Numerical simulation for a class of predator–prey system with homogeneous Neumann boundary condition based on a sinc function interpolation method

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Abstract
For the nonlinear predator–prey system (PPS), although a variety of numerical methods have been proposed, such as the difference method, the finite element method, and so on, but the efficient numerical method has always been the direction that scholars strive to pursue. Based on this question, a sinc function interpolation method is proposed for a class of PPS. Numerical simulations of a class of PPS with complex dynamical behaviors are performed. Time series plots and phase diagrams of a class of PPS without self-diffusion are shown. The pattern is obtained by setting up different initial conditions and the parameters in the system according to Turing bifurcation condition. The numerical simulation results have a good agreement with theoretical results. Simulation results show the effectiveness of the method.

Keywords: Reaction–diffusion system; Spectral interpolation method; Complex dynamical behavior; Numerical simulation

1 Introduction
The PPS is a basic ecological system that exists widely in nature and is an essential component of ecosystems such as oceans, lakes, wetlands, forests, and grasslands. The predatory process plays an important role in promoting life evolution, maintaining ecological balance, and maintaining biodiversity. Therefore, research on PPS is crucial to the exploration of the fundamental nature of ecosystems. In [1, 2], a PPS with Beddington–DeAngelis-type functional response is proposed and analyzed. In [3], a PPS with general Holling type functional response is given. In [4], a modified Leslie–Gower-type PPS with Holling’s type II functional response is studied. In [5], Paul and Ghosh gave prey–predator–generalist predator system of the following form:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{dx}{dt} &= rx(1 - \frac{x}{k}) - \alpha_0 xy - \beta_0 xz, \\
\frac{dy}{dt} &= \alpha_1 xy - \gamma_0 yz - m_1 y, \\
\frac{dz}{dt} &= \beta_1 xz + \gamma_1 yz - m_2 z,
\end{align*}
\]

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with the initial conditions

\[ x(0) = c_1, y(0) = c_2, z(0) = c_3, \]

where \( x, y, \) and \( z \) are respectively the prey biomass, predator biomass, and top predator biomass at any time \( t \), \( r \) and \( k \) are respectively the intrinsic growth rate and the environmental carrying capacity of prey species. \( \alpha_0, \beta_0, \gamma_0, \alpha_1, \beta_1, \gamma_1, m_1, m_2 \) are all parameters.

When studying the spatial distribution structure and maintaining biodiversity [6, 7] of predators and prey populations, the reaction diffusion system [8–13] can more accurately describe the interaction between predators and prey. In the PPS, spatial diffusion is reflected in the predator’s efforts to catch up with the prey, and the prey’s efforts to escape the predator’s pursuit. In [5], if diffusion behavior of predator–prey biomass is considered, the following system can be obtained [14]:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} & = d_1 \Delta u + r\eta (1 - \frac{u}{K}) - \alpha_0 \eta u - \beta_0 \eta v, \\
\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} & = d_2 \Delta v + \alpha_1 \eta u - \gamma_0 \eta v - m_1 u, \\
\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} & = d_3 \Delta v + \beta_1 \eta v + \gamma_1 \eta v - m_2 v,
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \eta = \eta(x, y, t), u = u(x, y, t), \) and \( v = v(x, y, t) \) are respectively the prey biomass, predator biomass, and top predator biomass at any time \( t \); \( r \) and \( k \) are respectively the intrinsic growth rate and environmental carrying capacity of the prey species. \( \alpha_0, \beta_0 \) are respectively the predation rate of the predator and top predator on prey species. \( \alpha_1 \) and \( \beta_1 \) are respectively measure of the conversion rate of prey species to its predator species and \( \gamma_1 \) is the conversion rate of predator species to the top predator species. \( \gamma_0 \) is the predation rate of top predator on predator species. \( m_1 \) and \( m_2 \) are respectively the natural death rate of the predator and top predator; and \( d_1, d_2, \) and \( d_3 \) are positive diffusion coefficients, \( \Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \), \( (x, y) \in \Omega = [a, b] \times [c, d] \), the smooth boundary is \( \partial \Omega \), homogeneous Neumann boundary condition, namely \( \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}|_{\partial \Omega} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial n}|_{\partial \Omega} = 0 \).

For the nonlinear PPS, a variety of numerical methods have been proposed, such as finite difference method [15], B-spline method [16], finite element method [17, 18], spectral method [19–21], the perturbation method and variational iteration method (VIM) [22, 23], barycentric interpolation collocation method (BICM) [24–27], reproducing kernel method (RKM) [28–32], etc. Nevertheless, the efficient numerical method has always been the direction that scholars strived to pursue. Based on this question, a sinc function interpolation method is proposed for a class of PPS.

2 Bifurcation analysis of system

PPS (2) has at most five equilibrium points as follows:

(i) the trivial equilibrium \( p_0(0, 0, 0) \);
(ii) the predator-free equilibrium \( p_1(k, 0, 0) \);
(iii) the top predator-free equilibrium \( p_2(\frac{m_1}{\alpha_1}, 0, \frac{r \gamma_1 - m_1 \alpha_0}{k \alpha_1}) \);
(iv) the predator-free equilibrium \( p_3(0, 0, \frac{r \beta_1 - m_2}{k \beta_1}) \);
(v) the coexistence equilibrium

\[ p_4(\frac{\beta_1 \gamma_1}{\beta_1 - \alpha_0 \beta_1}, \frac{r \gamma_1 - m_1 \alpha_0}{\beta_1 - \alpha_0 \beta_1}, k (m_1 \alpha_1 - m_2 \alpha_2), k (m_1 \gamma_1 - m_2 \gamma_2), k (m_1 \gamma_1 + m_2 \alpha_2 - m_2 \gamma_2), k (m_1 \gamma_1 + m_2 \gamma_2)), \]

where \( \gamma = r \gamma_1 + k (\alpha_1 \beta_0 \gamma_1 - \alpha_0 \beta_1 \gamma_0) \).
The following equation at arbitrary equilibrium point \((\eta, u, v)\) is given [5]:

\[
\begin{align*}
    r\eta(1 - \frac{\eta}{2}) - \alpha_0\eta u - \beta_0\eta v &= 0, \\
    \alpha_1\eta u - \gamma_0\eta v - m_1u &= 0, \\
    \beta_1\eta v + \gamma_1\eta u - m_2v &= 0.
\end{align*}
\]

(3)

From the biological point of view we are only interested in the stability behavior of the positive equilibrium point. Obviously, the trivial equilibrium \(P_0\) and the predator-free equilibrium \(P_1\) always exist. The top predator-free equilibrium \(P_2\) exists if \(k\alpha_1 > m_1\), and the coexistence equilibrium \(P_4\) exists if \(\gamma_0\gamma_1 + k\alpha_1\beta_0\gamma_1 > k\alpha_0\beta_0\gamma_0\). It is also to be noted that the existence of the equilibrium \(P_4\) ensures the existence of the remaining equilibria.

The Jacobian matrix of nondiffusive system (2) at arbitrary equilibrium point \((\eta, u, v)\) is given as follows:

\[
A_0 = \begin{bmatrix}
    r - \frac{2\eta}{k} - \alpha_0 u - \beta_0 v & -\alpha_0 \eta & -\beta_0 \eta \\
    \alpha_1 u & \alpha_1 \eta - \gamma_0 \eta v - m_1 u & -\gamma_0 u \\
    \beta_1 \eta v & \gamma_1 \eta & \beta_1 \eta + \gamma_1 \eta u - m_2 \\
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

(4)

The Jacobian matrix \(A_\lambda\) of system (2) is

\[
A_\lambda = \begin{bmatrix}
    r - \frac{2\eta}{k} - \alpha_0 u - \beta_0 v & -\alpha_0 \eta & -\beta_0 \eta \\
    \alpha_1 u & \alpha_1 \eta - \gamma_0 \eta v - m_1 u & -\gamma_0 u \\
    \beta_1 \eta v & \gamma_1 \eta & \beta_1 \eta + \gamma_1 \eta u - m_2 \\
\end{bmatrix} - \lambda^2 \begin{bmatrix}
    d_1 & 0 & 0 \\
    0 & d_2 & 0 \\
    0 & 0 & d_3 \\
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

(5)

Turing bifurcation occurs when the equilibrium state is stable in absence of nondiffusion, but it becomes unstable in presence of cross-diffusion. Thus, if there exists \(\lambda\), the the equilibrium state becomes an unstable point of the cross-diffusion system (2), and if the real part of eigenvalues \(A_\lambda\) is positive, then diffusion system (2) is unstable.

3 Description of the sinc function interpolation method

To solve system (2), we consider a regular region \(\Omega = [0, 2\pi] \times [0, 2\pi]\), the interval [0, 2\pi] is divided into \(N\) different nodes. \(h = \frac{2\pi}{N}, x_j = jh, y_j = jh, j = 1, 2, \ldots, N\). Sinc functions are used in different areas of physics and mathematics. A periodic sinc function

\[
S_N(x) = \frac{\sin(\pi x/h)}{(2\pi /h) \tan(\pi/2)},
\]

where \(h = \frac{2\pi}{N}\), \(S_N\) is the interpolation function of periodic \(\delta\) function. It can be proved that \(S_N(x_j) = 1, S_N(x_i - x_j)\) is an \(N\) order unit matrix, respectively.

Using periodic sinc function (6), for given \(h > 0\), we define the following interpolation space:

\[
\text{Span}\{S_N(x - jh), j = 1, 2, \ldots, N\}.
\]

Let \(I_N\) be the interpolation operator such that for functions \(\eta(x, y, t), u(x, y, t), \) and \(v(x, y, t)\) defined on [0, 2\pi] with homogeneous Neumann boundary condition, the interpolation functions \(I_N\eta(x, y, t), I_Nu(x, y, t), \) and \(I_Nv(x, y, t)\) of sequence \(\eta_{ij} = \eta(x_i, y_j, t), u_{ij} = u(x_i, y_j, t), \)
\( v_{ij} = v(x_i, y_j, t) \) can be written as follows [33]:

\[
\eta(x, y, t) \sim I_N \eta(x, y, t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} S_N(x - x_i)S_N(y - y_j)\eta(x_i, y_j, t),
\]

\[
u(x, y, t) \sim I_N \nu(x, y, t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} S_N(x - x_i)S_N(y - y_j)\eta(x_i, y_j, t),
\]

\[
u(x, y, t) \sim I_N \nu(x, y, t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} S_N(x - x_i)S_N(y - y_j)\nu(x_i, y_j, t).
\]

At collocation nodes \((x_p, y_q)\), the following relations hold:

\[
\eta^{(ik)}(x_p, y_q, t) \sim I_N \eta^{(ik)}(x_p, y_q, t) = \frac{\partial^{i+k} \eta(x_p, y_q, t)}{\partial x^i \partial y^k} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} S_N^{(i)}(x_p - x_i)S_N^{(k)}(y_q - y_j)\eta(x_i, y_j, t),
\]

\[
u^{(ik)}(x_p, y_q, t) \sim I_N \nu^{(ik)}(x_p, y_q, t) = \frac{\partial^{i+k} \nu(x_p, y_q, t)}{\partial x^i \partial y^k} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} S_N^{(i)}(x_p - x_i)S_N^{(k)}(y_q - y_j)\nu(x_i, y_j, t).
\]

Noting

\[
\eta = [\eta_{11}, \eta_{21}, \ldots, \eta_{N1}, \eta_{12}, \eta_{22}, \ldots, \eta_{N2}, \eta_{1N}, \ldots, \eta_{NN}]^T,
\]

\[
u = [\nu_{11}, \nu_{21}, \ldots, \nu_{N1}, \nu_{12}, \nu_{22}, \ldots, \nu_{N2}, \nu_{1N}, \ldots, \nu_{NN}]^T.
\]

Therefore, formula (8) can be written as the following matrix form:

\[
\eta^{(ik)} = D_N^{(ik)} \eta, \quad u^{(ik)} = D_N^{(ik)} u, \quad v^{(ik)} = D_N^{(ik)} v,
\]

\[
\eta^{(0,0)} = D_N^{(0,0)} \eta, \quad u^{(0,0)} = D_N^{(0,0)} u, \quad v^{(0,0)} = D_N^{(0,0)} v.
\]
where $D^{(L)}_N = D^{(L)}_N \otimes D^{(k)}_N$ is the Kronecker product of matrix $D^{(L)}_N$ and $D^{(k)}_N$, and $D^{(0,0)} = I_N \otimes I_N$, $D^{(0)}_N = I_N$, $I_N$ is an $N$ order unit matrix, respectively.

Employing Eqs. (7), (9), and (10), the discrete form of Eq. (2) can be written as follows:

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \eta \\ u \\ v \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} d_1 D + m_0 E & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 D - m_1 E & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_3 D + m_2 E \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \eta \\ u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\eta, u, v) \\ f_2(\eta, u, v) \\ f_3(\eta, u, v) \end{bmatrix},
\end{align*}
$$

\begin{align*}
(11)
\end{align*}

Here,

$$
[\eta, u, v] = [\eta_{11}, \ldots, \eta_{NN}, u_{11}, \ldots, u_{NN}, v_{11}, \ldots, v_{NN}],
$$

$$
D = D^{(2,0)}_N + D^{(0,2)}_N, \quad E = D^{(0,0)}_N,
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
f_1(\eta, u, v) &= f_2(\eta, u, v) = f_3(\eta, u, v)
\end{align*}
$$

Using ode45 in MATLAB to solve Eq. (11) with different initial conditions, we can get the numerical solution of system (2).

### 4 Numerical experiments

In this section, we give some numerical illustrations for better explanation of the above analytical results using different initial conditions and parameters.

**Experiment 1** We consider model (1). Taking the parameters $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 1$, $d_1 = d_2 = d_3 = 0$, $r = 0.1$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = \gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 0.08$, $m_1 = 0.15$, $m_2 = 0.2$, the prey and the predator survive in the long-run Fig. 1 (a) and (b). It is also noticed that the top predator always remains at zero level even for large value of $k (= 200)$ (see Fig. 1 (b)).

Taking the parameters $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 1$, $d_1 = d_2 = d_3 = 0$, $r = 0.1$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = \gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 0.1$, $m_1 = 0.08$, $m_2 = 0.1$, $k = 50$, the top predator does not remain at zero level (see Fig. 1 (c)).

Taking the parameters $\beta_0 = \beta_1 = 0$, $c_1 = 1$, $c_2 = 1$, $c_3 = 1$, and using the present method, time series plots for Experiment 1 with different parameters are given in Fig. 2. Phase
Figure 2 Time series plots for Experiment 1 with different parameters, for parameters see Table 2

Figure 3 Phase diagram of Experiment 1 with the value of the parameter, for parameters see Table 2

Figure 4 Phase diagram of Experiment 1 with the value of the parameter, for parameters see Table 2

diagram of Experiment 1 with the value of the parameter is shown in Figs. 3–4. Figure 2 shows that the coexistence equilibrium $P_4$ exists.

**Experiment 2** We consider model (2) with different initial conditions and the parameters $r = 0.1$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = 0.1$, $\gamma_0 = 0.1$, $k = 1$, $d_1 = 1$, $d_2 = 1$, $d_3 = 1$, $m_1 = 0.3$, $m_2 = 0.5$, $\gamma_1 = 1$. Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 2 are showed in Figs. 5–7.

**Experiment 3** We consider model (2) with the parameters $r = 0.8$, $\alpha_0 = 0.4$, $\alpha_1 = 0.4$, $\beta_0 = 0.5$, $\beta_1 = 0.4$, $\gamma_0 = 0.2$, $\gamma_1 = 0.5$, $m_1 = 0.1$, $m_2 = 0.2$, $k = 2.4$, $d_1 = d_3 = 0.1$, $d_2 = 0.3$. Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 3 are showed in Figs. 8–11. Tables 1–3 show different parameters and initial conditions in Figs. 1–11.
Figure 5 Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 2, for initial conditions see Table 3

Figure 6 Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 2, for initial conditions see Table 3

Figure 7 Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 2, for initial conditions see Table 3
5 Conclusions
In this paper, a sinc function interpolation method has been, for the first time, built for a class of three species PPS with complex dynamical behavior. Some new complex dynam-
Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 3, for initial conditions see Table 3

Table 1 Title of Figs. 1–11

| Figure | Title |
|--------|-------|
| Figs. 1–2 | Time series plots for Experiment 1 with different parameters, for parameters see Table 2 |
| Figs. 3–4 | Phase diagram of Experiment 1 with different parameters, for parameters see Table 2 |
| Figs. 5–7 | Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 2 with different initial conditions, for initial conditions see Table 3 |
| Figs. 8–11 | Numerical solution and pattern of Experiment 3 with different initial conditions, for initial conditions see Table 3 |

Table 2 Parameters of Figs. 1–11

| Figure | Parameters |
|--------|------------|
| Fig. 1 (a) | $r = 0.1$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = 0.1$, $\gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 0.1$, $m_1 = 0.15$, $m_2 = 0.2$, $k = 20$ |
| Fig. 1 (b) | $r = 0.1$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = 0.1$, $\gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 0.1$, $m_1 = 0.15$, $m_2 = 0.2$, $k = 200$ |
| Fig. 1 (c) | $r = 0.1$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = 0.1$, $\gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 0.1$, $m_1 = 0.08$, $m_2 = 0.1$, $k = 50$ |
| Fig. 2 (a), 3 | $r = 0.6$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = 0.1$, $\gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 0.1$, $m_1 = 0.08$, $m_2 = 0.1$, $k = 200$ |
| Fig. 2 (b) | $r = 0.6$, $\alpha_0 = 0.3$, $\alpha_1 = 0.25$, $\beta_0 = 0$, $\beta_1 = 0$, $\gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 0.1$, $m_1 = 0.1$, $m_2 = 0.15$, $k = 200$ |
| Figs. 5–7 | $r = 0.1$, $\alpha_0 = 0.6$, $\alpha_1 = 0.3$, $\beta_0 = 0.3$, $\beta_1 = 0.1$, $\gamma_0 = 0.1$, $\gamma_1 = 1$, $m_1 = 0.3$, $m_2 = 0.5$, $k = 1$ |
| Figs. 8–11 | $r = 0.8$, $\alpha_0 = 0.4$, $\alpha_1 = 0.4$, $\beta_0 = 0.5$, $\beta_1 = 0.4$, $\gamma_0 = 0.2$, $\gamma_1 = 0.5$, $m_1 = 0.1$, $m_2 = 0.2$, $k = 2.4$ |

Table 3 Numerical solution and pattern of Experiments 2–3 with different initial condition of Figs. 5–11

| Figure | $\eta(x,y,0)$ | $u(x,y,0)$ | $v(x,y,0)$ |
|--------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fig. 5 | $\text{sec}h(\sin(\pi x^2))$ | $\text{sec}h(50x^2 + 200y - 9) + \text{ones}(N)$ | $\frac{2}{3} \sin(\cos(y^2 - x^2))$ |
| Fig. 6 | $\sin(\sec h\left(\frac{1}{10}x^2 - y^2\right)) + \frac{1}{2}$ | $\sin(\cos(\frac{1}{10}x^2 + y^2) - \frac{1}{2})$ | $-\sin(x^2 + y^2)$ |
| Fig. 7 | $\sec h(\frac{1}{10}x^2 + y^2)$ | $\cos(x^2 + y^2)$ | $\sin(50x^2 + 200y - 9)$ |
| Fig. 8 | $-\frac{1}{10} \sin\left(\frac{x^2 y^2}{10}\right)$ | $\cos(\sin(x^2 + y^2))$ | $\text{sec}h(\sec h(x^2 + y))$ |
| Fig. 9 | $\frac{1}{10} \sin\left(\frac{x^2}{10}\right)$ | $\pi \sin(50x^2 - y^2) + \frac{2}{3} \text{rand}(N)$ | $\cos(x + \frac{2}{3})$ |
| Fig. 10 | $-\sin(10x^2 + \frac{2}{10})$ | $-\sin(\pi(x - \frac{1}{2})^2 + (y + \frac{1}{2})^2)$ | $\sin(-x^2 + \frac{2}{10})$ |
| Fig. 11 | $\sin(50x^2 + 200y - 9)$ | $\cos(\pi(x - \frac{1}{2})^2 + (y + \frac{1}{2})^2) + \text{sec}h(20(x + \frac{1}{2})^2 + (y - \frac{1}{2})^2)$ | $\sin(\pi(-x^2 + y^2))$ |

Numerical behaviors are shown by using the present method. Simulation results were given to show the effectiveness of the present method and this system.
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Abbreviations
PPS, predator–prey system; BICM, barycentric interpolation collocation method; RKM, reproducing kernel method; VIM, variational iteration method; Ode45, Runge–Kutta method for ordinary differential equations.

Availability of data and materials
Data sharing not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

Competing interests
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors’ contributions
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