Introduction to Infectious Disease Modelling

Clinic on the Meaningful Modeling of Epidemiological Data, 2017

African Institute for Mathematical Sciences

Muizenberg, South Africa

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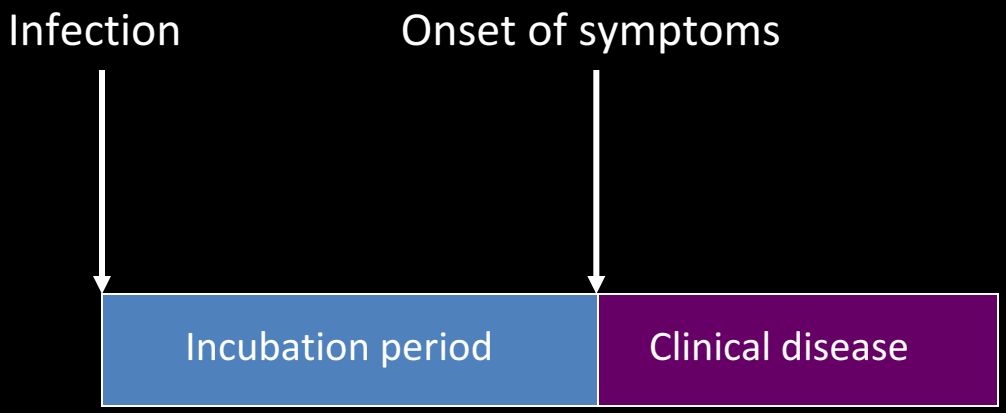
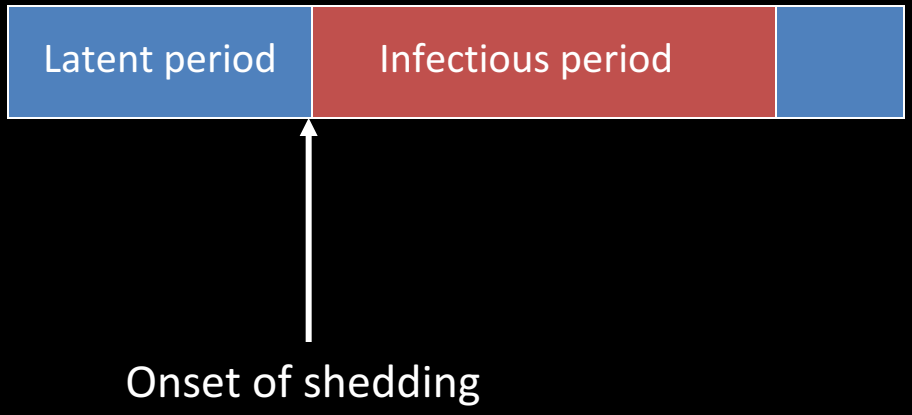
Goals

- Understand the natural history of infection
- Explain SIR model formulation
- Define the basic reproduction number (R0)
- Calculate vaccinated proportion needed for pathogen elimination
- Explain the effect of demography on epidemics

Natural History of Infection

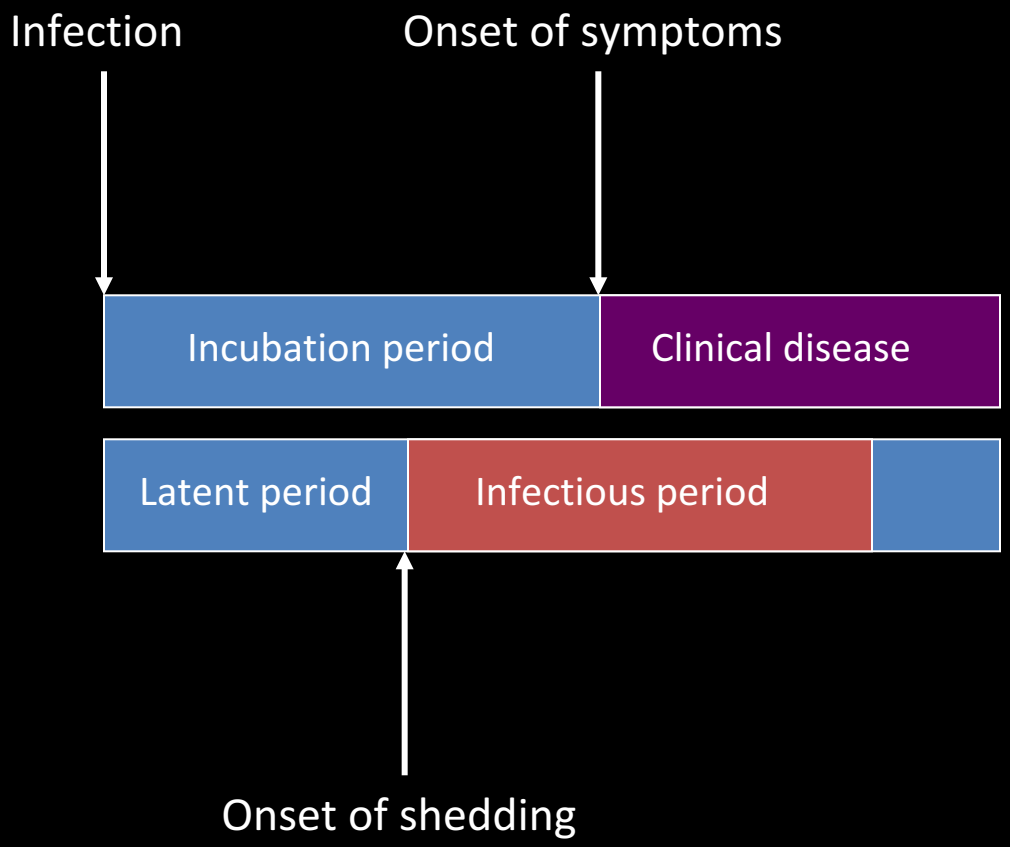


Natural History of Infection



Natural History of Infection

Let's start by talking about acute, immunizing diseases



Acute

Infection time course
<<
host lifespan

Immunizing

infection ➔ antibody production

prevents future infection

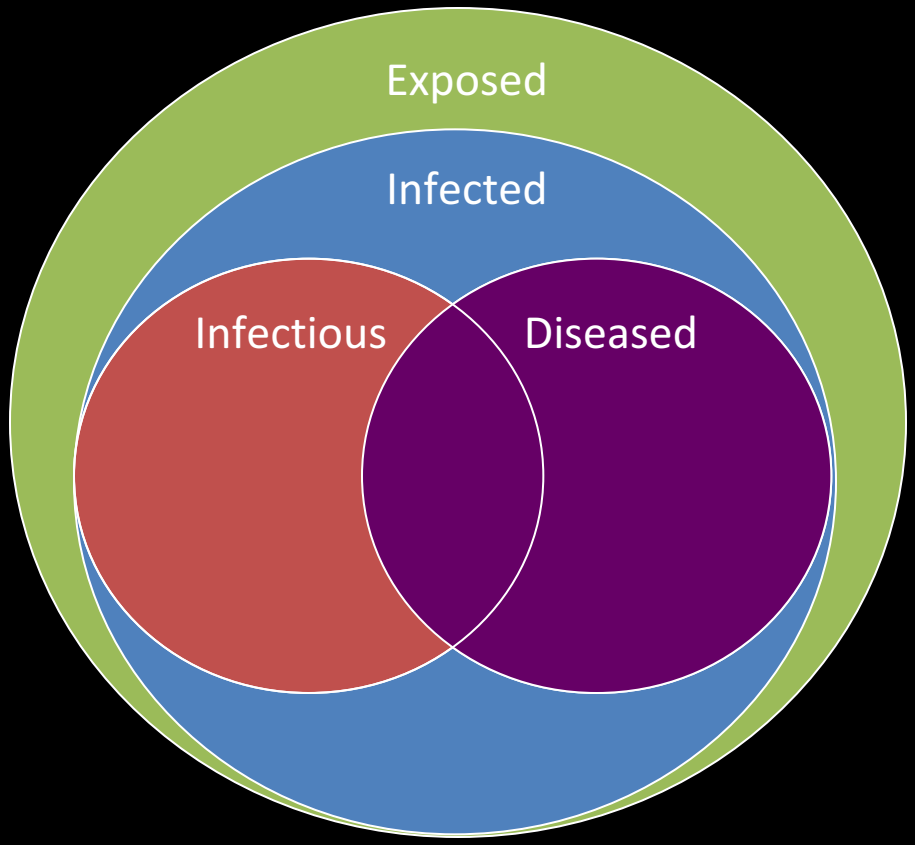
Examples

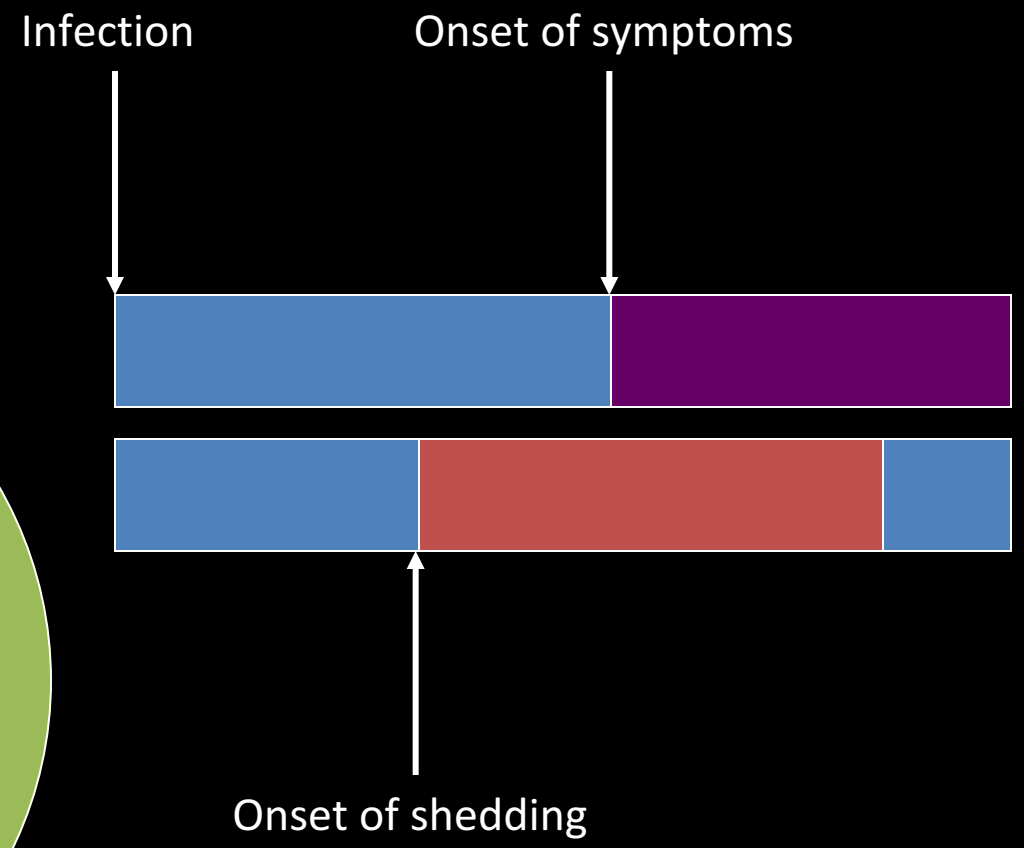
Natural History of Infection

Table 3.1 Incubation, latent and infectious periods (in days) for a variety of viral and bacterial infections. Data from Fenner and White (1970), Christie (1974), and Benenson (1975)

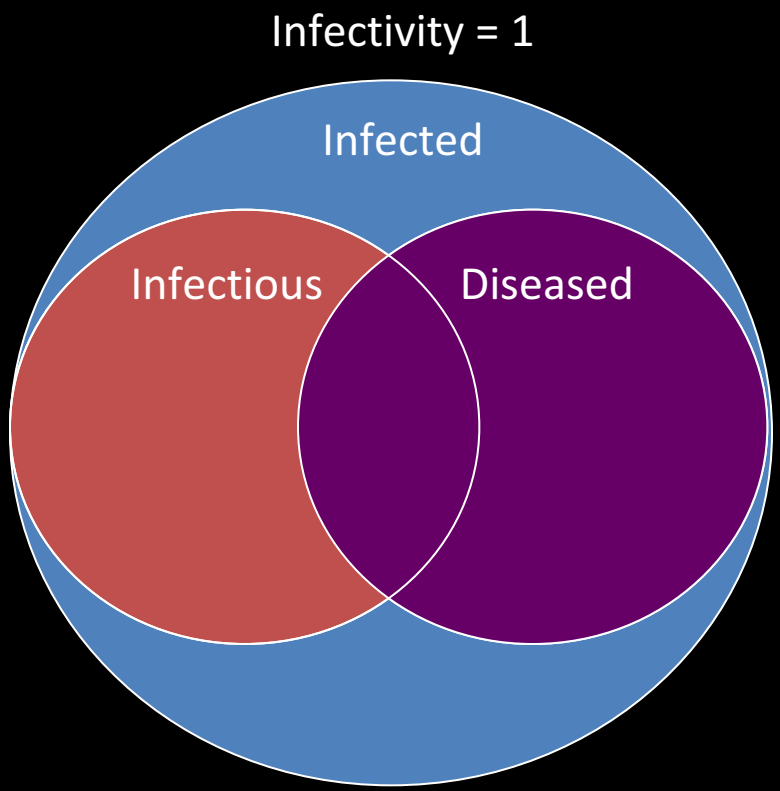
Infectious disease	Incubation period	Latent period	Infectious period
Measles	8–13	6–9	6–7
Mumps	12–26	12–18	4–8
Whooping cough (pertussis)	6–10	21–23	7–10
Rubella	14–21	7–14	11–12
Diphtheria	2–5	14–21	2–5
Chicken pox	13–17	8–12	10–11
Hepatitis B	30–80	13–17	19–22
Poliomyelitis	7–12	1–3	14–20
Influenza	1–3	1–3	2–3
Smallpox	10–15	8–11	2–3
Scarlet fever	2–3	1–2	14–21

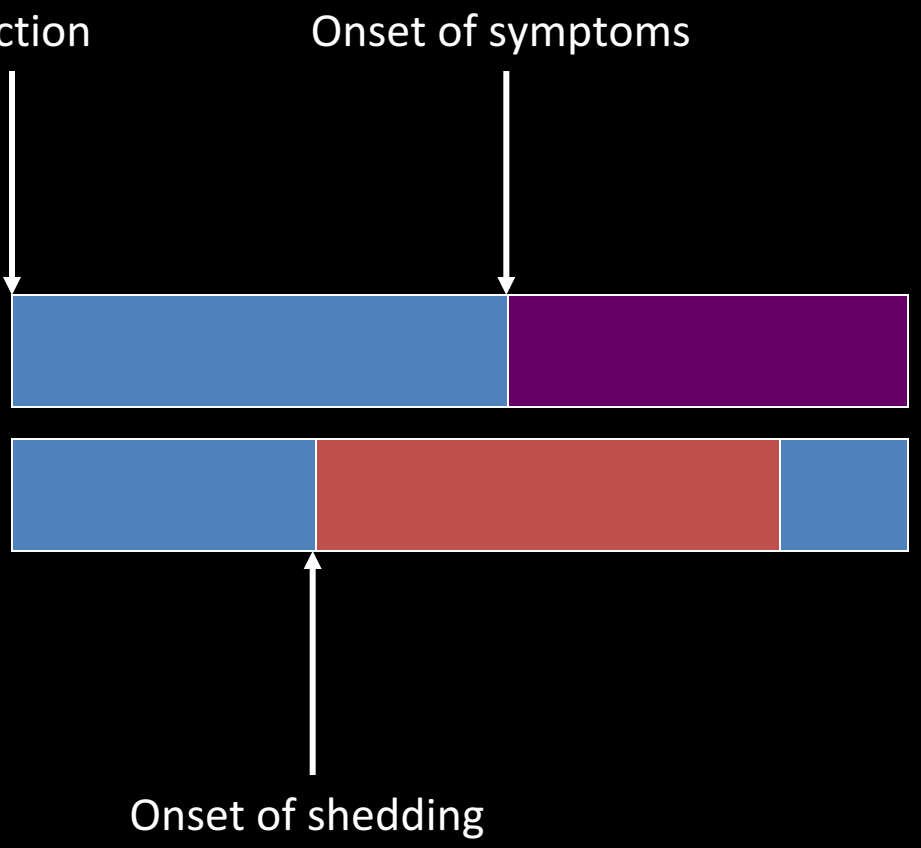
Terminology





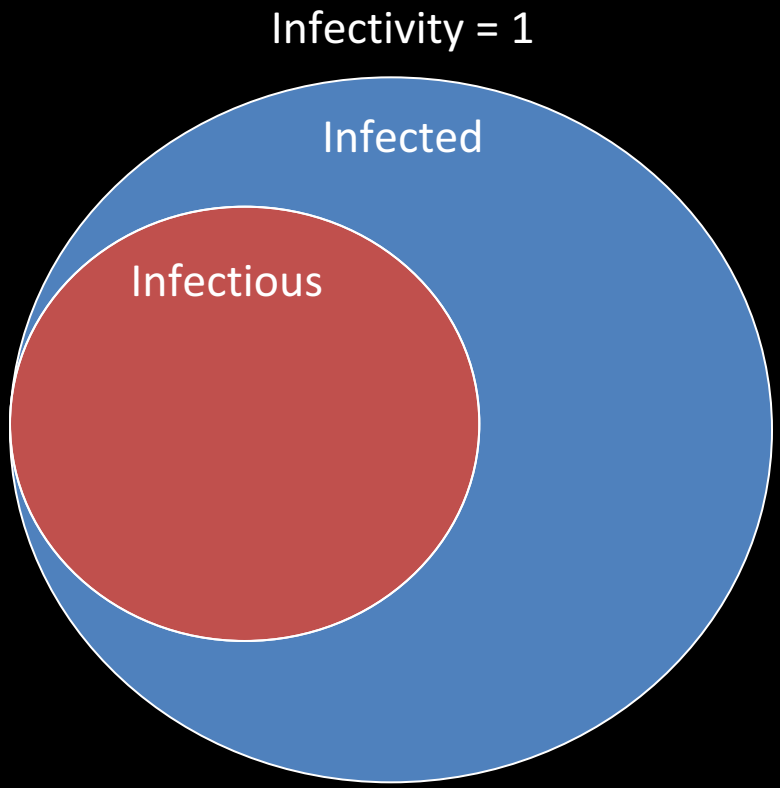
A simple view of the world

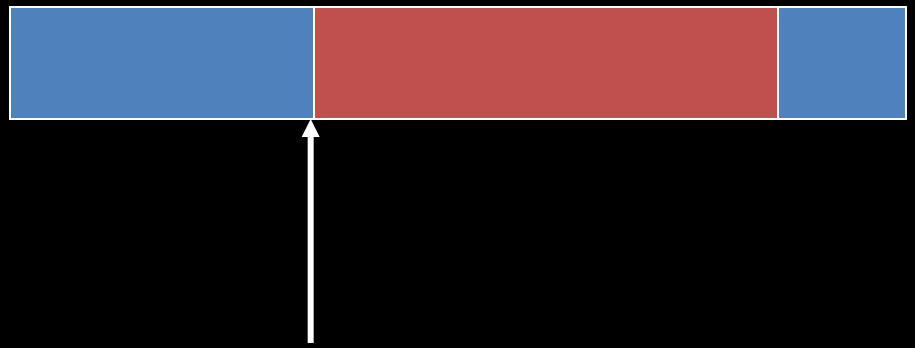




A simpler view of the world

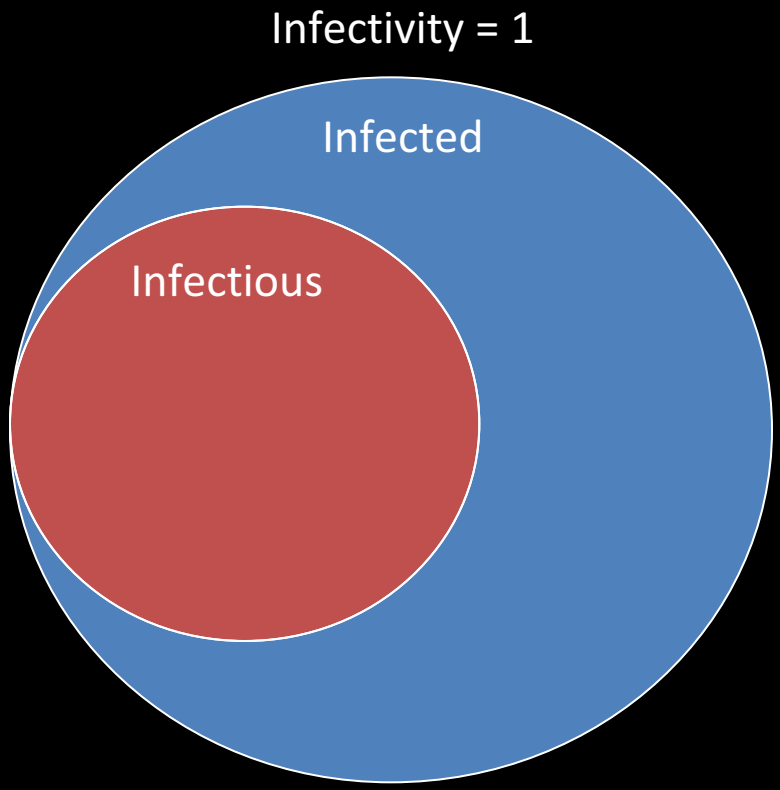
Don’t worry about symptoms and disease!

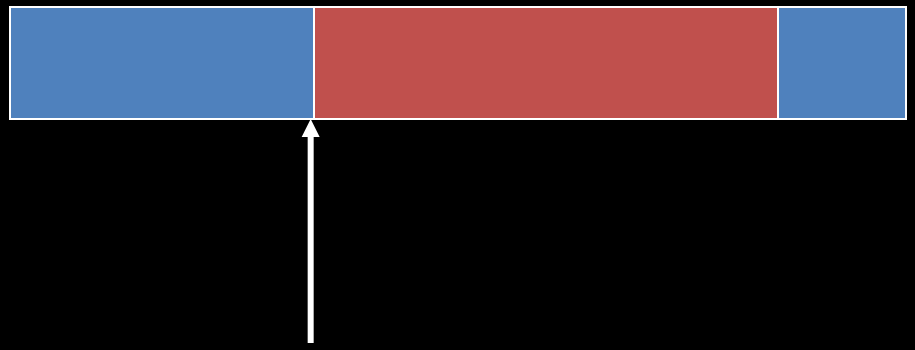




An even simpler view of the world

Don’t worry about symptoms and disease!

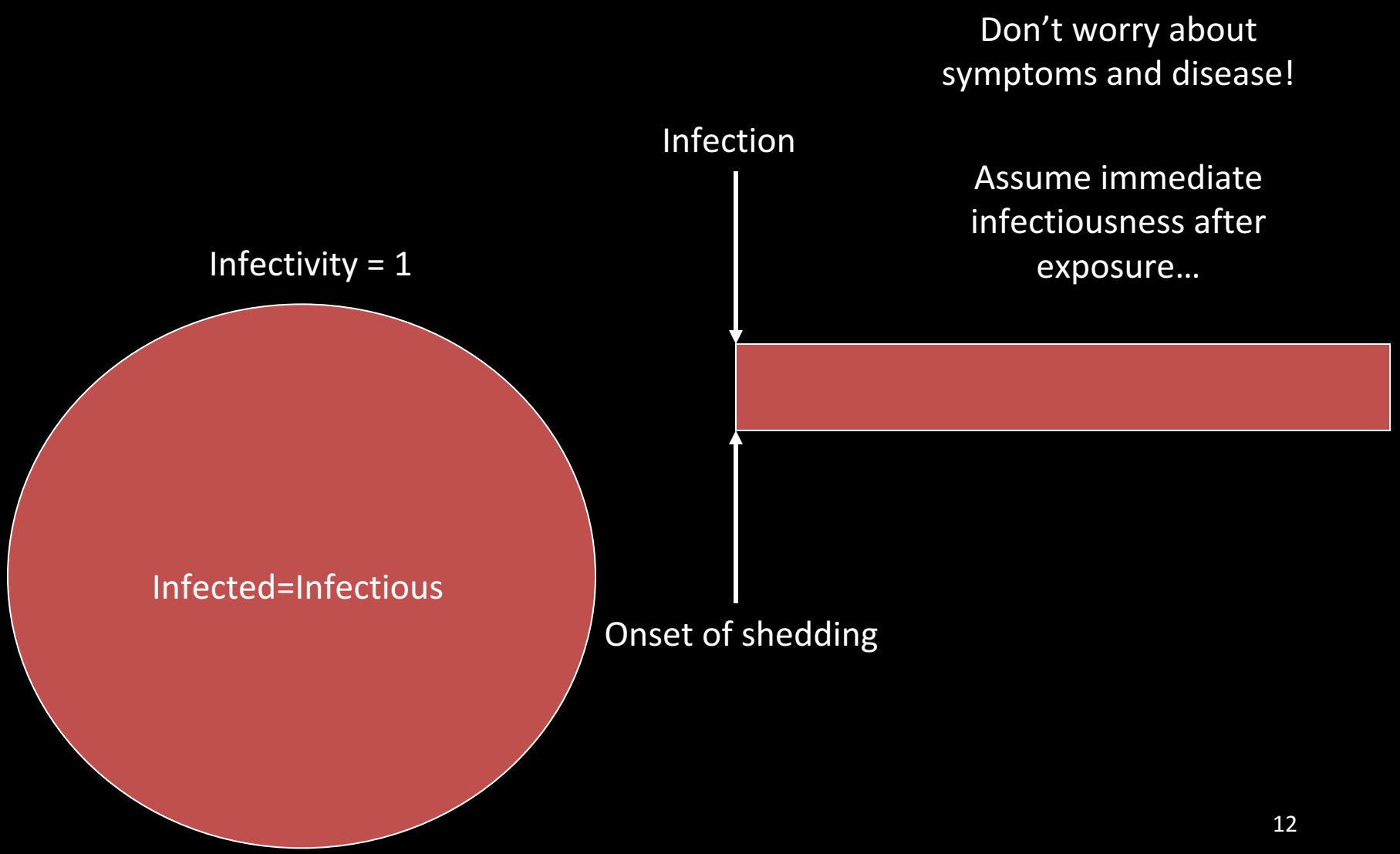




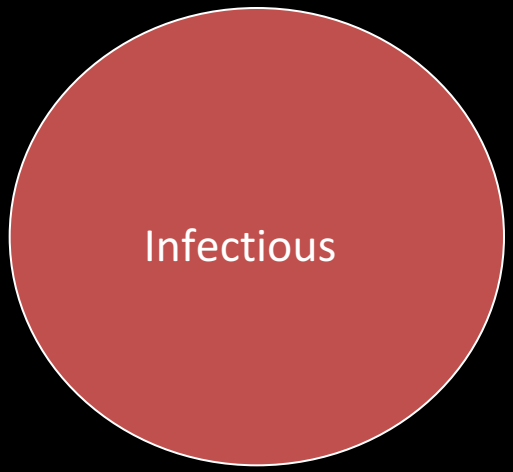
An extremely simple view of the world

Don’t worry about symptoms and disease!

Assume immediate infectiousness after exposure…



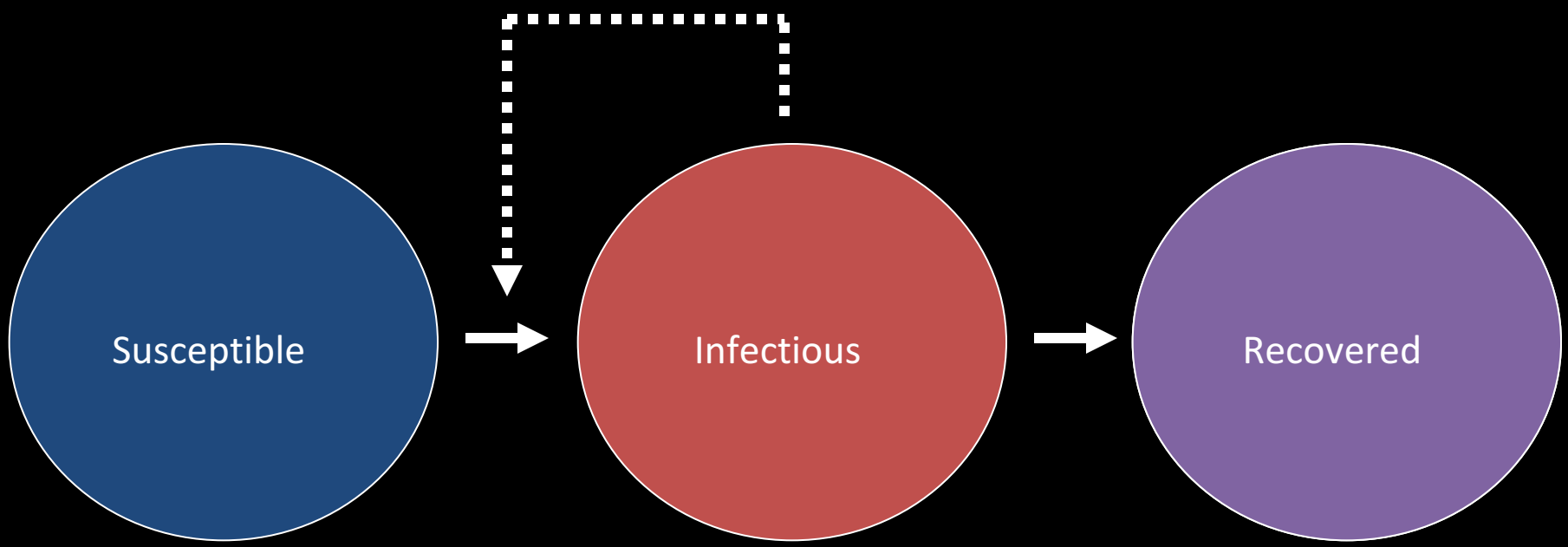
An extremely simple view of the world



An extremely simple view of the world

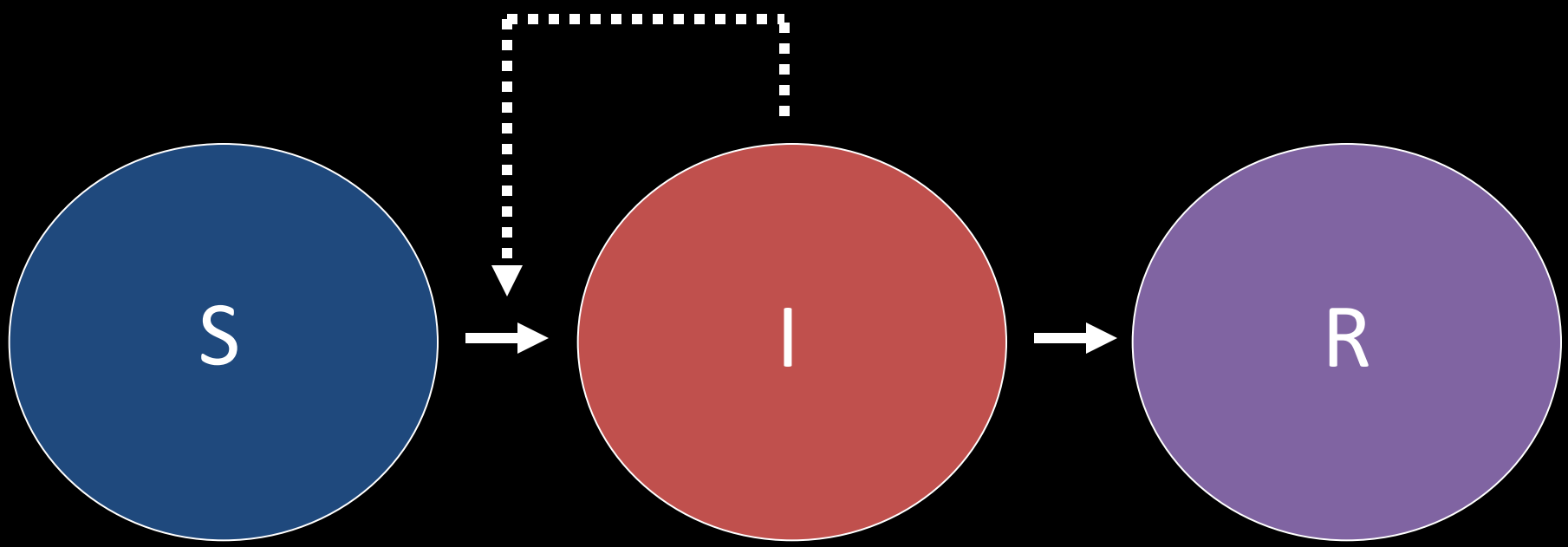
An extremely simple view of the world

Health-related States

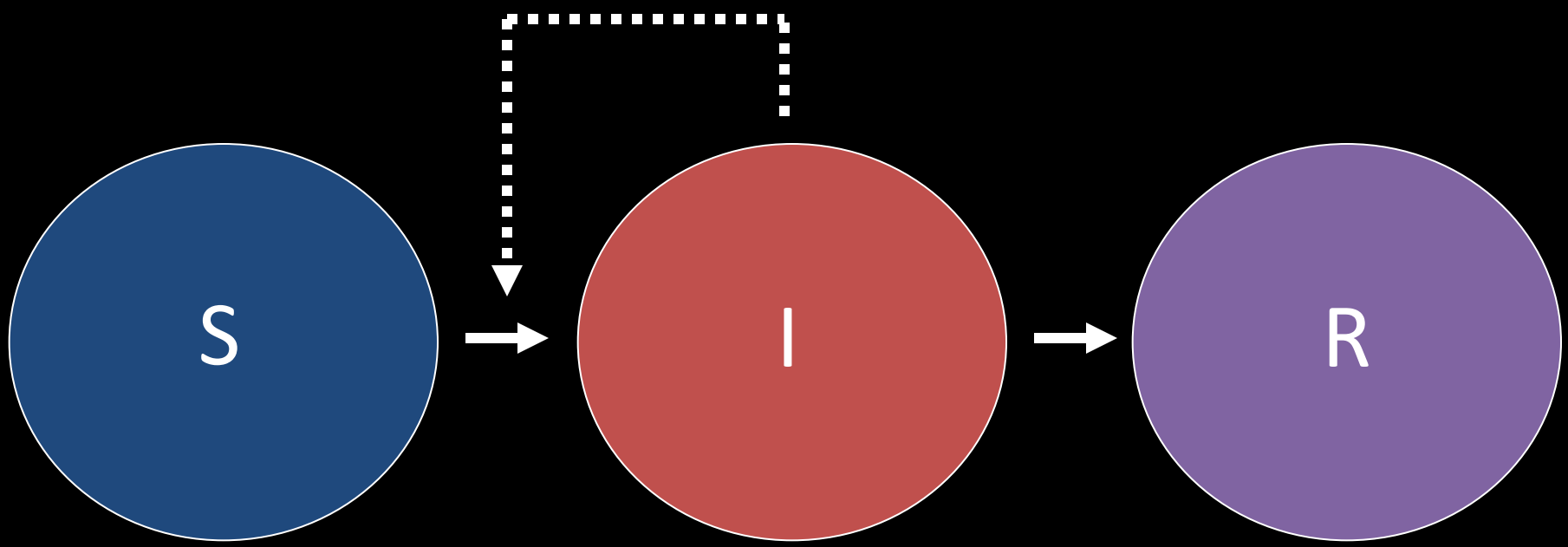


The rate at which susceptible individuals become infected depends on how many infectious people are in the population

State variables

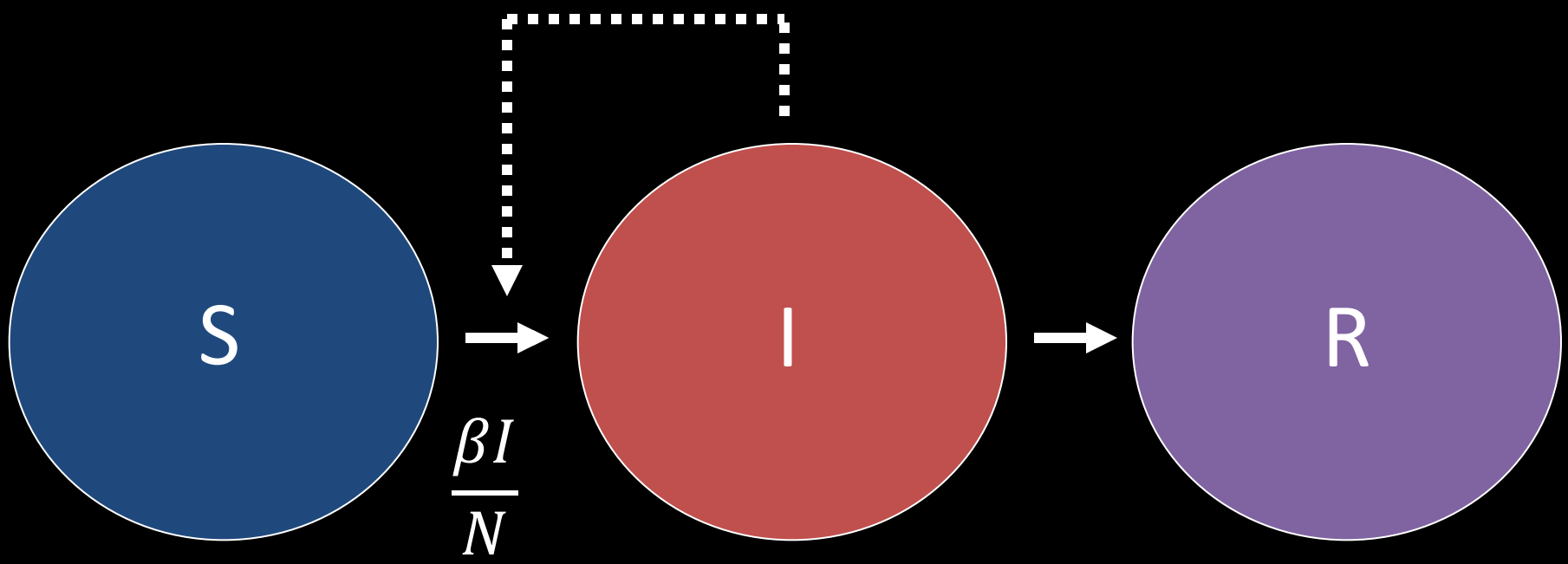


State variables



We can use ordinary differential equations to describe the rate at which individuals flow between states

SIR Model



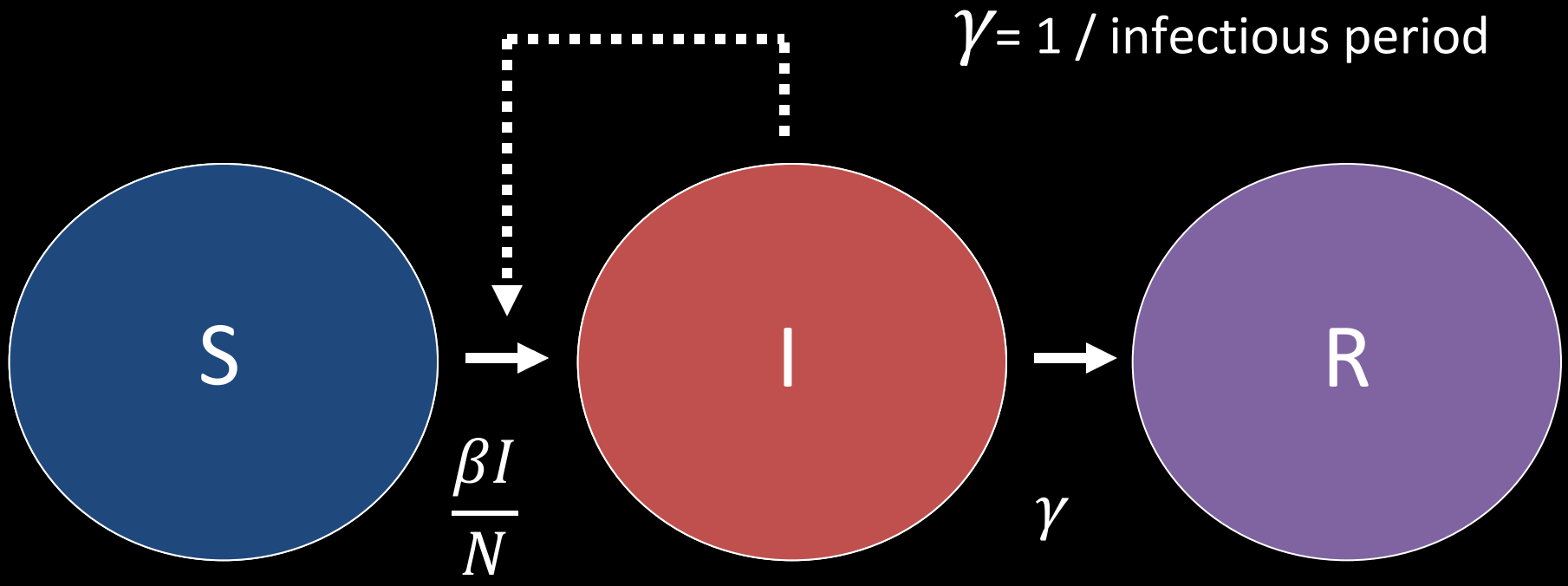
β = transmission coefficient

= per capita contact rate * infectivity

= per capita contact rate (infectivity = 1)

$\frac{I}{N}$ proportion of contacts that are with an infectious individual

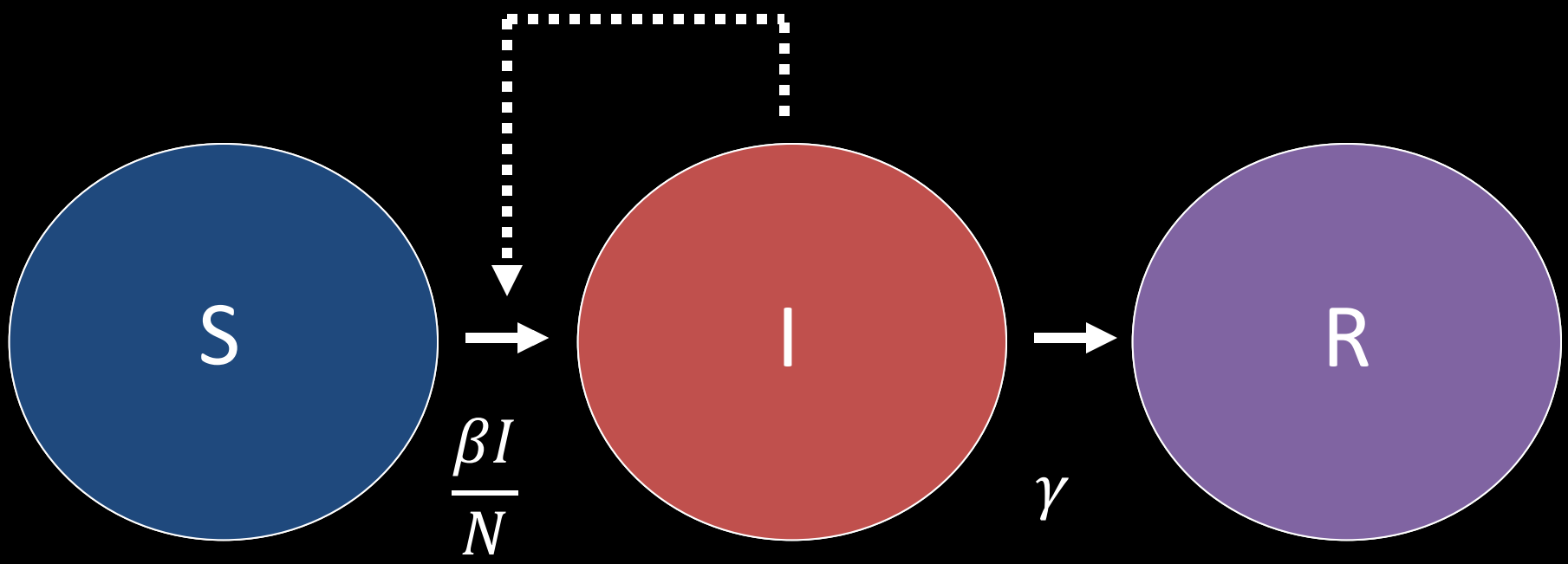
SIR Model



If infectious people recover at a rate of 0.2 / day,

the average time they spend infectious is 1 / 0.2 = 5 days

SIR Model

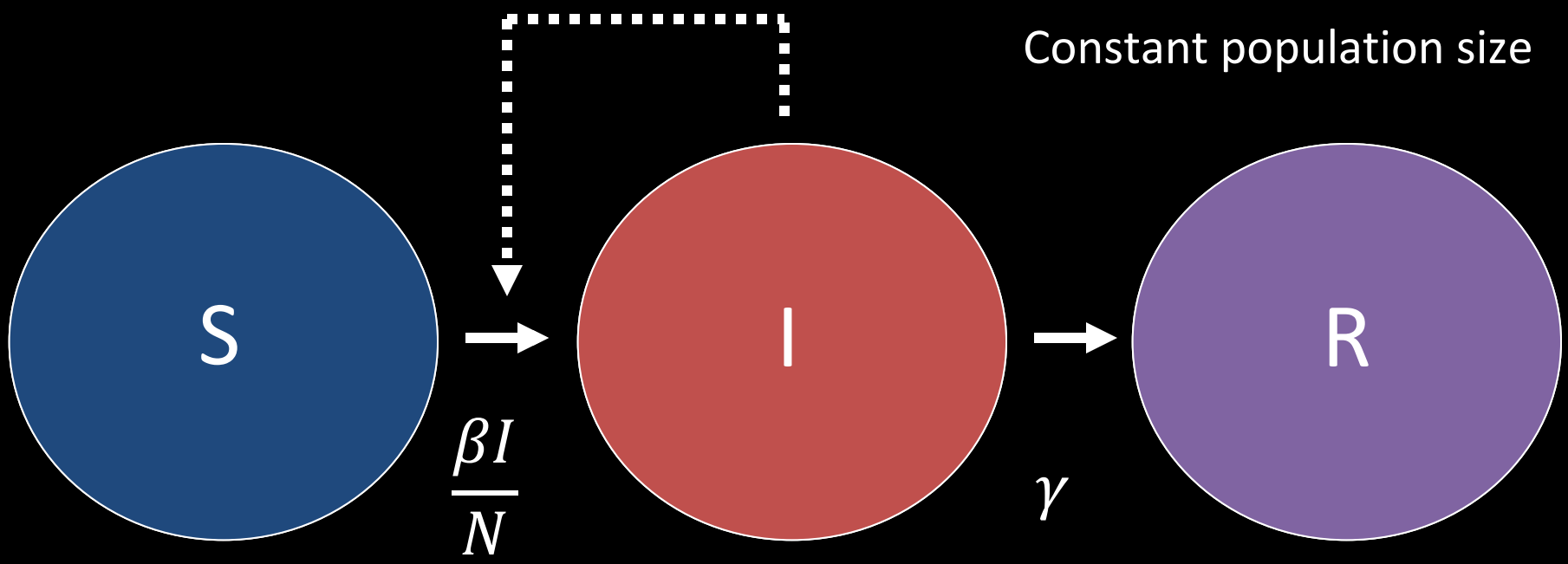


$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\beta SI}{N} \qquad \frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I \qquad \frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I$$

SIR Model

$$N = S + I + R$$

Constant population size



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SIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\beta SI}{N}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I$$

N population size

γ recovery rate

β transmission coefficient

SIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\beta SI}{N}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I$$

$R_0 =$

infections produced by

1 infectious individual

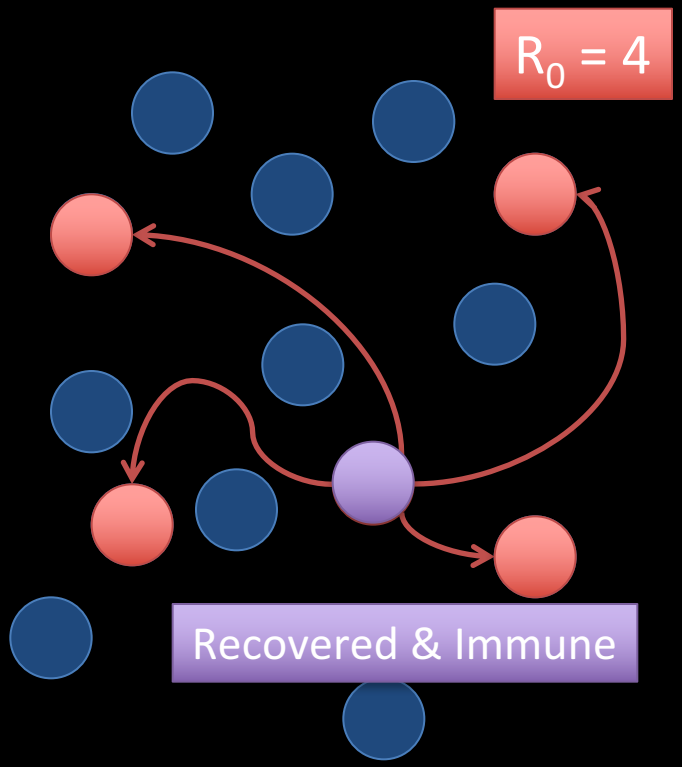
in a fully susceptible population.

R_0: The Basic Reproductive Number

- Average # of secondary infections

  an infected host produces in

  a susceptible population.



SIR Model

$$\frac{\beta SI}{N} \xrightarrow{N \text{ large}} \beta$$

$$R_0 =$$

Rate at which an infected individual produces new infections in a naïve population

X

$$1$$

Proportion of new infections that become infectious

X

$$1/\gamma$$

Average duration of infectiousness

SIR Model

$$R_0 = \frac{\beta}{\gamma}$$

$$R_0 =$$

Rate at which an infected individual produces new infections in a naïve population

X

Proportion of new infections that become infectious

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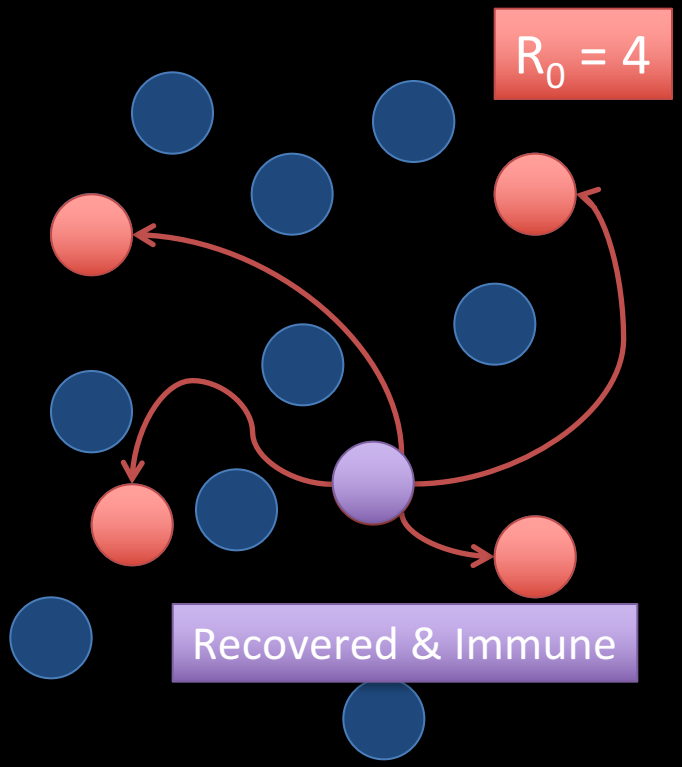
Average duration of infectiousness

R_0: The Basic Reproductive Number

- Average # of secondary infections an infected host produces in a susceptible population.

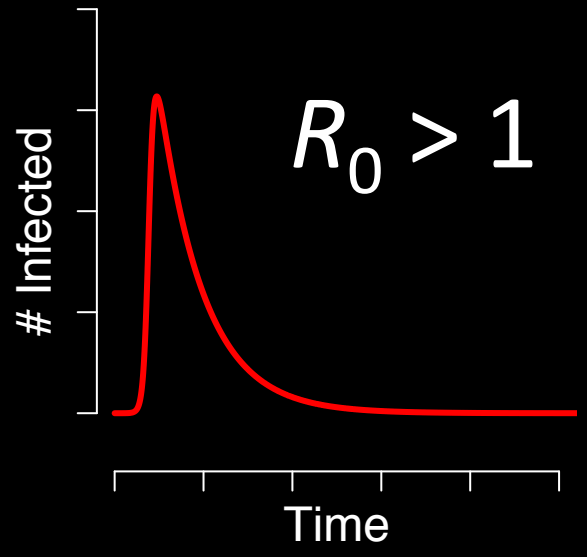


- Threshold criteria:

  If $R_0 < 1$, no epidemic

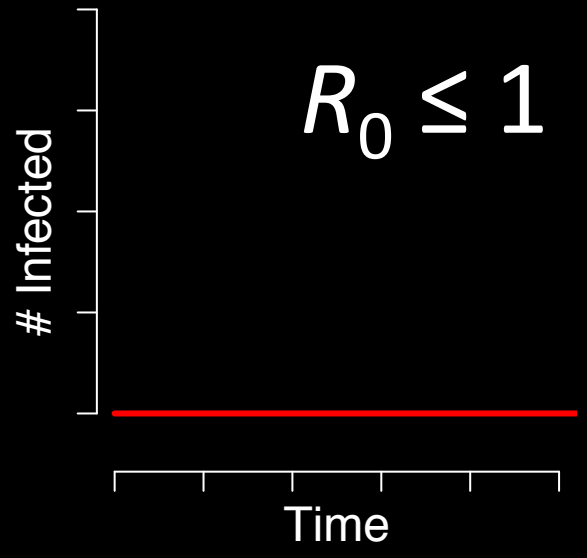
  If $R_0 > 1$, epidemic

SIR Model: R_0 as a Threshold



$R_0 > 1$

$$R_0 = \frac{\beta}{\gamma}$$



$R_0 \leq 1$

Disease Introduction:

Epidemic occurs if $R_0 > 1$.

R_{eff}: Effective Reproductive Number

$\frac{\beta S}{N}$ Rate at which an infected individual produces new infections in a non-fully susceptible population

X

1 Proportion of new infections that become infectious

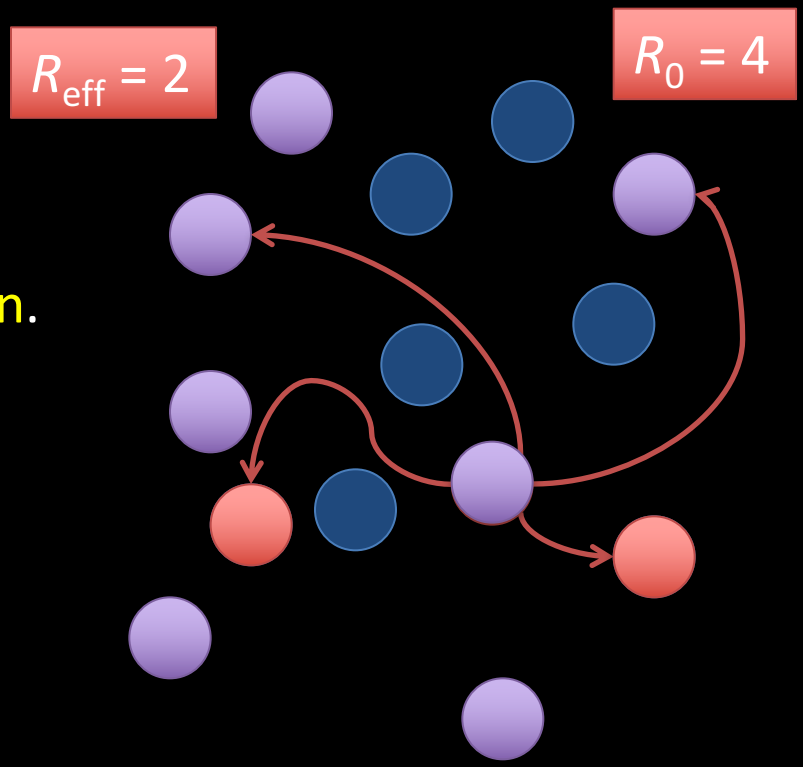
X

$1/\gamma$ Average duration of infectiousness

$$R_{eff} = R_0 \frac{S}{N}$$

R_{eff}: The Effective Reproductive Number

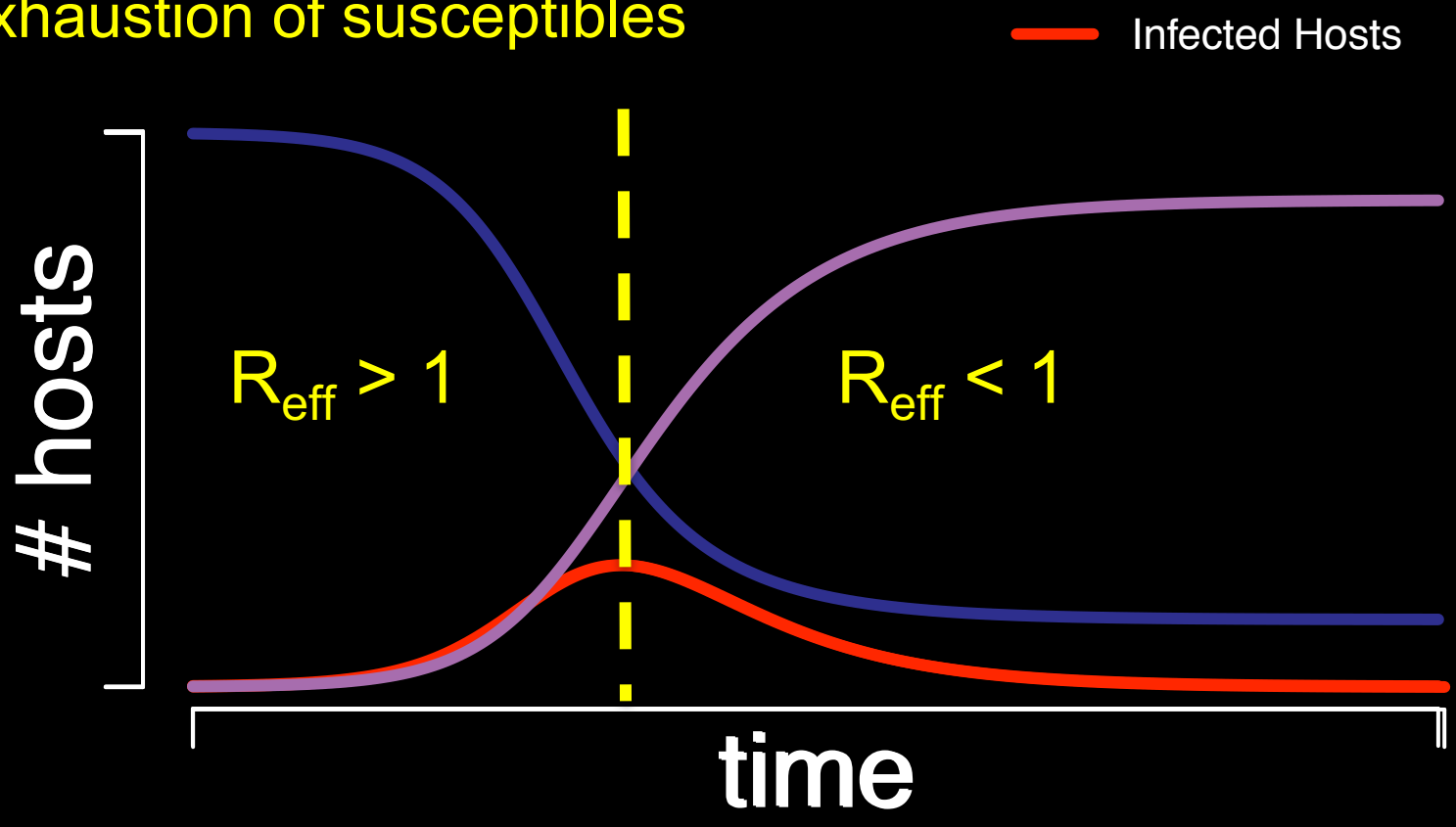
- The average # of secondary infections that an infected host produces in an only partially susceptible population.



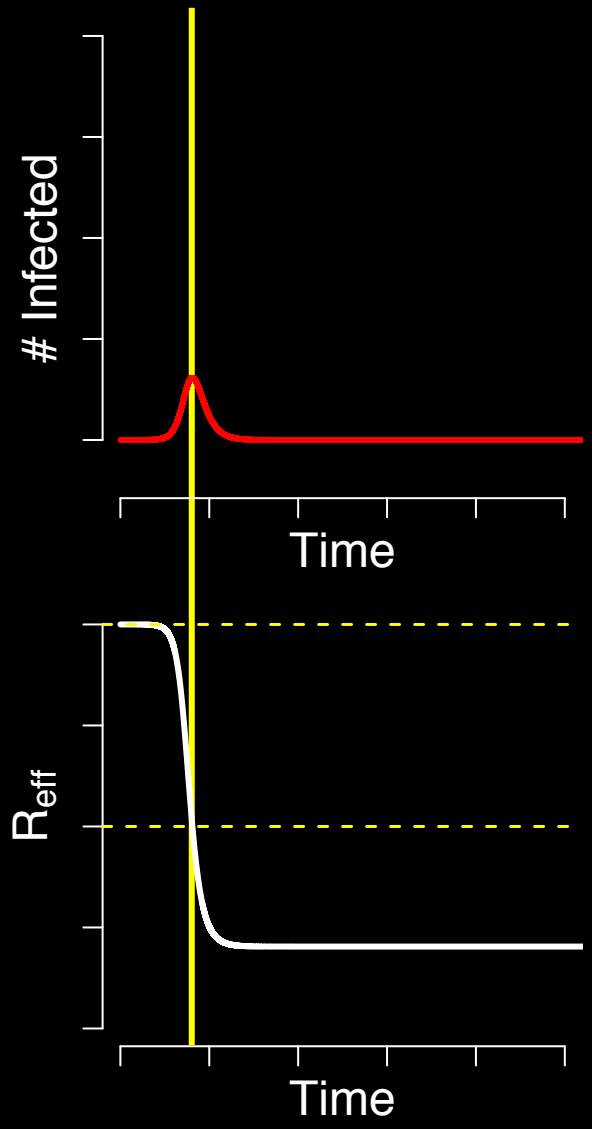
Example: 50% Recovered & Immune

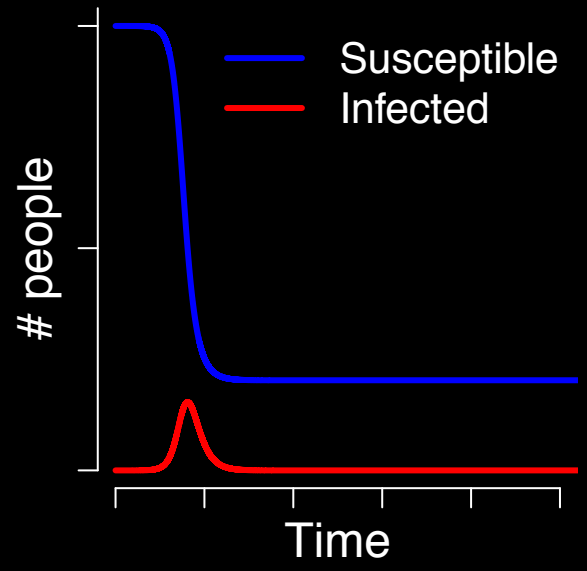
Why do epidemics peak?

Death or long-term immunity leads to exhaustion of susceptibles



R_{eff}: The Effective Reproductive Number



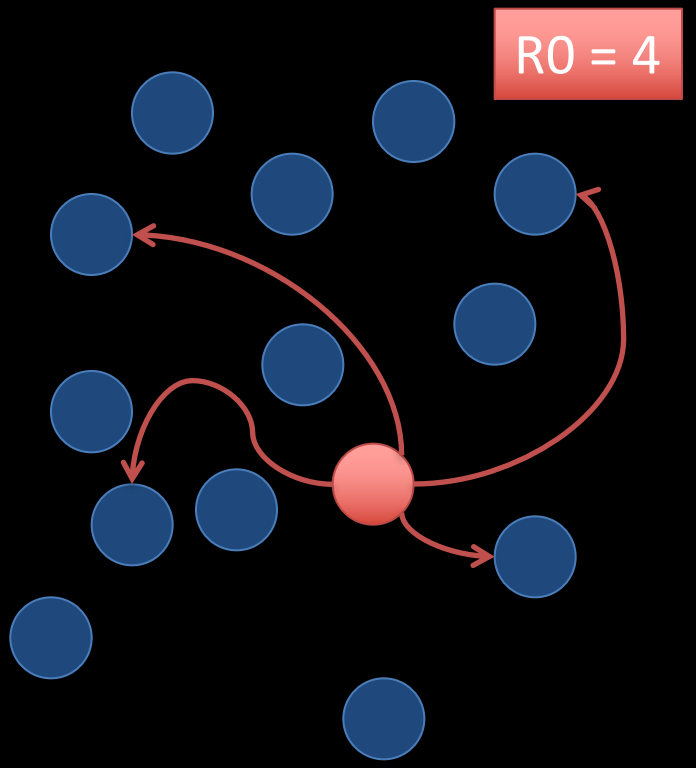


$$R_{eff}(t) = R_0 \frac{S(t)}{N}$$

$$R_{eff}(t) = \frac{\beta S(t)}{\gamma N}$$

Proportion to Vaccinate

- So what % of the population must be vaccinated to eliminate transmission in a population?



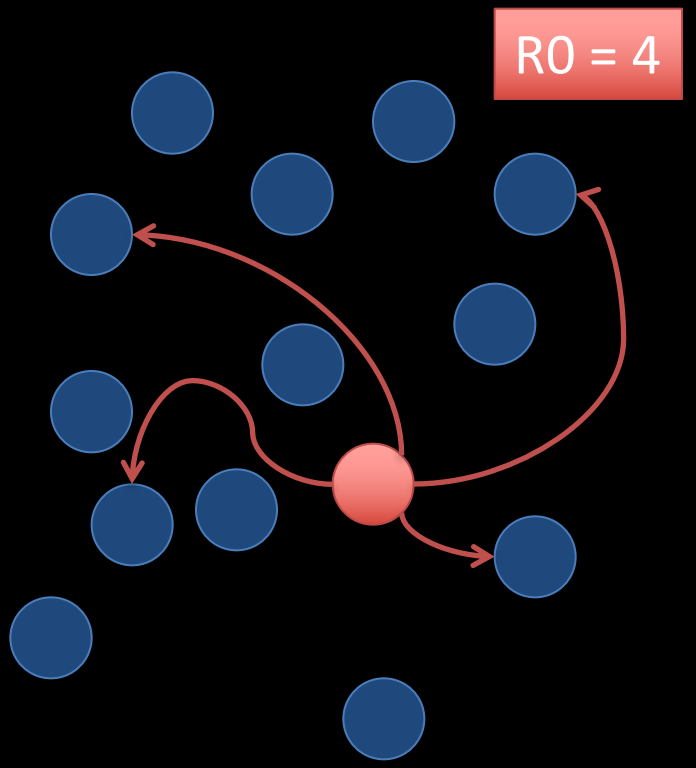
Proportion to Vaccinate

$$R_{eff} = R_0 \frac{S}{N}$$

For a disease to die out, $R_{eff} \leq 1$

$$R_0 \frac{S}{N} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{S}{N} \leq \frac{1}{R_0}$$



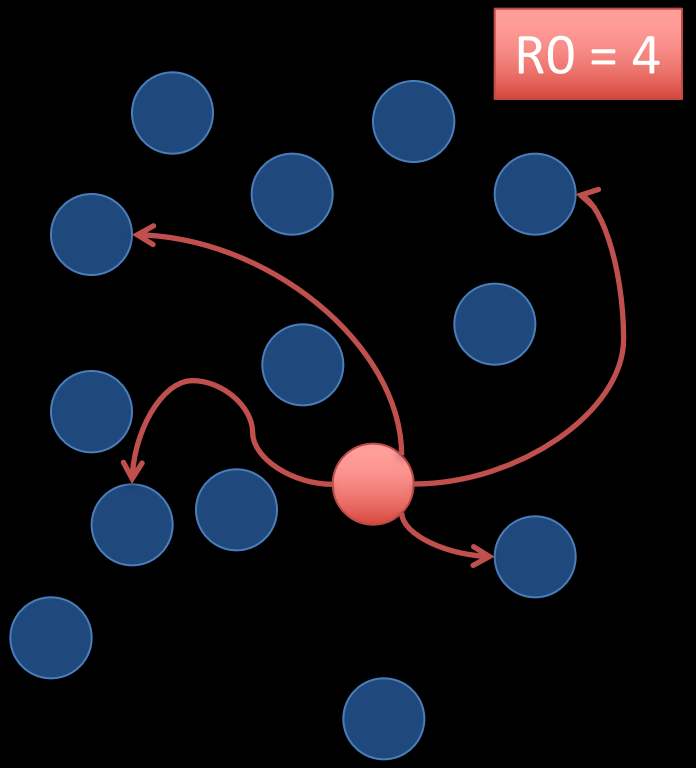
Proportion to Vaccinate

$$\frac{S}{N} \leq \frac{1}{R_0}$$

Proportion immune = P_V =
1 – proportion susceptible

$$P_V \geq 1 - \frac{1}{R_0}$$

$$P_V \geq \frac{R_0 - 1}{R_0}$$



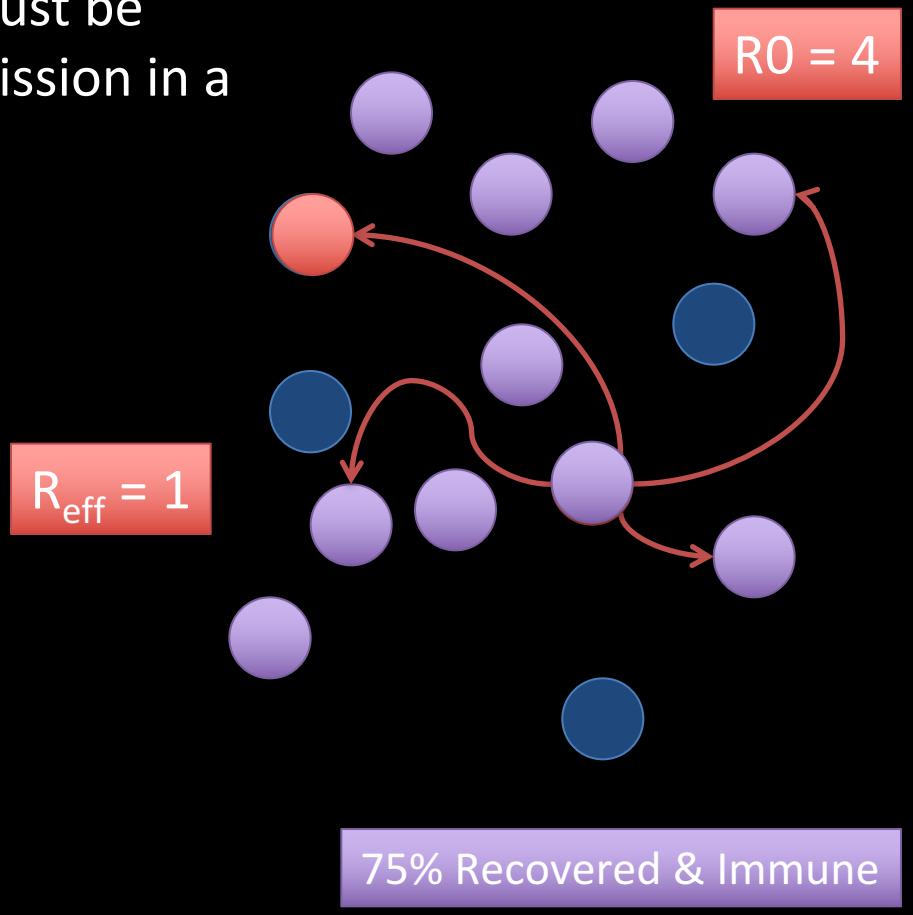
You don't have to vaccinate everyone to eliminate transmission!!!

Proportion to Vaccinate

- So what % of the population must be vaccinated to eliminate transmission in a population?

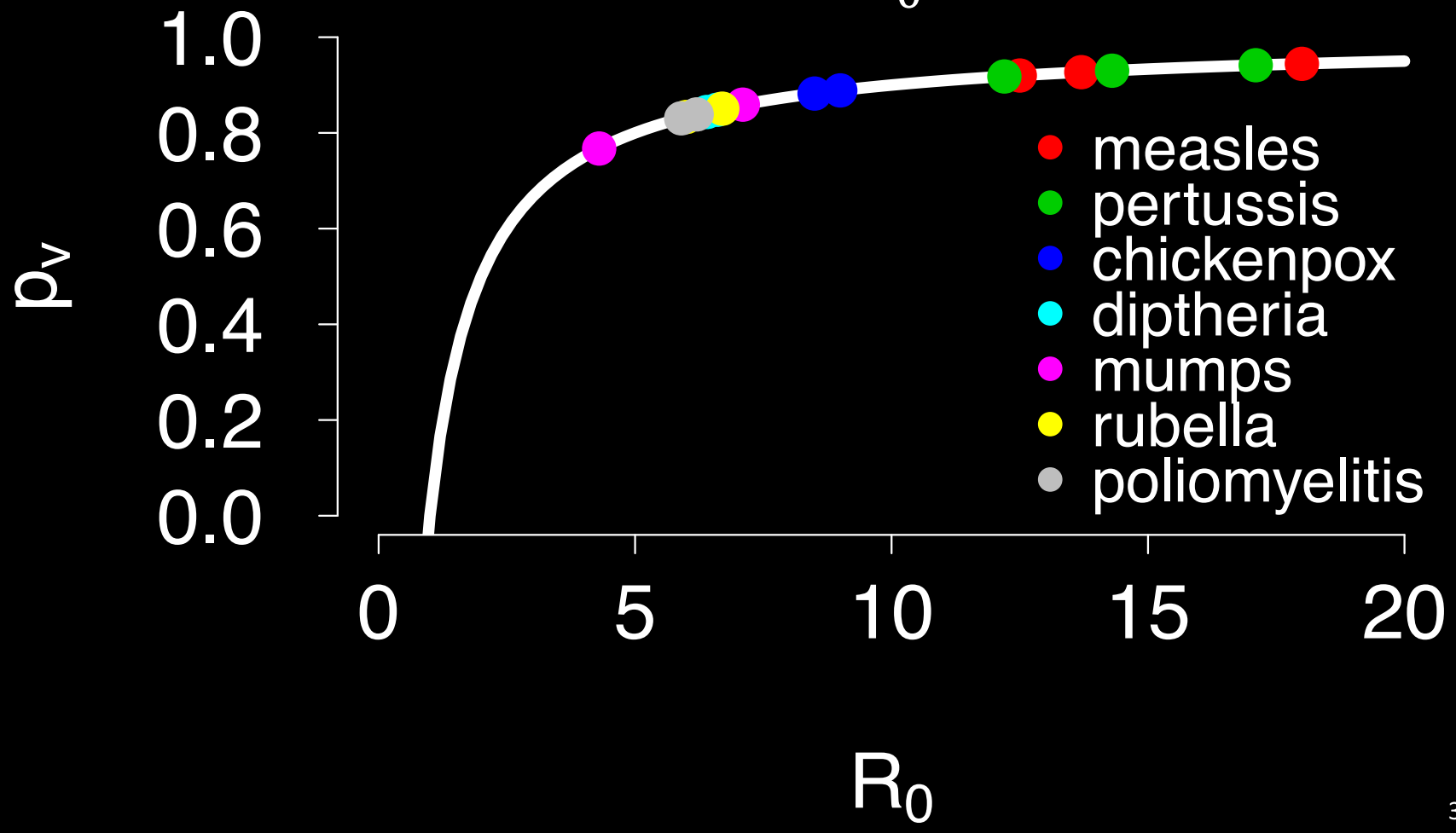
$$P_V \geq \frac{R_0 - 1}{R_0}$$

$$P_V \geq \frac{4 - 1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

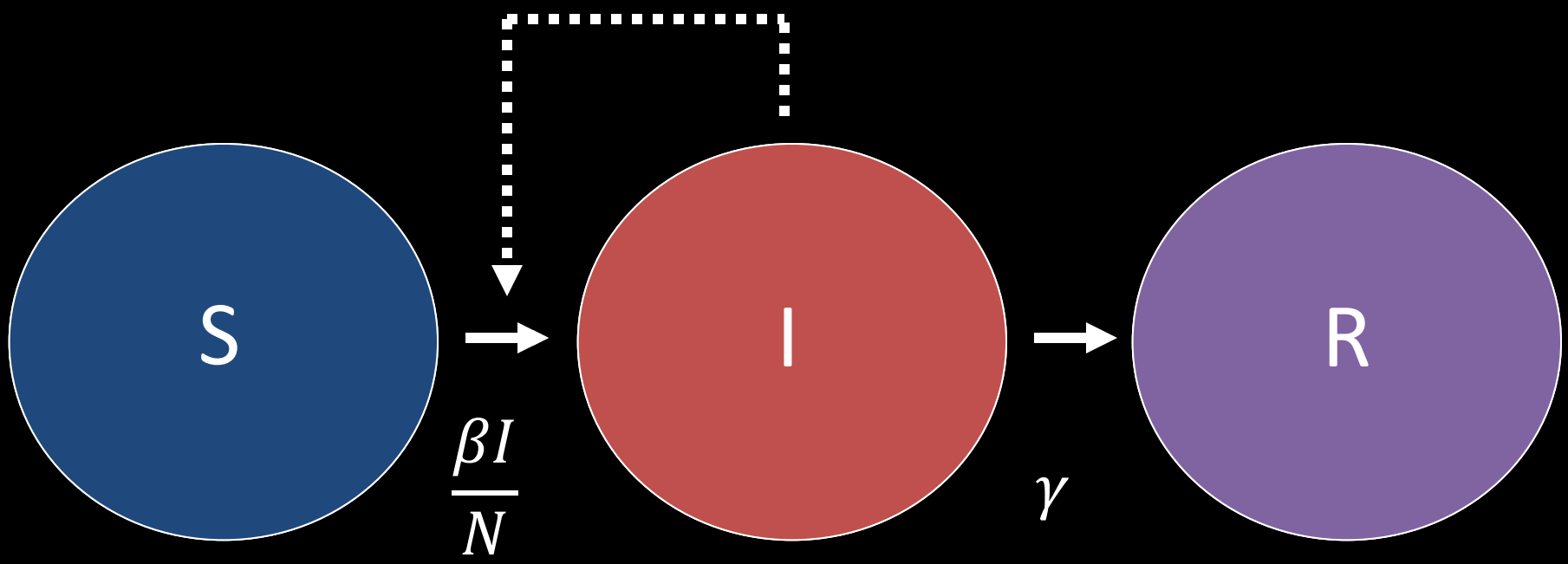


Elimination Thresholds

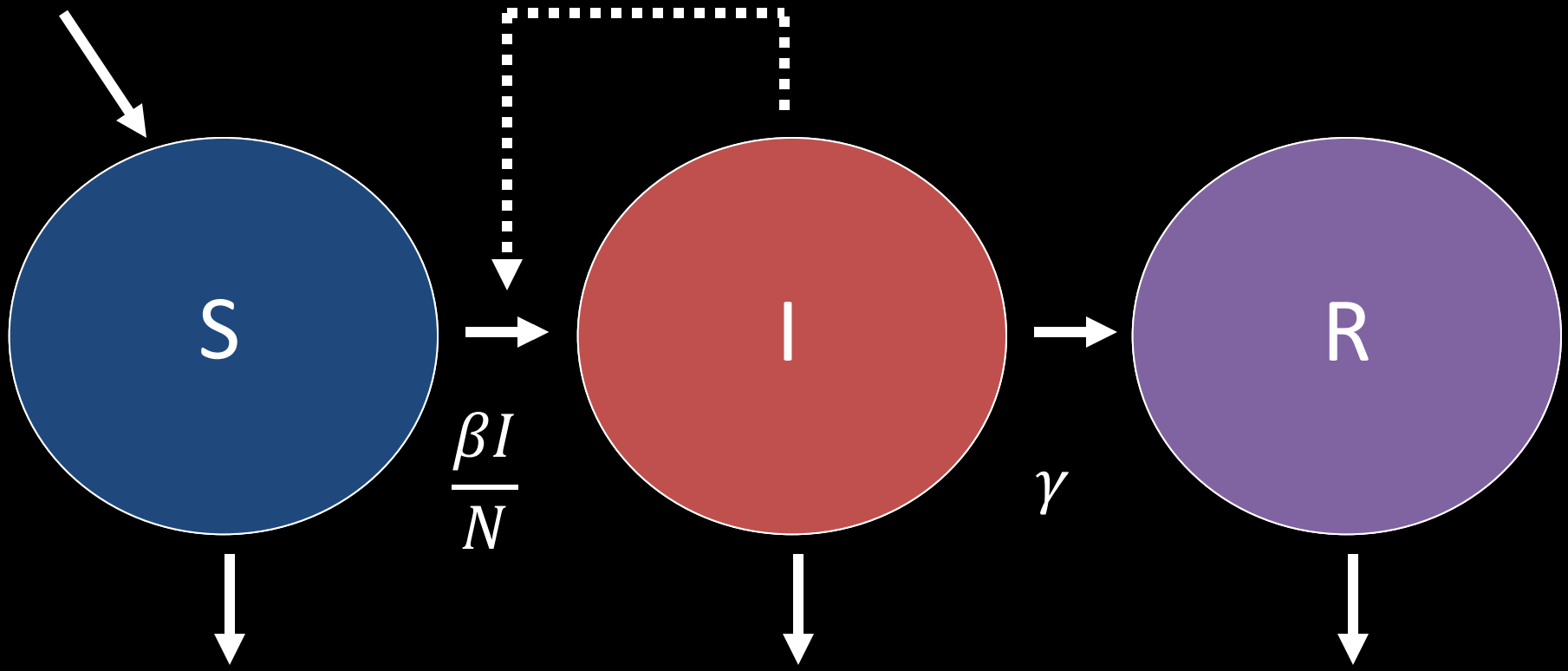
$$P_V = \frac{R_0 - 1}{R_0}$$



SIR Model



SIR Model with Birth & Death



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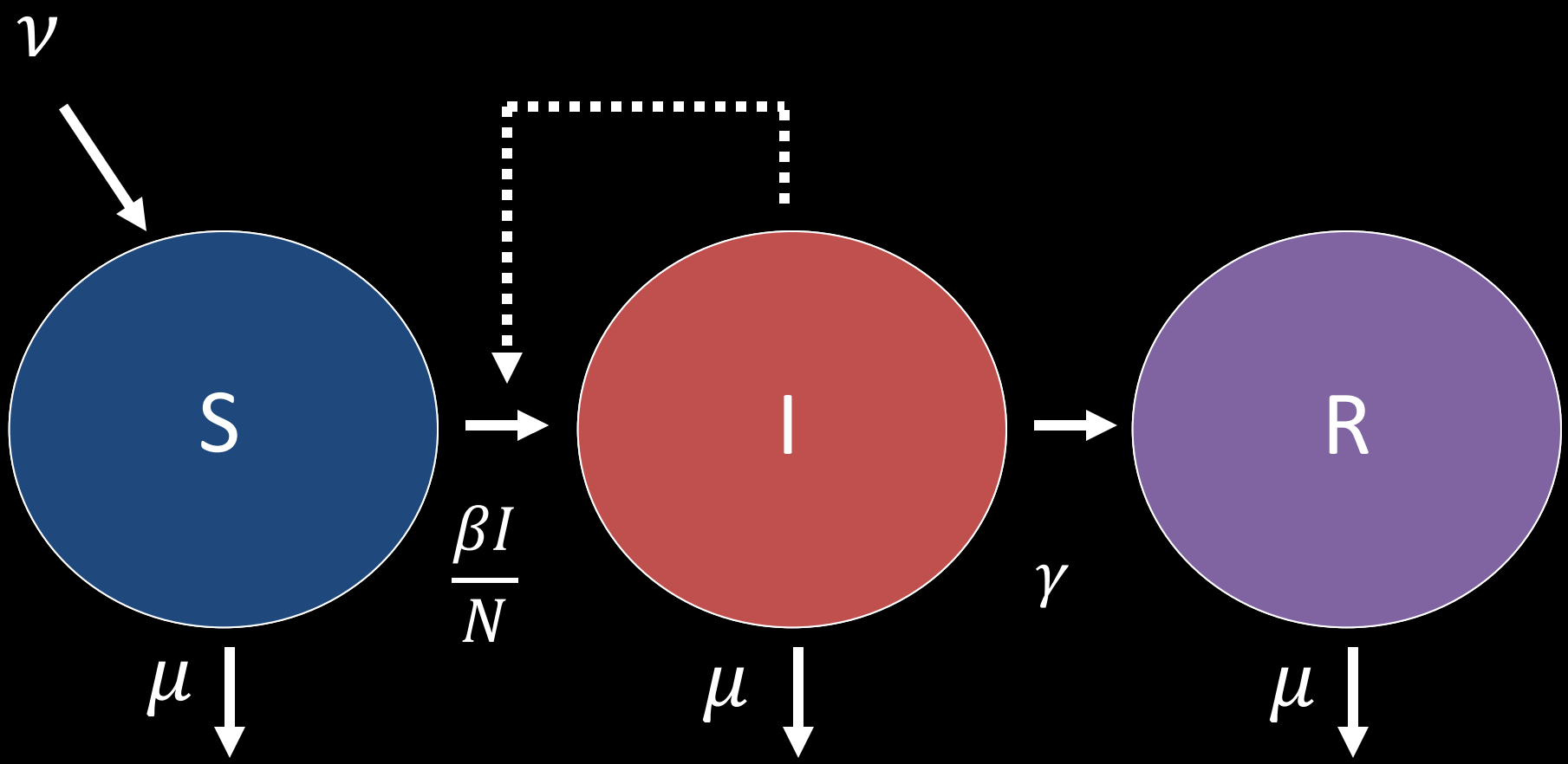

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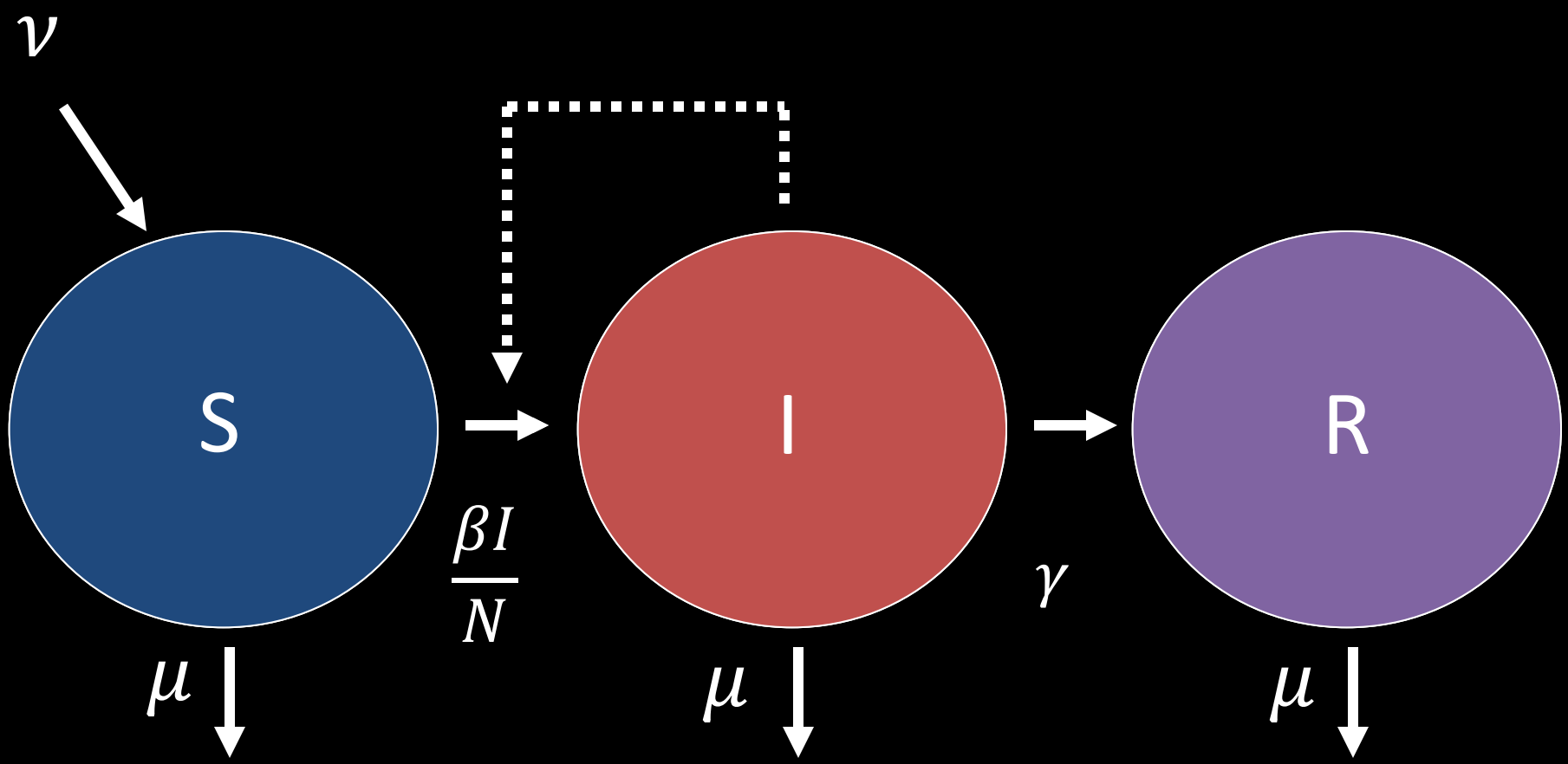


$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

SIR Model with Birth & Death

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

$$N = S + I + R$$

so

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \nu - \mu N$$

SIR Model with Birth & Death

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

$$N = S + I + R$$

so

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \nu - \mu N$$

To assume constant population size, births = deaths:

$$\nu = \mu N$$

SIR Model with Birth & Death

$$\frac{\beta SI}{N} \xrightarrow{N \text{ large}} \beta$$

$$R_0 =$$

Rate at which an infected individual produces new infections in a naïve population

X

$$1$$

Proportion of new infections that become infectious

X

$$\frac{1}{\gamma + \mu}$$

Average duration of infectiousness

SIR Model with Birth & Death

$$R_0 = \frac{\beta}{\gamma + \mu}$$

$$R_0 =$$

Rate at which an infected individual produces new infections in a naïve population

X

Proportion of new infections that become infectious

X

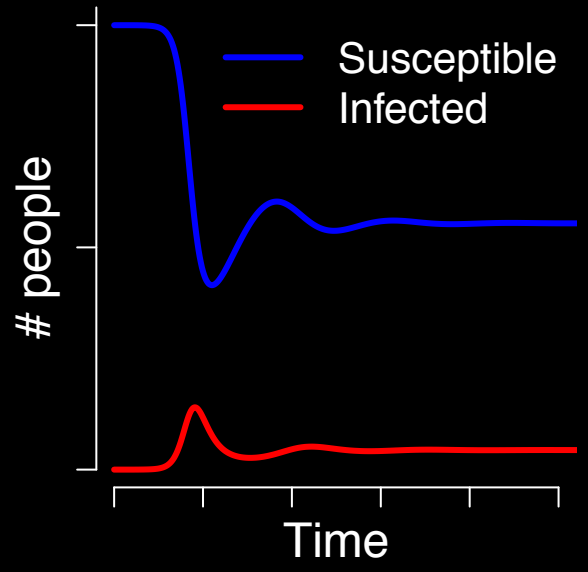
Average duration of infectiousness

SIR Model with Birth & Death

Dynamics upon introduction:

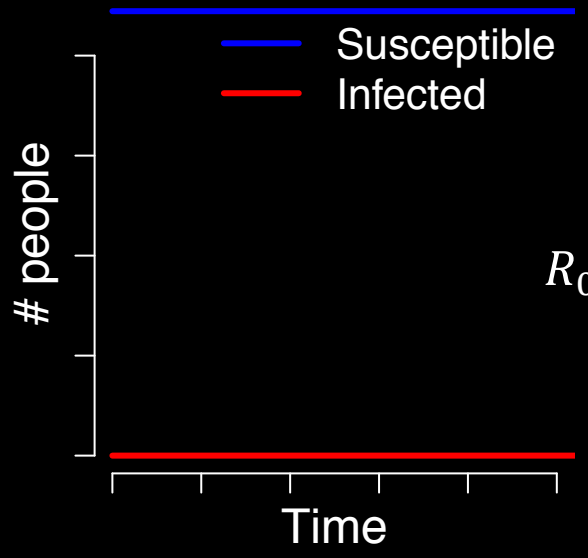
Epidemic if $R_0 > 1$

Endemic state



No epidemic if $R_0 \leq 1$

No endemic state



$$R_0 = \frac{\beta}{\gamma + \mu}$$

R_{eff}: Effective Reproductive Number

$\frac{\beta S}{N}$ Rate at which an infected individual produces new infections in a non-fully susceptible population

X

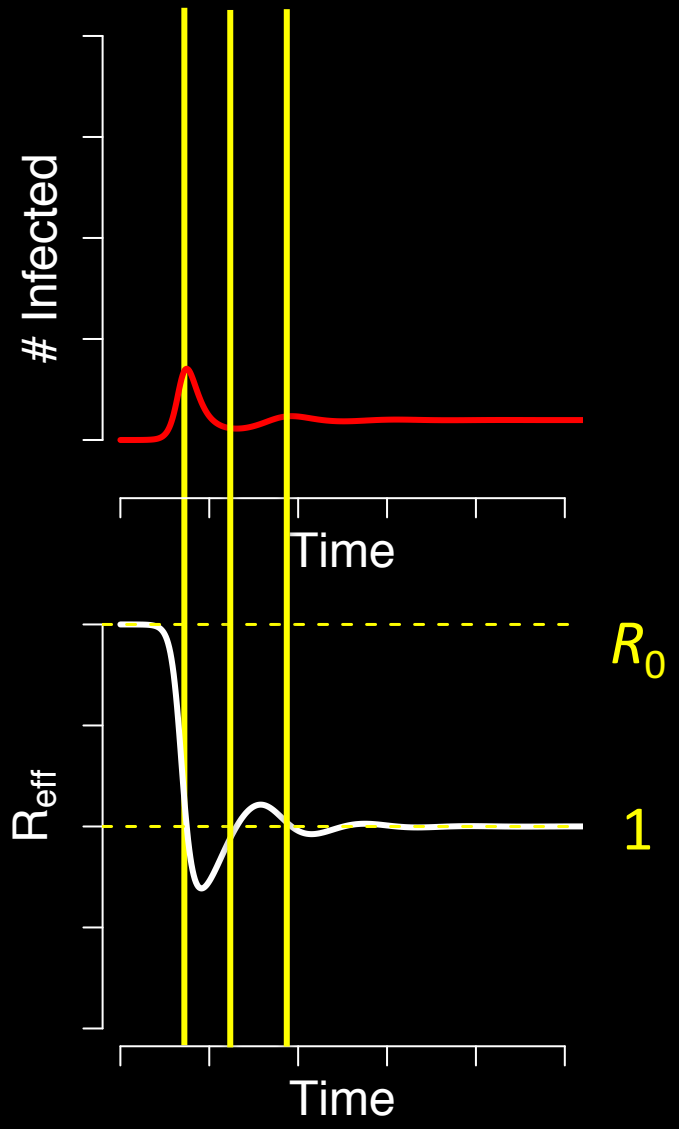
1 Proportion of new infections that become infectious

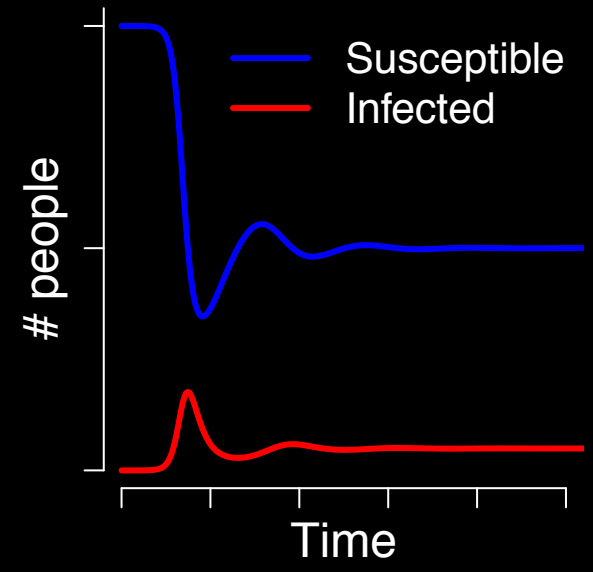
X

$\frac{1}{\gamma + \mu}$ Average duration of infectiousness

$$R_{eff} = R_0 \frac{S}{N}$$

R_{eff}: The Effective Reproductive Number



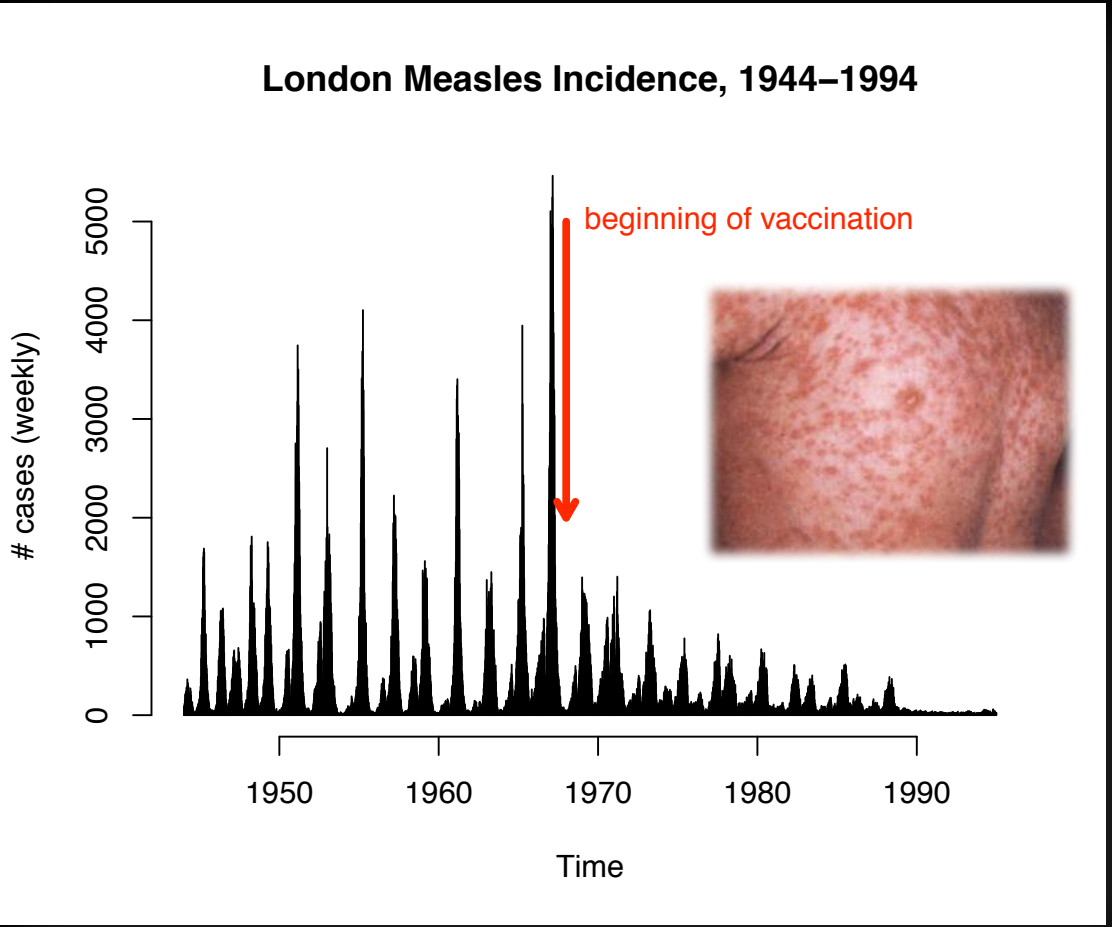


$$R_{eff}(t) = R_0 \frac{S(t)}{N}$$

$$R_{eff}(t) = \frac{\beta S(t)}{(\gamma + \mu)N}$$

Why do recurrent epidemics happen?

- Susceptibles exhausted from an epidemic
- Disease does not completely die out (or is reintroduced).
- Susceptibles replenished through birth or loss of immunity, epidemic occurs.



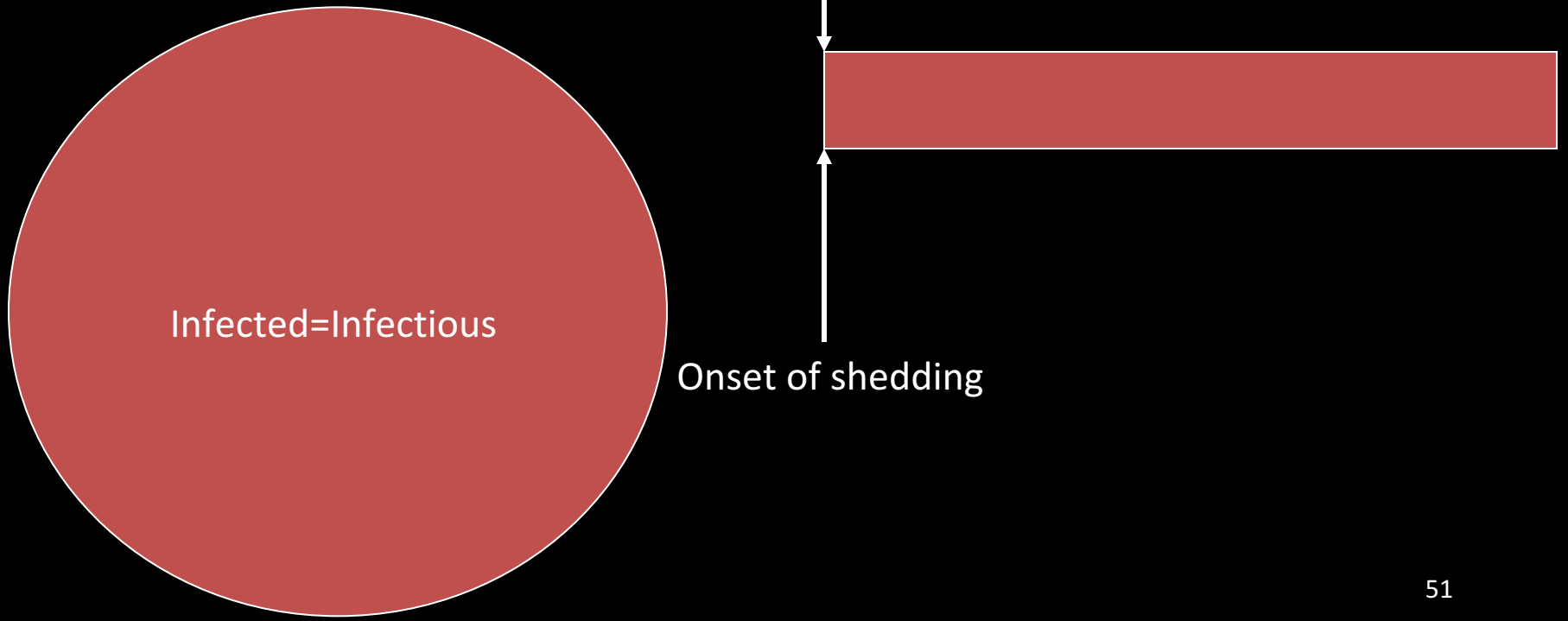
An extremely simple view of the world

Don't worry about symptoms and disease!

Infection

Assume immediate infectiousness after exposure…

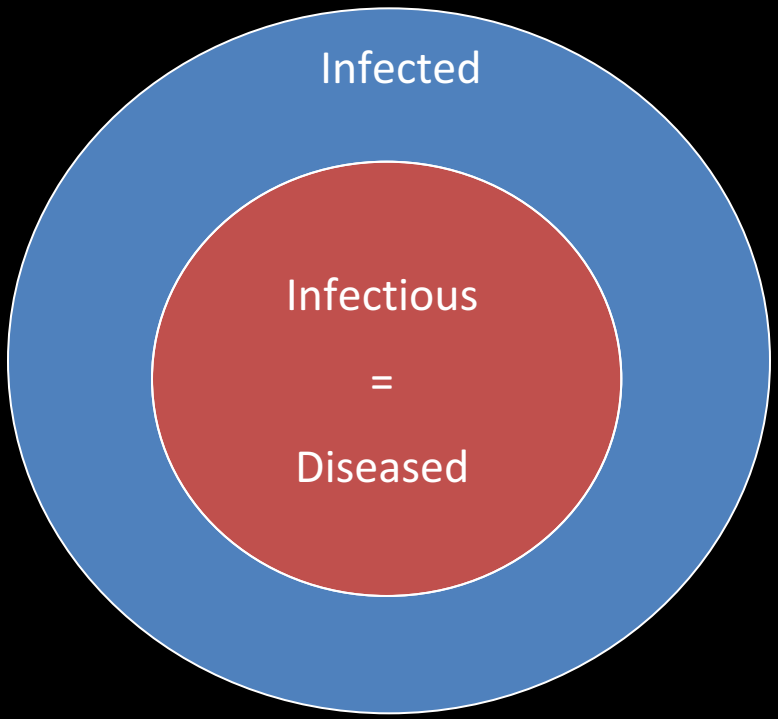
Infectivity = 1

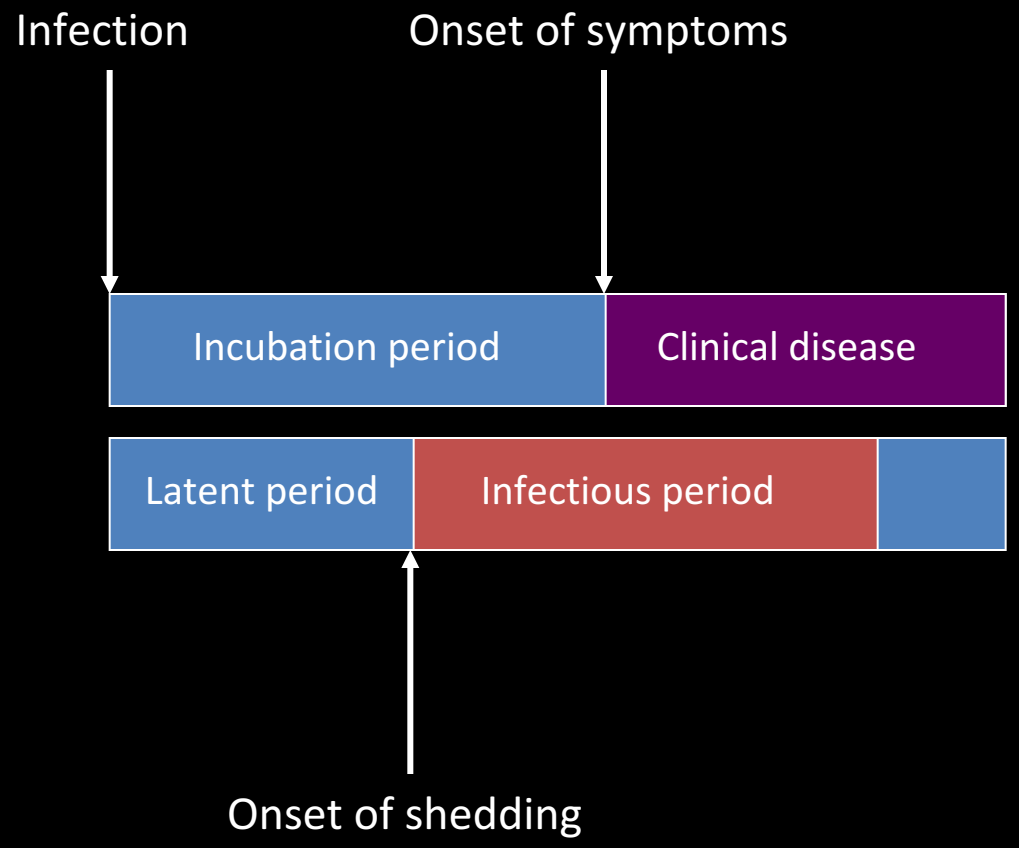


A slightly more realistic model

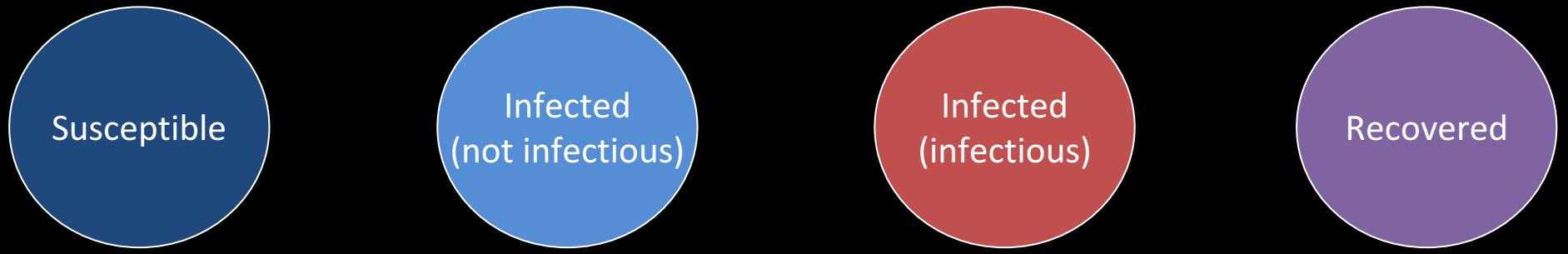
Infectivity = 1

(everyone exposed becomes infected)

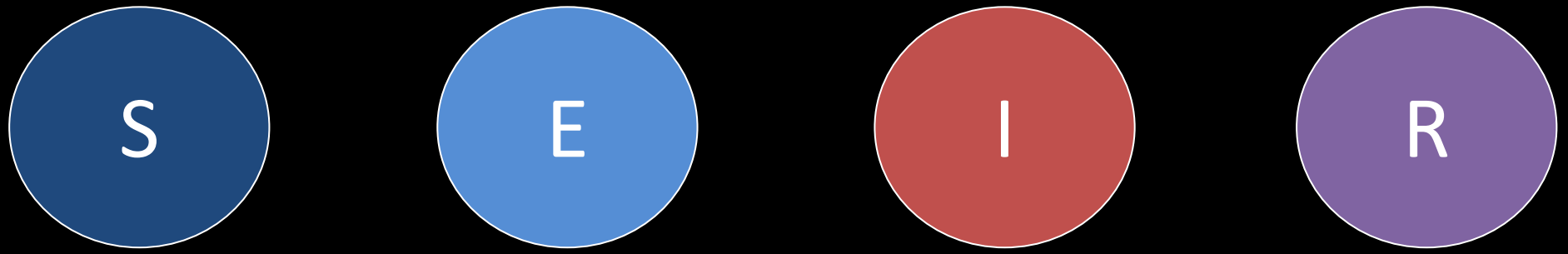




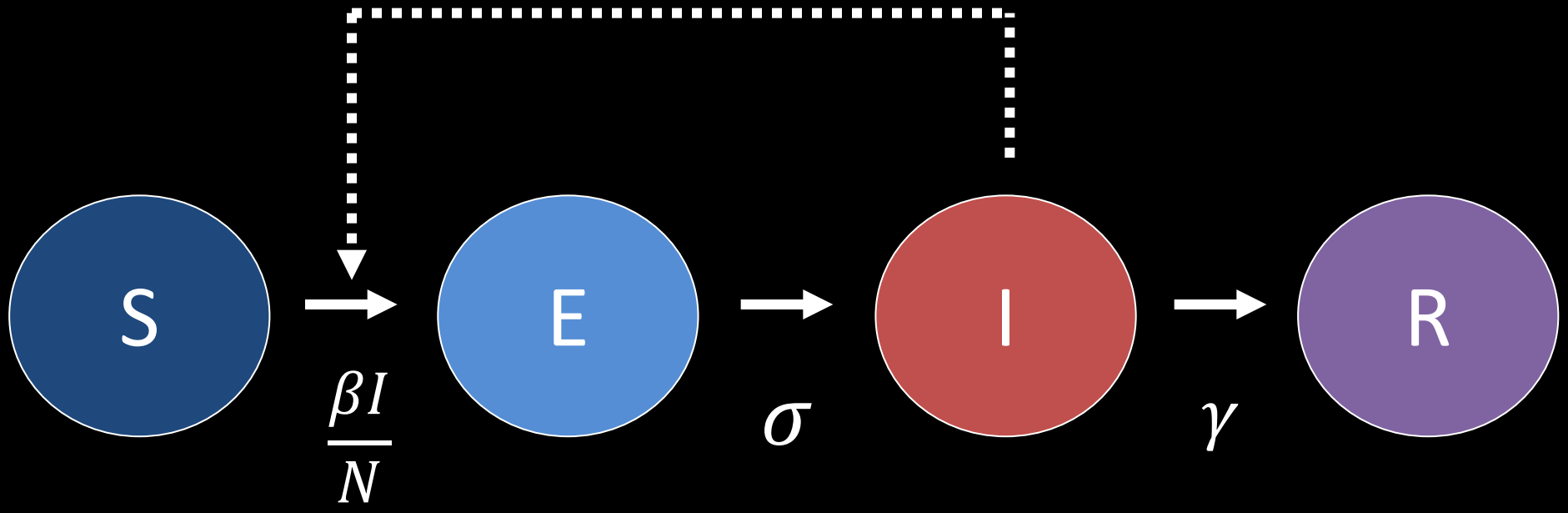
A slightly more realistic model



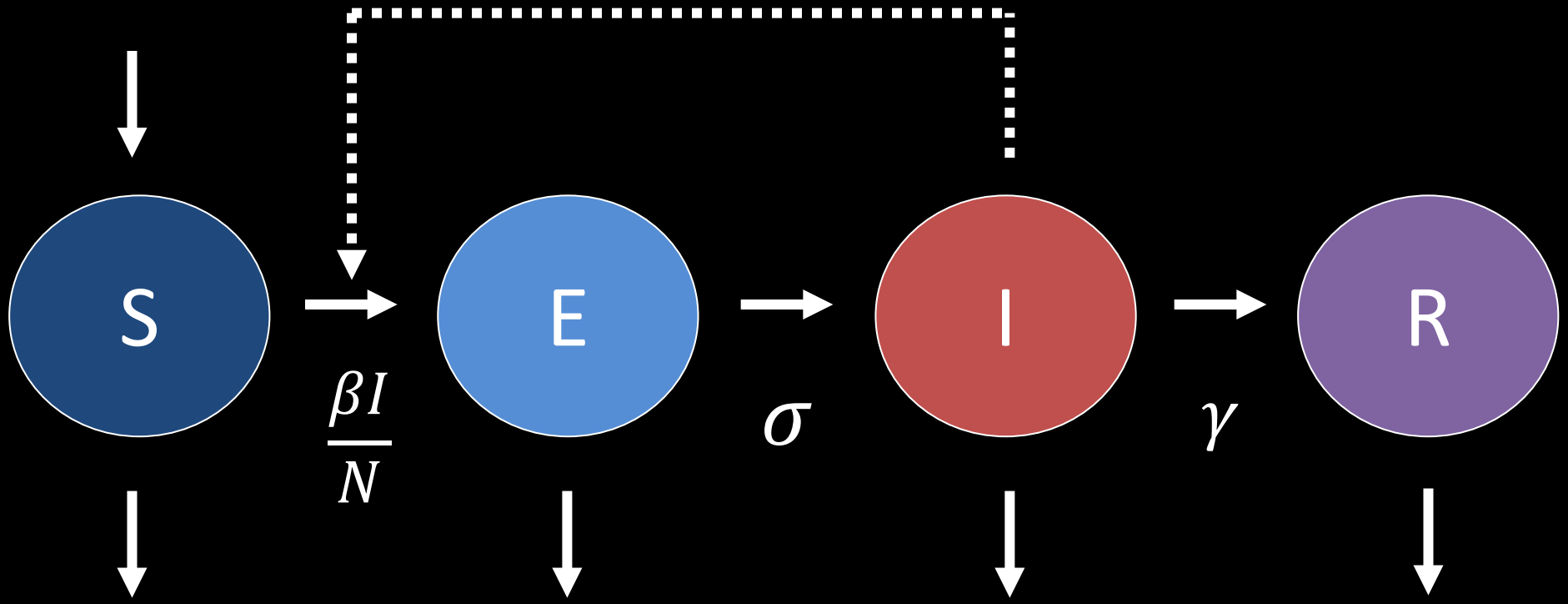
SEIR Model



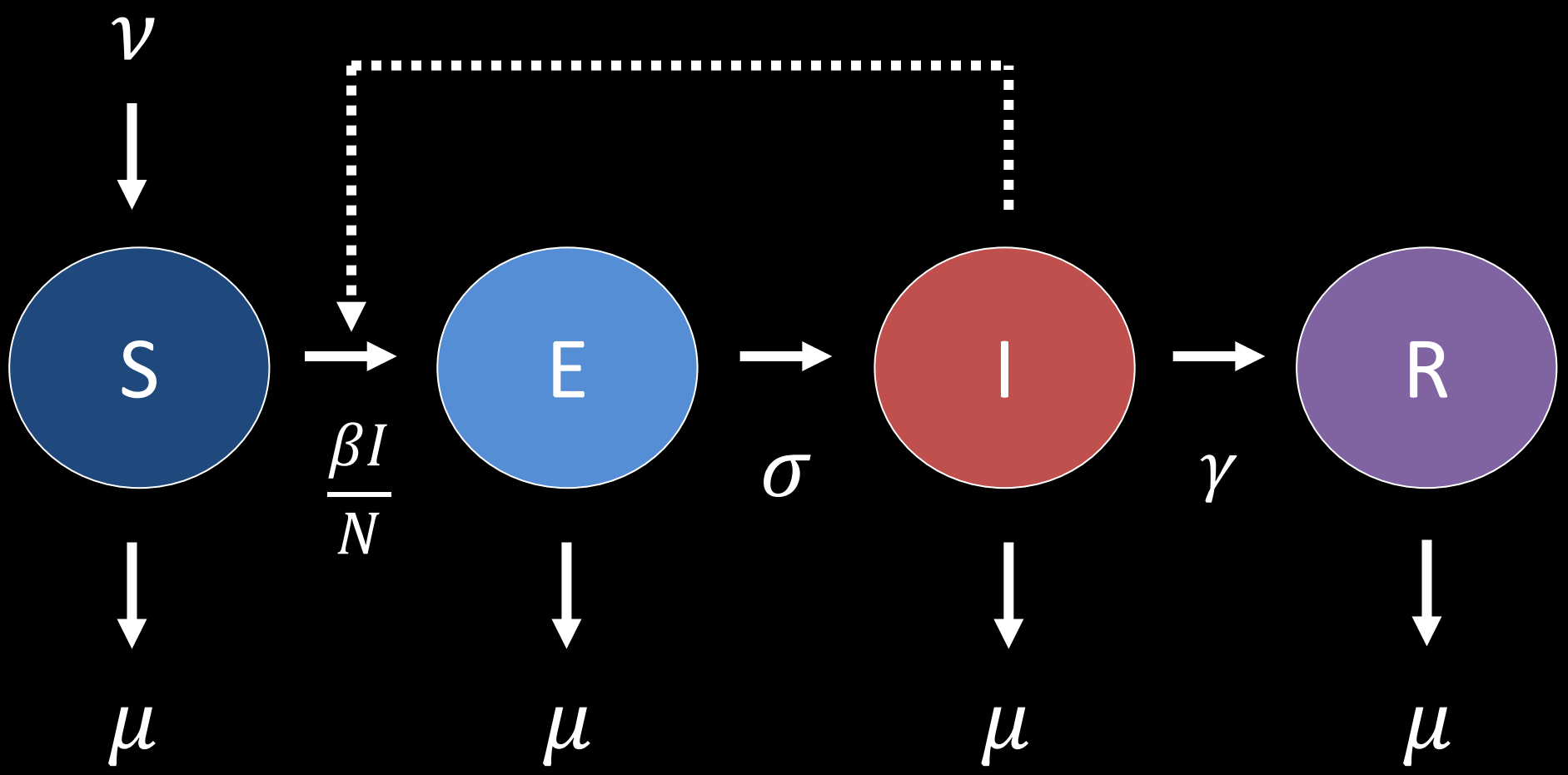
SEIR Model



SEIR Model



SEIR Model



SEIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \sigma E - \mu E$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

ν	birth rate
μ	mortality rate
σ	1 / latent period
γ	1 / infectious period
β	transmission coefficient

SEIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \sigma E - \mu E$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

Assume constant population size

$$\nu = \mu N$$

SEIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \sigma E - \mu E$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

$$R_0 =$$

Rate at which an infected individual produces new infections in a naïve population

X

Proportion of new infections that become infectious

X

Average duration of infectiousness

SEIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \sigma E - \mu E$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

$$R_0 = \beta \left(\frac{\sigma}{\mu + \sigma}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\mu + \gamma}\right)$$

SEIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \sigma E - \mu E$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \gamma I - \mu I$$

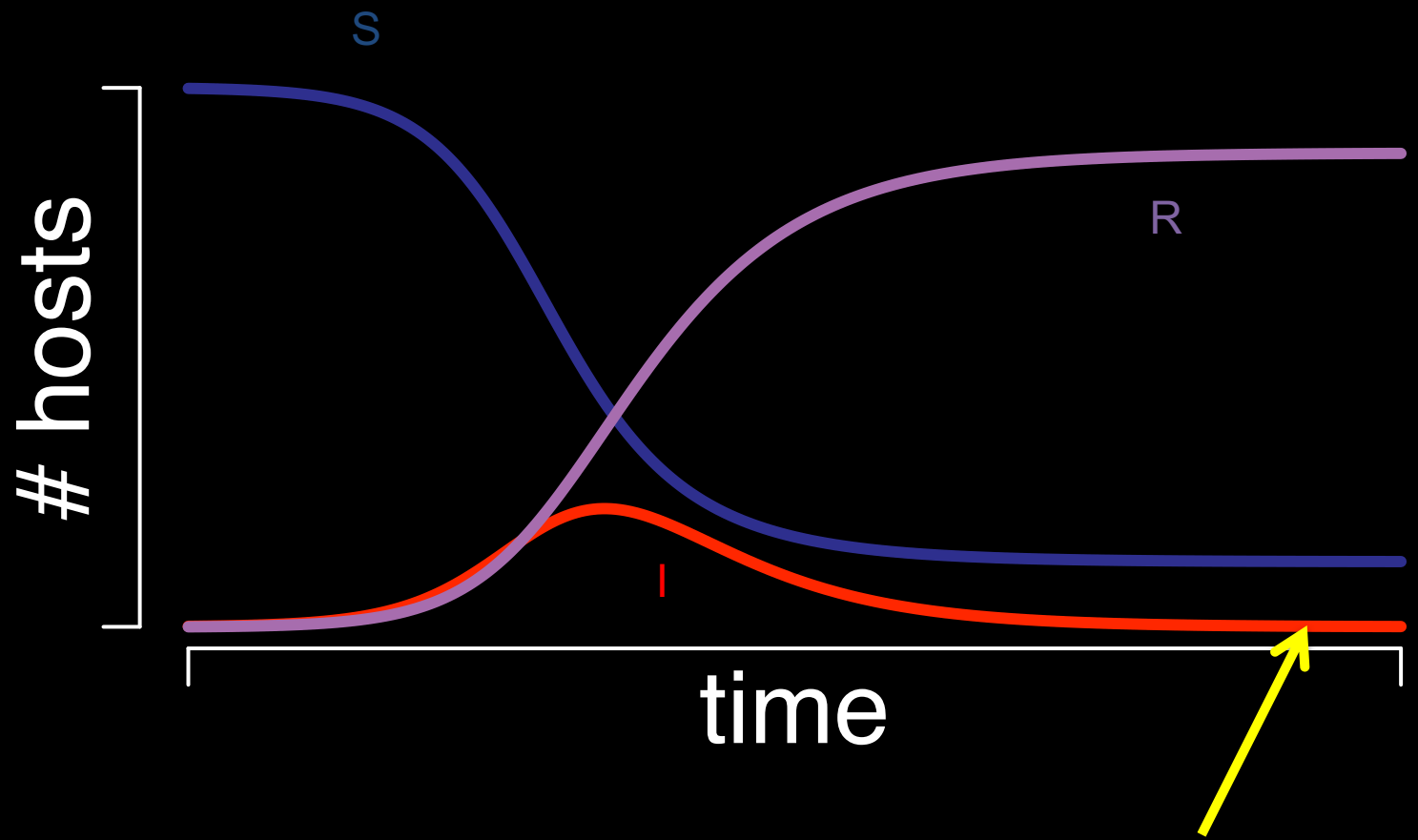
$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

Equilibria…

Disease free equilibrium

Endemic equilibrium

Back to the SIR: When does a disease fade out?



In simple "SIR" models of epidemics, # of infected hosts never goes to zero… What allows a fadeout?

Fadeouts do occur!

- Critical Community Size
  The (≈) threshold population size at which a disease can persist.

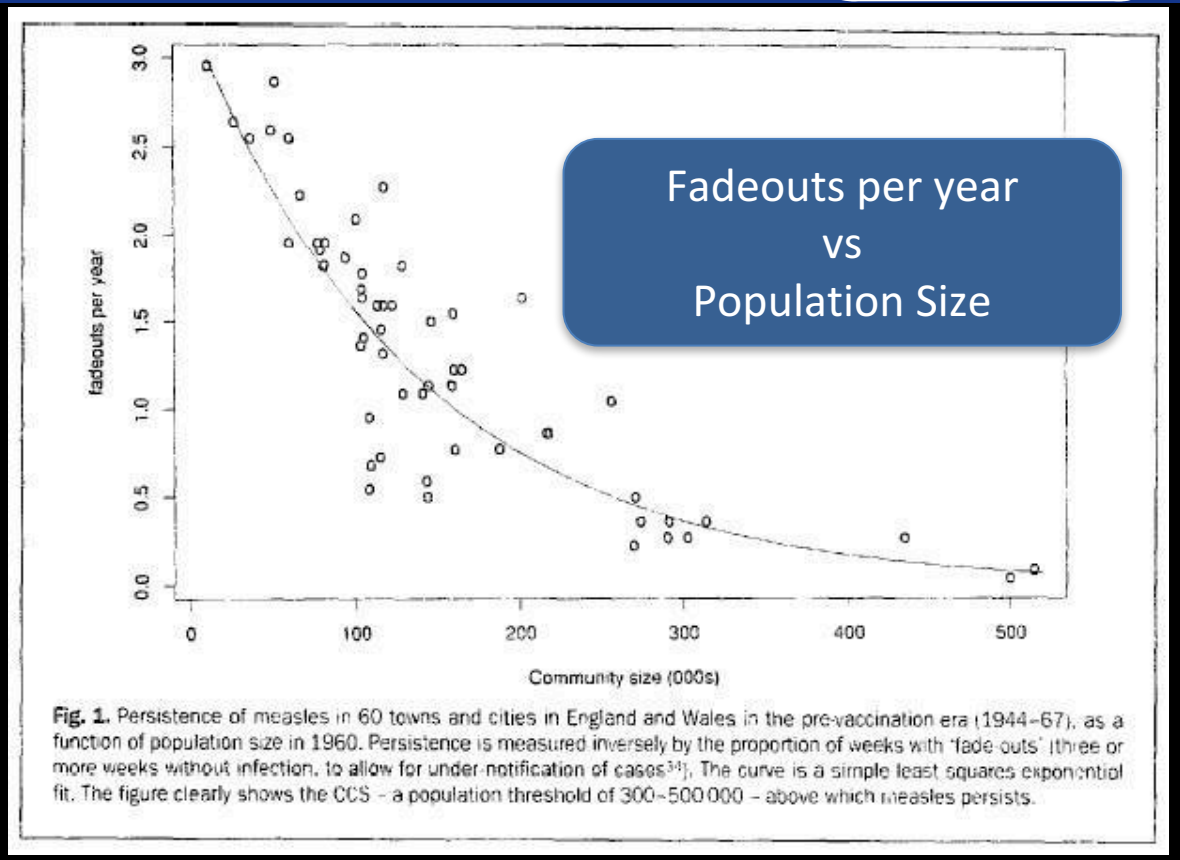
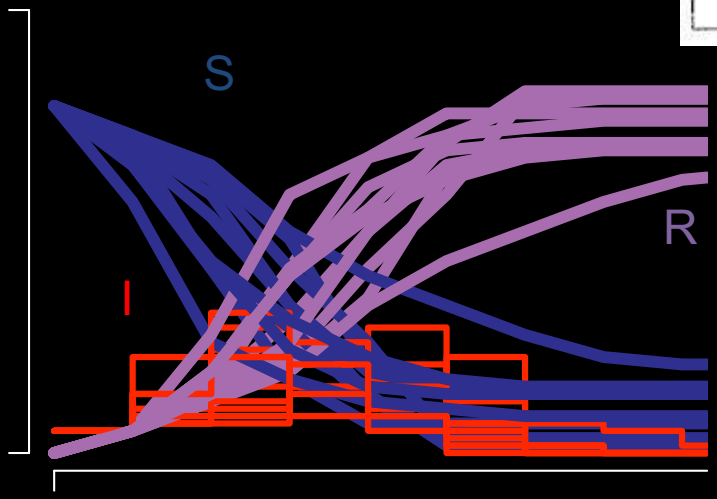


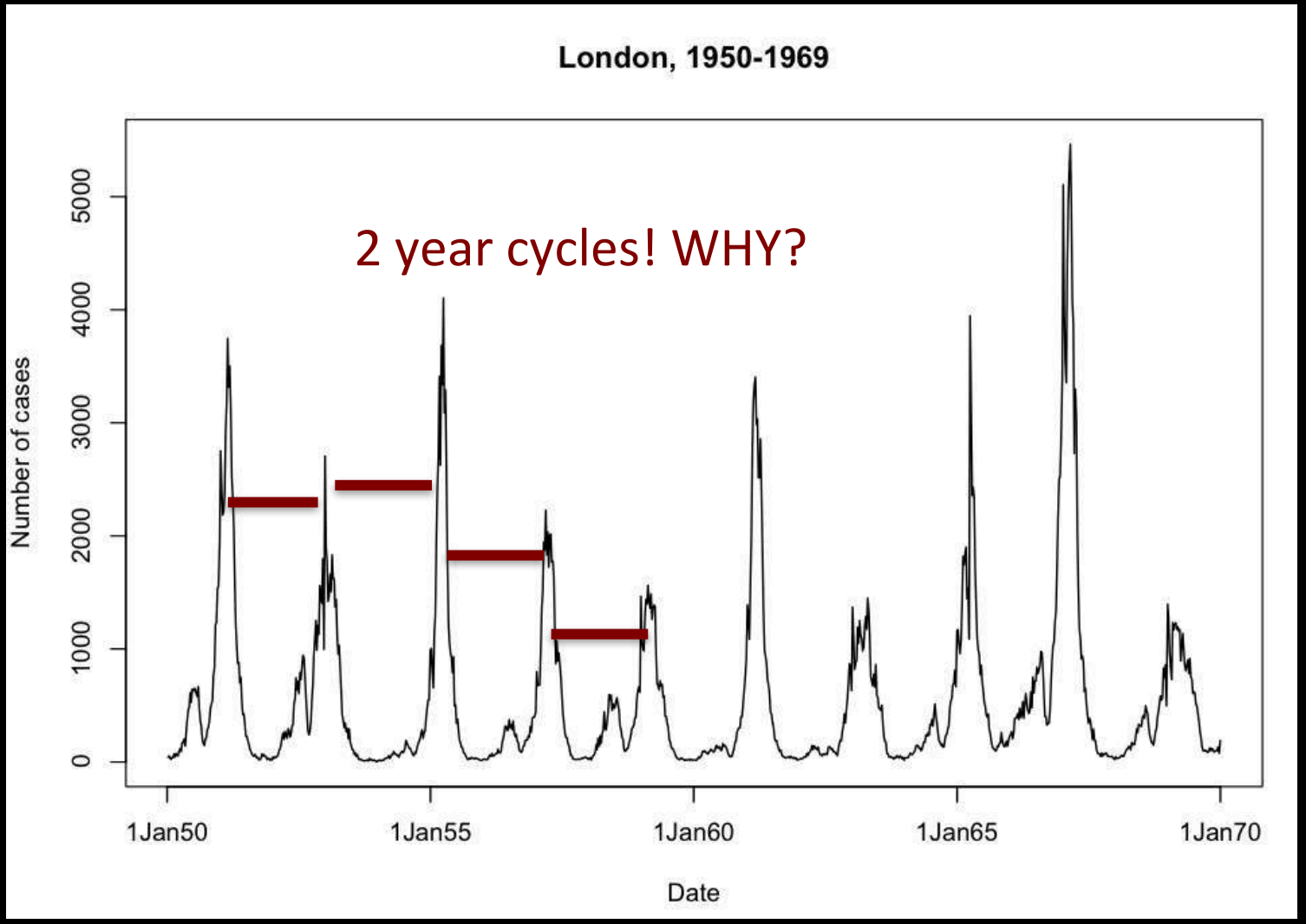
Fig. 1. Persistence of measles in 60 towns and cities in England and Wales in the pre-vaccination era (1944–67), as a function of population size in 1960. Persistence is measured inversely by the proportion of weeks with 'fade outs' (three or more weeks without infection, to allow for under-notification of cases[34]). The curve is a simple least squares exponential fit. The figure clearly shows the CCS – a population threshold of 300–500 000 – above which measles persists.

Grenfell and Harwood, 1997



- Stochasticity in epidemic troughs causes disease fadeout in small populations.

What accounts for epidemic cycles?



Earn et al. 2000 *Science*

Seasonal SEIR Model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \nu - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \sigma E - \mu E$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \gamma I - \mu I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I - \mu R$$

$\nu = \mu N$ individuals/year

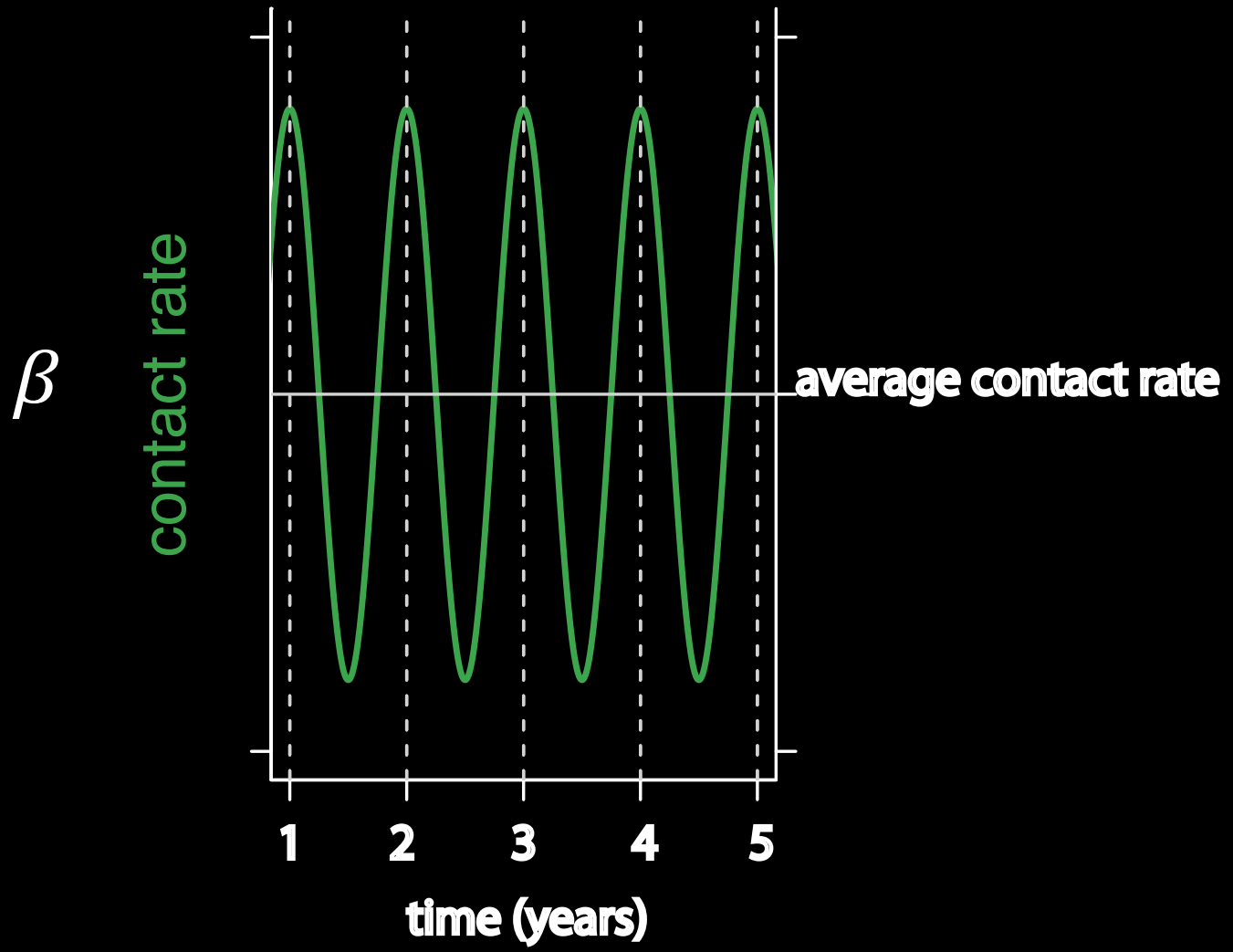
$\mu = 0.02$ years^{-1}

$\sigma = 1/8$ days^{-1}

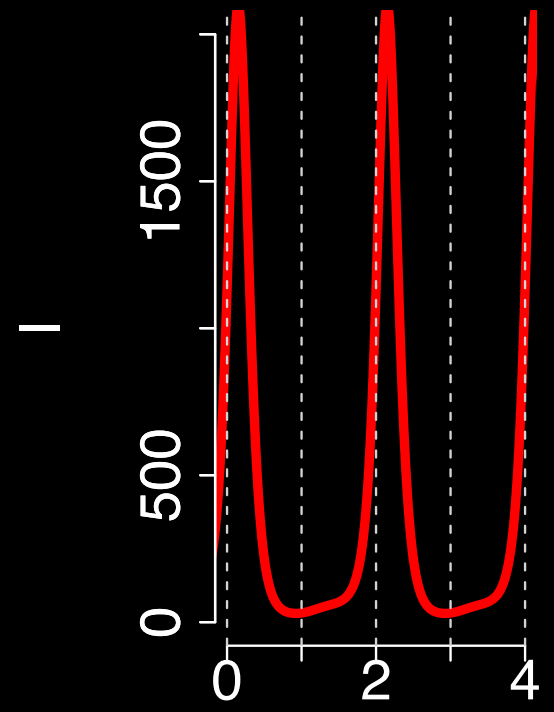
$\gamma = 1/5$ days^{-1}

β seasonal (school terms)

Seasonal SEIR Model

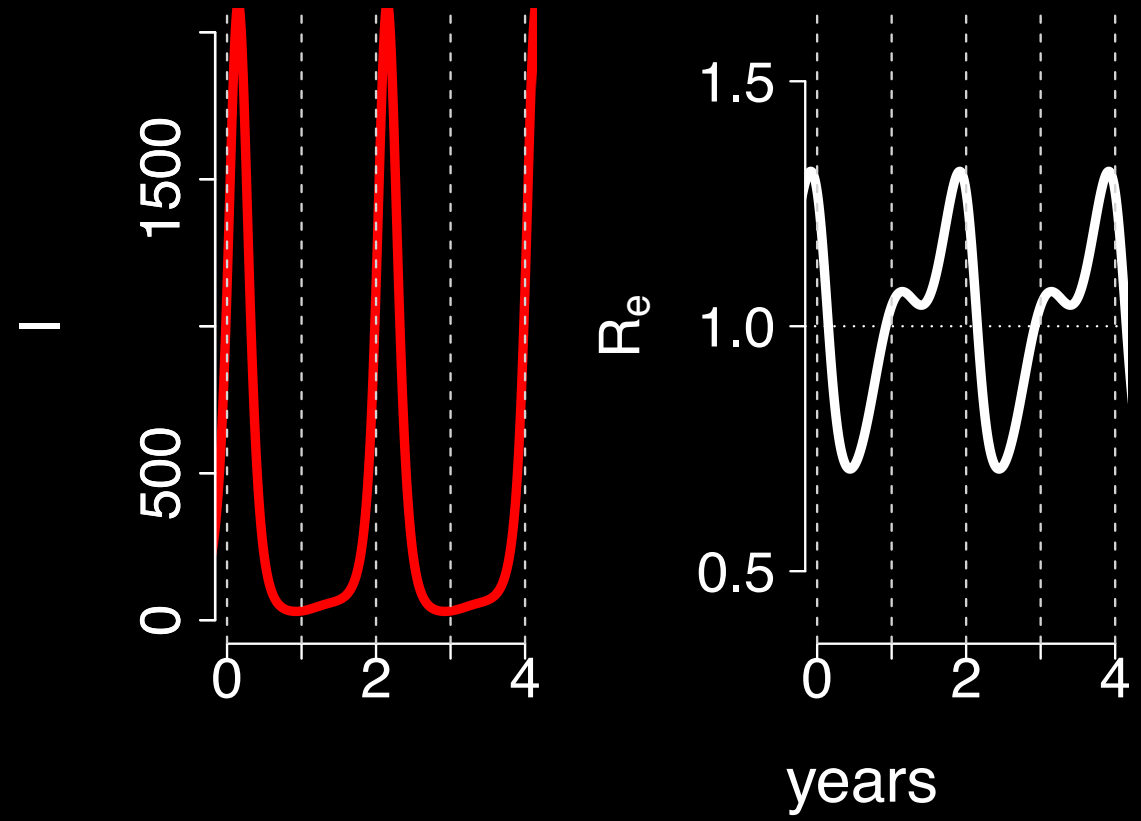


Susceptible Replenishment & Periodicity



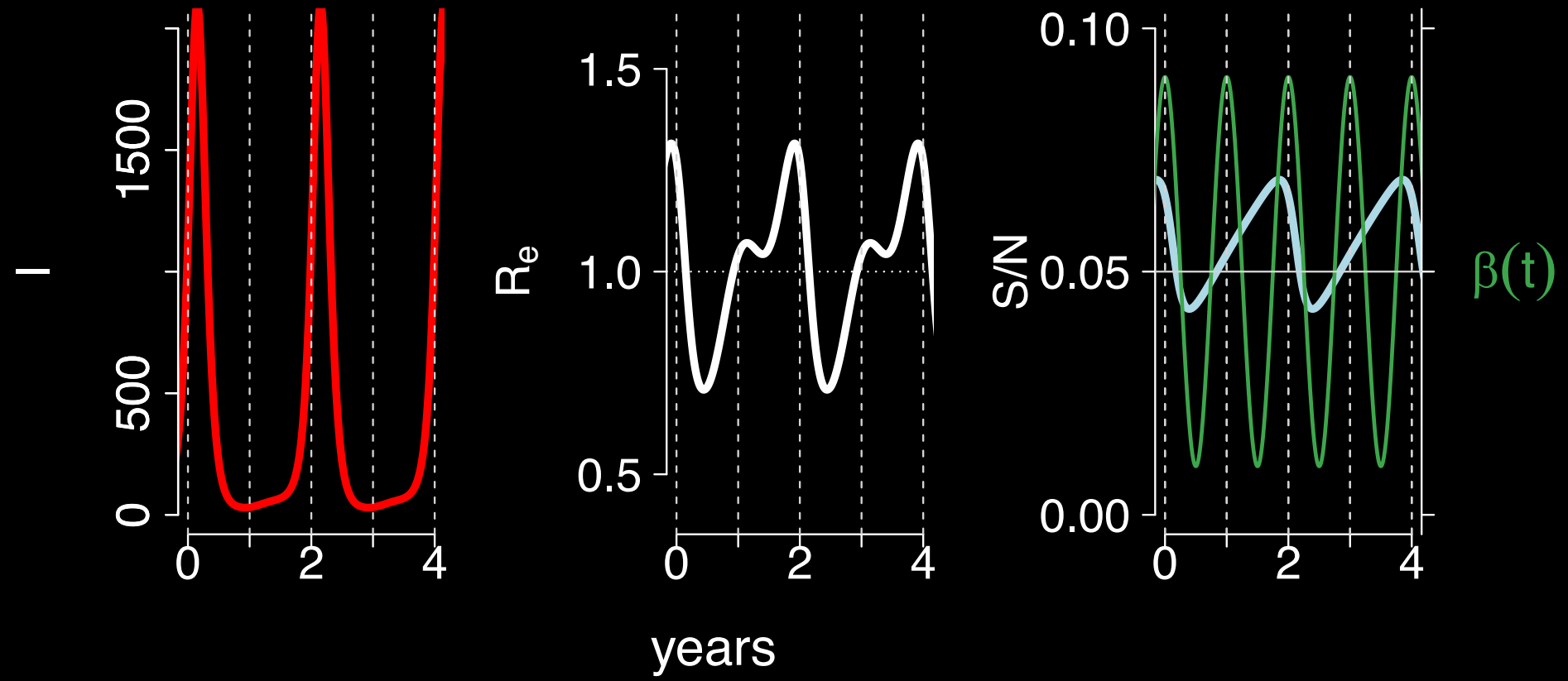
Life Expectancy of 40 years

Susceptible Replenishment & Periodicity



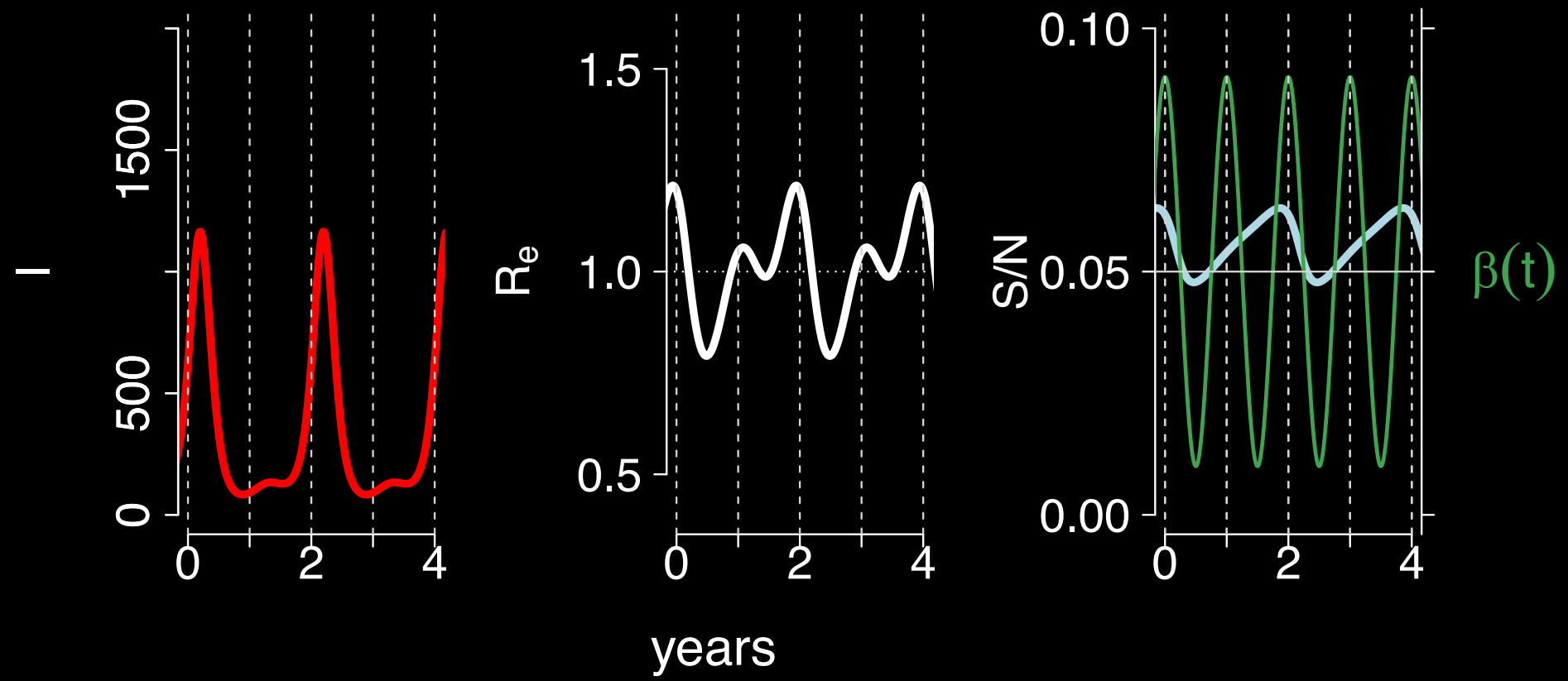
Life Expectancy of 40 years

Susceptible Replenishment & Periodicity



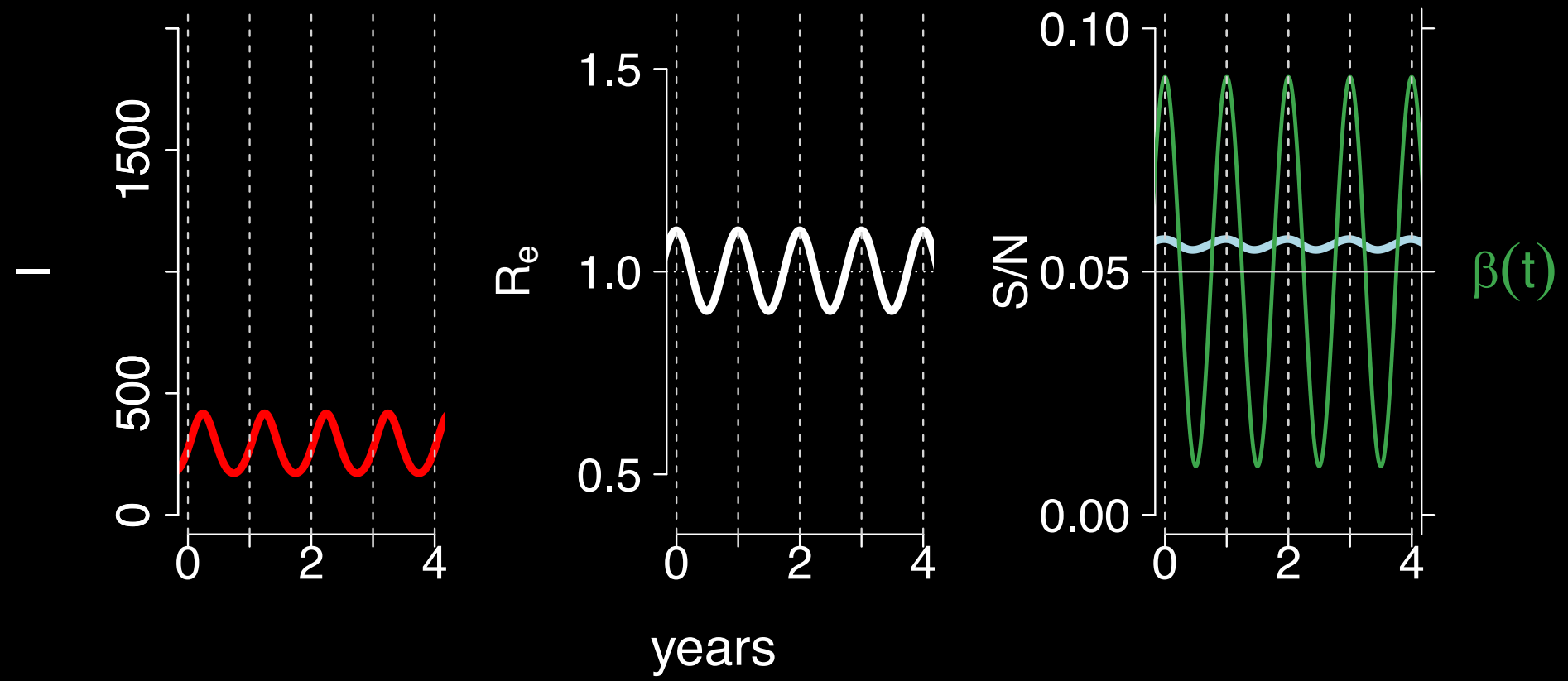
Life Expectancy of 40 years

Susceptible Replenishment & Periodicity



Life Expectancy of 50 years

Susceptible Replenishment & Periodicity



Life Expectancy of 60 years

Summary

- Latent/infectious periods drive epidemic time scale
- R0 = 1 threshold for invasion
- (R0-1)/R0 proportion to vaccinate for elimination
- Susceptible replenishment drives periodicity

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Bellan SE and Pulliam JRCP. "Introduction to Infectious Disease Dynamics" Clinic on the Meaningful Modeling of Epidemiological Data. DOI:10.6084/m9.figshare.5043139.

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SACEMA DST/NRF Centre of Excellence in Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis

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