

Stability and bifurcations in an epidemic model with nonlinear transmission and removal rates

RALUCA EFREM, MIHAELA STERPU, AND DANA CONSTANTINESCU

ABSTRACT. A generalized SEIR epidemiological model, incorporating general nonlinear transmission and removal rates, has been developed and investigated. Local and global stability theory and bifurcation theory are used to determine the dynamics of the model. The presence of unique or coexisting attractors is proved and different scenarios for the evolution of the model, towards a stable equilibrium point or a limit cycle are found. The theoretical results are supported by numerical simulations, obtained using Holling type II functions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The first two authors were partially supported by 101183111-DSYREKI - HORIZON-MSCA-2023-SE-01: Dynamical Systems and Reaction Kinetics Networks project.

REFERENCES

- [1] Capasso, V. *Mathematical Structures of Epidemic Systems*. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, 1993.
- [2] Capasso, V.; Serio, G. Generalization of the Kermack-Mckendrick Deterministic Epidemic Model. *Math. Biosci.* **42** (1978), no. 1-2, 43-61.
- [3] Gómez, M. C.; Mondragon, E. I. Global stability analysis for a SEI model with nonlinear incidence rate and asymptomatic infectious state. *Appl. Math. Comput.* **402** (2021), 126130.
- [4] Gumel, A. B.; Moghadas, S. M. A qualitative study of a vaccination model with nonlinear incidence. *Appl. Math. Comput.* **143** (2003), no. 2-3, 409-419.
- [5] Hethcote, H. W.; van den Driessche, P. Some epidemiological models with nonlinear incidence. *J. Math. Biol* **29** (1991), 271-287.
- [6] Levin, S. A.; Hallam, T. G.; Gross, L. J. *Applied Mathematical Ecology Springer*. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, 1989.
- [7] Yorke, J. A.; London, W. P. Recurrent outbreaks of measles, chickenpox and mumps. II. Systematic differences in contact rates and stochastic effects. *Am. J. Epidemiol.* **98** (1973), no. 6, 469-82.
- [8] Liu Wm.; Hethcote H. W.; Levin, S. A. Dynamical behavior of epidemiological models with nonlinear incidence rates. *J. Math. Biol.* **25** (1987), 359-380.
- [9] Liu, Wm.; Levin S.A.; Iwasa, Y. Influence of nonlinear incidence rates upon the behavior of SIRS epidemiological models. *J. Math. Biol.* **23** (1986), 187-204.
- [10] van den Driessche, P.; Watmough, J. A simple SIS epidemic model with a backward bifurcation. *J. Math. Biol.* **40** (2000), 525-540.
- [11] Moghadas, S. M.; Gumel, A. B. Global stability of a two-stage epidemic model with generalized nonlinear incidence. *Math. Comput. Simul.* **60** (2002), no. 1-2, 107-118.
- [12] Ruan, S.; Wendi, W. Dynamical behavior of an epidemic model with a nonlinear incidence rate. *J. Differ. Equ.* **188** (2003), no. 1-2, 135-163.
- [13] Castañeda, A. R. S.; Ramirez-Torres, E. E.; Valdés-García, L. E.; Morandeira-Padrón, H. M.; Yanez, D. S.; Montijano, J. I.; Bergues Cabrera, L. E. Modified SEIR epidemic model including asymptomatic and hospitalized cases with correct demographic evolution. *Appl. Math. Comput.* **456** (2023), 128122.
- [14] Shao, P.; Shateyi, S. Stability analysis of SEIRS epidemic model with nonlinear incidence rate function. *Math.* **9** (2021), 2644.

Received: 07.12.2013. In revised form: 15.10.2024. Accepted: 30.10.2024

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 37G35, 34C23, 37M05.

Key words and phrases. *SEIR model, stability, bifurcation, nonlinear transmission rate, nonlinear removal rate.*

Corresponding author: Raluca Efrem; raluca.efrem@edu.ucv.ro

- [15] Wang, W.; Ruan, S. Bifurcation in an epidemic model with constant removal rate of the infectives. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **291** (2004), no. 2, 775-793.
- [16] Bai, Z.; Zhou, Y. Existence of two periodic solutions for a non-autonomous SIR epidemic model. *Appl. Math. Model.* **35** (2011), no. 1, 382-391.
- [17] Liu, Q. X.; Jin, Z. Formation of spatial patterns in epidemic model with constant removal rate of the infectives. *J. Stat. Mech.* **2007** (2007), no. 5, 05002.
- [18] Zhonghua, Z.; Yaohong, S. Qualitative analysis of a SIR epidemic model with saturated treatment rate. *J. Appl. Math. Comput.* **34** (2010), no. 1, 177-194.
- [19] Matallana, P. L.; Blanco, A. M.; Bandoni, J. Estimation of domains of attraction in epidemiological models with constant removal rates of infected individuals. *J. Phys. Conf. Ser.* **90** (2007), no. 1, 012052.
- [20] Alexander, M. E.; Moghadas, S. M. Periodicity in an epidemic model with a generalized nonlinear incidence. *Math. Biosci.* **189** (2006), no. 1, 75-96.
- [21] Moghadas, S. M.; Alexander, M. E. Bifurcations of an epidemic model with nonlinear incidence and infection-dependent removal rate. *Math. Med. Biol.* **23** (2006), no. 3, 231-254.
- [22] Nagumo, N. Über die Lage der Integralkurven gewöhnlicher Differentialgleichungen. *Proceedings of the Physico-Mathematical Society of Japan* **24** (1942), 551-559.
- [23] Blanchini, F. Set invariance in control. *Automatica* **35** (1999), 1747-1767.
- [24] van den Driessche, P.; Watmough, J. Reproduction numbers and sub-threshold endemic equilibria for compartmental models of disease transmission. *Math. Biosci.* **180** (2002), no. 1-2, 29-48.
- [25] Diekmann, O.; Heesterbeek, J. A. P.; Metz, J. A. J. On the definition and the computation of the basic reproduction ratio R_0 in models for infectious diseases in heterogeneous populations. *J. Math. Biol.* **28** (1990), 365-382.
- [26] LaSalle, J. P. Some extensions of Liapunov's second method. *IRE Transactions on Circuit Theory* **7** (1960), no. 4, 520-527.
- [27] Hurwitz, A. On the conditions under which an equation has only roots with negative real part. *Math. Ann.* **6** (1985), no. 2, 273-284.
- [28] Sotomayor, J. Generic bifurcations of dynamical systems. In: M. M. Peixoto (Ed.) *Dynamical systems. Proceedings of a Symposium Held at the University of Bahia, Salvador, Brasil, July 26-august 1971*. Academic Press, 1973, 561-582.
- [29] Perko, L. *Differential Equations and Dynamical Systems*. 3rd Edition. Springer-Verlag, New York, 2001.
- [30] Kuznetsov, Y. *Elements of applied bifurcation theory*. 3rd Edition. Springer Science and Business Media, New York, 2004.
- [31] Bolker, B. M.; Grenfell, B. T. Chaos and Biological Complexity in Measles Dynamics. *Proc. Biol. Sci.* **251** (1993), no. 1330, 75-81.
- [32] Moghadas, S. M. Modelling the effect of imperfect vaccines on disease epidemiology. *Discrete Continuous Dyn. Syst. Ser. B* **4** (2004), no. 4, 999-1012.
- [33] Scherer, A., McLean, A. Mathematical models of vaccination. *Br. Med. Bull.* **62** (2002), no. 1, 187-199.

UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA
 DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
 STR A. I. CUZA NO 13, 200585, CRAIOVA, ROMANIA
 Email address: raluca.efrem@edu.ucv.ro

UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA
 DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
 STR A. I. CUZA NO 13, 200585, CRAIOVA, ROMANIA
 Email address: mihaela.sterpu@edu.ucv.ro

UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA
 DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS
 STR A. I. CUZA NO 13, 200585, CRAIOVA, ROMANIA
 Email address: dana.constantinescu@edu.ucv.ro