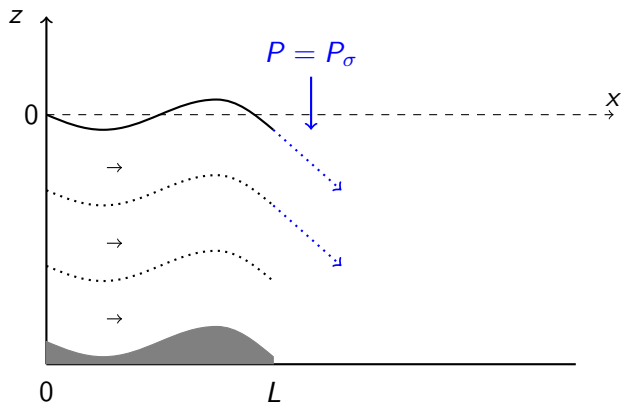
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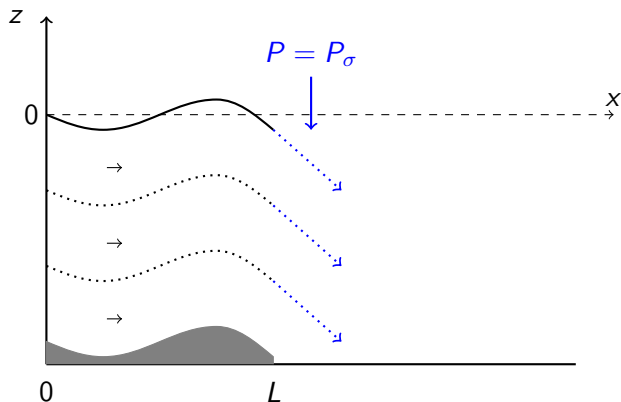
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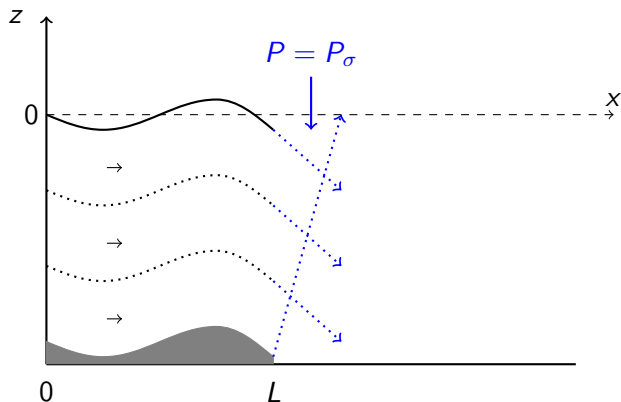
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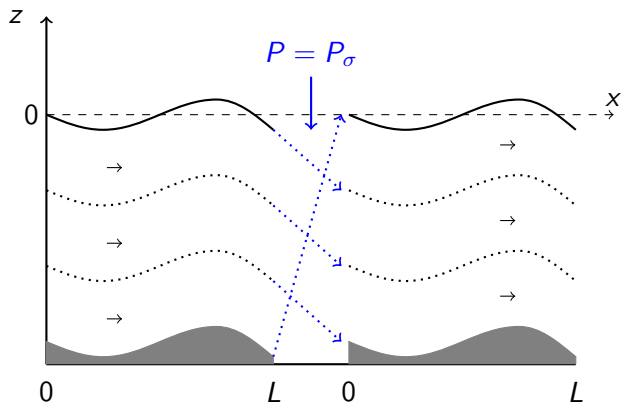
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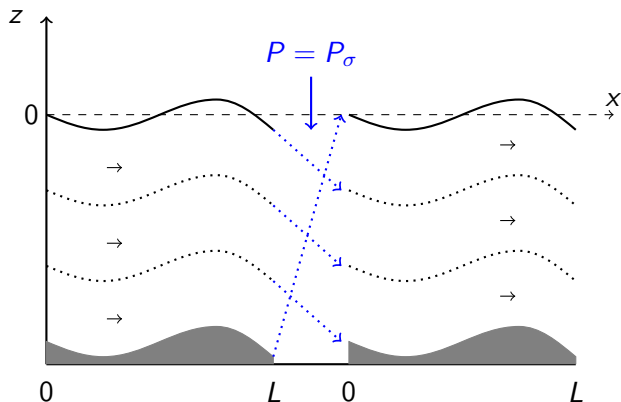
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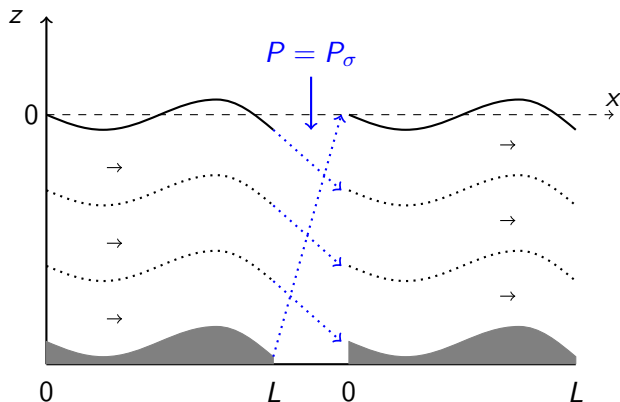
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- Choice of Period?

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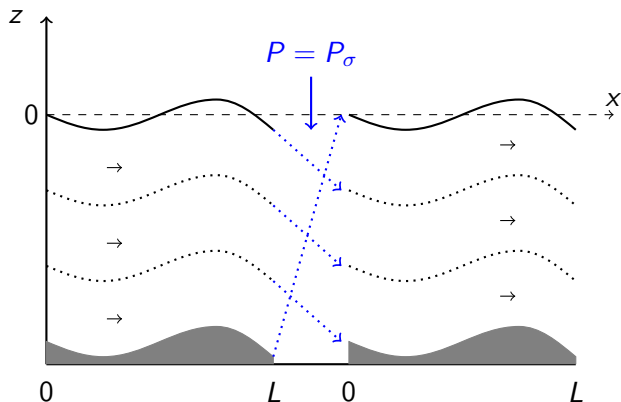
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- **Choice of Period?** Order of σ .

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- **Choice of Period?** Order of σ .
- Re-distribution of light.

Periodic dynamical resource allocation problem

N resources



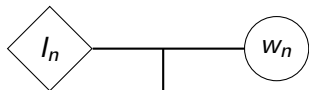
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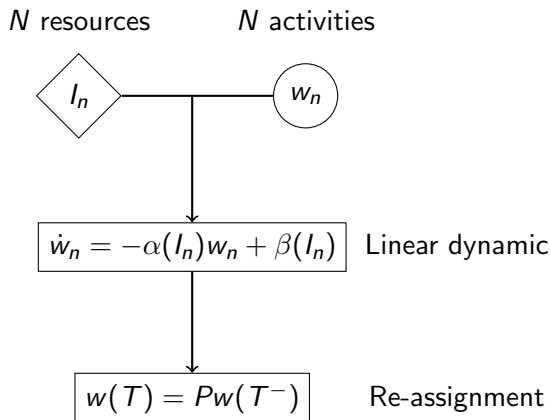
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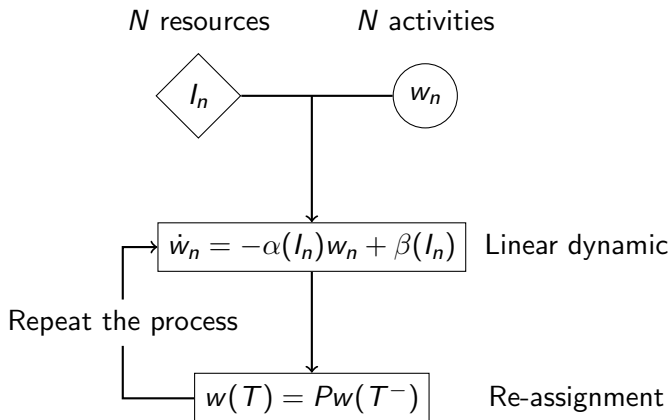
$$\dot{w}_n = -\alpha(I_n)w_n + \beta(I_n)$$

Linear dynamic

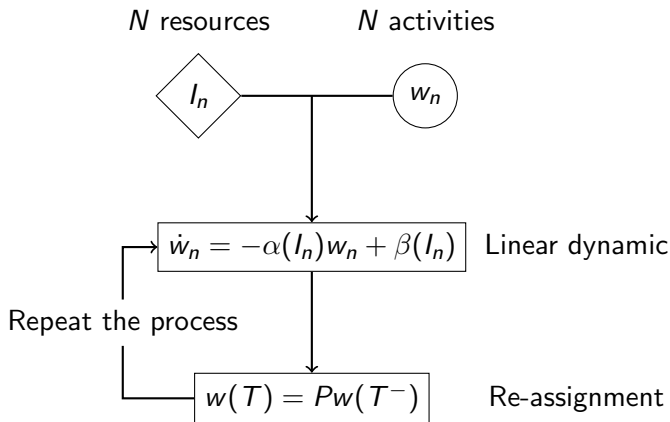
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Periodic dynamical resource allocation problem



Theorem (One period is enough)

If w is KT -periodic (i.e., $w(T_K) = w(T_0)$), then w is T -periodic.

Original problem

Optimization problem

$$\max_{P \in \mathcal{P}} J(P) := \max_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \langle u, (\mathcal{I}_N - PD)^{-1} P v \rangle, \quad (3)$$

Two vectors u, v and a diagonal matrix D all depend on $(I_n)_{n=1}^N$.

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Since $\#\mathcal{S} = N!$, this problem cannot be tackled in realistic cases where large values of N must be considered, e.g., to keep a good numerical accuracy.

Expand the functional (3) as follows

$$\underbrace{\langle u, (\mathcal{I}_N - PD)^{-1} P v \rangle}_{J(P)} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{+\infty} \langle u, (PD)^\ell P v \rangle = \underbrace{\langle u, P v \rangle}_{J_{\text{approx}}(P)} + \sum_{\ell=1}^{+\infty} \langle u, (PD)^\ell P v \rangle,$$

Simplified problem

$$\max_{P \in \mathcal{P}} J^{\text{approx}}(P) := \max_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \langle u, Pv \rangle. \quad (4)$$

Simplified problem

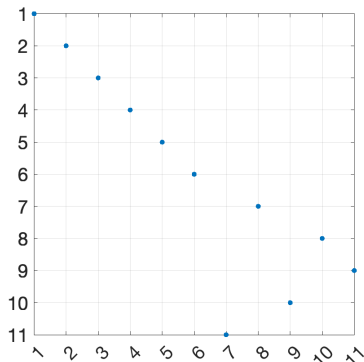
$$\max_{P \in \mathcal{P}} J^{\text{approx}}(P) := \max_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \langle u, Pv \rangle. \quad (4)$$

Lemma (Optimal matrix)

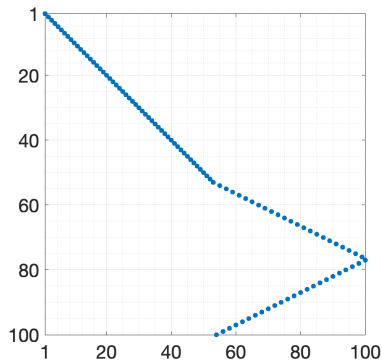
- P_+ : associates the *largest coefficient of u* with the *largest coefficient of v* , the second largest coefficient with the second largest, and so on.
- P_- : associates the *largest coefficient of u* with the *smallest coefficient of v* , the second largest coefficient with the second smallest, and so on.

Optimal Matrix

Test for $(l_s, q, T) = (2000, 5\%, 1000)$.



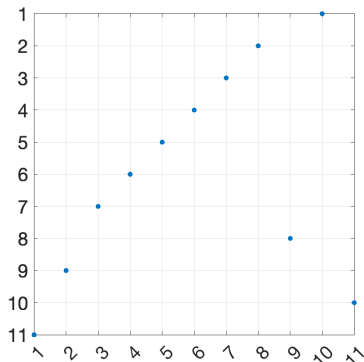
P_{\max} for $J(P)$



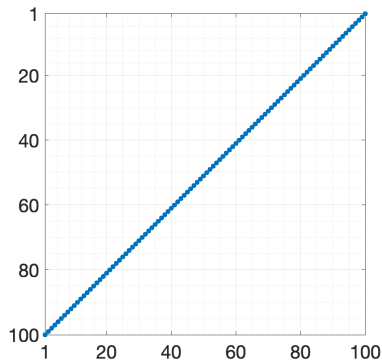
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Test for $(l_s, q, T) = (800, 0.5\%, 1)$.



P_{\max} for $J(P)$



P_+ for $J^{\text{approx}}(P)$

Theorem (Coincidence Criterion: $P_{\max} = P_+$?)

Assume that u and v have positive entries and define

$$\phi(m) := \frac{1}{s_{\lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil}} \left(\sum_{\ell=1}^{+\infty} d_{\max}^{\ell} F_{(\ell+1)m}^{+} - d_{\min}^{\ell} F_{(\ell+1)m}^{-} \right), \quad (5)$$

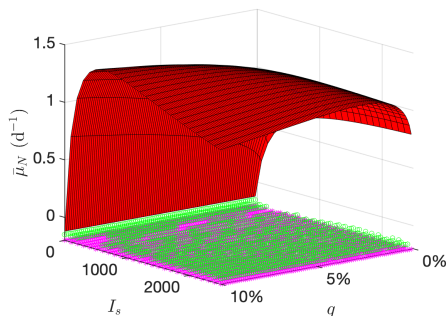
where $m := \#\{n = 1, \dots, N \mid \sigma(n) \neq \sigma_+(n)\}$, $d_{\max} := \max_{n=1, \dots, N} (d_n)$ and $d_{\min} := \min_{n=1, \dots, N} (d_n)$. Assume that:

$$\max_{m \geq 2} \phi(m) \leq 1. \quad (6)$$

Then $P_{\max} = P_+$.

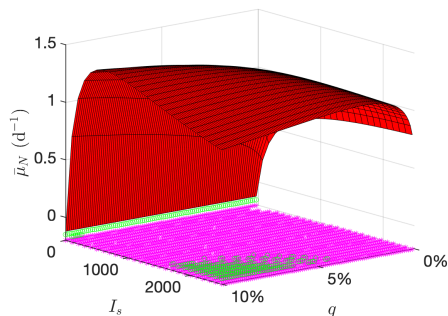
Approximation and criterion

$T = 1000$.



$N = 5$

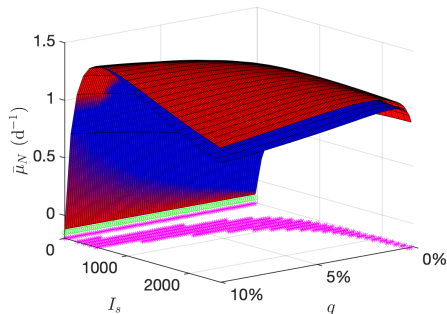
- $\bar{\mu}_N(P_{\max})$ and $\bar{\mu}_N(P_+)$.
- $P_{\max} = P_+$.
- Coincidence Criterion **satisfied**.



$N = 9$

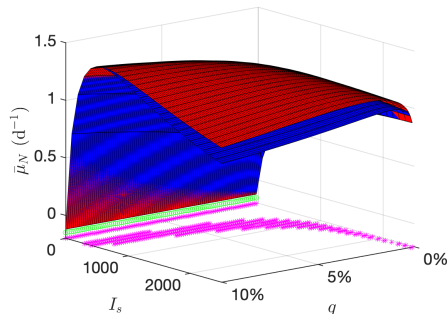
Approximation and criterion

$$T = 1.$$



$$N = 5$$

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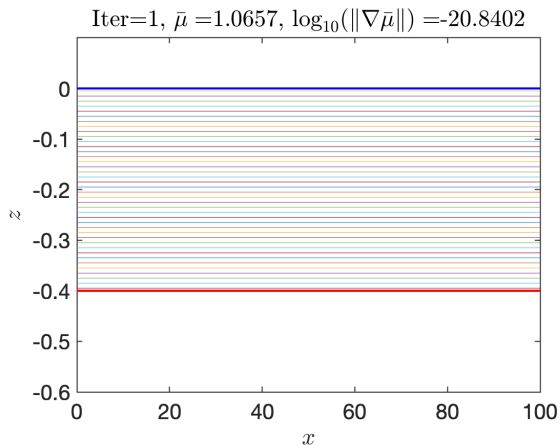
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Test with a permutation

We keep $N_a = 5$, $N_z = 40$ and choose $\sigma = Id$

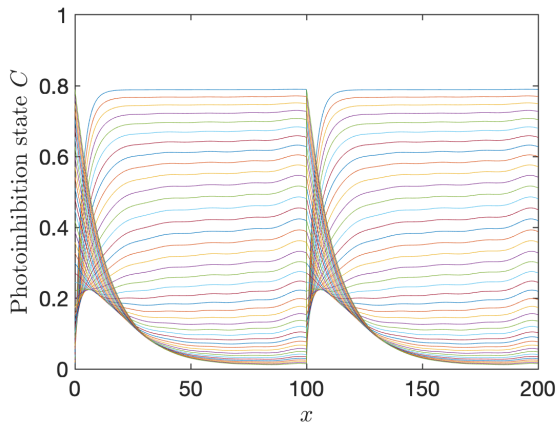


Test with a permutation

- Test permutation: $\sigma = (1\ N_z)(2\ N_z - 1)\dots$
- Initial guess: flat topography.

One periodic

We keep $N_a = 5$, $N_z = 40$ and choose $\sigma = (1 N_z)(2 N_z - 1) \dots$



- Volume related parameter a_0 as the **average depth** of the raceway system:

$$a_0 := \bar{h} = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L h(x) dx = \frac{V}{L}. \quad (7)$$

New parameter $\tilde{a} = [a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{N_a}] \in \mathbb{R}^{N_a+1}$.

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- Optimization Problem:

$$\Pi_{N_z}(\tilde{a}) := \bar{\mu}_{N_z}(\tilde{a}) X h(\tilde{a}) = \frac{Y_{\text{opt}} - \alpha_1 a_0}{V N_z \alpha_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_z} \int_0^L \mu(C_i, l_i(\tilde{a})) h(\tilde{a}) dx.$$

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$$P_{\max}^{100} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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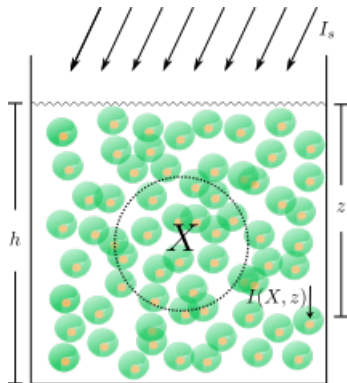
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Maximize productivity

Masci et al. 2010:

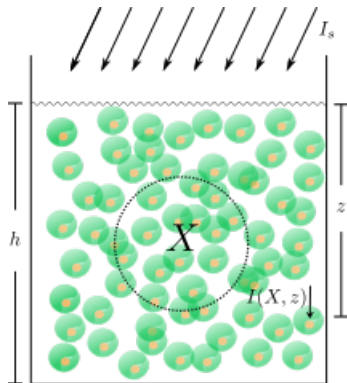
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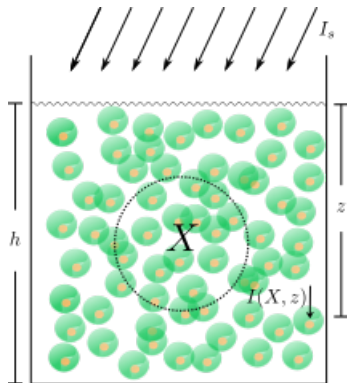
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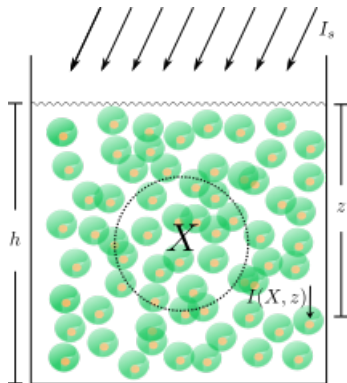
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Maximize productivity

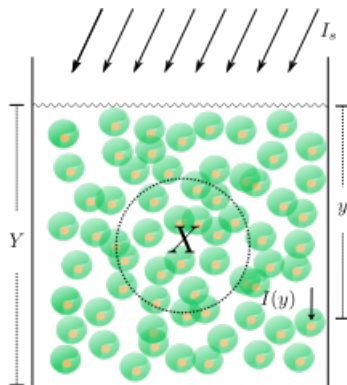
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- New concept: *optical depth productivity* $P := (\bar{\mu} - R)Y$ with the *optical depth* $Y := \varepsilon(X)h$.

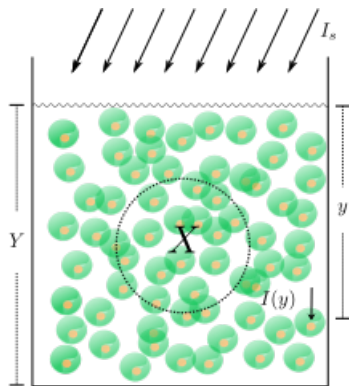
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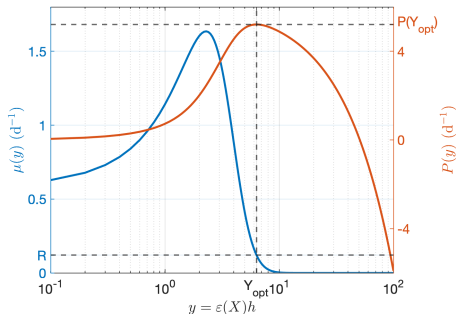
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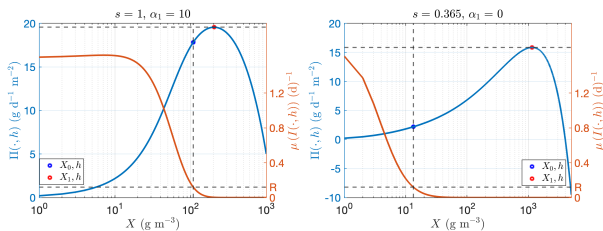
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- The extinction function $\varepsilon(X) := \alpha_0 X^s + \alpha_1$ (Morel 1988, Martínez 2018).
- For a given depth h , Y_{opt} is generally **NOT** the optimal condition.



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Given X_0 and consider the sequence $(X_n, h_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ defined by

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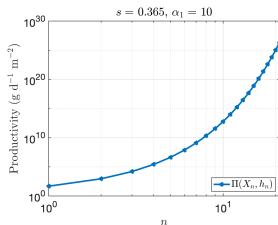
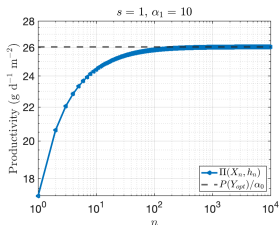
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Theorem

If $s = 1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pi(X_n, h_n) = \frac{P(Y_{\text{opt}})}{\alpha_0}$. If $s < 1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pi(X_n, h_n) = +\infty$.



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The control law

$$D = \begin{cases} D_{\max} & X \geq \bar{X} \\ (\bar{\mu}(X, h) - R) \frac{X}{X^*} & X < \bar{X} \end{cases}$$

globally stabilizes the evolution of X towards the positive point X^ .*

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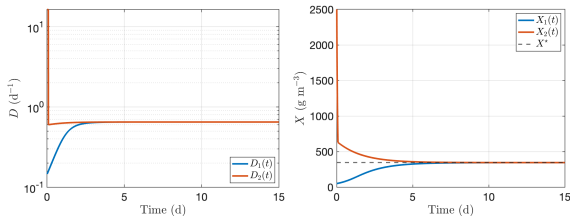
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- Flat topography is optimal in periodic case.
- Non flat topography with limited increase.

Mixing:

- Periodic dynamic resource allocation problem.
- One period is enough.
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	Topography	Mixing	Depth / Biomass concentration
Gain	$\approx 1 \%$	$\approx 30 \%$	$\approx 100 \%$

Further step that can lead to higher gains:

- Consider the turbulence regime (much more complex...).

But for this:

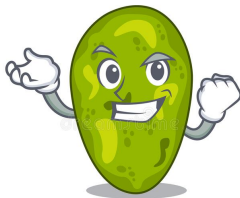
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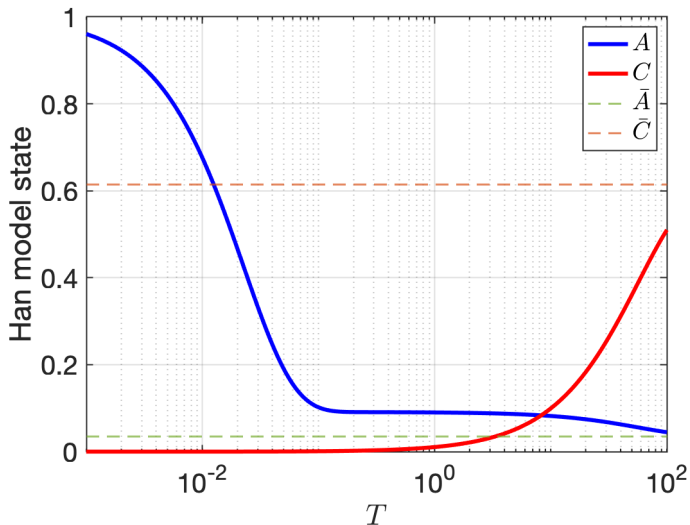
But for this:

- Include the faster time scales of the Han model.
- A more refined model of the mixing device (and its implication on hydrodynamics) must be developed.
- Higher energetic cost for maintaining a turbulent regime must be taken into account.

Thanks for your attention

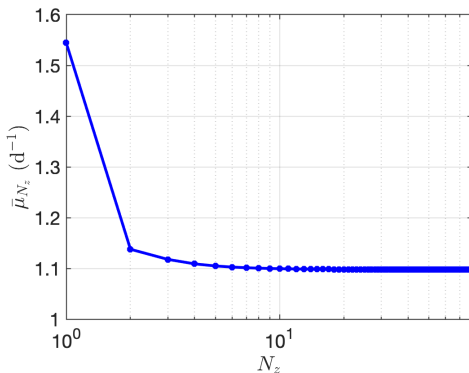


Fast/slow illustration



Effect on vertical discretization number

We fix $N_a = 5$ and take 100 random vector a . For N_z varying from 1 to 80, we compute the average value of $\bar{\mu}_{N_z}$ for each N_z .



Objective function

Define the average benefit after K operations

$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \left\langle u, \frac{1}{T} \int_{T_k}^{T_{k+1}} x(t) dt \right\rangle.$$

Theorem (One periodic)

If x is KT -periodic (i.e., $x(T_K) = x(T_0)$), then x is T -periodic.

$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \left\langle u, \frac{1}{T} \int_{T_k}^{T_{k+1}} x(t) dt \right\rangle = \left\langle u, \frac{1}{T} \int_{T_0}^{T_1} x(t) dt \right\rangle.$$