

EcoVirtual: Didactic Tool

Focusing on this demand, we created a set of tools to help teaching and learning basic ecological theories and models. These instruments incorporate:

- site built on a wiki platform (DokuWiki) with exercises tutorial and specific bibliography indications for each topic;
- code in R language for simulating models in each topic;
- a graphical user interface (GUI) package to allow users with no programming skills to run simulations.

At the moment, the project already has several themes developed with simulations, almost all of them with a graphical user interface. Themes address different organizational levels in ecology:

1. Population dynamics
2. Metapopulations
3. Interaction and coexistence between pairs of species
4. Conflicting demands and coexistence of multiple species
5. Neutral dynamics of communities
6. Biogeography

Some undergraduate and graduate courses at the Institute of Biosciences of the University of São Paulo use these simulations that have already been tested at least at the R code level. Any problems you find on the site or in the simulations, we ask that you contact the project's creators, who are also the platform maintainers, through the emails listed at the beginning of this page. If you are a github user, we ask that you open an *Issue* at <https://github.com/ecovirt/EcoVirtual>

Problems with math expressions If you have problems viewing mathematical expressions and symbols on this wiki, look for a plugin or extension that has ASCIIMath in the name for your browser. In **Chrome** the extension is named *MathML-2-CSS*. Firefox recognizes formulas by default, other browsers have not been tested.

From:
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Last update: **2022/09/15 12:08**

