Research Article

Dynamic Analysis of a Model for Spruce Budworm Populations with Delay

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A class of delayed spruce budworm population model is considered. Compared with previous studies, both autonomous and nonautonomous delayed spruce budworm population models are considered. By using the inequality techniques, continuation theorem, and the construction of suitable Lyapunov functional, we establish a set of easily verifiable sufficient conditions on the permanence, existence, and global attractivity of positive periodic solutions for the considered system. Finally, an example and its numerical simulation are given to illustrate our main results.

1. Introduction

As is well known, since the spruce budworm population site model [1] has been proposed and was accepted by numerous scholars, during the last decade, spruce budworm population models have been extensively investigated both in theory and applications, such as for protection of spruce trees and applications, such as for protection of spruce trees and their numerical simulation are given to illustrate our main results.

The authors in [11] have studied system (3) on the equilibrium analysis, oscillation, and periodic outbreaks. After that, some research results were obtained. For example, in [11], the authors further analyzed system (1) and proposed the following delayed spruce budworm population model:

\[
\frac{dm(t)}{dt} = -Dm(t) - p(m(t))m(t) + e^{-\gamma t}b(m(t-T)),
\]

where \( m(t) = \int_0^\infty N(t, a)da \) is the mature population density at time \( t \), \( \gamma \) is the maturation time, \( D \) is the average mortality rate of the mature budworms, \( \bar{d} \) is the average death rate of the immature population, \( p = p(m(t)) \) is a predation rate function for the matured population, and \( b = b(m(t)) \) is the birth function. In [11], the authors nondimensionalize system (2) and obtained the following delayed nondimensional spruce budworm population model:

\[
y(t) = -Ay(t) - \frac{y^2(t)}{1+y^2(t)} + By(t-\tau)e^{-C_\tau(t-\tau)},
\]

where \( A = D\beta/\hat{\beta} \) is related to the death of the mature population, \( B = q_1 \gamma e^{-\bar{d}t}/\hat{\beta} \) and \( C = \alpha_1 \gamma \) are related to birth and survival of the immature population, \( \tau = \bar{d}\beta/\gamma \) is a time delay, and \( q_1 \) is the birth rate-related parameter, and the meaning of other parameters of model (3) is given in [11]. The authors in [11] have studied system (3) on the equilibrium analysis, oscillation, and periodic outbreaks. After that,
the authors in [13] have studied the dynamic behaviors of system (3) and obtained some sufficient conditions on the local stability of the positive equilibrium and Hopf bifurcation occurrence.

On the other hand, the autonomous systems (2) and (3) irrespective of the environmental changes have some limitations in mathematical modeling of ecological systems. Moreover, to the best of our knowledge, no study has been conducted to date for dynamics on the nonautonomous population model with stage structure for spruce budworm. Hence, based on the above models and analysis, in this paper, we study the following delayed nonautonomous population model with stage structure for spruce budworm:

\[
\dot{y}(t) = -A(t)y(t) - \frac{y^2(t)}{1 + y^2(t)} + B(t)y(t - \tau)e^{-C(t)(t - \tau)}.
\] (4)

The interaction between the spruce budworm and the forests is one of the important themes in mathematical ecology due to the protection of spruce and balsam fir trees. In addition, the main problems in spruce budworm population models are the boundedness, permanence, extinction of the population, and the existence of the periodic solution and global attractivity of the system. Hence, in this paper, our main purpose is to establish some sufficient conditions on the above mentioned dynamical behaviors for systems (3) and (4).

2. Preliminaries

In system (4), \(y(t)\) denote the density of the spruce budworm population and \(\tau\) is a time delay. In this study, for system (4), we introduce the following basic assumption:

(H1) \(\tau > 0\) and \(A(t), B(t), C(t)\) are all continuously positive \(\omega\)-periodic functions on \([0, \omega]\).

The following is the initial condition for system (4):

\[
y(t) = \phi(t) \quad \text{for all } t \in [-\tau, 0),
\] (5)

where \(\phi(t)\) is nonnegative continuous functions defined on \([-\tau, 0)\) and satisfying \(\phi(0) > 0\).

For a \(\omega\)-periodic continuous function \(f(t)\) defined on \([0, \omega]\), we define \(f^L = \inf_{t \in [0, \omega]} \{f(t)\}\) and \(f^M = \sup_{t \in [0, \omega]} \{f(t)\}\).

Now, we present some useful lemmas.

**Lemma 1** (see [15]). If \(a > 0, \beta > 0\) and \(u(t) \geq (\leq) \beta - au(t)\), when \(t \geq 0\) and \(u(0) > 0\), we have

\[
u(t) \geq (\leq) \frac{\beta}{a} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{au(0)}{\beta} - 1 \right) e^{-at} \right].
\] (6)

**Lemma 2** (see [16]). Consider the following delay differential equation:

\[
x(t) = ax(t - \tau) - bx(t),
\] (7)

where \(a, b, \tau\) are all positive constants and \(x(t) > 0\) for \(t \in [-\tau, 0]\), we have the following:

(1) If \(a < b\), then \(\lim_{t \to +\infty} x(t) = 0\)

(2) If \(a > b\), then \(\lim_{t \to +\infty} x(t) = +\infty\)

**Lemma 3** (continuation theorem [17]). Let \(X\) and \(Z\) be two Banach spaces. Suppose that \(L : D(L) \subset X \to Z\) is a Fredholm operator with index zero and \(N : X \to Z\) is L-compact on \(\Omega\), where \(\Omega\) is an open subset of \(X\). Moreover, assume that all the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) \(Lx \neq \lambda Nx\), for all \(x \in \partial \Omega \cap D(L), \lambda \in (0, 1)\)

(b) \(Nz \notin \text{Im} L\), for all \(z \in \partial \Omega \cap \text{Ker} L\)

(c) The Brouwer degree \(\text{deg} (QN, \Omega \cap \text{Ker} L, 0) \neq 0\)

Then, equation \(Lx = Nx\) has at least one solution in \(\text{Dom } L \cap \Omega\).

3. Boundedness, Extinction, and Periodic Solution

**Theorem 4.** Assume that the assumption \((H_1)\) holds, then for any positive solution \(y(t)\) of system (4), there exists a constant \(M\) such that

\[
y(t) \leq M,
\] (8)

where

\[
M = \frac{B^M}{eC^L A^T}.
\] (9)

**Proof.** From the equation of system (4) and for \(t > \tau\), we have

\[
\dot{y}(t) \leq B^My(t - \tau)e^{-C^L(y(t - \tau) - A^Ly(t))} = \frac{B^M}{C^L} e^{-C^Ly(t - \tau)} - A^Ly(t).
\] (10)

Then applying the following inequality [16, 18],

\[
\max_{x \geq 0} xe^{-x} \leq \frac{1}{e},
\] (11)

we have

\[
\dot{y}(t) \leq \frac{B^M}{eC^L} - A^Ly(t).
\] (12)

By Lemma 1, we get

\[
y(t) \leq \frac{B^M}{eC^L A^T} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{eC^L A^L y(0)}{B^M} - 1 \right) e^{-A^T \tau} \right].
\] (13)
Theorem 8. Suppose that assumption \((H_1)\) holds, then system (4) has at least one positive \(\omega\)-periodic solution.

Proof. Let \(y(t) = \exp \{ \{u(t)\} \}\), then system (4) can be rewritten as

\[
\dot{y}(t) = -A(t) - \frac{\exp \{ \{u(t)\} \}}{1 + \exp \{2u(t)\}} B(t) \exp \{\{u(t - \tau)\}\} + u(t). \tag{22}
\]

Let \(X = Z = \{ u \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) : u(t + \omega) = u(t) \}\) be Banach spaces equipped with the norm \(\|\cdot\|\), where \(\|u\| = \max_{t\in[0,\omega]}|u(t)|\). Thus, we have for any \(u \in X\), it is easy to see that \(\Gamma(u, \cdot) \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})\omega\text{-periodic. Let}

\[
L : D(L) = \{ u \in X : u \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) \} \ni u \mapsto \frac{du}{dt} \in Z,
\]

\[
P : X \ni u \mapsto \frac{1}{\omega} \int_{0}^{\omega} u(s)ds \in X,
\]

\[
Q : Z \ni z \mapsto \frac{1}{\omega} \int_{0}^{\omega} z(s)ds \in Z,
\]

\[
\tilde{N} : X \ni u \mapsto \Gamma(u, \cdot) \in Z.
\]

We easily see

\[
\text{Im } L = \{ u \in X : \int_{0}^{\omega} u(s)ds = 0 \},
\]

\[
\text{Ker } L = \mathbb{R},
\]

\[
\text{Im } P = \text{Ker } L,
\]

\[
\text{Im } L = \text{Ker } Q = \text{Im } (I - Q).
\]

Therefore, operator \(L\) is a Fredholm mapping of index zero. Furthermore, denoting by \(L_p^{-1} : \text{Im } L \cap \text{Ker } P \ni P\) the inverse of \(L\mid_{D(L)\cap \text{Ker } P}\), we have

\[
L_p^{-1}v(t) = \int_{0}^{t} v(s)ds - \frac{1}{\omega} \int_{0}^{\omega} \int_{0}^{t} v(s)dsdt. \tag{25}
\]

Thus, we have

\[
\tilde{Q}\tilde{N}u = \frac{1}{\omega} \int_{0}^{\omega} \tilde{N}u(t)dt = \frac{1}{\omega} \int_{0}^{\omega} \left[ -A(t) - \frac{\exp \{ \{u(t)\} \}}{1 + \exp \{2u(t)\}} B(t) \exp \{\{u(t - \tau)\}\} + u(t) \right] dt,
\]

\[
\text{Corollary 5. Assume that } A > 0, B > 0, C > 0, \text{ and } B < A. \text{ Then species } Y \text{ of autonomous system (3) is extinct if } (H_1) \text{ holds and } B^M < A^L.
\]

Proof. From the equation of system (4) and for \(t > \tau\), we have

\[
y(t) \leq y(t) - A^L y(t). \tag{18}
\]

Note the following equation:

\[
\dot{x}(t) = B^M x(t - \tau) - A^L x(t). \tag{19}
\]

By Lemma 2, we derive

\[
\lim_{t \to +\infty} x(t) = 0. \tag{20}
\]

By comparison, there exists \(T_3 > 0\) such that \(y(t) \to 0\) for \(t \geq T_3\).

For system (3), we have the following result. \(\square\)

Corollary 7. Assume that \(A > 0, B > 0, C > 0, \text{ and } B < A. \text{ Then species } Y \text{ of autonomous system (3) is extinct, that is,}

\[
\lim_{t \to +\infty} y(t) = 0. \tag{21}
\]

Theorem 8. Suppose that assumption \((H_1)\) holds, then system (4) has at least one positive \(\omega\)-periodic solution.

\[
\lim_{t \to +\infty} y(t) \leq \frac{B^M}{e\omega^L A^L} = M, \tag{15}
\]

Finally, there exists \(T_0 > 0\) such that

\[
y(t) \leq \frac{B^M}{e\omega^L A^L} = M, \tag{15}
\]

for \(t > T_0\).

For system (3), we have the following result.

\[
y(t) \leq M', \tag{16}
\]

where

\[
M' = \frac{B}{e\omega A}. \tag{17}
\]

Theorem 6. Spruce budworm species \(Y\) of system (4) is extinct if \((H_1)\) holds and \(B^M < A^L\).

Proof. From the equation of system (4) and for \(t > \tau\), we have

\[
y(t) \leq \frac{B^M y(t - \tau) - A^L y(t)}{A^L - A^L}.
\]

Note the following equation:

\[
\dot{x}(t) = B^M x(t - \tau) - A^L x(t).
\]

By Lemma 2, we derive

\[
\lim_{t \to +\infty} x(t) = 0.
\]

By comparison, there exists \(T_3 > 0\) such that \(y(t) \to 0\) for \(t \geq T_3\).

For system (3), we have the following result. \(\square\)

Corollary 5. Assume that \(A > 0, B > 0, C > 0, \text{ and } B < A. \text{ Then species } Y \text{ of autonomous system (3) is extinct, that is,}

\[
\lim_{t \to +\infty} y(t) = 0.
\]
\[
L^{-1}_T(I - Q)\hat{N}u = \left(1 - \frac{1}{\omega}\right) \int_0^t \hat{N}u(s) ds - \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^t \int_0^s \hat{N}u(s) ds dt
+ \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^t \int_0^s \hat{N}u(s) ds dt,
\]
and \((I - Q)\hat{N}u \in LmL\), for all \(u \in X\).

As in [18], we can easily show that for any open bounded set \(\Omega \in X\), \(\hat{N}\) is \(L\)-compact on \(\Omega\). For the operator equation
\[
Lx = ALx, x \in (0,1),
\]

and \((I - Q)\hat{N}u \in LmL\), for all \(u \in X\).

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As in [18], we can easily show that for any open bounded set \(\Omega \in X\), \(\hat{N}\) is \(L\)-compact on \(\Omega\). For the operator equation
\[
Lx = ALx, x \in (0,1),
\]

and \((I - Q)\hat{N}u \in LmL\), for all \(u \in X\).
which is an $\omega$-periodic solution to equation (22). Therefore, $y^*(t) = \exp \{ u^*(t) \}$ is a positive $\omega$-periodic solution of (4). □

4. Global Attractivity and Permanence

**Theorem 9.** Suppose that (H$_4$) holds and $A^L > B^M/C^2 e^2$. Then system (4) has a positive $\omega$-periodic solution which is globally attractive.

**Proof.** From Theorem 8, we can obtain that system (4) has a positive periodic solution. Let $y^*(t)$ be a positive periodic solution of system (4) and $y(t)$ be any positive solution of system (4). From the boundedness of positive periodic solution $y^*(t)$ and Theorem 4, we can choose positive constants $m$ and $M$ such that $m \leq y^*(t) \leq M$ and $y(t) < M$. Let

$$ V(t) = |y^*(t) - y(t)| + \int_{t-\tau}^{t} B(s + \tau) |y^*(s)e^{-C(s+\tau)} - y(s)e^{-C(s+\tau)}| ds. $$

(44)

Calculating the upper right derivative of $V(t)$ along system (4), we have

$$ D^+ V(t) = \text{sign} \ (y^*(t) - y(t)) \left[ -A(t)(y^*(t) - y(t)) - \frac{(y^*(t) - y(t))}{1 + (y^*(t) - y(t))} \right] $$

$$ - B(t) \left[ y^*(t) e^{-C(t)(t-\tau)} - y(t) e^{-C(t)(t-\tau)} \right] $$

$$ + B(t + \tau) \left[ y^*(t) e^{-C(t)(t+\tau)} - y(t) e^{-C(t)(t+\tau)} \right] $$

$$ - y(t - \tau) e^{-C(t)(t-\tau)} - \frac{m}{1 + M^2} y^*(t) - y(t) $$

$$ + B(t) \left[ y^*(t) e^{-C(t)(t+\tau)} - y(t) e^{-C(t)(t+\tau)} \right] $$

(45)

Since

$$ |pe^{-p} - qe^{-q}| = \frac{1 - (p + \theta)(p - q) - \theta e^{-\theta(p-q)}}{e^{p+\theta(p-q)}} |p - q| \leq \frac{1}{e^\theta} |p - q|, $$

(46)

where $p, q \in [k, +\infty)$, $0 < \theta < 1$.

From (45) and (46), we have

$$ D^+ V(t) \leq -A^L |y^*(t) - y(t)| - \frac{m}{1 + M^2} |y^*(t) - y(t)| $$

$$ + \frac{B^M}{C^2 e^2} |y^*(t) - y(t)| $$

(47)

Then we have

$$ D^+ V(t) \leq -H |y^*(t) - y(t)|, $$

(48)

where $H = A^L + m(1 + M^2)^2 - B^M/C^2 e^2$.

Integrating from 0 to $t$ on both sides of (48) produces

$$ V(t) + H \int_{0}^{t} |y^*(s) - y(s)| ds \leq V(0). $$

(49)

Hence, $V(t)$ bounded on $[0, \infty)$ and we have

$$ \int_{0}^{t} |y^*(s) - y(s)| ds \leq \frac{V(0)}{H}. $$

(50)

By the definition of $V(t)$ and (49), we have

$$ |y^*(t) - y(t)| \leq V(t) \leq V(0). $$

(51)

Therefore, from boundedness of $y^*(t)$ and (49), we have

$$ m \exp \{-V(0)\} \leq y(t) \leq M \exp \{ V(0) \}. $$

(52)

From the boundedness of $y^*(t)$ and (52), we have $y(t)$ bounded for $t \geq 0$. Then, we can obtain that $y^*(t) - y(t)$, and their derivatives remain bounded on $[0, \infty)$. As a consequence, $|y^*(t) - y(t)|$ is uniformly continuous on $[0, \infty)$. By Barbata's lemma, it follows that

$$ \lim_{t \to \infty} |y^*(t) - y(t)| = 0. $$

(53)

Hence,

$$ \lim_{t \to \infty} (y^*(t) - y(t)) = 0. $$

(54)

□

**Corollary 10.** Suppose that (H$_4$) holds and $A^L > B^M/C^2 e^2$; then, system (4) is permanent.

**Proof.** From the global attractivity of system (4) and inequality (52), we can obtain the permanence of system (4). □

**Corollary 11.** Assume that $A > 0, B > 0, C > 0$ and $A > B/Ce^2$, then system (3) is globally attractive.

5. Example and Numerical Simulation

**Example 1.** Investigate the following system:

$$ \dot{y}(t) = -(0.5 + 0.05 \cos(t)) y(t) - \frac{y^2(t)}{1 + y^2(t)} $$

$$ + (2.155 + 0.1 \cos(t)) y(t - 1)e^{-(0.81 + 0.01 \cos(t))y(t-1)}. $$

(55)
Directly from calculation, we get

\[ A^L - \frac{BM}{C} e^2 \approx 0.0685. \quad (56) \]

Obviously, system (55) satisfies the conditions of Theorem 9. Hence, system (55) has a globally attractive positive periodic solution and is permanent. The existence and global attractivity of positive periodic solution and permanence of system (55) are shown in Figure 1.

6. Conclusion

In this paper, a class of delayed non-autonomous population model with stage structure for spruce budworm is proposed, and based on the inequality techniques, the comparison method, continuation theorem, and the construction of suitable Lyapunov functional, some new sufficient conditions on the boundedness, permanence, extinction, periodic solution, and global attractivity are obtained. Simultaneously, we also study system (3) and have obtained several conditions on the boundedness, extinction, and global attractivity of system (3). Because we extend systems (2) and (3) to system (4), we also obtained some sufficient conditions on the above-mentioned dynamical behaviors for the considered system. Hence, system (4) and the results obtained in this study can be seen as the supplements and extensions of previously known studies [11–13].

Data Availability

No data were used to support this study.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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