

# The Journal of Undergraduate Research

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## The Journal of Undergraduate Research: Volume 10

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**JOURNAL OF  
UNDERGRADUATE  
RESEARCH**

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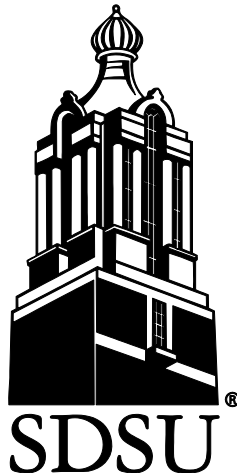
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**JOURNAL OF  
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## **MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION (Due June 1 of each calendar year.)**

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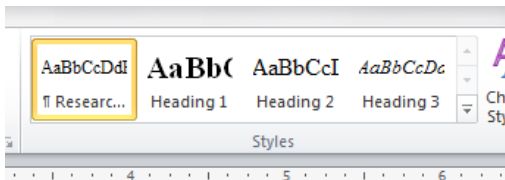
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This will be a brief statement of what was done in your research, along with your principal results and conclusions. Only the most important facts should be related here, in non-indented paragraph form. Offset the abstract by using margins that are indented 0.5" on each side relative to the body of your manuscript. You may list key words to aid in online computer-search applications, if that is appropriate. For example, **Keywords:** undergraduate research, manuscript, submission, guidelines.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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*The Journal of Undergraduate Research would like to thank Dr. Kevin Kephart, Vice President for Research, for his efforts to secure funding for the Journal.*

# **Immigration Liberalization in the United States and Beyond**

Author: Arran Davis

Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Joseph Santos and Dr. Timothy Nichols

Departments: Economics and Global Studies

## **ABSTRACT**

Although it is known as a country of immigrants, immigration has always been a controversial issue in the United States. Despite being a well-discussed topic for centuries, many citizens still suffer from false assumptions about immigration. The objective of this research was to investigate the impacts of immigration liberalization and to address commonly held assumptions about the impact of immigration. Both pro and anti-immigration literature was examined, with a focus on free market economics and the moral impacts of immigration policy. It was determined that liberalizing immigration fits within both left and right-leaning ideologies in the American political spectrum. Free migration is shown to be a crucial aspect of free market policies, although right-leaning groups who promote the economic philosophy often ignore it. The often-misunderstood secondary or long run economic benefits of immigration liberalization are explained, with evidence given regarding immigration's positive effects on economic growth. Immigration liberalization is also shown to be crucial to human rights, as it provides people with the freedom to work where their labor is demanded. This gives impoverished immigrants a real chance to improve their standards of living as well as those of their family members living in their native countries. More open borders are also explained as a way to help spur economic growth in underdeveloped countries. For these reasons, immigration liberalization fits into many progressively liberal agendas. Rebuttals to the arguments of anti-immigration groups are also provided. Finally, policy recommendations are given that consider both pro and anti-immigration arguments. It is suggested that developed countries, with a focus on the United States, liberalize their immigration policies by letting more



immigrants into the country to match their economies' demand for their labor. The findings of the paper are significant to society at large because they help to show that the economic and moral benefits of immigration liberalization far outweigh the apparent problems that many developed country citizens associate with immigration.

## INTRODUCTION

“Few of their children learn English...The signs in our streets have inscriptions in both languages...Unless the stream of their importation could be turned away they will soon outnumber us...and even our government will become precarious,” although this sounds as if it could have been said by any number of today’s right-wing politicians regarding Latino immigrants, these are actually the words of Benjamin Franklin in the 1750’s. Franklin wasn’t referring to Latinos, but instead to German immigrants. Ironically, many of these people were the ancestors of today’s politicians who use the same anti-immigrant rhetoric that was used by Franklin 250 years ago (Franklin par. 10).

Anti-immigrant sentiment is nothing new in this country of immigrants; since its foundation Americans have been trying to keep others out because of fears they will take jobs and benefits, depress wage, and ruin the country’s culture. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century Scots and Irishmen were said to be drunks with allegiances to foreign lands. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century Germans and Italians were thought to have too many children that would be a drain on American prosperity. Eastern Europeans were thought to bring crime, poverty and ethnic ghettos. In the 1880’s racist campaigns led to exclusionary laws that kept out Asians and in the 1920’s these policies were extended to include restrictions on the entry of “darker” Europeans; Italians, Greeks, Poles and Russian Jews (Guskin & Wilson19). After the Great Depression it was Mexican migrant workers that faced the anti-immigrant backlash. These migrant workers had initially been brought into the country by U.S. Department of Labor temporary worker programs, which the agricultural industry heavily lobbied for as a way to address worker shortages. The program, known as the “*bracero* program,” allowed over 200,000 Mexican workers to legally enter the country to work by 1953. However, these immigrants were soon blamed for taking jobs from natives and draining public services, just as their counterparts from the past and present. In 1954, the U.S. government began what it called Operation Wetback, a program aimed at deporting some of the very same

*braceros* brought into the country to work during shortages. Federal agents combed Mexican-American neighborhood looking for anyone who “looked Mexican,” asking them for documentation and deporting those who did not have it (Guskin & Wilson 111).

Although this practice seems blatantly racist, it has been resumed as a 21<sup>st</sup> century policy by the political right in United States. New laws have been passed in Arizona and Alabama that aim to curb illegal immigration based on the same reasoning that has been used in the country for over 100 years. Law enforcement agencies in these states now have the power to arrest and detain *anyone* they think looks like an illegal immigrant, leaving substantial room for racial profiling (Summers par. 2). Another hardline stance found in Alabama law is that it is now illegal to transport, harbor or rent property to illegal immigrants making it possible for the child of an illegal immigrant to be arrested for giving his or her parent a ride (Summers par. 4). Laws like these don’t just affect illegal immigrants; they affect legal ones as well. In fact, Alabama’s new law has led some to suggest that Latinos here legally are no longer being treated as citizens, but instead as suspects (Editorial: Alabama...).

When looking at the melting pot that is America today, and the contributions that these previously persecuted people have made, the anti-immigrant fears of the past seem shortsighted and prejudice. Yet today many Americans want to impose similar restrictive policies on immigrants that want to come to America for the same reasons as past immigrants: opportunity and freedom. However, the reasons for denying free immigration seem to be based on xenophobia, racism and incorrect assumptions about economics. Both the political left and right need to see that freer immigration does indeed fall in line with their ideologies. For the right, free immigration should be recognized as a free market, laissez-faire policy that is the most efficient way to create wealth. For the left, free immigration is a way to help the poor; giving immigrants the chance to come to developing countries changes their lives for the better. It is in the best interest of both the ideological right and left in developed countries like the United States to realize the economic and moral imperatives of implementing more liberal immigration policies. These policies will not only benefit immigrant-receiving countries, but the entire global community.

# IMMIGRATION LIBERALIZATION AS A FREE MARKET POLICY

Humanity's history of anti-immigrant sentiment is no surprise to evolutionary psychologists. Many of them assert that anti-immigrant instincts are wired into our brain; they were naturally selected for as we evolved over thousands of years. Paul H. Rubin in his article "Evolution, Immigration and Trade" writes, "Our ancestors lived in relatively small groups in which everyone knew everyone else. Our minds are adapted to deal with populations of that size. Our ancestors made strong distinctions between members of the in-group and outsiders" (par. 3). In a world in which people lived in small bands, the arrival of "immigrants" meant a loss for the other members of the band. This is known as a zero-sum game: if one human gains, then another must lose. However, in today's world circumstances and resources are not as fixed as they were for our ancestors. As economists argue, contrary to our evolutionary intuition, not everything is a zero-sum game. Voluntary trade, for example, is a positive sum game; it benefits both parties and if it doesn't it won't occur. Immigration, as Rubin argues, is the same: "immigrants coming here to exchange their labor for money that they exchange for the products of other people labor- is a positive sum" (Rubin par. 4). Unfortunately, we did not evolve to think in this manner and have difficulty seeing the positive economic effects of immigration.

Despite controversy around the subject, there are many factors that suggest immigration is beneficial to recipient countries. Immigrants increase economic activity and growth because they enable employers to fill jobs for which the supply of labor was previously insufficient. With the extra resources that these immigrant workers bring, the market can begin producing more goods and services. This, say economists, is what raises standards of living of those in immigrant receiving countries (Ebeling 1).

Immigrants are also willing to be employed for less. This has many secondary effects that lead to long-term economic gains. In sectors of the economy that can employ immigrants for less production costs will go down because businesses will be able to pay their employees less in wages. Immigrants, in effect, grow the pool of labor available to work at lower prices, thereby driving down wages. This creates two economic benefits. First, profits are

increased, allowing employers to expand their own business and invest in the expansion of other business. As employers expand their business, they begin to hire more people and produce more goods. An increase of goods in the market usually causes prices to decrease, which will benefit every consumer of these goods and services. With the money they saved from buying less expensive goods and services, consumers will want to buy different things, thereby spurring growth in even more sectors of the economy.

For over 200 years economists have been advocating for the liberalization of trade as a free market policy to increase economic growth and standards of living. Arguments for the free circulation of labor can be traced back to the father of free trade economics, Adam Smith. In his book, The Wealth of Nations, he argues that the free market is the most productive economic system, and therefore the most beneficial to societies. Just as Smith argued that goods and services be traded freely, he argued that people as well should be allowed to trade their labor with whoever wants to hire them. Clearly, immigration barriers block the free movement, or trade, of labor. According to Smith, policies that block free trade are less productive and therefore less beneficial to society. In other words, free market economists favor “the elimination of all privileges that groups of individuals secure by imposing legal barriers to entry into the market, thereby artificially increasing the value of their services” (Maloberti 551). Developed country and U.S. citizens alike are paying extra for these artificially high priced goods and services. Imagine the economic expansion that would be created if citizens in these economies were able to spend this extra money elsewhere.

Although the free movement of labor through immigration is a free market policy, it is hardly ever proposed in politics. Since the 1980’s free market policies have dominated discussions of the global economy; the free movement of capital, goods, and services are strongly advocated by many countries as a way to increase people’s economic well being (Herrera par. 3). Yet the free movement of labor is almost always left out of these talks (Casey 18). This is interesting, considering the free movement of labor may be just as important to free market economies as the free movement of capital, goods or services (Casey 19). A freer movement of labor would allow for more perfect labor markets. Instead of being stuck in developing countries with little work and few prospects, immigrants could take their work to growing economies that need their labor.

The fact that at least some elements of the free movement of labor are not included in free trade agreements is made to seem even more nonsensical when one considers that these trade agreements are often the reason people need to immigrate in the first place. The free flow of labor goes hand in hand with free trade, yet immigration barriers do not allow this to happen. A perfect example of this can be seen in Mexico with the results of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Under NAFTA tariffs were lifted that once protected small, and mostly poor, Mexican farmers from an influx of cheaper U.S. food commodities (Guskin and Wilson 25). As U.S. foods flooded the Mexican market, native farmer's crops became worth much less. Many had to give up farming because they simply could not compete with bigger, more efficient American farms. Without work in their home countries, many breadwinners were left with no option but to try to get into the United States, where they knew they could find a job that would support their family back home. In some especially hard hit Mexican states hundreds of families were forced to migrate each week in search of work. Many chose to enter the U.S. illegally because they had no opportunity to do so legally (Avalos-Sartorio 7). Although free trade created this situation, America's restrictive immigration policies have essentially blocked the market from fixing it. It seems nonsensical to block a flow of labor that results from free trade. Ideally, Central American workers that lost their job could immigrate to the U.S. to find work. Yet, with today's American immigration policy, this is nearly impossible for most of them to do legally.

"The U.S. immigration system is still characterized by a convoluted set of arbitrary numerical quotas that were devised in the 1960's," writes Walter Ewing's in his article "The Many Facets of Immigration Reform (110)." He goes on to assert that these policies have created a decades long discrepancy in the amount of labor the United States lets in and the amount of labor the economy requires (113). The fact that America experienced such a spike in illegal immigration during the 1990's reflects the fact that immigration policy met neither U.S. employers nor Central American laborer's demands (Ewing 116). Outweighing immigrant's choice to move to America is the fact that capitalism effectively sucks them into the country by offering them so many jobs, regardless of their legality. Immigrant workers are only fulfilling a demand created by developed country economic systems. Evidence for this is seen in the visa application process. For both skilled and unskilled

labor the demand for work visas is so great that the limit is reached months in advance, leaving thousands who want to come to the country to work with no legal option to do so (Guskin and Wilson 115). This is not surprising considering the United States does not recognize economic refugees, such as those of Central America, when considering who to let in the country even though these people are often as helpless to improve their situation as any other type of refugee (Guskin and Wilson 45). It has already been shown that this policy leaves many trapped in their own countries without work, obviously worse off than if they were allowed to freely move their labor to where its demanded. If they were allowed to, many immigrants would come to America to work. The vast majority of these immigrants end up in the local labor market (Zientara 68). Jane Guskin and David L. Wilson write in their book The Politics of Immigration that the free movement of labor means “a profit-driven model of ‘labor mobility,’ in which employers benefit from a large global pool of qualified workers competing for jobs” (133). Immigrants also end up participating in other ways in the local economy. According to Ewing, illegal immigrants alone make up a very important part of the U.S. economy; they spend \$551.6 billion annually, create \$245 billion in annual economic output, and fill more than 2.8 million jobs (114). Clearly, immigrants contribute to the economy, and their labor is crucial to its continued growth. Furthermore, immigrants may be needed to combat aging populations, falling birth rates, and lack of low-skilled workers in developing countries. This seems to be the case, especially when one looks at demographics in the United States. By 2030, it is projected that the ratio of retired seniors to working age adults will increase by 67% as the country’s “Baby Boom” generation retires and younger generations have fewer children (Ewing 116). Demographer Dowell Myers writes in her article “Thinking Ahead About Our Immigration Future” that this will bring on “not only fiscal crisis in the Social Security and Medicare systems, but workforce losses due to mass retirements that will drive labor-force perilously low (1).” In addition, half the jobs that will be opening up due to these “mass retirements” and regular economic growth will be occupations that require no post-secondary training, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (Ewing 116). In fact, as seen in Table 1, growth in the non-skilled labor sector of the U.S. economy will be huge, but only 13% of the country’s native workers have less than a high school degree (Anrig and Wang). Of course, immigration is a major solution to these problems. Immigrants could help fill these jobs if barriers to them coming into the country were relaxed. This

would help the economy by allowing businesses to maximize production. Also, taxes on immigrant incomes would help perpetuate Social Security and Medicare, thereby supporting older generations economically.

So, many developed countries with aging populations may need to allow more immigration to combat high levels of retirements in their work forces. According to a year 2000 UN population study, the European Union would need annual immigration rates of twelve times what they are a now to maintain the current ratio of workers (Casey 31). The fact that such huge numbers of immigrants will be needed to fill positions of retired ‘Baby Boomers’ highlights the fact that other forces have much greater impacts on economies than does

Occupation	Amount of Training or On the-Job Experience Needed	Increase in Jobs Between 2000-2010	Percentage Increase
Combined food preparation and serving workers	1 month or less	673,000	30%
Retail salespersons	1 month or less	510,000	12%
Cashiers	1 month or less	474,000	14%
Office clerks	1 month or less	430,000	16%
Security guards	1 month or less	391,000	35%
Waiters and waitresses	1 month or less	364,000	18%
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	1 month or less	323,000	24%
Janitors and cleaners (except maids)	1 month or less	317,000	13%
Teacher assistants	1 month or less	301,000	24%
Home health aides	1 month or less	291,000	47%
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers	1 month or less	289,000	14%
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	1 month or less	260,000	29%
Personal and home care aides	1 month or less	258,000	62%
Receptionists and information clerks	1 month or less	256,000	24%
Truck drivers (light) or delivery services	1 month or less	215,000	19%
Packers and packagers(hand)	1 month or less	210,000	19%
Customer service representatives	1-12 months	631,000	32%
Truck drivers (heavy) and tractor-trailer	1-12 months	346,000	20%
Medical assistants	1-12 months	187,000	57%

immigration. Retirement policies, the participation of older people and women in the workforce, and lower birth rates are all factors that can affect an economy much more than the amount of immigrants entering the workforce. Further evidence for the U.S. economy's demand for immigrant labor, both legal and illegal, was generated in the aftermath of Alabama's laws that combat illegal immigration. Since employers in the state were required to hire only legal citizens there has been an extreme shortage of workers in sectors usually dominated by illegal immigrants. Produce has been rotting in fields as employers cannot find any unemployed native workers willing to do the jobs that the laws' supporters claim the illegal immigrants were stealing from them (Editorial: Alabama...).

This leads to the well-known and widely accepted premise that immigrants take jobs that native workers simply do not want to do (like the jobs in Table 1), at least not at the price employers are willing to pay. "Indeed, without cheap immigrant labor, some sectors of rich country economies – most notably agriculture and lower-end services – would face serious problems owing to lack of workers," writes economist Piotr Zientara (71). Companies that lack workers because of immigration barriers, such as those in Alabama, cannot reach their full production and may have to pay workers higher wages because of a shrunken supply of labor. This means higher prices for consumers and fewer profits to invest in economic expansion, which can result in less economic growth (Ebeling 2).

So, immigration is in many ways beneficial to the economies of receiving countries. In fact, according to a 2003 report from the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, the economic growth of the 1990's wouldn't have been possible without immigrant labor. It states that immigrants have been a driving force behind job growth in the country. They are now filling an increased share of jobs in the U.S. as demand for their labor has increased in the low-skilled labor sector since many native workers have become too educated to want these jobs (Anrig and Wang). It is in this way that immigration is most important to developing country economies. Immigrants do more than spend money in their new economies, which creates jobs; they also fill jobs that otherwise would have gone unfilled. Both of these facts help economic growth. For decades the political right in developed countries, especially the U.S., has focused its policy on free market economics as a means of creating wealth. It is time that these groups begin to embrace immigration as a part of free market policy; the



economics of immigration should be a justification for the right's support of more open borders, not a reason to build higher fences.

## **IMMIGRATION LIBERALIZATION AS A FREE MARKET DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

Aside from benefiting the economies of recipient countries, immigration liberalization helps immigrants and their families work toward better lives in their native countries. In this way, allowing freer migration is a way in which developed countries can help developing countries. In today's world, most immigrants move from poor to rich countries in search of work. However, many more are not allowed to move because of extensive immigration barriers; these barriers force the poor to stay in their countries, segregated from the rich. John P. Casey in his article "Open Borders" writes, "closed borders only entrench the global apartheid that keeps the poor in their homelands" (54). Not surprisingly, developing countries have been calling for the opening up of developed country labor markets and an end to this system of closed borders. Both the World Bank and the UN have acknowledged the benefits of a freer movement of labor for developing countries (Casey 16).

Increased immigration generates economic opportunities in immigrant sending countries as well as receiving countries. A major form in which developing country economies are helped is through remittances – immigrants sending money home to their families. In some developing countries this money makes up over 10% of GDP. Furthermore, this money is often spent on education or health care, which increase human capital and helps the development of these countries even more (Zientara 70). Many immigrants also return to their home countries and invest their profits in its economy. Even though wages of immigrant workers are usually rather low by developed country standards, they equate to large sums of money in their native, developing countries. This money can be used as capital to start new businesses. Allowing immigration also helps the dispersion of knowledge from rich to poor countries, which is crucial to the development of successful business and higher standards of living (Zientara 70). In many ways, more open immigration laws would help bridge the current income gap between the richer countries of

the northern hemisphere and the poorer countries of the southern hemisphere. Many on the political left see economic inequality as a terrible injustice; liberalizing immigration is one way to address this issue.

Another benefit of freer immigration to global society would be that developed countries could use free movement of labor policies as a type of development aid to poorer countries. First, allowing freer immigration will act as a safety valve for developing country economies that cannot create enough jobs for their populations. This is especially true for young people, who make up large percentages of the working population in developing countries. It is a well known fact that political unrest and resentment towards the west in developing countries is often tied to young populations who cannot find work. Also, as previously discussed, freer immigration laws help developing country economies. In fact, the UN estimates that in 2004 remittances injected \$172 billion into developing economies while during the same year aid made up less than 1/3 of this amount, around \$50 billion (Casey 34). If developing countries were to further open their borders to immigration, increased money from remittances would spur economic growth. Not only would free migration benefit both developing and developed countries, it would also give those in rich countries more incentive to effectively help the economies of poor counties. If economies in poorer countries were performing well their citizens would have less need to immigrate to the developed world (Casey 36-37).

## **IMMIGRATION LIBERALIZATION AS PART OF A GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS AGENDA**

More open borders are more than a smart choice economically for poor countries and rich country citizens; they are also the right choice morally. From the perspective of the progressive political left, immigration liberalization can be justified as part of a global human rights agenda that gives dignity and opportunity to the world's poor. Many feel that privileged citizens in the global community should feel an obligation to help the less fortunate. On top of this, isn't it just to give those living in poverty in developing countries

a chance at a better life by allowing them to work where their labor is demanded? For many progressive liberals the answer is yes. If developed country citizens truly believe that all people are equal, it would be nothing less than a tragedy for them to bar poor immigrants from coming into their country to work for a better life for themselves and their families.

However, current immigration laws do not allow many people to come to America in search of a better life. To many, this is a violation of these people's human rights (Guskin 133). Maloberti expresses this opinion: "rights entail the permissibility of not merely using resources, but also of exchanging them by mutual consent. Immigration barriers prevent individuals from doing so, and thus they preclude individuals from the opportunity to improve their lives" (550). What makes the situation even more unjust for the poor is that the world's rich usually have no problem moving from one country to another. Casey writes that the rich are "courted in official immigration programs, protected by internal labor markets of global organizations, and aided by a lucrative immigration law industry...In effect, it is already a borderless world for those who have the resources to exploit it" (18).

Furthermore, for citizens of democratic and free nations, freedom of movement within the country's borders is taken for granted. Anything less would be a violation of citizens' rights to work and live where they want. This thinking is reflected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees freedom of movement within one's country and also the right to leave one's country (The Universal Declaration...). But curiously, and perhaps reflecting current global sentiment towards immigration, it does not extend the right to settle in another country (Casey 15). However, if one is guaranteed the right to leave an oppressive country, but not allowed to settle in a new one, aren't they in effect not able to exercise their right to leave an oppressive country?

Allowing freer immigration would encourage positive change in developing country governments. Casey writes that "Expatriates often pressure for political change...Sending countries have benefited considerably from the political expertise of expatriates" (34-35). After living in developed countries with democracies, the experience of many immigrants is extremely valuable to their native countries when they return home. Many are elected to office or serve in government positions (Casey 35). Furthermore, immigration barriers decrease pressure on developing governments to improve. Since immigration is so difficult

there is very little competitive pressure on governments to give better lives to their people so that they would want to remain in their native country; many are effectively trapped in countries with bad governments. No matter how much they dislike their government, they will probably have to live there. In the article "Government by Choice" classical liberal Nicolas Maloberti argues, "immigration barriers usually condemn them to live in nations with defective institutional systems under which individuals lack incentives to save and invest" he goes on to say that governments can take advantage of their populations only when there are "constraints on mobility" (556). If people could move freely, ineffective governments would collapse as those unhappy with the system leave.

Strong immigration barriers effectively trap people in countries with poor governments and standards of living. Many times people in developing countries have no way out of extreme poverty and unhealthy living conditions. John P. Casey writes of the moral obligation developing countries have to help these people. If they cannot or will not improve their situation through effective aid they should at least be willing to admit poor immigrants into their country as a way of improving their lives. This seems especially true when considering many developed country's history of exploiting their former colonies, which today have become the developing countries that immigrants come from. Freer migration, says Casey, would increase equality and improve the lives of the poor (38). Many NGO's and advocates for the world's poor see the benefit of economic liberalization in improving lives in developing countries. They call for a greater emphasis on the "social justice dimensions of economic and trade agreements, which includes increased rights of the circulation of labor" (Casey 46). Again, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is applicable; it states in Article 23 "everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment." Closed borders infringe upon this human right, keeping developing country citizens trapped in small labor markets with low-paying jobs and few opportunities for employment.

Aside from denying the poor a way to improve their lives, restrictive immigration laws also block the unification of their families. This can happen in a number of ways. In the U.S., deportations of parents with native-born children, who automatically have citizenship, often leave families separated (Guskin and Wilson 47). 52% of Guatemalans deported from the United States leave a spouse or child in the country (Guskin and Wilson 123). An

astonishing 5,100 children of immigrants have been left to foster care as a result of their parents being either detained or deported (Riggs). According to Guskin and Wilson, “the deportation of a breadwinner can plunge children and partners into sudden poverty, and force them to seek public benefits” (123). Strong border enforcement also means that once illegal immigrants arrive in a country, they are separated from their families in their home country for decades because the risk and cost of illegal entry is too high for immigrants to frequently forgo (Guskin and Wilson 53). There is no doubting the emotional and financial toll that this takes on immigrant families.

When illegal immigrants do work and live in the United States, their undocumented status often makes them easy targets for abuse. Working and living conditions for illegal immigrants are notoriously poor. Employers and landlords know that illegal immigrants probably won't report abuses to authorities or organize for better treatment for fear of being deported. Fear of contacting law enforcement also makes undocumented immigrants an easy target for thieves. They also have trouble applying for jobs and school, finding housing and getting drivers licenses (Guskin and Wilson 51-52). Immigrants who lack legal status but have lived and gone to school in the United States since their childhood often find themselves with no option for post-secondary education because non-citizens are not eligible for financial aid (Guskin and Wilson 54). This lack of educational opportunities perpetuates the poor salaries and living conditions of immigrant populations and does nothing to help their productivity or integration into society. Giving these people access to citizenship would improve their working and living conditions, increase their levels of education and make their lives safer.

## **ARGUMENTS AGAINST IMMIGRATION LIBERALIZATION AND THEIR REBUTTALS**

Despite apparent economic and ethical reasons for more liberal immigration laws, there are many who favor a world of closed borders, or at least borders that are closed to immigrants. When considering the popularity of free immigration policies John P. Casey writes that

“the vast majority of the population is against such a policy and there is wide-spread opposition to immigration in general” (24). Many developed countries favor restrictive immigration policies because they fear immigration hurts the welfare of native citizens by ruining culture, raising crime levels, decreasing wages, taking jobs, threatening national security and flooding recipient countries with huge numbers of poor people which creates ghettos and puts a strain on government goods and services.

All of these reasons- immigrations effect on the economy, society and national security- lead anti-immigration organizations to call for stricter enforcement of immigration laws and reductions in the number of immigrants the country allows in. Some of these groups would even like to see the country’s population shrink as a result of having a closed border policy (Immigration 101). The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), a leading anti-immigration group, has rather ambitious policy recommendations: it calls for increasing border control, more enforcement of immigration laws in the country’s interior by local police departments, and a system of national ID cards to verify citizenship. FAIR’s policies are by no means extreme when compared to those of the Republican Party, whose platform on immigration includes “completing the border fence quickly,” denying illegal immigrants driver’s license, and opposing any type of amnesty (National Security). Mitt Romney, a leading candidate for the 2012 Republican Presidential nomination, takes a firm stance on immigration. He proposed a system of government ID cards that would show immigrants had proper federal documentation. Those without valid cards would effectively be barred from the employment market. He hopes illegal immigrants will “self-deport” as a result of not being able to work or use even the most basic of the country’s public services (Boroff & Planas). Through policies like these, anti-immigration contingencies hope to reduce the number of illegal immigrants in the country thereby reducing the negative economic and social effects they think they create.

Being able to choose who can live in a country, and therefor immigration levels, is seen as a fundamental right to national sovereignty. The debate on immigration today is largely shaped by the idea that, under international law, nations have the “right and power to grant or withhold permission to settle (Casey 19).” This right is considered in current international law to trump what Maloberti argued was the right of the individual to freely

trade his labor for a salary with anyone willing to do so (550). Christopher Wellman explains that:

as an individual has the right to determine whom (if anyone) he or she would like to marry, a group of fellow-citizens has a right to determine whom (if anyone) it would like to invite into its political community...a state's freedom of association entitles it to exclude all foreigners from its political community (Maloberti 549).

Arguments for freedom of association like these generally stand up in courts of law, especially in the United States. For example, the U.S. Supreme Court has defended the rights of private organizations, like the Jaycees, to exclude women on the grounds that it was their right to decide whom to include in their groups and that allowing anyone would infringe on the groups freedom of expression. The argument used by the Jaycees has many parallels with the argument nations use to exclude immigrants. Nations should be able to decide just who gets to make up their national character.

So, a nation should have the right to exclude whom it wants according to current norms in international law. To take away this right would infringe upon its sovereignty. However, this does not mean that it is in their best interest to do so; countries have the right to trade protectionism as well but most have accepted that the free trade of goods and services is a practice with net economic benefits. Immigration should be seen in the same light and immigration barriers should be seen as protectionism for native workers, a practice with negative economic consequences. The arguments against strict immigration laws are compelling, even when considering the arguments of anti-immigration factions.

*The "Mexican Reconquista" Argument: Allowing such high numbers of "Hispanics" into the country will dilute American culture and ruin its "social fabric."*

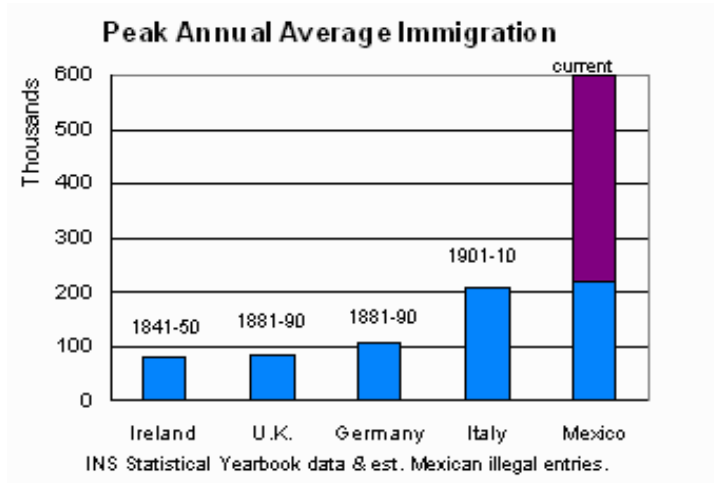
Anti-immigration groups assert that today's immigrants do not share cultural values that made America so successful in the past, such as a support of democratic institutions. AIC states on its website that:

Because America's culture, customs, language, and laws are under assault from foreigners who come to live here and, instead of learning the American way of

life, choose to impose their own alien cultures, languages, and institutions upon us, we must review our heritage and understand the need to preserve it, lest America self-destruct through ethnic strife (A Brief History...).

They argue that allowing more immigrants will only destroy the social fabric that makes up America today. Having large numbers of immigrants that were raised under different values and institutions could introduce corruption and chaos to the United States (Maloberti 558). This would undoubtedly change the structure of the country itself, leading to what some would see as reprehensible results (Maloberti 559). Micheal Walzer makes this point clear, he writes that with no barriers to immigration a “historically stable, ongoing association of men and women with some special commitment to one another and some special sense of their common life” could not exist (Maloberti 551).

Those who see immigration as a threat to culture are quick to point out that the United States has never received such high numbers of immigration. Current levels of immigration are double that of what they were when America allowed free migration from Europe: around 1,750,000 per year currently compared to around 880,000 per year between 1900 and 1910. Furthermore, and adding to the argument that current immigrants will dilute American culture and institutions, is that the country has never had such an influx of one ethnic group. The current entry level of Mexican immigrants coming to America each year, around 600,000, is more than triple the highest previous amount for one single ethnic group per year, as seen in Graph 1 (Current Immigration...). Many call the current surge of Latino immigrants a “demographic Reconquista” in which the U.S. – Mexican border will be blurred, the country will be divided, and the Mexicans will reclaim land seized by the U.S. government in the 1800’s (Zientara 70).



**Figure 1 Peak Annual Average Immigration**



## Rebuttal to the “Mexican Reconquista” Argument

Immigration opponents cite the fact that there has never been such an influx of one type of ethnic immigrants. 600,000 Mexicans enter the country each year. The previous highest total was around 200,000 Italians entering the country each year between 1900-1910. FAIR seems to be implying that this is evidence for the “demographic Reconquista” that will ruin American culture and turn the country into Mexico. What groups like FAIR fail to note is that the U.S. population in 1910 was about 1/3 of what it is today: around 92 million compared to around 310 million (Demographic history...). This means that proportionately to the country’s population the amount of Mexican immigrants today is equal to the amount of Italian immigrants in 1910. So, to say that today’s Mexican immigrants will have more impact on American culture than Italian immigrants did in 1910 is unfair. Most immigration opponents today do not regret allowing Italians to immigrate to the country in the past; in fact, many may be their descendants. Also, to say that Arizona and California are becoming like Mexico is to ignore the fact that California and Arizona *were* Mexican before the U.S. forced the Mexican cession of these territories after its victory in the Mexican-American War in 1848. These territories never lost their Mexican heritage and Mexican immigrants today in these areas are only carrying on societal traditions that have existed for centuries.

Immigration opponents have also argued that today’s new wave of immigrants is too different in culture, customs and language, to be integrated successfully into American society. Others have said they will ruin American culture, changing it into a new Vietnam, China or Mexico. This has been said for generations about each new group of immigrants. As Ebeling points out, “with every wave of immigrants, the concern was expressed that the new group would not be able to adapt to American life” (3). These fears turned out to be wrong. In the 1800’s it was Germans who were accused of always needing to speak their native language and living in ethnic ghettos. It was said that immigrant populations like the Germans would never integrate into American society. History has shown that within one generation the children of immigrants become “Americanized;” they speak English and disperse throughout the country. Guskin and Wilson cite the fact that today’s immigrants are just as likely as past immigrants to learn English and integrate into society (80). On top of this, globalization is only making integration into American society easier; many

immigrants have already been exposed to western lifestyles. Yes, these immigrants will change American culture. But they will change it for the better; America is a melting pot of the world's greatest characteristics. It has been since immigrants founded the country and helped it grow. For over 250 years immigrants have been a positive force of change in America. There is no reason to think that today's immigrants will not do the same as immigrants before them, to say they won't is to ignore the lessons taught by history.

The "Poor Pouring In" Argument: Open borders would result in poor people flooding into the country and living in poor ethnic enclaves. This would put a strain on public education and infrastructure, welfare, healthcare, and the prison system.

Those who lobby for stronger immigration laws point to the fact that today's immigrants will overrun America with poor people. They assert that immigrants today are an even greater burden on the U.S. government budget than previous generations. They receive public funds for welfare, healthcare and education. They also put a strain on public infrastructure such as roads and sewage systems. The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) argues that immigrants of previous generation were more likely to return home after they had made enough money to support their families, thereby avoiding many of the costs they impose on society. In 1904 nearly 37% of immigrants in America returned home, while today the number is only 15%. This is a huge problem; according to FAIR the average immigrant has a "net annual cost of \$2700" because of the small amount of taxes they pay relative to their use of government goods and services (Immigration Now...). Furthermore, those who see the welfare system as illegitimate especially dislike free immigration. Maloberti writes that for these people "immigration barriers are taken to be justified insofar as they prevent further extension of such a system and by doing so prevent even greater numbers of illegitimate transfers (549,). The National Academy of Sciences found that although immigrants are only 10% of households, they cost native households over \$250 a year in tax money to support them (Guskin and Wilson 63). This statistic is reflected in the fact that, on average, immigrant households pay 1/3 less in taxes than does the average American household because of their lower earnings. These lower earnings also mean that 21% of immigrant households are on welfare, compared to 14% of native households (Immigration 101).

To add to this problem, FAIR points out that “ethnic enclaves are huge and growing,” and that these immigrant populations have negative effects on society. Casey writes “most importantly, the free movement of immigrants is seen as threatening current living standards...but there are also fears about loss of existing culture, about rising crime” (25). Upon arriving, many immigrants move to low-income areas with cheap housing. The arrival of more immigrants will only increase the amount of low-quality, overcrowded housing. FAIR notes the “share of overcrowded housing is seven times higher in high immigration cities than in low immigration cities” (Immigration 101). Furthermore, these immigrant populations cost the American taxpayer. Immigrant use of “government infrastructure” costs \$1.37 billion a year in tax money. 43% of immigrants do not have medical insurance, when they cannot pay for these bills it is passed on to the public, costing them a total of \$20 billion annually. Taxpayer money also pays for the education of immigrant children. FAIR makes sure to point out that:

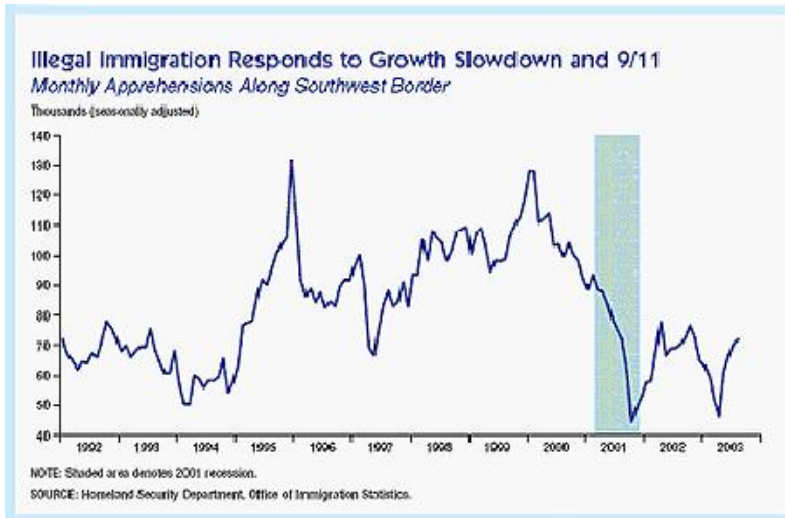
Without school-age immigrants and the children of immigrants, school enrollment would not be rising at all. The estimated cost to the American taxpayer for the education of immigrants’ children is over \$30 billion a year (Immigration 101).

On top of these costs, there are statistics that imply a correlation between immigration and increased crime levels. For example, 25% of the U.S. federal prison population is foreign-born and the government has around 30,000 immigrants in detention each day, which cost almost \$1 billion annually (Guskin and Wilson 131).

## Rebuttal to the Argument that the Poor would Overcrowd America

Anti-immigration proponents argue that if the country opened its borders to more immigrants there would be a huge influx of poor people that would put strains on the country’s social institutions and infrastructure. However, there is no telling just how many immigrants would come if America opened its borders. It is hard to believe that more immigrants would come than there are jobs available. Evidence is seen for this when one compares U.S. economic performance with immigration flows; it seems that immigration falls dramatically when the economy is performing poorly. This makes perfect sense; immigrants come when jobs are available and they stay home when work becomes scarce in

the U.S., like during the recession of the early 2000's, as in Graph 2. When fewer jobs were available during the recession that began in 2001, fewer immigrants attempted to enter the country. Why would immigrants flood into a country that has few job opportunities for them? It wouldn't be possible for unemployed immigrants to support both themselves and their families in their native countries on the U.S.'s welfare benefits alone.



**Figure 2** Monthly Apprehensions Along Southwest Border

John P. Casey points to history as a rebuttal to the argument that free migration will bring massive amounts of poor immigrants to developed countries, he writes:

all indications from past experiences of free movement between richer and poorer areas are that in fact there is no continuing mass movement to richer areas. Any spike in arrivals in richer areas is temporary and soon drops off, and the spike is counter-balanced by the return to the countries of origin of established immigrants, who had in effect been help captive by immigration restrictions (27).

Proof that hordes of immigrants will not pour into rich countries is illustrated in the experience of the European Union. Even with freedom of movement between member countries, there was no mass migration from the European Union's poorer southern countries to its richer northern countries during its beginning in the 1980's despite fears of

mass exoduses (Casey 29). Twenty years later as the E.U. prepared to absorb 10 new countries with average incomes around half that of existing E.U. countries, fears of mass migrations again arose. However, as Guskin and Wilson write, “the feared economic consequences of mass migration from new E.U. member states to more prosperous western European states have largely failed to materialize “(136). Even though European Union member citizens have the right to live in whatever country they feel benefits them most, less than 3% live away from their native countries (Casey 28).

This statistic reflects the fact that most people don’t like leaving their homes. All people face emotional, social, economic and psychological disincentives when making the choice to immigrate. Leaving the comfort of one’s native language and culture, as well as leaving behind family members, is not the first choice of immigrants. For many it is a last resort, as families simply cannot make enough money to get out of poverty and improve their lives in their home countries. Zientara has also found that “cultural affinity and geographical proximity (as well as the presence of a diaspora) seem to be instrumental in determining where migrants move” (67). Even if immigrants did want to leave home they would have to be able to afford to do so first; it would be difficult for an immigrant that earns \$1 a day in his home country to afford a \$1000 plain ticket to the United States. Casey writes that, paradoxically, it is not the poorest, most desperate that migrate, but instead the ones with the “personal and financial capital” to do so (30).

Circular migration is another concept that drives down the likelihood of poor people overcrowding rich countries under a system of open borders. Many believe that under a global system of open borders, immigrant would be able to “circulate” between their native countries and their countries of origin (Casey 28). Immigrants would no longer be “bottled up” in recipient countries out of fear of not being able to get back in if they return to their native countries. Another example of what has happened under open border agreements between countries with large differences in wealth can be seen with the arrangement between the United States and Puerto Rico. Although Puerto Ricans have full rights to live in the United States, nearly half of all Puerto Rican immigrants that came to the United States returned to Puerto Rico in less than 2 years (Casey 30). A system like this, under which immigrants could practice circular migration, would be much more in tune with the needs not only of the immigrants but also of recipient country economies. Furthermore,

developing countries may begin to realize the correlation of wealth disparities between countries and immigration. Knowing that poor countries send immigrants, developed countries may take more initiative to improve standards of living in the developing world. In this sense, rich country aid and trade policies can directly contribute to better living conditions in the developed world so that people there have less need to immigrate (Casey 31).

## Rebuttal to the Argument that Immigrants put a Strain on Public Education and Infrastructure, Welfare, Healthcare, and the Prison System

Another argument against immigrants is that they do not pay taxes and are a burden on the welfare, health and prison systems as well as public infrastructure. A closer look at the argument used by anti-immigration groups and politicians reveals some flaws in their arguments. Take the statistic used by FAIR that immigrant households cost native households \$2700 dollars a year. Guskin and Wilson write that “taken out of context this seems like ammunition for immigration opponents. But native-born young people with families are also a ‘burden’ on the system in the exact same way – they too make less money and pay less in taxes while they are raising their children (63).” The National Academy of Sciences, the group that initially found this statistic, went on to explain that in the long-run immigrants more than make up for what they take in the beginning, just like native worker do over time and as their children leave home (Guskin and Wilson 64). The fact that in 2009 Americans 65 and older had an average net worth of \$120,457 while those 35 and younger had an average net worth of \$3,662 seems to back this assertion (Marche table 1). When considering health care one must take into the account that most immigrants are young, meaning that they are on average no more likely need government services than native citizens. Young immigrants have the chance to pay their dues like native citizens before they take advantage of social security and Medicare. The assertion that immigrants are disproportionately more likely to be criminal is also unfair. A joint study by two nonpartisan Washington-based research groups, the Urban Institute and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, actually found the *opposite*: “immigrants are disproportionately unlikely to be criminal” (Guskin and Wilson 83). Robert J. Sampson, the

chairman of the Department of Sociology at Harvard University, has found that first generation immigrants commit violent crimes at a rate 45 percent lower than third generation or native-born Americans (Immigrants Responsible For...). He goes on to say that "In the '90s and continuing to the present, we've seen a great deal of increase in immigration from countries around the world. In fact, as immigration has increased, we've seen correlated declines in the crime rate" (par 8). Sampson's finding seem to suggest that immigration is at least partially responsible for *lower* crime rates, a finding contrary to the stereotype that immigrants bring crime. Furthermore, if immigrants were made legal they would have more chances at finding legitimate work, which would reduce their need to depend on criminal activity to make a living.

Another problem to immigration liberalization is that many see any redistribution of wealth through welfare as an injustice because it violates citizen's rights by redistributing money against their will. For these people open borders are undesirable because the welfare system will be expanded as immigrants arrive. In other words, these people are willing to create immigration barriers (which infringe on an individual's right to move in search of a better life) in order to prevent an extension of the welfare system (which they see as a violation of their rights). Even for these people, writes Maloberti, a welfare state with open borders is preferable to a welfare state with closed borders (555). A person's country of origin is morally irrelevant when considering their rights towards welfare. Even if welfare is an injustice, "maintaining of immigration barriers entails an equal injustice, at least for those who might otherwise escape from dire situations" because they prevent people from moving to countries where they can improve their lives. For Maloberti, it is not acceptable to prevent one injustice, welfare, by invoking and even greater injustice, immigration barriers (556-557). It seems that here Maloberti is employing a utilitarian argument; allowing immigrants to take advantage of welfare at the expense of a country's tax payers will create more "happiness" than would closing its borders and keeping the welfare state small by not allowing anyone new to join. This being said it must be remembered that immigrants will very likely immigrate to work, not to receive welfare benefits. If they were made legal, the tax revenue created from taxing immigrant income would actually benefit the welfare state, not be a burden on it.

Any argument that asserts immigration is a strain on welfare and government budgets is inevitably linked to the fact that illegal immigrants don't pay taxes, but they can't pay all their taxes because the government has no way of billing them. Immigration opponents are essentially blaming immigrants for a problem that was created by policies they advocate, mainly not giving immigrants citizenship. By legalizing immigration, the U.S. would gain billions in tax revenue from previously illegal workers that were not being fully taxed (Guskin and Wilson 139). Zientara cites a U.S. Congressional Budget Office report on an immigration legalization, or amnesty, bill that proves this assumption. The report found that by legalizing current illegal immigrants in the U.S. the government would increase its revenue by \$66 billion over a ten year period through income and payroll taxes on newly legalized immigrants. This new tax revenue would result in a net *gain* in the federal budget of \$12 billion over 10 years as newly legalized immigrants would only use \$54 billion in government benefits during that same time period (115). Also, as previously explained, immigrant labor increases corporate profits. This, says Zientara, will also generate more tax revenue for the federal government as it will get more money from the taxation of these companies' profits (71). Finally legalized immigrants make more money, thereby increasing the federal government's revenue from income taxes (Guskin and Wilson 55). So, although on the surface immigration looks to be harmful to recipient country economies and welfare systems, when one looks at the long term and secondary benefits of immigrants working legally, it is clear that immigration brings a net benefit to recipient countries. When it comes to welfare, it seems that immigration is again the right choice morally and economically.

### Economic Argument: "Immigrants take Native Jobs"

Aside from costs to society, opponents of immigration also point to what they claim are its negative economic effects. A central claim is that immigrants take native jobs. Casey notes that the poor in immigrant receiving countries will be exposed to competition because "low-skilled and low-waged labor is theoretically substitutable by immigrants" (32). Nearly 2 million American workers are displaced each year by immigrants, and providing assistance for these laid-off Americans costs taxpayers \$15 billion a year (Immigration 101). What is even more disheartening for immigration opponents is that the U.S. continues to let in immigrants while around 10% of its population is unemployed. In the next ten



years 22 million jobs will be created for 17 million native workers, but FAIR states that “this job creation will be cancelled out by the 6.5 million immigrants expected to enter the job market (Immigration 101).”

## Rebuttal to the Argument that Immigrants take Native Jobs

The claim that immigrants take native jobs is based on shortsighted, flawed economics. Primarily, it is derived from the false assumption that there is only a finite amount of work to be done, meaning that when an immigrant takes a job, a native has one less available place to work. However, Ebeling explains, “there is always more work to be done as long as scarcity exists” (1). He goes on to state that when the supply of labor in an economy is increased, so too is the amount of goods and services produced and purchased. Consumer demand is limited by the amount of resources available to produce goods and services, which effects price. Therefore, immigration, instead of taking jobs from Americans, actually allows the U.S. economy to fill jobs for which it couldn’t before, because of a lack of willing labor. The increased quantity of goods and services that this results in actually raises the standard of living for Americans as their demand as consumers is better met (Ebeling 2). Maloberti writes:

contrary to what it implied by common trends of reasoning, economies tend to absorb immigrants by expanding job opportunities rather than by displacing native workers...it would be surprising if an increase in labor were to produce stagnation and misery rather than an expansion of the overall economy (560).

Even conservative think tanks, like the Liberty Fund at which Maloberti is a fellow, acknowledge that immigration results in net job creation. A study on immigration and employment that spanned 100 years, from 1891 to 1991, by Ohio University professors Richard Vedder and Lowell Galloway seems to support Maloberti’s assertion. Vedder and Galloway found that “higher rates of foreign-born population historically have corresponded to lower unemployment rates;” immigrants increase output and the demand for labor, are highly productive, and “promote capital formation through high savings rates” (Immigrants and the Economy). Obviously, immigrants take jobs, but when they buy goods and services they create new jobs as well (Guskin and Wilson 68). Evidence for this can be seen in the European Union. During the first decade that free movement of labor

was allowed between the richer countries of the north and the poorer countries of the south, unemployment rates, contrary to what was feared, actually fell in all E.U. countries (Guskin and Wilson 131).

### Economic Argument: “Immigrants Lower Native Wages”

Besides taking native jobs, anti-immigration leaders also claim that immigration depresses wages in recipient countries. There is no doubt that immigrants are willing to work for less than native workers. In fact, it is not at all surprising when considering that wages in developed countries are four to twelve times higher than in developing countries (Freeman 154). Even a meager salary in a developed country is a huge improvement for immigrants and sometimes enough to support immigrant families in their native countries. However, there is evidence that wages are lowered for low skilled jobs in recipient countries as a result of immigrant’s willingness to work for less as well as their contributing to a growing labor supply. In his article “In Defense of Free Migration,” Richard M. Ebeling states that “It is true that when immigrants try to enter particular occupations, they may find willing employers only if they offer themselves at lower wages than that which existing employees are receiving” (2). According to the National Academy of Sciences, immigration has been responsible for a 44% decrease in the salaries of native-born workers who did not finish high school because many immigrants are substitutes for these workers (Immigration 101). Also, immigrants come with low-levels of skill and education; FAIR points out that there has been a quadrupling over the past 20 years in the gap between native education levels and immigrant education levels (Immigration 101). These facts, say those in favor of stronger border control, mean that immigration is harmful to native workers.

### Rebuttal to the Argument that Immigrants Lower Native Wages

The claim that immigrants lower wages, thereby hurting the economy, is also based on shortsighted economics. It is true those immigrants who are willing to work for less than natives drive down wages. However, as Ebeling explains, this totally ignores “beneficial secondary effects” (3). With cheaper labor, goods and services can be produced at lower costs, which means greater profits for business. With this extra money, production can be expanded and consumer prices will be lowered. As a whole, consumers and immigrants are better off. The only group that loses is the small group of workers who were not willing to

work for the wages the immigrants are; these people would be out of work. But even these people will benefit from the cheaper goods and services and economic expansion that immigrant labor brings. This extra money will increase demand in other sectors of the economy, which means that employers in these areas will hire more people. “Thus,” says Ebeling, “for consumers in general, numerous goods and services will be less expensive; and for many workers, there will be an increased demand for their labor” (3). Still, groups such as FAIR argue that lower wages as a result of immigration are bad overall. Ironically, the same anti-immigration policies they and similar groups advocate for actually make the problem worse. Having a group of workers that cannot become legal citizens only provides a pool of labor that cannot organize for better pay and working conditions. An illegal immigrant has little bargaining power when it comes to pay, hours, and working condition. If immigrant workers were allowed to become citizens they could organize more easily to lobby for better pay and working conditions. The upward pressure on wages from legalizing low-skilled laborers would help to combat drops in native-worker wages and increase government tax revenue, as these workers would finally be fully taxed. However, rises in prices would be likely, as employers would have to pay their newly legal employees more.

## Economic Argument: “Immigrant Remittances Drain the U.S.

### Economy of Money

Immigration opponents often cite the high levels of remittances sent home by immigrants to their native countries. As of 2002, Latin American immigrants alone sent nearly \$28 billion to their families back home (Guskin & Wilson 67). Anti-immigration groups cite the fact that this money does not stay in the United States where it could have been used to buy goods and services locally. Furthermore, the U.S. government loses any tax revenue that would have been generated from these local purchases. They see remittances as just another way for immigrants to avoid paying taxes to the U.S. government, which makes them an even greater burden to the native taxpayer (Parker par. 5).

## Rebuttal to the Argument that Remittances Drain the U.S. Economy of Money

Again, immigration opponents have taken a simplistic view of immigrant's economic impact. At first sight, it seems that money in the form of remittances sent to foreign countries is lost forever to the U.S. economy. However, this is not the whole story. Remittances bolster the economies of immigrants sending countries. With this extra money in their pockets, family members of immigrants can buy more goods and services, which are often times produced in the U.S. Guskin and Wilson write that remittances often "go to countries like Mexico, which are tightly linked to the United States economically [NAFTA]- so that a lot of the money comes back in purchases of U.S. goods and services" (67). For example, in 2008 nearly a quarter of all Californian exports went either to China or Mexico, both of which have huge numbers of expatriates living in the state (Waslin par. 5). Michele Waslin, a Senior Policy Analyst at the Immigration Policy Center, writes "U.S. Remittances facilitate demand for U.S. exports and make U.S. goods more competitive" (par. 5). Another way to look at remittances is that they send abroad the income that immigrants earn domestically. If this money is spent on goods and services produced in their own country it amounts in a reduction in demand for American goods and services. This creates a similar effect as a native U.S. citizen buying an import, which is certainly a right most Americans like to have. Furthermore, around 80% of immigrants send money home through U.S. money transfer companies, like Western Union (Parker par. 6). Even the George W. Bush administration worked with the industry to promote its growth in order to help both the U.S. economy and immigrant sending economies (Parker par 11). Finally, and maybe most importantly, the \$28 billion that Latino immigrants send home yearly is really not a large enough amount of money to have any serious effect on the \$15 trillion a year U.S. economy (Report for...). Any small loss is far outweighed by the previously discussed economic gains associated with immigration, and immigrants spend the majority of their salaries in the U.S. economy.

## The National Security Argument: “Immigration is a Threat to National Security”

Finally, with events like September 11, immigration has increasingly been tied to national security issues. Obviously, the terrorists who carried out the attacks came from outside the U.S. Some believe not allowing immigration would have stopped the attacks from happening in the first place. Others say that increasing border security is crucial to national security and the War on Terror (National Security). Furthermore, some suggest that Muslim immigrants may feel more allegiance to their religion than they do to their new country (Zientara 69).

## Rebuttal to the National Security Argument

The Republican Party in the United States and anti-immigration groups across the world have consistently tried to justify closed borders as a security need. In fact, the Republican Party’s official stance on immigration is found in its national security platform suggesting that above all else, immigration is a security issue (National Security). This seems like a convenient way to tie immigration to a topic that is especially important to the American public after 9/11. There is no doubt that every country should know who is entering its territory and if these people have criminal records, but to connect today’s immigrants with terrorism is misleading. It is unfair to link immigrants with terrorist acts, especially immigrants that enter the country through its southern border. Although “immigrants” who entered the country legally on visas carried out 9/11, a U.S. citizen and Gulf-War veteran carried out the second most deadly attack, the Oklahoma City bombing. But Gulf-War veterans haven’t been facing the same scrutiny as immigrants have in the U.S.’s War on Terror (Guskin and Wilson 86). The U.S. government has used the War on Terror to create anti-immigrant sentiment and increase deportations of illegal immigrants that the country has unfairly depicted as terrorist threats. In this way the Republican Party has been able to carry out its own anti- illegal immigration agenda under the guise of national security.

## Problems with the Philosophy of Stronger Border Controls to Reduce Immigration

The first solution of groups that oppose freer migration always seems to be to step up enforcement. The Republican Party in the United States has for decades focused on ways to make illegal immigration more difficult, but has rarely put effort into making legal immigration more feasible. This ignores the fact that immigrants are coming because jobs are available; employers are willing to employ them. Trying to block immigration flows is only a “Band-Aid” policy that does not address the underlying factors that draw illegal immigrants to the country in the first place. Another problem is that there is strong evidence that constantly increasing enforcement spends astronomical amounts of taxpayer money while showing little results in blocking immigrant flows. In the past two decades, the United States has increased its border control budget nearly ten-fold (Casey 33). But this did not lead to less illegal immigrants entering the United States. In fact, as Guskin and Wilson point out, “the number of unauthorized immigrants in the United States rose by some five million from 1990 to 2000, at a significantly faster rate than in previous decades, and continuing to rise almost as quickly afterwards” (97-98). This statistic should be very troubling to those who see stronger border enforcement as the answer to illegal immigration, such as the Republican Party in the United States. Even though the U.S. was spending more than it ever had on border control, it failed miserably at keeping immigrants out. Walter A. Ewing puts the statistics in a more simple light: while the U.S. Border Patrols budget increased from \$326.2 million in 1992 to \$2.7 billion in 2009, an increase of 714%, the number of unauthorized immigrants roughly tripled in the U.S., as seen in Graphs 3 and 4 (111). Anti-immigration groups also point out that the U.S. spends billions each year detaining and deporting illegal immigrants, but they seem to fail to realize that this cost, along with a substantial amount of border patrol costs, would be avoided if America allowed freer migration.

Furthermore, organized crime is given a never-ending source of income through smuggling people past the U.S.’s beefed up border control. Since the U.S. began to more strictly enforce it border, the price of being smuggled into the United States has increased by nearly 800% (Guskin and Wilson 98). Reports now claim that fees charged by smugglers

have steadily risen to as much as \$3,000 per illegal immigrants helped across the border (Crowe par. 3). If this were true, smugglers would be making \$2.5 billion a year off the estimated 850,000 illegal immigrants entering the country annually (Bahrapour par. 2). Not only does this increase these criminal organizations ability to traffic drugs and carry out other gang related activities, it also endangers immigrants because many times smugglers rob and take advantage of them.

Increased border control also causes more immigrant deaths as immigrants try to go around heavily enforced areas. Guskin and Wilson explain that the main effect of increased enforcement was to “squeeze the balloon;” immigrants were forced to hire more expensive smugglers and to take more remote routes of entry, often through difficult terrain and scorching deserts (98). This has resulted in higher numbers of border crossing deaths. Ewing writes that as a result of the U.S.’s “concentrated border-enforcement strategy” there has been a surge in migrant deaths; 5,607 between 1994 and 2008 (111).

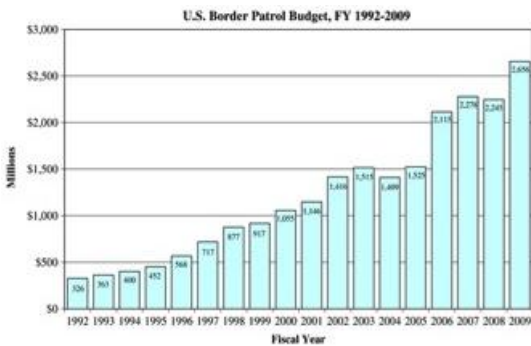
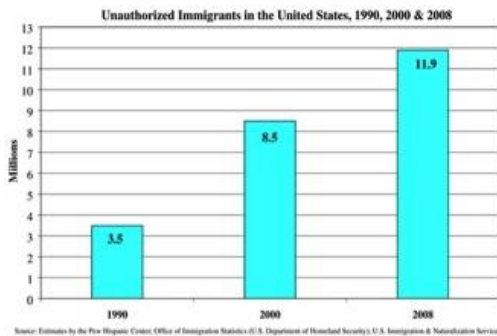


Figure 3 US Border Patrol Budget



Source: Estimates by the Pew Hispanic Center, Office of Immigration Statistics (U.S. Department of Homeland Security); U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service.

Figure 4 Unauthorized Immigrants in the US

Another reason why stricter enforcement policies are unproductive is that, paradoxically, increased border controls actually make illegal immigrants stay in the country. Because of the risk and expense associated with entering the country illegally, undocumented immigrants are much less likely to come for a few months to work and then return home. Currently, 25% of undocumented workers return home within the first twelve months, half the percentage that returned home in the 1980's, before stricter border controls (Guskin and Wilson 99). Wayne A. Cornelius, a political science professor at the University of California, San Diego, sums up the situation well: "the U.S. border-centered immigration control strategy has been effective in bottling up illegal immigrants within the United States, not necessarily in deterring them from coming in the first place" (Guskin and Wilson 99).

## **POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

If evidence suggests that the argument for freer migration is stronger than the argument of immigration opponents, the U.S. should liberalize its immigration policies. This does not mean that the country should stop all enforcement of its borders and let in anyone who can make it. It does mean that the U.S. should make immigration easier by substantially lowering immigration barriers. A start would be to create a program in which unauthorized immigrants could apply for legal status. Currently there are millions of illegal immigrants in the U.S. who have no way of becoming legal. Not only does this deny them the rights of their neighbors, it also costs the U.S. billions in tax revenue. Allowing these people to apply for legal status would be a way of handling illegal immigration that is supported by "a wide array of groups on pragmatic, economic, and humanitarian grounds" (Ewing 113). A program that allowed for undocumented immigrants to get legal would bring U.S. immigration policy more in tune with the demands of the economy. Furthermore, as Ewing wrote of the U.S.'s current economic recession, "incorporating currently unauthorized immigrants into our strategy for economic recovery makes far more fiscal sense than spending untold billions of dollars...in a quixotic quest to force them all out" (113). Finally, it's a much more practical plan than the proposition of some immigration opponents to forcibly remove all illegal immigrants from the country. Again, this would cost the country \$551.6 billion in annual spending and \$245 billion in annual economic



output (Ewing 114). Granting these illegal immigrants legal status is much more practical than kicking them all out.

Another seemingly realistic policy change for the U.S. would be to start giving work visas to any immigrants that can show they will have a job upon entering the United States. This program would be similar to current temporary worker programs, but unlike these programs, workers would be able to stay as long as they like (provided they remain employed) and change jobs as they see fit. Here is a perfect place for political compromise with the political right, which would most likely oppose such a policy. First, immigrants could be required to show proof of employment before receiving government benefits, effectively eliminating the freeloader problem. Second, the government ID cards proposed by Republicans that would notify employers of workers' legality seems appropriate in this situation. Technology will enable the use of the cards, and every citizen of the country could have an electronically verifiable ID number, much like a social security number. Another compromise could be to gradually implement immigration liberalization by slowly allowing more immigrants into the country to work each year. This would ensure that there be enough work for new immigrants upon their arrival. It would also help to decrease any burden on government goods and services that a completely open border may bring. Of course, the amount of immigrants allowed into the country on a yearly basis would have to be much higher than the arbitrary quotas set today. Leading economists could be consoled so that the new immigration policy would be more in tune with labor market demands. And since the U.S. would be easier to get into, these people could return home more easily when they were done working. The circular immigration this policy encourages would be even more effective if the U.S. included free movement of labor in its free trade agreements with other countries.

The European Union could be a model for even more liberal immigration policies once support for immigration become more popular with U.S. citizens. The European Union currently allows for the free migration of all citizens of its member countries. However, this means that countries need to decouple sovereignty from a country's ability to block immigration. As Casey asserts, "the ability to control immigration (but not capital, goods, foreign policy, etc.) should not be idealized as a mainstay of sovereignty" (43). For a change in immigration policies to take place in a democratic country like the U.S., there

must be a change in public opinion. This needs to be done by educating the population on how immigration will benefit them. Maloberti writes that in democracies where individual votes are usually indecisive:

few individuals find it profitable to invest in the costly process of understanding the unintended effects of popular policies...trade restrictions, burdensome regulations, and high taxes, for example, have important effects on prosperity. Yet individuals wrongly think that such government interventions are able or necessary to increase their collective welfare. Individuals prefer misguided policies simply because they tend to be more intuitive, and interest groups prefer such policies because they benefit them (552-553).

This seems to be exactly the case with immigration; people's intuition is that immigration is a zero-sum game, when in reality it is a positive sum game. The burden of educating the American population on this concept will undoubtedly fall on immigration interest groups. But the population can also call on politicians, professors and business leaders to take a more pragmatic, fact-based approach to immigration rhetoric.

Once the American population changes its stance on immigration, the country should work to enter into bilateral free trade agreements that include the free migration of labor. Such agreements already exist in global politics. Aside from the EU., the Caribbean Community, the Nordic Council, and the Trans Tasmanian Arrangement between Australia and New Zealand, are all examples of what Casey calls "comfort zones" in which labor is allowed to move freely (45). These policies have not created the strife that immigration opponents claimed they would. In fact, EU citizens listed "freedom to travel and work" as the greatest achievement to date of the European Union (Guskin and Wilson 135). For America to enter into free movement of labor agreements, it will have to give importance to economic interests over what Casey calls "the politics of fear" which today seem to dominate immigration rhetoric (45).

## CONCLUSION

As Maloberti writes on immigration, "there are no good reasons for preventing the entry of those who merely intend to advance their own well-being within the constraints imposed by

respect for other people's rights" (561). Not only would freer migration improve America economically, it would also improve the standards of living of countless poor people who decide to immigrate as well as the lives of those who reap the benefits of the free trade of labor in their home countries. Just as the liberalization of trade increased wealth across the world and helped to reduce poverty, so too could the liberalization of immigration. According to a World Bank report, if developed countries were to let in just 14 million immigrant workers the "world economy would yearly generate, *ceteris paribus*, \$365 billion over a 15 year period (2010-2025)". Of this \$365 billion, immigrants would yearly gain \$162 billion, citizens remaining in developing countries would yearly gain \$143 billion, and natives in immigrant receiving countries would gain \$139 billion per year (Zientara 71). So, according to the World Bank, every part of the world would benefit economically from freer migration, rich and poor alike. To again make a utilitarian argument the improved lives of immigrants would create a huge amount of happiness, as would the economic gains enjoyed by the entire world. This happiness would certainly outweigh the unhappiness created by immigrants moving to parts of the world where native citizens do not want them. It would also outweigh the unhappiness brought by the eyesore of immigrants living in conditions poorer than what developed country citizens are accustomed to. Immigration liberalization will bring its challenges; more people have to compete to use government goods and services in immigrant receiving countries, but these problems are minuscule when considering the huge economic and moral benefits of allowing people to freely choose where they work.

And paradoxically, as more of the world's poor benefit from the free movement of labor, there will be less need for them to move to developed countries, such as the United States. It is the very existence of immigration barriers that contribute to the poor's need to immigrate in the first place (Maloberti 559). "Open borders should be a driver for less immigration, and those who move should do so out of choice and not because of necessity," writes Casey (53). After all, free migration is seen as a wealth equalizer. Many of the developing world's poor would see their need to immigrate fall as the benefits of free migration create economic growth in their home countries.

It is not as if a policy of open borders would be new to America. For its first 100 years of existence the country had an open immigration policy, allowing in anyone who could pass a

health check and afford a ticket to come to America in search of a better life. During this time there were also those who opposed immigration for many of the same reasons as today. Yet it was this period of free migration that propelled America to the prosperity and influence that it now has. Today, America can benefit again from policies much like it had in its first 100 years. The country owes its greatness to the huddled masses, which came in search of the American dream. In fact, it is these immigrants that were willing to leave everything they had for a shot at a better life; they truly believed in the American dream and the dream needed their intensity to hold true. Immigration has been fundamental to America since its beginning and it will remain fundamental to its prosperous future. It was Thomas Jefferson, principal author of the Declaration of Independence, that wrote of “the natural right which men have of relinquishing the country in which birth or accident may have thrown them, and seeking subsistence and happiness whosoever they may be able” (Ebeling). Today, developed countries, the United States included, have the chance to fulfill Jefferson’s wish and grant the right to find a better life in a new country to all of humanity. Will this pragmatic, economic and ethical right come to be in our generation? Or will we find our immigration policies making the same uneducated mistakes as those of past generations?

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# Seedling Root Morphology of Six Alfalfa Populations

Author: Brianna J. Gaughan

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lan Xu

Department: Natural Resources Management

## ABSTRACT

Seedling root morphology plays a crucial role in seedling survival and stand establishment. Naturalized yellow-flowered alfalfa (YFA) (*Medicago sativa* subsp. *falcata*) has demonstrated adaptation to semiarid conditions of the Northern Great Plains and tolerance to grazing. Seedling stage root morphology is poorly defined. Our objective was to compare morphological traits of seedling roots for six alfalfa populations. Six entries were evaluated: one *M. sativa* population as a control, two *M. falcata* entries, with reported “spreading characteristics” and three naturalized YFA populations. Uniform seeds of each entry were scarified with 320 grade sand paper and inoculated with *rhizobium* before planting. A V-shaped plexiglass rootview growth box (48cm long X 27cm wide X 40cm deep) was divided into six compartments with aluminum foil, each filled with Miracle-Gro potting soil. Ten seeds per population were planted (1.5 cm deep) at 1.5 cm intervals against the Plexiglass wall. The rootview growth box was maintained in a growth chamber (24±3°C; 16h light/8h dark). Soil moisture was maintained with daily misting for 26 days. *M. sativa* and YFA populations had faster primary root emergence (2-3 d) than *M. falcata* populations (8 d). Primary root elongation rate was greater for *M. sativa* (3-4cm/d) than *M. falcata* and YFA populations (1.8-2.6cm/d) for the first 7 days. First lateral root emerged when primary root length reached 10-14 cm for all populations. The first lateral root emerged 2-3cm below the root-stem junction with the exception of one *M. falcata* population (5cm).

**Keywords:** *Medicago sativa*, *Medicago falcata*, yellow-flowered alfalfa, legume, emergence, seedling root, development, morphology

## INTRODUCTION

Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) is an important forage crop grown worldwide. But alfalfa has difficulty establishing in arid and semiarid rangelands because of inadequate soil moisture (Ries, 1982) and to persist because of winterkilling and grazing (Oakley and Garver 1917). There has long been a need and demand for cultivars of alfalfa that have the ability to establish and persist in grazing lands of semiarid regions, and to increase forage quality and animal production. Since introduction, over a hundred varieties of alfalfa have been developed but very few have been successfully naturalized in the North America rangelands (Rumbaugh 1982) even though the conditions are similar to its native range up to 64°N in Siberia (Hansen 1909). However, recently it was discovered that a population of predominantly Yellow-flowered alfalfa (YFA) (*Medicago sativa* subsp. *falcata*) has become naturalized in rangeland of northwestern South Dakota (Xu et al. 2005) and persisted under grazing pressure.

Yellow-flowered alfalfa (*Medicago falcata*) has demonstrated unique adaptations for survival under grazing in rangelands of the Northern Great Plains (Berdaahl et al. 1989). YFA was first introduced to the United States in 1897 by Niels Ebbesen Hansen who was one of the first agricultural explorers working for the United States Department of Agriculture (Oakley and Garver 1917). During Hansen's exploration of Russia and Siberia, he observed along with other Russian agronomists that *M. falcata* varieties have several desirable traits for semiarid pastures, including grazing tolerance whereas strains of *M. sativa* do not; palatable to cattle, horses, and sheep; greening up early in cold spring; tolerant to severe drought in summer; alkali and salt resistance; winter hardiness; broad and deep-set crowns; and the habit of sprouting by roots proliferation (Hansen 1909). The spreading habit via rhizomes and proliferating roots enabled YFA to endure grazing and trampling to a great extent, provided them self-renovation after the death of the main rootstock (Southworth 1921), further enhanced persistence of stands. The capacity of YFA vegetative reproduction through root or rhizome has significant potential utility for grazing-type alfalfas to improve depleted rangelands, and agricultural and economical implications.

The critical role of root morphology associated with alfalfa establishment, persistence and productivity have been recognized (Johnson et al 1998). Several researchers reported that the ability of YFA being able to withstand severe conditions of grazing, drought, and cold has been largely associated with belowground morphological traits, such as deep-set and wide crowns, subsurface budding, well-developed rooting rhizomes, numerous branched roots and fibrous root system (Oakley and Graver, 1917, Southworth 1921, Garver 1922, Heinrichs 1963). Root morphologic traits on established 1-year-old alfalfa plants for 1067 plant introductions (PIs) and 110 North American cultivars were evaluated for identifying potential parent material for increasing persistence and productivity (Johnson et al 1998). Seedling survival and establishment are depended on seedling root development and morphology. Rapid root emergence and elongation, and early branching facilitate seedlings to acquire the necessary water and nutrients for survival and growth as well as successfully compete with neighboring plant species. However, little is understood of YFA root morphology at seedling stage. Information on the seedling root morphological characteristic will provide insight of the developmental history of the root system and would be useful for selection of potential parent materials for breeding grazing – type alfalfas in arid and semiarid regions.

This study was designed to test the hypothesis that there is a difference in seedling root morphology among six alfalfa populations. Our objective was to compare seedling root morphological characteristics among six alfalfa populations.

## **METHODS & MATERIALS**

### **Seed source**

Seeds of these six alfalfa populations used in this study were taken from a commercial seed companies (Persist II, Falcata), naturalized populations (SD202, SD203) of alfalfa in the Grand River National Grassland (45°49'N, 102°33'W), and PIs from National Plant Germplasm System (PI494660, PI494661) (Table. 1). Ten uniform seeds from each of the six alfalfa population were carefully selected under a dissecting microscope (10X magnification). Selected seeds were hand scarified (Narem et al. 2009) with 320-grade

sandpaper for duration of 5 seconds and repeated 3 times followed by inoculation with *rhizobium* before planting.

## Experimental Design

A complete random design was used for this experiment. A V-shaped plexiglass rootview growth box (48cm L x 27 cm W x 40 cm D) was separated into six equal compartments (15 cm L X 13.5 cm W X 40 cm D) using double duty aluminum-foil. Each compartment was filled with Miracle-Gro potting soil. Each seed was planted at a 1.5 cm depth and a 1.5 cm interval against the plexiglass wall using DNA plastic test tubes to secure the seeds in place before covering with a thin top layer of soil. Roots were shielded from light by removable

**Table 1. Six alfalfa populations evaluated for seedling root morphology**

Entry	Description	Developer/Marketer/Origin
Persist II ( <i>M. sativa</i> )	Cultivar, Conventional Hay-Type	Millborn Seeds Inc.
Falcata ( <i>M. sativa</i> subsp. <i>falcata</i> )	PYFA developed by N. Smith, Lodgepole. SD, for interseeding rangeland	Wind River Seed Co.
SD202 ( <i>M. sativa</i> subsp. <i>falcata</i> )	PYFA Experimental from feral rangeland in NW, SD, Coiled shaped seed pod	SDSU
SD203 ( <i>M. sativa</i> subsp. <i>falcata</i> )	PYFA experimental from feral rangeland in NW, SD, Sickle shaped seed pod	SDSU
PI494660 ( <i>M. falcata</i> )	<i>Medicago sativa</i> subsp. <i>falcate</i> USDA National Plant Germplasm System	Romania, lat. 46° 46' 0" N, long. 23°36'0" E
PI494661 ( <i>M. falcata</i> )	<i>Medicago sativa</i> subsp. <i>falcata</i> USDA National Plant Germplasm System	Romania, lat. 46°54'36" N, long. 23°25'12" E

pieces of sheet aluminum-foil. Immediately after planting, the rootview box was placed into a growth chamber with temperature maintained at 24±3°C and 16 hrs light/8hrs dark photoperiod cycle. Soil was maintained at saturation through daily misting and checked

with a soil moisture meter. The rootview box was placed in the controlled environmental growth chamber for 26 days for each trial.

## DATA COLLECTION

The dates when the primary root, which arises from the radicle, emerged from seeds after planting were recorded. The primary root growth, emergence date of first lateral root, and the number of lateral roots were recorded daily for 26 days total for each trial or when the primary root reached the bottom of the rootview box. The distance of the first lateral root from the junction between root and stem on the primary root was measured after each seedling was excavated at the end of trial period. There was two trials.

## DATA ANALYSIS

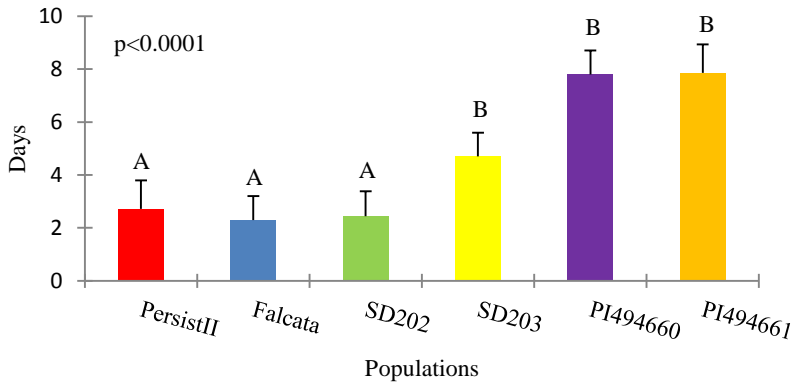
Primary root elongation rate was calculated using the equation  $(L_2-L_1)/(T_2-T_1)$ , where  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are root lengths at sampling times  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , respectively (Pan et al. 2001).

Cumulative primary root length and the primary root length at first lateral root emergence was calculated based on daily growth measurements. Average number of lateral roots production after primary root emergence was calculated. A one-way variance analysis was used to analyze each morphological trait variable among six populations at  $\alpha=0.05$ . A Duncan Multiple Comparison test was used when  $p<0.05$  (SAS 1990).

## RESULTS

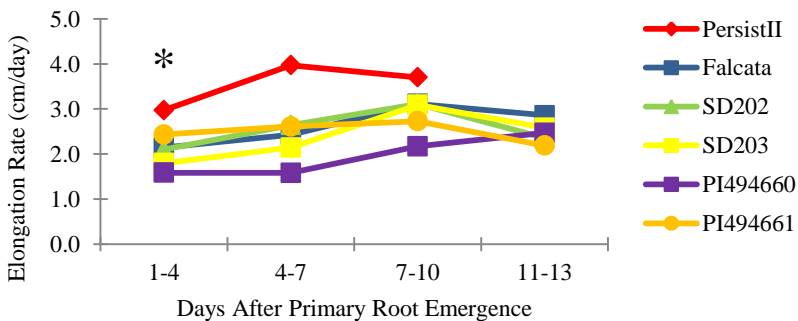
Persist II (*M. sativa*) and YFA populations (Falcata, SD202, SD203) had rapid primary root emergence (2-3 d) compared to PI494660 and PI494661 (*M. falcata*) (8 d) ( $p<0.0001$ ) (Fig.

1). Primary root elongation rate was greater for Persist II (*M. sativa*) (3-4cm/d) than



**Figure 1. Days of primary root emergence after planting of six alfalfa populations (Trial 1).**

PI494660 and PI494661 (*M. falcata*) and YFA populations (1.8-2.6cm/d) for the first 7 days (Fig. 2). The first lateral roots emerged when the primary root length reached a depth of 10-14cm ( $p=0.5356$ ) showing no difference for all six YFA populations (Fig. 3). The first lateral root emerged 2-3cm below the root-stem junction with the exception of PI494660 population at 5cm (Fig. 4). By day 8 after emergence, Persist II (*M. sativa*) had the longest primary root length and PI494660 (*M. falcata*) had the shortest primary root



**Figure 2. Primary root elongation rate (cm/day) of the six alfalfa populations. \* indicates the statistically significant difference at  $P < 0.05$  (Trial 1).**

length (Fig. 5. A). Persist II (*M. sativa*) lateral roots emerged on day 3 and PI494660 (*M. falcata*) lateral roots emerged much later at day 7 (Fig. 5. B). But all six alfalfa populations lateral root emergence did not begin until the cumulative primary root length reached a depth of 10-14 (cm) (Fig. 5. B, and Fig. 3).

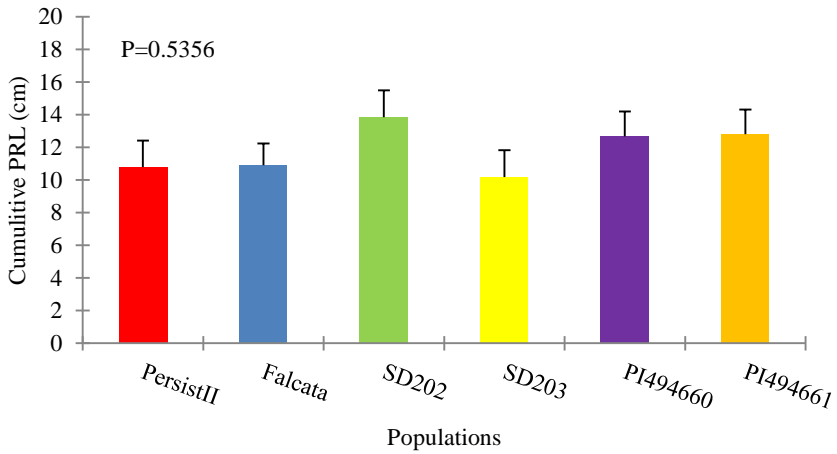


Figure 3. Cumulative primary root length when its first lateral root emerges (trial 1).



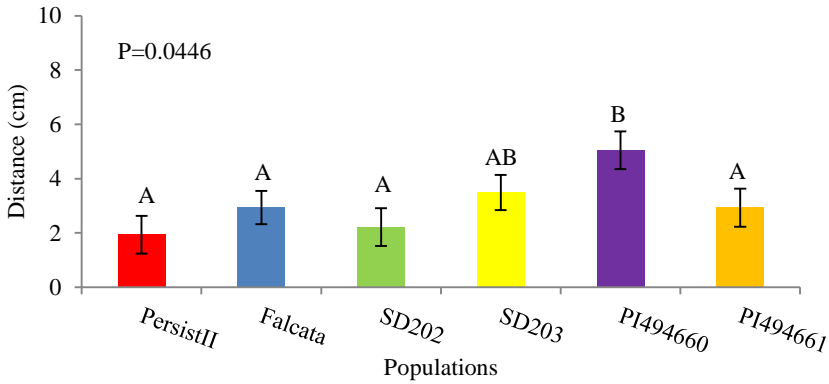


Figure 4. The distance of first lateral root from the junction between root and stem on the primary root (Trial 1).

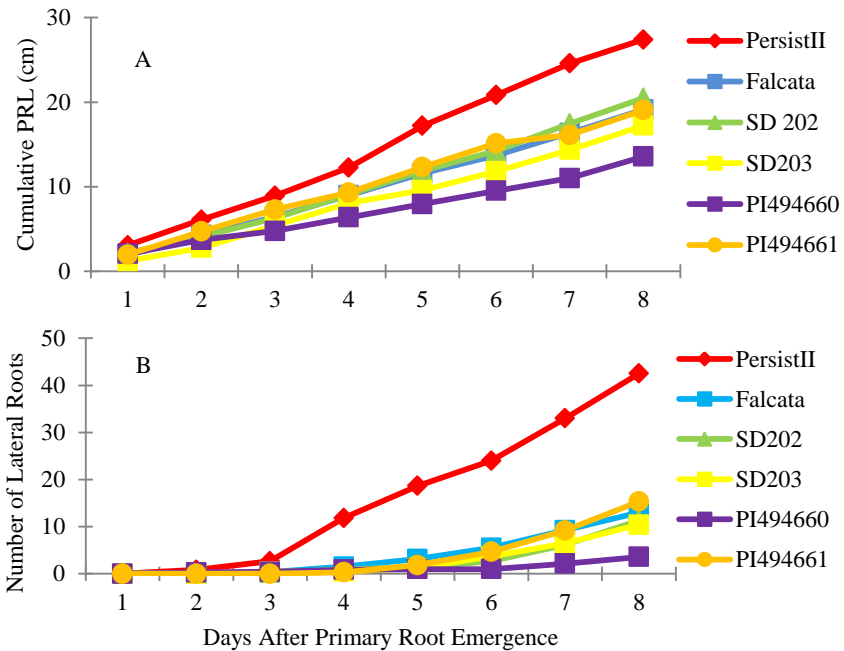


Figure 5. The cumulative primary root growth (cm) of the six alfalfa populations over 8 days after primary root emergence (A), the average number of lateral roots per primary root over 8 days after primary root emergence (Trial 1) (B). Day 1 was defined as the day when primary root emerged.

## DISCUSSION

Persist II (*M. sativa*) demonstrated the fastest root emergence (2 – 3 days after planting), the fastest primary root elongation rate (3-4cm/day), and the earliest lateral root initiation, and more lateral root production for the first 8 days due to its quick primary root elongation rate compared to the other five alfalfa populations. This indicates that Persist II (*M. sativa*) may have the potential for the greatest establishment among the six alfalfa populations under ideal environmental conditions. Speed of root emergence is crucial for initial establishments of plant species, especially in semiarid environments where conditions are harsh. The elongation rate of the primary root is equally important after emergence for fast establishment leading to root penetration and exploration in soils for needed resources, such as water and nutrients. However, plant species cannot rely solely on their primary roots for nutrient uptake. The increase in root surface area by produced lateral roots and enhanced nutrient uptake gives plants higher survivability (Thornley 1971). Plants with more branched root systems may enable to persist under grazing and tolerance to drought and cold (Daday1962, Garver 1922).

Results from this study also demonstrate *M. falcata* (PI494660 and PI494661) populations are conservative in primary root emergence and slow primary root elongation rate (8 d and 1.8-2.6 cm/d) of the six YFA populations under observation. These phenomena may be a

reflection of *M. falcata* origin (Table 1). These characteristics imply natural selection and adaptation to very harsh and unpredictable environments, but further research is needed to confirm this suggestion. It is speculated that slow emergence and elongation of the primary root is, in fact, advantage in environments with unpredictable spring to avoid the frost killing of seedlings, and germination occurred only after ideal environmental conditions have been reached.

*M. falcata* is purported by several researchers to possess the “spreading root” characteristics near the crown (Hansen 1927, Heinrichs 1963) but we did not observe such trait in PI494660 and PI494661 (*M. falcata*) at the seedling stage. It is very probably developed in the later stage.

It must be restated that the objective of this experiment was to compare the root morphological characteristic at seedling development stage of six alfalfa populations about 26 days and the results may vary in adult alfalfa populations. The results presented here were from Trial 1, but the same trends and patterns were confirmed by the Trial 2.

The practical applications of this study would be used to help determine the YFA seedling root morphology variations, and to provide useful information for selecting potential parental materials to develop grazing-type alfalfa for semiarid regions.

## LIMITATIONS

This study was conducted between the months of August to December of 2011. Therefore, the main limitation of this study was time. Due to this time constraint, the study of morphological root traits in YFA was limited to 26-day old seedling stage only. The second limitation was space. This study was conducted under a well controlled environmental condition a growth chamber, due to limited space in the growth chamber, only six alfalfa populations were evaluated for their seedling root morphology for total two trials with 26 days per trial. The limitation of time and space prevented more populations to be evaluated and more trials and long duration for each trial to be conducted.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# **Prevalence and Behavior of *Blastobasis repartella* (Dietz) in Switchgrass**

Author(s): Krista Hegge

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul J. Johnson and Dr. Susan Rupp

Department: Plant Science and Natural Resource Management

## **ABSTRACT**

Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*) is growing in recognition as a potential source for biomass. In order to use switchgrass optimally as a crop for biofuel production potential pests need to be detected and studied. Currently, one pest being studied is the stem-boring larva of the moth *Blastobasis repartella*. The objective of this experiment was to compare effects of larval feeding on rhizome buds for two cultivars of switchgrass, and to observe and document feeding behavior of the larva. The two cultivars of switchgrass used were Pathfinder (PTH), a lowland variety, and Sunburst (SBS), an upland variety. Six, 15-cm<sup>2</sup> samples of rhizome clusters from each cultivar were taken in September 2011 from South Dakota State University's Aurora Research Farm. A total of 136 tillers were collected from both varieties containing 345 buds; 114 of those buds were killed by *B. repartella*. Pathfinder rhizome samples produced 25 larvae while those of Sunburst had 22 larvae. No significant differences were detected between PTH and SBS in regards to the number of new buds present, the number of damaged buds, the number of larvae, or the rate of damage caused by larvae. It appears that *B. repartella* larvae do similar amounts of damage to both varieties and that there is a significant pest status with approximately one-third of the potential biomass producing buds being killed.

**Keywords:** Bioenergy, biofuels, *Blastobasis repartella*, switchgrass, *Panicum virgatum*

## INTRODUCTION

With an increase in demand for resources such as fossil fuels, there is a need for different types of renewable resources that can be easily harvested and sustainable. One way to do this is by using different crops for bioenergy. Bioenergy is renewable energy from different biological sources which can be used for heat, electricity and fuel (Yuan et al., 2008). The most abundant biofuel in the industry at the present time is corn-based ethanol (McLaughlin et al., 1999). New studies are looking at the use of switchgrass, *Panicum virgatum* Linnaeus, as a new biofuel source. Switchgrass is a warm-season, perennial grass that is native to Central and North America and is a characteristic species of tall-grass prairie (Rinehart, 2006). Agronomically, there are two classifications for switchgrass ecotypes that refer to their growth habits: lowland ecotypes that are taller on more mesic sites and upland ecotypes that are smaller in stature on drier sites (Keshwani & Cheng, 2008). Using switchgrass as a biofuel source may be advantageous compared to corn as it promotes conservation of native prairie grasses and provides wildlife benefits (Keshwani & Cheng, 2008). In order to use switchgrass for a biofuel crop, potential pests need to be detected and studied. Currently, one pest being studied is a stem-boring caterpillar, *Blastobasis repartella*.

*Blastobasis repartella* is a stem-boring caterpillar that bores into the proaxis and basal nodes of switchgrass and kills individual plant tillers (Adamski et al., 2010). Adamski et al. (2010) provided descriptions of the life-stages of *B. repartella* and some observations of its biology in switchgrass. Prasifka et al. (2011) noted in their study of stem-boring caterpillars in switchgrass that none of the stem-borers seemed to be threats to switchgrass or other crops. Studies have shown that only one larva occupies a stem of switchgrass at a time (Adamski et al., 2010; Prasifka et al., 2010). This study was part of a larger study on the insect/plant relationship and designed as an exploratory test to determine the prevalence of *B. repartella* larva in two different switchgrass cultivars as well as describe feeding behavior of the larva on the switchgrass rhizomes. Results of this study were intended to help determine directions of further investigations.

## METHODS

This study was conducted at the South Dakota State University Aurora Research Farm located at 44°19' N, 96°42' W, Brookings County, South Dakota. This agricultural study site supports harvestable crops for the purposes of research. The plots of switchgrass varieties are arranged in rows with the different cultivars in 1 x 6 meter lots. The different types of cultivars are randomly planted with buffer strips to avoid cross invasion.

For this study, we examined two cultivars: Pathfinder (PTH) and Sunburst (SBS). The two varieties were planted in a randomized block design with '6' blocks and '6' replications per block. Samples of 15-cm x 15-cm were taken from 6 plots each of PTH and SBS cultivars within each block on 29 September 2011. For this study only the rhizomes and roots were needed from the switchgrass so the stems were cut just above the ground and the rhizome/root masses were dug 5.08cm below the soil surface. The samples were placed in one-gallon sized Ziploc® bags and labeled with the date of collection and plot location. A flag was placed at the sample location to avoid adjacent sampling. Samples were placed in a freezer at 0°F until specimen recovery and counts were made.

Each sample was examined for signs of *B. repartella* larva including presence of larva or damage caused by feeding (Figures 1-2). Feeding-related damage may include the initial hole that was bored into the bud or the removal of the plant tissue in the tip of the bud. Recovered specimens of larvae were preserved in alcohol for further study.





Figure 1 Signs of damage caused by *B. repartella* larva.

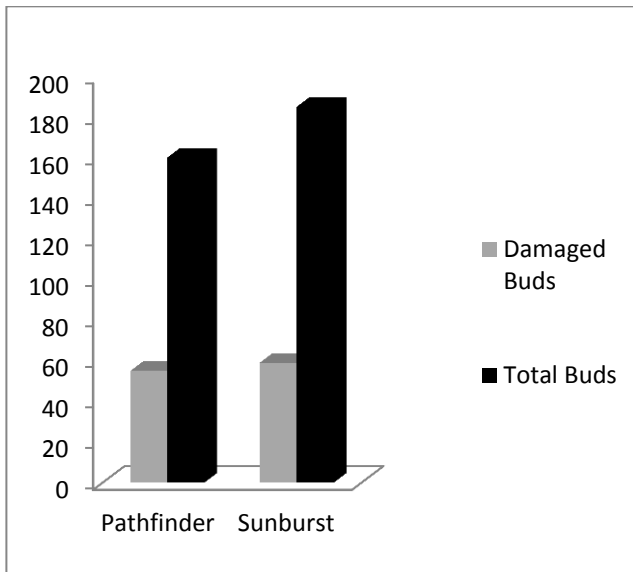


Figure 2 Larva of *B. repartella* in rhizome tip.

Data collected and recorded for each switchgrass tiller included the total number of new buds, number of damaged buds, number of buds with larva, number of larva per bud, and the type of damage on each bud. These data were used to quantify the prevalence of and damage caused by *B. repartella* between the two varieties of switchgrass. Differences in productivity, prevalence and damage between the two varieties were analyzed with a two sample t-test assuming equal variance with an alpha level of 0.05.

## RESULTS

A total of 136 tillers (65 PTH and 71 SBS) were collected and 345 buds (160 PTH and 185 SBS) were examined (Figure 3). Of those buds, 114 (55 PTH and 59 SBS) were damaged by larva (Figure 3). A total of 47 (25 PTH and 22 SBS) larva were found in the rhizome buds. There was no significant difference between PTH and SBS in the number of new buds present ( $p = 0.54$ ), for the number of damaged buds ( $p = 0.93$ ), and for the number of larva ( $p = 0.4$ ). Damage prevalence was 34.38% for the PTH variety and 31.89% for the SBS variety.



**Figure 3 Comparison of total buds and damaged buds caused by *B. repartella* larvae on Pathfinder and Sunburst cultivars.**

Feeding behaviors of the larva were found to occur below ground where the larva feeds on the meristematic tissues of the new rhizome buds in both varieties of switchgrass. There was only one larva found per bud but multiple larvae were found per tiller. The typical presence of a single larva per rhizome with multiple damaged buds suggests that a larva moves from one bud to another.

## DISCUSSION

Corn-based ethanol alone cannot reduce the current societal dependency on fossil fuels. For this reason research is focused on determining the advantages of using switchgrass as a biofuel source as well as potential limitations to biofuel yields from this source. We know of no published studies that have looked at how pest relationships may alter the biomass yields. Switchgrass can yield anywhere from ~16 Mg/ha to ~30 Mg/ha depending on factors such as amount of precipitation and type of switchgrass variety being used (McLaughlin et al., 1999). However, the parent project of this one has found decreases in biomass production from between approximately 100-650 kg/ha across six switchgrass cultivars (V. Calles Torrez, personal communication), indicating a potentially serious pest status for the moth larva. This is the first study to examine the prevalence and damage caused by a switchgrass pest feeding on underground portions of the plant. Further research is needed to accurately determine how the larval feeding on underground portions influences potential yields.

Previous research noted that *B. repartella* had a negative impact on the growth of switchgrass tillers (Prasifka et al., 2010). We know that at the larval stage damage caused by feeding causes cessation of tiller growth in switchgrass (Nyoka et al., 2007). A recent study found that upwards of 40% of tillers may be lost due to damage caused by *B. repartella* (P. Johnson, personal communication). However, little is known about the effects of larval feeding on switchgrass growth below ground.

Because one-third of the potential biomass producing buds was killed by *B. repartella*, there is a significant pest relationship and this requires the finding of new ways to manage the populations of the switchgrass moth. Possible control includes the use of insecticides. However, additional research would be needed to determine impacts of such control on non-target sources.

Because the larvae feed primarily below ground, the effects on switchgrass by the larvae may differ from the older life stages. Normal switchgrass development typically has tip-killed rhizomes not producing root-bearing proaxis from auxiliary buds and tillers at a 90% rate (A. Boe, personal communication). In our study, we observed that larva below ground feed entirely on the meristematic tissue rhizomes, and damaged rhizome meristems showed an increase in auxiliary bud production after the primary tip was killed by the feeding larva. This may suggest that supplementary tillers may be produced every year, which could potentially increase biomass production. Future research needs to be conducted to determine if *B. repartella* may be beneficial to switchgrass by causing it to respond to predation and produce more rhizomes.

*Blastobasis repartella* appears to be more prevalent in cultivated plots compared to natural settings at this time. It may be possible that the increase of acres of planted switchgrass plots could lead to a subsequent increase in the distribution and populations sizes of *B. repartella*. Research is needed to understand the prevalence and damage caused by *B. repartella* at a larger scale in order to identify whether appropriate management strategies to control this pest are warranted as the use of switchgrass as a source of biofuels increases.

## LIMITATIONS

Limitations for this study included a small sampling number due to the exploratory nature of the study. In the future using more samples will provide more accurate numbers for statistical analyses.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# **Contributions of Seed Bank and Vegetative Propagules to Vegetation Composition on Prairie Dog Colonies in Western South Dakota**

Author: Emily R Helms

Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Lan Xu, Dr. Jack L. Butler

Department: Natural Resource Management

## **ABSTRACT**

Characterizing the contributions of the seed bank and vegetative propagules will enhance our understanding of community resiliency associated with prairie dog disturbances. Our objective was to determine the effects of ecological condition (EC) and distance from burrows on the soil seed bank and vegetative propagules. Based on species composition of the extant vegetation, two prairie dog colonies were selected on the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands in western South Dakota. Within each colony, two prairie dog burrows were randomly selected at each of three sample points located about 150m apart. Two soil cores were taken at 0.5m, 1.0m, and 1.5m distances from the center of each burrow. Cores used to evaluate the seed bank were sifted and spread within standard seed flats, while cores used to determine vegetative propagules were placed intact into plastic pots. Both were maintained in a greenhouse for daily monitoring. A total 450 seedlings representing 16 species emerged from the low EC seed flats while 550 seedlings comprising 24 species emerged from the high EC seed flats. Sixty-two percent of the low EC and 67% of the high EC species emerged from the seed flats were annuals. On the low EC colony, 43 shoots generated from vegetative propagules representing 7 species, two of which were also found in the seed flats. On the high EC colony, 431 shoots sprouted from vegetative propagules representing 5 species, 3 of which were not present in the seed flats. Fourteen percent of the low EC and 80% of the high EC species emerged as vegetative propagules were perennial native grasses. Distance from burrows had no impact on species richness within

each EC. Both colonies demonstrated considerable revegetation potential but differed with respect to relative contributions from the soil seed bank and vegetative propagules.

## INTRODUCTION

Prairie dogs and prairie dog colonies are very important components of native grasslands where they contribute substantially to ecosystem biodiversity as well as providing habitat and serving as a food source for several threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

Prairie dogs are deemed as a keystone species and ecosystem engineers (Vannimwegen, et. al., 2008). Predators and arthropods are more abundant in areas surrounding prairie dog towns when compared with non-prairie dog colonized areas (Vannimwegen, et. al., 2008). The most endangered mammal in North America, the black-footed ferret, use prairie dogs as their sole food source. Other organisms such as burrowing owls, non-game grassland birds, reptiles, and insects all call a prairie dog burrow home. Continuously clipping, foraging and burrowing, prairie dogs has physically altered their habitat.

However, managing prairie dogs as keystone species is often considered incongruent with managing grasslands for livestock production. Because both prairie dogs and cattle prefer graminoids (Uresk, 1984) and cattle use the same landscapes and forage as prairie dogs. These two species seem to compete for available forage. A general inability exists in developing adaptive management plans that simultaneously manage public grasslands for black-footed ferret habitat and livestock production in South Dakota. Much of this ability can be directly attributed to the lack of understanding of the factors controlling vegetation dynamics involved in correctly managing these important communities (Miller, et. al., 2007).

Areas inhabited by prairie dogs are subject to continuous and intense disturbance by grazing and burrowing that alters vegetation composition and structure compared to the surrounding uninhabited areas. Vegetation resilience following these disturbances comes from two primary sources: seeds (seed bank) and vegetative propagules (bud bank) (Harper, 1977). Distinguishing the different contributions (seed bank vs. bud bank) may be especially important to communities often subjected to multiple levels of disturbance, such as with prairie dogs. Because the existing vegetation on prairie dog colonies is generally well adapted to a wide variety of disturbance, the on-site bud bank may greatly facilitate

the process, although this has not been evaluated. In comparison, the soil seed bank often contains a mix of seeds representing both extant species and migrant. Because seeds germinating as migrants are not adapted to the often extreme conditions associated with prairie dog colonies, their contribution to vegetation dynamics may be limited, although this has also not been tested.

The objective of this study was to gain greater insight into vegetation dynamics after prairie dog removal by evaluating the ecological conditions (the extant vegetation) and disturbance intensity (i.e. distance from burrows) on soil seed bank and vegetative propagules.

## **METHODS**

Two prairie dog colonies on a Loamy ecological site were chosen on the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands in western South Dakota. These two colonies were about 5 km apart. Based on vegetation composition of the extant vegetation, one colony was classified as low ecological condition (Low EC) while the other was classified as high ecological condition (High EC).

Within each colony, two prairie dog burrows were randomly selected at each of three sample points located about 150 m apart. Two soil cores were taken at 0.5m, 1.0m, and 1.5m distance from the center of each burrow. One core was used to evaluate the seed bank while the other was used to examine for vegetative propagules. Cores used to evaluate the seed bank were sifted and spread within standard seed flats on top of an inch of MiracleGro potting soil. The soil cores used to determine vegetative propagules were placed intact into 15cm diameter plastic pots. Space around the soil cores was filled in with MiracleGro potting soil as well.

The soil cores and seed flats were maintained in a greenhouse with 16 hours light/8 hours dark photoperiod cycle at a temperature of  $24 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The samples were misted and monitored daily. Plants were identified as they emerged, counted, and then removed. Unidentifiable plants were allowed to grow until identification could be made.

After two months, soil cores were broken apart to determine whether the plants emerged from seeds or vegetative perennating structures.



Sørensen similarity indices were calculated based on abundance to assess similarity between colonies, within colonies different distances from the burrow. One way analysis of variance was used to test the difference mean species richness among distances within each ecological condition.

## RESULTS

### Seed Bank

A total **450** seedlings representing **16** species emerged from the low EC seed flats, while **550** seedlings comprising **24** species emerged from high EC seed flats (Fig.1). The majority of the species that emerged from both ecological conditions consisted of native, annual forbs (Fig. 1). The high EC had more diverse for all functional groups.

The seed bank was dominated by annual species seedlings on both colonies and approximately the same on each site: Low EC (**86%**), high EC (**82%**). On the low EC, **80%** of seed bank was dominated by *Verbena bracteata* (58%), *Hedeoma drummondii* (12%), and *Plantago patagonica* (9%). In contrast, on the high EC, **64%** of seed bank was dominated by *Bromus tectorum* (24%), *Vulpia octoflora* (23%), and *Hedeoma drummondii* (17%) (Fig. 2).

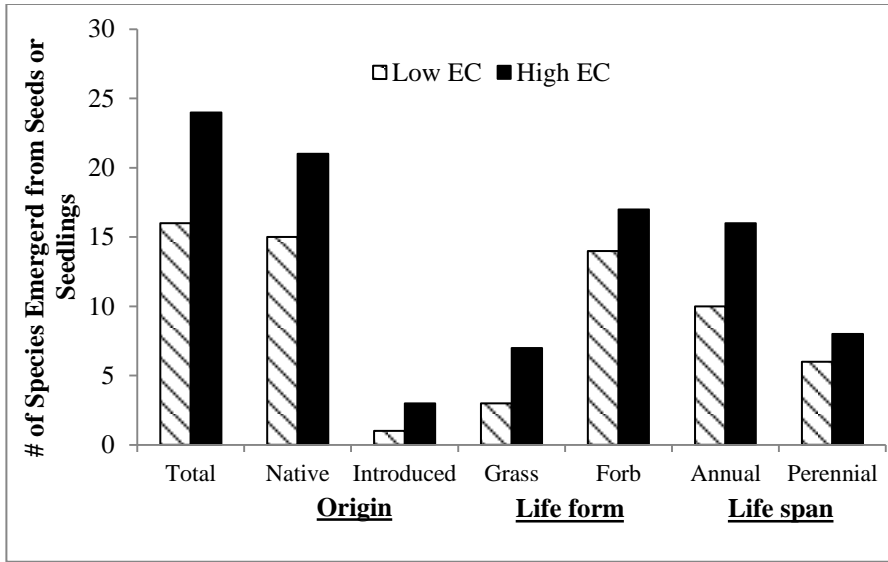


Figure 1 Number of species emerged from seeds on high and low ecological conditions at different functional groups

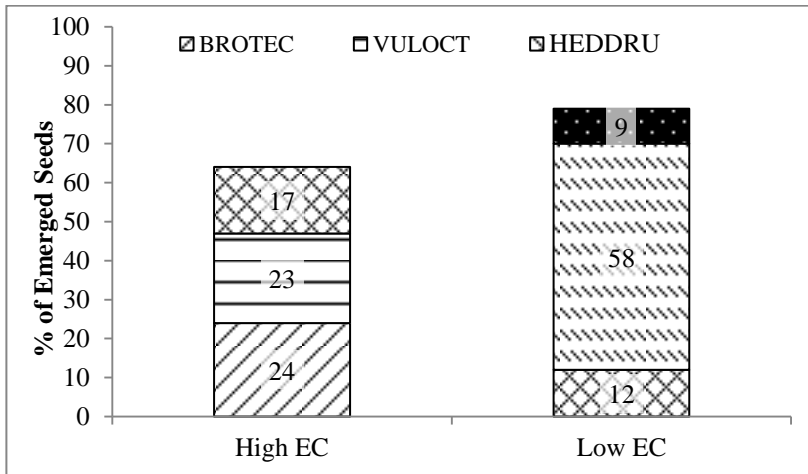


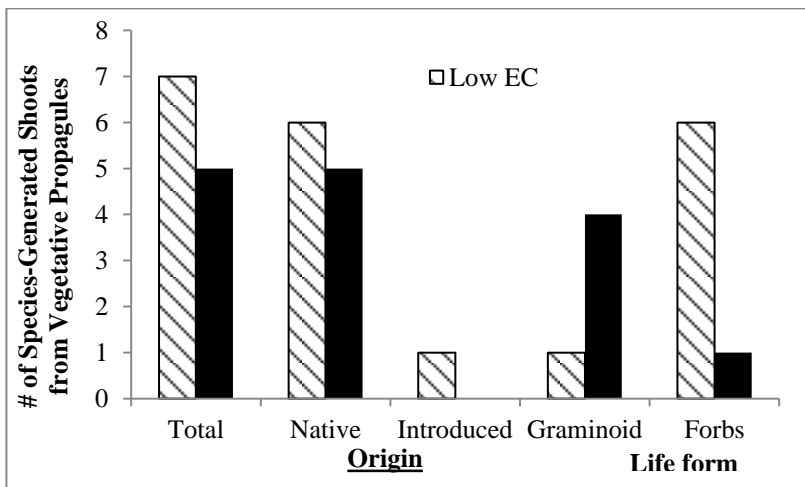
Figure 2 Percentage of Emerged Seeds by Species on High and Low Ecological Condition. BROTEC= *Bromus tectorum*, VULOCT=*Vulpia octoflora*, HEDDRU= *Hedeoma drummundii*, VERBRA= *Verbena bracteata*, PLAPAT= *Plantago patagonica*

## Vegetative Propagules

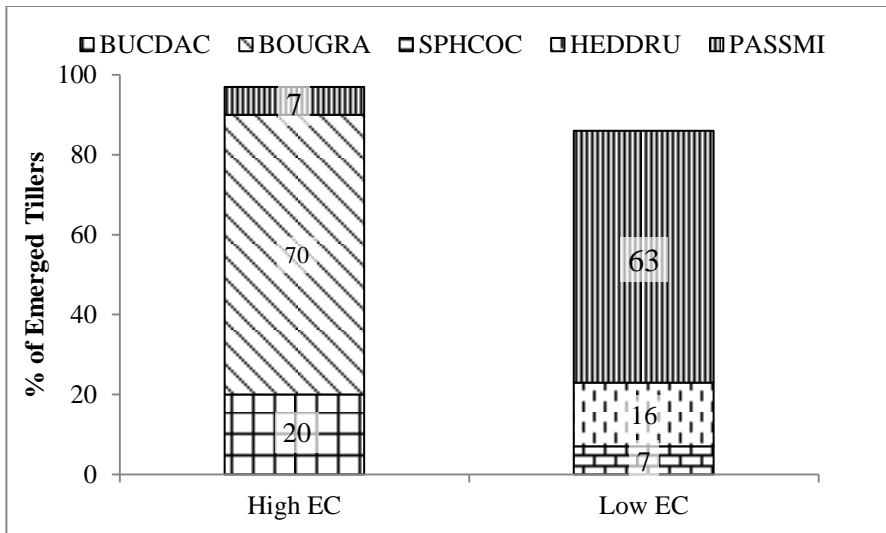
On the low EC colony, **43** shoots emerged as vegetative propagules representing **7** species (Fig. 3), **2** of which were also found in the seed bank. Among 7 species, 6 species were forbs. Dominant species from vegetative propagules were *Pascopyrum smithii* (**63%**), *Hedeoma drummondii* (**16%**), and *Spharalcea coccinea* (**7%**). *Hedeoma drummondii* was also found in the seed bank with **12%**.

On the high EC colony, **431** shoots emerged as vegetative propagules representing **5** species, **2** of which were also present in the seed bank. Four of the 5 species were graminoids. Dominant species from vegetative propagules were *Bouteloua gracilis* (**70%**) and *Bouteloua dactyloides* (**20%**), which were also present in seed bank with less than **0.3%**.

Distance from the burrow had no impact on species richness within each EC colony. Species richness ranges from **6** to **7** on low seed flats, and **10** to **12** on high seed flats from distance 0.5m to 1.5m.



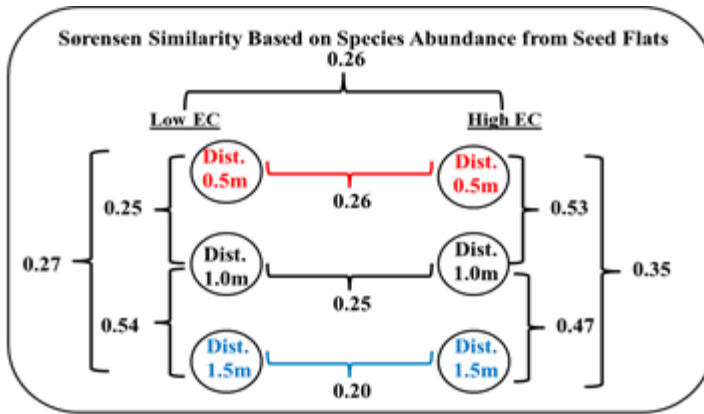
**Figure 3** Number of species generated shoots from vegetative propagules at high and low ecological conditions.



**Figure 4** Percentage of Emerged Tillers by Species from High and Low Ecological Conditions. BUCDAC= *Buchloe dactyloides*, BOUGRA= *Bouteloua gracilis*, SPHCOC= *Spharalcea coccinea*, HEDDRU= *Hedeoma drummondii*, PASSMI= *Pascopyrum smithii*

## Similarity

Between low EC and high EC colonies seed bank species composition and abundance were distinctive (Sørensen Similarity Index=0.26), which was also reflected at each distance level (Fig. 5) even though they were dominated by native and forbs. Within the colonies, high EC tended to be more similar in species composition and abundance among the distance compared to low EC (Fig. 5).



**Figure 5 Sørensen similarity indices based on species abundance from seed flats**

Sørensen Similarity was determined between each distance from the burrow. On the Low EC, there was a 25% similarity between the 0.5m distance and the 1.0m distance and a similarity of 54% between the 1.0m distance and the 1.5m distance. Between the 0.5m distance and the 1.5m distance, there was a similarity of 27%. On the High EC, there was a similarity of 53% between the 0.5m distance and 1.0m distance. Between the 1.0m and 1.5m distance on the High EC, there was a 47% similarity. Between the 0.5m distance and the 1.0m distance, there was a similarity of 35%.

Across ecological conditions, there was a similarity of 26% between species abundance found at the 0.5m seed flats, a 25% similarity between 1.0m seed flats, and a 20% similarity between 1.5m seed flats.

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Our results showed a significant revegetation potential with a considerable amount of seeds and vegetative propagules emerging from both ecological conditions. The high EC colony shows a higher revegetation potential as there is a higher abundance and greater species composition, particularly more sprouting from vegetative propagules when compared with the low EC colony.

Results from this study are concurrent with other studies that have found on perennial mixed-grass and shortgrasses prairie that annual forbs occurrence increases on prairie dog towns (Winter, et. al., 2002; Fahnestock, et. al., 2003). This reflected on presence of the abundant *Verbena bracteata*, *Dyssodia papposa*, and *Plantago patagonica* in the seed bank. There was difference between proportion species composition and abundance between low EC and high EC. On the low EC colony, seed bank was dominated by annual forbs (67%), while on the high EC colony, 47% of seed bank was dominated by annual grasses such as *Bromus tectorum* and *Vulpia octoflora*.

The relative contributions of the seed and bud bank to each colony generally reflected the ecological condition of each colony, which is a product of the management and environmental history of each colony. On the high EC colony, the vegetative propagules (bud bank) (**431** shoots emerged from vegetative propagules) was much higher than low EC colony's bud bank (only **43** shoots generated from vegetative propagules). In addition, the species compositions on these vegetative propagules were different, there was more native perennial forbs like *Spharalcea coccinea* and *Hedeoma drummondii* on the low EC colony compared to more native perennial grasses such as *Bouteloua gracilis* (**70%**) and *Bouteloua dactyloides* (**20%**) on the high EC.

Although few species emerged from the seed bank could be considered typical of undisturbed mixed-grass prairie vegetation, the number and composition of seedlings suggest that, with the removal of the major disturbance factors (prairie dogs, livestock), colonies have the potential to quickly re-vegetate. The high percentage (44%) emergence of shoots from the bud bank on the high EC colony suggest that vegetation recovery may proceed faster and persist longer than recovery on the low EC colony (only 9% emergence of shoot from the bud bank). More management may be needed in order to reach a climax state equal to a historic climax plant community for that site.

## LIMITATIONS

The main limitations to this study were greenhouse space and time. Due to these limitations, the samples size was limited to 3 replications and two months duration. Future study should have more replications, long duration, and different distance regimes from the

center of the burrows in order to fully quantify the soil seed bank and vegetative propagule numbers.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project was funded by the Griffith Undergraduate Research Award and Undergraduate Research Program of Academic and Scholarly Excellence. Thanks to Dr. Gary Larson for help in identifying the seemingly unidentifiable, Dr. Patricia Johnson for her insight, Dr. Neil Reese for the greenhouse space, Will Busse for help in collecting, preparing, and transporting the samples to Brookings, US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station for the contribution, and to Ayush Shrestha and Jordan Knowltonkey for their assistance in this study.

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## APPENDIX

**Table 2 List of all the species found in soil cores, soil flats, or both.**

Scientific Name	Common name	Origin <sup>1</sup>	Life span <sup>2</sup>	Life form <sup>3</sup>	Found
<i>Amaranthus albus</i>	tumbling mustard	I	A	F	Both
<i>Androsace occidentalis</i>	western rockjasmine	N	A	F	Both
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	blue grama	N	P	G	Both
<i>Bromus japonicus</i>	Japanese brome	I	A	G	Both
<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	downy brome	I	A	G	Both
<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i>	buffalograss	N	P	G	Both
<i>Carex spp</i>	Sedge	N	P	G	Both
<i>Chamaesyce glyptosperma</i>	sandmat	N	A	F	Both
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle	I	P	F	Core s
<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	horseweed	N	A	F	Both
<i>Conyza ramosissima</i>	dwarf horseweed	N	A	F	Both
<i>Cryptantha minima</i>	little cryptantha	N	A	F	Both
<i>Descurainia pinnata</i>	western tansymustard	N	A	F	Flats
<i>Draba reptans</i>	Carolina draba	N	A	F	Both
<i>Dyssodia papposa</i>	fetid marigold	N	A	F	Both
<i>Gaura coccinea</i>	scarlet gaura	N	P	F	Core s
<i>Hedeoma drummondii</i>	Drummond's false pennyroyal	N	P	F	Both
<i>Hedeoma hispida</i>	rough false pennyroyal	N	A	F	Core s
<i>Hordeum pusillum</i>	little barley	N	A	G	Core s
<i>Lepidium densiflorum</i>	common pepperweed	N	A	F	Both



<i>Logfia arvensis</i>	field cottonrose	I	A	F	Both
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	black medic	I	A	F	Cores
<i>Nassella viridula</i>	green needlegrass	N	P	G	Cores
<i>Oxalis dillenii</i>	slender yellow woodsorrel	N	P	F	Flats
<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i>	western wheatgrass	N	P	G	Both
<i>Picradeniopsis oppositifolia</i>	oppositeleaf bahia	N	P	F	Cores
<i>Plantago patagonica</i>	wolly plantain	N	A	F	Cores
<i>Pseudognaphalium viscosum</i>	clammy cudweed	N	A	F	Both
<i>Schedonnardus paniculatus</i>	tumblegrass	N	P	G	Flats
<i>Silene antirrhina</i>	catchfly	N	A	F	Flats
<i>Spharalcea coccinea</i>	scarlet globemallow	N	P	F	Flats
<i>Triodanis leptocarpa</i>	slimpod venus' looking glass	N	A	F	Cores
<i>Triodanis perfoliata</i>	clasping venus' looking glass	N	A	F	Both
<i>Verbena bracteata</i>	prostrate vervain	N	P	F	Both
<i>Veronica peregrina</i>	neckweed (purslane speedwell)	N	A	F	Flats
<i>Vulpia octoflora</i>	sixweeks fescue	N	A	G	Both

<sup>1</sup>Origin: I= Introduced, N=Native; <sup>2</sup>Life span: A=Annual, P=Perennial; <sup>3</sup>Life Form: F=Forb, G=Graminoid/Grass

# **Establishment of Photo-Activated Localization Microscopy (PALM) for Imaging Signaling Complexes on the Surfaces of Cells**

Author: Bradley E. Iverson

Faculty Sponsor: Adam D. Hoppe

Department: Chemistry and Biochemistry

## **ABSTRACT**

Photoactivated Localization Microscopy (PALM) permits visualization of single molecules inside cells at ~10 times the resolution of existing optical microscopes. The 10-50 nanometer resolution afforded by PALM is ideally suited to studying the organization of receptor signal transduction occurring on the surfaces of cells. Initial efforts presented here focused on cells expressing Fc receptor fused to photoactivatable green fluorescent protein (paGFP). A small fraction of the paGFP molecules were photoactivated using a 405 nm laser pulse, resulting in single molecule spots that could then be imaged using 488 nm laser excitation until they photobleached. Both lasers illuminated the sample through the objective lens using Total Internal Reflection (TIR) excitation which allowed for selective imaging of molecules within about 200 nm of the cell/coverglass interface. Iterations of alternating laser excitations results in thousands of images of single molecules. These images were analyzed using the ImageJ plugin, QuickPALM, which performs a least squares fit of a two dimensional Gaussian to each diffraction-limited (~250 nm wide) fluorescent spot captured in the PALM images (Henriques). This process recovers the most probable position to within ~40 nm accuracy of each paGFP molecule. This information is used to create the super resolution image of the cell. Ongoing efforts are aimed at establishing two-color PALM to determine the distribution of signaling receptors relative to key sub-resolution regulators of signaling. A better understanding of the nanoscale

molecular activities within cells will allow for more in depth studies into many different fields including biophysics, molecular biology, and medicine.

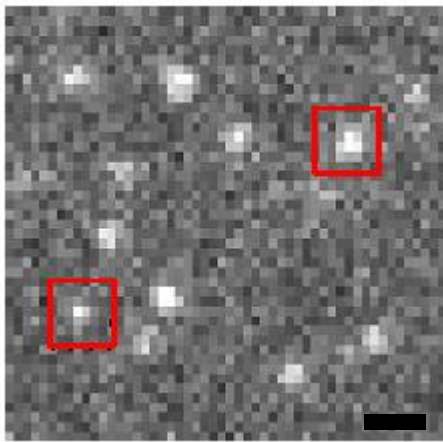
## INTRODUCTION

Photoactivated localization microscopy (PALM) was developed by Eric Betzig and Harald Hess to surpass the diffraction resolution limit of an optical microscope. The Rayleigh criteria defines the diffraction limit as:  $R=0.61\lambda/NA$  or  $\sim 200$  nm (Hess). PALM is capable of resolution on the order of tens of nanometers (Betzig). PALM utilizes photoactivatable proteins in order to sequentially localize single molecules with very high precision, and, ultimately, overcomes this limit. Detection of single fluorophores is achieved using two different lasers, the activation beam and the readout beam. The activation beam causes the photoactivatable fluorophores such as paGFP or pamCherry to convert from a dark state to a fluorescent state and the readout beam is used to generate the fluorescence needed for imaging and to bleach the activated molecules. The goal is to only activate one molecule in each diffraction limited area (or the area of the point spread function) (Henriques). We used the Fc- $\gamma$  Receptor (Fc $\gamma$ RIIA) fused to paGFP and the transferrin receptor fused to pamCherry to establish the PALM method in our lab.

## METHODS

In order to perform PALM, cells must first be transfected with plasmid DNA encoding a photoactivatable protein. The photoactivatable protein we first used was photoactivatable Green Fluorescent Protein (paGFP). We fused this protein to the Fc receptor and expressed it in Cos-7 cells. The second photoactivatable protein we used was pamCherry fused to transferrin receptor and expressed in Cos-7 cells. Once efficient transfection was achieved, and it was determined that the molecules were indeed photoactivatable after being fused the Fc receptor or transferrin receptor, it was necessary to fix the cells. The cells were fixed using chemical crosslinking in 4% paraformaldehyde for seven minutes. This was done in a dark room with a green light, so that the molecules would not be photo-activated prematurely. Once the sample was prepared, it was necessary to find a cell expressing the photoactivatable proteins. When searching for cells transfected with paGFP, it was discovered that the 488 nm laser activates some of the molecules. In order to image single

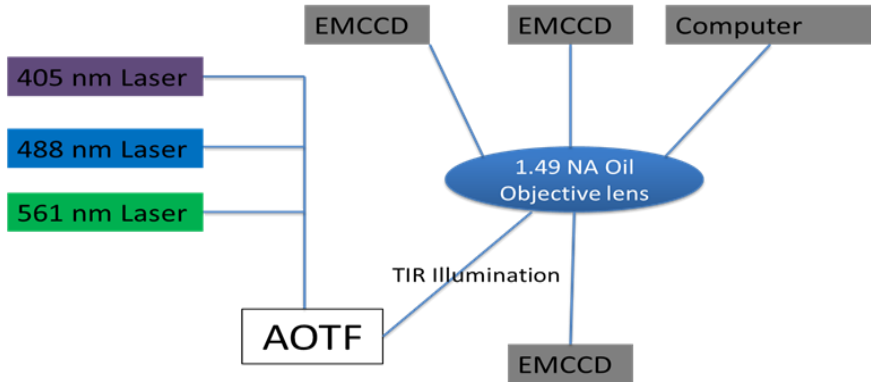
molecules, it was necessary to prebleach the sample with the readout laser. After the molecules that were activated were bleached away by the readout laser, we started to see single molecules being activated and subsequently bleached away. This step was not necessary for pamCherry. Once a cell had been found and any activated molecules bleached, the PALM acquisition could be made using cycles of activation with 405 nm excitation and imaging with either 490 nm excitation (paGFP) or 561nm excitation (pamCherry). An example of the single molecule signatures observed for mCherry are shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1** Raw PALM data for transferrin receptor-pamCherry. PALM was used to capture single transferrin receptors fused with pamCherry in the image. Two of these single molecules can be seen in the red boxes above. A least squares fit as a 2D Gaussian was used to localize the molecules, using the ImageJ plugin *QuickPALM*. The photoactivatable molecules were activated with a 405 nm laser and imaged with a 488 nm laser. Thousands of images must be taken so that enough of these single molecules can be localized to create a high resolution image. The high resolution allows for the study of the distribution of single molecules in a cell. The black scale bar is 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

The readout beam and activation beam were turned on alternately, in order to activate the molecules, image them, and then bleach them. In order to recover enough information to reconstruct a high resolution PALM image, around five to ten thousand images needed to be obtained. This is because the ideal image reconstruction would require complete sampling of the paGFP molecules. Furthermore, since the signal of a single molecule is

very low, it was necessary to use an Electron Multiplying Charge Couple Device (EMCCD) camera. While paGFP required full EM gain for optimal imaging, the pamCherry molecule was much brighter and did not require full EM-gain. Also the camera was set at  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$  in order to obtain the best signal-to-noise ratio and limit the dark noise. The microscope setup can be seen in **Figure 2**.



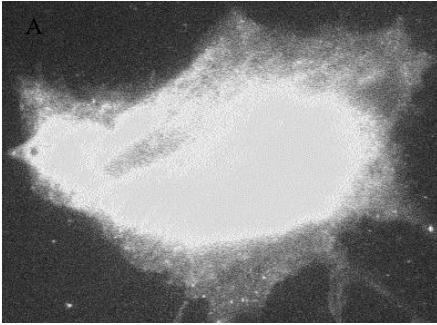
**Figure 2** Microscope Setup for PALM Imaging

The lasers used for the experiment are controlled by the AOTF. It is then possible to alternate lasers using the computer control with very fine precision and timing. The power output and exposure time for the lasers can all be controlled robotically. The entire system, made by Till Photonics, is controlled via computer.

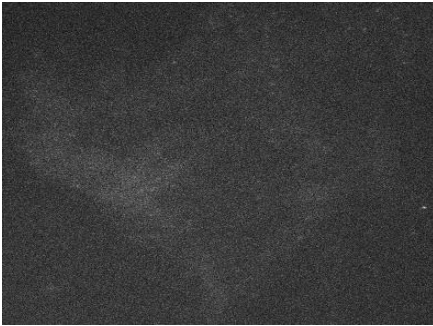
## RESULTS

The first thing observed from this research was the issue of imaging single molecules. Not only was it a challenge to image something as small as molecules, it was also a problem to turn on molecules one at a time. Optimization of these methods required that we determine how long each laser needed to be on, and at what power (**Figure 3**). When the activation beam was turned on for too long or there was too much laser power, too many molecules would be activated. When the laser was turned on for too little time or without enough power, an insufficient number of molecules would be activated. The time period and power of the readout laser required optimization as well. At high laser power and long

exposure time, the molecules would bleach too rapidly, but insufficient exposure time would result in excess signal and the image would become saturated with photoactivated molecules.



**Figure 3**

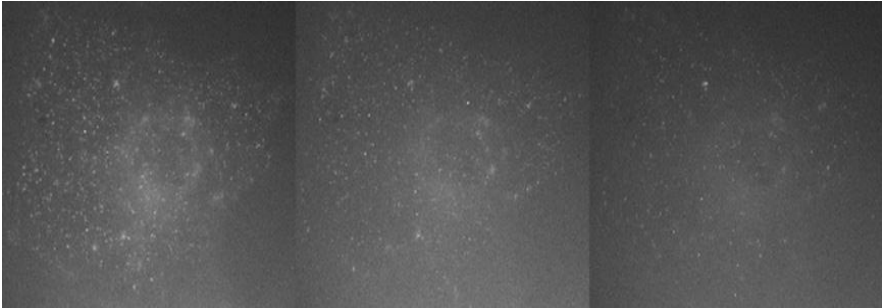


**Figure 4**

Laser power and exposure time must be optimized to activate and bleach the correct number of fluorophores during PALM. Determining the amount of exposure time and laser power to image single molecules proved to be a difficult task. Figure 3 shows an example of too much exposure time and laser power which would saturate the detector. Figure 4 shows not enough laser power and exposure time of the activation laser, which leads to low signal. The correct balance of laser power and exposure time of the readout laser was equally difficult to determine.

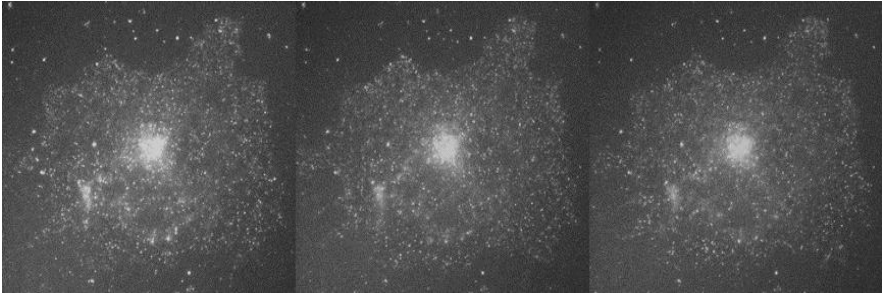
Many trials were performed in order to address the data collection issues. Eventually, the correct amount of laser power and exposure time for the different photoactivatable

molecules was determined. When the right amount of laser power and exposure time was determined, useful data started to be obtained. Single molecules were then able to be resolved. For the two different photoactivatable molecules used in the experiments, different settings for all aspects of microscope set up were required (**Figure 5 and Figure 6**).



**Figure 5 Raw PALM data for FcR-paGFP**

Isolated single molecule emissions can be observed as single spots in these images. The activation laser was on for 20 ms while the readout laser was on for 500 ms. The three images above are 50 cycles apart. These molecules were localized and used to reconstruct a PALM image of the cell. When taking PALM data, thousands of images like the ones above are captured in order to localize as many of the photactivatable molecules as possible. A problem with the paGFP was the contrast ratio, because the noise was close to the level of the signal. The poor contrast ratio of paGFP can be seen when comparing the fluorescence of single molecules compared to dim fluorescence from the inactivated molecules in the rest of the cell.

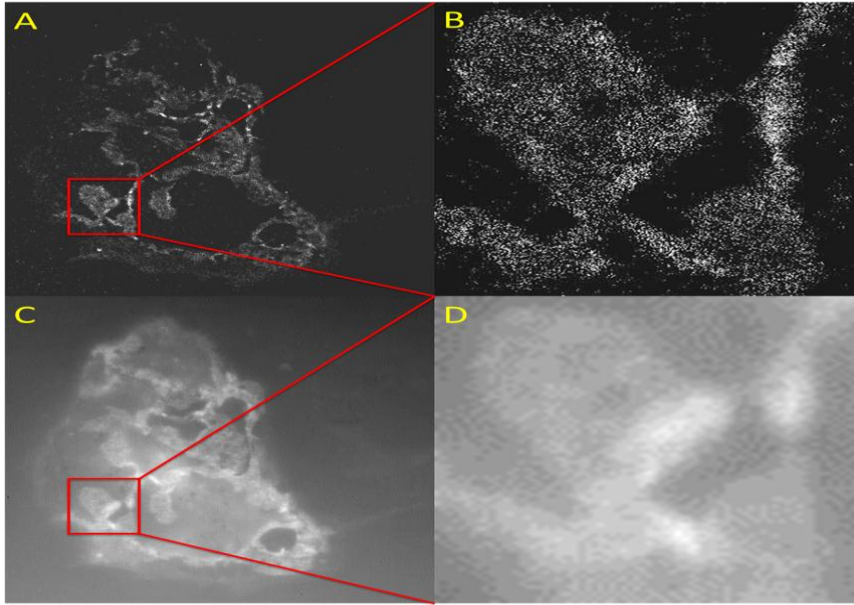


**Figure 6** Raw data for transferrin-pamCherry

The three images were selected from a 5000 image stack used to create a PALM image of this Cos 7 cell. The pamCherry molecule was much brighter than the paGFP, resulting in better contrast than for paGFP. The pamCherry molecules were activated easier than the paGFP using the 405 nm activation laser.

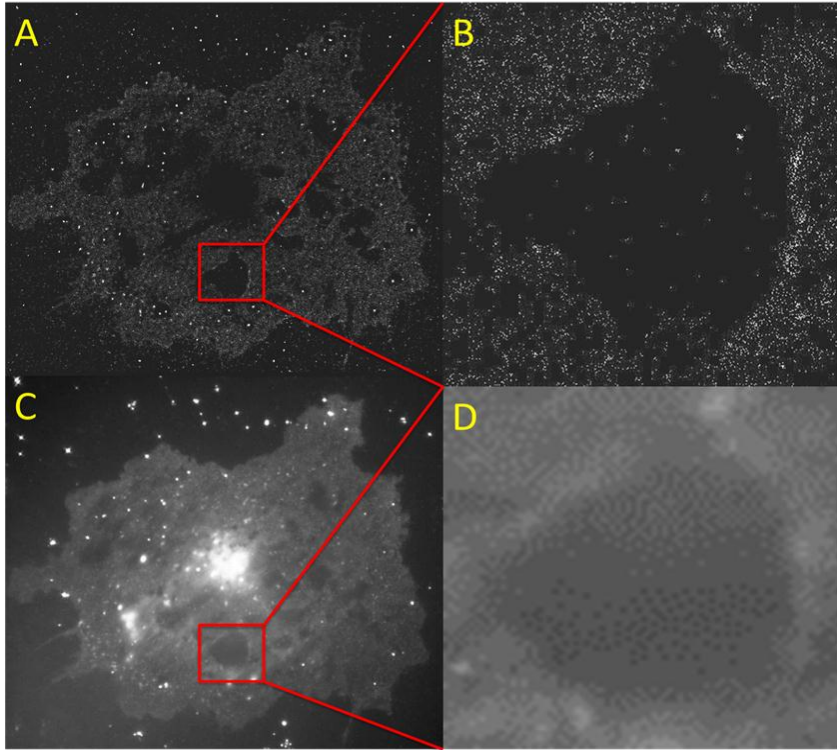
Once single molecules were captured, the data needed to be analyzed. An ImageJ plugin, QuickPALM, was implemented (Henriques). QuickPALM determines the most probable position of each molecule using a least squares fit of a two dimensional Gaussian of each fluorescent spot captured in the PALM image. This process then recovers the most probable position of each photoactivatable molecule. This information is used to create the super resolution image of the cell (**Figure 7 and Figure 8**).





**Figure 7 Reconstructed PALM images of FcR-paGFP**

**A** and **B** are reconstructed images using the ImageJ plugin, “QuickPalm.” **C** and **D** are the summed images of all of the raw data with no reconstruction, which is the TIRF equivalent image of the Cos-7 cell. The cell is expressing the FcR receptor fused to paGFP. Over 150,000 molecules were localized to acquire the reconstructed PALM image (**A**). **B** shows a zoomed in view of the PALM image compared to **D** which is the same section of the cell but the TIRF equivalent. The better resolution afforded by the PALM reconstruction is evident when comparing the magnified images.



**Figure 8 Reconstructed PALM Image, transferrin pamCherry**

**A** and **B** are reconstructed PALM images of a Cos-7 cell expressing the Transferrin receptor fused to pamCherry. Over 300,000 molecules were localized to obtain these images. **C** and **D** are the summed images of the raw data, which are equivalent to a TIRF image. **B** is a magnified section of **A** that can be compared to the magnified section **D** of the TIRF equivalent image. It is apparent that the resolution of the PALM image exceeds that of the TIRF-equivalent image.

The better resolution afforded by PALM is apparent when comparing the magnified images seen in **Figure 7** and **Figure 8**. A problem associated with imaging the pamCherry molecule was the rapidity of activation associated with using the 405 nm laser, on the timescale of 5 to 10 ms. Multiple molecules in a diffraction limited area (or point spread

function) caused problems in the process of image reconstruction. The goal is to only activate one molecule per diffraction limited area in order to most efficiently localize as many molecules per image as possible. Better localization precision yields greater final resolution. Significant gains were made in developing this method for imaging structures using PALM. From trial to trial, the resolution improved. More molecules were imaged and resolved using the technique and it continues to develop into a useful method for visualization.

## **DISCUSSION (AND/OR CONCLUSIONS)**

The groundwork has been laid for acquiring and analyzing PALM data in the lab. Some microscope settings still need adjustments but the outlook is good. We will need to investigate a well-characterized cellular structure, such as a clathrin coated pits in order to determine how much information can be obtained from sub-diffraction limit PALM imaging. Future goals include expanding this technique, utilizing the exponentially decaying evanescent field of total internal reflection fluorescence microscopy. With this characteristic excitation, we are hoping to utilize intensity measurements of single molecules to reconstruct three-dimensional super-resolution images. We are also hoping to establish two-color PALM to determine the distribution of signaling receptors relative to key subresolution regulators of signaling. It will be a challenge to find a balance in order to image both the paGFP molecules and the pamCherry molecules at the same time for two color PALM because of the differences in brightness and sensitivity for photoactivation between the two molecules.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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# **CARL ORFF'S *CARMINA BURANA*: A CONCEPTUAL AND ETHICAL ANALYSIS**

Author: Zachary Krueger

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Michael Walsh

Department: Music

## **ABSTRACT**

This paper addresses the moral and ethical implications of Carl Orff's masterpiece *Carmina Burana*. I begin with a brief introduction, framing the paper and providing some general background about the piece's importance. I then delve into discussions about the original writers of the *Carmina* text as well as some possible philosophical influence that these writers could have had on Orff. Next I present some information on Nazi Germany (in which Orff lived) including the philosophical basis of their cultural policy and some historical theories that explain the phenomenon of Nazi eugenics. I include a summary of my research regarding Orff's connection to the Nazi party as well as some historical information on Orff and the *Carmina*. A thematic plot analysis of the piece follows and then I conclude with some comments about the information as a whole. Throughout the study of all of the aspects I come to the conclusion that Orff's piece is layered with meaning, and is a fascinating study on the inner psyche of oppression and cynicism. The piece itself reflects many of the external factors acting upon it, but it stands on its own as a philosophical piece of art. Orff creates his own ethical system that is shaped around what appears to be a supremely hopeless worldview. I show the connections found in the piece to these external factors while examining Orff's own ideas.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Research usually consists of a person or group of persons investigating a singular phenomenon while weaving together threads of data to create the fabric of a new idea. The

research presented here does exactly the opposite, which is quite typical in the artistic world. Art is a science like none other. It speaks about the human soul so profoundly that even the artist himself cannot comprehend completely what is woven into his creation. Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* is a particularly pertinent example of this complexity. It has so many threads woven into its fabric that scholars, musicians, and concert-goers are still puzzling over its origins more than eighty years after its premiere. When researching something which has had a massive moral, philosophical, and cultural impact on the world as the *Carmina*, one cannot simply piece together scraps of information into a scholarly quilt. Instead one must hold a microscope over the many threads that hold it together and examine their very fibers. Composed amid the tumultuous years of the Nazi reign in Germany, the *Carmina* is a source of endless curiosity and skepticism (Orff himself was suspected of being a Nazi sympathizer or even party member). While there is no certainty about Orff's intentions in composing his masterpiece, I will attempt to break down its many parts and examine the factors and influences surrounding it to shed more light on what could possibly have been his mindset when writing this piece. What I am doing here is creating a patchwork quilt built from scraps; a quilt in which the finished project is not something brand new at all but instead is a collection of preexisting thought that creates a compelling whole.

You would be hard-pressed to find a piece of music or literature that has rocked, scandalized and delighted society like the *Carmina Burana*. Its blatant illusions to lust, drunkenness, love, and spiritual longing have enticed audiences for centuries. The libretto (text) for the work was written by many hands in many regions in 12<sup>th</sup> century Europe, giving birth to a widespread literary and philosophical revolution. The actual text of the manuscript for the *Carmina*, which contains more than 200 poems and verses which were compiled into a singular volume by Catholic monks, was stored away in the Bavarian monastery of Bueron and dropped out of history for several centuries. Carl Orff, inspired by the scandalous nature and beautiful cadence of the poems, brought them back to the forefront of creative thought when he chose it as the libretto for his 1948 stylistic cantata, thus bridging the artistic gap between the modern era and the breakthroughs of western literature in the Medieval Period. No other work has impacted the artistic world like the

*Carmina Burana*; it has tied together art and history as it weaves controversy into societies while at the same time revolutionizing art and creative thought.

## THE GOLIARDS AND THE ORIGINS OF THE TEXT

The origins of the *Carmina* are somewhat mysterious, as are the poets who composed them. The composers of the poems are a group of lyricists referred to as the “Goliards.” The name is derived from the Biblical story of David and the Philistine king Goliath. P.G. Walsh notes that the term “Goliath” originally came about through a debate between St. Bernard of Clairvaux and Peter of Abelard (a literary leader and philosopher of the time period). St. Bernard publically renounced Abelard’s literature and ideas, comparing them and their power over readers and listeners to the monstrous (and seemingly indestructible) figure of Goliath (a symbol for evil and oppression in the Old Testament). Abelard (who is believed to have possibly contributed some of his own verses to the *Carmina*) publically criticized St. Bernard’s Cistercian Order of monks, referred to as the “Gray Monks,” and created a series of satirical verses aimed at them. This style of tongue-in-cheek writing unexpectedly appealed to readers and inspired the creation of a sect of vagrant wanderers who traveled throughout Europe, spreading the new brand of satirical, romantic and moralizing literature, much like Abelard’s. The movement is often compared to the hippie movement of the 60’s, and they gladly took on the name and nefarious connotation of Goliards (p. xv). The most recognized feature of this group was their sophisticated renderings of Latin verse. It is easy to focus on the group’s offensive material, but further study reveals these crass writers as master satirists of the state of Medieval Era society and the decay of leadership in the Catholic Church and moral society in Europe as a whole in the thirteenth century (Classen, 2009). The movement and large bulk of work resulting from the group sowed controversy in Medieval Era society, as the writers became more and more outspoken about their secular themes in an apparent attempt to warp and evolve the sacred “high art” of poetry and music.

These works have been hailed and studied as literary master works, but Orff did not haphazardly choose this manuscript to draw text based solely on its reputation. Extensive

study of the meter and rhyme of many of the poems shows that these pieces were more than likely meant to be sung. The problem with deciphering twelfth century composition is that vocal parts were transcribed on separate manuscripts. Composers also relied on themselves and their companions' ability to memorize lyrics and melodies in order to perform and spread their works. These factors make it hard to tell if the text held in Munich today is all that was recorded or if there was in fact musical lines ever written for the texts (Stevens, 1961). Some of the pieces seem too complex and wordy to have been songs, while others actually have neumes (the ancient form of musical notation most associated with Gregorian chant music) scribbled in above the words. While some of the poems appear to have been written out with much care and thought, others have been hurriedly scribbled down as if from memory (Walsh, 1993). The scribbled characters and the lack of staves (musical staff on which musical notation rests) with the neumes (Stevens, 1961) combine to make performance of the original musical works near impossible.

## ANALYSIS OF GOLIARD PHILOSOPHY

A study of the history of the text helps us to better understand the depth of the *Carmina* as it combines groundbreaking literary history and music, but to better answer the question of the philosophy Orff presents in his work we must delve briefly into the philosophy of the original writers. To do this I will speak of the ideologies of two of the most infamous characters involved in the Goliard movement: Peter Abelard himself and the controversial Archpoet.

“‘And thereafter,’ said Abelard, ‘I made no new songs of the mysteries of philosophy, but of Love’s secrets only’” (Waddell, 1934). Abelard, a Medieval scholar, writer and clergy member, is a hinge character in the history of twelfth century Europe. His unorthodox ideas of theology and philosophy make him the concentration of much scholarship. His intellectual might trounced some of the greatest philosophical minds of the era and his public disputes drew attention to his ideas from the public (Shapiro, 1964). As evidenced in his statement above, Abelard formed many of his ideas around the framework of love; in fact one could say that he was obsessed with the concept of love and eventually with love’s distortion into lust. His stormy romance with a woman named Heloise could be a catalyst behind the transformation. Underlying his work one can get the sense that he is feverishly



trying to moralize sinful behavior; trying to shed his guilty conscious. The final consequence of this work was denouncement by the Church as heretic and “an injunction against any further teaching” (Shapiro). Even so, his body of writing seems to have inspired many of the scholars and writers who comprised the Goliards and appears to be a connecting thread between many of the verses in the *Carmina*..

Shapiro's book *Medieval Philosophy* concisely lays out Abelard's teachings on ethics and morality. Abelard proposes that sin is a natural consequence of the defect of the human mind; that we are weak and that God expects our sinful behavior. In fact our sin is the main conductor of grace into our lives. He then defines sin according to the intention of the sinner. “We punish facts rather than faults.” (Shapiro, 1964) Abelard wants to draw a line between the actions of a sin and the circumstances surrounding the action of the sin. To him, a true mortal sin (a sin that is committed with full knowledge of the wrongness of the action) is only present when the intentions of the act are based on ill will. God alone can decipher the intentions behind our actions. There is “no sin save that against conscience” (Shapiro). This philosophy is apparent in the shocking words of the Goliard manuscripts. The writers could “guiltlessly” engage their minds in scenarios of moral turpitude. The verses are able to speak so profoundly of the dark corners of the soul where lust and a multitude of other sins dwell, and it is the helpless, nearly manic, spirit of Abelard himself that is kept alive in the sense of helplessness that is written in between the lines of the poetry.

Now we proceed to our discussion of the Archpoet. Helen Waddell eloquently writes about the life and impact of the mysterious figure of the Archpoet in her book *The Wandering Scholars*. No actual name is associated with the alias Archpoet, though he did inherit the titles of Primas and Goliard as well. The Archpoet is said to have contributed a substantial body of work left behind by the Goliards; he is in fact considered the embodiment of the entire movement. It was his influence that infused a particularly irreverent and scathing brand of satire into their arsenal. He is believed to have been a poor wanderer who often sold scraps of his own clothing or to compose a few verses for a patron or storeowner in order to buy bread to eat. He is believed to have traveled through Europe, with the Plague nipping at his heels (Waddell).

His satire and irreverence added a new element to Abelard's relativistic moral teachings. The Archpoet, through his actions and words, encouraged dissent among the scholars. He set the bar for irreverence and intellectual rebellion in the twelfth century. There was no room for obedience to authority in the Archpoet's worldview, and though he is believed to have spent some of his life in a cloistered society of monks, he constantly attacked the authority of the Church and European high society. He championed satire as a choice weapon to combat the society and beliefs he didn't support. Intellect was a weapon to him and life was a means to receive pleasure (Waddell). Shades of the Archpoet can be found in the many drinking songs and distorted liturgical texts found in the *Carmina*. While Abelard believed in and feared God, the Archpoet revered the written word and scoffs at the idea of an omnipotent power. While Abelard showed bitterness towards Church leadership, he still has his roots in Catholic theology as a monk and teacher. In contrast the Archpoet is completely irreverent and shows outright contempt for organized religion, and this influence could be evidenced in the verses that directly parody ecclesiastical hymns. His mysterious character is glamorized by those who study him now, but when one reads his work, one can sense a quiet desperation oozing out of the phrases on the page.

## **ANALYSIS OF NAZISM AND SOCIALIST NATIONALISM PHILOSOPHY**

Since Carl Orff thrived under the Nazi regime, and is in fact suspected of being an outright supporter, it is necessary to also consider some of the philosophy that permeated German society during this period of time. Nazism (and Fascism for that matter) falls under the umbrella of Socialism. Nazism was also largely formulated around cultural politics. In fact Walter Benjamin wrote essays defining fascism during the days of its reign in Germany, describing it as "the situation of politics [rendered] aesthetic." (Bahr, 1995) Hitler's administration tended toward a socialistic form of nationalism to explain their tactics of "cleansing" Germany from perceived cultural blemishes. They used Germany's rich history of visual, musical and literary art as a means to justify their lofty vision of German nationalism. In order to shed a better light on the political philosophy of Nazism, we will take a look at two points of view: that of historian Ehrhard Bahr and popular modern philosopher and unapologetic Nazi sympathizer Martin Heidegger.

First we will address the philosophy of Heidegger as discussed in Julian Young's text *Heidegger Philosophy Nazism*. Heidegger was once considered a master of modern philosophy, but his support for the Nazi party has cast a skeptic shadow over all his work. He found fame in his meditations of the concept of *volk* (or people). This concept simply states that humanity is to be considered as one natural organism. This concept (taken quite literally) was a fundamental part of the philosophy of Nazism and took on a Darwinian hue. The organisms that were formed from a group of people were in constant competition, the stronger obviously pushing others into decline. The Third Reich policies were built around identifying and propelling the strongest "cells" into the forefront of society and eliminating the undesired "weaker" cells in order to strengthen the organism as a whole. Once the organism was at its peak strength it could begin to systematically absorb other frailer organisms (namely other European nations). (Young, 1998)

The concept of *volk* is appealing on many levels: spiritual, cultural, economic, and political. Heidegger claimed that since God's grand creation is nature and He dictates natural order, that the philosophy of *volk* is essentially driven by divine intervention. It is God's will that the powerful arise and the weak decline because that is how He created nature. (Young) In this light it is easy to see the natural ethical implications of Nazi policy.

How that policy was implemented through political means is a necessary piece in this discussion, a piece that is discussed with some depth by Ehrhard Bahr in a piece of his writing found in the book *National Socialist Cultural Policy*. Bahr describes Nazi cultural politics with two terms: intentionalism vs. functionalism. He opens his argument with a supremely relevant quote from writer Peter Reichels: Hitler understood aestheticization in real, though superficial, terms as 'beautification of life', as production of a pseudo-reality which was supposed to influence the perception as well as the image of reality of millions and concede to them visually and symbolically what was denied to them in reality (5).

Cultural policy was the vehicle that Hitler chose to achieve his ends of altering the reality of German citizens. The Nazi regime formulated a series of biomedical principles to legitimize their worldview, referring to these worldviews as "the German norm" (Bahr, 1995). "...Anything deviating from this norm was to be 'removed' like a cancer from the fictitious body of a German people..." (Bahr).

According to Bahr, the ideologies of intentionalism and functionalism are used by historians to put the tragedy of Nazi control on culture and the eventual extermination of many Jewish people and other unwanted sects of the German population into context. Intentionalists claim that Nazi policy was applied to the overall ideology of the party after 1933. Hitler is seen as the main perpetrator in this view. His centrality and influence directly lead to the phenomenon of “cultural cleansing” and the horrific events of the Holocaust. This is the traditional view adopted by many historians and political scholars. Functionalists see a different means to the same end. They see a logical progression from the beginning of the Nazi party and the early implementations of their policy to the destructive end. According to this view there are clearly racist and destructive overtones in the beginning stages of the party that blossomed into discriminatory policies and eventually to the notorious and brutal extermination of the concentration camps. This view looks at all the agencies and departments of the Nazi party as equal culprits in the eventual genocide and that these factors actually limited the role of a central member of the party. (Bahr)

This whole argument has drastic moral implications. Was the barbarism of the Nazi party based on the psychosis of one man or (even more alarming) the direct goal of a group of individuals working together to implement policies to usher in the death of millions of innocent lives? A general observation based on both Bahr and Heidegger's discussions is that there is a direct and distinct difference between the National Socialist worldview and that of the Goliards. Nationalist Socialism champions a singular leading body that upholds what is perceived to be a social/cultural norm or preference. The Goliards were founded around a spirit of resistance and relativism. They created their own set of ethical standards and resisted the policy of governing bodies. Nationalist Socialism worked to solidify individuals as a communal whole around a singular ideology (in the case of the Nazi party through propaganda and cultural policy). The Goliards aimed at fragmentation based on irreverence and intellectualism. Nationalist Socialism worked to limit creativity in art whereas the Goliards used art as their primary vehicle for advancing their views. Nationalist Socialism thrives on the ideas of the few and suffers when individuals search for deep personal meaning in their teachings. Goliardic teachings are brash, dabbling in relativism (individualistic meaning) that refuses to take in to consideration other points of view.

The apparent contradictions make these two philosophical bodies an unlikely pair of influences, but when he decided to create his *Carmina Burana*, Orff placed himself directly in between these two ideologies. This surely contributes to the controversy that shrouds the piece and the man. We must now move to an analysis of the character of Carl Orff and the actual text and music of the *Carmina*.

## CARL ORFF AND NAZI GERMANY

Carl Orff is a perplexing character in music and cultural history. He is the cause of much scholarly and ethical debate and his character is still scrutinized. Orff is considered a genius by some and a pioneer in music, education, and theory. By others he is known as a bigot, a Fascist anti-Semite whose continued popularity is a disgrace to Germany and survivors of the Holocaust.

Orff's place in musical history was cemented for revolutionizing the state of modern music education (especially for elementary-aged students) by introducing new instruments, teaching tools and strategies for instruction in music classrooms. He is often overlooked as a composer, but his work setting the *Carmina* to music for chorus and orchestra has reached legendary status (though many don't realize it was Orff who composed it). Though Orff is not now considered one of the most pivotal twentieth century composers now, he was wildly popular in Germany and other areas of Western Europe in the 1930's and 40's, and at the time his work was considered to be very important. Not much is known about his personal life during this time, which raises some suspicion about Orff's involvement in the Nazi party. While Orff championed himself as a heroic dissenter of the Nazi regime there is substantial evidence and personal accounts that suggest the opposite, including his widespread popularity among Nazi administrators and subsequent professional success during the Nazi reign (as well as Nazi party funding). He insisted that the *Carmina* was composed in direct opposition to the Third Reich and that he aimed to resurrect the rebellious nature of the Goliards by using their verses to undermine the oppressive government, but the fact that the work even existed, and in fact flourished, during the Nazi reign is damning evidence for the composer.

Barbara Russano Hanning describes the Nazi's policy on music in her text, *Concise History of Western Music*. "The Nazis' requirements for music were mostly expressed in

negatives: music must not be dissonant, atonal, twelve-tone, 'chaotic', intellectual, Jewish, jazz-influenced, or left wing, which excluded all modernist and most modern music." (Hanning, 2006). Basically the Nazi party allowed music that exuded the "national German pride", masculine music, music that could become the soundtrack to a flourishing world power, music that would evidence the superiority of the German race to the whole world, colorful music that would mask the hideous actions taking place off the radio and behind the scenes at the concert halls. Orff's piece seems to do anything but this. He draws on many Renaissance and modern techniques and dissonances. One could argue that the majority of the piece is in fact very "chaotic", but it did debut and receive substantial funding and airplay on Nazi-run radio programs (Kater, 2000). Michael Kater even writes that Hitler himself heard and liked the piece (2000). How did Orff dupe the entire Nazi administration, or is there in fact an undercurrent of Fascism found throughout the piece? In order to clarify this matter we must discuss the history of Orff's relationship with the Nazi party.

Writer and musical historian Michael H. Kater writes extensively about Carl Orff's affiliation with the Nazi party and how that relates to the *Carmina Burana*. Party officials investigating the piece pre-debut were initially put off by the pseudo-late-Renaissance style Orff preferred (as one of his primary influences was one of the Renaissance era's chief composers, the Italian Claudio Monteverdi), not to mention the nonconformist and explicitly sexual themes woven into the lyrics. The Nazi's bigoted view of sex and negative feelings towards free thinking artists clashed with the Goliardic ideology presented in the verses. Orff persisted through some serious scrutiny and subsequent trepidation at the hands of the Third Reich Propaganda Committee and further scrutiny from other high-seated officials. Not only were the lyrics called into question, but heavy use of text in Latin and Medieval French did not support the Socialist Nationalism that the party wanted to promote in German and Austrian art. Only a small portion of the songs are in German. Orff used influence from some friends within the party to see the piece through production and its premiere in Frankfurt in June 1937. The piece faltered at first due to continued skepticism and some unfavorable reviews, but experienced widespread success later that year (Kater).

Orff was acclaimed by the Nazi party after the success of the *Carmina* and worked on commissioned and noncommissioned pieces feverishly directly prior to and during World War Two, thus emerging as an apparently shining example of German patriotism and Socialist ideals (Kater, 2000). He even took part in one of the most frowned-upon projects in music history, a rewrite of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It was commissioned by the Third Reich Propaganda and High Art Committee in order to supersede Felix Mendelssohn's popular version, who incidentally was Jewish. Orff was lavished with awards, praised and funded through the Nazi government, and was able to compose in ways that were usually suppressed by administrators within the party including an oratorio that is thought to have mocked Hitler outright and other works that alluded to revolution against the ruling regime. After the war, Orff was blacklisted by the Allied forces as a possible Nazi sympathizer, but (likely with the help of friends and admirers in the investigation committee) was mysteriously acquitted of charges and suspicion overnight (Kater).



Figure 1 the Wheel of Fortune (*Athena Review*)

Orff's involvement with the party very well may have been a survival tactic, but the outcome of that ambiguity could shed a new light on his work. Some musicologists and historians have identified certain "Fascist qualities" within some of his work (Kater), i.e.

booming full-chorus movements throughout the *Carmina* (a common characteristic of compositions found in the propaganda supporting socialist nationalism's goal of a national unity). Regardless, Orff labeled himself a threat to the Nazi party; a resistor because of his belief in a European solidarity, which he states as the reason for the tutti (full-chorus) passages and multiple languages (Kater). Orff also asserts an ominous concept throughout the entire work: a person need not strive to take control of their own lives because some greater force has a tighter hold on one's fortunes. This concept is hard to interpret. This idea coupled with the optimistic sections of the piece could indicate ignorant bliss, which is a common characteristic of propaganda. This could also be reframed if it could be determined that this statement was directed towards the party leaders. To decide if Orff's piece is conformist propaganda or was written to reflect the philosophy of the Goliardic poets who acted as his librettists, one has to delve deeper into the rich content of the *Carmina*.

## ORFF'S CARMINA BURANA

Orff's *Carmina Burana* has been categorized as a scenic cantata. "A cantata (literally "sung", derived from the Italian word "cantare") is a vocal composition with an instrumental accompaniment, typically in several movements, often involving a choir." (Kennedy, 2006). Orff conceived the idea for the work after stumbling upon an illustration of the mystic "Wheel of Fortune" found on the *Carmina* manuscript, which is pictured here. The stage performance enacted this entire epic plot for the audience. To Orff, the action on stage was of equal importance with the music (hence the designation 'scenic' cantata). The staging transcends ballet choreography. It brings character to the sometimes disturbing sometimes alluring themes of Orff's piece. The music, movements, costumes and sets were all meticulously coordinated in order to present all of the themes vividly and colorfully. His work with different artistic mediums within the piece also accentuated his recurring theme of universality. (Being as most modern performances of the piece don't incorporate the staged portion the plot has for the most part been disregarded).

The text Orff chose to use in the piece reflects medieval peoples' fascination with pagan spiritual figures. A chief character in his piece is the pagan goddess Fortuna, whom he



refersto as the “Imperatrix Mundi.” Her image is found in depiction of the Wheel of Fortune, sitting in the center, controlling its movement. She embodies this concept of chance, which is favorable to man one minute and unfavorable the next. The widely-recognized first movement describes this ominous figure, acting as the driving, uncontrollable force in the lives of men. She spins the Wheel and carelessly chooses paths for them with no allegiances or tendencies towards good or evil (Sebesta, 1996). The movement is full of angst and desperation, the chorus feverishly proclaims their fear of the goddess and her precarious grasp on their lives. The whole work expresses a perceived helplessness of the human race, and one could claim that it also alludes to unification through it. The goddess Venus also makes an appearance towards the middle of the piece as a counterpart to Fortuna. There is reason to believe that the spring time section contrasts with the first movement in which Fortuna seems to be the ultimate influence in the lives of men. This new section is playful and carefree, depicting a heart racing out of control. Venus’s character seems softer, gentler, more alluring; the stuff of raw emotional impulse. Her control is more persuasive but more subtle throughout the piece.

The *Carmina* is divided into four sections with a reprise of the first movement at the end of the piece. All the movements personify different segments of the “Wheel”. Each section is drastically different, seemingly unconnected, but with Orff’s orchestration and some of the overarching themes that hover over the action of the text, the piece becomes an epic tale that speaks of love, loss, jubilation and desperation. Judith Lynn Sebesta’s translation of and notes based on the original text in her book *Carmina Burana: Cantiones Profanane* contributed greatly to my summarization of the plot below.

The first section consists of the first two movements, which assert the authority of Fortuna and cast a dark note on the rest of the piece. The text bemoans Fortuna’s fickle nature, declaring “To Fortunes blows I bare my back” (Sebesta). The music, always ominous and shaded with darkness, is fickle as well; one minute soft the next booming, in one section block chords stamp as if depicting many feet marching and in a later section the strings and brass break into frantic melismas (sections of many running notes). The second movement references Fortuna’s assertion over history when it ends with the line “On her wheel’s axle clearly; seen the message: Hecuba [the wife of Priam, King of Troy] WAS queen.” (Sebesta). Overall one is left quite unsettled after the first four minutes of the piece, feeling

as hopeless as the melancholic poet who first scratched out this text and the composer who must have agonized over the words as he scribbled out the notation to accompany them.

The second section, often referred to as the “Springtime Section”, contains a small but famous body of German poetry found in the original manuscript entitled “Auf Dem Anger”, translated “on the lawn” (Sebesta). The first minutes of the section are mystical, with barren orchestration and a simple full-chorus voicing. The text is magical, describing the movements of two more mythical figures, Flora (floral goddess) and Phoebus (the sun god) as they “embrace” and bid farewell to the bitterness of winter and welcome in spring. “Topsy Spring with beaming smile lifts and toast while defeated Winter limps off-field” (Sebesta). A similarly haunting baritone voice solo follows. The passage sounds like a set of lips morphing from a stagnant frown to a sly grin. “So men’s hearts awaken to Love reborn, As the baby archer [cupid] desires...My presence is not absent in your thoughts (Whoever loves in such a way is like one broke upon the wheel.)” (Sebesta). Even as the sweetness of spring begins to creep into the orchestration, one must never forget the threat of Fortuna’s cruel cranking of the wheel.

But forget one seemingly does. The next movement shocks with its joyfulness as the chorus explores the possibility of escaping from the jurisdiction of Fortune. Venus (the goddess of love) makes an appearance in this part of the piece as well as Paris (a prince of Troy). Paris was popular in the Goliard movement as his affair and marriage to Helen was the ultimate tale of love to the poets. These movements are characterized by their carefree melodies and singing string parts. The percussion and brass calm and the keys change from dark forceful minors into light airy majors. The chorus doesn’t seem to be shouting in desperation any longer but singing for joy instead. Happiness dominates the chords and lyrics. The response to Venus’ beckons results in eight movements that personify the beginning stages of love. There is a sense of innocence and naïveté as the chorus surveys the beautiful scenery. Attention quickly turns from the environment to their companions. The lyrics and accompaniment interact in a trifling manner towards the end of the “Auf Dem Anger” section. The eighth movement is shown in its original manuscript on page ten as an example of this uplifting section of the piece. You can see how Orff allows the parts to interact independently rather than utilizing the driving block chords that characterize the first two movements. “This *Carmen* [chapter or section] originally came from a Passion

play and was sung by Mary Magdalene, generally identified as the harlot who begged forgiveness from Jesus..." (Sebesta). Orff uses much softer dynamics and higher tessituras to show flirtatiousness, as if all the anxiety of the first few movements has dissipated. How dangerous the forgetfulness of a fickle people is.

This section reaches a climax, and Orff begins to subtly undermine Venus's governance with a shifting accompaniment, neither joyful nor sad in character. The ninth movement acts as a pivot point. The orchestration slows down the fast pace of the previous movements, but then the chorus enters and pushes the tempo once again to its original feverish pace. The overall character remains uplifting, but there is a sense of loss of control; the carefree nature of the music begins to dissipate; becoming a fog that is quickly being pushed away by a portentous breeze before a storm breaks. The last two movements exert the last shreds of carefree spring.

The eleventh movement launches the next section of the piece "In Taberna". Fortuna exposes her trick; the chorus has never been free of her wheel. She turns it mercilessly. One can almost hear the cracking of spines of the wheel, the agonized moans of her victims. Some of the most scandalous poetry is found in these movements, as well as some of the most infamous movements of the entire work. The eleventh movement is considered the Archpoet's most famous poem (Sebesta). It rages and shrieks. "Consumed with rage I yet compress my crescent anger; in discontent beyond redress I decline soul's deliverance." (Sebesta) This section encompasses four movements which culminate in a booming climax at the end of the fourteenth movement.

The next section comes as a relief from the agonized sighs of the soloists and chorus as the orchestra's smooth texture acts as the calming hand of Venus, brushing the ash off of the shoulders of the tortured souls described in the previous segment. She holds them in a comforting embrace throughout the fifteen lullaby-esque *Carmen*.

This section deals entirely with love, referring to the vast number of love songs included in the original *Carmina* manuscript. It is also the most intimate section. Movements fifteen through eighteen deal with the beginning stages of love, picking up where the "Auf Dem Anger" left off. Soloists serenade the audience, playing the role of young lovers exploring their feelings. The nineteenth movement pivots once again and love turns to lust. The

lovers find themselves in a secluded space and consummate their relationship. The twenty-first movement is a barren arrangement in which the soprano soloist fights an interior battle between modesty and "Love's subjection" declaring at the end of the movement "To that sweet slavery I go" (Sebesta). (Thus implying that she has cast aside purity in favor of her companions' lustful desire.)

The orchestra erupts in a warped version of the theme from the spring time section. What was once joyful is torturous. The beautiful flowers rot and thistles prick the skin of the lovers. There is no relief anymore as the heavy chords become barren once more and the soprano sings a stirring recitative (a musical device with barren accompaniment and melodic lines designed to sound like speaking) declaring "My sweetest love, I give myself to you" (Sebesta). The chorus enters once again with a hymn mocking the *Ave Maria*, which is the Latin text of the often-prayed Catholic prayer "Hail, Mary". However instead of Mary, they hail Helen of Troy (wife of Paris) and Blanzifor (heroine in a popular romance tale) (Sebesta), who are also two shining beacons of admiration for the Goliards. They sing the praises of Venus, who they believe has rewarded them for their submission to their impulse, but the orchestration becomes destructive once more as the smiling face of Venus morphs into the hideous countenance of Fortuna. Orff chose to end the piece with a reprise of the first movement, bringing the chorus full-circle (which may mean that they have been twisted around a full turn of the wheel). The ending is bleak; leaving the listener uncomfortable and disconcerted. This bareness sheds much light on Orff's emotions towards this piece, perhaps even towards life in general.

## CONCLUSIONS

Now that we have the scraps for our "quilt" I will endeavor to pull some threads through them in order to patch them together as a whole. We have seen the history of the Goliard poets and scholars, as they are the original authors of the text. We have briefly examined some moral/ethical philosophy and attitudes to come out of key members of that group. We looked at some of the ideologies that Nazism was founded upon through the eyes of scholars and modern German philosopher Martin Heidegger; we also examined Carl Orff and his relationship with the Nazi party. Finally we delved into the plot and moral overtones found in Orff's musical arrangement of the *Carmina Burana*. I cannot make a

conclusive statement about his intentions in writing the piece. As I mentioned before, art is beautiful in that each person who takes it in has a different impression. I have found that this piece is a fascinating study of the mind in an oppressed situation. The piece has so many layers, and we are missing one of its important aspects if we disregard the philosophy so beautifully woven into it. In light of this conclusion, I will now add a few comments in an attempt to thread these scraps together.

Abelard's influence actually sparked the intellection conflagration known as the Goliard movement. His moral teachings are woven into the texture of the poems, so he cannot be dismissed as an undercurrent anywhere that the text is found. Orff's piece is no exception. Abelard looked at the external factors working on humanity as a chief cause of sin. Orff's music speaks almost exclusively about the external factors on the human experience, actually suggesting the non-existence of free will altogether. Orff gives no credit whatsoever to the internal consciousness. His philosophy also aligns with Abelard in that there is a focus on helplessness without any focus at all on the implications of the actions the various characters.

Actually Orff's treatment of the text doesn't take in to account the moral situation of the characters at all. One could argue that the dark resolution of the music could imply the immoral nature of the actions spoken about in the text, though I believe the context refers more clearly to the overall dominance of Fortuna as well as reflecting Orff's own cynical view on life. It seems that he is preoccupied, almost to the point of paranoia, with the depth of negativity and the shallowness of positivity and optimism. This makes sense from the vantage point of a citizen living in a suppressive socialist country.

Orff also agrees with Abelard on the prevalence of love, but contradicts Abelard's views on its value. Love appears throughout the piece; in fact there is an entire section dedicated to it. It is so agreeable to the characters that it interrupts the drudgery of living under the rule of a dictating presence like Fortuna's. But Abelard's beliefs in a deep, fulfilling love contradicts Orff's implications. Orff's springtime section drips with honey-dipped new-found love, but the section proves shallow, artificial, a mask for Fortuna to don when playing her games. The final section claims that love is in fact a "slavery", and in the end the lovers seem to have received some kind of a spiritual lobotomy. The soprano's final solo depicts a character who submits to Fortuna's crank of the wheel in order to feel just a

bit of joy, even if it is only a delusion. Abelard defended love because he believed in its depth, that it was worthwhile. Orff mocks it and uses it as a vehicle for pain in his piece.

The poetry of the Archpoet is most definitely present in the piece. Many of the verses involving drinking and debauchery are more than likely influenced or directly written by him. The middle section deals almost exclusively with these concepts. The Archpoet is also credited with a substantial body of anger-soaked poetry, which is featured in the third section. The rage is originally directed at medieval authority, whether it be Church officials or aristocracy. Orff expresses that rage more than likely at chance's dominance. (After all this mood only appears once Fortuna enters back into the text after the Springtime section.) The listener can hear the frustration of a man who feels he's had all control taken away from him in the tortured, desperate chords in the middle of the piece. I believe, based on implications found in this piece that Orff identifies with the Archpoet more than any of the other characters influencing his work.

As for the driving force behind Nazi morality, the *volk* concept, there is little evidence of Orff's support of this concept in his piece from my point of view. His piece as a whole depicts humanity as a whole, not various organisms vying for power; in fact, the whole human race is powerless. The whole system of existence is too random, too hectic in Orff's world to accommodate this concept. Hitler has no power to "cleanse" any organism; in fact he is Fortuna's pawn. In Orff's world Fortuna is simply using Hitler to drag humanity on its face at the bottom of the wheel.

But one could ask the question: is Fortuna possibly a symbol for the Nazi party, and if so is it supporting it or opposing it? There is weight in that question. It is a question that is so hefty that no certain conclusion can be drawn here, only inferences made. In terms of intentionalism and functionalism, it is hard to apply either of these in a pure form to the circumstance of humanity according to Carl Orff. Fortuna's policy imposed on humanity is not an intentional one because it is not planned. It is random. Fortuna is apathetic in the truest meaning of the word. She has no set ends in mind; she spins her wheel for amusement alone. Functionalism also loses its relevance because there is no logical sequence of events here. Orff's transitions between movements and sections don't imply a logical shift. Orff shows his compositional genius here. The movements musically make sense. There is a general shift of mood that is unpredictable and interesting but the hectic,

scattered undertones remain intact. The wheel is arbitrary and Orff's music keeps this in mind. It is truly a game of chance. There is no connection between cause and effect, therefore functionalism is rendered ineffective.

So if Orff was using Fortuna as a symbol for the Third Reich, he would contradict historians about the method of policy implementation. But that leaves the question of Orff's attitude towards the Nazi party. If Orff supports the party it is surely by presenting the complete dominance of Fortuna. Why oppose the party? They have your fate in their all-powerful hands. They control your love. They even have the ability to take the dawn of spring time and make it dreary. Propaganda usually presents optimism, but Orff could have been ingeniously using pessimism as a manipulative tool. Any medium of hopefulness you may enlist towards resistance is a façade, so remain on the wheel and take any artificial comfort you are apportioned if you want to thrive. This could be seen in Orff's actions. He may not have agreed with the party but threw his support at it and took what he could get from it because he saw no light in the darkness. If he believed and supported the party from the start this piece could be a candid threat. The fact that he used modern techniques could just be Orff altering something that was considered anti-fascist and in fact making it material for a Nazi anthem.

That is one stance an informed listener could take. Orff could also be using symbolism to expose the evil of the party. Fortuna is viewed as something to be feared, but she has no concept of organization. She is playing with others like toys. This could be a blanket statement about Nazi policy. They are bending the lives of the German people for enjoyment. They are hungry with power but have no idea how to use it. Fortuna could even represent Hitler and the wheel the party, as if to say that politics is the tool with which Hitler is using as a torture device. Maybe through presenting love as an artificial thing Orff is exposing Nazi propaganda as a fake consolation. Don't take their offerings. They are not made out of love. In the end one cannot prosper under this administration.

It is intriguing study to analyze this material in light of some of the findings presented in this discussion, but a definite conclusion cannot be drawn here, thus the metaphor of the patchwork quilt. Such is the beauty of art. Ultimately we can conclude that Orff presents a bleak view in his piece, which undoubtedly reflected his environment. Only Orff can honestly answer the question of whether his masterpiece supported or resisted the Nazi

party, and since his actions and words are so non-committal, there is no clearly recorded answer to this question. In the end this piece is a master work that spans many fields. Not only is it creatively effective, but its moral and philosophical implications leave the listener puzzling, which makes Orff's *Carmina Burana* a modern triumph that is destined to stand the test of time by entertaining and posing the same questions discussed throughout this dialogue.





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# **Translation of Vibration From a Vibrational Plate to the Human Body**

Author: Lars Mattison

Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Shawn Duan, Dr. Teresa Binkley

Departments: Mechanical Engineering, Ethel Austin Martin  
Program in Human Nutrition

## **Abstract**

This study was done to validate the results of our previous study [1] as well as analyze how the Soloflex Whole Body Vibration Platform translates vibration to the human body. The purpose of causing vibration within the human body is to increase bone density, possibly by activating osteoblasts within the bone. When the body is subjected to stress, it adapts as quickly as possible to counteract this stress. There is evidence that vibration caused by low magnitude mechanical signals (LMMS) increases bone in children with disabling conditions [2] and young women (15-20 years) with low bone mineral density [3]. Our results show that Soloflex dial settings of 0.8g or greater produce frequencies as expected by the manufacturer. Lower dial settings produce frequencies that are higher than expected values. The results obtained showed that vibration at the foot had no linear association with increased acceleration ( $R = 0.56$ ,  $p = 0.20$ ), but vibration frequencies increased with increased acceleration at the hip ( $R = 0.86$ ,  $p = 0.01$ ). The mean frequencies measured over the range of accelerations (0.3-1.1g) were not different between the foot and the hip ( $56 \pm 5$  vs.  $52 \pm 12$  Hz,  $p = 0.45$ ; mean  $\pm$  SD; respectively). Mean frequencies measured at the four different locations on the plate over the range of accelerations (0.3 – 1.1g) were not different when tested by Tukey's HSD test.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The goal of this project is to help provide evidence of the performance of a LMMS vibrational plate for future studies that may increase the bone density of children. The

premise of the future project is that the human body rapidly adapts to conditions that it is subjected to. One such example would be that a person who lives at altitude is expected to have a higher red blood cell count due to the increased need to deliver oxygen to the tissues in the body. This project investigates the effects of subjecting a test subject to a continuously alternating load, such as vibration. The future purpose of this work is to look at increasing the bone density in youth by creating a regimen that involves them standing on the plate for a specified amount of time each day. Before this test can begin, background information must be understood. Zachary Croatt and Josh Roberts started this investigation in a previous study [1]. This next portion of the study was done as a continuation of the first project by reexamining the observed vibrational frequency at the same four points on the plate and continuing on to analyze how vibrations from the plate translate to the human body. It is important to test this using the Soloflex Whole Body Vibration Platform because is a commercial grade plate. Knowing how the vibration of the plate translates up the leg can be applied to additional research looking at the effects of how to increase bone density with this device, which is more affordable than a research grade plate, or possibly even redesigning this device to provide better performance.

## **PROCEDURE**

The equipment used included a vibrational platform, accelerometer, signal conditioner, and oscilloscope. The equipment was used to determine the observed frequency at several different points on the unloaded platform and two points on the human body.

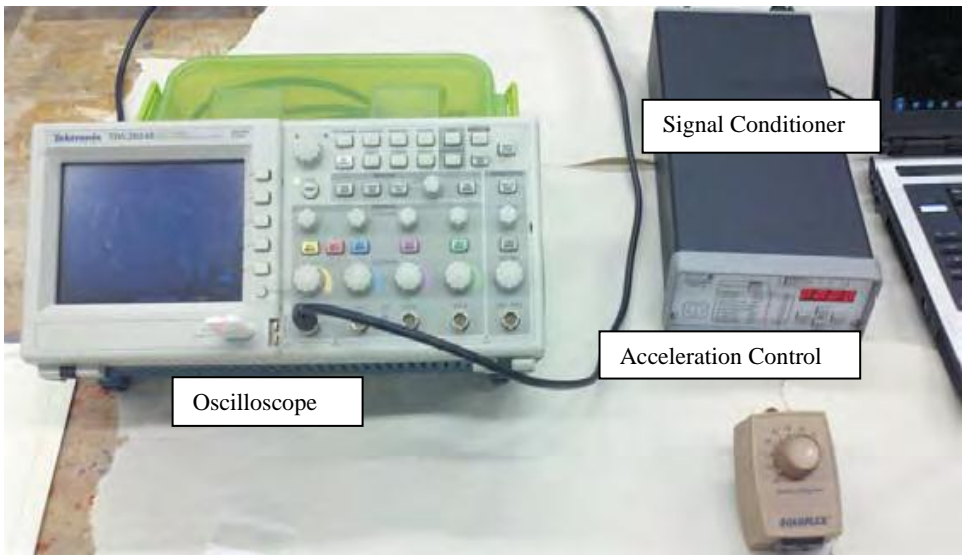
### **Equipment Used**

The most important equipment that is used in this experiment is the vibrational platform itself. Since this is the device being analyzed, it is important to understand the background information on the platform. It is manufactured by Soloflex (Hillsboro, OR) to be used as a supplement to workouts by challenging the muscles while they are being used as well as to strengthen bones. It stimulates the muscles by causing them to rapidly lengthen and contract thus strengthening them. This continued load on the bone causes them to work to increase their strength possibly by activating osteoblast. The equipment that will be used for analysis is an accelerometer to record the acceleration that is observed on the board, a signal conditioner that will be used to clean and amplify the output and an oscilloscope to

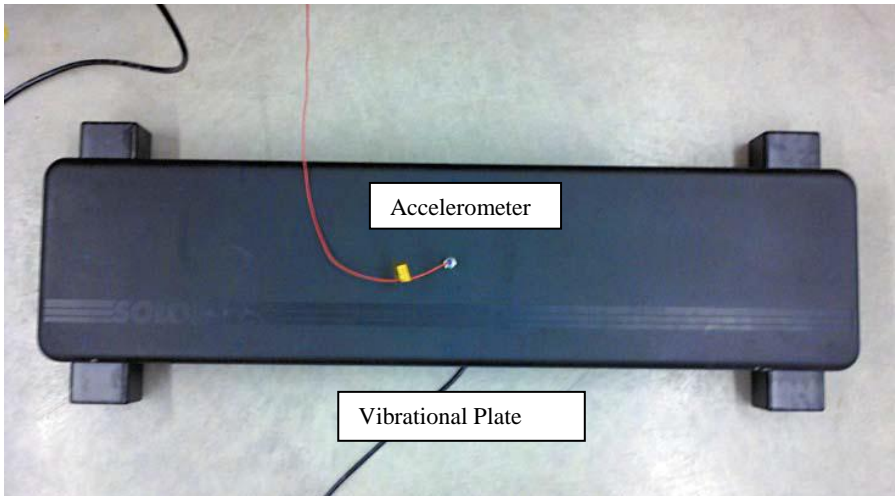
visualize the output created by the accelerometer. A complete list of information about the equipment used can be seen in Table 1 with a picture of the materials seen in Figures 1 and 2.

**Table 1: Equipment Used for Project**

Equipment Type	Brand	Model #	Serial #
Soloflex Whole Body Vibrational Platform	Soloflex	n/a	n/a
Signal Conditioner	Endevco	133	CB71
Four Channel Digital Storage Oscilloscope	Tektronics	TDS 2024B	C03312



**Figure 1: Oscilloscope, Signal Conditioner, and Control Used in Experiment**



**Figure 2: Whole Body Vibrational Plate and Accelerometer**

## Methods

To complete the analysis required by this project, a simple protocol was established. The acceleration would be observed at 4 points on the plate, which was attached to a large mass, but not loaded to reexamine how the plate performs compared to its expected parameters. Next, vibration would be analyzed at two points on the human body: the foot on the shoelaces and the hip on the belt. For this analysis the test subject was a 78 kg male with a hip height of 104 cm. The four points chosen for the analysis were D (left far), E (left middle), G (center far), and H (center middle). They were chosen because it was assumed that across each axis of symmetry of the plate the frequency would be the same. Thus, D, F, J, and L all have the same vibrational frequency. This would also be true for E and K as well as G and I. The points along the edge were excluded from analysis, as it was not expected that patients would use this area of the board very much.

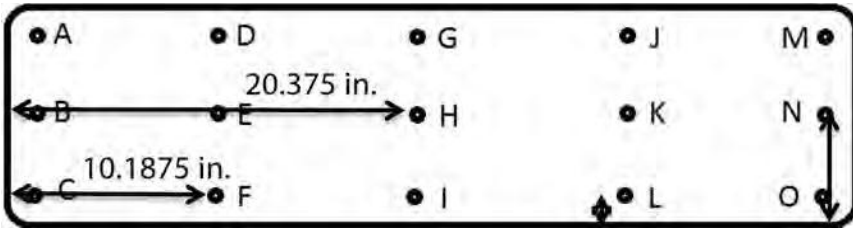


Figure 3: Location of Analysis Points

Statistical analyses were completed using JMP 10 software (SAS Institute Inc.). Mean frequencies measured from the plate for each dial reading (0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, and 1.1 g) were tested for difference from manufacturer’s expected frequency values and for difference from each other. Tukey’s HSD (honestly significant difference) test was used in conjunction with ANOVA to test the difference in the means of each dial reading level and each location. Regression analyses were used to test for associations between dial settings and measurements from the test subject for the foot and hip locations.

## Results

Sample output from the accelerometer can be seen in Figure 4.

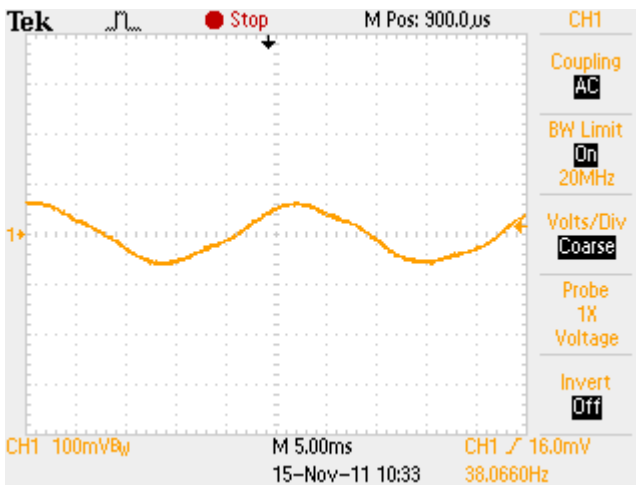


Figure 4: Sample Oscilloscope Output

Analysis from the accelerometer data was slightly more difficult given the fact that a large amount of noise is induced due to the nature of the setup. Using the available functions on



the oscilloscope, it was possible to limit the noise and obtain output that allowed the frequency to be calculated. Table 2 shows the observed frequency readings measured in Hertz (Hz) for each dial level setting level in units of Earth's acceleration or g's. Figure 5 shows these data graphically. Our results show that Soloflex dial settings of 0.8g or greater produce frequencies as expected by the manufacturer (Table 3). Lower dial settings produce frequencies that are higher than expected values. The dial reading of 0.3 g was lower than that of 1.0 and 1.1 g, but not different from other dial readings (Table 3).

The results obtained showed that vibration at the foot had no linear association with increased acceleration ( $R = 0.56$ ,  $p = 0.20$ ), but vibration frequencies increased with increased acceleration at the hip ( $R = 0.86$ ,  $p = 0.01$ ; data not shown). The mean frequencies measured over the range of accelerations (0.3-1.1g) were not different between the foot and the hip ( $56 \pm 5$  vs.  $52 \pm 12$  Hz,  $p = 0.45$ ; mean  $\pm$  SD; respectively). Mean frequencies measured at the four different locations on the plate over the range of accelerations (0.3 – 1.1g) were not different when tested by Tukey's HSD test. There were no differences in the means of the readings from the different locations. It should be noted that the standard deviations at 1.0 and 1.1g (Table 3) are almost two-fold those at the lower dial settings. This could be due to the inconsistent output of the vibrational plate, which doesn't do a very good job of controlling its output frequency. An improved design could help to eliminate this problem

**Table 2: Observed Data**

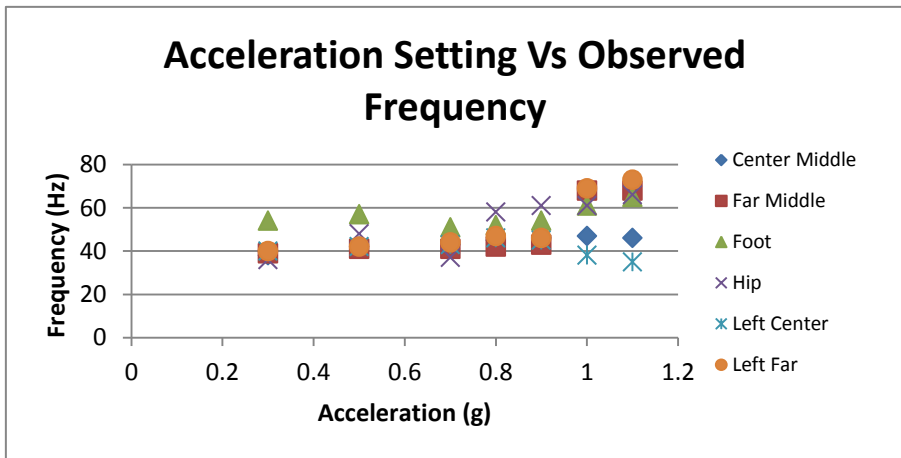
. Dial Setting	0.3 g	0.5 g	0.7 g	0.8 g	0.9 g	1 g	1.1 g
Center Middle (Hz)	38	42	43	45	46	47	46
Far Middle (Hz)	39	41	41	42	43	68	68
Left Center (Hz)	40	42	43	46	45	38	35
Left Far (Hz)	40	42	44	47	46	69	73
Foot (Hz)	54	57	51	52	54	61	65
Hip (Hz)	36	48	37	58	61	61	66

**Table 3: Expected values, means (SD), and mean comparisons.**

**Expected value is per manufacturer. Mean is from observed values. P-value is from test of mean different from expected. Tukey HSD mean comparison levels not connected by same letter are significantly different.**

Dial Reading (g)	Expected Value (Hz)	Mean (SD) (Hz)	p-value	Tukey Mean Comparison
0.3	28	41 (6)	<0.01	A
0.5	30	45 (6)	<0.01	A B
0.7	35	43 (5)	<0.01	A B
0.8	45	48 (6)	NS	A B
0.9	50	49 (7)	NS	A B
1.0	55	57 (12)	NS	B
1.1	60	59 (15)	NS	B

Figure 5: Graphical Results



## Conclusion

This study provided very interesting results including results that were consistent with our previous work. A wide range of frequencies were observed at different points on the plate, but there were no statistical differences found. We would suggest using dial settings of 0.8 g or greater in future research with the Soloflex, since these settings produce the expected values. The feet on the whole body vibrational plate stayed at a relatively constant vibrational frequency regardless of what the plate was set as we found no association between the dial setting and the frequency readings at the foot. On the contrary, the frequency measured at the hip increased with increasing dial settings. The next step of this project will be to create a better dial with better control over the frequencies that are imparted into the human subject.

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# **Hydraulic Test Bench Circuit Construction, Testing, and Analysis**

Authors: Shane Michelson, Mitch Mueller, Brett Schurman

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Shawn Duan

Department: Mechanical Engineering

## **ABSTRACT**

Hydraulic power control systems are a common and important part of mechanical and agricultural systems. In hydraulic power system design, power, pressure, flow rates, and mechanism of circuitry are all important factors when analyzing any hydraulic system. Pumps, electric motors, reservoirs, working fluid properties, hydraulic circuitry, and a large variety of valves make up a functional hydraulic system. Applications for hydraulic systems vary widely from automotive, agricultural, mechanical etc. It is the engineers' job to design a hydraulic system that will be functional, efficient, and safe.

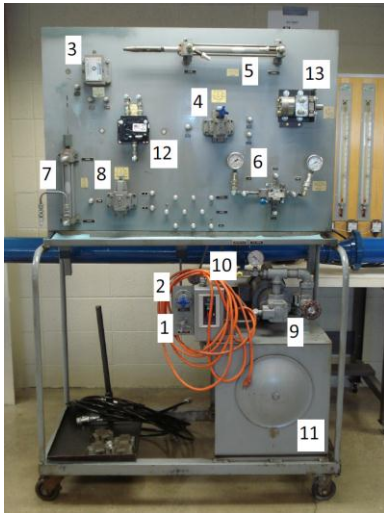
## **INTRODUCTION**

This SDSU undergraduate research project consisted of circuit analysis using a Hydraulic Test Bench which contained a pump and variety of valves. By using different circuits and pressure gauges our research group was able to analyze the effects of pressure reducing valves, directional control valves, load testing, hydraulic motors, and sequence valves. This research was done to test the hydraulic bench capabilities and model a potential hydraulics laboratory class for mechanical engineering undergraduates at SDSU. In order to analyze the capabilities of the hydraulic test bench, it was necessary to research hydraulic circuit diagrams and construct a circuit for each valve to be tested. Once the hydraulic circuits were constructed the system was run at two different system pressures of 200psia and 400psia. Various qualitative behavioral data and quantitative data of each circuit were recorded. Continued research will implement servomechanism controls to the

closed loop hydraulic system followed by testing and analysis. A hydraulic motor was selected based on the pump specifications and capabilities to be installed on the bench for further circuit analysis.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Hydraulic Test Bench was donated by SDSU mechanical engineering alumni. Figure 1 and table 1, below provide a system schematic for the mentioned test bench. The first step in the project was to identify each valve component attached to the bench. After recording pump and motor specifications, the hydraulic circuits for the various valves were created and tested. Pressure gauges were used to record the system pressures during various operating conditions.



**Figure 1: Hydraulic Test Bench Components**

**Table 1: Bench Components**

Part Number	Part Description
1	Bypass Valve
2	System PSI Regulator
3	Directional Control Valve
4	Sequence Valve

5	Horizontal Cylinder
6	Directional Control Valve
7	Vertical Cylinder
8	Pressure-Reducing Valve
9	Pump
10	Electrical Motor
11	Reservoir
12	Flow Rate Control Valve
13	Hydraulic Motor
	Hose $\times 3 \times 40''$
	Hose $\times 6 \times 52''$
	Hose $\times 1 \times 76''$

## RESULTS

### Directional Control Circuit

The Directional Control Circuit Part 6 as shown in Figure 2, implemented the use of a directional control valve. This circuit also included the horizontal extendable cylinder. The directional control valve contains two ports in which the hydraulic fluid is outputted. When the fluid was directed to port A the cylinder extended and when directed to Port B, the cylinder retracted. The running pressures were then recorded for both ports A and B, along with the final static state pressures. The process was performed at a system pressure of 200 and 400 psi. The data collected can be seen below in Table 2.

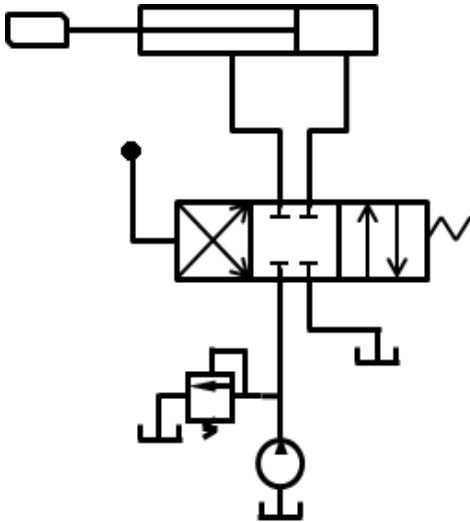


Figure 2: Directional Control Circuit Diagram

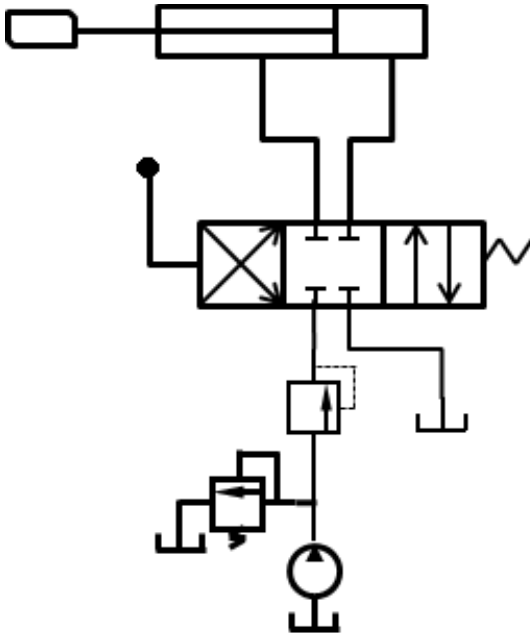
Table 2: Directional Control Circuit

Cylinder Position	Pressures			
	Pump Input	System	Port A	Port B
Static Retracted	neg 0.19 Bar	200 PSI	20 PSI	205 PSI
Extending	neg 0.19 Bar	110 PSI	75 PSI	30 PSI
Static Fully Extended	neg 0.19 Bar	200 PSI	200 PSI	20 PSI
Static Retracted	neg 0.19 Bar	400 PSI	20 PSI	405 PSI
Extending	neg 0.19 Bar	175 PSI	90 PSI	30 PSI
Static Fully Extended	neg 0.19 Bar	400 PSI	400 PSI	20 PSI

### Pressure Control Circuit

The Pressure Control Circuit was implemented using pressure-reducing valve 8 which was outputted to the directional control valve then to the horizontal cylinder. The pressure reducing valve lowered the pressure input to the directional control valve and operational

pressure of the cylinder. When fully extended or retracted the operational pressure was equal to the system pressure. The reduced pressure due to the reducing valve was only present during expansion or retraction of the cylinder. The process was performed at a system pressure of 200 and 400 psi. The data obtained at various pressures and cylinder positions can be seen below in Table 3.



**Figure 3: Pressure Control Circuit Diagram**

**Table 3: Pressure Control Circuit**

Cylinder Position	Pressures			
	Pump Input	System	Port A	Port B
Static Retracted	neg 0.19 Bar	200 PSI	20 PSI	200 PSI



Extending	neg 0.19 Bar	140 PSI	55 PSI	20 PSI
Static Fully Extended	neg 0.19 Bar	200 PSI	200 PSI	20 PSI
Static Retracted	neg 0.19 Bar	400 PSI	20 PSI	400 PSI
Extending	neg 0.19 Bar	190 PSI	75 PSI	30 PSI
Static Fully Extended	neg 0.19 Bar	400 PSI	400 PSI	20 PSI

### Load Testing Circuit

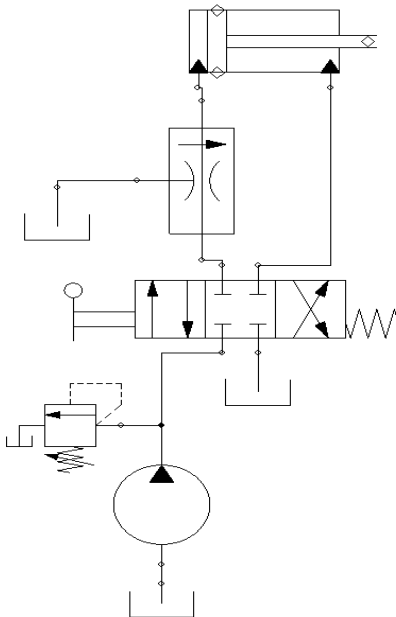
Using the Directional Control Valve and the extendable vertical cylinder 7, it was possible to study the effects of loading on the system. A five pound mount to hold incremental weights was fabricated and placed onto the vertical cylinder. Taking into account the mount, 55 and 105 pound loads were raised and lowered at a system pressure of 200psi. Using the pressure gauges, the operational pressures were recorded illustrating the effects of the loading on the system. As expected by increasing the loading, the pressure required to extend the cylinder increased and the pressure required to lower the cylinder decreased. The operational pressure increased from 110psia to 140psi when loading the cylinder with 105lbs. The decrease in the required retracting pressure is due to the force of the loading acting in the direction cylinder movement. The recorded pressure with respective loadings can be seen below in Table 4.

**Table 4: Load Testing Data**

Vertical Cylinder Load Testing		
Weight	Raising pressure	Lowering pressure
105 lbs	140 PSI	110 PSI
weight holder		5 lbs
weights		2 x 50 lbs

### Flow Rate Control Circuit

The circuit shown in figure 5 implemented a flow rate control circuit using flow rate control valve 12. Using a flow meter following the valve it is possible to measure the flow rate of the fluid. If a flow meter is unavailable it is also possible to measure flow rate by timing the extension and retraction of a hydraulic cylinder following the flow control valve, by taking the velocity of the fluid and the area of the cylinder. An example of this calculation can be found in the Fluid Mechanics Analysis section. The results of the flow control valve circuit are presented in table 4.



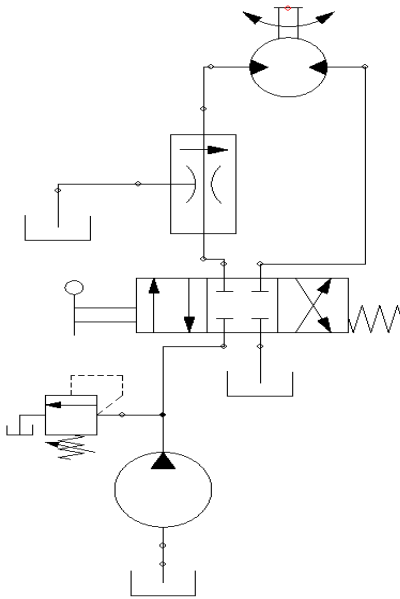
**Figure 4: Flow Control Circuit**

**Table 5: Flow Rate Control Valve Data**

Fully Open Flow Control Valve		
System Pressure (psi)	300	400
Metered Flow Rate ( $in^3/s$ )	5.56	5.56
Half Open Flow Control Valve		
System Pressure (psi)	300	400
Metered Flow Rate ( $in^3/s$ )	4.23	4.28

## Hydraulic Motor

Using the flow rates and systems pressures from the previous circuit test, a hydraulic motor was tested for functionality. Due to a low powered pump and flow rates, the rotational output of the motor is low. It was concluded the rotating output shaft of the motor could easily be used as another flow meter device. The circuit diagram is show below followed by the data collected. As expected with higher system pressure, higher rotational speeds are achieved by the output shaft. As pressure is increased more force acts on the impeller of the hydraulic motor causing increased output speeds if under no load.



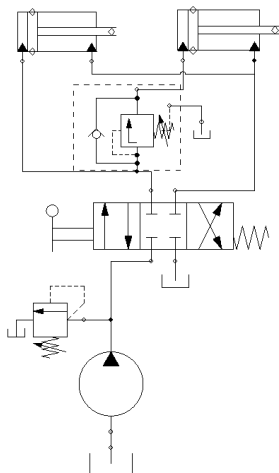
**Figure 5: Hydraulic Motor Circuit**

**Table 6: Hydraulic Motor Data**

Fully Open Flow Control Valve		
System Pressure (psi)	300	400
Metered Flow Rate ( $in^3/s$ )	5.56	5.56
Motor Rotational Speed (rpm)	32	45
Half Open Flow Control Valve		
System Pressure (psi)	300	400
Metered Flow Rate ( $in^3/s$ )	4.23	4.28
Motor Rotational Speed (rpm)	30	41

### Sequence Valve Circuit

This implemented to output devices, a directional control valve, and a sequencing valve. The outputs were the hydraulic cylinders and the test was performed at five different system pressures tested when the vale was fully open and fully closed. The flow rate entering the sequencing valve was recorded along with the metered flow rate calculated from the cylinders. The circuit diagram for this test is shown in figure 6. When running, the second cylinder following the sequencing valve extends. Once fully extended, the pressure increases and the sequence valve would actuate and direct flow to the other cylinder at the metered flow rate. The sequence valve vents the rest of the flow back to the tank through the drain port. The data for the sequence valve are presented in table 7.



**Figure 6: Sequencing Control Circuit**

**Table 7: Sequencing Valve Control Circuit Data**

Fully Open Valve					
System Pressure (psi)	100	200	300	400	500
Flow Rate Entering Valve ( $in^3/s$ )	3.44	5.06	5.17	5.32	5.68
Metered Flow Rate ( $in^3/s$ )	1.42	2.82	3.8	4.08	4.5
Fully Closed Valve					
System Pressure (psi)	100	200	300	400	500
Flow Rate Entering Valve ( $in^3/s$ )	3.37	5.21	5.58	5.62	5.65
Metered Flow Rate ( $in^3/s$ )	2.05	3.42	4.77	5.48	5.54

## Fluid Mechanics Analysis

The flow rate  $Q$  of the hydraulic fluid was calculated by measuring the time taken for the horizontal cylinder to expand and retract. Using this time, travel distance and the geometric sizes of the cylinder, the flow rate equation was obtained:

$$Q = vA \quad (1)$$

Where  $V$  is speed of the cylinder and  $A$  is effective area of the cylinder piston. At 200 psia system pressure:  $Q=5.05 \text{ in}^3/s$ . At 400 psia system pressure:  $Q=5.44 \text{ in}^3/s$ . As expected, running the directional control valve circuit at higher system pressure resulted in higher flow rates.

Force  $F$  was calculated by the following equation:

$$F = pA \quad (2)$$

where  $p$  is equal to the operating pressure of supply port and  $A$  is same as in equation (1).

## CONCLUSION

By constructing and testing circuits that implemented the use of each valve and cylinders on the hydraulic test bench, it was concluded that the bench is 100 percent functional. Following the procedures used in analyzing the hydraulic circuits completed in this research would provide a valuable hydraulic lab course structure for the SDSU mechanical

engineering students. The bench proves to be a useful tool in illustrating the functionality of sequence, pressure reducing, and directional control valves. The effects of different system pressures and resulting operational pressures were recorded successfully for the various circuits. By analyzing the fluid mechanics provided by the hydraulic pump students can apply hydraulic power and fluid analysis theoretically and validate experimentally with the test bench. Our research group believes the implementation of high accuracy flow meters to verify calculations would add significantly to the lab course. A servo control system would also greatly enhance the research and lab capabilities of the bench.

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# Shoot Morphology of Eleven Alfalfa Populations

Author: Jessica A. Schmuck

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lan Xu

Department: Natural Resources Management

## ABSTRACT

Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) is a major component of feed for dairy and beef cattle and one of the most productive forage species in North America. Alfalfa has been planted on millions of acres. More than 100 varieties have been developed in North America over the past 100 years. However, historically, alfalfa persistence under grazing in semiarid rangeland has generally been poor. Recently, it was discovered that naturally-selected populations of predominantly yellow-flowered alfalfa have been proven to be adapted to rangelands of western South Dakota and adjacent areas. A study was initiated in May 2006 to evaluate persistence and vigor of eleven alfalfa populations (conventional-hay type, pasture type, pure *falcata*, and predominately *falcata*) by transplanting seedlings into native and tame grasslands in South Dakota. The objective of this experiment was to investigate shoot morphology of eleven alfalfa populations in tame grasslands. The experiment was a randomized complete block design with three replications of five plants in 1.2 m long single-row plots. For each population, aboveground biomass of all plants was harvested and ten stems were randomly selected on July 25, 2008. For each stem, the morphological characteristics measured included: a) length & basal diameter, b) number of nodes, branches, pods, c) ratios of leaf to stem, branch to stem, reproductive to vegetative biomass. The results showed that pure *falcata* cultivar Don had the shortest and thinnest stem, the highest proportion of total stem weight in leaves and reproductive to vegetative biomass ratio, but the lowest stem total biomass. Naturally-selected predominately *falcata* population from Wind River Seed Co. had the longest, thickest, heaviest, most branched and pods produced stem compared to the other populations.

**Keywords:** *Medicago sativa*, *M. falcata*, yellow-flowered alfalfa, legume, shoot morphology, persistence

## INTRODUCTION

Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) is a major component of feed for dairy and beef cattle and one of the most productive forage species in North America. Alfalfa is native to the Middle East and Central Asia. It was introduced into the US in the early twentieth century. Alfalfa has been planted on millions of acres and more than 100 varieties have been developed in North America over the past 100 years (Rumbaugh, 1982). Historically, alfalfa persistence under grazing in semiarid rangeland has generally been poor. Recently, it was discovered that naturally-selected populations of predominantly yellow-flowered alfalfa have been proven to be adapted to rangelands of western South Dakota and adjacent areas (Xu, 2008a). In 1982, alfalfa was reported to naturally reseed in Utah (Rumbaugh, 1982). In 1997, Norman G. Smith reported alfalfa had naturally reseeded on his ranch in western South Dakota (Smith, 1997). Then, in 2000, it was found that alfalfa naturally reseeded on the Grand River National Grassland near Smith ranch (Xu, 2008b).

Alfalfa, a legume, is an important economical forage crop for livestock because it is highly productive and nutritious. Alfalfa is high in vitamins (e.g., carotene), magnesium, minerals, fiber, and protein (Balliet, 1998). Interseeding alfalfa into the degraded pastures has been shown to be an efficient approach to increasing forage production, forage quality, and animal output in the Northern Great Plains (Smith 1997). Meanwhile, naturally reseeded alfalfa demonstrates value for rehabilitating depleted rangelands, by means such as increasing soil nitrogen, organic carbon, which resulted in improving forage production (Mortenson, 2004).

By evaluating morphological characteristics one can select preferential traits for specific environmental conditions and utilization purposes and provide useful information for breeding programs. For example, forage quality of alfalfa is mainly influenced by leaf to stem ratio, the higher leaf to stem ratio the better quality (Rotili, 2001). Similarly, seed production highly depends on pods production, larger canopy and highly branched shoots, and leaf to branch ratio will potentially increase forage production.



The objective of this study was to investigate shoot morphology of eleven alfalfa populations among different functional types in tame grasslands.

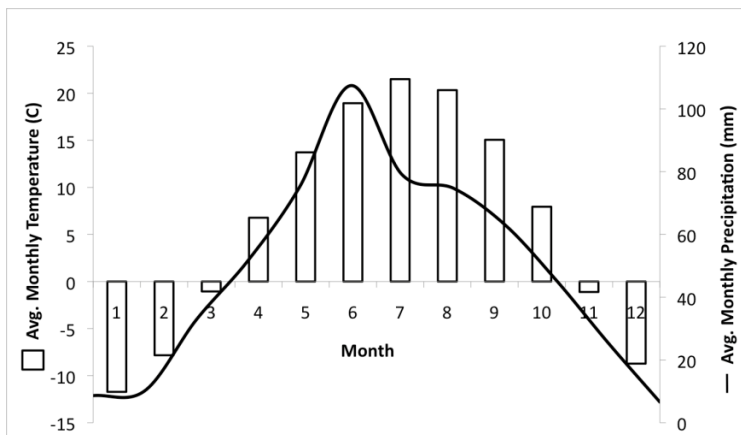
## METHODS & MATERIALS

### Study Materials

In May 2006, seeds of eleven alfalfa populations (Table 1) were germinated in plastic cone-containers in a greenhouse of South Dakota State University. Populations consisted of three conventional-hay type cultivars (5454, 6200HT, Vernal), four predominately *falcata* (Mandan A9191, SD202, SD203, Falcata), two pure *falcata* (Don, SD201), and two pasture type cultivars (Alfagraz, Travois).

### Study Area

Seedlings of these 11 populations were transplanted into a tame grassland field plot at the east of the campus in Brookings, SD. The climate is cold in winter and warm in summer with mean annual precipitation 500 mm and mean annual temperature is 6°C (Figure 1). Soil type is dominated by Brandt silty clay loamy, while the vegetation is mixed-grass prairie (Xu, 2008a). Alfalfa generally grows from April to October, when precipitation and temperature are high (Figure 1).



**Figure 1: Average monthly temperature and average monthly precipitation at SDSTATE field plot in Brookings, SD. Data from 1971 to 2000.**

**Table 1: Eleven alfalfa populations evaluated by shoot morphological characteristics**

<b>Entry</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Developer/Marketer/Origin</b>
5454	Cultivar Conventional Hay-Type	Pioneer Hi-Bred Int'I
6200 HT	Cultivar, Conventional Hay-Type	Garst Seed Co.
Vernal	Cultivar, Conventional Hay-Type	Univ. of Wisconsin
Alfagraze	Cultivar, Pasture-Type	America's Alfalfa
Travois	<i>Cultivar, Pasture-Type</i>	SDSU
Don	Pure falcata, rangelands-Type	USDA-ARS, Logan, UT
SD201	Pure faclata, experimental YFA for forage and wildlife habitat	SDSU
Mandan A9191	Experimental from Mandan, ND	USDA-ARS, Mandan, ND
SD202	PYFA experimental from feral rangeland in NW, SD, coiled-shaped seed pod	SDSU
SD203	PYFA experimental from feral rangeland in NW, SD, sickle-shaped seed pod	SDSU
Falcata	PYFA developed by N. Smith, Lodgepole, SD, for interseeding rangeland	Wind River Seed Co.

## Experimental Design

On May 30 and 31 of 2006, three replications of five plants from each of the populations were planted on 1.2 meter long single-row plots. Plots were in a randomized complete block design. All aboveground plant biomass was harvested on June 25, 2008. From each population, ten stems were randomly selected and bagged together. The bags were labeled by population and placed directly in the freezer. The bags were thawed individually throughout January and February 2010. Each stem was placed in an individual plastic bag and stored in the refrigerator.

## Data Collection

For each shoot, the morphological characteristics measured included: a) length & basal diameter, b) number of nodes, branches, pods, c) ratios of leaf to stem, branch to stem,

reproductive to vegetative biomass. The main stem length was measured in centimeters from base to tip with a meter stick. The basal diameter below the first node was measured with a caliper. The number of nodes on the main stem and the number of primary branches were counted. The node with the first branch was recorded as first node, second node, etc. The flower color and pod shape were noted. The branch leaves were bagged separately from the main stem leaves. The primary branches were removed from the main stem and placed in a paper bag. The paper bags were placed in a VWR Drying Oven set at 60°C for at least 72 hours. The biomass of the branches, leaves, stem, and reproductive structures were then weighed with an Acculab Vicon electronic scale.

## Data Analysis

Ratios were calculated as follows: leaf biomass divided by stem biomass, branch biomass divided by main stem biomass, and reproductive structure biomass divided by vegetative structure biomass. The data was analyzed using the SAS program, PROC ANOVA. If the p-values were less than 0.05, they were considered statistically significant.

## RESULTS

Pure *facata* – rangeland type cultivar Don had the significant smallest and thinnest stem among the 11 populations in terms of stem length and diameter. The rest of 10 populations had similar stem length and diameter (Fig. 1). But Don had the highest leaf proportion in total stem biomass and the highest reproductive biomass to vegetative biomass ratio ( $P < 0.0001$ ).

Naturally-selected predominately *falcata* population had the most branched stem ( $P < 0.0001$ ) among the 11 populations. It also produced the most pods ( $P = 0.0191$ ) and the total stem biomass ( $P = 0.0307$ ).

Conventional-hay type 5454 cultivar had significantly less branches and percentage of leaf in the total biomass of stem.

## DISCUSSION

From a forage quality standpoint, pure *falcata* cultivar Don has demonstrated high forage quality than other populations since it had the fine stems and highest proportion of total stem weight in leaves. Generally, stem or branches contain fewer nutrients, such as protein, than leaves (Balliet, 1998). Compared to forage yield, Don had less biomass production than Conventional-Hay-sativa-type 6200 HT and naturally-selected predominately *falcata*. However, the production of the grass-Don mixture (tall fescue-Don and meadow brome -Don) was significantly higher than the production of the grass monocultures (Peel et al 2009), which probably contributed to Don's ability to fix nitrogen through nodules in its root system, enriching the soil for the grasses. In addition, low growth habit makes Don more suitable under grazing condition in rangelands. Predominantly *falcata* was developed in western of South Dakota near Lodgepole for interseeding rangeland under grazing. This naturally-selected predominantly *falcata* population had the largest and more branched stems than the other populations. It also had the highest biomass per stem and seed pod production, which led to high seed production. It is no surprise to observe predominantly *falcata* had the highest seed pod production since it was purposely selected and developed for high seed production in order to interseed degraded rangelands.

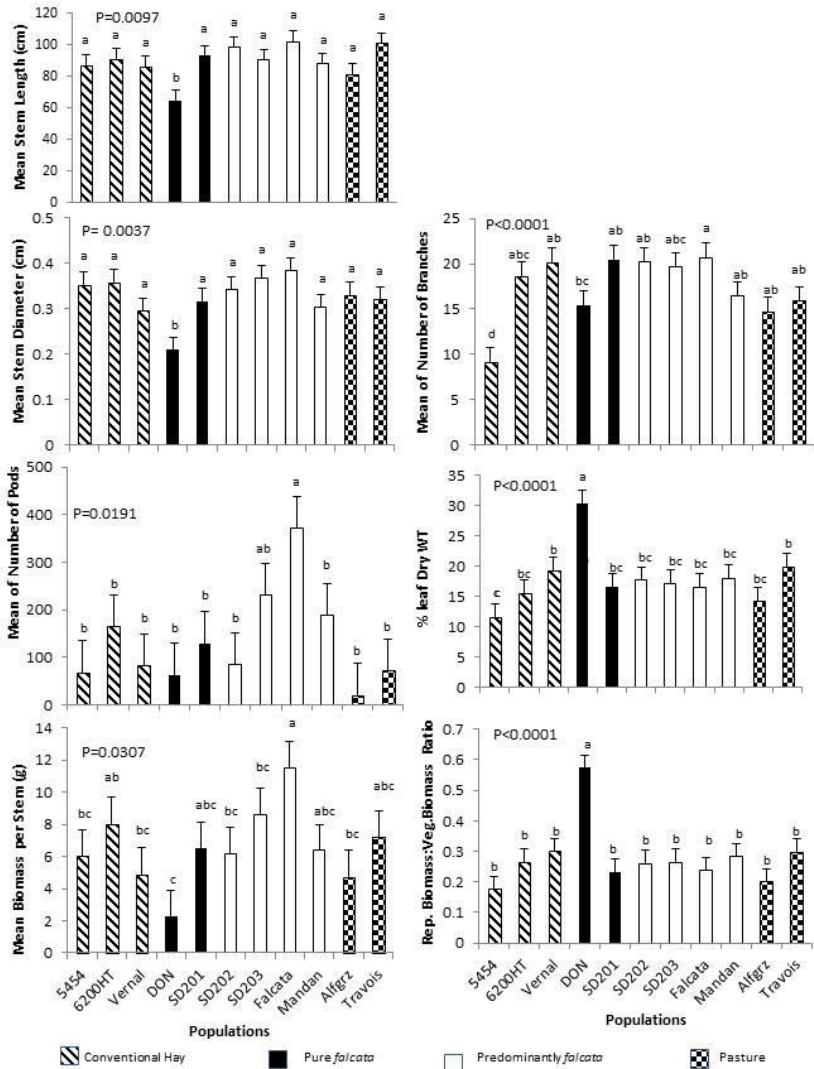


Figure 2. Shoot morphological characteristics of 11 alfalfa populations. Columns shared the same letter indicated no statistically significant difference at  $\alpha=0.05$ .

## CONCLUSIONS

Shoot morphology varies among the 11 populations. In general, pure *falcata* cultivar Don

has high forage quality and the capability to improve degraded rangelands and persists under harsh environments. Predominately *falcata* type is most productive through producing large and more branched stems for the forage. Predominately *falcata* also has high seed production, which indicates that the predominately *falcata* has the potential to persist through recruitment from seedlings and maintain itself through seed bank.

## LIMITATIONS

To improve on the process of measurement, a more sensitive analytical scale could be used. It also would have been beneficial to place individual stem in ten separate bags for each population during the harvest. This would have made measurement more accurate. Leaves that fell off the stems while in the bag could have been included in measurements if stems had been separated. It would provide more useful information if the morphology evaluation under grazing treatments and less precipitation conditions.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# **Georgiana Duchess of Devonshire: Spark of the Women's Rights Movement**

Author: Casey Seger

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Lizabeth Johnson

Department: History

## **ABSTRACT**

The late eighteenth century of Great Britain displayed a society influenced by outside thinkers, such as Rousseau, and dealing with the results of the American and French Revolutions. During this time a young woman named Georgiana Cavendish began to break the mold that many aristocratic nobles adhered to for many years. The purpose of looking at Georgiana's life and short career in politics is to show that women indeed could campaign in a very effective way. Though her campaigning got her friend a seat in Parliament, her exposure to the public during this time caused her and the person she campaigned for to lose some respect in the eyes of the public.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The life of a wealthy eighteenth century British woman revolved around tasks such as running the house, looking after children, and planning societal parties. Aristocratic women began instruction at an early age on the proper social standards. After being indoctrinated in these standards women adhered to them, and they scarcely deviated from the ideal social model. One of many of these aristocratic women was a young noblewoman named Georgiana Spencer. Georgiana Spencer, known later as the Duchess of Devonshire, brought to English high society a new breed of woman. Coming from a well to do Whig family Georgiana married a man she believed herself to be in love with, but in time, she realized there was no love at all. A woman skilled in many languages and well-read in many of the philosophies of the day, in particular Rousseau, tried to find a diversion that would fill the void left by her marriage. She soon found that politics held the key to what



she wanted to do with her life. After being head of a political think tank, Georgiana took a plunge into public politics. During the 1784 British General Election, she started campaigning for a close friend in an era where politics was strictly a man's world. In spite of rumors and widely published political caricatures, women like Georgiana Spencer Cavendish, Duchess of Devonshire, paved the way for high class women to be more involved in politics, and not just societal parties. These women stepped outside the normal boundaries of aristocratic behavior and became more involved in political campaigning. In the late eighteenth century, Georgiana Spencer was, in many aspects, the spark of the women's rights movement that would come full circle almost one hundred years later. Georgiana threw off one of many societal bonds that restrained women not only during this century, but also throughout history.

## BODY

As with most noble ladies in the eighteenth century, Georgiana had little say over her own marriage. Georgiana's parents arranged her marriage to the Duke of Devonshire in the hopes of catapulting the Spencer family fully into the political spotlight. The Spencer family lived in Althorp House in Northamptonshire and was very rich thanks to their history of sheep farming, productive business adventures, and a massive art collection;<sup>1</sup> despite being highly regarded in terms of wealth, the family was still new to the realm of the aristocracy. The Spencer family maintained good social and political standing by being involved in the Whig Party. Therefore, it seemed only proper to marry their daughter off to another well respected and honorable Whig noble. William Cavendish, Duke of Devonshire, was the man that the Spencer family found to be a reasonable match for their daughter.<sup>2</sup> After her parents arranged the match and informed Georgiana, she believed that she would be happy with the Duke. After her marriage into the Cavendish family, Georgiana became part of one of the richest and most influential families in all of Great Britain. However, the marriage that started out well soon became a trap. She had troubles producing an heir, which led the Duke to deprive her of the attention that she wanted and

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<sup>1</sup> Amanda Foreman, *Georgiana: Duchess of Devonshire* (New York: Random House, 1999), 4.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* 18.

needed, and she began amassing a huge debt within a few short years. Soon Georgiana looked for activities to fill the emptiness within her marriage. First, as reflected by her increasing debt, she took to gambling as a way to escape the pains of her marriage. Second and certainly her most well-known undertaking was the involvement in politics.

In the course of her life, Georgiana found politics to be a nice diversion from the dull life she lived as the Duchess of Devonshire. Soon after her marriage, Georgiana found herself thrust into the position as leader of the Devonshire House Circle. The Duchess, as mistress of the house, held parties as a requirement of her duties in being the wife of one of the richest and most influential men within the Whig party. The Devonshire House Circle during the eighteenth century acted as the political and social meeting place for the Whigs. This interaction of societal happenings and public politics is what gave the Devonshire House Circle the status of a salon and put Georgiana at its head. During this time, she was holding weekly, if not nightly, parties at Devonshire House. She made her grand entrance onto the main political stage during the General Election of 1784. During the 1784 election, she gave women a voice in politics by campaigning for Charles Fox, leader of the Whig party and her friend, in the borough of Westminster. Incidentally, the first time Georgiana was in the full political sphere was also the last, the cause of this sudden upheaval can be seen in the publication of political cartoons during the campaign, which damaged her public image as well as Fox's image as a leader.

In order to gain a better understanding of the complexities of high society in the time of Georgiana Cavendish, and more importantly, why she was divergent from other women during her time, one would need to examine what the life of a noble woman consisted of during this era. During the eighteenth century, there were certain standards that women adhered to in order to conform to societal expectations. One such source for these standards was a cookbook called *The Whole Duty of a Woman Or, an Infallible Guide to the Fair Sex*. The subject of this cookbook was not only the recipes that were common to many English households at the time, but also certain rules and standards adhered to by the best of British nobility, which were located in the front of the cookbook. The topics in the cookbook range from the duties of virgins to the respectable behavior a woman should have towards a drunk. The book mentions the aspects of a woman's life concerning her role as wife and her duties managing the children and the household. The first part of the duty of a wife showed

how her marriage represented an adoption into her husband's family.<sup>3</sup> Having married into one of the nation's wealthiest and most influential families, Georgiana would need to display this sense of duty in a most effective way. It was her job as wife of the Duke, head of the Cavendish clan, to carry on the duties and customs of her husband's family. The guide also shows what duties a wife had to her husband. The three responsibilities stated in the guide were a duty to his person, his reputation, and his fortune.<sup>4</sup> In the section that pertains to his person, the author makes every attempt to show that love was a most important factor in carrying this duty out. The author states in this passage that, "it is love only that cements the hearts, and where the union is wanting, it is but a shadow, a carcass of marriage."<sup>5</sup> Even more intriguing, the author says that without love, "it is a bargain and compact, a tyranny, perhaps, on the man's part, and slavery on the woman's."<sup>6</sup> The statements the author put forth in this section indicate that marriage needed an effort of love in order to work. However, as can be seen in history and in the marriage of Georgiana, love was not always a factor when it came to a marriage arrangement. The *Whole Duty of a Woman* also gave advice with respect to how a woman/wife should run a house. Georgiana was no different from other high society women in that it would be up to her to oversee the running of the Cavendish Houses.

Georgiana needed to show the Cavendish family that she indeed was a woman who would look after her husband's fortune and reputation. The two sources which describe these ideals are *The Duty of a Woman*, and a magazine published in 1736 titled *Country Magazine*. A passage from the *Country Magazine* titled *An Epitaph on a noble lady* also described the virtues and actions expected of noble ladies. The author of this little *Epitaph* described a woman who in his mind makes up the perfect British woman.<sup>7</sup> The author of the *Epitaph* takes care to mention that this particular woman was also very patriotic during

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<sup>3</sup> *The Whole Duty of a Woman: Or, an Infallible Guide to the Fair Sex* (London, 1737), 108.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* 109.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* 109. The author that wrote this text is unknown to us at this time. Therefore, this pronoun is simply used for convenience sakes.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* 108.

<sup>7</sup>The author that wrote this text is unknown to us at this time. Therefore, this pronoun is simply used for convenience sakes.

her life for he says, “A grateful Briton consecrates this stone to hers’ [sic] alone who living could impart a patriot ardour to the coldest heart.”<sup>8</sup> The author indeed showed the reader of the magazine that patriotism is a most worthy virtue to uphold, and again this idea might have had an influence on the upbringing of noble ladies at this time. This patriotism would have been especially important because towards the end of the eighteenth century the American colonies prepared to sever ties with the mother country. The author wrote that this lady was, “Friend to all parties, to all parties true Oft for her Church and King she zealous stood.”<sup>9</sup> From this little glimpse, one can see that this woman was honorable for being completely devoted to the King and Church. Not only was a wife expected to have a devotion to the King and Church but a wife also had a great many other responsibilities. These other responsibilities ranged from taking care of the children to housekeeping, but the *Epitaph* shows another characteristic that women needed to embrace. This involved charity and kindness. The author of the *Epitaph* wrote,

But always steadfast for the public Good: For public Good she lavished ov’r her Store, her chiefest glory was to chear [sic] the poor; to glad the Heart just breaking with despair to banish Pain, and Poverty and Care; to sooth in every Breast a various Grief... Partial to none, her Bounty unconfined, generous she live a Friend to most Mankind: so in Return by most she live carefree, to Rich as to the Poor a welcome guest...<sup>10</sup>

In marrying a respectable peer and the Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, Georgiana would have to display this sense of charity and kindness in order to do homage to her husband’s reputation and fortune. After her marriage, Georgiana had the opportunity to demonstrate her sense of charity through her control of the household expenses. Amanda Foreman, one of the foremost biographers of Georgiana, described this idea of managing finances in her biography where, “Heaton, (the Dukes’ advisor) had prepared a list of the household expenses which included the names of the parishioners and tenants who received charity

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<sup>8</sup>“An Epitaph on a Noble Lady,” *The Country Magazine: Or, The Gentleman and Lady’s Pocket Companion*, (August 1736), 384.

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid.* 384.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*384.

from the estate and whose welfare was now in her trust.”<sup>11</sup> Georgiana even started a charity school for girls in her early days of being Duchess. Foreman described how this project displayed Georgiana’s sense of charity. Foreman even included a passage from Georgiana’s grandmother who wrote that when Georgiana would generously give children her pocket money she “seemed as glad to give [the coins] as they were to have them.”<sup>12</sup>

Early on, in the marriage, Georgiana was keen to play her social role, as the dutiful, charitable, patriotic wife, and nothing was more important than the Public Days. Foreman describes how the new Duchess presided over the Public Days at Chatsworth.<sup>13</sup> According to Foreman, Chatsworth maintained the tradition of holding a Public Day at least once a week. During these Public Days, the Duke and Duchess would open the doors of Chatsworth to the tenants and other respectable strangers. Foreman wrote that, “Georgiana and the Duke stood in the hall wearing their finest clothes, as if attending a state occasion, and personally greeted every guest.”<sup>14</sup> These Public Days were reminiscent of the old feudal days when vassals and private armies were important to the kingdom. Naturally, Georgiana’s first Public Day caused quite a stir, but after a while, the crowds dwindled.<sup>15</sup> These Public Days were also important for another reason. During these Public Days, Georgiana would have to interact with people of different rank, and knowing the proper way to approach these people was very important.

Knowing how to portray one’s self to the public in a most respectable manner was the main goal for all noble women in this time. Not only did Georgiana deal with the Public Days at Chatsworth, but she also performed daily tasks, as any other woman would have. *Country Magazine* detailed the day of an average woman and informed the reader of the proper time to perform the daily tasks. The advice given in the magazine article is thorough and

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<sup>11</sup> Foreman, 24.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.* 24.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.* 23.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.* 27.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.* 27.

involved everything from when to wake up, to eating, to advice on evening parties.<sup>16</sup> The activities described as being beneficial to a women's position in the household were short and concise when listed in the section from *Country Magazine*. The author of this section recommended a woman rise no later than nine in the morning.<sup>17</sup> During the early times of the morning, the writer seemed to think that this was the time when women should think for he wrote, "At nine stretch your arms, and oh, think when alone."<sup>18</sup> This phrase would strike a modern person as being sexist; however, this was the mindset of the eighteenth century regarding women. Many men believed that women were not meant to think in public, but were to save their ideas and thinking for the home. Also, the writer of this article approved of drinking by women. The writer states, "After dinner two glasses at least I approve, Name the first to the king the next to your love."<sup>19</sup> Drinking was always a big part of a party, and in eighteenth-century England, there were no better parties than those of the stately homes in London. Devonshire House served as one of these stately homes and Georgiana held no expense back when it came to the parties. It was at these parties that Georgiana would strengthen her position within the salon and discuss writings by modern philosophers.

Discussions were all the rage in these stately homes. The houses in London seemed to be teeming with new ideas during this time and Devonshire House with Georgiana at its' head felt very deeply for Rousseau's' writings. Many women found the weapon they needed to prove they could campaign in the writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. In Linda Colley's book titled *Britons: Forging the Nation* she brings out the meanings of Rousseau's works and what they meant to eighteenth century women. Rousseau, in his writings, describes how women were just as important to the political machine as men for he states, "the

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<sup>16</sup> "Advice to a young Lady," *The Country Magazine: Or, The Gentleman and Lady's Pocket Companion*, December 1736, 635.

<sup>17</sup> The author that wrote this text is unknown to us at this time. Therefore, this pronoun is simply used for convenience sakes.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.* 635.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.* 635.

legislative hallways would grow silent and empty, or become noisily corrupt.”<sup>20</sup> To many this phrase meant since women were so important in the raising of children, the future political leaders, they needed to stay in the home. However, to prove that campaigning was completely within a woman’s sphere women interpreted Rousseau’s writings to show that their campaigning was indeed justified. Colley writes that,

...citizenship had been linked with the possession of land and/or the ability to bear arms- in other words, represented as an overwhelmingly masculine prerogative. By breaking away from this model and stressing instead the connexion between civic virtue and the family, Rousseau, whether he recognized it or not, supplied women with a rationale for intervening in political affairs.<sup>21</sup>

These writings of Rousseau’s would have been available to Georgiana, and indeed Colley suggests that these writings did indeed influence Georgiana as well as many others such as Mary Wollstonecraft.<sup>22</sup> Using this interpretation of Rousseau’s writings, Georgiana began securing her position politically and socially within the Devonshire House Circle. The salon would serve as Georgiana’s springboard into politics.

Devonshire House was a well-known Whig political hotbed in London and soon gave rise to its own salon known as the Devonshire House Circle. Georgiana Spencer Cavendish soon became the head of this salon and commanded great respect from the people within. After her marriage in 1774, the new Duchess began a parade of court appearances, which were required during this time. Lady Mary Coke recorded the praises that she had for the Duchess on her politeness and manners while at court and in private meetings.<sup>23</sup> In the presence of the court and other high ranking nobles, Georgiana put to use the upbringing that she received from her mother. She began making connections within the court as well as searching out people who shared her ideologies. Georgiana went to these court and public appearances by herself most of the time because the Duke was preoccupied with

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<sup>20</sup> Linda Colley, *Britons: Forging the Nation 1707-1837* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009), 279.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.* 279.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.* 279.

<sup>23</sup> Hugh Stokes, *The Devonshire House Circle* (New York: McBride, Nast and Company, 1916), 102.

other matters. At first, this absence did not bother Georgiana. She was building up a network of relationships within the Devonshire House Circle, at court, and at her social parties, but according to the Honourable Mrs. Boscawen, after the first month it was easy to see that the Duchess was becoming less happy in her marriage<sup>24</sup> and needed something else to fulfill her life. Georgiana started her career at Devonshire House as the hostess for many parties. This position of social hostess that Georgiana held as wife to the Duke would, by the beginning of 1784, develop into her being the political head of the Devonshire House Circle in London. The Devonshire House Circle was where Whig politicians came together to talk about politics, and only the most ardent Whig ladies were allowed into the upper echelon of the Circle.<sup>25</sup> In order to gain access to this top rank of ladies, Georgiana would have to prove herself to other noble ladies, such as the Ladies Jersey and Melbourne, that she was a true Whig and that she could build up connections just like the rest of the ladies.<sup>26</sup> Foreman wrote in her book that Lady Melbourne reigned as leading hostess of the *bon ton*, which was a gathering outside of Devonshire House.<sup>27</sup> After Georgiana made her entry into the society, she befriended Lady Melbourne, much to her mother's disappointment.<sup>28</sup> Lady Jersey was one of the newer generations of Whigs. Foreman states in her book that Lady Jersey, "used her irresistible seduction and fascination to wreck the marriages of her friends. According to a contemporary, she was clever, unprincipled, but beautiful and fascinating."<sup>29</sup> One of the first steps that helped push Georgiana to this top tier was securing a seat in the House of Commons for a friend and burgeoning playwright named Richard Sheridan.<sup>30</sup> Georgiana, with the help of her mother and the Spencer family, was able to get Sheridan a seat in one of the Spencer

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<sup>24</sup>Ibid. 68.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid. 137.

<sup>26</sup>Foreman, 46-7.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid. 47.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid. 47. Lady Spencer loathed Lady Melbourne because in earlier years Lady Melbourne shunned Lady Spencer in the *bon ton* group which Lady Spencer never forgot.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid. 47.

<sup>30</sup> Stokes, 167.



strongholds, Strafford, thus starting a sort of patron-client system.<sup>31</sup> Georgiana's actions put her on the track to the top. Other steps that helped her to the top were the almost nightly parties, in which she engaged in discussions on so called "soft" political issues.

The issues discussed in these new salons, as Sarah Richardson describes them, were not "hard" political issues of the day such as reform of the electoral process or economic reform, but were a type of "soft" issues, such as rights for Europeans.<sup>32</sup> Richardson describes the salon as being a place where women dominated the political discussions. Richardson says, "Again, it is British women who viewed women rather than men as the central participants in the arena of salon politics."<sup>33</sup> This idea of women being more involved in politics was true of Georgiana in the Devonshire House Circle. She soon became enthralled in the political debates that were taking place at her parties and was even more enthusiastic about politics when she would write to her mother. This exchange of letters was also nothing new to the realm of salon politics for Richardson in her article states, "Correspondence networks were crucial to the successful operation of the electoral machine."<sup>34</sup> These correspondences written by many ladies were sometimes the quickest way to get political information passed onto each other. This point also held true for Georgiana. The Chatsworth Collection has numerous letters sent by Georgiana to her mother, the widow Spencer, about different political actions. In many cases Georgiana wrote to her mother about her nights out at plays. Georgiana wrote in one such case to her mother that, "It was very full and I had several good political fights."<sup>35</sup> This network of letters would prove essential in the 1784 election, when Georgiana made her full debut. Through her constant efforts to convince the other ladies that she was indeed a true Whig,

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<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*, 132.

<sup>32</sup> Sarah Richardson, "Well-neighboured Houses: the Political Networks of Elite Women, 1780-1860," in *Women in British Politics, 1760-1860: The Power of the Petticoat*, ed. by K. Gleadle and S. Richardson (New York: St. Martin's Press, Inc., 2000), 66.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, 64.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, 66.

<sup>35</sup> Foreman, 136.

Georgiana soon become the undisputed leader of the Devonshire House Circle as a way to find purpose and happiness in her all too ill-fated marriage.

After successfully putting herself at the head of the Devonshire House Circle, Georgiana soon made her entrance into public campaigning in the election of 1784. With her charm and beauty, she supported Charles Fox's reelection to the Westminster seat in the House of Commons. Charles James Fox was a leader within the Whig Party for most of Georgiana's life. He was a notorious gambler and despised by King George III. In Reid's book titled *Charles James Fox*, he writes that, "The King, being consulted, declared it was his fixed and unalterable determination not to be bound hand and foot and put into Fox's hands, and that rather than submit he would leave the kingdom forever."<sup>36</sup> Fox held a seat in Parliament in the House of Commons from 1768 until his death in 1806<sup>37</sup>. However, in the 1784 Election Fox's seat was anything but guaranteed for Reid says, "To replace Fox, the Government backed the popular Admiral Hood, whose election was never in doubt, and Wray. So at the outset the real contest was between Wray and Fox."<sup>38</sup> During the 1784 election, Fox used his ties with Georgiana to promote his agendas and eventually maintain his seat in the House of Commons. Afterwards, Georgiana retired from public politics, but maintained a strong political influence in her position within the Devonshire House Circle. By allowing her to expose herself to the public in this way, however, the men of the Whig Party created problems, not only for Georgiana, but also for Charles Fox. Women scarcely campaigned in public before for Members of Parliament (MPs), let alone a woman of such high rank. Women of high class usually had at least one place when it came to politics though. This place lay within the family sphere.

Elaine Chalus wrote in her article on elite women that, "Family involvement in parliamentary politics often demanded some degree of participation from women, especially in maintaining family interests at the local level, but just having an MP or a

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<sup>36</sup> Loren Reid, *Charles James Fox: A Man for the People* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1969), 194.

<sup>37</sup> *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*, s. v. "Charles James Fox," accessed March 19, 2012, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/215350/Charles-James-Fox>

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.* 199.

politically active peer in the family had an impact on women's lives."<sup>39</sup> Chalus states, in this phrase, that women were indeed very much a part of the political machine. In Georgiana's time, this was no different and as stated earlier she used her influence to get at least one friend elected to a Spencer stronghold. Numerous times before 1784, Georgiana campaigned for her brother George in Northamptonshire, which was satisfactory by her mother's standards since it was a family issue.<sup>40</sup> Indeed, many elite women campaigned for family members. As a matron of the Cavendish family, Georgiana promoted the family interest in many different boroughs. Foreman wrote that, "In the eighteenth century the maintenance of an electoral borough was a family matter; it was part of the estate, as tangible and valuable as land. The Cavendish influence in parliament depended on the number of MPs who sat in the family's "interest."<sup>41</sup> It was normal for Georgiana to look after these interests in Derbyshire. She was able to do all the campaigning she wanted to in these districts. These were familial interest areas, in the countryside, and they were not hotly contested boroughs. The issue that made Georgiana more vulnerable is that she campaigned for a non-family member, in a non-family constituency, and in a far less rural area.<sup>42</sup> She also made matters worse for herself when she would actually get out of the carriage and talk to people about numerous topics, from how their businesses were doing to giving advice in rearing children. Georgiana quite frequently got out of her carriage to mingle with the common person, which was a risky step to take in one of London's most democratic boroughs. Foreman refers to these times in her biography of the Duchess for she says, "She not only chatted with voters and argued cheerfully with them, she also took an interest in their businesses and families. She met their wives and children, and became godmother to tens of infants, and impressed the women with her knowledge of such homely

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<sup>39</sup> Elaine Chalus, "Elite Women, Social Politics, and the Political World of Late Eighteenth-Century England," *The Historical Journal* 43, no.3 (Sept., 2000) 675.

<sup>40</sup> Foreman, 143.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.* 28. At its height, thirteen MPs owed their seats to the Duke's financial and political might. Since his brother-in-law the Duke of Portland controlled ten, when the Cavendishes collaborated they presented a formidable faction.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.* 153.

matters as nursing and discipline.”<sup>43</sup> This aspect of Georgiana showed that she was indeed listening to what the people wanted from their government, and people seemed to think she was the one to talk to in order to make their opinions heard. Even her mother, the Lady Spencer, referred to how approachable her daughter could be during this time. “I delight myself with the Idea that your unaffected good humour, civility and attention to everyone will draw all hearts towards you,”<sup>44</sup> wrote the Lady Spencer to her daughter during the election. Georgiana indeed was a person who could talk to people on a very personal basis, but she also knew that money was king as well. During the 1784 election, it was well noted that when Georgiana visited a store she overpaid for items. Foreman states Georgiana’s actions quite nicely when she wrote,

Georgiana also understood the power of money and she went with her friends from shop to shop making enormous purchases, deliberately overpaying while hinting at the promise of more if the proprietors voted for Fox. A visit to the milliners’ shops in Tavistock Street with Harriet and the Ladies Waldegrave turned into a street party with the shopkeepers hoisting foxskin muffs over their doors as a sign of their support.<sup>45</sup> This travelling around Westminster showed that Georgiana feared no one in her campaign adventures. Georgiana maintained her nobility when she was in these places and tried to change campaigning by bringing other women along with her. In this particular case from Foreman’s book Georgiana brought her sister, who hardly left her side during the campaign, and the Ladies Waldegrave, who were important Whig women themselves.<sup>46</sup> This showed Georgiana’s tenacity to bring women into the political sphere and use womanpower to win the seat of Westminster for Fox. However, the business of campaigning proved to be more fickle than Georgiana could imagine. During the 1784 election, the Conservative Party had numerous ties with the newspapers and tried to use those ties to tarnish the reputation of the Duchess. Of all the numerous propagandas that circulated in the 1784 election one of the most active and indeed most unscrupulous was that of the newspapers.

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<sup>43</sup> Ibid. 145.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid. 145.

<sup>45</sup> Ibid. 145.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid. 139.

The newspapers of the time were not about to let this riveting story pass them by, and today there are at least eighty-nine different political prints involving Georgiana that survived from April 1784 alone.<sup>47</sup> The publication of the prints shows how the canvassing done by Georgiana was the attention-grabbing topic of the day. The prints that survive from this election bring out many details that show how far the Conservatives were willing to go to smear the name of Georgiana Cavendish. During the election, there were numerous caricatures, and several of them show the Duchess in a most “indelicate situation”. In Amelia Rauser’s article *The Butcher-Kissing Duchess of Devonshire: Between Caricature and Allegory in 1784*, she looks at several prints to see how printmakers portrayed the figures in the campaign and why they were portrayed this way. One such idea that Rauser focuses on is the idea of virtue. Rauser found notes from a commenter named William Combe, and Rauser composed that,

Combe wrote several satires in 1777 that attacked the Duchess for not acting more like the exemplar of Feminine virtue that she could have been to the British public. He claimed that her personal failings reflected on the morality of British Women in general, because the Duchess as one of the highest-ranking ladies in the land was expected to set an example for British femininity.<sup>48</sup> This preview of the Duchess before the election showed that already, to some people, she lacked credibility when it came to being virtuous.

One way the Foxite printmakers wanted to portray Georgiana was as the steadfast figure of British virtue. In earlier prints, makers often depicted a female figure with loose clothes and one breast exposed as the ideal figure of virtue, however, as Rauser states, “Showing her with breast exposed might align her with allegorical virtue, but, especially in the deeply ironic context of the Westminster election, it would also risk an inverted reading as mere personal licentiousness.”<sup>49</sup> The problem posed to the Foxite printmakers was how to take a high ranking Duchess and show her in a positive light when she was doing something that had hardly been done before. Not only did they have to find a way to show Georgiana as a

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<sup>47</sup> Amelia Rauser, “The Butcher-Kissing Duchess of Devonshire: Between Caricature and Allegory in 1784,” *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 36, no. 1 (2002): 23.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.* 30.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.* 38.

virtuous person, but they also had to do it in a way that would separate her from the past concepts of virtue. One way in which they did this was by showing her in moderate dress, standing on a figure known as “Scandal”.<sup>50</sup> This print known as *The Apotheosis of the Dutchess* (Figure 1) was an attempt by Foxite printmakers to bring Georgiana some positive attention.



**Figure 1: The Apotheosis of the Dutchess**

The print portrayed the Duchess of Devonshire guided by the two goddesses of Truth and Virtue. The two goddesses shown in the print also seem to hold the Duchess back, showing that they are restraining the Duchess from doing something that is against her rank. The character that portrayed Scandal is slumped underneath Georgiana’s shoe clutching a *Morning Post* newspaper, which was one of the Conservative papers. This meant that Georgiana could indeed overcome the accusations set forth in these foul papers. According to Rauser, “Here, while she is shown in the company of abstractions such as Virtue, she is not herself meant to be one. Rather, she is quite emphatically differentiated from the allegorical women in her costume and pose. Yet the message of an “apotheosis” still characterizes her as almost holy in her virtuousness. There seemed to be no middle ground between the Pittite whore and the Foxite virgin.”<sup>51</sup> Another well-known print done in

<sup>50</sup> *The Apotheosis of the Dutchess*. Paper etching, 1784 British Museum, London.

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.* 39.

support of the Duchess appeared in May 1784, after the election. Indeed most of the Foxite prints came out after the election in order to try to restore Georgiana's tainted image. The print titled *Liberty and Fame*<sup>52</sup> *Introducing Female Patriotism to Britannia* (Figure 2) showed the Duchess escorted to the throne of Britannia herself by Fame and Liberty.



**Figure 2: Liberty and Fame Introducing Female Patriotism to Britannia**

The artist of this print was T. Rowlandson, and in his print, he went much further to show Georgiana as allegorical virtue. Rausser stated in her article that, “the allegories are distinguishable primarily because they display one breast. Yet in his fluid denotation of the image Rowlandson has given the duchess a crisscrossing bodice that almost hints that she as well could take down one side and display a single allegorically virtuous breast.”<sup>53</sup> However hard the Foxite printmakers tried to portray Georgiana in a positive light there were always the Conservative- and Government- owned papers that did their best to discredit Georgiana's name and reputation.

William Pitt the Younger, whom King George III appointed as Prime Minister, began a serious campaign against the Duchess and put a considerable amount of money and effort into printing deceitful, often immoral prints. Prints that portrayed<sup>54</sup> Georgiana as a

<sup>52</sup> Rowlandson, Thomas. *Liberty and Fame introducing Female Patriotism to Britannia*. Paper etching, 1784 British Museum, London.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.* 41.

<sup>54</sup> Rowlandson, Thomas. *The Poll*. Paper etching, 1784 British Museum, London.

scandalous harlot constantly circulated in the press. One such print titled *The Poll* (Figure 3) made it harder to show Georgiana as a symbol of virtue since it showed a bare breasted Duchess of Devonshire see-sawing back and forth on a very crude phallic fulcrum.



**Figure 3: The Poll**

However, not only was Georgiana on one end of the see saw, but there is another bare chested Duchess portrayed also. The Duchess of Gordon was the Conservative equivalent of Georgiana, though the Duchess of Gordon could never equal the fame of Georgiana. This see-sawing in *The Poll* is interpreted by Rauser as a, “spectacle of these women competing for the allegiance of a cheering rabble [which] is emblemized by their pivoting on a giant phallus, symbol of the male public that would decide the election.”<sup>55</sup> Another popular print that circulated during this time was a poster with faces of Charles Fox and Georgiana split in half and the halves then shown together. This print is called *Cheek by jowl or the mask* (Figure 4).

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<sup>55</sup> Ibid. 39.





**Figure 4: Check by Joul or the Mask**

<sup>56</sup> This drastic difference in the faces showed that the two personalities were completely incompatible. This incompatibility with one another symbolized, in the eyes of the conservatives, that politics was a man’s world and that women had no place in dealing with political issues.

Given all this information about Georgiana’s actions in the 1784 election, the practices that tarnished her image the most were in fact her more modern strategies. Forman states in her biography several actions Georgiana performed that made her a target for criticism. The first action was that she brought her own personality to the campaign, which was not commonplace for an elite woman during this time. Second was that because she was campaigning for Charles Fox, who was the “Man of the People”, the designation cast on her as a “Woman of the People” would show her as a prostitute in eighteenth-century terms. The biggest standard in eighteenth-century society that Georgiana upset was the difference between classes. She did this by getting out of her carriage and, as mentioned above, carrying on a conversation with the people, which was unheard of during these

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<sup>56</sup> *Check by joul or the mask*. Paper etching, 1784 British Museum, London.

times. These factors in the 1784 election seemed in eighteenth-century terms to be too modern, and Georgiana never again openly campaigned in London.<sup>57</sup>

Georgiana, a vivacious noble lady, gave women a greater voice in politics by becoming more involved in campaigning and directing political affairs at Devonshire House in London. Georgiana turned her unhappiness with her marriage into a career of politics, during which she violated the social norm of eighteenth-century Britain. From becoming the head of the Whigs' socio-political arena, which was Devonshire House, to her very forward and what some called manly approach to politics in the 1784 election, she moved politics into a position that was more modern than Britain was ready for in the eighteenth century. The empress of fashion could not live forever though; she met her end on March 30, 1806 when she died at the age of 48.<sup>58</sup> British society lost the women who foreshadowed the women's suffrage movement that would come almost one hundred years later. After the death of Georgiana, women would not campaign publicly for another 100 to 150 years. As Britain headed into the Victorian Era, the next generation of noble women followed strict morals and never engaged in men's business. Georgiana was truly a woman before her time.

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<sup>57</sup> Forman, 153-54.

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# **The Growing Demand for Energy and Ethanol's Role**

Author: Kyleen Shields

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Gary Taylor

Department: Economics

## **ABSTRACT**

With growing demand for fuel ethanol production has become a large player in the market. This study evaluates the efficient usage of corn as well as how ethanol has contributed to the US economy.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In forty years the population is expected to increase to 9 billion (World Population 2300). The current world population is 7 billion (US and World Population Clocks, 2012). How will farmers meet the challenge of feeding all of these hungry mouths? With the rapid development of third world countries, the world is using oil at an astronomical rate. Researchers have found other sources of energy, but the main source of this renewable energy is one that may sacrifice food. Will we come to the point where using corn for food is superior to using corn for fuel? With the population growing at a steady rate, it is very realistic to assume that this decision will need to be made in the near future. With current dependence on oil and dwindling supplies, does ethanol offer a real solution? Many factors will need to be considered in the future, and these decisions may be made sooner than anticipated.

### **Corn Harvest in 2011**

As you drive across the Corn Belt, row crops seem to go on as far as the eye can see. Agriculture is the backbone of America, but how much of our land is really devoted to

agriculture and farmland? Of the 2.2 billion acres currently zoned as agriculture land, 44.1% is used for cropland. (US Data Sets, 2012) The 2011 harvest was one of many trials and tribulations. The Midwest experienced a very wet spring which caused some fields to be replanted and often, not with corn. The South experienced record breaking temperatures all summer along with a drought that claimed many acres of crops. Over 93.3 million acres of corn were planted which was an increase of 4.1 million acres from 2010. (Minchenkov, 2011) Even with the natural hardships that farmers dealt with, the US was able to produce 12,358 million bushels of corn in 2011 (World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimates, 2012). As one can see, the US produces an impressive amount of corn. The next question that comes to mind is where is all of this corn being used? Many would think 12,358 million bushels of corn would last a few years. Some of the corn is exported but how do we account for 12,358 million bushels of corn in the United States?

According to statistics in 2011 12,358 million bushels of corn were harvested. (US Data Sets, 2012) Corn is also grown in every state in the US. Currently food grade corn is grown in Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, and some in Minnesota. With approximately only 78 million acres of food grade corn being grown, corn for human consumption makes up a very small percentage of total consumption. Also, corn that is rated food grade is not used for ethanol production. So to say that corn intended for human consumption is being used for ethanol is incorrect. Food grade corn is used to make high fructose corn syrup, cereals, and baby foods among many other products. Some food grade corn is also used for industrial products such as packing peanuts, plastics, pharmaceuticals, and much more. (Origin, History and Usage of Corn)

## Corn for Feed

Crops are an important aspect of agriculture, but livestock producers also play a large role. When people hear food versus fuel the common misconception is the corn used for food is for human consumption. Corn is an important part of our food system in many aspects. Beef cattle, dairy cattle, hogs, poultry, and miscellaneous small animals depend on the corn as an energy source. A typical northwest Iowa community elevator may use up to 80 tons of corn per day just to meet its feed requirement. A hog confinement building housing 2,400 hogs will use approximately 18 tons of feed every three days, or six pounds of feed

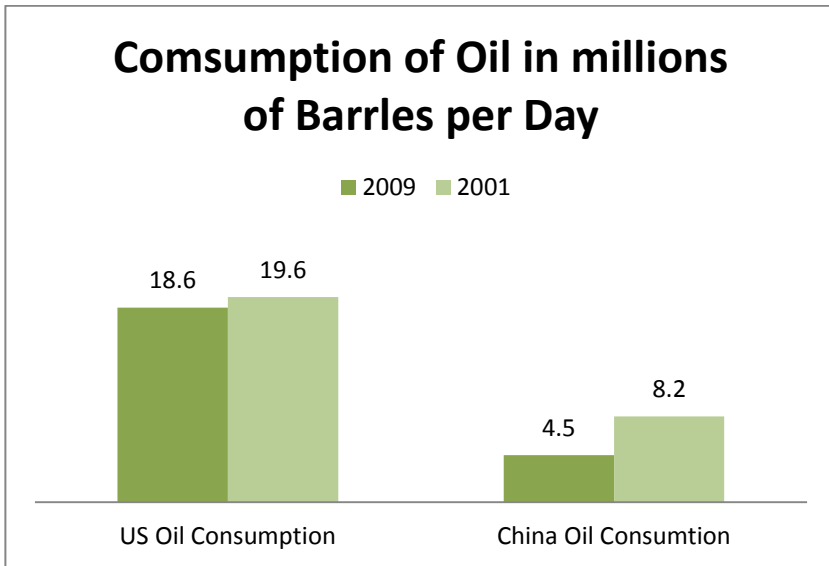
per day. (Bremer, 2012) With over 19 million hogs being raised at any given time in Iowa it is easy to see that corn for feed use is essential to the livestock market. (Iowa Pork Facts) The second largest use of corn is corn for fuel, commonly known as ethanol. (US Data Sets, 2012)

## Corn for Ethanol

Ethanol has become a necessity of many types of fuel in the US market. The advocates of ethanol state that it is a means to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, stimulate the economy, and keep the US fuel supply more diverse. Currently, ethanol is being used in about ninety percent of the fuel in the US. It has also gained support because it is harboring 400,000 jobs throughout the United States while 70,000 of these jobs are directly related to ethanol production and contributed 53 billion dollars to the nations GDP. Another desirable feature of ethanol is that it reduces greenhouse gas emissions. To put this into perspective it would be like taking the equivalence of 3.5 million cars off the nation's roads. (Ethanol) With the Green movement gaining popularity it is easy to see why ethanol is a desirable investment in our future. Although the move towards ethanol seems to be a positive solution, why have we shifted towards ethanol and away from foreign oil?

## Oil

The demand for fuel and the dwindling supply of oil is an issue that has been on the minds of many since the oil crisis of the 70's. The following graph displays the United States and China's consumption of oil in millions of barrels per day. (Energy Statistics)



**Figure 1: Consumption of Oil**

Oil usage currently is a debate in our country as well as in the rest of whole world. With oil being the backbone of many developing and developed countries, it is just as important in agriculture. Every farm tractor requires diesel or biodiesel. American farmers use approximately seven gallons of fuel per acre to complete all of their farm work. This would include cultivating, planting, application of herbicides, and harvesting. With the growth of developing countries the demand for oil is increasing rapidly. With the increased demand in oil and the limited supply of oil that we can currently easily access, we must begin exploring different energy options. During the past decade, there has been a massive swing towards the use of renewable energy, such as ethanol and wind energy. With respects to ethanol, it is renewable, corn is plentiful, and corn is already grown in every state in the US. We see that the shift towards ethanol has already positively affected the US by producing jobs, increasing the GDP, and helping the environment. Corn yields are increasing and the technology surrounding ethanol production is quickly advancing, but will it become efficient enough that we can feed the world and fuel it? Should the US focus on how to access oil reserves here at home before rushing to make a new technology to wean itself off the use of ethanol?



## US OIL RESERVES

The media commonly portrays that the US is sitting on more oil reserves than the Middle East. With the current oil boom in North Dakota many are demanding we take advantage of our supply of oil under our feet to lower the price we pay at the pump. Where the misconception lies is in what type of oil we actually have within reach. There are two large oil reserves in the continental US: the Bakken Shale Formation in North Dakota and the Eagle Ford Shale in Texas. These two locations are drilled for their oil, but the oil is held tightly in the shale and a special extraction process is necessary to remove the oil. Green River Formation which spreads across Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah contains what is called oil shale. This is basically oil in the shale, what nature hasn't finished processing. To make actual oil out of it, the shale must go through extra processing before it can be utilized. (Setting the Record Straight on Oil Reserves , 2012) The US currently has 1.442 trillion barrels of recoverable oil waiting to be drilled. (Institute for Energy Research , 2011)

With increased EPA policies it may be difficult for companies to ever unleash the full potential of the fuel we have right under our feet. Even if we were able to establish our own oil fields, how long would our own oil sustain our demands? From analyzing the information above, finding an alternative, cleaner burning fuel is something that needs to be placed high on America's priority list. But will ethanol hold all of the answers?

### Current Efficiency of Ethanol

Currently it takes 2.7 bushels of corn to produce one gallon of ethanol. (Bremer, 2012) Each bushel of corn used in ethanol production yields 17.5 lbs of nutrient rich livestock feed, returning 1/3 of the bushel to the market. This feed is called Dried Distillers Grains or DDG's and is commonly used at feed mills as a protein source. The corn used for ethanol does benefit the livestock industry. Syngenta recently released a corn hybrid called Enogen. This new corn hybrid has additional alpha amylase enzyme bred into the kernel. This enzyme is required during the fermentation process to change the starches to sugars. Researchers found this type of bacteria in hot water vents on the ocean floor. One of the benefits for the ethanol companies is that Enogen will completely change the viscosity of

corn as it goes through the machines. (Bremer, 2012) As one Enogen representative stated, “Enogen allows the corn product to flow through the machines like water rather than oatmeal.” This makes it flow easier and will allow the plant to increase its throughput. Even though the plant may be capped they can now increase their total production. This increased efficiency leads to increased profit and production for the plant. The next major benefit is that Enogen will allow producers to keep their money in the United States. Right now this enzyme has to be purchased from foreign countries and is quite expensive. However, Enogen will allow them to keep more money in the American economy. Enogen also allows farmers to target a certain market and take complete advantage of it. This allows them to gain a premium for the same crop they would normally just take to the elevator to be used for livestock feed. This mutual relationship between the ethanol plants and the farmers could allow technologies like this to flourish and maybe someday end the food versus fuel debate.

## Problems with Ethanol

In 2004 President George W Bush signed the Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit bill which became law in 2005. This bill offered fuel companies a 45 cent per gallon subsidy to use ethanol, also called a “blenders credit.” (Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit, 2011) This bill has increased market access of ethanol to the American market, raised the GDP, as well as stimulated job growth within the US. With the addition of ethanol to fuel, fuel prices also dropped slightly. (VEETC) There was an increase in tax revenue from ethanol but before assuming that all of this was straight profit to the US, it needs to take into consideration that ethanol is subsidized. The government subsidies had to come from somewhere, and that was from taxpayer’s dollars. To be efficient the benefits of subsidizing a market need to outweigh the costs.

It is estimated that American taxpayers subsidized over \$20 billion dollars in ethanol production over 30 years, but on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 that all came to an end when congress voted to end the ethanol subsidies. Amidst government deficits and high commodity prices, congress couldn’t justify subsidizing ethanol. Many viewed ethanol as a mature industry that can fend for itself because 10% of the fuel (gasoline and diesel) in the US has some relation to ethanol. (After Three Decades, Tax Credit for Ethanol Expires, 2012) The

ethanol production plants can now fend for themselves, but what does the loss of these subsidies mean for the American farmers that have been relying on the subsidies and for Americans at the pump?

## **EFFECT OF ETHANOL SUBSIDIES ON FARMERS**

Subsidies have led to a higher demand for corn which in turn has kept prices high. As stated earlier, corn producers that contract their corn solely for ethanol use received a premium for their product. Ethanol companies aren't the only ones that pay a premium for farmers to plant corn for ethanol production. Seed companies aid in ethanol production by creating hybrids that are more compatible for ethanol use. Ethanol has created jobs as well as more marketing options for farmers to gain top dollar for their corn. Implying that the government was needed as a crutch for ethanol companies in this day of technology isn't entirely true when you look at the big picture. When seed companies start to contribute to the efficiency of the process, there is less pressure on the ethanol companies to immediately find a remedy for increased efficiency and production. Will the effort from the agriculture industry be enough to make ethanol productive without government assistance? Since Americans are paying for these subsidies, what are the direct effects that Americans are experiencing for their money?

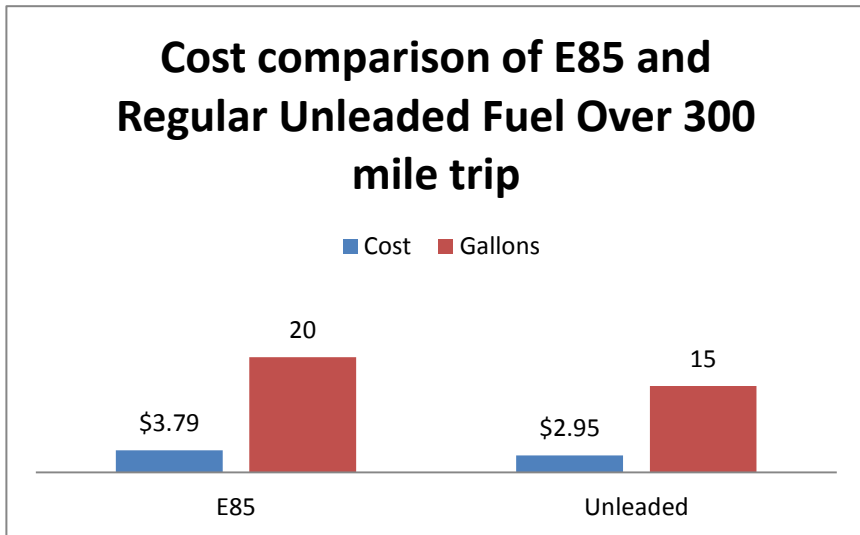
## **ETHANOL'S EFFECT ON FUEL PRICES IN THE US DURING THE SUBSIDIES**

Studies showed that from January of 2000 to December of 2010, ethanol production saved Americans an average of 25 cents per gallon of fuel throughout the US and 39 cents per gallon in the Midwest. The Midwest has seen the largest benefit of ethanol because it is at the heart of both corn and ethanol production. It is estimated that without ethanol in the market, fuel prices would increase by "historic proportions" of 41% and more. (Xiaodong Du, 2011) Since ethanol hasn't been taken off the market completely since it emerged, it is difficult to determine what and how prices fully react. Currently all gasoline fuels are

mixed with 10% ethanol and some vehicles, Flex Fuel vehicles, operate on fuel that is 85% ethanol. Fuel that is mixed with ethanol is called super unleaded. After the government subsidies expired for ethanol companies in January of 2012, it was expected that fuel prices would rise by approximately four cents per gallon. Although higher ethanol prices are certain to increase fuel prices, tension in the Middle East, which is much more volatile could affect fuel prices much quicker. (Woodyard, 2012)

## **PERFORMANCE OF E85 FUEL VERSUS REGULAR UNLEADED FUEL**

After analyzing ethanol's effect on fuel prices and the expenses imposed on taxpayers, is ethanol meeting the public's expectations? Currently, all gasoline fuel is mixed with at least 10% ethanol. This is because we are trying to move towards a more renewable fuel source. By using ethanol we are able to relieve some dependence on foreign oil. Flex Fuel vehicles can operate on regular fuel or fuel that is up to 85% ethanol. If ethanol fuel is cheaper and is better for the American economy, why aren't all vehicles created to be E85 operable? The problem lies in the fuel economy on E85 vehicles. When Flex Fuel vehicles are operated on regular fuel, they can reach their full mileage potential. However, if these vehicles are operating on E85 they will only produce 70-80% of the vehicle's potential mileage. (E85 and Flex Fuel Vehicles: Technical Highlights , 2009) The following graph shows the difference between how many gallons of fuel would be used to travel 300 miles using regular unleaded fuel and ethanol, assuming that the vehicle's full potential fuel economy is 20 miles per gallon. The E85 fuel economy of 15 miles per gallon was calculated by subtracting 25% of 20 miles per gallon fuel efficiency. Fuel prices were \$3.79 per gallon and E-85 was \$2.95 per gallon as of April 24, 2012 at the Primghar Iowa Pro Go station. (Iowa E85 Prices, 2012)



**Figure 2: Cost Comparison of E85 and Regular Unleaded Fuel**

To drive 300 miles it would cost you \$56.85 to use regular fuel or \$59.00 to use E85. The difference in fuel economy can be correlated to the composition of ethanol. Unlike fossil fuel, ethanol has less energy per volume. Unleaded fuel has 116,090 BTU's whereas ethanol fuel only has 76,330 BTU's. (Alternative and Advanced Fuels) Decreased fuel economy isn't the only issue that arises with vehicles which are fueled by ethanol. There are also issues with the fuel in colder environments, similar to our bitter cold winters in the Midwest. There are environmental benefits to ethanol in fuel such as decreasing levels of carbon monoxide emissions and benzene, both of which are harmful to humans. While ethanol does help the environment by decreasing the amount of carbon monoxide and benzene, ethanol actually increases the level of acetaldehyde (a carcinogen) released into the air. (E85 and Flex Fuel Vehicles: Technical Highlights , 2009)

## WHERE IS RENEWABLE ENERGY HEADED, CELLULOSIC (GRASSES AND CORN STALKS)

Ethanol isn't the only renewable resource with which vehicles are operated. Technology is now allowing vehicles to run on solar energy and even electric energy. May expanding research in these fuel options be more productive than focusing on ethanol? Currently, vehicles running on electricity can travel 100-200 miles per charge. The benefits of electric cars are that there are no emissions directly released from the exhaust but they also use energy to charge their battery which in turn may cause pollution from the original energy source. What sets these vehicles out of the middle class Americans reach is often times the cost and expensive maintenance. Replacing a battery pack may cost about \$2,000. (Electric Vehicles) Without a working battery, you have a car that won't run. In the future as technology increases and the vehicle price reflect that, electric cars may be a feasible green option for many Americans. As of early 2012 hybrid cars accounted for a mere 2.4% of all cars on the road. This number is down from its record high in 2008 of 2.9%. (Survey says most hybrid car owners don't buy another, 2012) This may be attributable to fuel prices because owners may not see the expected gains as quickly as possible. If prices fuel prices remain low, it will take longer to justify buying a hybrid whereas if prices were high, a hybrid would pay off quicker. A current survey shows that only one of every three hybrid owners would buy another hybrid. (Survey says most hybrid car owners don't buy another, 2012) New hybrid owners also benefit from federal tax rebates in addition to superior fuel economy, but does the payback period justify the difference in prices? The chart below shows the payback period of buying two well recognized vehicles in the hybrid option.

Make	Model	Federal Tax Credit	Market Value	Hybrid Premium	Annual Fuel Savings	Years to Break Even
Ford	Focus	\$850	\$26,229	\$4,745	\$573	8.3
Toyota	Camry	\$0	\$25,014	\$515	\$384	1.3

**Figure 3: Payback**

(Edmunds.com Evaluates Payback Period of Hybrid and Diesel Vehicles , 2010) After evaluating the cost structure and payback of hybrids, it is apparent that for Americans to justify the purchase they need to become more efficient. With the rising cost of fuel some Americans will be able to justify the purchase sooner than others but electric may take a while to be within everyone's grasp.

## **FINDINGS**

The US harvested 1.2 billion acres of corn in 2011, 40% of which went into the production of ethanol which is used in 90% of our fuels.

Developing countries have begun demanding more oil. There are limited supplies in the world and with increased demand and limited supply comes a price premium. Although the US has oil reserves it can drill for, not all of it is easily accessible.

To ease the dependence on foreign countries oil, the US has had subsidies and technology behind ethanol production. Ethanol is also respected by those who are interested in the green movement and does alleviate some of the pollutants given off by vehicles run on regular fuel.

When ethanol is added to fuels, the vehicles become less fuel efficient because ethanol has less energy per volume. There is a tradeoff between being renewable and being efficient.

## **CONCLUSION**

Ethanol does hold the key to unlock many doors but technology must advance before all of the doors can be opened. Currently the efficiency of E85 vehicles doesn't break even with the efficiency of vehicles run on regular fuel, nor do electric vehicles break even quickly after purchase. The US will need to wean itself off foreign oil in the future, but at the rate which our technology is advancing and the pressure from developing countries, this advancement needs to happen more rapidly. With the rising world population and the high cost of feed, there will come a point when the US will be forced to make a tough decision. This decision will be what to rank higher, cheap fuel or affordable food? With 40% of our current corn production in the US going to fuel this will be a highly debated topic. Ethanol is a prosperous industry for the US but right now other options need to be focused on in

addition to ethanol. When taking the efficiency of ethanol and hybrid vehicles, it is apparent that we have a lot of challenges facing us before we can make these renewable energy sources a fix all solution.

## LIMITATIONS

Due to how current the trends are in renewable energy, it was difficult to find many books on the current benefits and statistics of ethanol operated in vehicles. Reports listed by the USDA supplied many statistics and future expected usages of corn. Since no growing season is the same as the one prior, it makes future expectations of usage difficult. As technology advances and research increases, there will be more information to build a conclusion about the efficiency of vehicles operated on renewable energy.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# Stock Index Options Pricing Models

Author: Mark York

Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Zhiguang Wang and Dr. Jung-Han Kimn

Departments: Mathematics & Statistics and Economics

## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to apply stochastic modeling methods to determine the prices of stock index options. In this paper, three models are implemented and compared for accuracy based on the S&P 500 index (SPX) options data for 1996. These models include the Black-Scholes Model (BS), a stochastic volatility model (SV) which accounts for volatility in the underlying stock price, and a stochastic volatility model with jump in the underlying stock price (SVJ). This jump in the stock index prices is accounted for in the SVJ model using a compound Poisson distribution. The SV model is nested in the SVJ model, with jump-related parameters being set to zero. These three mathematical models are implemented in MATLAB. The models are calibrated using data from one day at a time for the SPX options on the Chicago Board Options Exchange based on the criteria of the least sum of squared errors. The models are tested for consistency by calibrating and measuring the squared error for each day in an entire year's worth of option price data.

**Keywords:** Computational Finance, Stock, Options, SPX Index, Black-Scholes

## INTRODUCTION

According to the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE), S&P 500 index (SPX) options have been and still are the most actively traded options contracts in the world. SPX options are employed by both financial institutions and individual investors for the purposes of risk management and speculations. In this paper, three models for pricing SPX options are compared empirically in order to decide which model is most appropriate for index options pricing.

The reason why SPX options are popular among traders is largely due to the popularity of the underlying index, the S&P 500 index, which is the media-favorite for the overall stock market activity in the US. Stock index options, like individual stock options can provide holders with a right, not an obligation to take long (for call options) or short (for put options) positions on the underlying financial asset. Holding put options can provide downside protection for investors, whereas holding call options can allow investors to take advantage of the upside potential in the future. Therefore, options can be employed to express views about the stock market without immediate possession of the underlying stock index (or 500 stocks in the case of the SPX).

The most important question for both buyers and sellers of option contracts is how much these options should be bought and sold for? Both call and put options are valuable before they expire on the maturity date, usually the third Friday of each calendar month. The value of an option on the maturity date is  $\max(\text{Asset Price} - \text{Exercise Price}, 0)$  for a call and is  $\max(\text{Exercise Price} - \text{Asset Price}, 0)$  for a put. Before the maturity date, the option price fluctuates over time as the underlying stock prices are dynamically set by the market force.

In 1973, Fischer Black and Myron Scholes developed a model later known as the Black-Scholes model (BS) to determine what the price of options should be. With this revolutionary new model, investors had a concrete mathematical way of determining what price they should buy and sell their options for, rather than relying on intuition. However, over the years, it became clear that the model generated inaccuracies from time to time. There are two major deviations of the assumptions of the BS model: the variability of asset returns is constant and there is no discontinuity in asset prices. To account for these shortcomings, stochastic volatility and jumps are added to the original BS model (see [1] Bakshi, Cao and Chen 1997 and [2] Duffie, Pan and Singleton 2000), which are called SV and SVJ models, respectively.

The purpose of this research is to show how the BS model, along with the SV and SVJ models, can be implemented using computer programs to model a real market situation, and to compare these models in order to find a model that best fits the data. Option traders can employ the methodology derived for the best fitting model in their trading practices.

## METHODS

The BS, SV, and SVJ models for index options are described as follows. The log of the underlying stock index price is denoted as  $y$ , the strike price  $c$ , the time to maturity  $T$  (in years), and options price  $X_0$ .

$y$  = natural log of the stock price

$c$  = strike price

$T$  = time to maturity (in years)

$X_0$  = option price

For simplicity, options data of daily frequency is employed. Therefore the end-of-day closing prices of the stock index and its options are the relevant prices. Several hundred options contracts with various combinations of strike price and time to maturity are listed on any given day.

The BS model has only one input,  $\sigma$ , also called implied volatility. The infamous Black-Scholes formula for call option price is

$$C(S, t) = N(d_1)S - N(d_2)ce^{-r(T-t)}, \quad (1)$$

where  $N(d_1)$  represents the cumulative standard normal distribution of  $d_1$ ,  $c$  represents the strike price,  $r$  is the annual risk-free interest rate, which is assumed constant at 0.0319, ([1] Bakshi, Cao, and Chen 1997),  $t$  represents the current time, which is set at 0, and  $S$  represents the stock price (or equivalently  $e^y$ ). Within the cumulative normal distributions,  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  are defined as

$$d_1 = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{S}{c}\right) + \left(r + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)(T-t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}}$$

$$d_2 = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{S}{c}\right) + \left(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)(T-t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} = d_1 - \sigma\sqrt{T-t}. \quad (2)$$

The price of a put option can be derived from the call-put parity equation, which is written as

$$P(S, t) = Ke^{-r(T-t)} - S + C(S, t). \quad (3)$$

In (3) above,  $S$  and  $C(S, t)$  denote the stock price and the call option price calculated from Equation (1), respectively.

The SV and SVJ models consist of the variables listed above ( $y$ ,  $c$ ,  $T$  and  $X_0$ ), along with eight other parameters that characterize the features of stochastic volatility and jumps. These parameters in the SVJ model and the SV model (in parenthesis) are listed below:

$\bar{\rho}$  = *Leverage effect*

$\bar{v}$  = *Long run mean volatility*

$\kappa_v$  = *Speed of mean reversion*

$\sigma_v$  = *Volatility of volatility*

$\sigma_y$  = *Standard deviation of stock price jump (set to 0 in SV)*

$\lambda_y$  = *Poisson rate parameter for stock price jumps (0 in SV)*

$\mu_y$  = *Mean jump size (0 in SV)*

$V$  = *Volatility Squared*

The pricing function for call options for the SV and SVJ models follows [1] Bakshi, Cao and Chen (1997) and [2] Duffie, Pan and Singleton (2000) appears as

$$C(d, c, T, y, V) = G_{d,-d}(-\ln(c), X_0, T) - cG_{0,-d}(-\ln(c), X_0, T), \quad (4)$$

where  $d$  is set to 1 for call options. The variables  $c$ ,  $y$ ,  $T$ , and  $X_0$  are inputs obtained from the raw data as stated above. The parameter  $V$  represents squared volatility and is set to match the data during the calibration process.  $G$  is defined as follows:

$$G_{a,b}(h, X_0, T) = \frac{\Psi(a, X_0, 0, T)}{2} - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{Im[\Psi(a + ivb, X_0, 0, T)e^{-ivh}]}{v} dv, \quad (5)$$

where  $Im$  inside the integral is the imaginary part of the function in brackets, and  $\Psi$  is a moment-generating function of the random variable  $X_0$ , given by:

$$\Psi(u, X_0, t, T) = e^{(\alpha(T-t, u) + uy + \beta(T-t, u)V)} \quad (6)$$

The integral in (5) is difficult to compute, but may be approximated a number of different ways. The approximation used in this project is the Gauss-Laguerre Quadrature, which is described in the next section. Note that the  $u$  in (6) coordinates with the same position in the  $G$  equation,  $t$  denotes the current time, and  $T$  is the expiration time. Parameters  $\alpha(\cdot)$  and  $\beta(\cdot)$  in Equation (6) are solutions to two ordinary differential equations (ODE) detailed in [2] Duffie, Pan, and Singleton (2000). The results read as follows:

$$\alpha(\tau, u) = \alpha_0(\tau, u) - \bar{\lambda}\tau(1 + \bar{\mu}u) + \bar{\lambda} \int_0^\tau \theta(u, \beta(s, u)) ds,$$

$$\beta(\tau) = \frac{a(1 - e^{-\gamma\tau})}{2\gamma - (\gamma + b)(1 - e^{-\gamma\tau})} \quad (7)$$

by letting:

$$b = \sigma_v \bar{\rho}u - k_v, \quad a = u(1 - u), \quad \gamma = \sqrt{b^2 + a\sigma_v^2}, \quad \tau = T - t,$$

$$\bar{\mu} = \theta(1, 0) - 1 = \exp(\mu_y + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_y^2) - 1.$$

$$\alpha_0(\tau, u) = -r\tau + (r - \bar{\zeta})u\tau - \kappa_v \bar{v} \left( \frac{\gamma + b}{\sigma_v^2} \tau + \frac{2}{\sigma_v^2} \ln \left[ 1 - \frac{\gamma + b}{2\gamma} (1 - e^{-\gamma\tau}) \right] \right) \quad (8)$$

In Equations (7-8),  $r$  is the annual risk-free interest rate and  $\bar{\zeta}$  is the dividend yield, which is assumed to be zero ([1] Bakshi, Cao and Chen 1997).

The pricing formula for the SVJ model differs from its counterpart for the SV model in the jump specification. Two parameters are necessary to model a jump: intensity and size. The former determines whether a jump occurs whereas the latter controls the magnitude of the jump. The Poisson jump intensity  $\bar{\lambda}$  in the SVJ model is aggregated from three parts, the jump intensity of the stock price ( $\lambda_y$ ) plus the jump intensity of volatility ( $\lambda_v$ ) plus the coordinated jump intensity parameter ( $\lambda_c$ ). The coordinated jump intensity parameter accounts for the fact that a sudden drop in stock price often leads to or is evidence of an increase in market volatility. Since all three are Poisson random variables, the combined rate at which any of them occur is just the sum of the rate parameters. Jumps are presumed to occur whenever the aggregated jump intensity  $\bar{\lambda}$  attains a positive value, and the magnitude of the jump is determined by a particular distribution for each of the three types of jump. For simplicity, this model only incorporates jumps in  $y$  the log of the stock price. For  $\lambda_y$ , the magnitude of the jump is normally distributed with mean  $\mu_y$  and variance  $\sigma_y^2$ , and both parameters are adjusted to model the stock price data. Therefore,  $\lambda_v = \lambda_c = 0$  and  $\bar{\lambda} = \lambda_y$ , the integral part of  $\alpha$  in Equation (7) is defined below.

$$\int_0^\tau \theta(u, \beta(s, u)) ds = \bar{\lambda}^{-1} (\lambda_y f_y(u, \tau) + \lambda_v f_v(u, \tau) + \lambda_c f_c(u, \tau))$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda_y} (\lambda_y f_y(u, \tau)) = f_y(u, \tau) \tag{9}$$

where  $f_y(u, \tau)$  is defined as

$$f_y(u, \tau) = \tau * \exp(\mu_y u + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_y^2 u^2) \tag{10}$$

The stochastic volatility model with jumps in  $y$  is formed by calibrating the eight parameters shown in above. The SV model without jumps can be formed by fixing  $\lambda_y$  and  $\mu_y$  at a value of zero. The original Black-Scholes model from 1973 cannot be formed by simply fixing certain parameters at a value of zero, as this causes DIV/O (division by zero)



situations, and thus it has to be implemented separately using Equation (1). In the next section, the programming and calibration of all three models are discussed.

## IMPLEMENTATION

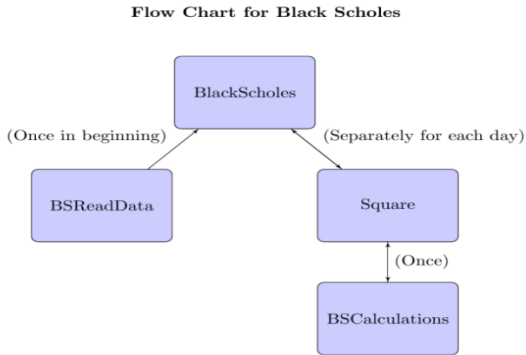
The model is calibrated to fit the SPX stock options data using the criterion of minimum SSE (Sum of Squared Errors). The eight parameters are calibrated separately for each day by using the data from that day, starting with the first trading day of 1996 (January 4th). The accuracy of the model is measured by finding the average SSE per option for each model. The first trading day has 279 observations, including 139 calls and 140 puts. Calls and puts are modeled separately, as their prices change in the opposite direction as the strike price changes. Using the equations above, the SSE criterion seeks to minimize

$$SSE = \sum_{k=1}^N (C(d, c(k), T(k), y(k), v) - X_0(k))^2. \quad (11)$$

where  $C(d, c(k), T(k), y(k), v)$  is the model's predicted option price for the  $k^{\text{th}}$  option, and  $X_0(k)$  is the actual price for the  $k^{\text{th}}$  option.

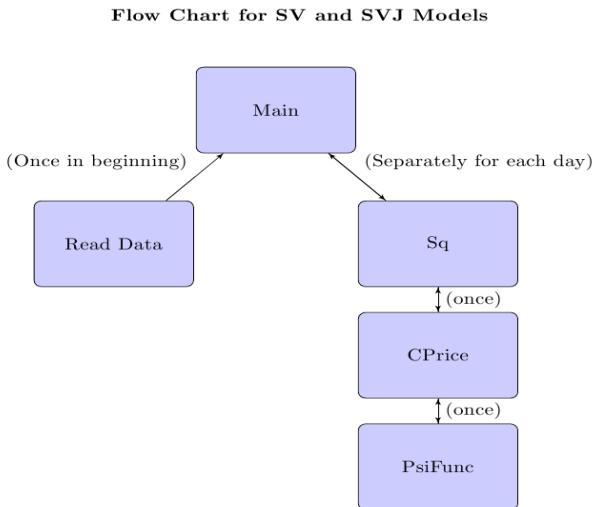
The SSE is calculated by programming the compound function described in the previous section into MATLAB code. In MATLAB, a main function and a series of five sub-functions are programmed which call one another. Figures 1 and 2 describe how the functions are called and how the data is passed from one function to another (see the arrow) for the BS model and the SV/SVJ model, respectively. A detailed explanation of functions involved in the calibration procedure is reported in Table 1.

The program for the BS model starts with the BlackScholes function, which retrieves data from BSReadData, then sets an initial value for sigma. BlackScholes then passes the data for the first day in vector form, along with sigma, to Square, which retrieves the model prices for each option from BSCalculations, calculates the SSE for the day, and passes it to BlackScholes. BlackScholes then tries another value for sigma, and repeats itself until it finds a convergent minimum for the SSE, at which point it moves to the next day.



**Figure 1: Flow Chart for the BS Model**

Similarly, for the SV and SVJ models in Figure 2, the program starts with the Main function, which calls retrieves data from ReadData, then sets initial parameter values. Main then passes one day's vectorized data to Sq, which passes the data to Cprice. Cprice passes the data to PsiFunc, which solves most of the above equations and passes their values to CPrice, which then passes the model price to Sq, which calculates the SSE and passes it to Main. Main then tries to set better parameter values to reduce the SSE, and once again calls Sq, proceeding in this way until it finds a convergent minimum for each day.



**Figure2: Flow Chart for the SV and SVJ Models**

**Function Description Table**

<b>Function Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Black Scholes</b>	
BlackScholes	Calls BSReadData, modifies sigma to find min SSE for each day
BSReadData	Retrieves stock and option data from .txt files
Square	Finds the SSE for a given day and value of sigma
BSCalculations	Calculates the model option prices for one day at a time
<b>SV and SVJ</b>	
Main	Calls Read Data, modifies parameters to find min SSE for each day
Read Data	Retrieves stock and option data from .txt files
Sq	Finds the SSE for a given day and set of parameters
CPrice	Calculates model prices for one day's options and passes them to Sq
PsiFunc	Runs function $\psi$ and all sub functions, passes data to CPrice

**Table 1: Description of MATLAB Functions for the Calibration Procedure**

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**Algorithm 1** Pseudocode for Stock Options Pricing Models

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**Require:**  $[y, X_0, c, T, Call/Put]$

$N$  = number of trading days in year

**for**  $1 \leq k \leq N$  **do**

$q$  = number of calls in day  $k$ ;  $p$  = number of puts in day  $k$

**for**  $1 \leq m \leq 2$  **do**

**while**  $SSE(m)$  does not satisfy  $fmincon$  minimization criteria **do**

$fmincon$  sets new parameter values  $\Phi()$

$PsiFunc() = (PsiFunc(\Phi()))$

$ModelPrice() = CPrice(CPrice()); n = q$

**if**  $m = 2$  **then**

$ModelPrice() = PPrice(PsiFunc()); n = p$

**end if**

**for**  $1 \leq h \leq n$  **do**

$SSE(m) = SSE(m) + (ModelPrice(h) - X_0(h))^2$

**end for**

**end while**

**end for**

$CallsErr = CallsErr + SSE(1); SSE(1) = 0$

$PutsErr = PutsErr + SSE(2); SSE(2) = 0$

**end for**

**OUTPUT**  $CallsErr, PutsErr$

---

**Figure 3: Pseudocode for Options Pricing Models**

The pseudocode in Figure 3 shows how the functions in the SV and SVJ program call each other and produce the result. The most critical part of the pricing procedure is to evaluate the function  $G$  in Equation (5). As mentioned in the Methods section, the Gauss-Laguerre Quadrature is used to approximate the following integral in the function  $G$ .

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{Im[\Psi(a + ivb, X_0, 0, T)e^{-ih}]}{v} dv$$

The above integral is difficult to solve analytically as it is a compound function composed of large sub-functions. One alternative is to use the Monte Carlo simulation, which generates thousands of random values of  $v$  and integrates them over a permissible range.

The inaccuracy due to the randomness and truncation of the domain of integration approaches zero as the number of iterations approaches infinity. Unfortunately, this method requires running thousands of iterations of code and slows the process down to the degree that the function would be all but unusable. As such, it was decided to seek another algorithm.

The method decided upon is the Gauss-Laguerre Quadrature ([3] Kythe and Schäferkötter 2005). The Gauss-Laguerre Quadrature approximates the integral of a function by choosing an integer value  $n \geq 2$  and  $n$  coordinating values of  $x_i$  where the function is evaluated. These values of  $x_i$  are known as nodes. The function value at each of these nodes is then multiplied by  $w_i$ , a weight function. The weighted function evaluations at the different nodes are then added up to give the approximation of the integral. As  $n$  increases, the error of the approximation approaches zero for most functions. The Gaussian Quadrature is highly regarded as being very accurate, widely applicable, quick, and easy to use. The formula appears below.

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

The problem with the Gaussian Quadrature is that  $a$  and  $b$  must be finite, while the improper integral that needs to be evaluated is over the interval  $[0, \infty)$ . Thus, a modification to the above formula must be made. This modified Gaussian Quadrature is known as the Gauss-Laguerre Quadrature, or Laguerre Integration. The Gauss-Laguerre Quadrature is expressed as

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(x)dx = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} [e^x f(x)]dx \approx \sum_{k=1}^n w(x_k) e^x f(x_k).$$

The function  $e^{-x}$  will approach zero as  $x$  approaches, so without delving into too much detail, the  $e^{-x}$  term allows us to apply the Gaussian Quadrature to the entire interval, similar to a Laplace Transform. The weights ( $w_i$ ) and nodes ( $x_i$ ) can be determined by formulas defined by Edmond Laguerre which depend solely on  $n$ . For this paper, a value of 15 was used, as each additional node requires another two values to be run through PsiFunc each time an option is priced, which occurs millions of times during the program. Using a value

of 15 allows for sufficient accuracy while not compromising too much speed. The method whereby the parameters are changed to minimize the sum in (17) involved using two minimization functions in MATLAB. These functions are `fminsearch` and `fmincon`. The initial values for the eight parameters are taken from [2] Duffie, Pan, and Singleton (2000). The function `fminsearch` uses the Nelder-Mead Simplex method, which in general terms develops a simplex or set of  $n+1$  parameter values and evaluates the function at each of these values. It then systematically makes a new set of parameters based on the reflection of the minimizing set about the center of gravity of the rest of the points except the worst point. Following a set of algorithms, it eventually converges to a point where the parameters and function values are minimized, at least locally. `Fminsearch` is highly effective at finding local minima, but will regularly overlook a global minimum by finding a local minimum.

The function `fmincon` uses four different algorithms; the algorithm which is used in this program is the Active-Set Algorithm, due to its ability to take large steps, and the fact that it can handle both bounds (used to keep the function value reasonable and focus the optimization), and the equality constraint . This function is an iterative method and calculates the Hessian and Lagrangian for each set of parameters values that is used. The Karush-Kuhn-Tucker equations are involved in calculating the gradients, which are used to find potentially better sets of parameters, which are then used and the method is repeated until a satisfactory minimum is obtained. This method works very well at finding the minimum within a set of bounds. Thus, to increase the chance of finding the global minimum, the bounds must be wide.

However, having a really wide set of bounds causes the program to generate numbers that are out of range based on the unrealistic combinations of parameter values it can generate. For example, it may take the maximum possible value for the first three parameters, then the minimum for the last five, which would create an SSE of  $10^{300}$ , a number which is out of range and causes the program to crash. As such, a narrower range of bounds must be used, meaning that the initial guess must be close to the actual solution. To check a wide range of possible combinations of bounds for the eight parameters, literally hundreds of different sets of bounds are tried using both `fminsearch` and `fmincon`, and using the information from these functions to pick new parameters. Once a set of values that

generates a reasonably small SSE is found, `fmincon` is used to find the local minimum, which `fminsearch` and hours of experimentation has shown to be a likely, but not a guaranteed, global minimum.

## RESULTS

In this project, three different models are employed to fit two sets of options data (38,321 calls and 38,156 puts) to generate essentially six sets of results. All three models are very stable, converging to the same answer with a wide range of initial values for calls and puts. This leads one to believe that both the model and the calibration are robust. The summary of these pricing errors is detailed in Table 2. To put the pricing errors in perspective, the mean stock price over the period is \$670.89 per share, the mean call option price is \$69.09, and the mean put option price is \$18.07 per share. On average, the SV model generates the error of 2.29% for call options whereas the SVJ model produces the error of 2.11%. Figure 4 further shows the distribution of squared errors for calls as modeled by the SV model for each of the 252 days. The calls are divided into 10 groups determined by ranges defined as 1/10 of the distance between the maximum and minimum error. While this is just the distribution for one of the six models, it is representative of the distribution in the other cases.

The mean values of sigma for the BS model for calls and puts are 0.151 and 0.146, respectively, for the 252 days for which they are optimized. These values are consistent with the actual observation of the market during the sample period. This indicates the BS model can generate a ballpark, though inaccurate, estimate consistent with the actual market behavior. The parameter estimates for the SV and SVJ models are reported in Table 3. The first four parameters in Table 3 are for stochastic volatility and are statistically significant. The next two parameters indicate that jumps are rare and negative on average, meaning downward jumps outweighing upward jumps. The last row is the implied volatility parameter, the results for which show consistency among all four combinations of models (SV and SVJ, Calls and Puts). To sum up, all parameter estimates are consistent with our initial assumption: the presence of stochastic volatility and jumps.

Measure of Accuracy

Calls	BS	SV	SVJ
SSE	190050	60271	55732
SSE/option	4.97	1.58	1.46
Puts			
SSE	318098	28873	15338
SSE/option	8.23	0.75	0.4

Table 2: Pricing Errors for the BS, SV and SVJ Models

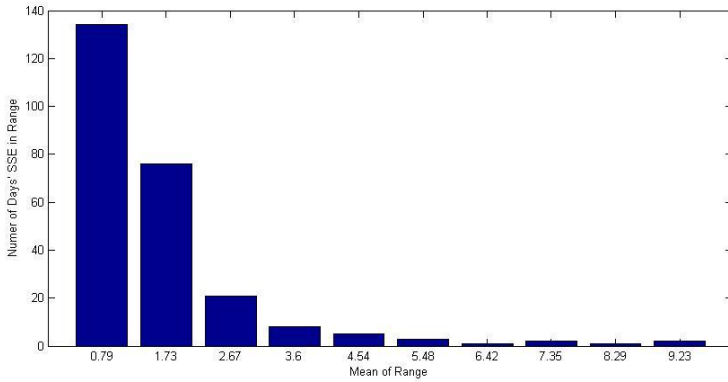


Figure 4. SV Model Calls – SSE Distribution

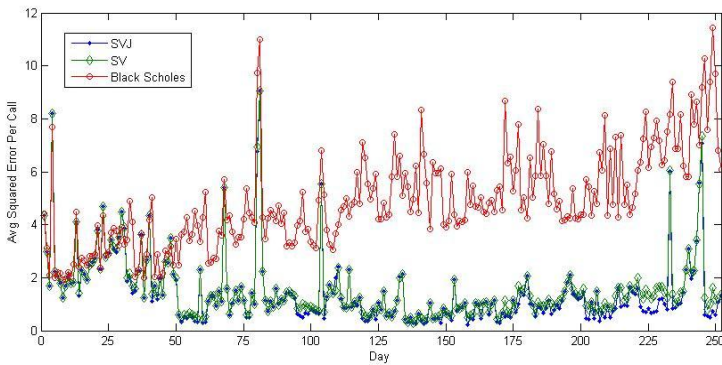
Mean Parameter Values - 252 Days

Parameter	SV Calls	SVJ Calls	SV Puts	SVJ Puts
$\bar{\rho}$	-0.858	-0.825	-0.893	-0.796
$\bar{v}$	0.029	0.021	0.023	0.01
$\kappa_v$	3.785	4.093	1.633	1.931
$\sigma_v$	0.3	0.214	0.272	0.17
$\sigma_y$	0	0.001	0	0.112
$\lambda_y$	0	0.081	0	0.08
$\mu_y$	0	-0.179	0	-0.429
$\sqrt{V}$	0.152	0.146	0.154	0.143

Table 3: Parameter Estimates for the SV and SVJ Models



Although Table 2 provides preliminary evidence for the relatively better performance of the SVJ model vs. the SV and BS models on average, the details are still yet to be revealed about their relative day-to-day performance. Figure 5 plots a daily comparison of the SSE for each of the three models. It is clear that the BS model generates highest errors while the SVJ and SV models have significantly lower errors. The SVJ model slightly outperforms the SV model.



**Figure 5. Daily Comparison of Squared Error**

To determine the level of certainty of the SSE results, a hypothesis test is conducted using the Diebold-Mariano (DM) statistic. The null hypothesis was that the mean squared error for the SV model is the same as that for the SVJ model. For calls, the DM statistic was 30.33, meaning that at the 99.9% confidence level, the null hypothesis is rejected. For puts, the DM statistic is 61.86, leading to a rejection of the null hypothesis at the 99.9% level. This agrees with the t-test, which is also run on the SSE day by day, and generates a t-statistic of 7.1, leading to rejection of the null hypothesis at the 99.9% level. For the variance calculated by the SV and SVJ models when modeling put options, a t-test is run and generates a t-statistic of 5.98, leading to a rejection of the null hypothesis at the 99.9% level. The results show that the errors produced by the SVJ model are lower than those produced by the SV model at the confidence level of 99.9%, although the difference between the two models is small.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the analysis of the empirical results, the SVJ model has a significantly greater level of accuracy than the SV model, and the SV model is significantly better than the BS model (although the DM statistics are not presented above, they are greater than those between SV and SVJ). These results held true when modeling both calls and puts. As SPX is the most actively traded European option on the index of 500 common stocks, the modeling technique can be applied to most other European style financial (stock, bonds and foreign exchange) options.

## LIMITATIONS

Areas that could be further studied to improve the model include programming in C code rather than MATLAB, using the MCMC minimization rather than `fminsearch` and `fmincon`, and using multiple years and stocks to further validate the results.

MATLAB code is designed to be easy to use and incredibly versatile, but it is not as fast. The reason for this is that MATLAB code is a sort of facade code, which runs another underlying code, causing the program to run much more slowly. Programming in C code would allay this problem, allowing many more lines of data and different stocks to be run more quickly than with MATLAB. Programming in C would also require the use of MCMC minimization since `fmincon` and `fminsearch` are not available in C. This minimization, while more complex, is a robust method and is less prone to finding local minima in the place of the global minimum than `fminsearch` and `fmincon`.

Another improvement which can be made to the current research is to employ multiple years of stock data and multiple stocks to allow further validation of these results.

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