

Critical domain size problems for stage-structured integrodifference equations

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Outline

- ① Critical domain size problems and the spread of zebra mussels
- ② Including a moving environment
- ③ A model for zebra mussels in stream ecosystems
- ④ Dispersal Kernels
- ⑤ Analysis of nonspatial problem
- ⑥ Critical domain size for zebra mussels: two complementary perspectives
- ⑦ Solving the critical domain size problem
- ⑧ Spatial spread and connection to critical domain size
- ⑨ Conclusions

Persistence dynamics

- There is a history of mathematical ecologists asking “is this piece of habitat sufficient for local persistence of a given species?”
- Early work goes back to Kierstead, Slobodkin and Skellam (KISS) and the critical domain size problem is a key component in mathematical ecology textbooks (eg., Kot 2001)
- The classical model includes a scalar reaction diffusion equation (logistic growth and diffusion) with hostile boundary conditions.
- For this case it is shown that the species persists if and only if the domain size L satisfies $L > L^* = \pi\sqrt{D/r}$, where D is the diffusion coefficient and r the intrinsic growth rate.
- I will discuss the critical domain size problem for systems of integrodifference equations, focusing on an applied example: persistence of invasive zebra mussels in rivers.

Spread of zebra mussels in streams



threelakecouncil.org



Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

- Zebra mussels were introduced to North America from the Ponto-Caspian region, likely via ballast water exchange in the Great Lakes ecosystem.
- They have established in eastern North America, but have not yet made it to all the western provinces and states.
- They grow in great numbers, cover beaches, clog cooling systems (including those for nuclear plants) and threaten other species.
- They do fine in lakes, but have been unable to colonize certain stretches of rivers, particularly when flow rates are high.
- We are going to model this system and try to understand why.

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Including advection

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + g(u)u$$

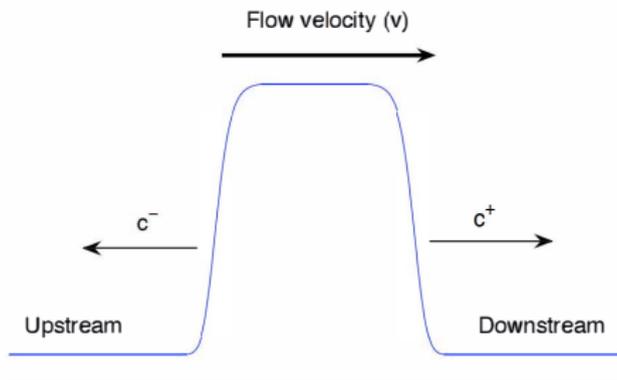
v = Advection velocity

D = Diffusion coefficient

$g(u)$ = $r(1 - u)$ per capita growth rate ($g(0) = r$)

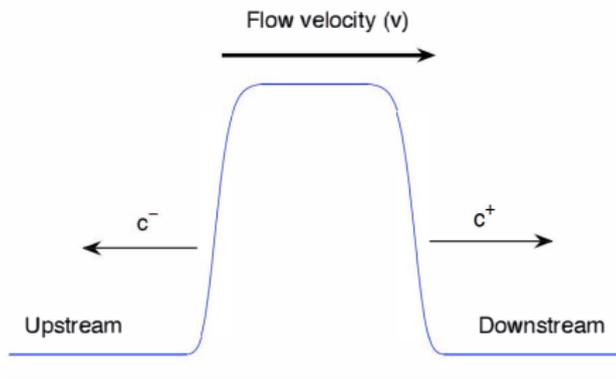
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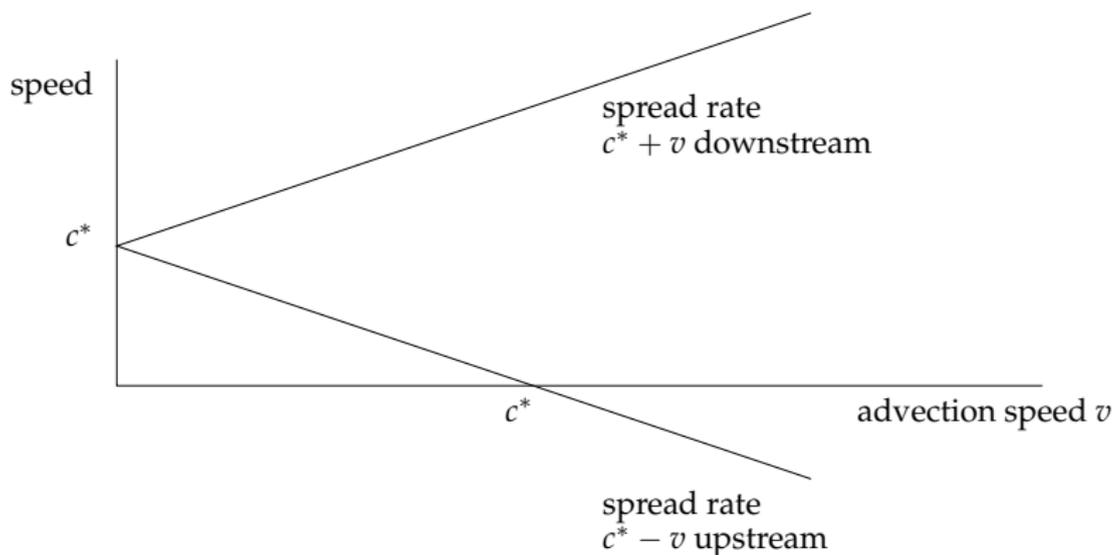
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + g(u)u$$



$$c^- = 2\sqrt{rD} - a = c^* - v$$

$$c^+ = 2\sqrt{rD} + a = c^* + v$$

Advection can cause spread to stall



Critical patch size with advection

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where

$$f(x, u) = u g(x, u) \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$g(x, u) = \begin{cases} -d, & x \notin (0, L) \\ r(1 - u), & x \in (0, L) \end{cases}$$

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v : speed of advection;

L : length of the good patch;

d : death rate in the unsuitable regions;

r : per capita growth rate in the good habitat;

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How large a good patch (L^*) is needed for population persistence?

Existence of a steady state solution

$$v \frac{dU}{dx} = rU(1 - U) + D \frac{d^2U}{dx^2} \quad \text{for } x \in (0, L)$$

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with boundary conditions

$$0 = \kappa^+ U(0) - \frac{dU}{dx}(0)$$

$$0 = \kappa^- U(L) - \frac{dU}{dx}(L)$$

where

$$\kappa^\pm = \frac{a \pm \sqrt{v^2 + 4Dd}}{2D}$$

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How large a good patch (L^*) is needed for nontrivial solution?

Existence of a steady state solution

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Linearization about $U = 0$ yields critical patch size

We solve the boundary value problem

$$D \frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - v \frac{dU}{dx} + rU = 0 \quad \text{for } x \in (0, L)$$

$$0 = \kappa^+ U(0) - \frac{dU}{dx}(0)$$

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where

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and observe that a nontrivial solution emerges when L is larger than the critical patch size

$$L^*(c^*, a) := \frac{\frac{c^*}{r}}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{a}{c^*}\right)^2}} \arctan \left(\frac{\sqrt{\frac{d}{r} + \left(\frac{a}{c^*}\right)^2}}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{a}{c^*}\right)^2}} \right)$$

where $c^* = 2\sqrt{rD}$.

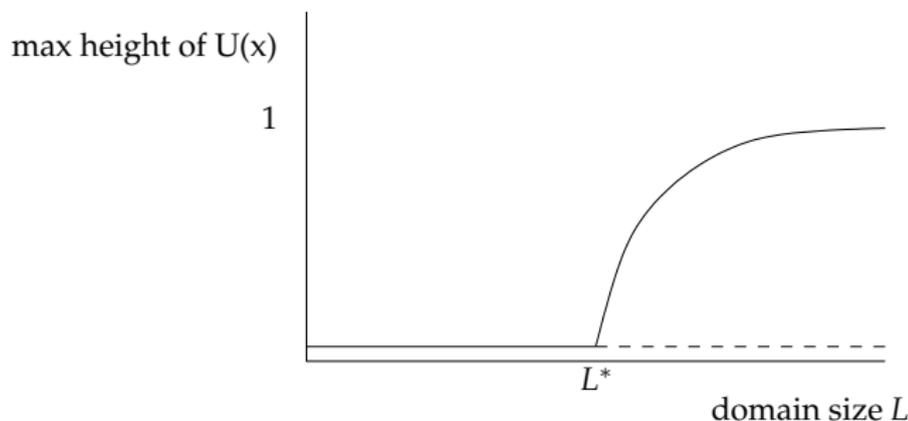
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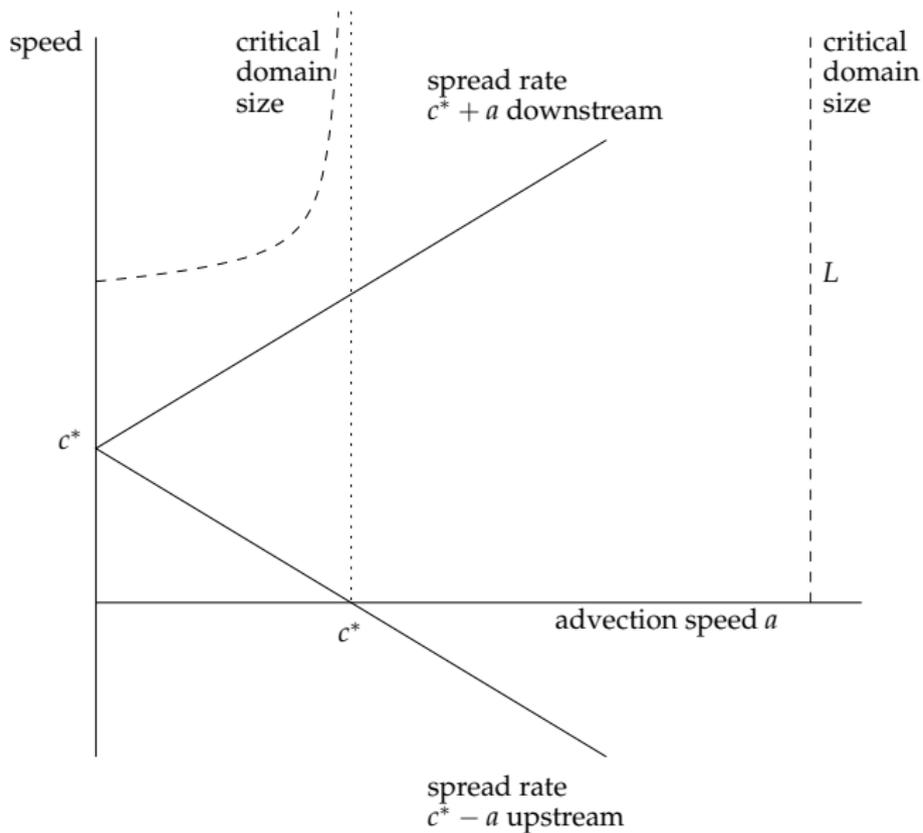
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Patch size becomes infinite when spread stalls



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The connection between infinite patch size and the advection speed at which spread stalls can be extended to account for

- Different boundary conditions (McKenzie et al., 2012)
- Long-distance dispersal via integro-difference or integrodifferential equations (Lutscher et al., 2005)
- Spatial heterogeneity (Lutscher et al., 2006)
- Seasonality in growth and dispersal (Jin and Lewis, 2011)
- Impulsive reaction-diffusion models (Fazly et al., 2020)

A summary of some of these idea is found in Lutscher et al. (2010)

Critical domain size for zebra mussels

- How large a length of river do the zebra mussels need to survive?
- When the length of good river habitat is too short then the mortality from the hostile surrounding regions may dominate.
- However, when the river is longer, boundary mortality should be less important.
- How do other factors such as temperature and water velocity play a role?
- Critical domain size problems have been well studied for reaction diffusion models, but also can be calculated for systems of integrodifference equations.
- There are two key elements to be discussed
 - What are the general theoretical results?
 - How can we calculate the critical domain size for the zebra mussel problem?
- We will also look for new biological and theoretical insight.

Critical domain size analysis

Consider the stage-structured model

$$\mathbf{N}(x, n + 1) = \int_0^L [\mathbf{K}(x, y) \circ \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{N})] \mathbf{N}(y, n) dy. \quad (1)$$

There is a trivial solution $\mathbf{N}^* = \mathbf{0}$. We are interested in conditions on the domain size L that guarantee existence of a stable nontrivial solution $\mathbf{N}^*(x)$.



We would like to examine the stability of the model linearized about $\mathbf{N}^* = \mathbf{0}$

$$\mathbf{N}(x, n + 1) = \int_0^L [\mathbf{K}(x, y) \circ \mathbf{A}] \mathbf{N}(y, n) dy, \quad (2)$$

where $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{0})$, and show that, as L increases through L^* , $\mathbf{N}^* = \mathbf{0}$ becomes unstable and a stable nontrivial solution $\mathbf{N}^*(x)$ emerges.

Conditions for emergence of stable nontrivial solution

Roughly speaking, the following conditions are sufficient (Lutscher and Lewis, 2004):

- Conditions on the dynamics
 - The matrix $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{N})$ is primitive for all $\mathbf{N} \geq 0$.
 - There is no "Allee effect", and the growth function $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{N})\mathbf{N}$ is monotonic and saturating.
 - The highest per capita growth rate \mathbf{B} for each component is at $\mathbf{N}^* = 0$.
- Conditions on the dispersal
 - There is a constraint on the structure of the nonzero entries of the dispersal matrix to ensure sufficient dispersal.
 - With sufficient iterations, each dispersal kernel will allow dispersal from every point in the domain to every other point.
- Conditions on the effects of increasing the domain size
 - Increasing the domain size does not result in a decrease in the per capita growth rate $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{N})$.
 - Increasing the domain size does not result in a decrease in dispersal success from y to x .

Under these conditions, the dominant eigenvalue of the linearized system will increase through 1 and the trivial solution will lose its stability as L increases through the *critical domain size* L^* . A stable nontrivial solution will emerge.

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Integrodifference model for zebra mussels in streams

Population dynamics plus dispersal

$$\begin{aligned} J(x, n+1) &= \varphi(J(x, n), A(x, n), T) s_l(T) r \int_{\Omega} A(y, n) K(x, y) dy, \\ A(x, n+1) &= \varphi(J(x, n), A(x, n), T) [s_j(T) J(x, n) + s_a(T) A(x, n)], \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Symbols	Definitions	Estimates
r	Reproduction rate of adults	4218/year
φ	Temperature-dependent competition function	
s_l, s_j, s_a	Temperature-dependent survival functions	
m	Mortality rate of dispersing larvae	1.44/day
σ	Settling rate of dispersing larvae	0.00144/day

Huang and Lewis (2017)

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Competition

$$\varphi(J, A, T) = \frac{1}{1 + \beta[\ell_j(T)J + \ell_a(T)A]}, \quad (4)$$

Survival

$$s_l(T) = s_j(T) = s_a(T) = \frac{\exp(b_0 + b_1T + b_2T^2)}{1 + \exp(b_0 + b_1T + b_2T^2)},$$

Initial conditions for juveniles and adults

$$J(x, 0) = J^0(x), \quad A(x, 0) = A^0(x), \quad x \in \Omega.$$

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Mechanistic dispersal kernels: Gaussian

- Consider a propagule moving randomly in one dimension, released from the point $x = 0$ at time $t = 0$.
- The probability density function $w(x, t)$ for the propagule's location at time t satisfies the diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} \quad (5)$$

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- The solution to the problem is

$$w(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{4Dt}\right). \quad (6)$$

- Thus, for individuals released from the point $y = 0$, moving randomly and settling at time t , the dispersal kernel becomes

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{4Dt}\right). \quad (7)$$

Dispersal kernels: Laplace Kernel

- Laplace kernel comes from random motion plus settling:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \sigma u, \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\partial u_s}{\partial t} = \sigma u. \quad (9)$$

- Consider a point release $u(x, 0) = \delta(x)$ and $u_s(x, 0) = 0$.
- Define the dispersal kernel to be long term settling density $K = u_s(x, \infty)$.

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- Integrating (13) yields

$$K(x) = \sigma \int_0^{\infty} u(x, t) dt$$

- Integrating (12) and applying $u(x, \infty) = 0$ yields

$$-\delta(x) = \frac{D}{\sigma} \frac{\partial^2 K}{\partial x^2} - K, \quad (10)$$

a *modified Helmholtz equation* for the dispersal kernel.

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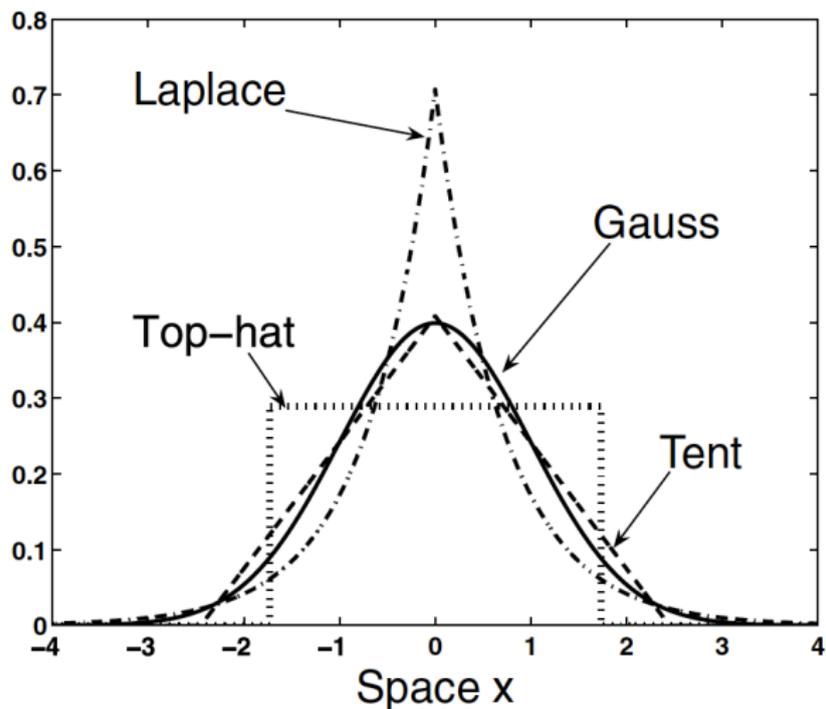
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a *modified Helmholtz equation* for the dispersal kernel.

- The solution is the Laplace (or double-exponential) kernel,

$$K(x) = \frac{\alpha}{2} \exp(-\alpha|x|), \quad \alpha = \sqrt{\sigma/D}. \quad (11)$$

Dispersal kernels



Including advection, settling and mortality

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - v \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - (m + \sigma)u, \quad (12)$$

$$\frac{\partial u_s}{\partial t} = \sigma u. \quad (13)$$

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- The solution on a infinite domain is

$$K(x, y) = \begin{cases} \alpha \exp\{\gamma_1(x - y)\}, & x \leq y, \\ \alpha \exp\{\gamma_2(x - y)\}, & x \geq y, \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

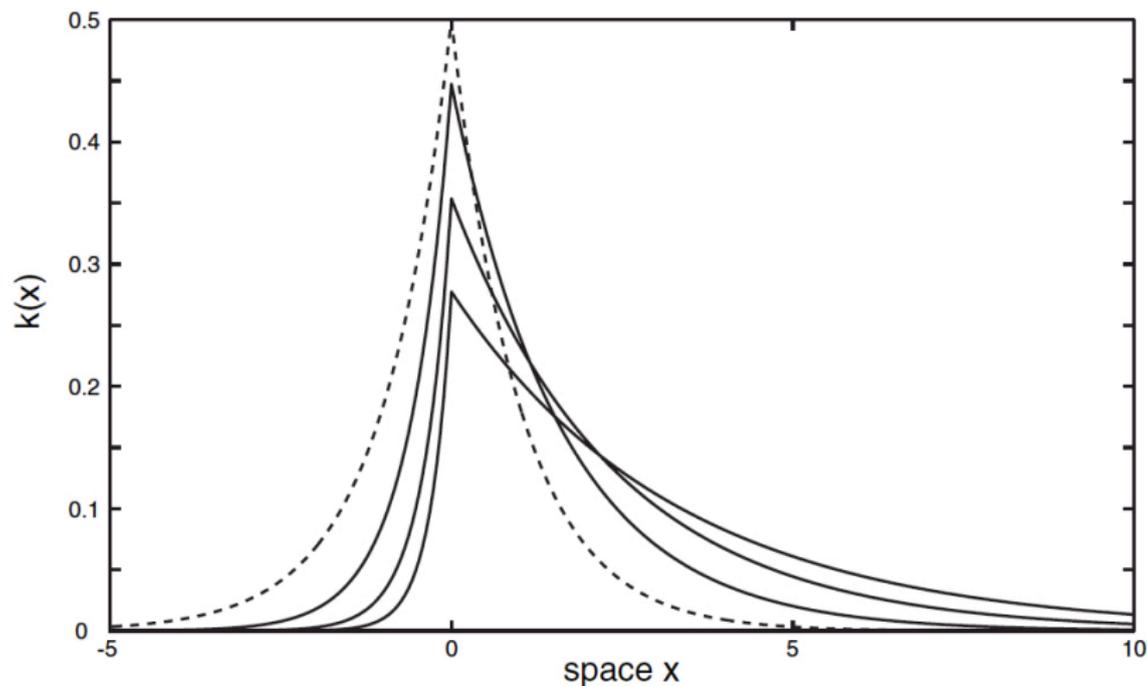
where where

$$\alpha = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{v^2 + 4D(m + \sigma)}}, \quad \gamma_{1,2} = \frac{v}{2D} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{v}{2D}\right)^2 + \frac{m + \sigma}{D}}.$$

Dispersal kernel for streams

It turns out that, because the process includes mortality as well as settling:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K(x, y) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K(x, y) dy = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma + m}.$$



Dispersal kernel on a finite domain $(0, L)$

Boundary conditions depend on the biology/physics

- Hostile

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0.$$

- General

$$\alpha_1 u(0, t) + \alpha_2 u_x(0, t) = 0, \quad \alpha_3 u(L, t) + \alpha_4 u_x(L, t) = 0.$$

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- General

$$\alpha_1 u(0, t) + \alpha_2 u_x(0, t) = 0, \quad \alpha_3 u(L, t) + \alpha_4 u_x(L, t) = 0.$$

- These give boundary conditions for K , eg for hostile boundary conditions we solve

$$-\delta(x) = \frac{D}{\sigma} \frac{\partial^2 K}{\partial x^2} - \frac{v}{\sigma} \frac{\partial K}{\partial x} - \frac{m + \sigma}{\sigma} K = \mathcal{L}K,$$

subject to

$$K(0) = \sigma \int_0^\infty u(0, t) dt = 0, \quad K(L) = \sigma \int_0^\infty \sigma u(L, t) dt = 0.$$

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Competition

$$\varphi(J, A) = \frac{1}{1 + \beta[l_j J + l_a A]},$$

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Competition

$$\varphi(J, A) = \frac{1}{1 + \beta[\ell_j J + \ell_a A]},$$

We will use the fact that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K(x, y) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K(x, y) dy = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma + m}.$$

when deriving the nonspatial model.

Nonspatial model

We consider spatially homogeneous solutions to (16)

$$J(n+1) = \varphi(J(n), A(n)) \frac{s_l r \sigma}{\sigma + m} A(n),$$

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Linearized about trivial equilibrium:

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Linearized about trivial equilibrium:

$$J(n+1) = \frac{s_l r \sigma}{\sigma + m} A(n),$$
$$A(n+1) = [s_j J(n) + s_a A(n)],$$

Net reproductive rate:

$$R_0^{\text{loc}}(T) = \frac{s_l(T) s_j(T) r \frac{\sigma}{\sigma + m}}{1 - s_a(T)}. \quad (17)$$

$R_0^{\text{loc}}(T) > 1$ gives zebra mussel survival in the 10–23°C range.

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Critical domain size analysis for zebra mussel model

$$\mathbf{N}(x, n + 1) = \int_0^L [\mathbf{K}(x, y) \circ \mathbf{A}] \mathbf{N}(y, n) dy, \quad (18)$$

where $\mathbf{N}(x, n) = (J(x, n), A(x, n))^T$ and

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Critical domain size analysis for zebra mussel model

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$$A(x) = \frac{s_j}{1 - s_a} s_l r \int_0^{L^*} A(y) K(x, y) dy. \quad (21)$$

An R_0 approach to critical domain size

- Consider a small adult population density $A(y)$.
- Life time production of larvae from adults at point y is

$$A(y)(1 + s_a + s_a^2 + \dots)r = \frac{A(y)}{1 - s_a}r. \quad (22)$$

- The density of larvae arriving at point x from all possible y is

$$\int_0^L \frac{A(y)}{1 - s_a}rK(x, y)dy. \quad (23)$$

- New adults produced over the life time of initial distribution of adults is

$$(\Gamma A)(x) = \frac{s_l s_j}{1 - s_a}r \int_0^L A(y)K(x, y)dy. \quad (24)$$

- This is the *next generation operator* and we define $R_0 = \rho(\Gamma)$.
- We can prove that the eigenvector corresponding to R_0 is positive.
- Critical domain size is found by solving $A = \Gamma A$ (i.e., $R_0 = 1$) for $L = L^*$.
- There is a well developed theory for infinite-dimensional next generation operators such as this (Thieme 2009).

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Solving the critical domain size problem

We want to solve

$$A(x) = \frac{s_l s_j r}{1 - s_a} \int_0^{L^*} A(y) K(x, y) dy.$$

$K(0, y) = K(L^*, y) = 0$ yield boundary conditions $A(0) = A(L^*) = 0$.

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Recall

$$\mathcal{L}K = \frac{D}{\sigma} \frac{\partial^2 K}{\partial x^2} - \frac{v}{\sigma} \frac{\partial K}{\partial x} - \frac{m + \sigma}{\sigma} K = -\delta(x - y)$$

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Applying this operator yields

$$\mathcal{L}A = \frac{s_l s_j r}{1 - s_a} \int_0^{L^*} A(y) [\mathcal{L}K(x, y)] dy = -\frac{s_l s_j r}{1 - s_a} A$$

or

$$A''(x) - \frac{v}{D} A'(x) + \left(\frac{s_l s_j r \sigma}{(1 - s_a) D} - \frac{m + \sigma}{D} \right) A(x) = 0, \quad x \in (0, L^*).$$

with boundary conditions $A(0) = A(L^*) = 0$.

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The characteristic equation for (25) is

$$\rho^2 - \frac{v}{D}\rho + \left(\frac{s_l s_j r \sigma}{(1 - s_a)D\lambda} - \frac{m + \sigma}{D} \right) = 0,$$

with discriminant

$$\Delta(\lambda) = \left(\frac{v}{D} \right)^2 - 4 \left(\frac{s_l s_j r \sigma}{(1 - s_a)D\lambda} - \frac{m + \sigma}{D} \right)$$

and solution

$$A(x) = c \exp\left(\frac{v}{2D}x\right) \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{-\Delta(\lambda)}}{2}x\right).$$

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$A(L^*) = 0$ requires

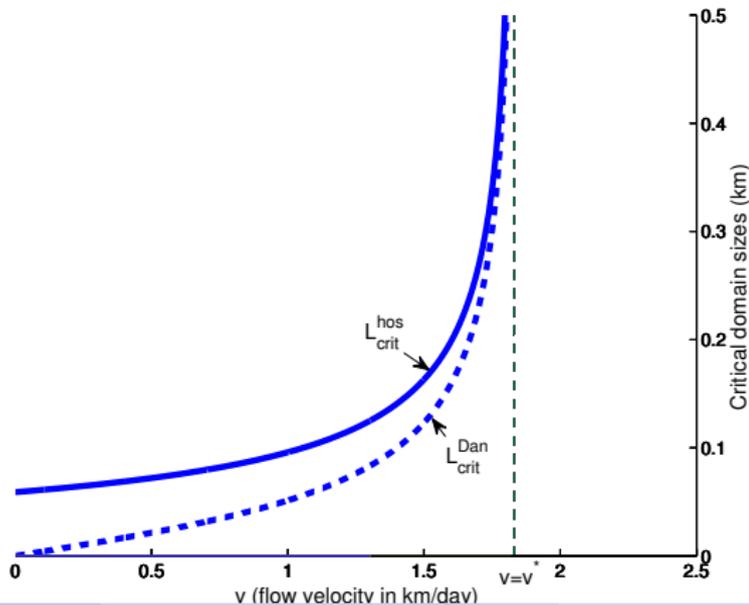
$$\frac{\sqrt{-\Delta(\lambda)}}{2}L^* = \pi.$$

Solving the critical domain size problem

$$L^* = \frac{2\pi D}{\sqrt{4D \left(\frac{s_l(T)s_j(T)r\sigma}{1-s_a(T)} - m - \sigma \right) - v^2}} = \frac{2\pi D}{\sqrt{4D(\sigma + m) (R_0^{\text{loc}}(T) - 1) - v^2}}.$$

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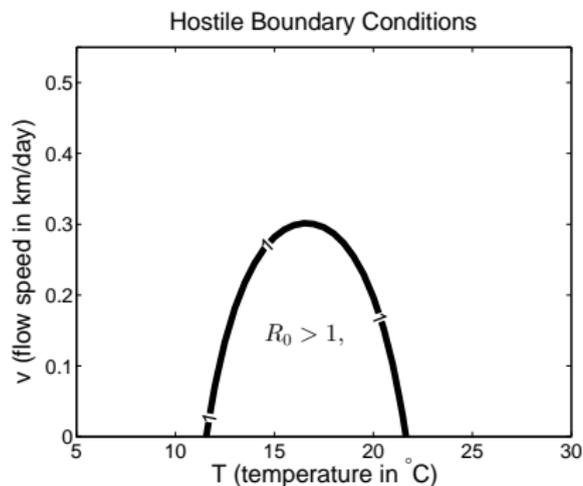


Critical values of other parameters

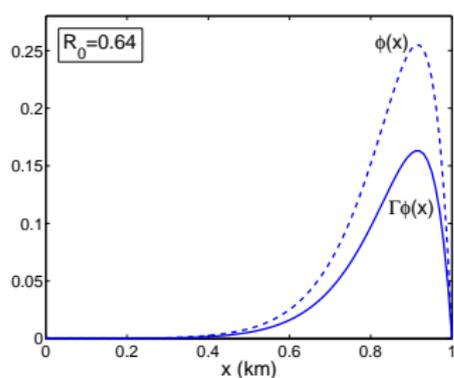
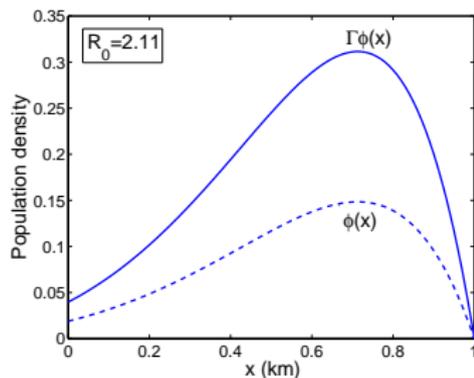
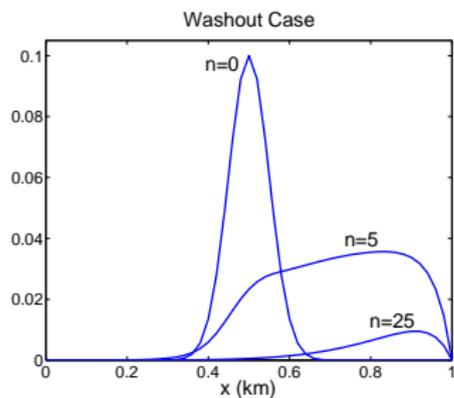
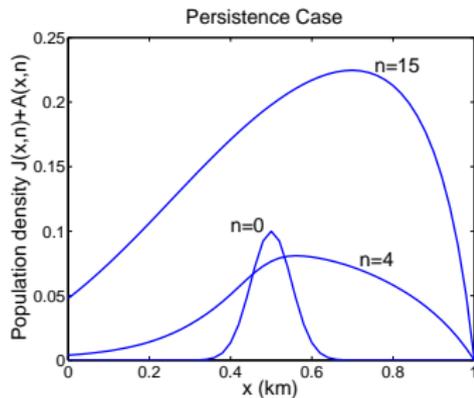
The trivial solution loses stability and a nontrivial solution emerges when

$$L = \frac{2\pi D}{\sqrt{4D(\sigma + m) (R_0^{\text{loc}}(T) - 1) - v^2}}.$$

We can fix the domain size L and calculate the critical values with respect to temperature and advection speed



Dynamics below and above critical advection speed

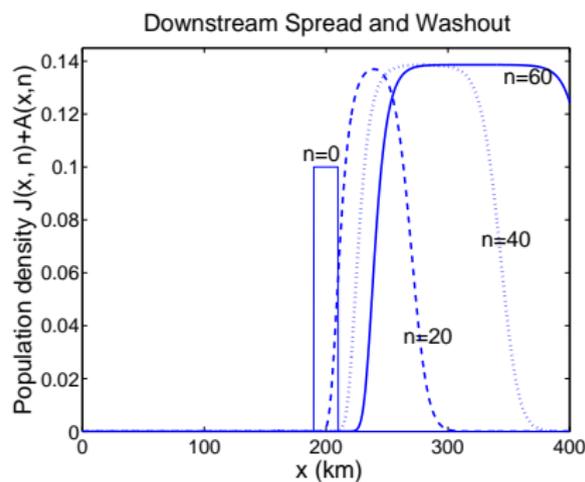
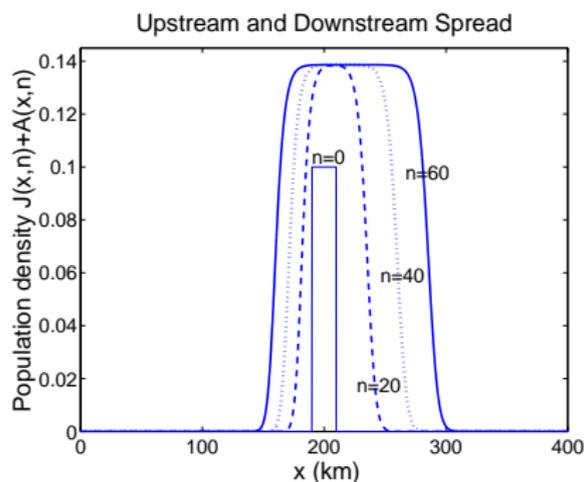


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Upstream and downstream spread

It is possible that, even on an infinite domain, the zebra mussel population could be “washed out” by high advection speeds.

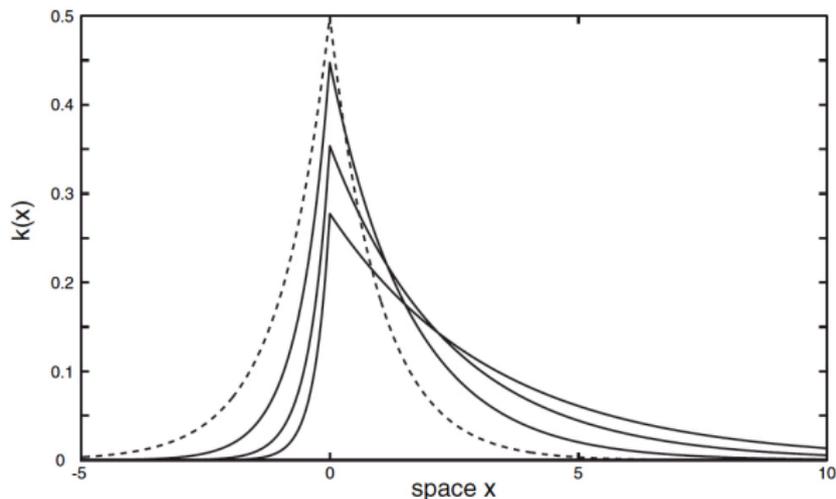


Upstream and downstream spreading speeds

$$\mathbf{N}(x, n+1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\mathbf{K}(x-y) \circ \mathbf{A}] \mathbf{N}(y, n) dy, \quad (26)$$

where $\mathbf{N}(x, n) = (J(x, n), A(x, n))^T$ and

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & s_l r \\ s_j & s_a \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{K}(x-y) = \begin{pmatrix} \delta(x-y) & K(x-y) \\ \delta(x-y) & \delta(x-y) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (27)$$



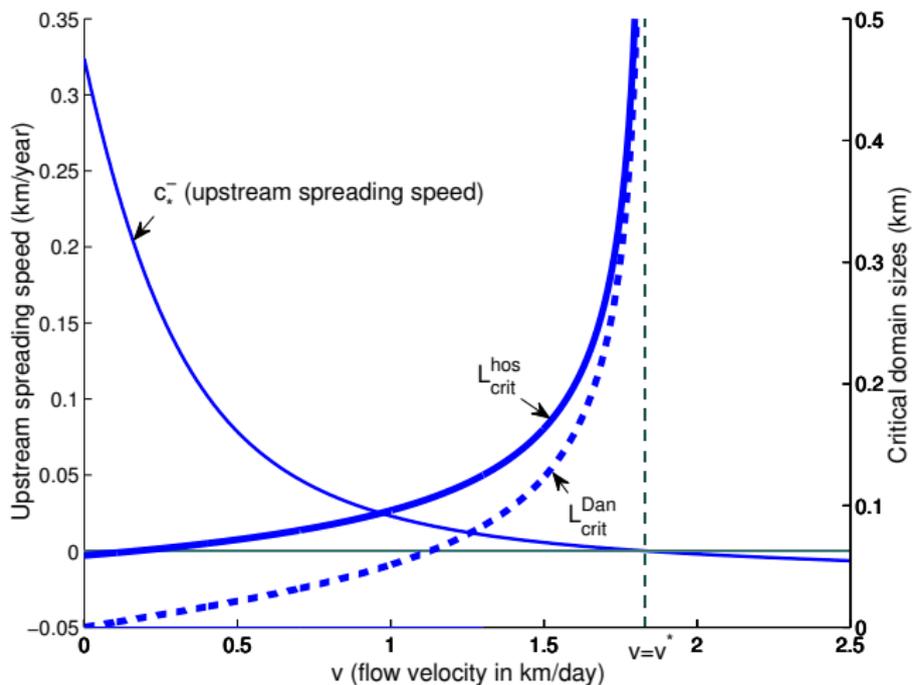
Upstream and downstream spreading speeds

$$c_*^- = \inf_{0 < \theta < \gamma_1} \frac{1}{\theta} \ln \rho[\mathbf{H}(-\theta)], \quad (28)$$

$$c_*^+ = \inf_{0 < \theta < -\gamma_2} \frac{1}{\theta} \ln \rho[\mathbf{H}(\theta)], \quad (29)$$

$$\mathbf{H}(\theta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{K}(\xi) e^{\theta \xi} d\xi \circ \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & s_I r M(\theta) \\ s_j & s_a \end{pmatrix} \quad (30)$$

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Conclusions

- There is a newly emerging theory for critical domain size analysis for systems of integrodifference equations
- The theory discussed today is suited to systems where the linearized dynamics give a primitive matrix (eg, age structured, cooperative dynamics).
- It is possible to look at the problem from perspectives of both classical bifurcation analysis and next generation operator analysis.
- When dispersal has an underlying physical model (PDE), we can use this to our advantage when calculating the critical domain size.
- Critical domain size problems in advective environments can be connected to spreading speed analysis.
- There are several papers that approximate IDEs using a *dispersal success approximation* (Lutscher 2019). These can be very useful.