Dynamical Analysis of a Commensalism System Incorporating Beddington-DeAngelis Functional Response and Allee Effect

Binfeng Xie, Na Zhang, and Cheng Liu

Abstract-In this paper, we put forward and study a commensalism system incorporating the Beddington-DeAngelis functional response and the Allee effect in the second species. In the first place, the legitimacy and well-posedness in the biological sense of the system solution, such as positiveness and boundness are proved. Then, by examining the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix at the equilibria and applying the comparison principle and Dulac theorem, we may determine all feasible equilibria of the system as well as their local and global stability criteria. In the second place, by examining the Allee effect, we see that: (i) when the Allee level threshold is exceeded, the coexistence equilibrium point exists and is globally stable; otherwise, the second species will perish; (ii) when the positive equilibrium exists, the increase of the Allee effect level will decrease the final density of two species; (iii) the system will take longer to attain a steady state when the Allee effect is increased. Finally, numerical simulations are presented to verify the validity of the main results.

Index Terms—Allee effect, Dynamics, Beddington-DeAngelis, commensalism system.

1. INTRODUCTION

C OMMENSAL symbiosis is a type of biological contact in which one population benefits while the other does not benefit or hurt. The Pacific Blue mullet, for example, relies on whales and dolphins for survival. Many scientists have examined the dynamic behavior of commensal symbiosis systems in recent years, and while linear functional response is commonly used, [1]–[12], nonlinear functional response is clearly preferable. Han and Chen [5] investigated the following non-monotonic functional response commensalism system:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = u \left(r_1 - k_1 u + \frac{cv}{d + v^2} \right), \\ \frac{dv}{dt} = v (r_2 - k_2 v). \end{cases}$$
(1.1)

In 1959, a Canadian researcher by the name of Holling [13] proposed the matching functional response function for various species to illustrate the predation rate of predator population to prey population based on his experimental

findings, which includes three main types Holling type I (or Linear functional response), II (see [14]-[18]), and III (see [19]). Beddington (see [20], [21]) presented a nonlinear functional response called the Beddington-DeAngelis functional response for the predator-prey system. In reality, it is comparable to the well-known Holling type II functional response, but the denominator includes an additional nv element to simulate predator interaction. Many researchers hold that predators must find food to share or compete, hence the functional response in the predator-prey model must be predator dependant, implying that the Beddington-DeAngelis type functional response is more appropriate. It is commonly employed in predator-prey systems due to its theoretical and practical significance. See the literatures [22]-[36] and references therein. Furthermore, the Beddington-DeAngelis type functional response admits rich yet biologically meaningful dynamics, attracting researchers to further investigate the Beddington-DeAngelis type systems. Based on the preceding articles, what happens to the dynamic system if we substitute the functional response of system (1.1) with the Beddington-DeAngelis functional response, which is reliant on the second species? As a result, the system is transformed into the following:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = u \left(r_1 - k_1 u + \frac{cv}{1 + mu + nv} \right), \\ \frac{dv}{dt} = v (r_2 - k_2 v). \end{cases}$$
(1.2)

However, when population density is either high or too sparse, population reproduction is hampered, which is a common occurrence in nature. Allee brings this phenomenon Allee effect in reference [37]. Allee effect occurs for a variety of reasons, including inbreeding [38], mating challenges [39], low density social dysfunction [40], and so forth. Cooperation is frequently useless when the number of organisms is too small, resulting in a population dynamics growth level, since an appropriately high growth rate is required to control certain fatalities caused by environmental changes. Because of the biological significance of the Allee effect, an increasing number of researchers include it into biological mathematical models, such as [16], [41]-[59]. Bazykin [60] presented the following single species model with Allee effect: $\frac{dx}{dt} = rx(1 - \frac{x}{K})(x - A)$, where r is the population's intrinsic per capita growth rate and K is environmental capacity. When 0 < A < K, the model has a strong Allee effect; when $A \leq 0$, the model has a weak Allee effect. They also created a population threshold, which reflects the bare minimum number required to survive. The

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 TABLE I

 EXPLANATION OF PARAMETER MEANING IN SYSTEM (1.3)

Parameter	Meaning	
u	the first population density at time t	
v	the second population density at time t	
r_1	first population's intrinsic growth rate	
r_2	the maximum intrinsic growth rate of the second population	
a	the level of Allee of the second species	
$\frac{r_1}{k_1}$	the environmental capacity of the first species	
$\frac{\frac{r_2}{k_2}}{\frac{cv}{1+mu+nv}}$	the environmental capacity of the second species	
	Beddington-DeAngelis functional response	

population must rise above this limit if the model exhibits a substantial Allee effect. The model with a modest Allee effect, on the other hand, has no threshold. Furthermore, to answer the question "what minimal numbers are required for a species to survive in nature?" Dennis [61] originally described a single species model with additive Allee effect as: $\frac{dx}{dt} = rx(1 - \frac{x}{K}) - \frac{Ax}{x+M}$, where A and M are constants, A denotes the magnitude of Allee effect, M represents the number of single populations, and its fitness is half of its highest value. $\frac{A}{x+M}$ represents the additive Allee effect, which means that: if 0 < A < M, the system has a weak Allee effect; if A > M, the system has a strong Allee impact. Dennis discovered that numerical simulation can be used to calculate the critical density, growth, and extinction probabilities in sparse populations suffering from the Allee effect.

Because of the small population, it is difficult for the population to find a partner and proliferate, hence the Allee effect impacts the innate rate of increase of the species. The second population's intrinsic growth rate is represented as $A(a,v) = \frac{r_2v}{a+v}$, where r_2 denotes the maximum intrinsic growth rate of the second population, v denotes the prey population density at time t, and a > 0 denotes the extent of Allee, which can be used to determine the extent of Allee impact on the second species. A(a,v) satisfy $\lim_{a \to +\infty} A(a,v) = 0$, $\lim_{v \to 0} A(a,v) = 0$, $\lim_{a \to 0} A(a,v) = r_2$, $\lim_{v \to +\infty} A(a,v) = r_2$, $\frac{\partial A(a,v)}{\partial a} < 0$. The Allee effect is introduced into the second population using system (1.2) to create a commensalism system with the Beddington-DeAngelis functional reaction and Allee phenomenon as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = u \left(r_1 - k_1 u + \frac{cv}{1 + mu + nv} \right), \\ \frac{dv}{dt} = v \left(\frac{r_2 v}{a + v} - k_2 v \right). \end{cases}$$
(1.3)

All parameters in the system are positive, In Table I, we explain what each parameter of system (1.3) means.

The rest of the essay is organized as follows: Section 2 establishes the legality and well-posedness of the system solution in biological terms, such as boundedness and positivity. The presence and stability of the system's equilibria are discussed. The influence of the Allee effect on the system

is examined in Section 3. The numerical simulation and discussion in Section 4 serve to illustrate the validity of the theoretical conclusions. Section 5 concludes this study with a brief conclusion.

2. QUALITATIVE AND STABILITY ANALYSIS OF THE SYSTEM

A. Positivity and boundedness of solutions

In order to conduct a qualitative analysis of the system (1.3), we introduce the following two lemmas:

Lemma 2.1. [62] If p, q > 0 and $\frac{dx}{dt} \le (\ge)x(t)(p - qx)$ with x(0) > 0, then

$$\limsup_{t \to +\infty} x(t) \le \frac{p}{q} (\liminf_{t \to +\infty} x(t) \ge \frac{p}{q}).$$

The following lemma can also be used to replace the aforementioned lemma:

Lemma 2.2. [62] If p, q > 0 and $\frac{dx}{dt} \le (\ge)x(t)(p - qx)$ with x(0) > 0, then for all $t \ge 0$

$$x(t) \leq \frac{p}{q-Ce^{-pt}}, \quad \text{with} \quad C = q - \frac{p}{x(0)}$$

In particular $x(t) \leq \max\{x(0), \frac{p}{q}\}$ for all $t \geq 0$.

The positivity and boundedness of solutions in system (1.3) are provided by the following proposition.

Proposition 2.1. (i) All solutions (u(t), v(t)) of system (1.3) with the initial conditions u(t) > 0, v(t) > 0 are positive for all $t \ge 0$.

(ii) For any $t \ge 0$, all solutions (u(t), v(t)) to system (1.3) with initial conditions u(t) > 0 and v(t) > 0 are bounded.

Proof: (i)Since u = 0 and v = 0 are invariant sets in system (1.3), any trajectory originating in R_+^2 cannot cross the coordinate axes if u(0) > 0 and v(0) > 0. Therefore, u(t) > 0 and v(t) > 0 for all $t \ge 0$. As a result, for any $t \ge 0$, all solutions (u(t), v(t)) of system (1.3) with the initial conditions u(t) > 0, v(t) > 0 are positive.

(ii) By applying the positivity of variables u, v, we have

$$\frac{dv}{dt} \le v(r_2 - k_2 v).$$

From Lemma 2.2, we get

$$v(t) \le \max\{v(0), \frac{r_2}{k_2}\} \equiv M_1 \quad \text{ for all } t \ge 0$$

Then, from the first equation of the system (1.3), we obtain

$$\frac{du}{dt} \le u(r_1 + cM_1 - k_1u).$$

From Lemma 2.2, we have

$$u(t) \le \max\{u(0), \frac{r_1 + cM_1}{k_1}\} \equiv M_2$$
 for all $t \ge 0$.

Therefore all solutions (u(t), v(t)) to system (1.3) under the initial conditions u(t) > 0 and v(t) > 0 are bounded for any $t \ge 0$.

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B. Equilibria and the conditions for their existence

The following equations' nonnegative solutions characterize biologic equilibria in the system (1.3):

$$\begin{cases} u \left(r_1 - k_1 u + \frac{cv}{1 + mu + nv} \right) = 0, \\ v \left(\frac{r_2 v}{a + v} - k_2 v \right) = 0. \end{cases}$$
(2.1)

From the second equation of (2.1), we obtain two nonnegative solutions v = 0 or $v = \frac{r_2 - ak_2}{k_2}$, when $0 < a < a_1$ holds, where $a_1 = \frac{r_2}{k_2}$. Consequently, the following are the biologic equilibrium points in the system (1.3):

(i) The boundary equilibria $B_0(0,0)$ and $B_1(u_1,0)$ always exist without any restrictions, where $u_1 = \frac{r_1}{k_1}$.

(ii) If $0 < a < a_1$ holds, the system (1.3) also has another boundary equilibrium $B_2(0, v^*)$ and positive equilibrium $B_3(u^*, v^*)$, where $v^* = \frac{r_2 - ak_2}{k_2}$, and u^* is the positive solution of the following single-variable quadratic expression:

$$A_1u^2 + A_2u + A_3 = 0,$$

where $A_1 = mk_1$, $A_2 = k_1 + nk_1v^* - mr_1$, $A_3 = -(r_1 + cv^* + nr_1v^*)$. It is easy to find that the equation has a unique positive solution:

$$u^* = \frac{-A_2 + \sqrt{A_2^2 - A_1 A_3}}{2A_1}$$

Here, we express the existence conditions of the equilibria of system (1.3) as the following proposition:

Proposition 2.2. The system (1.3) always exists an trivial equilibrium $B_0(0,0)$ and a border equilibrium $B_1(u_1,0)$; If $0 < a < a_1$ holds, the system (1.3) has another border equilibrium $B_2(0,v^*)$ and positive equilibrium $B_3(u^*,v^*)$.

C. Local and global stability of the equilibria

In order to obtain the stability of the equilibria of system (1.3), we first calculate the Jacobian matrix of the system at any point (u, v) as follows:

$$J(u,v) = \left(\begin{array}{c} r_1 - 2k_1u + \frac{cv(nv+1)}{(1+mu+nv)^2} & \frac{cu(mv+1)}{(1+mu+nv)^2} \\ 0 & \frac{r_2v^2 + 2ar_2v}{(a+v)^2} - 2k_2v \end{array}\right)$$

The following theorems will now be used to describe the dynamics of the model system at each stable state in turn:

Theorem 2.1. $B_0(0,0)$ is a saddle point, if $a = \frac{r_2}{k_2}$ holds; while $B_0(0,0)$ is a saddle node, if $a \neq \frac{r_2}{k_2}$ holds.

Proof: The Jacobian matrix of system (1.3) at B_0 is

$$J(0,0) = \left(\begin{array}{cc} r_1 & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{array}\right),$$

its eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = r_1 > 0$ and $\lambda_2 = 0$, so the extinction equilibrium $B_0(0,0)$ is non-hyperbolic. By making time

transformation $\tau = tr_1$ and extending the system (1.3) into a third-order power series centered on point $B_0(0,0)$, we get

$$\frac{du}{d\tau} = u - \frac{k_1}{r_1}u^2 + \frac{c}{r_1}uv - \frac{cm}{r_1}u^2v - \frac{cn}{r_1}uv^2 + O(|u, v|^4), \quad (2.2)$$

$$\frac{dv}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{r_1}\left(\frac{r_2}{a} - k_2\right)v^2 - \frac{r_2}{r_1a^2} + O(|u, v|^4).$$

Therefore, according to Theorem 7.1 in [63], $B_0(0,0)$ is a saddle point, if $a = \frac{r_2}{k_2}$ holds; while $B_0(0,0)$ is a saddle node, if $a \neq \frac{r_2}{k_2}$ holds.

Theorem 2.2. $B_1(u_1, 0)$ is globally attractive if $a \ge a_1$ holds; and $B_1(u_1, 0)$ is unstable if $0 < a < a_1$ holds.

Proof: From the second equation of system (1.3), we denote

$$F(v) = \frac{r_2 v}{a+v} - k_2 v,$$

then

$$F(v) = \frac{-k_2v^2 + (r_2 - ak_2)v}{a + v}$$

(i)When $0 < a < a_1$, i.e., $r_2 - ak_2 > 0$ then F(v) = 0 has a unique positive $v = v^*$, which satisfies vF(v) > 0 for $v \in (0, v^*)$ and vF(v) < 0 for $v > v^*$, hence

$$\lim_{t \to +\infty} v(t) = v^*, \tag{2.3}$$

that is, v^* is globally attractive if $0 < a < a_1$ holds, hence, $B_1(u_1, 0)$ is unstable if $0 < a < a_1$ holds.

(ii)When $a \ge a_1$, i.e., $r_2 - ak_2 \le 0$ then F(v) = 0 doesn't have positive solution, v = 0 is the unique equilibrium, and vF(v) < 0 for v > 0, then

$$\lim_{t \to +\infty} v(t) = 0. \tag{2.4}$$

From (2.4), for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists T > 0, when t > T, we derive

$$v(t) < \varepsilon. \tag{2.5}$$

From the first equation of system (1.3) and (2.5), we get

$$u(r_1 - k_1 u) \le \frac{du}{dt} \le u(r_1 - k_1 u + c\varepsilon)$$

From the comparison principle of differential equation, we get

$$\frac{r_1}{k_1} \le u(t) \le \frac{r_1 + c\varepsilon}{k_1}, \quad \text{for} \quad t > T,$$

let $\varepsilon \to 0$, then

u

$$\lim_{t \to +\infty} u(t) = u_1. \tag{2.6}$$

From (2.4) and (2.6), we obtain that $B_1(u_1, 0)$ is globally attractive if $a \ge a_1$ holds.

Theorem 2.3. $B_2(0, v^*)$ is saddle, if $a < a_1$ holds.

Proof: System (1.3)'s Jacobian matrix around B_2 is

$$I(0,v^*) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{cr_2 + k_2r_1 + nr_1r_2}{k_2 + nr_2} & 0\\ 0 & \frac{-r_2v^*}{(a+v^*)^2} \end{pmatrix},$$

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TABLE II STEADY STATE AND ITS STABILITY IN THE SYSTEM (1.3)

Equilibrium	Existence	Туре
$B_0(0,0)$	Always exists	$a = a_1$,Saddle. $a \neq a_1$, Saddle node.
$B_1(u_1, 0)$	Always exists	$a \ge a_1$, Globally attractive; $0 < a < a_1$, Unstable.
$B_2(0, v^*)$	$0 < a < a_1$	$0 < a < a_1$, Saddle.
$B^*(u^*,v^*)$	$0 < a < a_1$	$0 < a < a_1$, Stable node; $0 < a < a_1$, Globally asymptotically stable node.

its eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = \frac{cr_2 + k_2r_1 + nr_1r_2}{k_2 + nr_2} > 0$ and $\lambda_2 = \frac{-r_2v^*}{(a+v^*)^2} < 0$. Hence $B_2(0,v^*)$ is saddle, if $a < a_1$ holds.

Theorem 2.4. If $a < a_1$ holds, then

 $B^*(u^*, v^*)$ is locally asymptotically stable; furthermore, $B^*(u^*, v^*)$ exhibits asymptotic global stability.

Proof: System (1.3)'s Jacobian matrix around
$$B^*$$
 is

$$J(u^*, v^*) =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -k_1u^* - \frac{cmu^*v^*}{(1+mu^*+nv^*)^2} & \frac{cu^*(1+mu^*)}{(1+mu^*+nv^*)^2} \\ 0 & \frac{-r_2v^*}{(a+v^*)^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

its eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = -k_1 u^* - \frac{cmu^*v^*}{(1+mu^*+nv^*)^2} < -r_2 v^*$ 0 and $\lambda_2 = \frac{-r_2 v^*}{(a+v^*)^2} < 0$. Hence $B_2(u^*,v^*)$ is locally asymptotically stable, if $a < a_1$ holds.

In order to prove that B^* is globally asymptotically stable, we first construct a Dulac function as follows:

$$D(u,v) = \frac{1}{uv^2}.$$

Let

$$P(u,v) = u\left(r_1 - k_1u + \frac{cv}{1 + mu + nv}\right)$$

 $Q(u,v) = v \left(\frac{r_2 v}{a+v} - k_2 v\right).$

Then

$$\frac{\partial(PD)}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial(QD)}{\partial v} = -\frac{1}{v^2} \left(k_1 + \frac{cmv}{(1+mu+n)^2}\right) - \frac{r_2}{u(a+v)^2} < 0.$$

The Dulac Theorem in reference [64] states that the first quadrant is devoid of limit cycles. $B^*(u^*, v^*)$ is hence global asymptotic stable.

As illustrated in Table II, we may summarize the stability and existence of equilibrium points.

3. THE INFLUENCE OF ALLEE EFFECT ON THE TWO POPULATIONS

This section discusses the Allee effect's impact on each population when a positive equilibrium is present.

A. Without Allee effect

If the second species does not exhibit the Allee effect, i.e., a = 0, system (1.3) transforms into system (1.2). We find that $B^*(u^*, v^*)$ is always globally asymptotically stable in the absence of any constraints.

B. Incorporate Allee effect

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We know that $u^* = \frac{-A_2 + \sqrt{A_2^2 - A_1 A_3}}{2A_1}$ and $v^* = \frac{r_2 - ak_2}{k_2}$ are continuous functions of a, and u^* satisfies

$$c_1 - k_1 u^* + \frac{cv^*}{1 + mu^* + nv^*} = 0$$

Take the derivative of parameter a on both sides of the aforementioned equation, we can arrive at the following conclusion.

$$\frac{du^*}{da} = \frac{-c(1+mu^*)}{k_1(1+mu^*+nv^*)^2 + cmv^*} < 0,$$

and

$$\frac{dv^*}{da} = -1 < 0.$$

As a result, the final densities of the two population u^* and v^* decrease as Allee level rises. The first population density u^* and the second population density v^* reach their maximum values when there is no Allee effect present in the system. Fig. 1 (a) depicts the relationship between u^* and a., while Fig. 1 (b) depicts the link between v^* and a. We also find that:

$$\lim_{a \to a_1} v^* = 0, \qquad \lim_{a \to a_1} u^* = u_1.$$

That is, as the Allee extent increases and approaches a_1 , the second species will go extinct.

4. COMPUTATIONAL SIMULATION

We show a number of numerical simulations in this part to support the theoretical analysis and clarify the dynamics of the system (1.3). We looked into the system (1.3)'s dynamic behavior in order to modify the Allee effect's strength.

Example 4.1 Set a = 4, $r_1 = 1.1$, $r_2 = 0.9$, $k_1 =$ 1, $k_2 = 0.3$, c = 0.7, m = 0.8, n = 0.6, then $a_1 = 3$, and $a \ge a_1$. According to theorems 2.1 and 2.2, the system (1.3) has an trivial equilibrium $B_0 = (0,0)$, which is saddle, and a border equilibrium $B_1(1.1,0)$, which is globally asymptotically stable implying that the second species will eventually die out regardless of the initial value of population density. Fig. 2 depicts the simulation findings. **Example 4.2** Set a = 0.1, $r_1 = 1.1$, $r_2 = 0.9$, $k_1 = 0.9$ 1, $k_2 = 0.3$, c = 0.7, m = 0.8, n = 0.6, then $a_1 = 3$, and

 $a < a_1$. According to theorems 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4, the system (1.3) has an trivial equilibrium $B_0 = (0, 0)$, which is saddle; and two border equilibria $B_1(1.1,0)$ and $B_2(0,2.9)$, which are unstable; and a positive $B^*(1.6045, 2.9)$ which is global asymptotic stable, implying that the two species will





Fig. 1. (a) the function image of u^* about a; (b) the function image of v^* about a.

coexist regardless of the initial value of population density. Fig. 3 depicts the simulation findings.

Example 4.3 Set $r_1 = 1.1$, $r_2 = 0.9$, $k_1 = 1$, $k_2 = 0.3$, c = 0.7, m = 0.8, n = 0.6, then $a_1 = 3$. We use a = 0, 1, 2, which satisfy $a < a_1$, to examine the Allee effect's impact on the system. the system (1.3) has an unique positive equilibrium $B^* = (1.6134, 3)$, (1.5107, 2), (1.3604, 1), which is globally asymptotically stable, implying that the two species will coexist; Two population density u^* and v^* decrease with the increase of the exent of Allee a. The two population density u^* and v^* achieve the maximum values 1.6134 and 3 respectively as a = 0. The bigger the Allee effect, that is, the higher the amount of Allee a, the longer it takes for the system to stabilize. Fig. 4 depicts the simulation findings.

5. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we propose and investigate a commensalism system with Beddington-DeAngelis functional response and Allee effect in the second species. We find that: (i) when the Allee level is weak enough, i.e., a is less than threshold value a_1 , the coexistence equilibrium point exists and is globally asymptotically stable, otherwise, the second species will perish due to strong Allee effect; (ii) The final densities of two species can be decreased

Fig. 2. (a) The phase diagram of system (1.3) for a = 4, the initial values are (0.1,10), (0.1,0.5), (7,4), (7,0.5),(5,10); (b) Solution curves for a = 4, the initial values are (0.1,10), (7,4), (5,10).

when the degree of Allee is increased and the positive equilibrium is present. The first population density u^* and the second population density v^* achieve the maximum values, when there is no Allee effect in the system; (iii) increasing the Allee level will increase the time for the system to reach steady state. The conclusion of this paper will enrich the dynamic results of profit biased system.

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Fig. 3. (a) The phase diagram of system (1.3) for a = 0.1, the initial values are (0.1,10), (0.1,0.5), (7,4), (7,0.5),(5,10); (b) Solution curves for a = 0.1, the initial values are (0.1,10), (7,4), (5,10).

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Fig. 4. (a) Solution curves of the first species for a = 0 or a = 1 or a = 2 (b) Solution curves of the second species for a = 0 or a = 1 or a = 2. With the initial value (0.1,0.5).

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