

Appendix

In this appendix, we show how the logistic growth equation can be obtained from the population dynamics equation used in our paper (Eq. 1 of the article) by expressing the rate constants k_E and γ as linear functions of N .

When considering k_E and γ as functions of the expected population, we can use for both the Taylor expansion around N_{eq} truncated to the first order terms to obtain

$$k_E = k_E^0 + \eta(N - N_{eq}) \quad (\text{A-1})$$

$$\gamma = \gamma^0 + \beta(N - N_{eq}) \quad (\text{A-2})$$

with k_E^0, γ^0 the rate constant values at $N = N_{eq}$ and $\eta, \beta \geq 0$ the corresponding first derivatives, providing

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{N} &= \frac{k}{4} N^2 - \left[k_E^0 + \eta(N - N_{eq}) \right] N - \left[\gamma^0 + \beta(N - N_{eq}) \right] (N - N_{eq}) \\
&= -\left[\eta + \beta - \frac{k}{4} \right] N^2 + \left[N_{eq}\eta + 2N_{eq}\beta - k_E^0 - \gamma^0 \right] N + N_{eq}(\gamma^0 - N_{eq}\beta)
\end{aligned} \tag{A-3}$$

By assuming $N_{eq}(\gamma^0 - N_{eq}\beta) = 0$ and hence $\gamma^0 = N_{eq}\beta$, we can retrieve the logistic equation

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{N} &= -\left[\eta + \beta - \frac{k}{4} \right] N^2 + \left[N_{eq}(\eta + \beta) - k_E^0 \right] N \\
&= N \left[N_{eq}(\eta + \beta) - k_E^0 \right] \left[1 - \frac{(\eta + \beta - k/4)N}{N_{eq}(\eta + \beta) - k_E^0} \right] \\
&= Nr \left(1 - \frac{N}{K_C} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{A-4}$$

where

$$r = N_{eq}(\eta + \beta) - k_E^0 \tag{A-5}$$

$$K_C = \frac{N_{eq}(\eta + \beta) - k_E^0}{\eta + \beta - k/4} \tag{A-6}$$

with $r, K_C > 0$ and thus $\eta + \beta > k/4$, $N_{eq}(\eta + \beta) > k_E^0$.

Once realizing that from Eq. A-3 $N_{eq} = 4k_E^0/k$, we readily obtain $K_C = 4k_E^0/k$ showing that the carrying capacity K_C corresponds to the equilibrium population N_{eq} . It should be noted that the condition $\gamma^0 = N_{eq}\beta$ (necessary to retrieve the logistic equation) implies that for $\beta = 0$ no migration term is present.