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## **A MATHEMATICAL STUDY ON SYN-ECO-SYSTEM CONSISTING OF TWO HOSTS AND ONE COMMENSAL WITH MORTALITY RATE FOR THE THIRD SPECIES**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The present investigation is a mathematical study on three species syn-eco system with mortality rate for the three species. The system comprises of two hosts  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  and one commensal  $S_3$  i.e.,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  both benefit  $S_3$ , without getting themselves affected either positively or adversely. Further,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are neutral. The model equations constitute a set of three first order non-linear differential equations. Criteria for the asymptotic stability of all the eight equilibrium states are established. Trajectories of the perturbations over the equilibrium states are illustrated. Further, the global stability of the system is established with the aid of suitably constructed Liapunov's function and the numerical solutions for the growth rate equations are computed using Runge-Kutta fourth order scheme.

**Keywords:** *Commensal, Equilibrium State, Host, Liapunov's Function, Stable, Trajectories, Unstable*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Ecology, a branch evolutionary biology, deals with living species that coexist in a physical environment sustain themselves on common resources. It is a common observation that the species of same nature can not flourish in isolation without any interaction with species of different kinds. Syn-ecology is an ecosystem comprising of two or more distinct species. Species interact with each other in one way or other. The Ecological interactions can be broadly classified as Ammensalism, Competition, Commensalism, Neutralism, Mutualism, Predation, Parasitism and so on. Lotka (1925) and Volterra (1931) pioneered theoretical ecology significantly and opened new eras in the field of life and biological sciences. Mathematical Modeling is a vital role in providing insight in to the mutual relationships between the interacting species.

The general concepts of modeling have been discussed by several authors Colinvaux (1986), Kapur (1985), Kushing (1977), Meyer (1985). Srinivas (1991) studied competitive ecosystem of two species and three species with limited and unlimited resources. Later, Narayan and Charyulu (2007) studied prey-predator ecological models with partial cover for the prey and alternate food for the predator. Stability analysis of competitive species was carried out by Reddy *et al.*, (2007), Sharma and Charyulu (2008), while Ravindra (2008) investigated mutualism between two species. Acharyulu and Charyulu (2011) derived some productive results on various mathematical models of ecological Ammensalism with multifarious resources in the manifold directions. Further, Kumar (2010) derived some mathematical models of ecological commensalism.

The present author Prasad (2014) studied continuous and discrete models on the three species syn-ecosystems. The present investigation is an analytical study of three species ( $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $S_3$ ) syn-eco system with mortality rate for the three species. The system comprises of two hosts  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  and one commensal  $S_3$  i.e.,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  both benefit  $S_3$ , without getting themselves affected either positively or adversely. Further,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are neutral. Commensalism is a symbiotic interaction between two populations where one population ( $S_1$ ) gets benefit from ( $S_2$ ) while the other ( $S_2$ ) is neither harmed nor benefited due to the interaction with ( $S_1$ ). The benefited species ( $S_1$ ) is called the commensal and the other ( $S_2$ ) is called the host. Some real-life examples of commensalism are presented below.

(i). A squirrel in an oak tree gets a place to live and food for its survival, while the tree remains neither benefited nor harmed.

## Research Article

(ii). A flatworm attached to the horse crab and eating the crab's food, while the crab is not put to any disadvantage.

### Notations and Basic Equations

$S_1, S_2$ : Host of  $S_3$

$S_3$ : Commensal for  $S_1$  and  $S_2$

$N_i(t)$ : The population strength of  $S_i$  at time  $t$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$

$t$ : Time instant

$d_3$ : Natural death rate of  $S_3$

$a_i$ : Natural growth rate of  $S_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$

$a_{ii}$ : Self inhibition coefficients of  $S_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$

$a_{13}, a_{23}$ : Interaction coefficients of  $S_1$  due to  $S_3$  and  $S_2$  due to  $S_3$

$e_3 = \frac{d_3}{a_{33}}$ : Extinction coefficient of  $S_3$

$k_i = \frac{a_i}{a_{ii}}$ : Carrying capacities of  $S_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$

Further, the variables  $N_1, N_2, N_3$  are non-negative and the model parameters  $a_1, e_3, d_3, a_2, a_{13}, a_{11}, a_{22}, a_{33}, a_{23}, k_1, k_2$  are assumed to be non-negative constants.

The model equations for syn ecosystem are given by the following system of first order non-linear ordinary differential equations.

Equation for the first species ( $N_1$ ):

$$\frac{dN_1}{dt} = N_1(a_1 - a_{11}N_1) \quad (1)$$

Equation for the second species ( $N_2$ ):

$$\frac{dN_2}{dt} = N_2(a_2 - a_{22}N_2) \quad (2)$$

Equation for the third species ( $N_3$ ):

$$\frac{dN_3}{dt} = N_3(-d_3 - a_{33}N_3 + a_{13}N_1 + a_{23}N_2) \quad (3)$$

### Equilibrium States

The system under investigation has eight equilibrium states given by

$$\frac{dN_i}{dt} = 0, i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (4)$$

Fully washed out state.

$$E_1: \bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = 0$$

States in which only two of the tree species are washed out while the other one is not.

$$E_2: \bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = 0$$

$$E_3: \bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = 0$$

$$E_4: \bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = -e_3$$

States in which only one of the tree species is washed out while the other two are not.

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$$E_5 : \bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = 0$$

$$E_6 : \bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = \frac{a_{13}k_1}{a_{33}} - e_3$$

$$E_7 : \bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = \frac{a_{23}k_2}{a_{33}} - e_3$$

The co-existent state (or) normal steady state.

$$E_8 : \bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = \frac{a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2}{a_{33}} - e_3$$

## Stability Analysis of Equilibrium States

Let us consider small deviations from the steady state

$$\text{i.e., } N_i(t) = \bar{N}_i + u_i(t), i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (5)$$

where  $u_i(t)$  is a small perturbations in the species  $S_i$ .

The basic equations are linearized over the equilibrium state  $\bar{N} = (\bar{N}_1, \bar{N}_2, \bar{N}_3)$  to obtain the equations for the perturbed state as

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = (a_1 - 2a_{11}\bar{N}_1)u_1 \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{du_2}{dt} = (a_2 - 2a_{22}\bar{N}_2)u_2 \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{du_3}{dt} = a_{13}\bar{N}_3u_1 + a_{23}\bar{N}_3u_2 + (-d_3 - 2a_{33}\bar{N}_3 + a_{13}\bar{N}_1 + a_{23}\bar{N}_2)u_3 \quad (8)$$

The characteristic equation for the system is given by

$$\det [A - \lambda I] = 0 \quad (9)$$

The equilibrium state is stable, if all the roots of the equation (9) are negative in case they are real or have negative real parts, in case they are complex.

## Stability of $E_1 : \bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = 0$

The basic equations are linearized to obtain the equations as

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = a_1u_1; \quad \frac{du_2}{dt} = a_2u_2; \quad \frac{du_3}{dt} = -d_3u_3 \quad (10)$$

The characteristic equation is

$$(\lambda - a_1)(\lambda - a_2)(\lambda + d_3) = 0 \quad (11)$$

The characteristic roots of (11) are  $a_1, a_2, -d_3$ . Since two of these three roots are positive. Hence the state is unstable and the solutions of the equations (10) are

$$u_1 = u_{10} e^{a_1 t}; \quad u_2 = u_{20} e^{a_2 t}; \quad u_3 = u_{30} e^{-d_3 t} \quad (12)$$

where  $u_{10}, u_{20}, u_{30}$  are the initial values of  $u_1, u_2, u_3$  respectively.

The trajectories in  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are

$$\left( \frac{u_1}{u_{10}} \right)^{\frac{1}{a_1}} = \left( \frac{u_2}{u_{20}} \right)^{\frac{1}{a_2}} = \left( \frac{u_3}{u_{30}} \right)^{\frac{1}{d_3}}$$

## Stability of $E_2 : \bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = 0$

In this state, the basic equations can be linearized, we get

## Research Article

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = -a_1 u_1; \quad \frac{du_2}{dt} = a_2 u_2; \quad \frac{du_3}{dt} = (a_{13}k_1 - d_3)u_3 \quad (13)$$

The characteristic roots are  $-a_1$ ,  $a_2$  and  $a_{13}k_1 - d_3$ . Since one of these three roots is positive, hence the state is unstable and the solutions are

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{-a_1 t}; \quad u_2 = u_{20}e^{a_2 t}; \quad u_3 = u_{30}e^{(a_{13}k_1 - d_3)t} \quad (14)$$

The trajectories in the  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are given by

$$\left(\frac{u_1}{u_{10}}\right)^{-\frac{1}{a_1}} = \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{1}{a_2}} = \left(\frac{u_3}{u_{30}}\right)^{\frac{1}{a_{13}k_1 - d_3}}$$

**Stability of  $E_3$  :**  $\bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = 0$

The basic equations can be linearized, we get

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = a_1 u_1; \quad \frac{du_2}{dt} = -a_2 u_2; \quad \frac{du_3}{dt} = (a_{23}k_2 - d_3)u_3 \quad (15)$$

The characteristic roots are  $a_1$ ,  $-a_2$  and  $a_{23}k_2 - d_3$ . Since one of these three roots is positive, hence the state is unstable. The equations (15) yield the solutions,

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{a_1 t}; \quad u_2 = u_{20}e^{-a_2 t}; \quad u_3 = u_{30}e^{(a_{23}k_2 - d_3)t} \quad (16)$$

The trajectories in the  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are

$$\left(\frac{u_1}{u_{10}}\right)^{\frac{1}{a_1}} = \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{-\frac{1}{a_2}} = \left(\frac{u_3}{u_{30}}\right)^{\frac{1}{a_{23}k_2 - d_3}}$$

**Stability of  $E_4$  :**  $\bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = -e_3$

In this state, the basic equations can be linearized, we have

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = a_1 u_1; \quad \frac{du_2}{dt} = a_2 u_2; \quad \frac{du_3}{dt} = -a_{13}e_3 u_1 - a_{23}e_3 u_2 + d_3 u_3 \quad (17)$$

The characteristic roots are  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $d_3$ . Since all the three roots are positive, hence the state is unstable.

The equations (17) yield the solutions,

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{a_1 t}; \quad u_2 = u_{20}e^{a_2 t}; \quad u_3 = A_1 u_{10}e^{a_1 t} + A_2 u_{20}e^{a_2 t} + (u_{30} - A_1 u_{10} - A_2 u_{20})e^{d_3 t} \quad (18)$$

$$\text{Where } A_1 = \frac{a_{13}e_3}{d_3 - a_1}; \quad A_2 = \frac{a_{23}e_3}{d_3 - a_2}; \quad \text{with } d_3 \neq a_1, a_2 \quad (19)$$

The trajectories in the  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are given by

$$\left(\frac{u_1}{u_{10}}\right)^{a_2} = \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{a_1}; \quad u_3 = A_1 u_{10} \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{a_1}{a_2}} + A_2 u_{20} + (u_{30} - A_1 u_{10} - A_2 u_{20}) \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{d_3}{a_2}}$$

**Stability of  $E_5$  :**  $\bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = 0$

In this state, the basic equations can be linearized, we have

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = -a_1 u_1; \quad \frac{du_2}{dt} = -a_2 u_2; \quad \frac{du_3}{dt} = (a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - d_3)u_3 \quad (20)$$

The characteristic roots are  $-a_1$ ,  $-a_2$  and  $a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - d_3$ .

**Case I :** When  $a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 > d_3$

### Research Article

In this case, one of the three roots is positive, hence the state is unstable. The equations (20) yield the solutions,

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{-a_1t}; u_2 = u_{20}e^{-a_2t}; u_3 = u_{30}e^{(a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 + d_3)t} \quad (21)$$

Case II : When  $a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 < d_3$

In this case, all the three roots are negative, hence the state is stable and the equations (20) yield the solutions.

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{-a_1t}; u_2 = u_{20}e^{-a_2t}; u_3 = u_{30}e^{-(a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 + d_3)t} \quad (22)$$

It can be noticed that  $u_1 \rightarrow 0, u_2 \rightarrow 0$  and  $u_3 \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

Case III : When  $a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 = d_3$

In this case the state is neutrally stable and the solution curves of (20) are given by

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{-a_1t}; u_2 = u_{20}e^{-a_2t}; u_3 = u_{30} \quad (23)$$

The trajectories in the  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are given by

$$\left(\frac{u_1}{u_{10}}\right)^{-\frac{1}{a_1}} = \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{-\frac{1}{a_2}} = \left(\frac{u_3}{u_{30}}\right)^{\frac{1}{a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - d_3}}$$

$$\text{Stability of } E_6 : \bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = 0, \bar{N}_3 = \frac{a_{13}k_1}{a_{33}} - e_3$$

In this state, the basic equations can be quasi-linearized, we have

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = -a_1u_1; \frac{du_2}{dt} = a_2u_2; \frac{du_3}{dt} = \frac{a_{13}}{a_{33}}(a_{13}k_1 - d_3)u_1 + \frac{a_{23}}{a_{33}}(a_{13}k_1 - d_3)u_2 + (d_3 - a_{13}k_1)u_3 \quad (24)$$

The characteristic roots are  $-a_1, a_2$  and  $d_3 - a_{13}k_1$ . Since one of these three roots is positive, hence the state is unstable. The equations (24) yield the solutions,

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{-a_1t}; u_2 = u_{20}e^{a_2t}; u_3 = B_1u_{10}e^{-a_1t} + B_2u_{20}e^{a_2t} + (u_{30} - B_1u_{10} - B_2u_{20})e^{(d_3 - a_{13}k_1)t} \quad (25)$$

$$\text{Where } B_1 = \frac{a_{13}(d_3 - a_{13}k_1)}{a_{33}(a_1 + d_3 - a_{13}k_1)}; B_2 = \frac{a_{23}(a_{13}k_1 - d_3)}{a_{33}(a_{13}k_1 + a_2 - d_3)} \quad (26)$$

$$\text{With } a_{13}k_1 \neq a_1 + d_3; a_2 + a_{13}k_1 \neq d_3 \quad (27)$$

The trajectories in the  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are given by

$$\left(\frac{u_1}{u_{10}}\right)^{-a_2} = \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{a_1}; u_3 = B_1u_{10}\left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{-\frac{a_1}{a_2}} + B_2u_2 + (u_{30} - B_1u_{10} - B_2u_{20})\left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{d_3 - a_{13}k_1}{a_2}}$$

$$\text{Stability of } E_7 : \bar{N}_1 = 0, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = \frac{a_{23}k_2}{a_{33}} - e_3$$

In this state, the basic equations can be quasi-linearized, we get

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = a_1u_1; \frac{du_2}{dt} = -a_2u_2; \frac{du_3}{dt} = \frac{a_{13}}{a_{33}}(a_{23}k_2 - d_3)u_1 + \frac{a_{23}}{a_{33}}(a_{23}k_2 - d_3)u_2 + (d_3 - a_{23}k_2)u_3 \quad (28)$$

The characteristic roots are  $a_1, -a_2$  and  $d_3 - a_{23}k_2$ . Since one of these three roots is positive, hence the state is unstable. The equations (28) yield the solutions,

$$u_1 = u_{10}e^{a_1t}; u_2 = u_{20}e^{-a_2t}; u_3 = C_1u_{10}e^{a_1t} + C_2u_{20}e^{-a_2t} + (u_{30} - C_1u_{10} - C_2u_{20})e^{(d_3 - a_{23}k_2)t} \quad (29)$$

$$\text{Where } C_1 = \frac{a_{13}(a_{23}k_2 - d_3)}{a_{33}(a_1 + a_{23}k_2 - d_3)}; C_2 = \frac{a_{23}(d_3 - a_{23}k_2)}{a_{33}(a_2 + d_3 - a_{23}k_2)} \quad (30)$$

## Research Article

$$\text{With } a_1 + a_{23}k_2 \neq d_3; a_2 + d_3 \neq a_{23}k_2 \quad (31)$$

The trajectories in the  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are given by

$$\left(\frac{u_1}{u_{10}}\right)^{-a_2} = \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{a_1}; \quad u_3 = C_1 u_{10} \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{a_1}{a_2}} + C_2 u_2 + (u_{30} - C_1 u_{10} - C_2 u_{20}) \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{a_{23}k_2 - d_3}{a_2}}$$

$$\text{Stability of } E_8: \bar{N}_1 = k_1, \bar{N}_2 = k_2, \bar{N}_3 = \frac{a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2}{a_{33}} - e_3$$

In this state, the basic equations can be quasi-linearized, we have

$$\frac{du_1}{dt} = -a_1 u_1; \frac{du_2}{dt} = -a_2 u_2; \quad \frac{du_3}{dt} = \frac{a_{13}}{a_{33}} (a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - d_3) u_1 + \frac{a_{23}}{a_{33}} (a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - d_3) u_2 + (d_3 - a_{13}k_1 - a_{23}k_2) u_3 \quad (32)$$

The characteristic roots are  $-a_1$ ,  $-a_2$  and  $d_3 - a_{13}k_1 - a_{23}k_2$ .

Case I: When  $d_3 > a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2$

In this case, one of the three roots is positive, hence the state is unstable. The equations (32) yield the solutions,

$$u_1 = u_{10} e^{-a_1 t}; u_2 = u_{20} e^{-a_2 t}; u_3 = D_1 u_{10} e^{-a_1 t} + D_2 u_{20} e^{-a_2 t} + (u_{30} - D_1 u_{10} - D_2 u_{20}) e^{(d_3 - a_{13}k_1 - a_{23}k_2)t} \quad (33)$$

$$\text{Where } D_1 = \frac{a_{13}(a_{13}k_1 - a_{23}k_2 - d_3)}{a_{33}(a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - a_1 - d_3)}; D_2 = \frac{a_{23}(a_{13}k_1 - a_{23}k_2 - d_3)}{a_{33}(a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - a_2 - d_3)} \quad (34)$$

$$\text{With } a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 \neq a_1 + d_3; a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 \neq a_2 + d_3 \quad (35)$$

Case II: When  $d_3 < a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2$

In this case, all the three roots are negative, hence the state is stable and the equations (32) yield the solutions,

$$u_1 = u_{10} e^{-a_1 t}; u_2 = u_{20} e^{-a_2 t}; u_3 = D_1 u_{10} e^{-a_1 t} + D_2 u_{20} e^{-a_2 t} + (u_{30} - D_1 u_{10} - D_2 u_{20}) e^{(d_3 - a_{13}k_1 - a_{23}k_2)t} \quad (36)$$

It can be noticed that  $u_1 \rightarrow 0, u_2 \rightarrow 0$  and  $u_3 \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

Case III: When  $d_3 = a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2$

In this case, the state is neutrally stable and the solution curves of (32) are given by

$$u_1 = u_{10} e^{-a_1 t}; u_2 = u_{20} e^{-a_2 t}; u_3 = u_{30} \quad (37)$$

The trajectories in the  $u_1 - u_2$  and  $u_2 - u_3$  planes are given by

$$\left(\frac{u_1}{u_{10}}\right)^{a_2} = \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{a_1}; \quad u_3 = D_1 u_{10} \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{a_1}{a_2}} + D_2 u_2 + (u_{30} - D_1 u_{10} - D_2 u_{20}) \left(\frac{u_2}{u_{20}}\right)^{\frac{a_{13}k_1 + a_{23}k_2 - d_3}{a_2}}$$

## Liapunov's Function for Global Stability

We discussed the local stability of all eight equilibrium states. From which only two states  $E_5$  and  $E_8$  are stable and rest of them are unstable. We now examine the global stability of dynamical system (1), (2) and (3) at these states by suitable Liapunov's functions.

**Theorem 1:** The equilibrium state  $E_5(k_1, k_2, 0)$  is globally asymptotically stable.

**Proof:** Let us consider the following Liapunov's function

## Research Article

$$L(N_1, N_2) = N_1 - \bar{N}_1 - \bar{N}_1 \ln \left( \frac{N_1}{\bar{N}_1} \right) + \left[ N_2 - \bar{N}_2 - \bar{N}_2 \ln \left( \frac{N_2}{\bar{N}_2} \right) \right]$$

Now, the time derivative of L, along with solutions of (1) and (2) can be written as,

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = \left( \frac{N_1 - \bar{N}_1}{N_1} \right) \frac{dN_1}{dt} + \left( \frac{N_2 - \bar{N}_2}{N_2} \right) \frac{dN_2}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = (N_1 - \bar{N}_1)(a_{11}\bar{N}_1 - a_{11}N_1) + (N_2 - \bar{N}_2)(a_{22}\bar{N}_2 - a_{22}N_2)$$

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = -[a_{11}(N_1 - \bar{N}_1)^2 + a_{22}(N_2 - \bar{N}_2)^2] < 0$$

Hence, the steady state is globally asymptotically stable.

**Theorem 2:** The equilibrium state  $E_8(\bar{N}_1, \bar{N}_2, \bar{N}_3)$  is globally asymptotically stable.

**Proof:** Let us consider the following Liapunov's function

$$L(N_1, N_2, N_3) = N_1 - \bar{N}_1 - \bar{N}_1 \ln \left( \frac{N_1}{\bar{N}_1} \right) + l_1 \left[ N_2 - \bar{N}_2 - \bar{N}_2 \ln \left( \frac{N_2}{\bar{N}_2} \right) \right] + l_2 \left[ N_3 - \bar{N}_3 - \bar{N}_3 \ln \left( \frac{N_3}{\bar{N}_3} \right) \right]$$

where  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  are suitable constants to be determined in the subsequent steps.

Now, the time derivative of L, along with solutions of the equations (1) - (3) can be written as,

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = \left( \frac{N_1 - \bar{N}_1}{N_1} \right) \frac{dN_1}{dt} + l_1 \left( \frac{N_2 - \bar{N}_2}{N_2} \right) \frac{dN_2}{dt} + l_2 \left( \frac{N_3 - \bar{N}_3}{N_3} \right) \frac{dN_3}{dt}$$

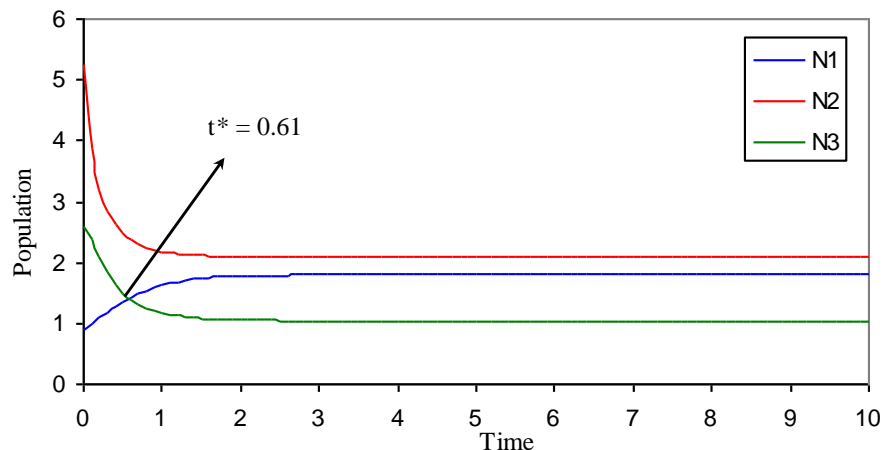
$$= (N_1 - \bar{N}_1)(a_1 - a_{11}N_1) + l_1 (N_2 - \bar{N}_2)(a_2 - a_{22}N_2) + l_2 (N_3 - \bar{N}_3)(-d_3 - a_{33}N_3 + a_{13}N_1 + a_{23}N_2)$$

$$= -a_{11}(N_1 - \bar{N}_1)^2 - a_{22}l_1(N_2 - \bar{N}_2)^2 + l_2(N_3 - \bar{N}_3)[a_{13}(N_1 - \bar{N}_1) + a_{23}(N_2 - \bar{N}_2) - a_{33}(N_3 - \bar{N}_3)]$$

Choosing  $l_1 = \frac{a_{11}a_{23}^2}{a_{22}a_{13}^2} > 0$ ,  $l_2 = \frac{4a_{11}a_{33}}{a_{13}^2} > 0$  and with some algebraic manipulation, we get

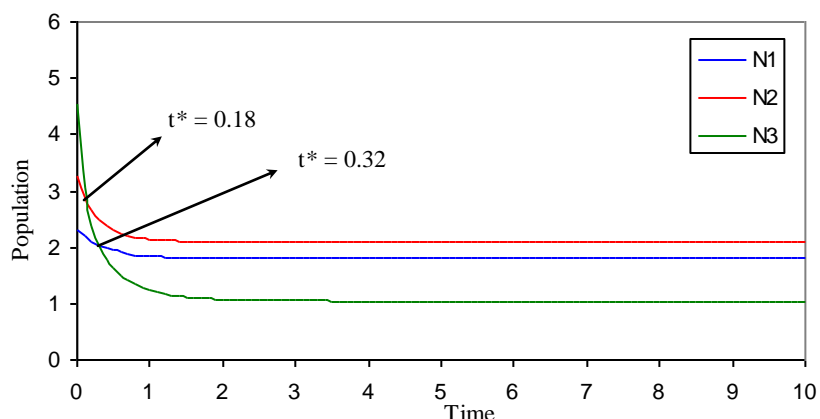
$$\frac{dL}{dt} = -\sqrt{a_{11}} \left[ (N_1 - \bar{N}_1) + \frac{a_{23}}{a_{13}}(N_2 - \bar{N}_2) + \frac{2}{a_{13}}(N_3 - \bar{N}_3) \right]^2 < 0, \text{ when } N_1 + \bar{N}_2 < N_2 + \bar{N}_1$$

Hence, the steady state is globally asymptotically stable.

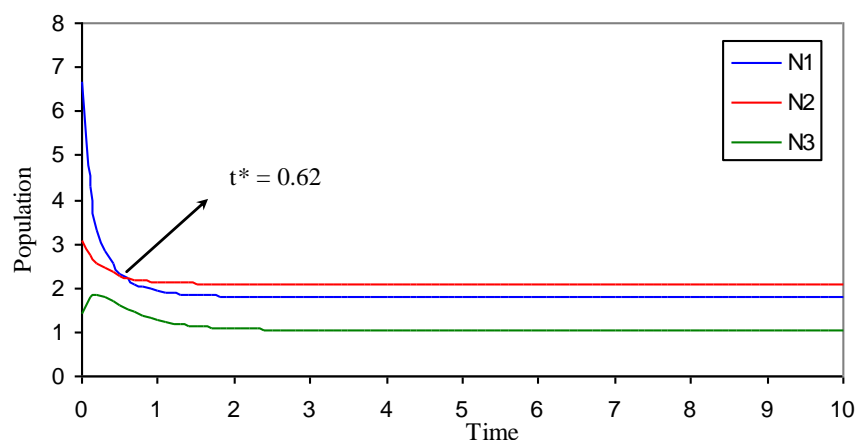


**Figure 1: Variation of population against time for  $N_{10}=0.88$ ,  $N_{20}=5.24$ ,  $N_{30}=2.6$**

## Research Article



**Figure 2: Variation of population against time for  $N_{10}=2.32$ ,  $N_{20}=3.28$ ,  $N_{30}=4.56$**



**Figure 3: Variation of population against time for  $N_{10}=6.68$ ,  $N_{20}=3.08$ ,  $N_{30}=1.44$**

### A Numerical Approach of the Growth Rate Equations

The numerical solutions of the growth rate equations (1)-(3) computed employing the fourth order Runge-Kutta method. The results are illustrated in Figures 1 to 6. Let us consider the fixed parameters as,  $a_1=2.3$ ,  $a_2=2.72$ ,  $d_3=1.572$ ,  $a_{11}=1.28$ ,  $a_{22}=1.3$ ,  $a_{33}=2.1$ ,  $a_{12}=6.16$ ,  $a_{13}=0.7$ ,  $a_{23}=1.2$ .

### Observations of the above Graphs

**Case 1:** In this case the first species has the least initial value. Initially the third species dominates over the first till the time instant  $t^*=0.61$  and thereafter the dominance is reversed. This is illustrated in Figure 1.

**Case 2:** In this case the initial values of  $S_1, S_2, S_3$  are in increasing order. Initially the third species dominates over the second and first till the time instant  $t^*=0.18$  and  $t^*=0.32$  and thereafter the dominance is reversed. Further it is evident that all the three species asymptotically converge to the equilibrium point as shown in Figure 2.

**Case 3:** In this case the initial values of  $S_1, S_2, S_3$  are in decreasing order. The first species dominates over the second initially up to the time  $t^*=0.62$  after which the dominance is reversed. In course of time we notice a steady variation with no appreciable growth rate in all the three species (Figure 3).

## CONCLUSION

The present paper deals with an investigation on the stability of a syn eco-system consisting of two hosts and one commensal with mortality rate for the third species. In this paper we established all possible equilibrium states. It is conclude that, in all eight equilibrium states, only the two states  $E_5$  and  $E_8$  are



## **Research Article**

stable. Further the global stability is established with the help of suitable Liapunov's function and the numerical solutions are computed using Runge-Kutta fourth order method.

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