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GSAC talk
March 23, 2004

Multiple Metastatic Tumors

OUTLINE

- biological invasions
- cancer metastasis
 - ★ derive a model
 - ★ show some results

BIOLOGICAL INVASIONS

- In nature, all organisms expand their ranges to some extent
- Many well documented examples
 - ★ Muskrat through Europe, 1909-1927
 - ★ California sea otter along the West Coast, 1914-present
 - ★ cheatgrass in western North America, 1890-1930
- Three aspects of range expansion
 - ★ random movement
 - ★ reproduction
 - ★ long distance dispersal

- Consider random movement and reproduction only

★ random movement → diffusion

★ reproduction → growth term

Skellam Equation: exponential growth

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}n = D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}n + rn$$

Fisher Equation: logistic growth

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}n = D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}n + r\left(1 - \frac{n}{k}\right)n$$

$n(x, t)$ = population density at time t and location x

D = diffusion coefficient

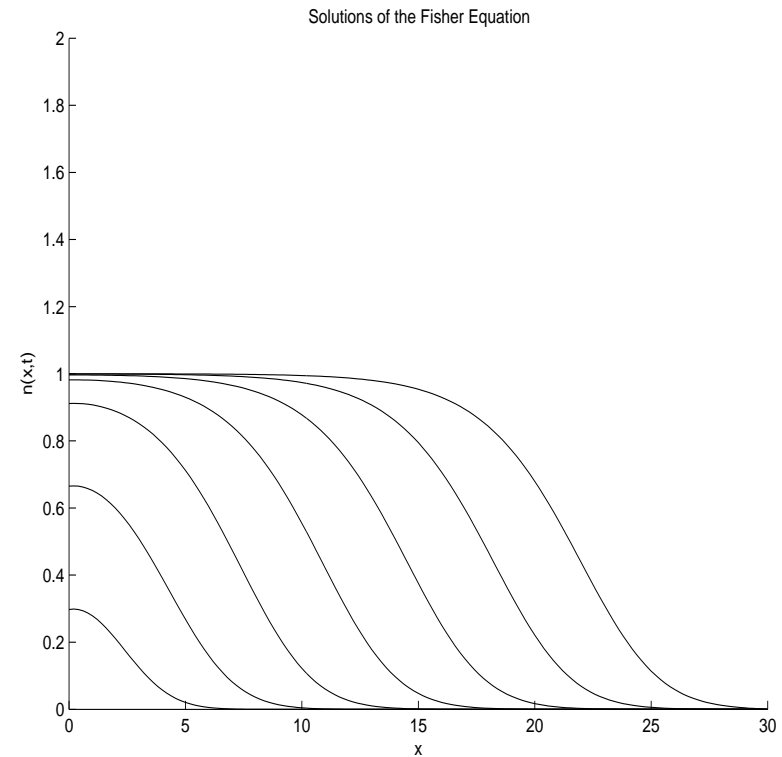
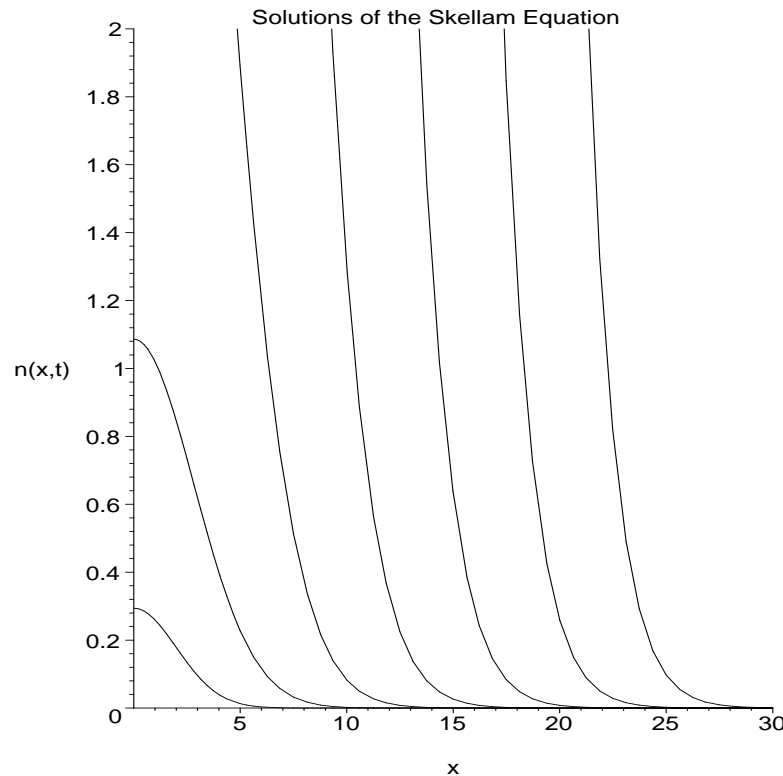
r = intrinsic growth rate

k = carrying capacity

- with the initial condition: $n(x, 0) = n_0\delta(x)$

and... $n_0 = 1$ $r = 1$ $D = 1$

- the results... for $t = 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14$



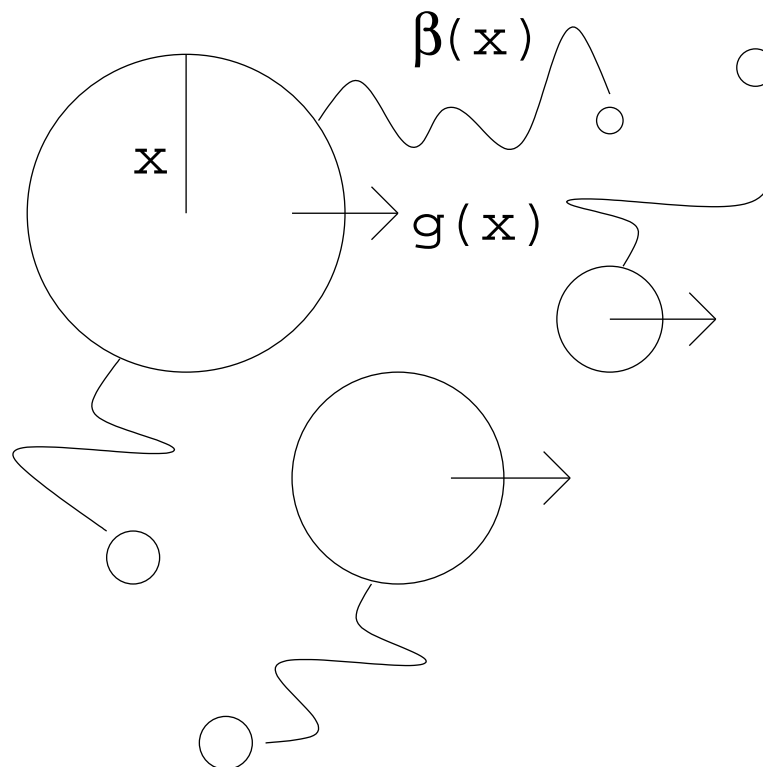
Skellam: exact solution $\rightarrow n(x, t) = \frac{n_0}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \exp\left(rt - \frac{x^2}{4Dt}\right)$

Fisher: numerical solution \rightarrow forward Euler finite difference scheme

- Consider long distance dispersal in addition

Scattered Colony Model

- ★ consider an initial colony of size x
 - ... could be radius, or some other measure of size
- ★ assume the species expands its colony size at rate $g(x)$
 - ... calculated from an equation like Skellam or Fisher
- ★ the colony produces long distance migrants at some rate $\beta(x)$
- ★ the migrants start new colonies, and so on...
- ★ keep track of the density of colonies of size x at time t



CANCER

- **Primary Tumor:** original location
- **Angiogenesis:** infiltration of blood vessels
- **Metastasis:** spread of cancer to another part of the body
 - ★ colon → liver
 - ★ lung → brain
 - ★ thyroid → bone
- **Problem:** no way of telling how many other tumors exist
 - ★ a mathematical model is needed!

A Dynamic Model for the Growth and Size Distribution of Multiple Metastatic Tumors

paper by

K. Iwata, K. Kawasaki, and N. Shigesada

Journal of Theoretical Biology, 2000

→ apply the scattered colony model to the spread of cancer

• Growth of Tumors:

★ cancer cells live in colonies called tumors

★ $x(t)$ = the number of cells in a tumor at time t

★ describe the growth of a tumor by, $\frac{dx}{dt} = g(x)$

★ assume all tumors start out with one cell, $x(0) = 1$

★ denote the primary tumor $x_p(t)$

... we really care about keeping track of metastatic tumors

- **Metastatic Tumors:**

- ★ $\rho(x, t) =$ density of metastatic tumors with x cells at time t

- ... density with respect to size rather than space

- ... dimensions of $\rho(x, t)$ are “# / unit size”

- ... $\rho(x, t)\Delta x =$ number of tumors in size range x to $x + \Delta x$

- ... $\int_x^\infty \rho(x, t)dx =$ total number of tumors with x or more cells

- ★ we want to keep track of $\rho(x, t)$

- **Conservation Equation:**

- ★ it says the tumors are each growing at rate $g(x)$

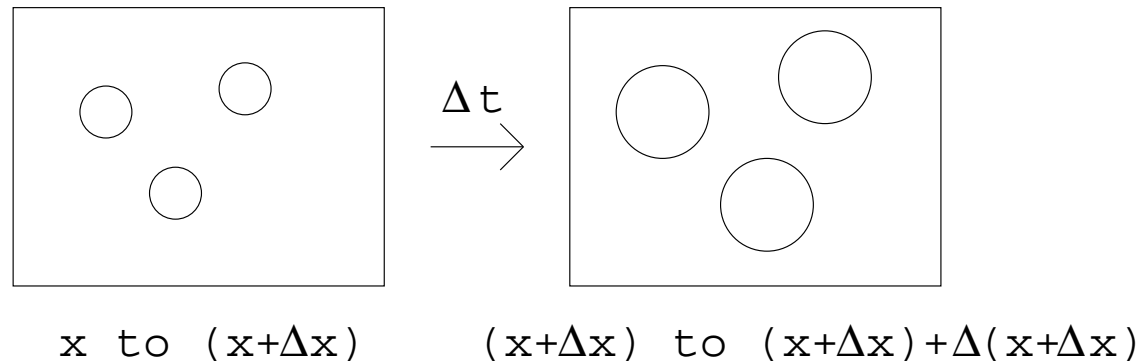
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(g(x)\rho(x, t)) = 0$$

... the way I derived it

- ★ suppose there are n tumors in the class size x to $x + \Delta x$

$$n = \rho(x, t)\Delta x$$

- ★ they all moving into the next class together...



- ★ which means after a time Δt ,

$$n = \rho(x + \Delta x, t + \Delta t)(\Delta(x + \Delta x))$$

★ which means that,

$$\rho(x, t)\Delta x = \rho(x + \Delta x, t + \Delta t)(\Delta(x + \Delta x))$$

★ we also know, $\frac{dx}{dt} = g(x) \longrightarrow \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = g(x)$

$$\rho(x, t)\Delta x = \rho(x + g(x)\Delta t, t + \Delta t)(g(x + \Delta x)\Delta t)$$

★ expand with respect to Δx and Δt

★ divide both sides by Δx and Δt

★ then, in the limit that $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ and $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$,

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(g(x)\rho(x, t)) = 0}$$

- **Initial Condition:**

- ★ no metastatic tumors exist at $t = 0$

$$\boxed{\rho(x, 0) = 0}$$

- **Boundary Condition:**

- ★ metastatic single cells are being created

$$\boxed{g(1)\rho(1, t) = \int_1^\infty \beta(x)\rho(x, t)dx + \beta(x_p(t))}$$

LHS: rate at which tumors with 1 cell are entering the system

- ★ $g(1)\rho(1, t)$ has dimensions “size/time · #/size” = “#/time”

RHS: rate at which existing tumors are producing metastases

- ★ sum of the rates at which all of the metastatic tumors are producing new metastatic tumors plus the rate at which the primary tumor is producing new metastatic tumors

- **Rate of Metastasis:**

★ production of metastases is proportional to degree of angiogenesis

$$\beta(x) = mx^\alpha$$

m = colonization coefficient (size · time)⁻¹

α = fractal dimension of blood vessels entering the tumor

... assume blood vessels are distributed on the surface of a tumor

⇒ $\alpha = 2/3$ because surface area of a tumor is proportional to $x^{2/3}$

- **Full Model:**

$$[1] \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (g(x) \rho(x, t)) = 0$$

$$[2] \quad \rho(x, 0) = 0$$

$$[3] \quad g(1) \rho(1, t) = \int_1^{\infty} \beta(x) \rho(x, t) dx + \beta(x_p(t))$$

where,

$$\frac{dx_p}{dt} = g(x_p) \text{ with } x_p(0) = 1$$

$$\beta(x) = mx^{\alpha}$$

- **Tumor Growth Rate:**

I. Exponential: $g(x) = ax$

II. Gompertzian: $g(x) = ax \log\left(\frac{b}{x}\right)$

a = growth rate constant (time)⁻¹

b = tumor size at saturated level (size)

• Solve using Laplace Transforms:

I. Exponential: $g(x) = ax$

★ primary tumor $\rightarrow x_p(t) = e^{at}$

★ Laplace Transform the PDE to get an ODE in x ,

$$\frac{s+a}{ax} \hat{\rho}(x, s) + \frac{d}{dx} \hat{\rho}(x, s) = 0$$

solve...

$$\rightarrow \hat{\rho}(x, s) = c(s)x^{-s/a-1}$$

★ Laplace Transform the BC to get

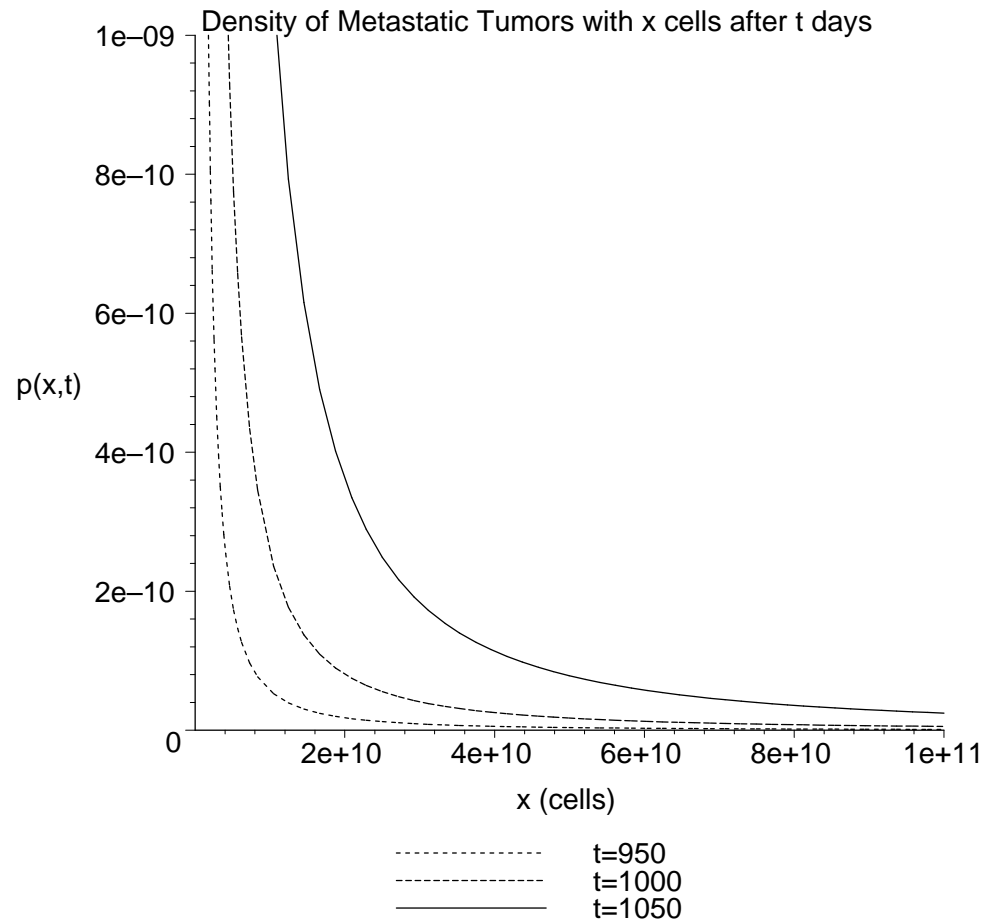
$$g(1)\hat{\rho}(1, s) = \int_1^\infty \beta(x)\hat{\rho}(x, s)dx + \int_0^\infty \beta(x_p(t))e^{-st}dt$$

★ plug in the expressions for $\hat{\rho}(x, s)$ and $x_p(t)$, solve for $c(s)$

$$\rightarrow \hat{\rho}(x, s) = \frac{-m}{a(a\alpha-s+m)}x^{-s/a-1}$$

★ take the inverse Laplace Transform to get...

$$\rho(x, t) = \frac{m}{a} e^{(a\alpha + m)t} x^{-\alpha - m/a - 1}$$



$$a = 0.00286 \text{ (day)}^{-1}$$

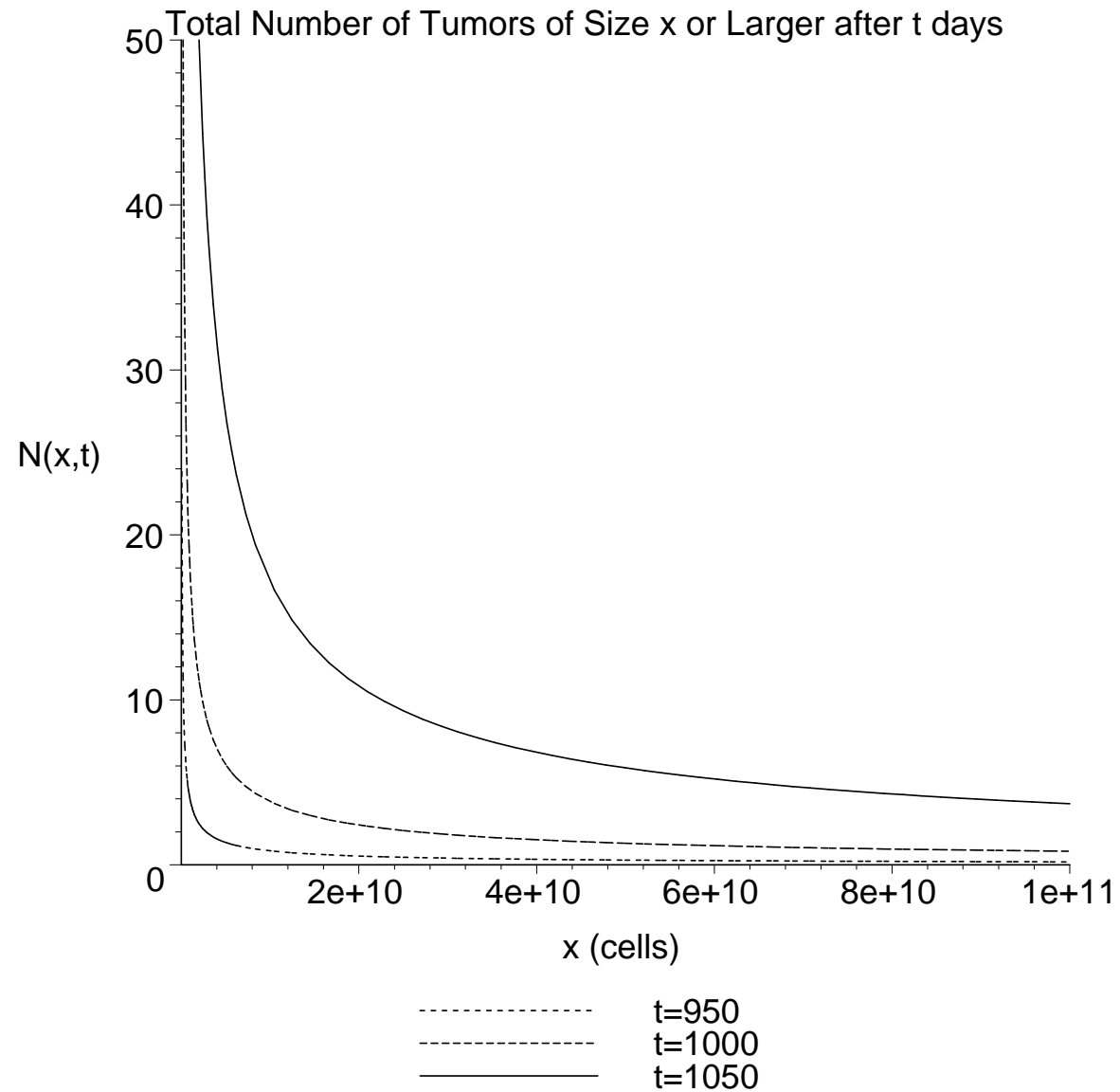
$$m = 5.3 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ (cells} \cdot \text{day)}^{-1}$$

$$\alpha = 2/3$$

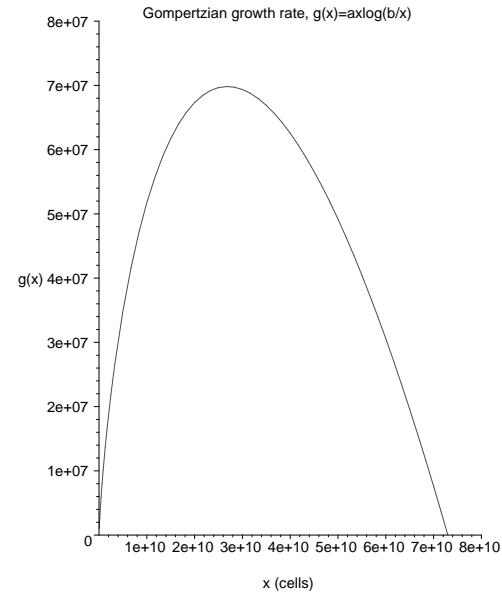
★ the total number of tumors can be found by integrating,

→ $N(x, t) = \int_x^\infty \rho(x, t) dx = \#$ of tumors size x or larger at time t

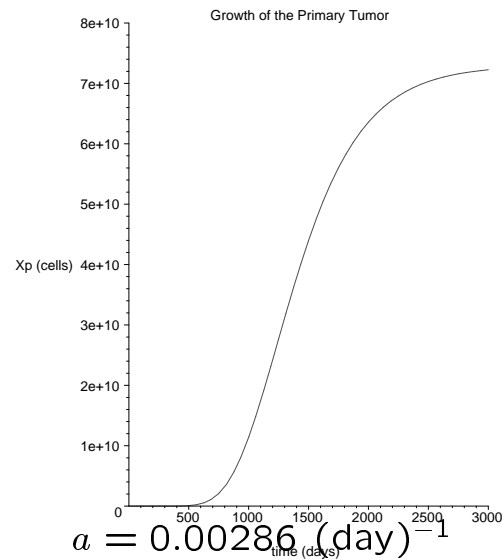
$$N(x, t) = \frac{m}{a\alpha + m} e^{(a\alpha + m)t} x^{-\alpha - m/a}$$



II. Gompertzian: $g(x) = ax \log\left(\frac{b}{x}\right)$



★ primary tumor $\rightarrow x_p(t) = b^{1-e^{-at}}$



$$a = 0.00286 \text{ (day)}^{-1}$$

$$b = 7.3 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ cells}$$

...using LT in this case is not quite as easy...

- taking the inverse LT we get

$$\rho(x, t) = \frac{1}{a \log(b)x} \left(1 - \frac{\log(x)}{\log(b)}\right)^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Res}[f(z), z_k]$$

★ where $f(z) = \frac{\frac{m}{z}}{1 - \frac{m}{z}F} \cdot e^{\frac{z}{a} \log\left(1 - \frac{\log(x)}{\log(b)}\right) + zt}$

★ and z_k are the roots of $1 - \frac{m}{s}F = 0$

★ YIKES!!!

... **Solve it Numerically**

- Upwind type of scheme

- ★ forward difference in t to approximate $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$

- ★ backward difference in x to approximate $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$

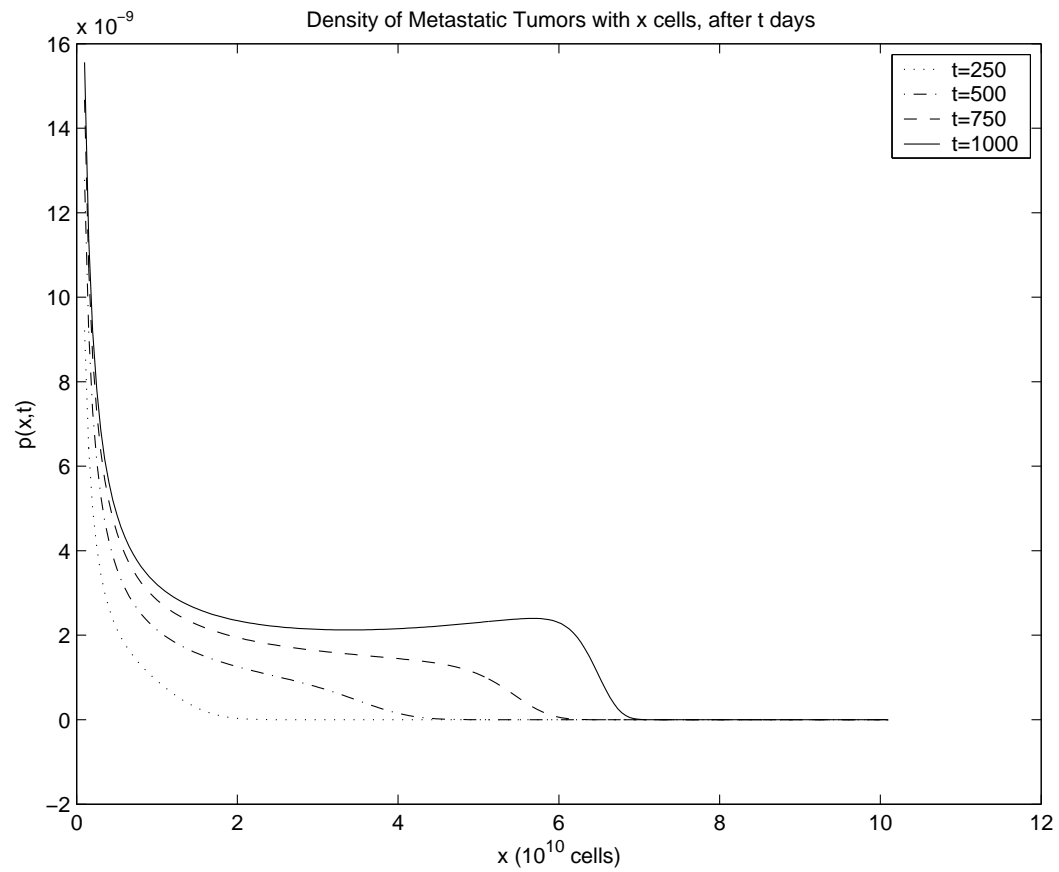
$$\text{PDE} \rightarrow U_j^{n+1} = \left(1 - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} g(j)\right) U_j^n + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} g(j-1) U_{j-1}^n$$

$$\text{BC} \rightarrow U_1^{n+1} = \frac{1}{g(1)} \left[\sum_{j=1}^J \beta(j) U_j^n \Delta x + \beta(x_p(n)) \right]$$

- CFL condition: $\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \gg g(x)$

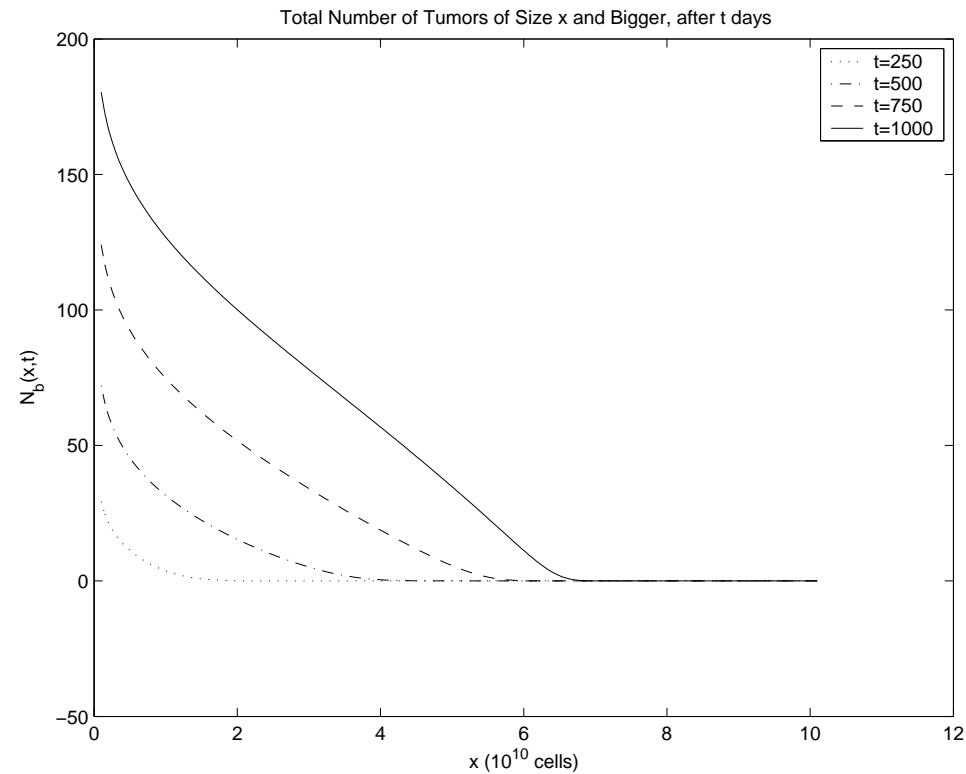
- ★ characteristics of PDE must lie within characteristics of numerical scheme

Results...



$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= 0.00286 \text{ (day)}^{-1} \\
 b &= 7.3 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ cells} \\
 m &= 5.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ (cells} \cdot \text{day)}^{-1} \\
 \alpha &= 2/3
 \end{aligned}$$

- total number of tumors of size x or bigger is given by $(N_b)_j^n = \sum_{k=j}^J U_k^n \Delta x$



$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= 0.00286 \text{ (day)}^{-1} \\
 b &= 7.3 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ cells} \\
 m &= 5.3 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ (cells} \cdot \text{day)}^{-1} \\
 \alpha &= 2/3
 \end{aligned}$$

CONCLUSIONS

- Cancer metastasis can be thought of as a biological invasion
- Derived a model
 - ★ growth of individual tumors
 - ★ long distance dispersal
- Analyzed the model
 - ★ analytically
 - ★ numerically
- If parameter values a , b , m , and α could be quantified
 - the model could be a useful tool

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