

*Fifth Workshop Dynamical Systems Applied  
to Biology and Natural Sciences DSABNS 2014  
Lisbon, Portugal, February 10-12, 2014*

## **Increasing Powers and Free Boundary Problems arising in Population Biology**

JOSÉ FRANCISCO RODRIGUES<sup>1</sup> AND HUGO TAVARES<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Centro de Matemática e Aplicações Fundamentais, University of Lisbon,  
Portugal*

*rodrigue@ptmat.fc.ul.pt*

<sup>2</sup>*CAMGSD, Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, Portugal*

### ABSTRACT

We consider an asymptotic model of a logistic type diffusion equation with a non-homogeneous coefficient in the higher power of the reaction term when the power of this term tends to infinity. In the limit we find a model where the population density attains an upper saturation threshold in a region of positive measure. We also consider the asymptotic behaviour for large time recovering a free boundary problem arising from population biology considered by Dancer and co-workers.