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## Abstract

The metastable model generalizes the stable population model by allowing net maternity to change exponentially over age and time. As a result, the metastable model generates an exponentially quadratic birth trajectory, which is characterized by a constant proportion of births by age of mother. The metastable model is well suited to analyzing steady fertility declines and transitions between two regimes of fixed vital rates.

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Author's affiliation Robert Schoen Pennsylvania State University, United States of America

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