

· 基础理论研究 ·

# The optimal harvesting policy of stage-structured predator-prey system

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**Abstract** Predator-prey models play a crucial role in bioeconomics, that is the management of renewable resources. A bioeconomic model of two species with stage structure and the relation of predator-prey is established, the necessary and sufficient condition for the permanence of two species and the extinction of one species or two species is obtained. The optimal harvesting and the threshold of harvesting for the sustainable development is also obtained.

**Key words:** bioeconomic modelling; permanence; the optimal harvesting policy

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The competitive, cooperative and predator-prey models have been studied by many authors (see monographs [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]). The permanence (or strong persistence) and extinction are significant concepts of those models. However, the stage structure of species has been considered very little. In the real world, almost all animals have the stage structure of immature and mature. Recently, papers [8, 9] studied the stage structure of species, the transformation rate of mature population is proportional to the existing immature population; papers [10, 11, 12] also studied the stage-structured models, the time from birth to maturity represented by a constant time delay. Cannibalish models of various types have also been investigated (see [13, 14, 15, 16]).

The optimal management of renewable resources, which has a direct relationship to sustainable development, has been studied extensively by many authors. Economic and biological aspects of renewable resources management have been considered by Clark<sup>[17]</sup> and other authors. Predator-prey models play a crucial role in bioeconomics,

that is the management of renewable resources. When practiced, the management of renewable resources has been based on the M.S.Y., abbreviation for maximum sustainable yields. The M.S.Y. is a simple way to manage resources taking into consideration that overexploiting resources lead to a loss in productivity. Based on a biological growth model, the M.S.Y. depends upon the environmental carrying capacity  $K$ . As the population approaches the value  $K$ , the surplus production approaches zero. Therefore, the aim is to determine how much we can harvest without altering dangerously the harvested population.

We intend to consider the stage structure of two species. For the simplicity of our model, we only consider the stage structure of immature and mature of the prey species (their sizes of population are written as  $u_1, u_2$  respectively), and not consider the stage structure of the predator species (its size of population is written as  $v$ ), and two species satisfy the following assumptions:

(H<sub>1</sub>) The birth rate of the immature prey population is proportional to the existing mature

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prey population with a proportionality constant  $b$ ; for the immature prey population, the death rate and transformation rate of mature prey are proportional to the existing immature prey population with proportionality constants  $r_1$  and  $b_1$ .

(H<sub>2</sub>) The death rate and overcrowding rate of the mature prey population is of logistic nature, i.e. it is proportional to square of the population with a proportionality constant  $r_2 > 0$ .  $qEu_2$  is the harvesting yield,  $q$  is the catchability coefficient and  $E$  is the harvesting effort.

(H<sub>3</sub>) The growth of the predator population is of Lotka-Volterra nature. The predator population feed on the mature prey. This seems reasonable for a number of animals, where immature prey populations concealed in the mountain cave, are raised by their parents; the rate predators attack at immature prey can be ignored.

According to (H<sub>1</sub>), (H<sub>2</sub>) and (H<sub>3</sub>), we can set up the following stage-structured predator-prey model

$$\begin{cases} \dot{u}_1 = bu_2 - r_1u_1 - b_1u_1 \\ \dot{u}_2 = b_1u_1 - r_2u_2^2 - a_1u_2v - qEu_2 \\ \dot{v} = v(-r + a_2u_2 - b_2v) \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $b, b_1, b_2, r, r_1, r_2, a_1, a_2, q$  are positive constants,  $\dot{u}_i = du_i/dt, \dot{v} = dv/dt$

Let  $x_1 = a_2b^{-1}u_1, x_2 = a_2(r_1 + b_1)^{-1}u_2, y = b_2(r_1 + b_1)^{-1}v, d\tau = (r_1 + b_1)dt$ , system (1) can be turned into

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 - x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 = \beta_1x_1 - \beta_2x_2^2 - ax_2y - E_1x_2 \\ \dot{y} = y(-d + x_2 - y) \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where  $\dot{x}_i = dx_i/d\tau, \dot{y} = dy/d\tau, \beta_1 = b_1b(r_1 + b_1)^{-2}, \beta_2 = r_2a_2^{-1}, a = a_1b_2^{-1}, d = r(r_1 + b_1)^{-1}, E_1 = qE(r_1 + b_1)^{-1}$ .

In the next section, we shall consider the condition of permanence and extinction of system. The exploitation of the mature population is considered in section 3

## 1 Permanence and extinction of system (2)

At first, we give the following notations and definitions

$$R_+^3 = \{x = (x_1, x_2, y) \in R_+^3, x_i > 0, y > 0\},$$

**Definition 1** System (2) is said to permanence if there are positive constants  $m$  and  $M$  such that each positive solution  $x(t, x_0)$  of (2) with initial condition  $x_0 \in \text{Int}R_+^3$  satisfies

$$m \leq \liminf_t x_i(t, x_0) \leq \limsup_t x_i(t, x_0) \leq M, \\ m \leq \liminf_t y(t, x_0) \leq \limsup_t y(t, x_0) \leq M.$$

**Definition 2** (i) The prey species of system (2) is said to extinction if each positive solution  $x(t, x_0)$  of system (2) with initial condition  $x_0 \in \text{Int}R_+^3$  satisfies

$$\lim_t x_i(t, x_0) = 0, i = 1, 2$$

(ii) The predator species of system (2) is said to extinction if each positive solution  $x(t, x_0)$  of system (2) with initial condition  $x_0 \in \text{Int}R_+^3$  satisfies

$$\lim_t y(t, x_0) = 0$$

**Definition 3** A constant  $\delta_0$  is said to be threshold (critical situations) of the harvesting effort (or harvesting) if system (2) is permanence as the harvesting effort  $E_1 < \delta_0$  (or the harvesting yield  $h < \delta_0$ ), and at least one species of system (2) will be extinction as the harvesting effort  $E_1 > \delta_0$  (or harvesting yield  $h > \delta_0$ ).

The equilibria for our model are determined by setting  $\dot{x}_1 = \dot{x}_2 = \dot{y} = 0$  in system (2) and solving the resulting algebraic equations

$$\begin{cases} x_2 - x_1 = 0, \\ \beta_1x_1 - \beta_2x_2^2 - ax_2y - E_1x_2 = 0, \\ y(-d + x_2 - y) = 0 \end{cases}$$

If  $\beta_1 > d\beta_2 + E_1$ , then system (2) has three non-negative equilibria:  $P_0(0, 0, 0), P_1(x_1^0, x_2^0, 0), P_2(x_1^*, x_2^*, y^*)$ , where

$$x_1^0 = x_2^0 = \frac{\beta_1 - E_1}{\beta_2}, \\ x_1^* = x_2^* = \frac{\beta_1 + ad - E_1}{a + \beta_2}, \\ y^* = \frac{\beta_1 - d\beta_2 - E_1}{a + \beta_2}.$$

Obviously,  $R_+^3$  is invariant for system (2).

In order to discuss the permanence and extinction of system (2), we analysis the local geometric properties of the nonnegative equilibria of

system (2).

The characteristic equation of equilibrium  $P_0(0, 0, 0)$  is

$$(\lambda + 1)(\lambda + E_1)(\lambda + d) - \beta_1(\lambda + d) = 0$$

Hence,  $P_0(0, 0, 0)$  is a saddle with  $\dim W^u(P_0) = 1$ ,  $\dim W^s(P_0) = 2$  for  $E_1 < \beta_1$ ;  $P_0(0, 0, 0)$  is locally asymptotically stable for  $E_1 > \beta_1$ .

The characteristic equation of equilibrium  $P_1(x_1^0, x_2^0, 0)$  is

$$(\lambda + 1)(\lambda + 2\beta_2 x_2^0 + E_1)(\lambda + d - x_2^0) - \beta_1(\lambda + d - x_2^0) = 0$$

Hence,  $P_1(x_1^0, x_2^0, 0)$  is a saddle with  $\dim W^u(P_1) = 1$ ,  $\dim W^s(P_1) = 2$  for  $\beta_1 > d\beta_2 + E_1$ ;  $P_1(x_1^0, x_2^0, 0)$  is locally asymptotically stable for  $\beta_1 < d\beta_2 + E_1$ .

The characteristic equation of equilibrium  $P_2(x_1^*, x_2^*, y^*)$  is

$$(\lambda + 1)(\lambda + 2\beta_2 x_2^* + ay^* + E_1)(\lambda + y^*) + (\lambda + 1)ax_2^* y^* - \beta_1(\lambda + y^*) = 0,$$

that is

$$\lambda^3 + A\lambda^2 + B\lambda + C = 0,$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 1 + \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_2^* + y^* > 0, \\ B &= \beta_2 x_2^* + y^* (1 + \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_2^* + ax_2^*) > 0, \\ C &= x_2^* y^* (\beta_2 + a) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Obviously,  $AB - C > 0$  According to Routh-Hurwitz Theorem,  $P_2(x_1^*, x_2^*, y^*)$  is locally asymptotically stable for  $\beta_1 > d\beta_2 + E_1$ .

In the following, we shall discuss the global properties of nonnegative equilibria

**Theorem 1** (i) If  $\beta_1 > d\beta_2 + E_1$ , then the positive equilibrium  $P_2(x_1^*, x_2^*, y^*)$  of system (2) is globally asymptotically stable

(ii) If  $E_1 < \beta_1 - d\beta_2 + E_1$ , then the nonnegative equilibrium  $P_1(x_1^0, x_2^0, 0)$  of system (2) is globally asymptotically stable Hence  $E_1^* = \beta_1 - d\beta_2$  is the threshold of harvesting effort of system (2).

(iii) If  $\beta_1 < E_1$ , then the nonnegative equilibrium  $P_0(0, 0, 0)$  of system (2) is globally asymptotically stable

**Proof** (i) We define a Lyapunov function

$$V_1(x_1, x_2, y) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \lambda(x_i - x_i^* - x_i^* \ln \frac{x_i}{x_i^*})$$

$$+ \lambda(y - y^* - y^* \ln \frac{y}{y^*}),$$

where  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda$  are suitable constants to be determined in the subsequent steps Obviously,  $V_1$  is a positive definite function in the region  $R_+^3$  except at  $P_2(x_1^*, x_2^*, y^*)$  where it vanishes Further,

$$\lim_{\substack{x_i \rightarrow 0 \\ y \rightarrow 0}} V_1(x_1, x_2, y) = \lim_{\substack{x_i \\ y}} V_1(x_1, x_2, y) = \dots$$

The time derivative of  $V_1$  along the solution of (2) is

$$\begin{aligned} dV_1/dt &= \lambda(x_1 - x_1^*) \left( \frac{x_2}{x_1} - 1 \right) \\ &+ \lambda_2(x_2 - x_2^*) (\beta_1 \frac{x_1}{x_2} - \beta_2 x_2 - ay - E_1) \\ &+ \lambda(y - y^*) (-d + x_2 - y) \\ &= \lambda(x_1 - x_1^*) (x_1^* x_2 - x_1 x_2^*) / x_1 x_1^* \\ &+ \beta_1 \lambda_2(x_2 - x_2^*) (x_1 x_2^* - x_1^* x_2) / x_2 x_2^* \\ &- \lambda_2 \beta_2 (x_2 - x_2^*)^2 - \lambda a (x_2 - x_2^*) (y - y^*) \\ &+ \lambda(x_2 - x_2^*) (y - y^*) - \lambda(y - y^*)^2, \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\lambda = \lambda a, \lambda x_2^* = \lambda \beta_1 x_1^*$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} dV_1/dt &= - \frac{\lambda}{x_1^* x_1 x_2} (x_1^* x_2 - x_1 x_2^*)^2 \\ &- \lambda \beta_2 (x_2 - x_2^*)^2 - \lambda(y - y^*)^2 \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Set  $D_1 = \{x \in \text{Int}R_+^3 : dV_1/dt = 0\} = \{x \in \text{Int}R_+^3 : x_i = x_i^*, y = y^*\} = P_2$  According to LaSalle Theorem,  $P_2$  is globally asymptotically stable for  $\beta_1 > d\beta_2 + E_1$ .

(ii) We construct the following Lyapunov function

$$V_2(x_1, x_2, y) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \lambda(x_i - x_i^0 - x_i^0 \ln \frac{x_i}{x_i^0}) + \lambda y.$$

Calculating the derivative of  $V_2(t)$  along the solution of system (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} dV_2/dt &= \lambda(x_1 - x_1^0) \left( \frac{x_2}{x_1} - 1 \right) \\ &+ \lambda_2(x_2 - x_2^0) (\beta_1 \frac{x_1}{x_2} - \beta_2 x_2 - ay - E_1) + \lambda y (-d + x_2 - y) \\ &= \lambda(x_1 - x_1^0) (x_1^0 x_2 - x_1 x_2^0) / x_1 x_1^0 \\ &+ \beta_1 \lambda_2(x_2 - x_2^0) (x_1 x_2^0 - x_1^0 x_2) / x_2 x_2^0 \\ &- \lambda_2 \beta_2 (x_2 - x_2^0)^2 - \lambda a (x_2 - x_2^0) y + \lambda x_2 y - \lambda d y - \lambda y^2, \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\lambda x_2^0 = \lambda \beta_1 x_1^0, a\lambda = \lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} dV_2(t)/dt &= - \frac{\lambda}{x_1^0 x_1 x_2} (x_1^0 x_2 - x_1 x_2^0)^2 \\ &- \lambda \beta_2 (x_2 - x_2^0)^2 - \lambda(d - x_2^0) y - \lambda y^2 \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Set  $D_2 = \{x \in R^3_+ : dV_2/dt = 0\} = P_1$ . According to LaSalle Theorem,  $P_1$  is globally asymptotically stable for  $E_1 < \beta_1 - d\beta_2 + E_1$ . We obtain  $E_1^* = \beta_1 - d\beta_2$  is the threshold (critical situations) of harvesting effort of system (2).

(iii) We construct the following Liapunov function  $V_3(x_1, x_2, y) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \lambda x_i + \lambda y$ .

Calculating the derivative of  $V_3(t)$  along the solution of system (2), we have

$$dV_3/dt = \lambda x_2 - \lambda x_1 + \lambda \beta_1 x_1 - \lambda \beta_2 x_2^2 - a \lambda x_2 y - \lambda E_1 x_2 - \lambda dy + \lambda y x_2 - \lambda y^2.$$

Let  $\lambda_1 = \lambda \beta_1, a \lambda = \lambda$

$$dV_3(t)/dt = \lambda (\beta_1 - E_1) x_2 - \lambda \beta_2 x_2^2 - \lambda dy - \lambda y^2 \leq 0$$

Hence,  $D_3 = \{x \in R^3_+ : dV_3/dt = 0\} = \{x \in R^3_+ : x_2 = y = 0, x_1 = 0\}$ . If  $D_3$  is an invariant set of system (2), by the second equation of system (2), we have  $x_1 = 0, D_3 = P_0(0, 0, 0)$ . Hence,  $P_0(0, 0, 0)$  is globally asymptotically stable for  $\beta_1 < E_1$ .  $\square$

According to Theorem 1, we have

**Theorem 2** (i) Two species of system (1) are permanence if and only if the catchability effort satisfies

$$qE < \frac{b_1 b}{r_1 + b_1} - \frac{r_2 r}{a_2}.$$

(ii) The predator species of system (1) is extinction and the prey species is not extinction if and only if the catchability effort satisfies

$$\frac{b_1 b}{r_1 + b_1} - \frac{r_2 r}{a_2} > qE > \frac{b_1 b}{r_1 + b_1}$$

(iii) The two species of system (1) are extinction if and only if the catchability effort satisfies

$$qE < \frac{b_1 b}{r_1 + b_1}$$

## 2 The optimal harvesting policy of system (2)

In this section, we consider the maximum sustainable yield of system (2). From the point of view of ecological managers, it may be desirable to have a unique positive equilibrium which is globally asymptotically stable, in order to plan harvesting strategies and keep sustainable develop-

ment of ecosystem. Generally, the exploitation of population should be the mature population, which is more appropriate to the economic and biological views of renewable resources management

**Theorem 3** (i) If  $\beta_1 > 2d\beta_2 + ad$ , the maximum sustainable yield in system (2) is

$$h_{MSY} = h(\bar{E}_1) = \frac{(\beta_1 + ad)^2}{4(a + \beta_2)},$$

where  $\bar{E}_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\beta_1 + ad)$ , which is the optimal harvesting effort of system (2).

(ii) If  $d\beta_2 < \beta_1 < 2d\beta_2 + ad$ , the maximum sustainable yield in system (2) is

$$h_{MSY} = h(E_1^*) = d(\beta_1 - d\beta_2),$$

where  $E_1^* = \beta_1 - d\beta_2$ , which is the threshold (critical situations) of harvesting effort of system (2).

**Proof** Let  $x_2 = x_2^*$ , the harvesting of system (2) is

$$h(E_1) = E_1 x_2^* = \frac{E_1(\beta_1 + ad - E_1)}{a + \beta_2}.$$

Calculating the derivative of  $h(E_1)$  for  $E_1$ , we have

$$dh/dE_1 = \frac{1}{a + \beta_2}(\beta_1 + ad - 2E_1),$$

hence, the solution of  $dh/dE_1 = 0$  is  $\bar{E}_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\beta_1 + ad)$ . Comparing the two number  $E_1^*$  and  $\bar{E}_1$ , we have the following results:

(i) If  $0 < \bar{E}_1 < E_1^*$ , that is,  $\beta_1 > 2d\beta_2 + ad$ , the corresponding maximum sustainable yield for  $h(E_1)$  is

$$h_{MSY} = h(\bar{E}_1) = \frac{(\beta_1 + ad)^2}{4(a + \beta_2)}.$$

(ii) If  $\bar{E}_1 > E_1^* > 0$ , that is,  $d\beta_2 < \beta_1 < 2d\beta_2 + ad$ , the corresponding maximum sustainable yield for  $h(E_1)$  is

$$h_{MSY} = h(E_1^*) = d(\beta_1 - d\beta_2).$$

Summarizing above discussion. If  $d\beta_2 < \beta_1 < 2d\beta_2 + ad$ , the maximum sustainable yield for  $h(E_1)$  is  $h_{MSY} = h(E_1^*) = d(\beta_1 - d\beta_2)$ . If the harvesting  $h_{MSY} = h(E_1^*)$ , then the nonnegative equilibria  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  of system (2) coincide, the nonnegative equilibrium  $P_1$  is globally asymptotically stable by Theorem 1. Hence, the second species (predator) will be extinction eventually. Hence

$h_{MSY} = h(E_1^*) = d(\beta_1 - d\beta_2)$  is the threshold (critical situations) of harvesting for the mature prey population

If  $\beta_1 > 2d\beta_2 + ad$ , then the maximum sustainable yield for  $h(E_1)$  is  $h_{MSY} = h(\bar{E}_1) = (\beta_1 + ad)^2 / 4(a + \beta_2)$ . If the harvesting  $h_{MSY} = h(\bar{E}_1)$ , then the unique positive equilibrium  $P_2$  of system (2) is globally asymptotically stable. Hence  $h_{MSY} = h(\bar{E}_1)$  is the optimal harvesting of system (2).

**Remark** If  $\beta_1 > 2d\beta_2 + ad$ , that is,  $bb_1b_2a_2 > 2r_1r_2b_2(r_1 + b_1) + ra_1a_2(r_1 + b_1)$ , then  $h(\bar{E}_1) > h(E_1^*)$ . Therefore, Theorem 3 depicts an obvious fact: The maximum sustainable yield of system (1) depend on the reproduction rate of mature population, the death rates of two species and the rate predators attack at mature prey. These coefficients should satisfies:  $b$  is large,  $r$ ,  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are small

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$$\Delta = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N t_i^h t_j^{h+1} (t_j^{1-h} - t_i^{1-h}) - \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N t_i^{h+\frac{1}{2}} t_j^{h+\frac{1}{2}} (t_j^{1-h} - t_i^{1-h}) \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N t_i^h t_j^{h+\frac{1}{2}} (t_j^{\frac{1}{2}} - t_i^{\frac{1}{2}}) (t_j^{1-h} - t_i^{1-h}),$$

因此,

当  $h > 1$  时,  $\Delta > 0$ , 有  $S_x^2 > S_{f_x \tilde{x} N} / f_N$ , 则 PPS 设计优于乘积估计设计;

当  $h < 1$  时,  $\Delta < 0$ , 有  $S_x^2 < S_{f_x \tilde{x} N} / f_N$ , 上式大

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### Comparison of PPS estimation and product estimation

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**Abstract:** The estimation for the population mean under PPS sampling scheme and the product estimation for population mean under simple random sampling scheme are two often methods in practice. Their theoretical research is very rich too. In the present paper, the efficiency of this two estimation is compared in case that interest index and size index being negative related

**Key words:** PPS estimation; product estimation; super population model

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### 阶段结构捕食系统的最优收获策略

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**摘要:** 在生物经济即可更新资源管理中, 捕食系统起着非常重要的作用. 本文建立一个具阶段结构和捕食关系的两种群生物经济模型, 分别获得了一个或两个种群绝灭和两种群持久生存的充分必要条件, 也获得了保持生态环境可持续发展的最优收获策略和收获成年种群的阈值, 并给出了所得结果的实际意义.

**关键词:** 生物经济模型; 持续生存; 最优收获策略

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