Annual Scientific Meeting Fungi in the Environment

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Abstract Form

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The Neighbour-Sensing model of hyphal growth as an experimental tool

We have described a relatively simple mathematical model and computer program that provides a life-like tool enabling experimentation on fungal growth by visualising the virtual hyphal growth patterns. In this Neighbour-Sensing mathematical model of hyphal growth the growth vector of each virtual hyphal tip depends upon values derived from its surrounding virtual mycelium. Effectively, the virtual hyphal tip is sensing the neighbouring mycelium. I will demonstrate the program, illustrating some of the very realistic simulations the program produces, and discussing further ways the model might be used as a meaningful experimental tool to study hyphal networks.

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