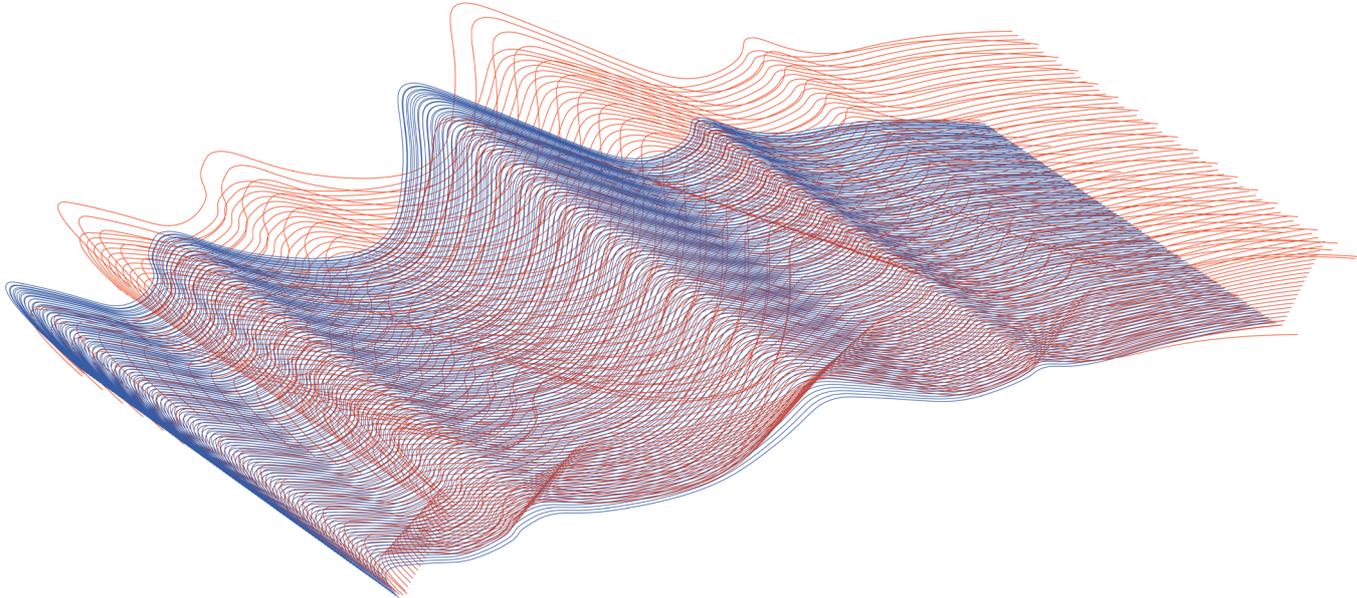




Australian  
National  
University

Friday, October 18th, 1-2pm, AEST



# Frailty, mortality and complexity: The osteological paradox and beyond

Bronwyn Wyatt, Australian National University

Paleoepidemiology is concerned with exploration of disease of past population, and in particular the mortality risk associated with factors such as skeletal indicators of disease (such as bone lesions), as well as socio-cultural factors such as class which may impact health. The exploration of such associations, however, are complicated by both issues relating to skeletal sample preservation and sample size, but also the factors which cannot be observed from skeletal materials regardless of sample size such as varying levels of vulnerability to illness and the resulting risk of mortality.

This presentation will first discuss these complicating factors and demonstrate the ambiguity of skeletal indicators of disease, and then introduce a novel approach to modelling and examining the hidden heterogeneity of frailty (generative simulation models). The findings of these models demonstrate the outsized impact of an unappreciated factor in the exploration of the past (and arguably the present) –stochasticity (or ‘luck’).

**Bronwyn Wyatt** is an ANU PhD candidate. Her research explores the complexity of mortality in past populations through generative modelling.

#### **Location**

Room 2175, Haydon Allen Building

#### **Attend via zoom:**

<https://tinyurl.com/krc7hmux>

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