

# Contents

<b>0. Prolegomenon</b> . . . . .	11
<b>1. Preliminary considerations</b>	
1.1. Stochastic and deterministic models in biology . . . . .	15
1.1.1. Comparisons with deterministic models . . . . .	15
1.1.2. Equipollent and conjunct models . . . . .	18
1.2. The structure of biological populations . . . . .	21
1.2.1. Elements of bio-logic . . . . .	21
1.2.2. Distinguishability and indistinguishability . . . . .	23
1.2.3. Equivalence relations and graphs . . . . .	24
1.2.4. Descendants, generations and families . . . . .	27
1.2.5. The temporal structure of populations and biological objects . . . . .	30
1.2.6. Characteristic distributions for some biological populations . . . . .	35
<b>2. Population growth models</b>	
2.1. Stochastic population processes . . . . .	41
2.1.1. Point processes as models of stochastic populations . . . . .	41
2.1.2. Homogeneous birth-and-death processes . . . . .	44
2.1.3. A random walk example . . . . .	46
2.1.4. Birth, death and diffusion processes . . . . .	50
2.2. Population processes in Euclidean space . . . . .	53
2.2.1. Homogeneous spatial models . . . . .	53
2.2.2. Birth, death and migration processes in $R^2$ and $R^3$ . . . . .	55
2.3. Intrinsic processes . . . . .	59
2.3.1. Multiple-phase processes . . . . .	59
2.3.2. The life cycle process . . . . .	68
2.3.3. The birth, death and marks transmission process . . . . .	74
2.3.4. Interdependent (self)-replicating process . . . . .	78
2.3.5. Point mutation processes . . . . .	84
2.4. Stochastic demographic models . . . . .	97
2.4.1. The discrete time model . . . . .	97
2.4.2. A model related to human populations . . . . .	103
2.4.3. Population growth of the sexes . . . . .	106

2.4.4. The reproductive process . . . . .	110
2.5. Other growth models and derived processes . . . . .	118
2.5.1. The cumulative process . . . . .	118
2.5.2. The Prendiville (logistic) process . . . . .	120
2.5.3. Some problems of survival and extinction . . . . .	123
<b>3. Population dynamics processes</b>	
3.1. Some multi-dimensional Markov jump processes . . . . .	127
3.1.1. Consael processes . . . . .	127
3.1.2. A generalized $n$ -dimensional ( $n \geq 2$ ) linear growth process . . . . .	133
3.2. Immigration-emigration processes . . . . .	134
3.2.1. The Kendall process . . . . .	134
3.2.2. Immigration and emigration processes . . . . .	136
3.2.3. Intermigration and colonization . . . . .	141
3.2.4. Taxis and kinesis as dispersion processes . . . . .	144
3.3. Competition processes . . . . .	148
3.3.1. Some introductory remarks . . . . .	148
3.3.2. Stochastic competition processes . . . . .	151
3.3.3. Quasi-competition processes . . . . .	155
3.3.4. Population excess and cannibalism . . . . .	157
3.4. Poikilopoiesis models . . . . .	163
3.4.1. A stochastic approach to embryogenesis . . . . .	163
3.4.2. Hematopoiesis models . . . . .	165
<b>4. Evolutionary processes</b>	
4.1. Basic problems, models and methods . . . . .	170
4.1.1. Paradigm for the stochastic evolutionary processes . . . . .	170
4.1.2. Classical genetic stochastic models . . . . .	178
4.1.3. Tendency to homozygosity . . . . .	185
4.1.4. Diffusion approximations . . . . .	188
4.1.5. Non-Mendelian situations . . . . .	191
4.1.6. Direct product Galton-Watson chains . . . . .	193
4.2. Random drift and systematic evolutionary processes . . . . .	201
4.2.1. Random drift . . . . .	201
4.2.2. Selection . . . . .	203
4.2.3. Mutation . . . . .	204
4.3. Problems of molecular genetics . . . . .	206
4.3.1. Growing point of donor DNA attachment model . . . . .	206
4.3.2. An example of a random system with complete connections . . . . .	209

## 5. Models in physiology and pathology

5.1. Stochastic models in physiology . . . . .	213
5.1.1. Models of the appearance and the transmission of the neural flux . . . . .	213
5.1.2. Chemical mediation processes . . . . .	217
5.1.3. Some problems of stochastic networks . . . . .	221
5.1.4. A model of muscle contraction . . . . .	224
5.1.5. Renewal processes in pharmacology . . . . .	228
5.1.6. Multicompartment systems . . . . .	231
5.2. Models in pathology . . . . .	234
5.2.1. The process of infection . . . . .	234
5.2.2. The clinical process . . . . .	240
5.2.3. Stochastic models for tumour growth . . . . .	247
5.2.4. Some stochastic aspects of chemotherapy . . . . .	253
5.2.5. Competing risks of illness . . . . .	254
5.2.6. Control of biological processes . . . . .	257
5.3. Epidemic processes . . . . .	262
5.3.1. The classical models . . . . .	262
5.3.2. A general approach to epidemics . . . . .	269
5.3.3. Epidemic Markov chains . . . . .	272
References . . . . .	278
Notation index . . . . .	323
Subject index . . . . .	325
Author index . . . . .	331