

Diversity and collective behavior: Bacterial strategies for inclusive migration

Thierry Emonet

Associate Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology & Physics
Co-Director of the Quantitative Biology Institute
Yale University

Phenotypic diversity and collective behavior are important properties of living communities that provide selective advantages. While collective behavior requires coordination between individuals, phenotypic diversity tends to reduce coordination. I will report on our recent experimental and theoretical results that used bacterial chemotaxis as model system to examine how phenotypic heterogeneity modulates group performance and how collective behavior affects the amount of diversity in the group.