

# Stability of coexistence states in a periodic prey-predator system

Rafael Ortega

Universidad de Granada

# Autonomous prey-predator system 1

$$\dot{u} = u(a - bu - cv), \quad \dot{v} = v(d + eu - fv)$$

$a, d$  growth rates,  $b, f > 0$  intraspecific competition,

$c, e > 0$  interaction coefficients

$$u = u(t) \geq 0 \text{ prey}, \quad v = v(t) \geq 0 \text{ predator}$$

*trivial equilibrium*  $O = (0, 0)$

*semi-trivial equilibria*  $S_1 = (\frac{a}{b}, 0)$  if  $a > 0$ ,  $S_2 = (0, \frac{d}{f})$  if  $d > 0$

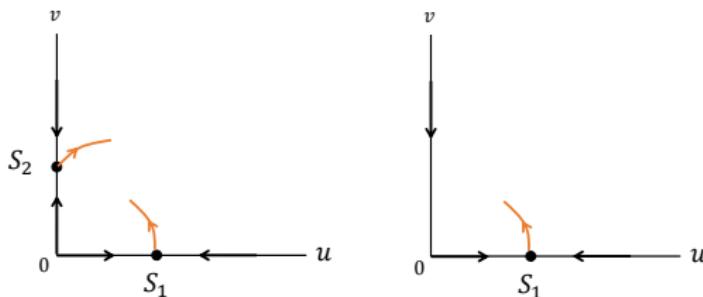
*coexistence state*  $E = (E_1, E_2)$ ,  $E_1 > 0$ ,  $E_2 > 0$

## Autonomous prey-predator system 2

$$\dot{u} = u(a - bu - cv), \quad \dot{v} = v(d + eu - fv)$$

$\exists$  coexistence state  $E = (E_1, E_2) \iff af - cd > 0, \quad bd + ae > 0$

$\iff a > 0$  and semi-trivial states are hyperbolic saddles



*Coexistence states are unique and asymptotically stable*

## Time-dependent systems: seasonal effects

$$\dot{u} = u(a(t) - b(t)u - \textcolor{red}{c(t)}v), \quad \dot{v} = v(d(t) + \textcolor{green}{e(t)}u - f(t)v)$$

$a = a(t), b = b(t), \dots, f = f(t)$   $T$ -periodic and continuous (or locally integrable)

$b(t), c(t), e(t), f(t)$  positive everywhere

Cushing 1977

*trivial equilibrium*  $O = (0, 0)$

*semi-trivial states*  $S_1(t), S_2(t)$   $T$ -periodic solutions of

$$\dot{S}_1 = S_1(a(t) - b(t)S_1), \quad S_1 > 0 \text{ if } \bar{a} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T a(t)dt > 0,$$

$$\dot{S}_2 = S_2(d(t) - f(t)S_2), \quad S_2 > 0 \text{ if } \bar{d} > 0$$

*coexistence state*  $E(t) = (E_1(t), E_2(t))$ ,  $T$ -periodic solution  $E_1 > 0, E_2 > 0$

## Some literature on coexistence states

$$\dot{u} = u(a(t) - b(t)u - \textcolor{red}{c}(t)v), \quad \dot{v} = v(d(t) + \textcolor{green}{e}(t)u - f(t)v)$$

$\exists$  coexistence state  $\iff \bar{a} > 0$  and semi-trivial states are hyperbolic saddles (Floquet multipliers  $|\mu_1| < 1 < |\mu_2|$ )

Brown-Hess (1991), López Gómez (1992)

examples with several coexistence states (non-uniqueness)

Dancer (1994), Amine-O. (1994)

finite number of coexistence states

López Gómez-O.-Tineo (1996)

example with a unique coexistence state that is Lyapunov unstable

López Gómez-O.-Tineo (1996)

Uniqueness and asymptotic stability criteria

Tineo (1992), Amine-O. (1994)

# A new criterion (2021)

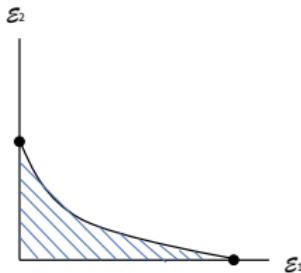
$$\dot{u} = u(a(t) - bu - cv), \quad \dot{v} = v(d(t) + eu - fv)$$

$\exists$  coexistence state  $\iff$  the averaged system has a positive equilibrium  
 $\mathcal{E} = (\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2)$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_1 > 0$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_2 > 0$

**Theorem** *The coexistence state is unique and asymptotically stable if*

$$T(\sqrt{ce\mathcal{E}_1\mathcal{E}_2} + \frac{1}{2}(b\mathcal{E}_1 + f\mathcal{E}_2)) \leq 2$$

the number 2 is optimal



# Liapounoff stability criterion for Hill's equation (1907)

PROBLÈME GÉNÉRAL  
DE  
LA STABILITÉ DU MOUVEMENT,  
PAR M. A. LIAPOUNOFF.

Traduit du russe par M. Édouard DAVAUX,  
Ingenieur de la Marine à Toulon (\*).

PRÉFACE.

Dans cet Ouvrage sont exposées quelques méthodes pour la résolution des questions concernant les propriétés du mouvement et, en particulier, de l'équilibre, qui sont connues sous les dénominations de *stabilité* et d'*instabilité*.

Les questions ordinaires de ce genre, auxquelles est consacré cet Ouvrage, conduisent à l'étude d'équations différentielles de la forme

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = X_1, \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = X_2, \quad \dots, \quad \frac{dx_n}{dt} = X_n,$$

## Stability for the equation

$$\ddot{y} + \alpha(t)y = 0$$

if  $\alpha(t)$  is  $T$ -periodic,  $\alpha(t) > 0$ ,  $T \int_0^T \alpha(t) dt \leq 4$  the number 4 is optimal

# 1 Proof of the Theorem

Linearization at the coexistence state  $(E_1(t), E_2(t))$ ,

$$\dot{y} = A(t)y, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

$a_{ij}(t)$  is a linear combination of  $E_1(t)$  and  $E_2(t)$

$A(t)$  is  $T$ -periodic

$\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathbb{C}$  Floquet multipliers

GOAL:

$$|\mu_i| < 1, \quad i = 1, 2$$

## 2 Proof: a class of linear systems

Change of variables  $x_1 = E_1(t)y_1$ ,  $x_2 = E_2(t)y_1$

$$\dot{x} = B(t)x, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

*Linear prey-predator systems:*  $b_{12}(t) < 0$ ,  $b_{21}(t) > 0$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$

Lyapunov's framework is in this class

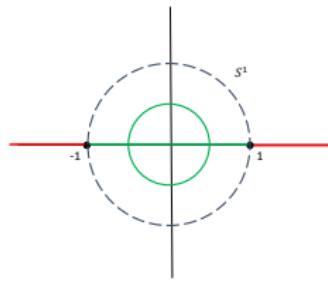
$$\dot{x}_1 = -x_2, \quad \dot{x}_2 = \alpha(t)x_1$$

$\alpha(t)$  is  $T$ -periodic and positive

### 3 Proof: Homotopy and asymptotic stability

$$\dot{x} = [\lambda B(t) + (1 - \lambda) \bar{B}]x, \quad \lambda \in [0, 1]$$

$\nexists$  periodic solutions of period  $2T$  ( $x \neq 0$ )  $\implies |\mu_i| < 1, i = 1, 2$   
 $\text{trace}(\bar{B}) < 0$  implies...



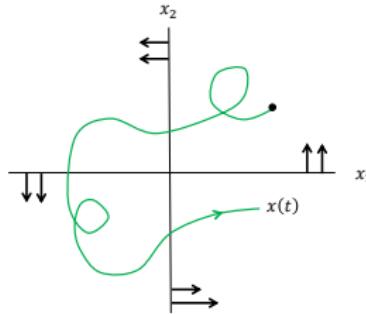
$\dot{x} = \bar{B}x$  is asymptotically stable  $|\mu_i(0)| < 1$  and  $|\mu_i(\lambda)| \neq 1$  for each  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

## 4 Proof: Following the argument

$$\dot{x} = B(t, \lambda)x$$

*elliptic-polar coordinates*  $x_1 = \sqrt{\mu}r \cos \theta, \quad x_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu}}r \sin \theta$

$$\dot{\theta} = \mu b_{21}(t, \lambda) \cos^2 \theta - \frac{1}{\mu} b_{12}(t, \lambda) \sin^2 \theta + (b_{11}(t, \lambda) - b_{22}(t, \lambda)) \cos \theta \sin \theta$$



$x(t)$  is  $2T$ -periodic  $\iff \theta(t + 2T) = \theta(t) + 2\pi m, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Task: to control  $\theta(2T) - \theta(0)$  in terms of  $\bar{b}_{12}$ ,  $\bar{b}_{21}$  and  $\int_0^T |b_{11} - b_{22}|$ ,  
hence in terms of  $\bar{E}_1$  and  $\bar{E}_2$

## 5 Proof: back to the original equation

$$\dot{E}_1 = E_1(a(t) - bE_1 - \textcolor{red}{c}E_2), \quad \dot{E}_2 = E_2(d(t) + \textcolor{green}{e}E_1 - fE_2)$$

$$0 = \int_0^T \frac{\dot{E}_1}{E_1} = \int_0^T (a(t) - bE_1 - cE_2)$$

$$0 = \int_0^T \frac{\dot{E}_2}{E_2} = \int_0^T (d(t) + eE_1 - fE_2)$$

$$\bar{a} = b\bar{E}_1 + c\bar{E}_2$$

$$\bar{d} = -e\bar{E}_1 + f\bar{E}_2$$

$$(\bar{E}_1, \bar{E}_2) = (\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2)$$

# A trick to control the argument

$$\dot{\theta} = \mu b_{21}(t, \lambda) \cos^2 \theta - \frac{1}{\mu} b_{12}(t, \lambda) \sin^2 \theta + (b_{11}(t, \lambda) - b_{22}(t, \lambda)) \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

If  $|\theta(t) - 2\pi n| \leq \frac{\pi}{4} \implies |\sin \theta(t)| \geq |\cos \theta(t)|$

$$\dot{\theta} \leq (\mu b_{21}(t, \lambda) - \frac{1}{\mu} b_{12}(t, \lambda) + |b_{11}(t, \lambda) - b_{22}(t, \lambda)|) \cos^2 \theta$$

separation of variables

# The proof of uniqueness

Poincaré map:  $P(u_0, v_0) = (u(T; u_0, v_0), v(T; u_0, v_0))$

$\exists \Gamma$  Jordan curve in  $\text{int}(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$ :

$$\text{Fix}(P) \subset \Omega$$

$\Omega$  bounded connected component of  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \Gamma$

$$\deg(id - P, \Omega, 0) = 1$$

$$\deg(id - P, \Omega, 0) = \sum_{x \in \text{Fix}(P)} I(P, x)$$

$I(P, x)$  fixed point index,  $|\mu_i| < 1 \implies I(P, x) = 1$

# An open question

*Given a coexistence state that is locally asymptotically stable and unique, can we say that it is a global attractor?*