

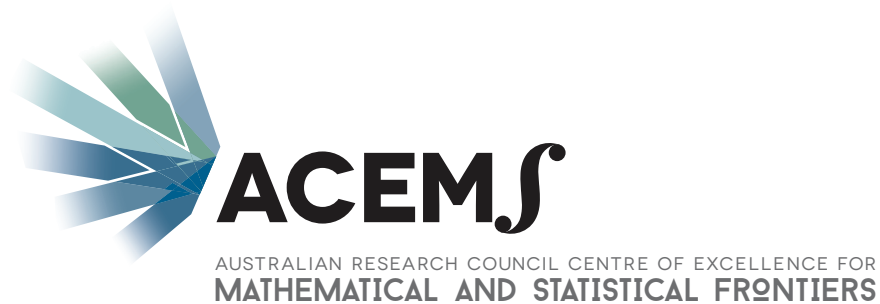
# Metapopulations in dynamic landscapes

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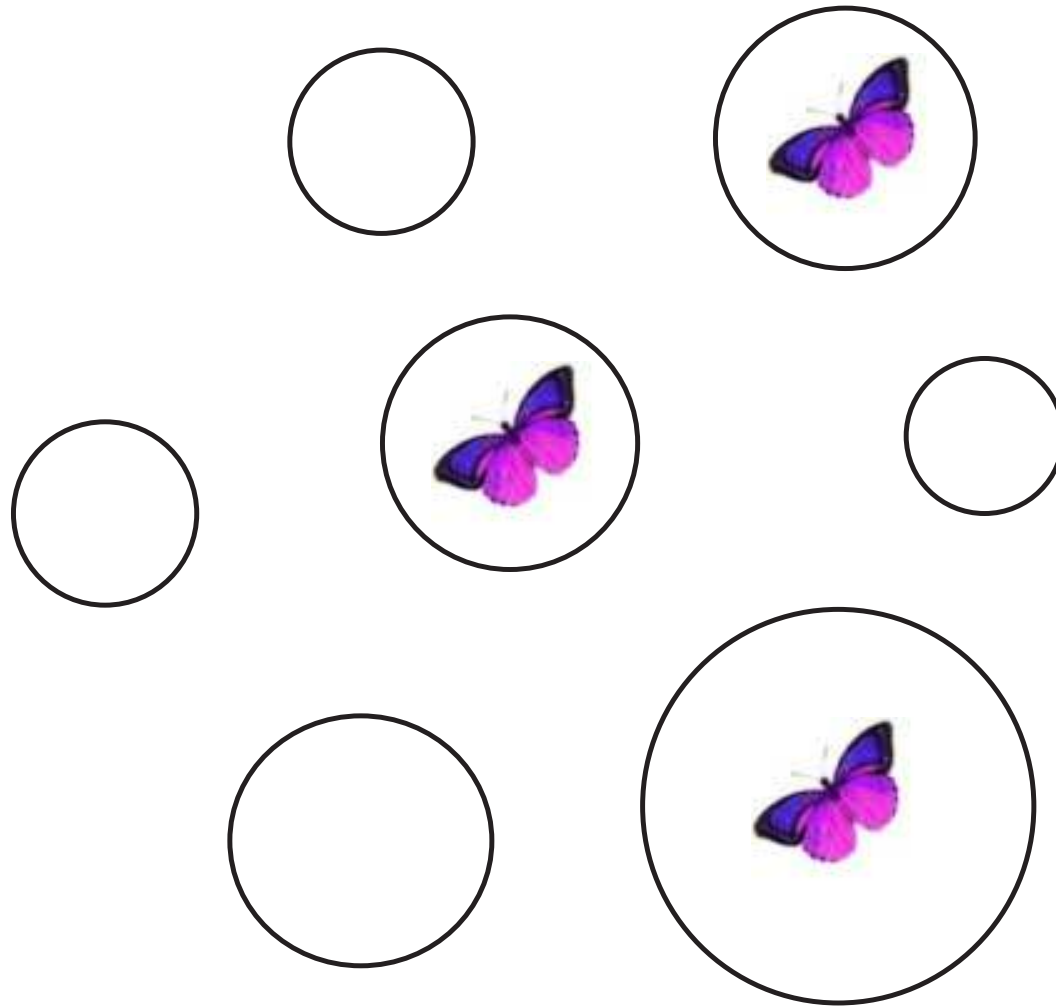


# Collaborator

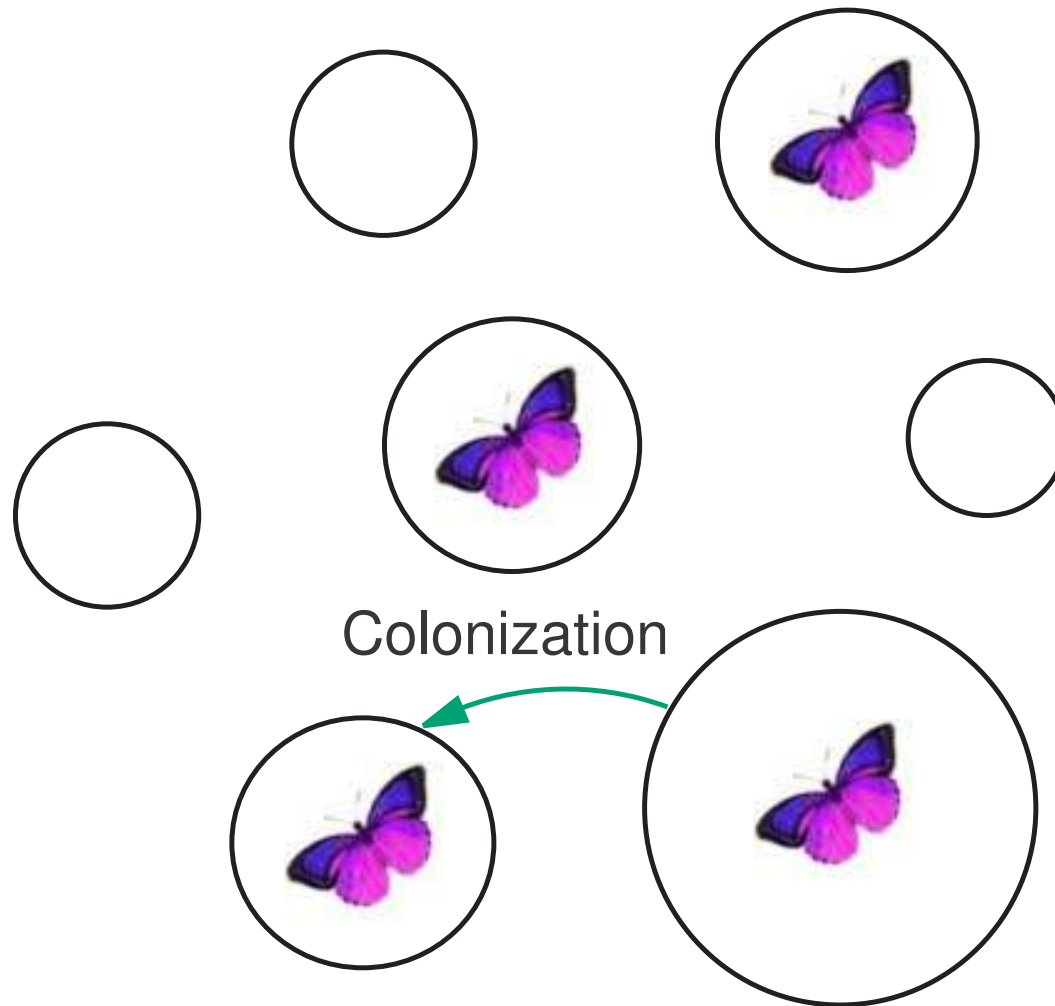
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Department of Mathematics  
University of Queensland



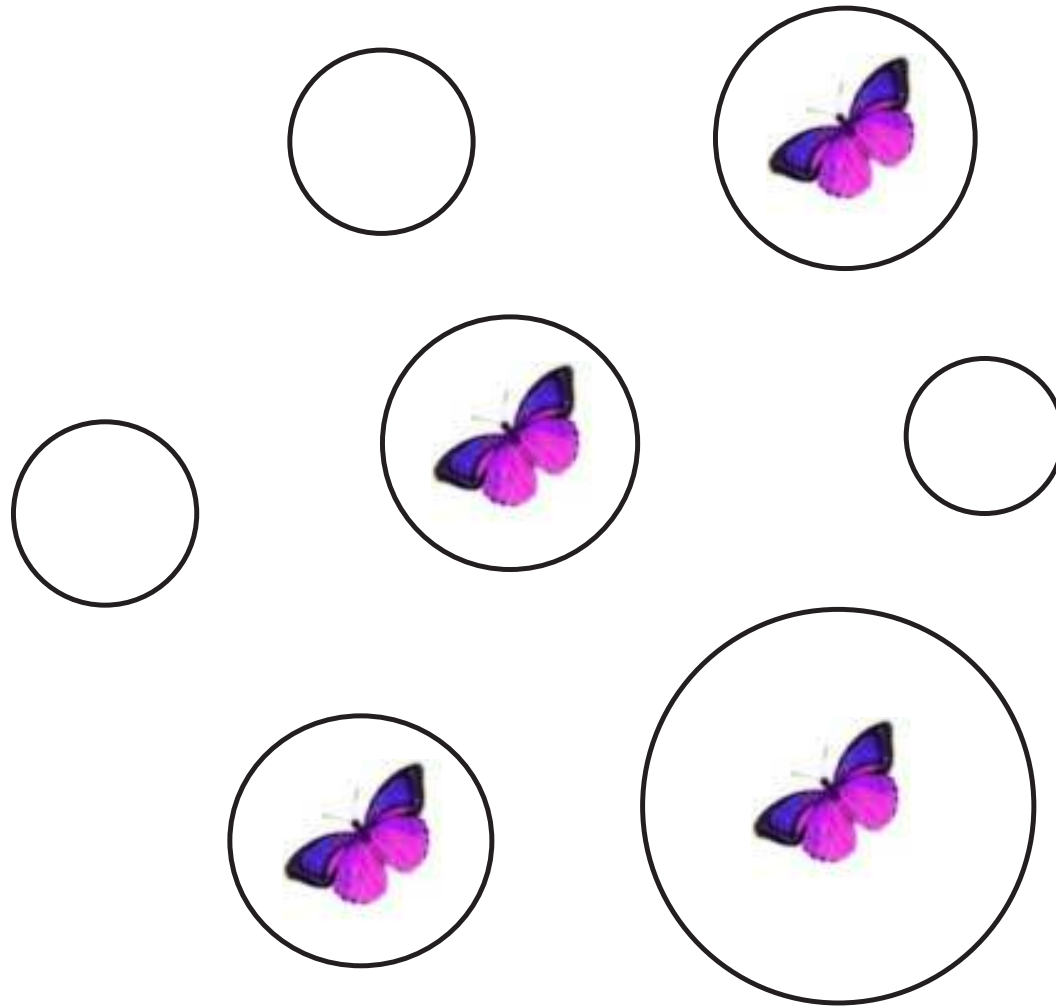
# Metapopulations



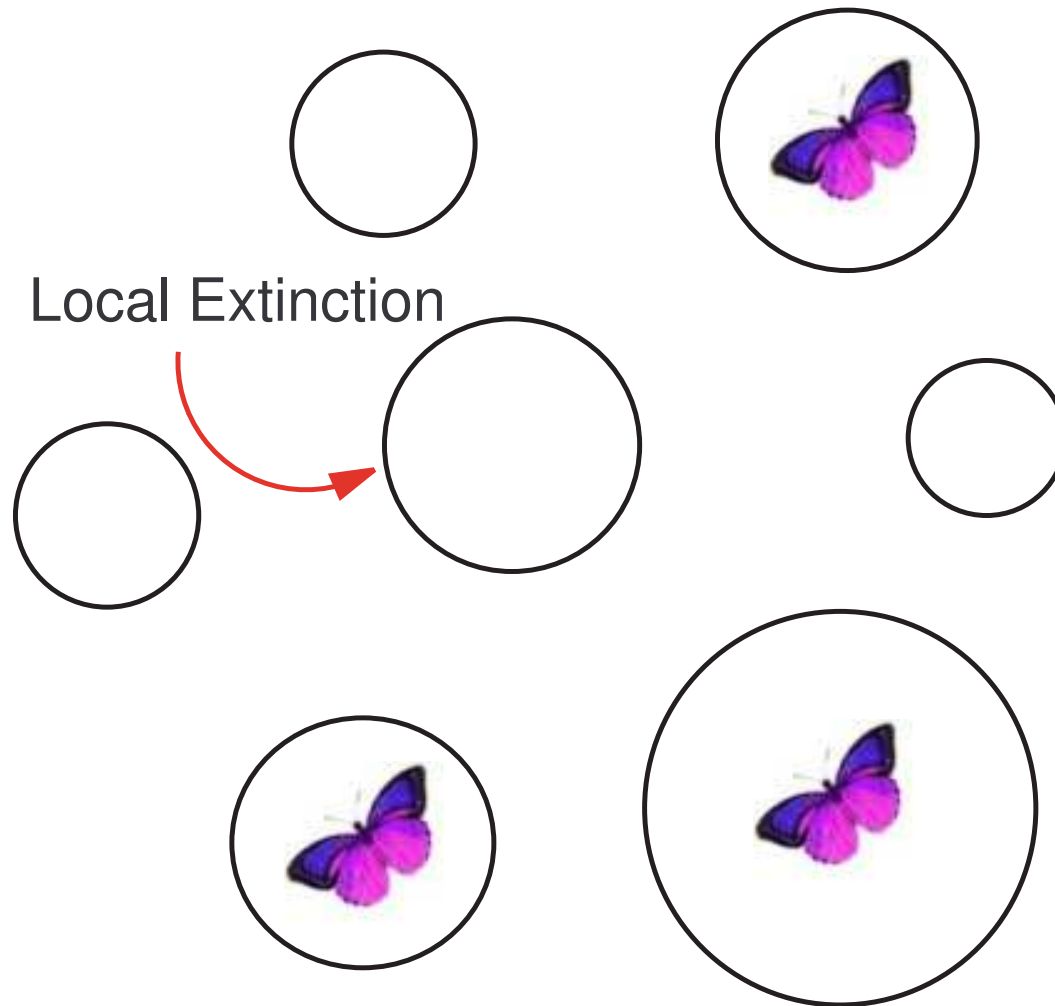
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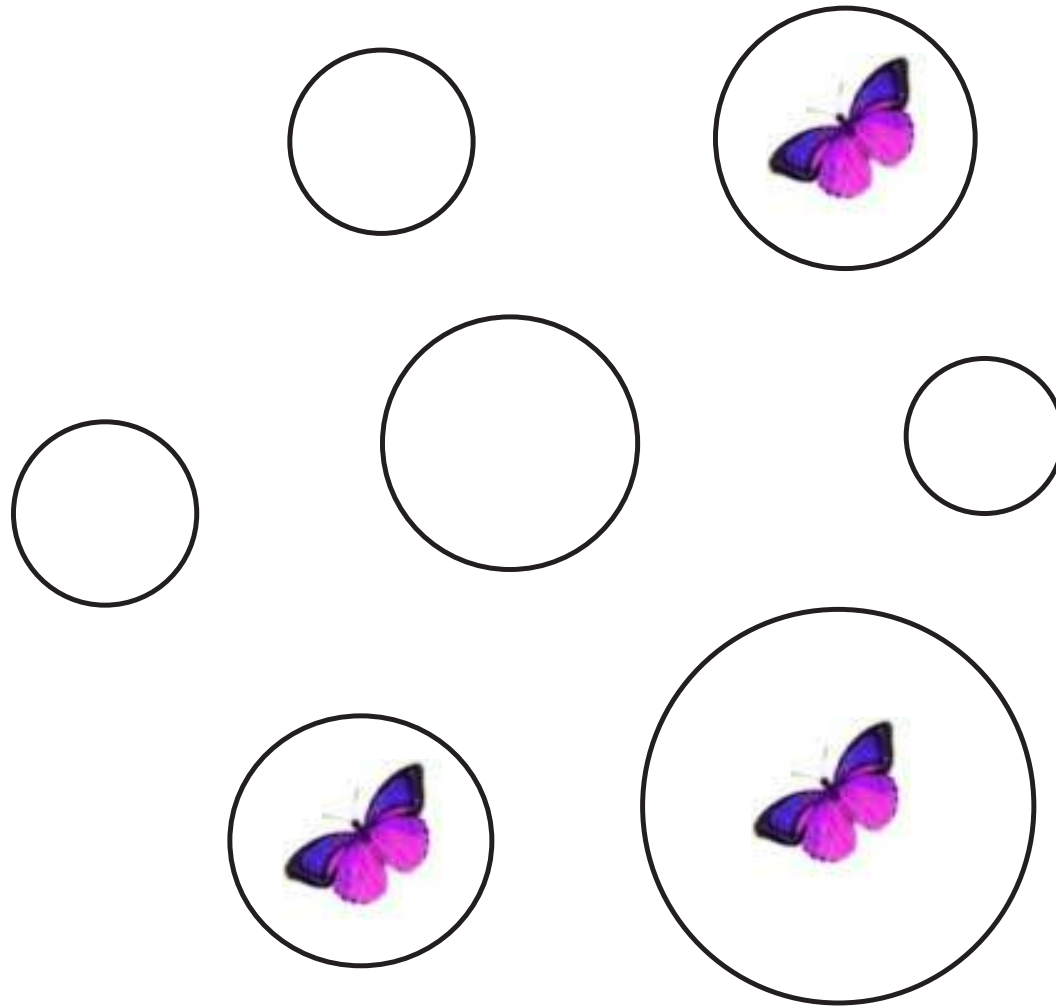
# Metapopulations



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*A stochastic patch occupancy model* (SPOM)



## A *stochastic patch occupancy model* (SPOM)

Suppose that there are  $n$  patches.

Let  $X_t^{(n)} = (X_{1,t}^{(n)}, \dots, X_{n,t}^{(n)})$ , where  $X_{i,t}^{(n)}$  is a binary variable indicating whether or not patch  $i$  is occupied at time  $t$ .

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Colonization and extinction happen in distinct, successive phases.

# SPOM - Phase structure

For many species the propensity for colonization and local extinction is markedly different in different phases of their life cycle. Examples:

The Vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*) and the California linderiella (*Linderiella occidentalis*), both listed under the Endangered Species Act (USA)

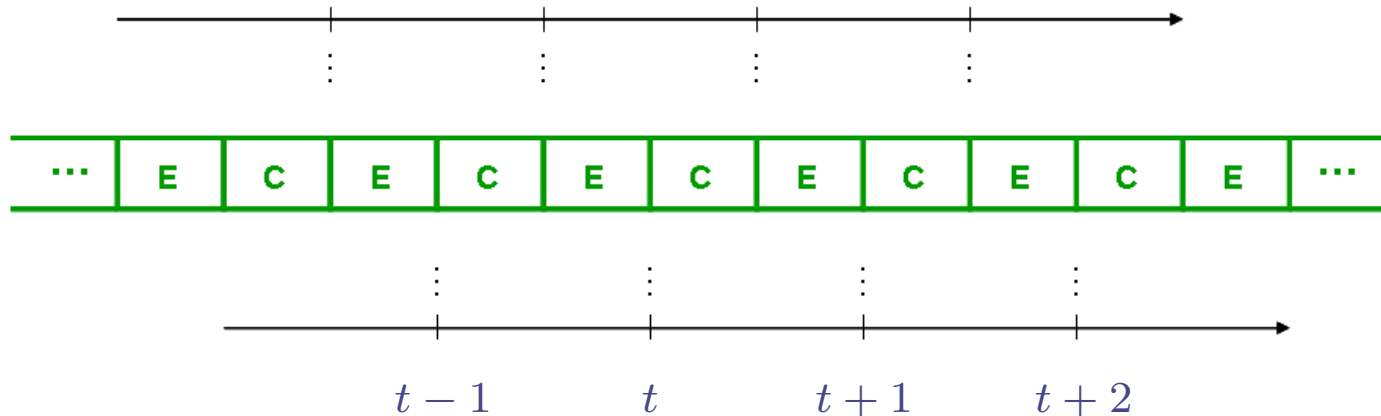


The Jasper Ridge population of Bay checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha bayensis*), now extinct



# SPOM - Phase structure

Colonization and extinction happen in distinct, successive phases.



We will we assume that the population is *observed after successive extinction phases* (CE Model).

# SPOM - Phase structure

**Colonization:** unoccupied patch  $i$  becomes occupied with probability

$$c \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n X_{j,t}^{(n)} d(z_i, z_j) a_j \right),$$

where  $d(z, \tilde{z}) \geq 0$  measures the ease of movement between patches located at  $z$  and  $\tilde{z}$ ,  $a_j$  is a weight related to the size of the patch  $j$  and  $c : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  (called the **colonisation function**) is increasing and Lipschitz continuous, with  $c(0) = 0$  and  $c'(0) > 0$ .

# SPOM - Phase structure

For simplicity, take  $d \equiv 1$  and  $a \equiv 1$ . So, ...

**Colonization:** unoccupied patch  $i$  becomes occupied with probability  $c(n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n X_{j,t}^{(n)})$ , where  $c : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  (called the **colonisation function**) is increasing and Lipschitz continuous, with  $c(0) = 0$  and  $c'(0) > 0$ .

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Proportion of patches occupied



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**Extinction:** occupied patch  $i$  remains occupied independently with probability  $s_i$  (fixed or random).

# SPOM - example

$n = 30$  patches

0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

(11 patches occupied)

# SPOM - example

$$n = 30, c(x) = 0.7x$$

0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

$$c(x) = c\left(\frac{11}{30}\right) = 0.7 \times 0.3\dot{6} = 0.25\dot{6}$$

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0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0  
C 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0

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# SPOM - example

$n = 30$ ,  $c(x) = 0.7x$  and  $s_i \sim \text{Beta}(25.2, 19.8)$  ( $\mathbb{E}s_i = 0.56$ )

	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
C	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
	0.60				0.56	0.63		0.62	0.52							0.61	0.68	0.49	0.49							0.49	0.50				
					0.41	0.59										0.63	0.60	0.61													

[Survival probabilities listed for occupied patches only]

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C	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0



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C	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
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E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

$$c(x) = c\left(\frac{10}{30}\right) = 0.7 \times 0.3 = 0.21$$

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C	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
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C	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
C	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

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C	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		
E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
C	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

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C	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
C	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
E	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

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```
      0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0
C 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0
E 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
C 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
E 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
.
.
.
C 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
E 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

The evolution of the process can be summarized by

$$X_{i,t+1}^{(n)} \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{Bin}\left(X_{i,t}^{(n)} + \mathbf{Bin}\left(1 - X_{i,t}^{(n)}, c\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n X_{j,t}^{(n)}\right)\right), s_i\right),$$

a “*Chain Bernoulli*” structure.



# SPOM - Homogeneous case

In the *homogeneous case*, where  $s_i = s$  is the same for each  $i$ , the *number*  $N_t^{(n)}$  of occupied patches at time  $t$  is Markovian, and, letting the initial number  $N_0^{(n)}$  of occupied patches grow at the same rate as  $n$  we arrive at:

**Theorem** If  $N_0^{(n)} / n \xrightarrow{p} x_0$  (a constant), then

$$N_t^{(n)} / n \xrightarrow{p} x_t, \quad \text{for all } t \geq 1,$$

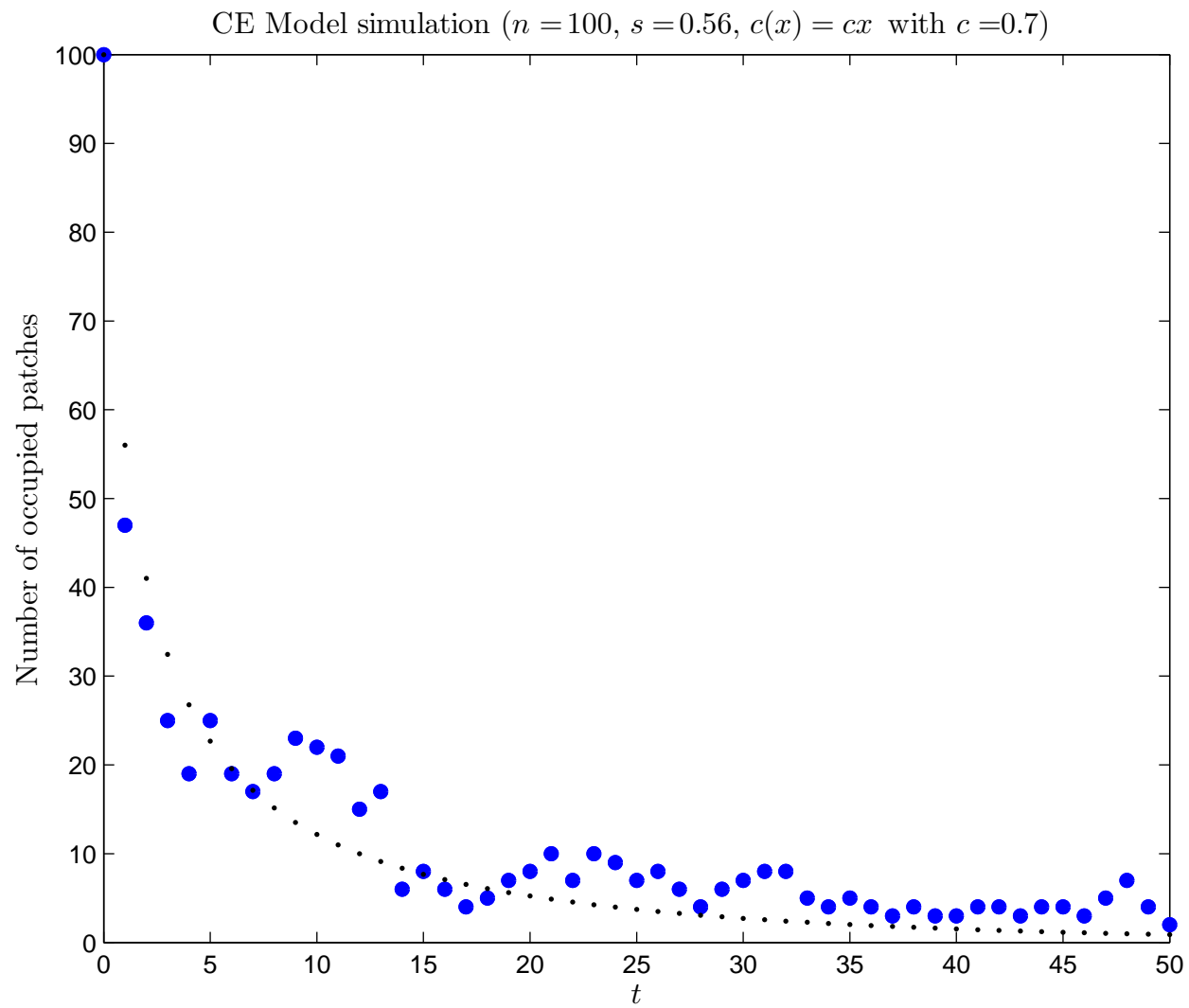
with  $(x_t)$  determined by  $x_{t+1} = f(x_t)$ , where

$$f(x) = s(x + (1 - x)c(x)).$$

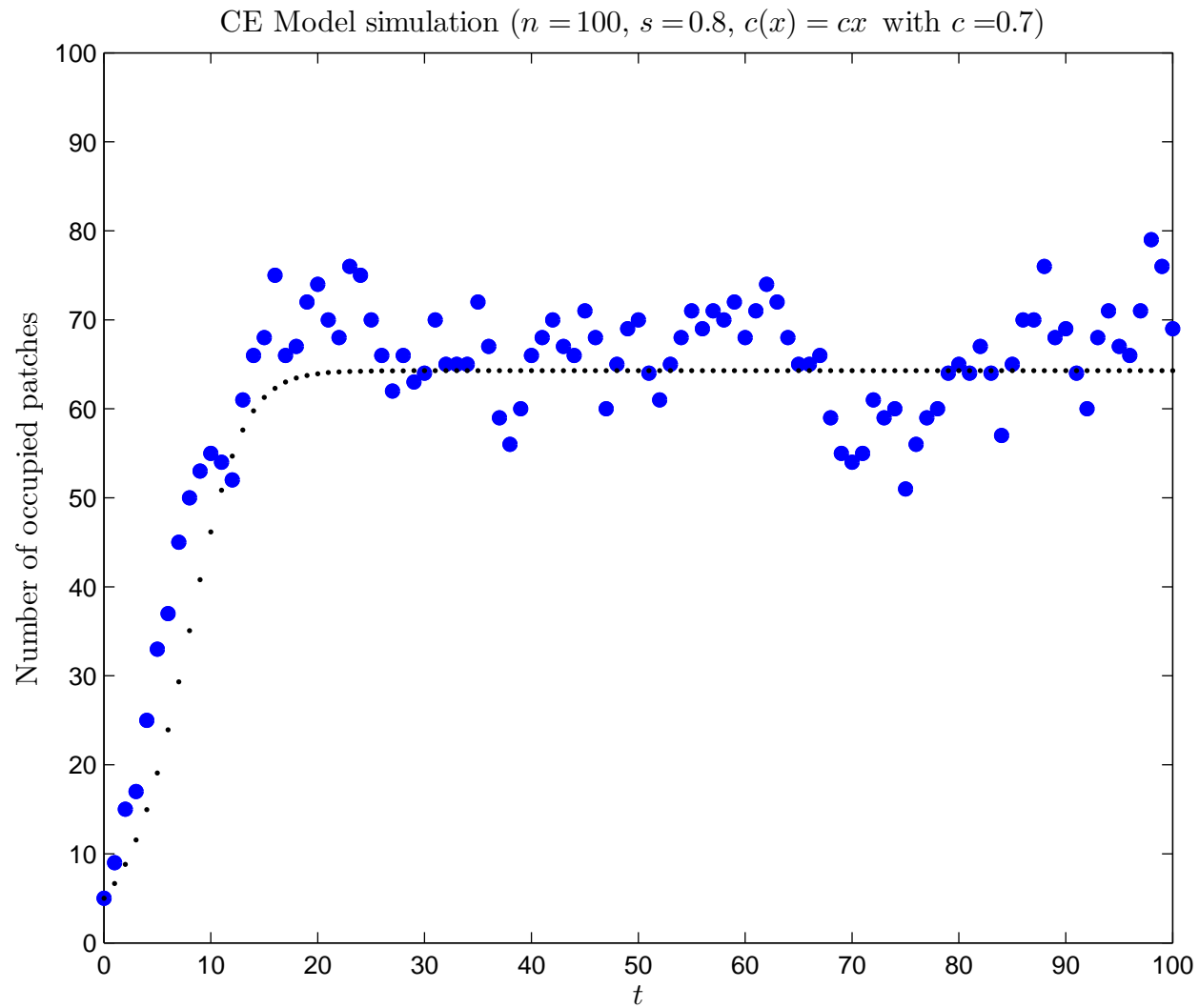
Survival probability

Colonization probability

# CE Model - Evanescence



# CE Model - Quasi stationarity



# Stability

$x_{t+1} = f(x_t)$ , where  $f(x) = s(x + (1 - x)c(x))$ .

***Evanescence***:  $1 + c'(0) \leq 1/s$ . 0 is the unique fixed point in  $[0, 1]$ . It is stable.

***Quasi stationarity***:  $1 + c'(0) > 1/s$ . There are two fixed points in  $[0, 1]$ : 0 (unstable) and  $x^* \in (0, 1)$  (stable).

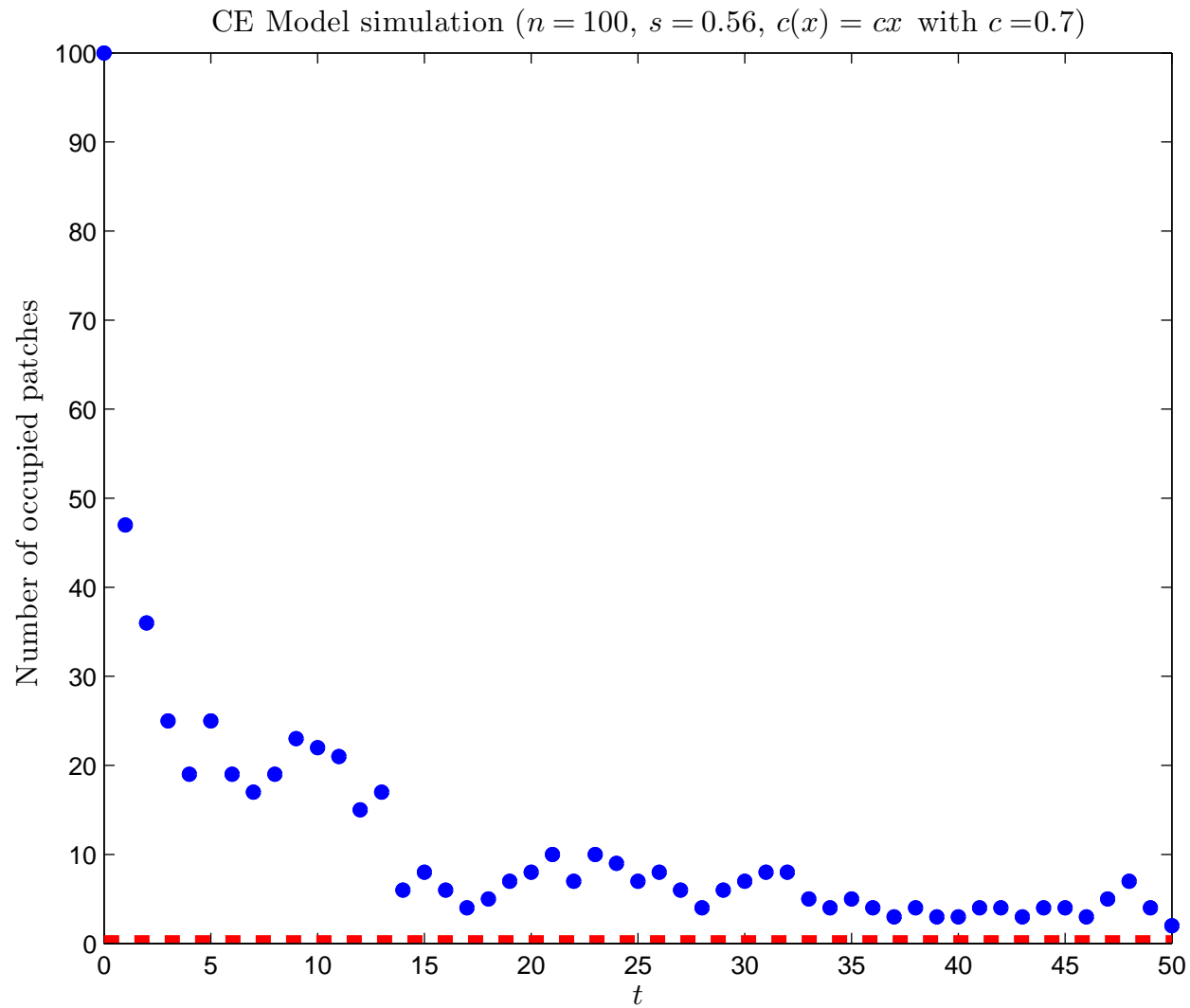
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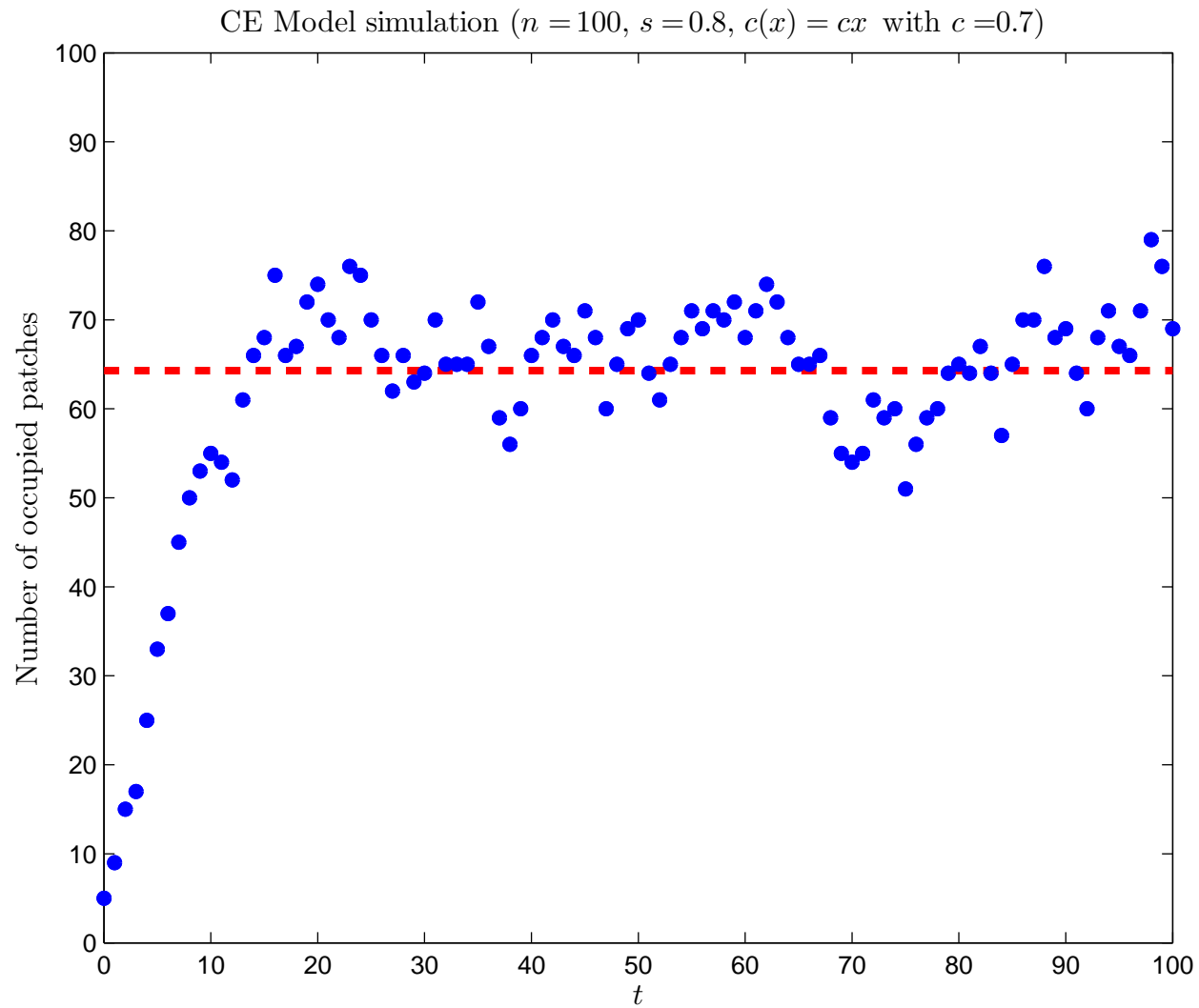
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# CE Model - Evanescence



# CE Model - Quasi stationarity



# SPOM - general case

Returning to the general case, where patch survival probabilities  $(s_i)$  are *random* and *patch dependent*, and we keep track of which patches are occupied ...

$$X_{i,t+1}^{(n)} \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Bin}\left(X_{i,t}^{(n)} + \text{Bin}\left(1 - X_{i,t}^{(n)}, c\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n X_{j,t}^{(n)}\right)\right), s_i\right).$$



# Our approach - Point Processes

Treat the collection of patch survival probabilities and those of *occupied patches* at time  $t$  as point processes on  $[0, 1]$ .

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Define sequences  $(\sigma_n)$  and  $(\mu_{n,t})$  of random measures by

$$\sigma_n(B) = \#\{s_i \in B\}/n, \quad B \in \mathcal{B}([0, 1]),$$

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Think of  $\sigma$  as being the distribution of survival probabilities. In the earlier simulation  $\sigma$  was a Beta(25.2, 19.8) distribution.

# Our approach - Point Processes

Equivalently, we may define  $(\sigma_n)$  and  $(\mu_{n,t})$  by

$$\int h(s)\sigma_n(ds) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h(s_i)$$
$$\int h(s)\mu_{n,t}(ds) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{i,t}^{(n)} h(s_i),$$

for  $h$  in  $C^+([0, 1])$ , the class of continuous functions that map  $[0, 1]$  to  $[0, \infty)$ .

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for  $h$  in  $C^+([0, 1])$ , the class of continuous functions that map  $[0, 1]$  to  $[0, \infty)$ . For example ( $h \equiv 1$ ),

$$\int \mu_{n,t}(ds) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{i,t}^{(n)} \quad (\text{proportion occupied}).$$



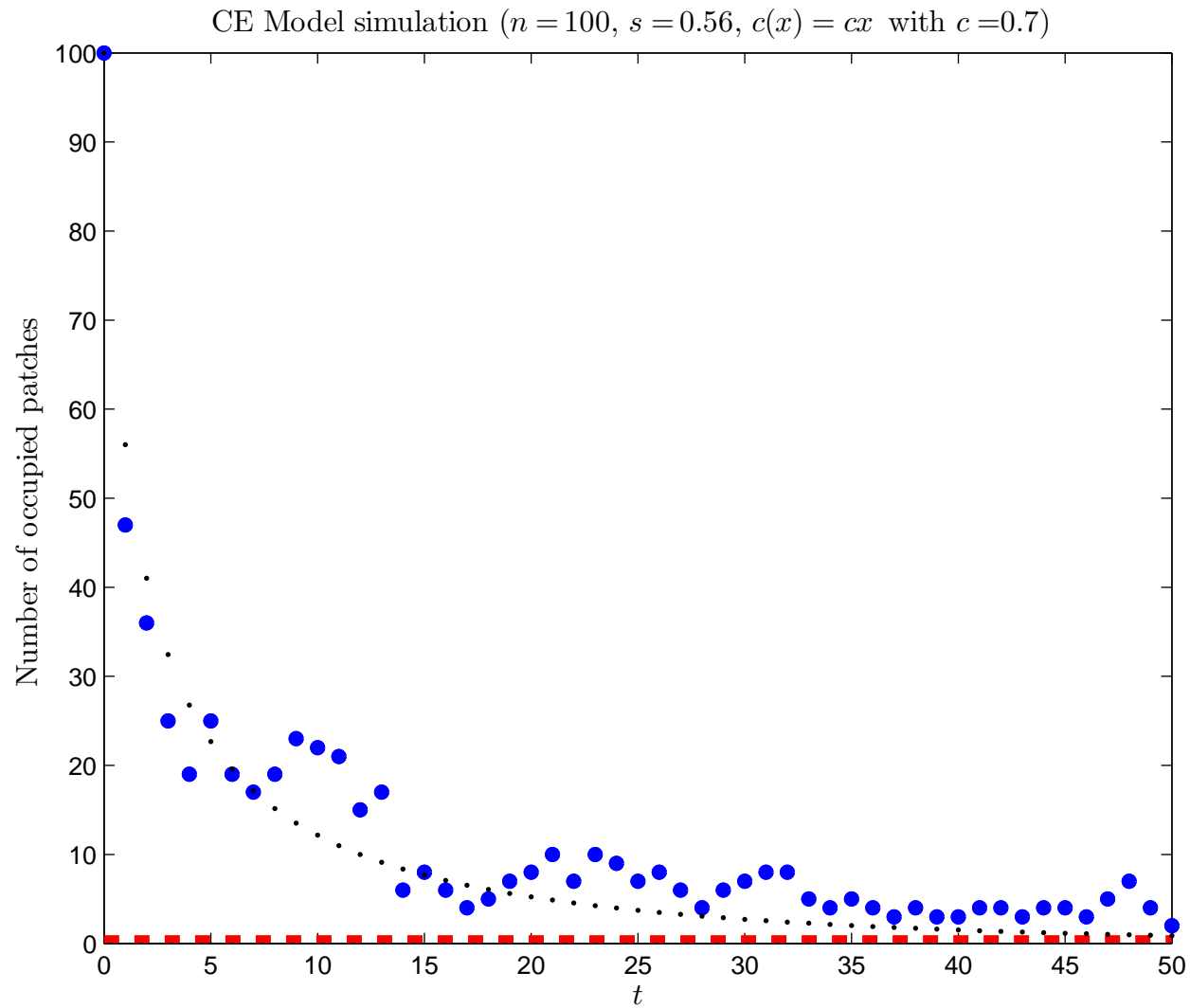
# A measure-valued difference equation

**Theorem** Suppose that  $\sigma_n \xrightarrow{d} \sigma$  and  $\mu_{n,0} \xrightarrow{d} \mu_0$  for some non-random measures  $\sigma$  and  $\mu_0$ . Then,  $\mu_{n,t} \xrightarrow{d} \mu_t$  for all  $t = 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $\mu_t$  is defined by the following recursion: for  $h \in C^+([0, 1])$ ,

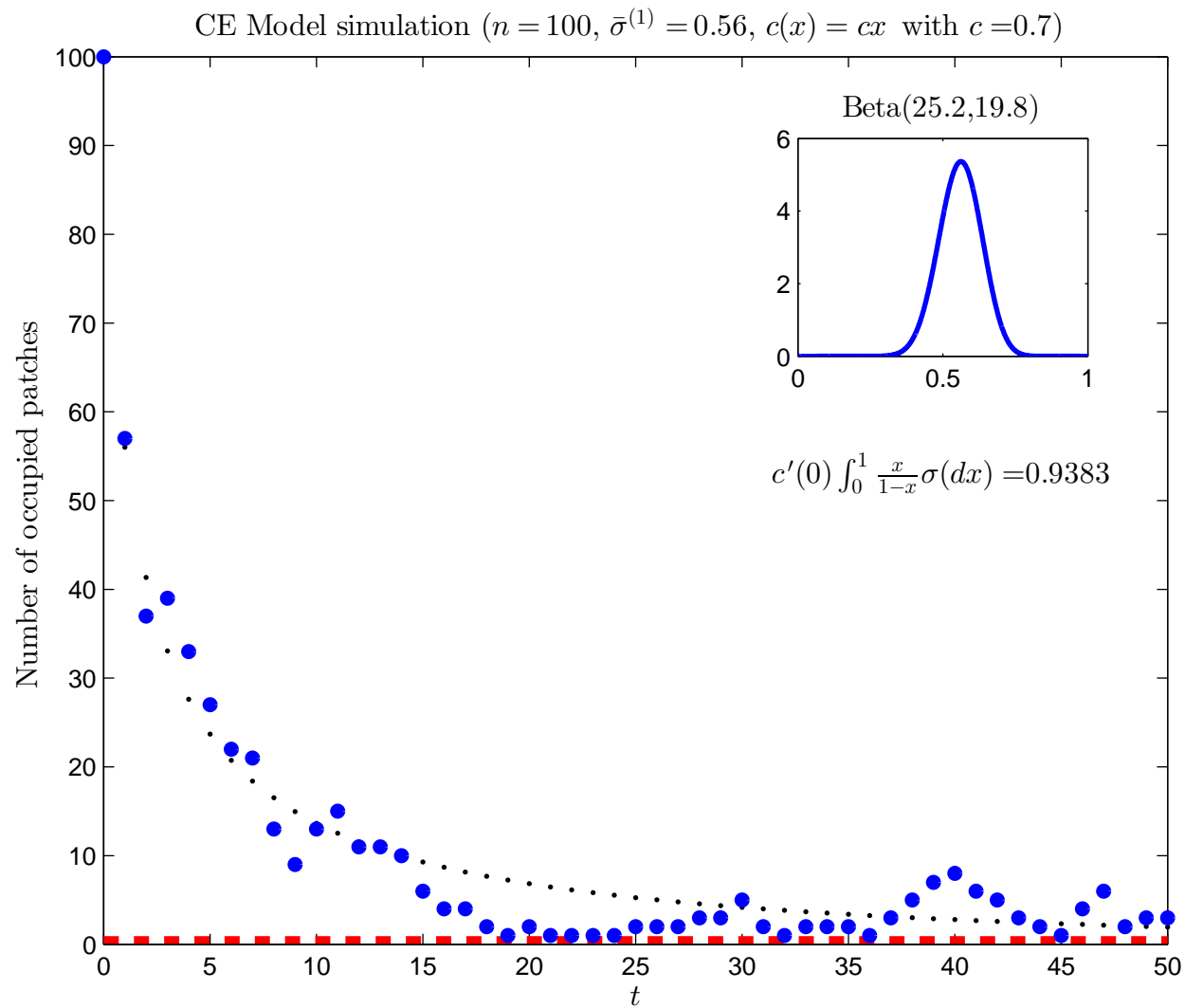
$$\int h(s) \mu_{t+1}(ds) = (1 - c_t) \int sh(s) \mu_t(ds) + c_t \int sh(s) \sigma(ds),$$

where  $c_t = c(\mu_t([0, 1])) = c(\int \mu_t(ds))$ .

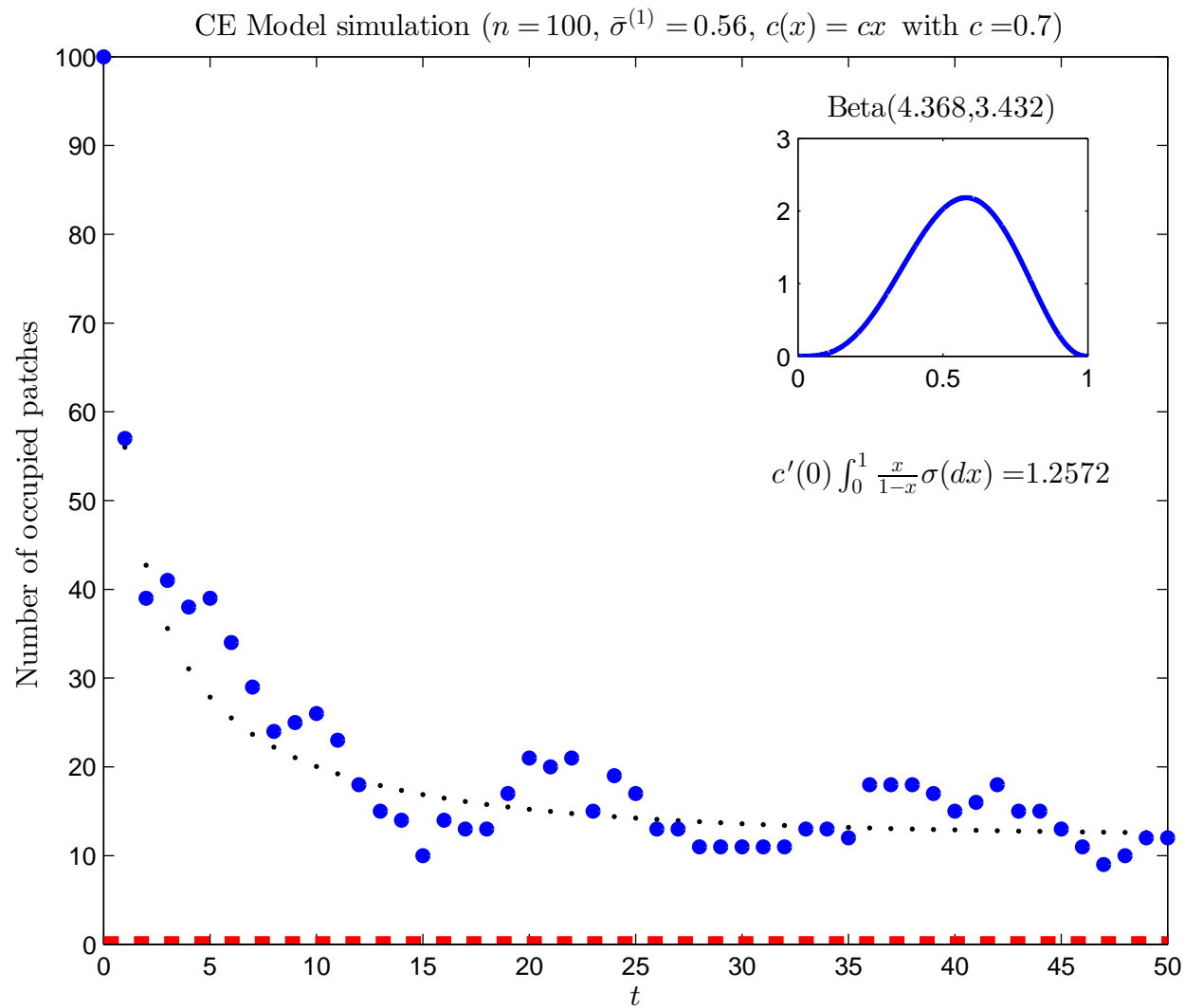
# CE Model (homogeneous) - Evanescence



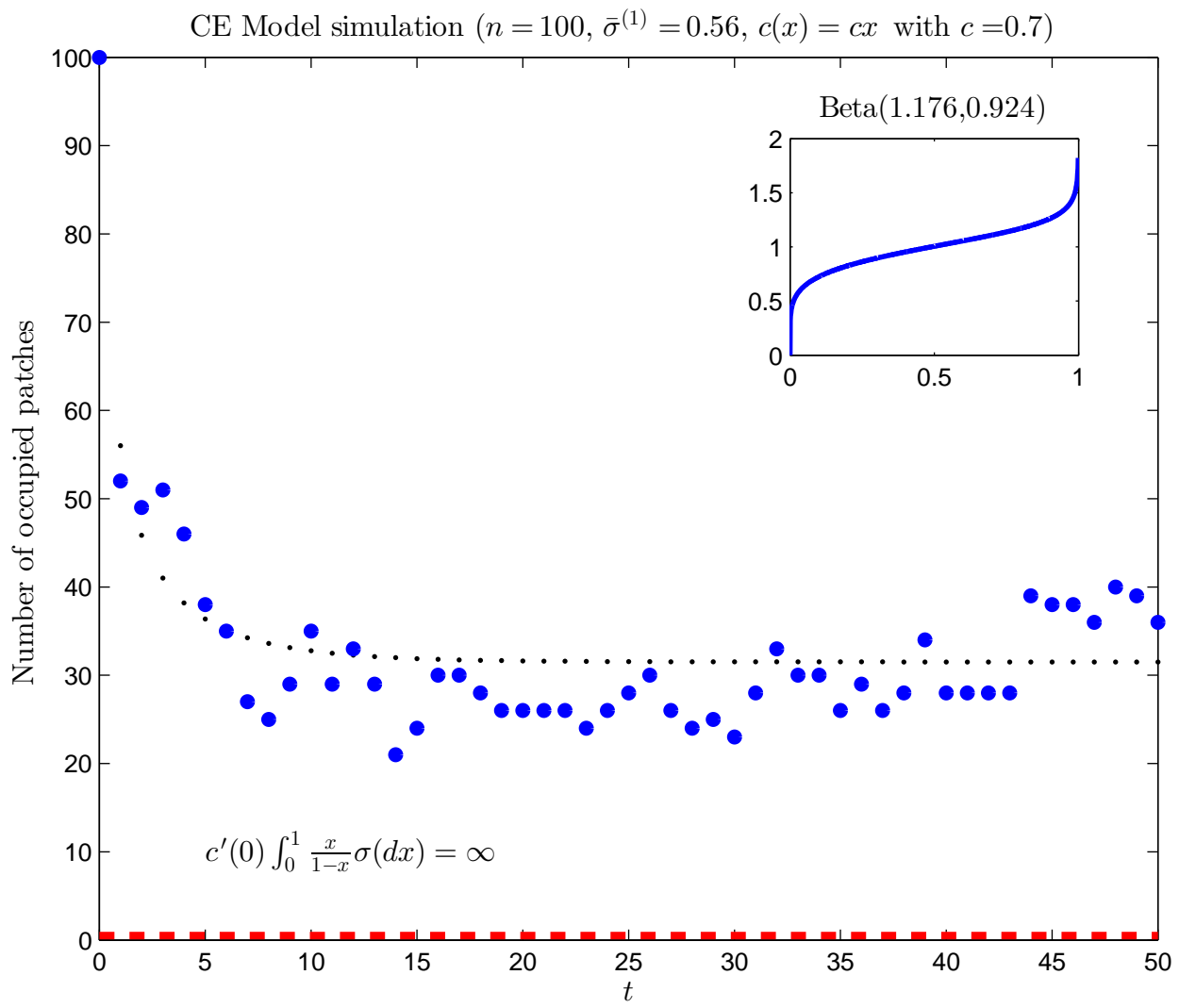
# CE Model - Evanescence



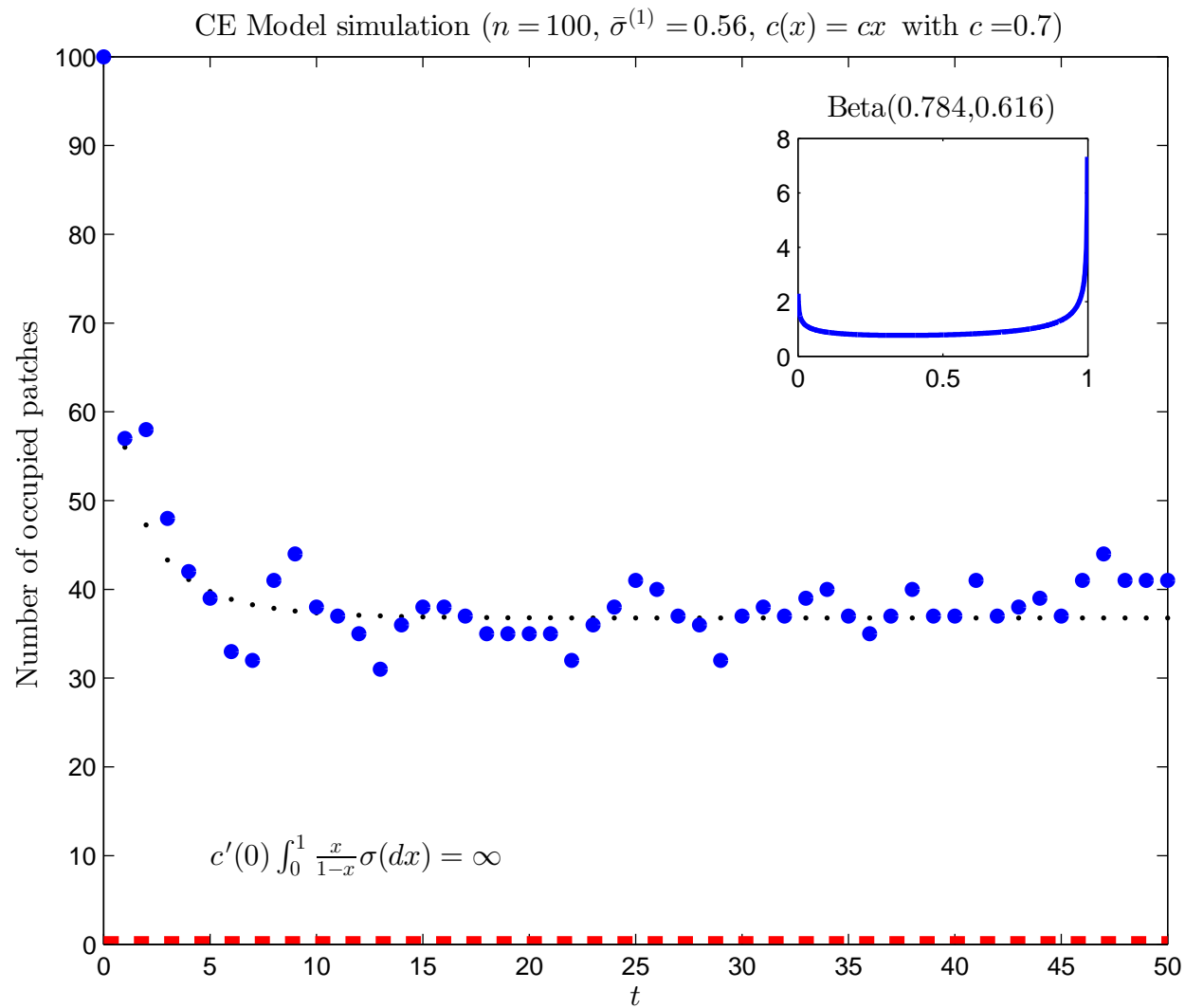
# CE Model - Quasi stationarity



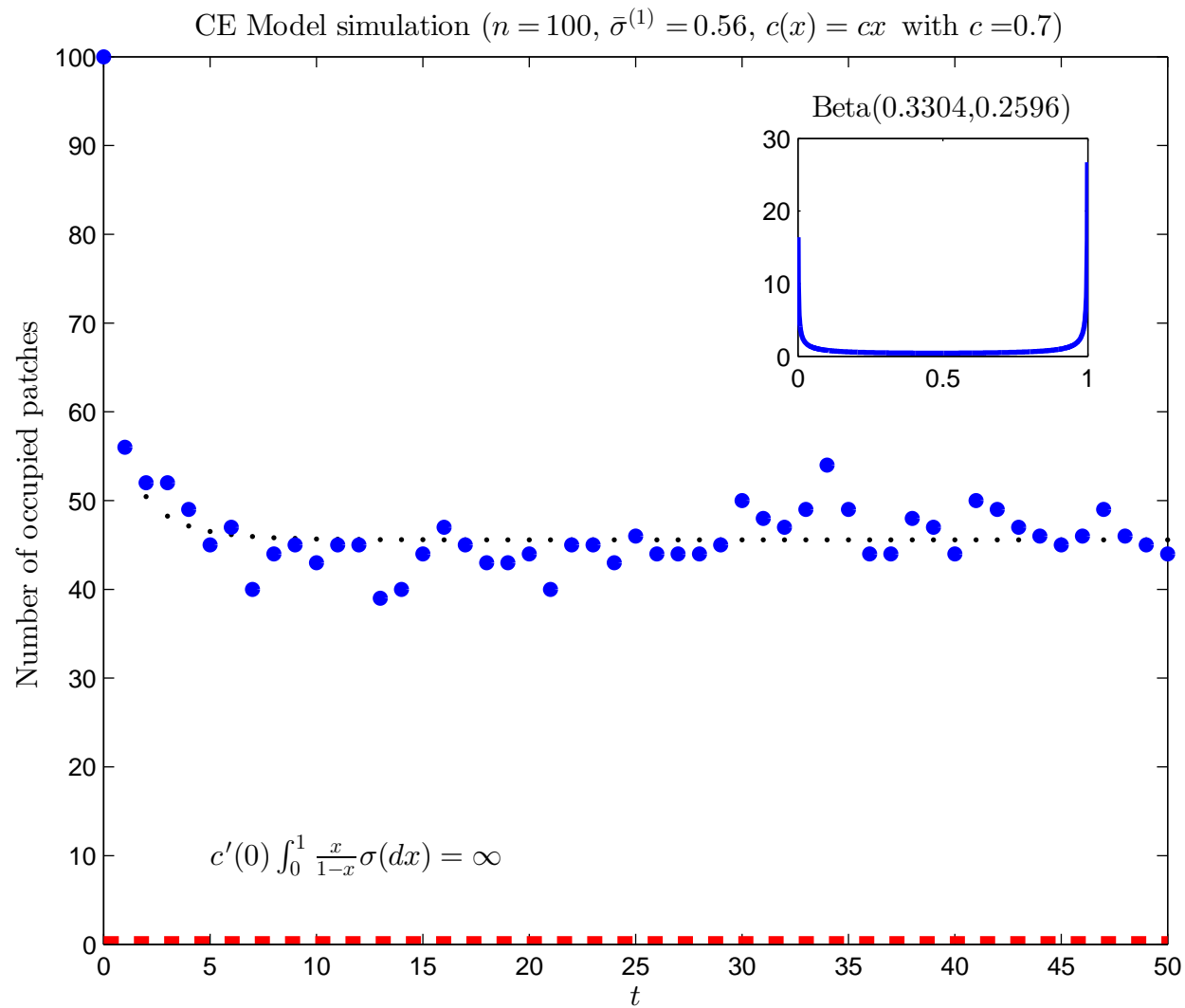
# CE Model - Quasi stationarity



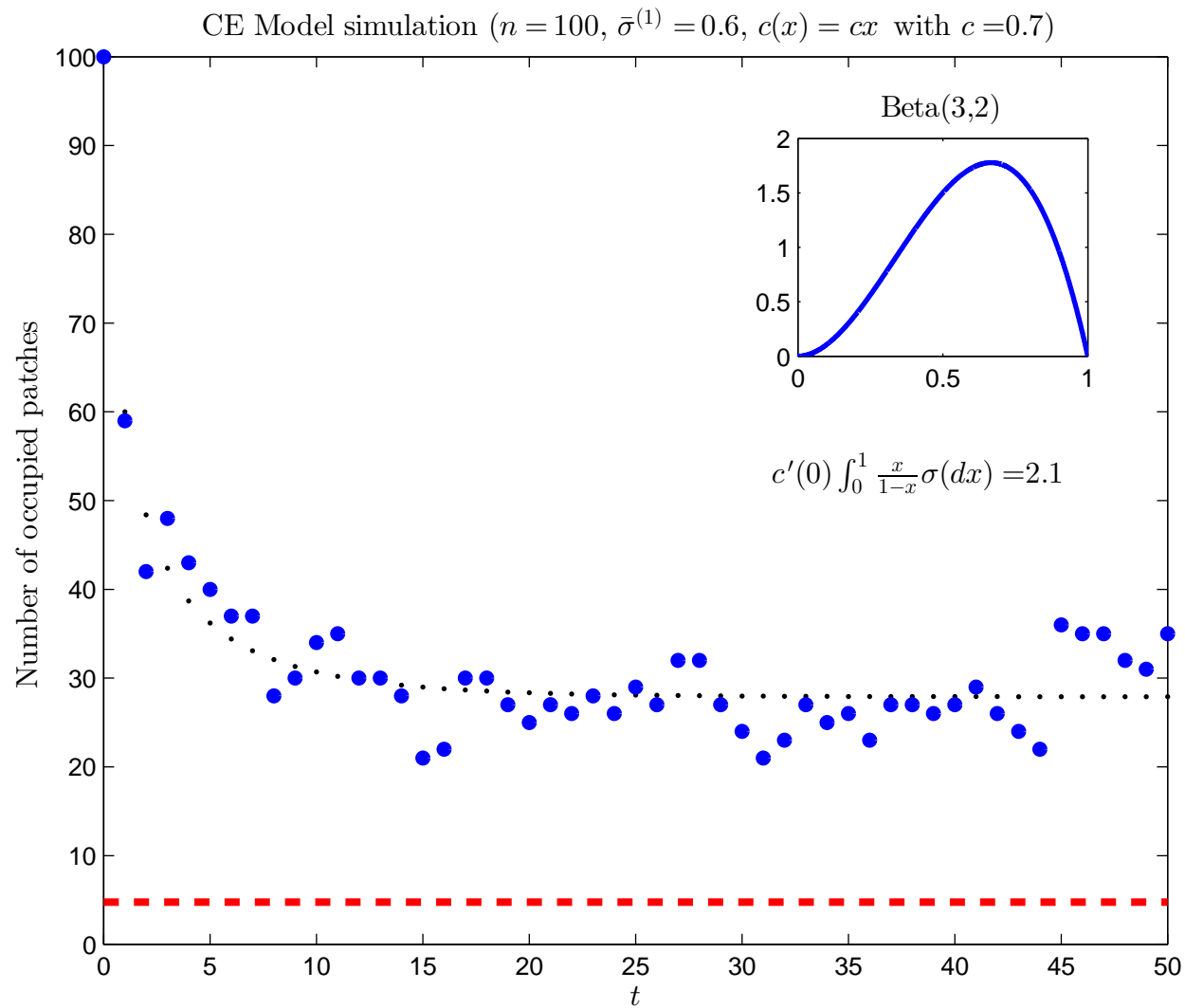
# CE Model - Quasi stationarity



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# CE Model - Quasi stationarity





Our recursion is

$$\int h(s)\mu_{t+1}(ds) = (1 - c_t) \int sh(s)\mu_t(ds) + c_t \int sh(s)\sigma(ds).$$

# Extra - equilibria

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$$\int h(s)\mu_{t+1}(ds) = (1 - c_t) \int sh(s)\mu_t(ds) + c_t \int sh(s)\sigma(ds).$$

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the set of measures that are absolutely continuous with respect to  $\sigma$  and whose Radon-Nikodym derivative is bounded by 1,  $\sigma$  - a.e.

We shall be interested in the behaviour of solutions to our recursion starting with  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{M}$ .

# Extra - equilibria

"Differentiating" with respect to  $\sigma$ , we see that our recursion can be written

$$\frac{\partial \mu_{t+1}}{\partial \sigma} = s \frac{\partial \mu_t}{\partial \sigma} + sc_t \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \mu_t}{\partial \sigma} \right).$$

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Furthermore, a measure  $\mu_\infty \in \mathcal{M}$  will be an equilibrium point of our recursion if it satisfies

$$\frac{\partial \mu_\infty}{\partial \sigma} = s \frac{\partial \mu_\infty}{\partial \sigma} + s c_\infty \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \mu_\infty}{\partial \sigma} \right),$$

where  $c_\infty = c(\mu_\infty([0, 1]))$ .

# Extra - equilibria

**Theorem** Suppose that  $c(0) = 0$  and  $c'(0) < \infty$ . Let  $\psi^*$  be a solution to the equation

$$\psi = R_\sigma(\psi) := \int \frac{sc(\psi)}{1-s+sc(\psi)} \sigma(ds). \quad (1)$$

The fixed points of our recursion are given by

$$\mu_\infty(ds) = \frac{sc(\psi^*)}{1-s+sc(\psi^*)} \sigma(ds).$$

Equation (1) has the unique solution  $\psi^* = 0$  if and only if

$$c'(0) \int \frac{s}{1-s} \sigma(ds) \leq 1.$$

Otherwise, there are two solutions, one of which is  $\psi^* = 0$ .

**Theorem** If  $\psi^* = 0$  is the only solution to Equation (1), then, for all  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\mu_t \rightarrow 0$ . If Equation (1) has a non-zero solution, then, for all  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $\int \mu_{0,j}(ds) > 0$  for some  $j$ ,  $\mu_t \rightarrow \mu_\infty$ .