

# Management of Harvesting of Rhinos

## Study Group Report

University of Witwatersrand  
Johannesburg, South Africa



# Outline

# Introduction

## Key Points

- Currently there are about 2000 black rhinos in South Africa.
- The goal is to maximise the growth rate of the rhino population.

# Aims

## Primary Objectives

- Develop a 2 population harvesting model.
- Try to determine the optimal amount of rhinos to be harvested.

# Assumptions

## We make the following assumptions

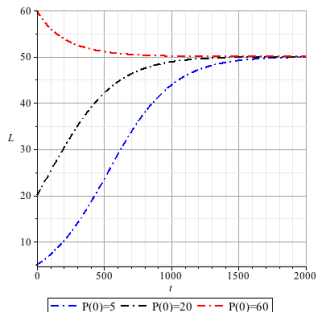
- Disregard gender, infectious diseases, poaching etc.
- A constant carrying capacity.

# A Single Population Framework

## Logistic Equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = RP(t) \left( 1 - \frac{P(t)}{K} \right), \quad P(0) = P_0 \quad (1)$$

Figure : Logistic Model



# A Single Population Framework

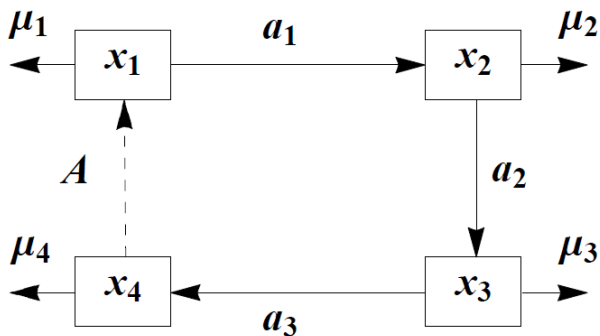
## Allee Effect

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = RP(t) \left( 1 - \frac{P(t)}{K} \right) \left( \frac{P(t)}{\mu} - 1 \right), \quad P(0) = P_0. \quad (2)$$

# A Single Population Framework

## Age Structure

Figure : [Single Population Model](#)





# A Single Population Framework

## Age Structure

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = Ax_4 - x_1(a_1 + \mu_1), \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = a_1x_1 - x_2(a_2 + \mu_2), \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = a_2x_2 - x_3(a_3 + \mu_3 + h_3), \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{dx_4}{dt} = a_3x_3 - (\mu_4 + h_4)x_4. \quad (6)$$

# Interaction Between 2 Population with Harvesting

## Mathematical Model

### Assumptions

- Consider only two populations
- No naturally occurring direct interaction
- Constant carrying capacity and recruitment rate
- Harvesting only to relocate rhino to other population

# Interaction Between 2 Population with Harvesting

## Mathematical Model

### Variables and Parameters

- $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are the rhino populations in area 1 and 2, respectively;
- $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  are recruitment rate for rhino populations in area 1 and 2, respectively;
- $K$  is the carrying capacity in  $P_1$ , and  $\beta$  is the carrying capacity for  $P_2$  dependent on  $P_1$
- $h$  is the harvesting rate and  $\alpha$  is the portion of harvested rhino successfully entering population  $P_2$ .

# Interaction Between 2 Population with Harvesting

## Mathematical Model

### Dynamical Equations

$$\frac{dP_1}{dt} = \mu_1 P_1 \left(1 - \frac{P_1}{K}\right) - hP_1 \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{dP_2}{dt} = \mu_2 P_2 \left(1 - \frac{P_2}{\beta K}\right) + \alpha h P_1. \quad (8)$$

## Interaction Between 2 Population with Harvesting

Nondimensional equations

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$$\frac{dx}{d\tau} = x(1-x) - \sigma x \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{dy}{d\tau} = \mu_0 y \left(1 - \frac{y}{\beta}\right) + \alpha \sigma x \quad (10)$$

with

$$x = \frac{P_1}{K}$$

$$y = \frac{P_2}{K}$$

$$\tau = \mu_1 t$$

and

$$\mu_0 = \frac{\mu_2}{\mu_1}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{K}{\mu_1}$$

# Interaction Between 2 Population with Harvesting

## Equilibrium points

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$$E_2 = \left( \frac{K_1 (\mu_1 - h)}{\mu_1}, \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left( \mu_2 K_2 + \sqrt{\frac{\mu_2 K_2 (\mu_2 K_2 \mu_1 + 4 h \alpha K_1 \mu_1 - 4 h^2 \alpha K_1)}{\mu_1}} \right)}{\mu_2} \right)$$



## Interaction Between 2 Population with Harvesting

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with

$$G = \frac{\mu_2 K_2 \mu_1 + 4 h \alpha K_1 \mu_1}{4 h^2 \alpha K_1} > 1$$

## Interaction Between 2 Population with Harvesting

## Local stability

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$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \left(1 - \frac{x}{K_1}\right) - \frac{\mu_1 x}{K_1} - h & 0 \\ h\alpha & \mu_2 \left(1 - \frac{y}{K_2}\right) - \frac{\mu_2 y}{K_2} \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

## Local stability

- $E_0$  with eigenvalues  $(\mu_1 - h, \mu_2)$
- $E_1$  with eigenvalues  $(\mu_1 - h, -\mu_2)$
- $E_2$  with eigenvalues

$$\left( \mu_1 - h, -\frac{\sqrt{\mu_2^2 K_2^2 + 4 K_1 \alpha h K_2 \mu_2 - 4 \frac{\mu_2 K_2 h^2 \alpha K_1}{\mu_1}}}{K_2} \right),$$

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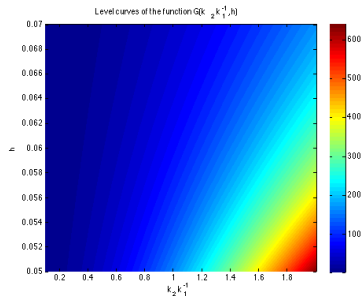
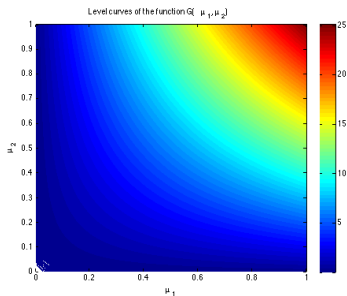
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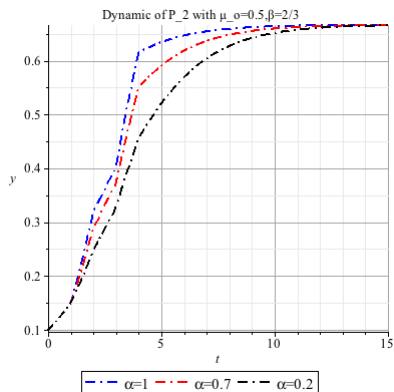
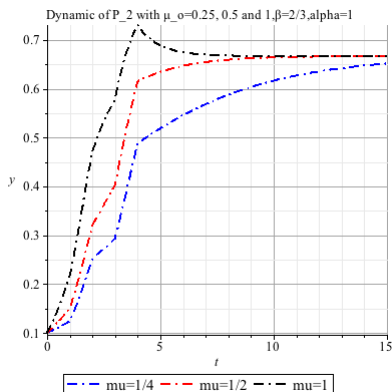
$$\left( \mu_1 - h, -\frac{\sqrt{\mu_2^2 K_2^2 + 4 K_1 \alpha h K_2 \mu_2 - 4 \frac{\mu_2 K_2 h^2 \alpha K_1}{\mu_1}}}{K_2} \right), G > 1.$$

# Numerical simulation

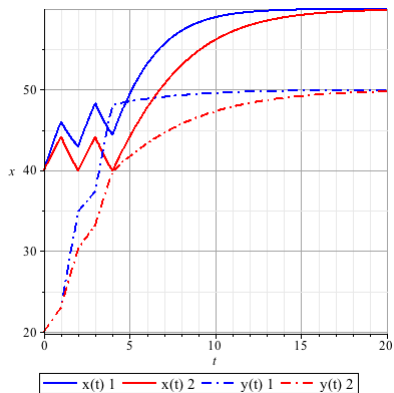
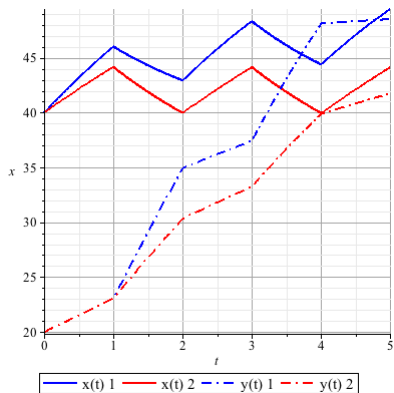
$$G = \frac{\mu_2 K_2 \mu_1 + 4 h \alpha K_1 \mu_1}{4 h^2 \alpha K_1}.$$



# Numerical simulation



## Numerical simulation



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Is the effort to relocate 10 rhinos to  $P_2$  with initial population  $P_2(0) = 50$ ,  $K_2 = 70$  the same as the effort to relocate them to  $P_3$  with initial condition  $P_3(0) = 20$ ,  $K_3 = 70$ ?

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## Proposed Equations

$$\frac{dP_1}{dt} = \mu_1 P_1 \left( 1 - \frac{P_1}{K_1} \right) - hP_1$$

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = hP_1 - \sigma QP_2$$

$$\frac{dP_2}{dt} = \mu_2 P_2 \left( 1 - \frac{P_2}{K_2} \right) + r\sigma QP_2 - \gamma P_2 Q$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = (1 - r)\sigma QP_2 + \gamma P_2 Q.$$



The End