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Modelling behaviour and life history strategies in marine organisms

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This lecture will give an introduction to the use of optimality theory and modelling methods in behavioural ecology and life history theory. I will explain how to develop a dynamic programming model and how the predictions from such models should be interpreted, and why they are useful. In addition, I will briefly contrast this approach with individual-based models of organisms with behavioural traits. The focus will be on habitat selection and energy allocation in marine organisms, in particular zooplankton and fish.