

## Analysis Methods for Infectious Disease Using Mathematical Models

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# Analysis Methods for Infectious Disease Using Mathematical Models

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## 1. Introduction

For both human beings and animals, infectious disease has always been one of the most important factors influencing fatality. Currently, infectious diseases affect many economic aspects of livestock husbandry, and the prevention of epidemic infections is a serious issue, especially due to recent globalization. When dealing with infectious diseases, it is important to estimate specific disease-related factors; infectious disease models can be used for such purposes. This material provides simple explanations for infectious disease modelling. In the following material, several models of infectious disease are provided; these models are often referred to as SIR models. To facilitate understanding of this material, demonstrations using MS Excel and sometimes the R codes are provided as supplementary materials.

The SIR-type epidemiological model dates back to publications by Kermack – McKendrick (1927); however, no solid research followed these studies for decades. Indeed, after a long period without additional studies on SIR-type models, the Kermack – McKendrick (1927) model was finally appreciated, and full-fledged studies were started in the 1970s. Most recent works are more directly traced back to Anderson and May (1979), May and Anderson (1979), and Anderson (1991).

Some introductory texts and papers, which include similar materials, are provided on the website of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich (ETH Zürich, 2009, 2010), as well as in papers published by Keeling and Rohani (2008) and Tassier (2013).

## 2. Basic Things to Know

## 2.1. Infectious status

Infectious diseases are caused when certain types of parasites invade into a host. Some of these types of parasites are shown in Table 1. In the text that follows, we will mainly discuss diseases incurred from microparasites. In SIR models, individuals in a population are divided into susceptible (S), exposed/latent (E), infectious (I), and recovered/removed (R) individuals, and the models are referred to on the basis of the infections statuses of included individuals (Figure 1). Here,

- *S*: Susceptible individuals are those who can be infected but have not been infected.
- *E*: Exposed individuals are those who have been exposed to the disease and infected, but are not infectious (namely, those whose disease is in the latent stage).
- *I*: Infectious individuals are those who are infectious.
- *R*: Removed individuals are those who recovered from the disease and have immunity. In some models, removed individuals will be reverted to the S stage once they have lost immunity. Additionally, *R*s may be removed individuals from the population because of disease-related death.

Type of agent	Characteristics [Examples]
Microparasites	
Virus	Small, simple, obligatory parasites of larger cells
	[Ex.: influenza]
Bacteria	Large and more complex than viruses; many are able to grow independently,
	but some require a cellular host
	[Ex.: Salmonella typhi (typhoid fever)]
Protozoa	Large single-celled organisms, more complex than bacteria, many are able to
	grow independently, but some require a cellular host
	[Ex.: Plasmodium falciparum (malaria)]
Macroparasites	
Helminths	Large (1 mm to 10 m) multicellular organisms
(worms)	[Ex.: Schistosoma mansoni (schistosomiasis)]
Arthropods	Insects, lice, ticks, and their relatives
	[Ex.: Ixodes spp. (ticks)]

Table 1. Infectious agents

Source: Vynnycky and White (2010), Table 1.1.



Source: Keeling and Rohani (2008) Figure 1.2

### 2.2. Variables and parameters

Because exposed and recovered individuals E and R have already been infected and have acquired immunity, only susceptible individuals S can be infected when contacting infectious individuals I. Let us suppose p represents the probability that S will be infected when contacting I and that c represents the number of opportunities an individual in S has to come in contact with individuals I within a certain period. Then, the infection rate is pc. It can be easily inferred that the expected number of individuals who transition from S to I in a certain period will be pc SI.

S, E, I, and R are referred to as variables, whose values change over time, while c and p are referred to as parameters, whose values are constant over time. A parameter is always a coefficient of some variable. If it is not related to the variable, it is simply called a 'constant'. With empirical data and/or previous studies, we often set initial values of variables and values for parameters and constants.

## 2.3. Discrete time and difference equation

Two different time spans are used in modelling. In particular, discrete time is used when we use the difference equation. As explained above, values of variables change over time. Let us define time explicitly. For example, the population size of some animal at the beginning of any two sequential times t and t + 1 can be given as  $N_t$  tons and  $N_{t+1}$  tons, respectively. Specifically, let us suppose that two sequential times implies two sequential years. Population sizes will change during these sequential years because of the following reasons:

- (1) increases in the number of individuals by immigration from outside of a population and/or decreases in the number of individuals by emigration from inside of the population
- (2) increases in the number of individuals by births inside of the population and/or decreases in the number of individuals by deaths inside of the population

Here (1) can be regarded as a situation where immigration and emigration occur between several populations within the metapopulation. However, for the sake of simplicity, a single population is sometimes assumed, and immigrants and emigrants are ignored. Then, the population size changes based on births and deaths. That is,

$$N_{t+1} = N_t + B_t - D_t \tag{1}$$

Here,

 $B_t$ : number of births in this population in year t

 $D_t$ : number of deaths in this population in year t

Under some assumptions and after a few complicated calculations, we have the famous logistic equation as follows (see Appendix I):

$$N_{t+1} - N_t = \bar{r} \left[ 1 - \frac{N_t}{K} \right] N_t \tag{2}$$

Here,

*K*: carrying capacity (tons)  $\bar{r}$ : growth rate (per year)

The amount of population increase or decrease during a certain period of time (e.g., one year) is 'flow', while the population size at a certain time (e.g., at the beginning of the year) is 'stock'. Differences in stocks are considered flow. In our case, both  $N_t$  and  $N_{t+1}$  are stock, and the difference in these stocks (namely,  $N_{t+1} - N_t$ ) is flow. It can be easily inferred that the unit of measure of  $N_t$  and  $N_{t+1}$  is, for

example, tons; however, that of  $N_{t+1} - N_t$  should be, for example, tons/year.

Let us check the consistency of units on both the left hand side (l.h.s.) and right hand side (r.h.s) of eq. (2). As stated above, the unit of the l.h.s. is `tons/year' and that of the r.h.s. is as follows:

$$\Delta_r/\text{year}\left[1 - \frac{\Delta_N tons}{\Delta_K tons}\right] \Delta_N tons$$
 (3)

Because  $\frac{tons}{tons}$  is cancelled out and will be unit free, the above representative can be reduced to 'tons/year', which is consistent with the units of the l.h.s. of eq. (2).

[Example 1] Consistency of units  
Suppose 
$$r = 0.2/year$$
,  $K = 100$  tons. If the stock size of year  $t$  is 50 tons,  
 $55 \text{ tons} - 50 \text{ tons} = 0.2/year \times \left[1 - \frac{50 \text{ tons}}{100 \text{ tons}}\right] 50$  tons (E1)  
Because the l.h.s. is the difference between the stocks,  
this is flow, and we need to add '/year'

## 2.4. Continuous time and differential equation

If we analyse species that reproduce during some specific season and for which changes in generations occur simultaneously, it is appropriate to use discrete time (Teramoto, 1997). However, if the reproductive season is not common, it is more appropriate to use a differential equation to describe the dynamics of such species (Teramoto, 1997).

Because the reproductive season of microparasites usually varies, we often use a differential equation. A continuous version of the logistic equation can be obtained as follows:

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = r \left[ 1 - \frac{N}{K} \right] N \tag{4}$$

Here, r is the instantaneous growth rate. If necessary, we substitute  $N_{t+1}$  and  $N_t$  with N(t) and N(t+1) to distinguish between the discrete and continuous versions of population sizes.

The interpretation of the growth rate  $\bar{r}$  and the instantaneous growth rate r is completely different because of the difference in the time span. However, when conducting numerical simulations, r and  $\frac{dN}{dt}$  are often interpreted as  $\bar{r}$  and  $N_{t+1} - N_t$ , respectively, and we often use parameter values and differences in population sizes between two sequential times for calculation. We will see some examples later.

Finally, you may think that  $N_t$  and  $N_{t+1}$  should be non-negative integral numbers. In a real numerical simulation, calculated figures will not necessarily be an integral number because they may be interpreted as the average of several individuals or the average of several trials.

## 2.5. Other model categories

First, we have to distinguish between deterministic and stochastic models. If there is no randomness among parameters, results of numerical simulations for the same initial values will always be the same. On the other hand, if randomness exists at least in one parameter, results of numerical simulations will be different every time (sometimes the same result may be obtained). In the following text, we use only deterministic models.

Second, we need to distinguish the closed model. In subsection 2.3, we assume that neither immigration nor emigration occur. When considering a very short period, it can be realistic to ignore both birth and death. In other words, if the dynamics of infectious disease are far faster than that of the population, the closed model is applicable. If all of these four factors (i.e., immigration, emigration, birth, and death) are omitted, such a model is referred to as the closed model. We will examine the closed model in section 3.

However, it is more realistic to consider birth and death, especially when the time span of disease is long. In such cases, the steady model is used. However, this model has a unique restriction: the number of births should always coincide with the number of deaths. In other words, the parameter value of birth rate is the same as that of death rate. As we will see later, total population size will be constant over time. We will examine the steady model in section 4.

Both closed and steady models are appropriate under specific conditions and easy to use because of simplifying assumptions; however, in some cases, these assumptions are less valid, and more realistic models can be used. In section 5, we examine the SEI model in the context of rabies among the red fox, where total population size is no longer constant overtime.

## 3. Closed Models

#### 3.1. SIR model (1)

The following is a revised version of the classical Kermack and McKendrick (1927) model. Susceptible individuals *S* decrease by  $\alpha SI$  in proportion to the rate  $\alpha$  (= *pc*), defined as the rate at which susceptible individuals meet infectious individuals and become infected (in short,  $\alpha$  is the infection rate).

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\alpha SI \tag{5}$$

Infectious individuals I increase by  $\alpha SI$  and decrease by  $\beta I$  in proportion to the rate  $\beta$ , which is the rate of immunity-acquired individuals.

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha SI - \beta I \tag{6}$$

The number of recovered individuals with lifelong immunity will increase by  $\beta I$ . Therefore,

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \beta I \tag{7}$$

Eqs. (5), (6), and (7) comprise a modified Kermack and McKendrick-type SIR model.

If  $\frac{dI}{dt} = 0$ , the number of I is constant over time. By substituting this condition into eq. (6) and after some simple calculations, we have the following:

$$I(\alpha S - \beta) = 0 \tag{8}$$

Because we are interested in the situation where infectious individuals exist,  $\alpha S - \beta$  should be zero (otherwise, *I* will be zero to obtain equality with eq. (8)). Then, if the following condition holds, the number of *I* is constant over time.

$$\frac{\alpha S}{\beta} = 1 \tag{9}$$

Let us denote  $\frac{\alpha S(t)}{\beta} = \hat{R}_t$ .<sup>1</sup> It is straightforward to obtain following conditions.

If  $\hat{R}_t > 1$ , the infectious disease will prevail (epidemic may occur) if  $\hat{R}_t < 1$ , the infectious disease will die out (epidemic will not occur)

 $\hat{R}_t = 1$  is the epidemic threshold (in some other contexts, this is also referred to as the endemic threshold).  $\hat{R}_t$  is referred to as the reproduction number. Let us define the initial stage as the time when infectious disease does not invade the population, and let us denote the initial stage as t = 0. Then, S(0) = N, I(0) = 0, and R(0) = 0, and the following holds:  $\frac{\alpha S(0)}{\beta} = \frac{\alpha N}{\beta} = \hat{R}_0$ . Here, N is the total population size, and  $\hat{R}_0$  is referred to as the basic reproduction number. For further understanding, a numerical example would be helpful. However, it might be appropriate to provide an additional explanation before checking a numerical example.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Usually R is used. However, in this text, to distinguish it from the recovered individuals, we will use  $\hat{R}_t$ .

If summing up eqs. (5) to (7), all terms will cancel out, and we have the following:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} + \frac{dI}{dt} + \frac{dR}{dt} = 0 \tag{10}$$

Therefore, total number of population N is constant over time. That is,

$$N(0) = N(t) = S(t) + I(t) + R(t) \text{ for } {}^{\forall}t$$
(11)

There are two interpretations for R in the SIR model. First, as explained above, R represents recovered individuals. Measles, mumps, and chicken pox would be typical examples. Once an individual has measles (or others), he/she rarely suffer from the same infection after transitioning to become a recovered individual R. Recovered individuals Rs are not infectious. If the population size is conserved (as shown by eq. (11)), the number of R increases while those of S and I decrease. Therefore, after a long period, I will be reduced to zero, and only S and R remain in the population.

The second interpretation of R is 'removed'. In other words, some individuals die instead of recovering. The Black Death (the Bubonic Plague) is a typical example. In this case, interpretation of eq. (11) is a bit complicated. We have to sum up all the dead in addition to S and I. That is,

$$N(0) = N(t) = S(t) + I(t) + R(t) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} D(i) \text{ for } \forall t$$
(12)

Here, D(i) is the number of deaths at each time between t = 1 and t - 1.

Now, we are ready to examine some numerical examples.

## [Example 2] Numerical example of the SIR model (1)

Let  $\alpha = 0.02$ ,  $\beta = 0.5$  and fill in A4 and B4 with '0.02' and '0.5', respectively. Fill in between the first, third, and sixth lines as well as row A (A6 and below) on the basis of Figure 2. Use the initial values of S(0), I(0), and R(0) as 50, 0, and 0, respectively and fill in B7, C7, and D7 with '50', '0', and '0', respectively. Then fill in

B8, C8, and D8 as follows.

'=B7-\$A\$4\*B7\*C7', '=C7+\$A\$4\*B7\*C7-\$B\$4\*C7', '=D7+\$B\$4\*C7'.

Copy these cells until line 57. Now, most of Figure 2 is reproduced in your MS Excel spreadsheet. The dynamics of S, I, and R are demonstrated by Figure 3. Because there is no infectious disease in a population, S is constant at 50.

Suppose one infected individual has entered the population (although we suppose there is no immigration or emigration, ignore this restriction here). Then, you will have completely different results, which are shown in Figures 4 and 5.

1b1b2d1d2rKII2IIIIIIIIII3 $\alpha$ $\beta$ $\gamma$ $\delta$ mhv $\sigma$ 40.020.5IIIIIIII5ISIRRtSII6tSIRRtSI705000225I8150002II9250002II10350002II11450002II13650002II14750002II15850002II16950002II171050002II		A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	1	b1	b2	d1	d2	r	К		
3 $\alpha$ $\beta$ $\gamma$ $\delta$ mhv $\sigma$ 40.020.5 </td <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	2								
4       0.02       0.5       I       I       II       R       Rt       S         7       0       50       0       0       2       25         8       1       50       0       0       2       25         9       2       50       0       0       2       10         10       3       50       0       0       2       11         11       4       50       0       0       2       11         12       5       50       0       0       2       11         13       6       50       0       0       2       11         14       7       50       0       0       2       11         15       8       50       0       0       2       11         16       9       50       0       0       2       11         16       9       50       0       0       2       11	3	α	ß	γ	δ	m	h	v	σ
5       I       R       Rt       S         7       0       50       0       0       2       25         8       1       50       0       0       2       25         9       2       50       0       0       2       10         10       3       50       0       0       2       11         11       4       50       0       0       2       11         12       5       50       0       0       2       11         13       6       50       0       0       2       11         14       7       50       0       0       2       11         16       9       50       0       0       2       11         17       10       50       0       0       2       11	4	0.02	0.5						
6       t       S       I       R       Rt       S         7       0       50       0       0       2       25         8       1       50       0       0       2       25         9       2       50       0       0       2       10         10       3       50       0       0       2       11         11       4       50       0       0       2       11         12       5       50       0       0       2       11         13       6       50       0       0       2       11         14       7       50       0       0       2       11         16       9       50       0       0       2       11         16       9       50       0       0       2       11         17       10       50       0       0       2       11	5								
7       0       50       0       0       2       25         8       1       50       0       0       2       9         9       2       50       0       0       2       9         10       3       50       0       0       2       9         11       4       50       0       0       2       9         12       5       50       0       0       2       10         13       6       50       0       0       2       11         14       7       50       0       0       2       11         14       7       50       0       0       2       12         15       8       50       0       0       2       12         16       9       50       0       0       2       12         17       10       50       0       0       2       14	6	t	S	Ι	R		Rt	S	
8       1       50       0       0       2         9       2       50       0       0       2         10       3       50       0       0       2         11       4       50       0       0       2         12       5       50       0       0       2         13       6       50       0       0       2         14       7       50       0       0       2         15       8       50       0       0       2         16       9       50       0       0       2         17       10       50       0       0       2	- 7	0	50	0	0		2	25	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	8	1	50	0	0		2		
10       3       50       0       0       2         11       4       50       0       0       2         12       5       50       0       0       2         13       6       50       0       0       2         14       7       50       0       0       2         15       8       50       0       0       2         16       9       50       0       0       2         17       10       50       0       0       2	9	2	50	0	0		2		
11       4       50       0       0       2         12       5       50       0       0       2         13       6       50       0       0       2         14       7       50       0       0       2         15       8       50       0       0       2         16       9       50       0       0       2         17       10       50       0       0       2	10	3	50	0	0		2		
12       5       50       0       0       2         13       6       50       0       0       2         14       7       50       0       0       2         15       8       50       0       0       2         16       9       50       0       0       2         17       10       50       0       0       2	11	4	50	0	0		2		
13       6       50       0       0       2         14       7       50       0       0       2         15       8       50       0       0       2         16       9       50       0       0       2         17       10       50       0       0       2	12	5	50	0	0		2		
14     7     50     0     0     2       15     8     50     0     0     2       16     9     50     0     0     2       17     10     50     0     0     2	13	6	50	0	0		2		
15     8     50     0     0     2       16     9     50     0     0     2       17     10     50     0     0     2	14	7	50	0	0		2		
16         9         50         0         0         2           17         10         50         0         0         2	15	8	50	0	0		2		
17 10 50 0 0 2	16	9	50	0	0		2		
	17	10	50	0	0		2		
	18	11	50	0	0		2		
19 12 50 0 0 2	19	12	50	0	0		2		
20 13 50 0 0 2	20	13	50	0	0		2		

Figure 2. SIR model (1) (S(0) = 50, I(0) = 0, and R(0) = 0)





#### [Example 3] Endemic threshold and herd immunity

Next, let us check the endemic threshold. Because when t = 0, S(0) = 50, it follows that

$$\hat{R}_0 = \frac{\alpha S(t)}{\beta} = \frac{0.02 \times 50}{0.5} = 2 > 1$$
(E2)

Because  $\hat{R}_0 > 1$ , this infectious disease will take hold. Note that the value of  $\hat{R}_0$  is shown in F7 of Figures 2 and 4, where you should fill in F7 with '\$A\$4\*B7/\$B\$4'. Copy F7 until line 57, and  $\hat{R}_t$ s are shown.

Next, let us calculate the value of S(t), which brings  $\hat{R}_t = 1$ . The value is S(t) = 0.5/0.02 = 25 individuals, as shown in G7 of Figures 2 and 4 (you should fill in G7 with '=B4/A4'). This suggests that as time passes, the disease will take hold in the earlier phase, but S(t) decreases. When the number of S(t) is less than 25 individuals, the disease prevalence begins to decrease. We can check this result in Figures 4 and 5, where t = 8 and S(t) = 23.37 individuals, which is less than 25 individuals. Then, as is shown in Figure 5, I(t) starts to decrease. Finally, the

population sizes almost stabilize at 7.8, 0, and 43 for S, I, and R, respectively when t is around 27.

This result suggests another important thing. At first, there were 50 susceptible individuals, 7.8 of which were not infected. This phenomenon is referred to as herd immunity. In our case, once the size of the susceptible individual population is less than 25 individuals, the disease prevalence begins to decrease, where the sizes of infectious I(t) and recovered R(t) individual populations have nothing to do with the herd immunity. It follows that when we vaccinate susceptible individuals, we can calculate the least number of susceptible individuals who will be required to be vaccinated. By doing so, we can minimize the risk of side effects of vaccines and minimize the cost of vaccination.

#### 3.2. SIRS model

The SIRS model can be shown as follows.

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\alpha SI + \gamma R \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha SI - \beta I \tag{14}$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \beta I - \gamma R \tag{15}$$

Here,

 $\gamma$ : immunity decay rate

The same procedure (solving  $\frac{dI}{dt} = 0$ ) provides the reproduction number as before:

$$\hat{R}_t = \frac{\alpha S(t)}{\beta} \tag{16}$$

The value of S(t), which brings  $\hat{R}_t = 1$  is as follows.

$$S(t) = \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$$
(17)

If summing up eqs. (13) to (15), the following equation holds.

$$\frac{dS}{dt} + \frac{dI}{dt} + \frac{dR}{dt} = 0 \tag{18}$$

Therefore, total number of individuals in population N is constant over time.

The SIRS model is a simple extension of the SIR model when R represents the recovered population. The common cold is a typical example.

## [Example 4] Numerical example of the SIRS model

Provide some modifications on the basis of Figure 6: Let  $\gamma = 0.05$ , and fill in C4 with '0.05'. Then fill in B8 and D8 as follows.

'=B7-\$A\$4\*B7\*C7+\$C\$4\*D7', '=D7+\$B\$4\*C7-\$C\$4\*D7'.

Copy these cells until line 57. Now, Figure 6 is reproduced in your MS Excel spreadsheet. The dynamics of S, I, and R are demonstrated by Figure 7.



## 3.3. SIS model

The SIS model can be shown as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\alpha SI + \beta I \tag{19}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha SI - \beta I \tag{20}$$

We have the following:

$$\hat{R}_t = \frac{\alpha S(t)}{\beta} \tag{21}$$

$$S(t) = \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$$
(22)

and

$$\frac{dS}{dt} + \frac{dI}{dt} = 0 \tag{23}$$

The SIS model is also simple extension of the SIR model where R is removed. The common cold is a typical example. The SIS model fits to describe endemic diseases. Note that endemic diseases prolong disease status in some areas, while epidemic diseases occur within a relatively short period of time.

![](_page_18_Picture_10.jpeg)

Provide some modifications on the basis of Figure 8: Remove unnecessary cells. Then fill in B8 and C8 as follows.

'=B7-\$A\$4\*B7\*C7+\$B\$4\*C7' '=C7+\$A\$4\*B7\*C7-\$B\$4\*C7'

Copy these cells until line 57. Figure 8 is reproduced in your MS Excel spreadsheet. The dynamics of S, I, and R are demonstrated by Figure 9.

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

There are two cases for the SIS model. In Figure 9, both susceptible and infected

individuals coexist, and their numbers are constant after t = 30, where S = 25 and I = 26. This coexistence is referred to as persistence. In the other case, the number of infected individuals is reduced to zero, and only susceptible individuals are left; the endemic disease is eradicated. You may find such examples by changing initial value of parameters and/or variables.

## [Example 6] Numerical example of the SIS model (2)

In Example 5, the initial value of S(0) = 50. Here, let us suppose S(0) = 10. Then, we have results shown in Figures 10 and 11. Infected individuals are completely eradicated after t = 37.

	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
1	b1	b2	d1	d2	r	К		
2								
3	α	ß	$\gamma$	δ	m	h	v	σ
4	0.02	0.5						
5								
6	t	S	Ι			Rt	S	
- 7 -	0	10	1			0.4	25	
8	1	10.3	0.7			0.412		
9	2	10.5058	0.4942			0.420232		
10	3	10.64906	0.350939			0.425962		
11	4	10.74979	0.250213			0.429991		
12	5	10.8211	0.178901			0.432844		
13	6	10.87183	0.128169			0.434873		
14	7	10.90805	0.091953			0.436322		
15	8	10.93396	0.066037			0.437359		
16	9	10.95254	0.047459			0.4381.02		
17	10	10.96587	0.034126			0.438635		
18	11	10.97545	0.024547			0.439018		
19	12	10.98234	0.017662			0.439294		
20	13	10.98729	0.01271			0.439492		
			<u> </u>		`		、	
		Figur	e 10. SIS m	nodel (S(0	) = 10, an	d I(0) = 1	)	

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

Specifically, if the parameter value of  $\beta = 0$ , the model is called the SI model, which may describe, for example, the natural history of HIV (Vynnycky and White, 2010).<sup>2</sup>

## 4. Steady Model

## 4.1. SIR model (2)

The steady version of the SIR model can be shown as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = mN - mS - \alpha SI \tag{24}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha SI - (m + \delta + \beta)I \tag{25}$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \beta I - mR \tag{26}$$

Here,

 $\delta$ : the disease death rate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tassier (2013) pointed out that the SIR type model is the most appropriate for HIV, but when considering the longevity of infection period, the SI model is sometimes applied.

We introduce both birth and death from hereon. We further suppose that 'mortality rate' = 'birth rate', both of which are denoted as m. Because of this condition, the total population size is constant (and, therefore, the model is called the steady model).

We have the following:

$$\hat{R}_t = \frac{\alpha S(t)}{m + \delta + \beta} \tag{27}$$

and

$$S(t) = \frac{m + \delta + \beta}{\alpha}$$
(28)

Additionally, the total number of individuals in population N is constant over time.

Provide some modifications on the basis of Figure 12. Finally, you may reproduce Figures 12 and 13.

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

## [Example 8] Total population size

In the above text, I stated that the total number of individuals in population N is constant over time. Here, let's confirm this statement using an MS Excel spreadsheet (you may check the same for other models). Fill in G8, H8, and H9 as follows:

'=SUM(B8:D8)+H8' '=C7\*\$D\$4' '=H8+C8\*\$D\$4'

Copy G8 and H9 until line 57. Then, we have Figure 14, and we can confirm that population size is conserved at 51 for all periods.

	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
1	b1	b2	d1	d2	r	К		
2								
3	α	ß	$\gamma$	δ	m	h	v	σ
4	0.02	0.5		0.1	0.0001			
5								
6	t	S	Ι	R		Rt	S	
- 7 -	0	50	1	0		1.666389	30.005	
8	1	49.0001	1.3999	0.5		1.633064	51	0.1
9	2	47.62839	1.931725	1.1999		1.587348	51	0.23999
10	3	45.7886	2.612595	2.165642		1.526032	51	0.433162
11	4	43.39654	3.437319	3.471724		1.44631	51	0.694422
12	5	40.41387	4.357938	5.190036		1.346905	51	1.038154
13	6	36.8924	5.2651.63	7.368486		1.229542	51	1.473948
14	7	33.00878	5.990429	10.00033		1.100109	51	2.000464
15	8	29.05564	6.350307	12.99454		0.96836	51	2.599507
16	9	25.36733	6.229733	16.1684		0.845437	51	3.234537
17	10	22.20894	5.651904	19.28165		0.740175	51	3.857511
18	11	19.70098	4.770652	22.10567		0.65659	51	4.422701
19	12	17.82393	3.787514	24.48879		0.594032	51	4.899766
20	13	16.47659	2.864794	26.38009		0.549128	51	5.278518

## Figure 14. Total population size

### 4.2. SIR model with hunting

We assume that we cannot distinguish susceptible, exposed, and infectious individuals when hunting and that all three types of individuals are hunted by the same probability. Let h denote the per capita hunting rate; then, the SIR model

with hunting can be shown as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = mN - mS - \alpha SI - hS \tag{29}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha SI - (m + \delta + \beta)I - hI$$
(30)

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \beta I - mR - hR \tag{1}$$

Here,

*h*: hunting rate

We have the following:

$$\hat{R}_t = \frac{\alpha S(t)}{m + \delta + \beta + h} \tag{32}$$

and

$$S(t) = \frac{m + \delta + \beta + h}{\alpha}$$
(33)

Additionally, the total number of individuals in population N is constant over time.

[Example 9] Numerical example of the SIR model with hunting

After similar procedures above, we have Figures 15 and 16.

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

The model in this subsection is less satisfactory because we introduce hunting while the birth and death rates are assumed to be the same. On the basis of eq. (33), we

may set the value of h so that  $\hat{R}_t$  is less than 1 (so that the infectious disease will be eradicated). However, higher values of h yield smaller population sizes, as Figure 16 demonstrates (even if the value of h is low, the population size will decrease in the long run). In section 5, we will examine a more realistic model.

## 4.3. SIR model with vaccination

The SIR model with vaccination can be shown as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = mN - mS - \alpha SI - \nu S \tag{34}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha SI - (m + \delta + \beta)I \tag{35}$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \beta I - mR + \nu S \tag{36}$$

Here,

*v*: vaccination rate

We have the following:

$$R_t = \frac{\alpha S(t)}{m + \delta + \beta} \tag{37}$$

and

$$S(t) = \frac{m + \delta + \beta}{\alpha}$$
(38)

Additionally, the total number of individuals in population N is constant over time.

## [Example 10] Numerical example of the SIR model with vaccination

After similar procedures as above, we have Figures 17 and 18.

![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

## 5. Advanced model

#### 5.1. SEI model for rabies

The SIR-type epidemiological model can be used to describe the transmission of rabies in the red fox. The model described below heavily depends on studies by Anderson et al. (1981) and Smith (1985).<sup>3</sup> Anderson et al. (1981) provide a model for a single population and ignore the spatial transmission of infectious diseases to other populations. However, by doing so, their model makes it possible to calculate the results analytically. After the publication of their paper, some articles examined the spatial transmission of infectious diseases; however, these papers could not provide solutions analytically and had to provide them numerically (Smith, 1985). It is necessary to take these aspects of the models into consideration when building models for real situations.

In the case of rabies, once rabies has developed, the infected animals will generally die without recovering, and therefore, R is removed from the model. In addition, acquisition of infectiousness does not occur soon after infection; there is a time lag, and those under this process are called exposed or latent individuals and are denoted as E. Therefore, the SEI model is usually used for rabies.

Here, let us examine the dynamics of susceptible *S*, exposed *E*, and infectious *I* individuals using mathematical equations. First, let us derive the equation for susceptible individuals. Suppose that only susceptible individuals are involved in procreation (Smith, 1985). Eq. (A5) in the Appendix I is modified as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \left[b_1 - d_1 - r \times \frac{b_2 + d_2}{r} \times N\right] S \tag{39}$$

Susceptible individuals will decrease by  $\alpha SI$ , and eq. (39) can be rewritten as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = r \left[ 1 - \frac{N}{K} \right] S - \alpha SI \tag{40}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Smith (1985) have also provided almost the same educational materials. When compared with Smith (1985), this material provides a more detailed derivation of mathematical expressions and more examples of numerical simulations, which make this material more introductory.

Next, let us derive the equation for exposed individuals. Eq. (A5) is modified as follows:

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \left[ -d_1 - r \times \frac{b_2 + d_2}{r} N \right] E \tag{41}$$

Because it is assumed that exposed individuals are not involved in procreation,  $b_1 = 0$ . The population size of exposed individuals increases by  $\alpha SI$ . On the other hand, let constant  $\sigma$  denote the rate that exposed individuals acquires infectiousness. Then, the number of exposed individuals will decrease by  $\sigma E$ , and Eq. (41) can be rewritten as follows:

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \alpha SI - \left[\sigma + d_1 + \frac{rN}{K}\right]E$$
(42)

Finally, let us derive the equation for infectious individuals. Eq. (A5) is modified as follows:

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \left[ -d_1 - r \times \frac{b_2 + d_2}{r} \times N \right] I \tag{43}$$

The population size of infectious individuals increases by  $\sigma E$ . On the other hand, here again, the number of infectious individuals will decrease by  $\delta I$ , and eq. (43) can be rewritten as follows.

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \left[\delta + d_1 + \frac{rN}{K}\right]I \tag{44}$$

Eqs. (40), (41), and (42) comprise the SEI model for rabies, which is presented in Anderson et al. (1981).

## [Example 11] Numerical example of the SEI model

After similar procedures above, we have Figures 19 and 20.

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

## 5.2. SEI model with hunting

In this section, we suppose a situation where rabies has been prevalent in a red fox

population, and we examine hunting with guns (we may reach the same results if we consider traps and/or bait poison). Let h denote the per capita hunting rate, then eqs. (40), (41), and (42) are modified as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = r \left[ 1 - \frac{N}{K} \right] S - \alpha SI - hS \tag{45}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \alpha SI - \left[\sigma + d_1 + \frac{rN}{K}\right]E - hE$$
(46)

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \left[\delta + d_1 + \frac{rN}{K}\right]I - hI \tag{47}$$

After similar procedures above, we have Figures 21 and 22.

[Example 12] Numerical example of the SEI model with hunting

	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
1	b1	b2	d1	d2	r	К		
2	0.25	0.001	0.05	0.001	0.2	100		
3	α	β	γ	δ	m	h	v	σ
4	0.02			0.1		0.1		0.1
5								
6	t	S	E	Ι		N		
- 7	0	50	0	1		51		
8	1	48.9	1	0.648		50.548		
9	2	48.21266	1.282648	0.52049		50.0158		
10	3	47.70925	1.335565	0.466567		49.51139		
11	4	47.31069	1.314613	0.437281		49.06258		
12	5	46.98562	1.270724	0.416514		48.67286		
13	6	46.71893	1.220747	0.398912		48.33859		
14	7	46.50144	1.170276	0.382693		48.05441		
15	8	46.32647	1.121149	0.367267		47.81488		
16	9	46.18864	1.07393	0.352444		47.61502		
17	10	46.08338	1.028755	0.338162		47.4503		
18	11	46.00671	0.98561	0.324406		47.31672		
19	12	45.95511	0.944433	0.311166		47.21071		
20	13	45.92548	0.905143	0.298437		47.12906		

Figure 21. SEI model with hunting (S(0) = 50, I(0) = 1, and R(0) = 0)

![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### 5.3. SEI model with vaccination

In this section, we suppose a situation where rabies has been prevalent in a red fox population, and we examine the effects of vaccination. Currently, in Europe, baits with vaccine have been dropped in habitats of red foxes from helicopters and planes. The following model can be used to examine the effects of this kind of vaccination.

For the sake of simplicity, suppose that vaccination is effective only for susceptible individuals and is not effective for exposed individuals. Let V denote vaccinated individuals. Further, suppose that vaccinated individuals are involved in procreation. Because individuals who are born from vaccinated individuals have not been vaccinated until they eat bait containing vaccine, the number of susceptible individuals increases by  $b_1V$ . Let constant v denote the rate of vaccinated individuals among susceptible individuals. Then, the number of susceptible individuals decreases by vS. Therefore, eq. (40) is modified as follows:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = r \left[ 1 - \frac{N}{K} \right] S + b_1 V - \alpha S I - v S \tag{48}$$

Eq. (A5) is modified for vaccinated individuals as follows:

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \left[ -d_1 - r \times \frac{b_2 + d_2}{r} \times N \right] V \tag{49}$$

The number of vaccinated individuals increases by vS. Therefore, eq. (49) is further modified as follows:

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = vS - \left[d_1 + \frac{rN}{K}\right]V \tag{50}$$

Eqs. (42) and (44), in addition to (48) and (50), comprise a modified SEI model for rabies under vaccination.

[Example 13] Numerical example of the SEI model with vaccination After similar procedures as described above, we have Figures 23 and 24. Е F A В С D G Н 1 b1 b2 d1 d2 Κ r 0.25 0.2 2 0.05 100 0.001 0.001 З α β γ δ m h v σ 0.02 0.4 0.1 4 0.1 5 6 S Е V t. Ι Ν 0 7 0 50 0 1 51 20 8 1 33.9 1 0.748 55.648 9 27.83992 1.245848 0.652551 60.0724 2 30.33408 10 З 26.1473 1.272628 0.600852 36.30886 64.32964 11 4 26.31675 1.232211 0.560682 40.28087 68.39051 5 12 27.22888 1.173943 0.52311 43.28386 72.20979 13 6 28.38681 1.113185 0.486491 45.76018 75.74667 14 71 29.57288 1.053766 0.451135 47.89454 78.97232 15 30.69423 0.996092 0.417587 49.76428 81.87219 8 16 9 51.40514 31.7141 0.939924 0.386181 84.44534 17 32.6214 0.885138 0.357024 52.83867 10 86.70223 18 33.41716 11 0.831813 0.330075 54.08284 88.66188 19 12 34.10818 0.780144 0.305215 55.15538 90.34892 20 13 34.70391 0.730358 0.282295 56.07443 91.79099 **Figure 23. SEI model with vaccination** (S(0) = 10, I(0) = 1, and R(0) = 0)

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Appendix I

For a more concrete explanation, suppose there is a red fox population. As explained before, the size of the red fox population changes on the basis of birth and death. Namely,

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = B - D \tag{A1}$$

Here, B and D are the rate at which individuals born and die.

Further, suppose the population size of the red fox is relatively low compared to the carrying capacity of its habitat. Under such conditions, each red fox can easily obtain enough food, and litter sizes may be large. Conversely, suppose the population size of the red fox is relatively high. Under such conditions, red foxes in the same population may compete for food, and litter sizes may be small. Therefore, let b denote the average per capita birth rate, and suppose b decreases as a function of population size (as the population size N increases, the value of b decreases). Then, we have the following equation:

$$b = b_1 - b_2 N \tag{A2}$$

Under small population sizes, red foxes happen to be found by predators less frequently, and transmission of immunizing infections may be moderate or may not occur, which may result in a low average per capita death rate. On the other hand, if the population size is high, red foxes are more often found by predators, and immunizing infections may transmit more widely. Therefore, let d denote the average per capita death rate, and suppose d increases as a function of population size (as the population size N increases, the value of d increases). Then, we have the following equation.

$$d = d_1 + d_2 N \tag{A3}$$

Here, let us examine the case where b = d, that is, the average per capita birth rate and average per capita death rate are the same value. Population size under this condition is called the carrying capacity *K*. The carrying capacity is derived as follows from eqs. (A2) and (A3):

$$K = \frac{b_1 - d_1}{b_2 + d_2} = \frac{r}{b_2 + d_2} \tag{A4}$$

Here,  $r = b_1 - d_1$ .

Note that B = bN and D = dN. Substituting eqs. (A2) to (A4) into eq. (A1), we obtain the following:

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \left[b_1 - d_1 - r \times \frac{b_2 + d_2}{r} \times N\right] N \tag{A5}$$

from which, we have the following:

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = r \left[ 1 - \frac{N}{K} \right] N \tag{A6}$$

Eq. (A6) is the same as eq. (4) in the body text and is called the logistic equation.

The logistic equation is often criticized because many factors such as cohorts and others are combined. However, in the real application of mathematical models, we often face the fact that enough cohort data are not available and/or it is difficult to selectively catch special cohorts (for more detail, see Munro and Scott, 1985). Simpler mathematical models make it possible to have analytical solutions. This is especially true when we incorporate socio-economic aspects into biological mathematical models; if we use complicated models, we will often find it impossible to have analytical solutions and to conduct qualitative analyses.

## [Example A1] Growth curve

First, we calculate the values of the average per capita birth rate b, average per capita death rate d, growth rate r, and carrying capacity K, where death means natural deaths other than those caused by infectious disease. Suppose,  $b_1 = 0.25$ ,  $b_2 = 0.001$ ,  $d_1 = 0.05$ , and  $d_2 = 0.001$ . Let us calculate the values of b and d by changing the value of N. Fill in between the first and sixth lines (except E2 and F2) as well as row A on the basis of Figure A1. Then fill in cells E2 and F2 with `=A2-C2' and `=(A2-C2)/(B2+D2)', respectively. Fill in cells B7 and C7 with `=\$A\$2-\$B\$2\*A7' and `=\$C\$2+\$D\$2\*A7', respectively, and copy these cells until B19 and C19. Now, Figure A1 is reproduced in your MS Excel spreadsheet. You can easily check that K = 100 when b = d = 0.15.

Next, let us draw a growth curve represented by eq. (A6). Fill in between the first and sixth lines, as well as row A on the basis of Figure A2. Then, fill in cell B7 with `= $\xi E \leq 2^{(1-A7/\xiF\xi2)}$ \*A7', and copy this cell until B19. Now, Figure A2 is reproduced in your MS Excel spreadsheet. You can easily check that when population size is less than carrying capacity, population change between year t and t + 1 is positive and vice versa. Finally, we draw the growth curve in Figure A3.

	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
1	b1	b2	d1	d2	r	К		
2	0.25	0.001	0.05	0.001	0.2	100		
3	α	ß	γ	δ	m	h	v	σ
4								
5								
6	N	b	d					
- 7	0	0.25	0.05					
8	10	0.24	0.06					
9	20	0.23	0.07					
10	30	0.22	0.08					
11	40	0.21	0.09					
12	50	0.2	0.1					
13	60	0.19	0.11					
14	70	0.18	0.12					
15	80	0.17	0.13					
16	90	0.16	0.14					
17	100	0.15	0.15					
18	110	0.14	0.16					
19	120	0.13	0.17					
20								

# Figure A1. Calculation of the average per capita birth rate, death rate, growth rate, and carrying capacity

	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
1	b1	b2	d1	d2	r	К		
2	0.25	0.001	0.05	0.001	0.2	100		
3	α	ß	$\gamma$	δ	m	h	v	σ
4								
5								
6	N	dN/dt						
- 7 -	0	0						
8	10	1.8						
9	20	3.2						
10	30	4.2						
11	40	4.8						
12	50	5						
13	60	4.8						
14	70	4.2						
15	80	3.2						
16	90	1.8						
17	100	0						
18	110	-2.2						
19	120	-4.8						
20								
		Figu	ıre A2. Cal	culation o	of the grov	vth curve		

![](_page_39_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Appendix II

The R codes in Appendix II were originally written by Professor Koki Kyo from Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, with some modifications by the author of this material. Note that values of S, I, and R are restricted to be non-negative values.

You can copy the following R code and paste it on R. After pushing the 'Enter' key, a graph is automatically generated.

```
##### R code for SIR #####
# Parameter value setting
    a <- 0.02
    r <- 0.5
# Initial value setting
    S0 <- 50</pre>
```

```
l0 <- 1
   Ro <- 0
# Estimation period setting
   T <- 50
# Simulation
   S <- numeric(T); I <- numeric(T); R <- numeric(T)</pre>
   dS <- -a*So*Io
   dl <- a*So*lo - r*lo
   dR <- r*lo
   S[1] <- S0 + dS
   l[1] <- lo + dl
   R[1] <- R0 + dR
   for (i in 2:T)
      {
       dS <- -a*S[i-1]*I[i-1]
       dl <- a*S[i-1]*l[i-1] - r*l[i-1]
       if (dI > S[i-1]) \{dI <- S[i-1]\}
       dR <- r*l[i-1]
       \label{eq:constraint} \text{if} \left( dR > I[\text{i-1}] \right) \quad \left\{ dR < -I[\text{i-1}] \right\}
       S[i] <- S[i-1] + dS
       if(S[i] < 0) {S[i] <- 0}
       l[i] <- l[i-1] + dl
       if(I[i] < 0) \{I[i] < 0\}
       R[i] <- R[i-1] + dR
       if(R[i] < 0) {R[i] <- 0}
      }
 # Graph depiction
   t <- c(1:T)
   plot(t, S, xlim=range(t), ylim=c(min(S,I,R), max(S,I,R)), type="l",
          xlab="year", ylab="", lwd=1)
   lines(t, I, lwd=2)
   lines(t, R, lwd=3)
```

```
# Calculation of Ro
Ro <- a*(So+Io+Ro)/r
Ro
```

```
##### R code for SIRS #####
# Parameter value setting
   a <- 0.02
  r <- 0.5
  v <- 0.05
# Initial value setting
  So <- 50
  l0 <- 1
   Ro <- 0
# Estimation period setting
  T <- 50
# Simulation
   S <- numeric(T); I <- numeric(T); R <- numeric(T)</pre>
   dS <- -a*So*lo + v*Ro
   dl <- a*So*lo - r*lo
   dR <- r*lo-v*Ro
   S[1] <- S0 + dS
   l[1] <- l0 + dl
   R[1] <- R0 + dR
  for (i in 2:T)
     {
      dS <- -a*S[i-1]*I[i-1] + v*R[i-1]
      dI <- a*S[i-1]*I[i-1] - r*I[i-1]
      if (dI > S[i-1]) \{dI <- S[i-1]\}
      dR <- r*l[i-1] - v*R[i-1]
      if (dR > I[i-1]) \{dR < -I[i-1]\}
      S[i] <- S[i-1] + dS
      if(S[i] < 0) {S[i] <- 0}
```

```
[[i] <- l[i-1] + dl
if(l[i] < 0) {l[i] <- 0}
R[i] <- R[i-1] + dR
if(R[i] < 0) {R[i] <- 0}
}
# Graph depiction
t <- c(1:T)
plot(t, S, xlim=range(t), ylim=c(min(S,I,R), max(S,I,R)), type="l",
xlab="year", ylab="", lwd=1)
lines(t, I, lwd=2)
lines(t, R, lwd=3)
# Calculation of Ro
R0 <- a*(S0+I0+R0)/r
R0
```

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