

Influence of age polyethism on longevity of workers in social insects

Appendix

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This is a *Mathematica* 4.0 notebook.

1 Simplified model

It is assumed that there are two sets of tasks, A and B, which are associated with aging-independent mortality rates m_A and m_B respectively. A fixed proportion of time f is devoted to A-type tasks. A worker cannot spend more than the maximum resource k available for the whole life. The rates of resource expenditure during tasks A and B are c_A and c_B respectively. In the simplified model aging does not affect the mortality of workers until a certain age is reached, when resources become exhausted. At this time all workers die. In the model the expected longevity of workers in colonies with and without age polyethism is compared. If there is no polyethism the workers perform tasks A and B in turn. If age polyethism is present the workers perform A-type tasks first and after time t_s they switch to B-type tasks.

1.1 General case

Error messages are switched off.

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Off[General::spell1]
Off[General::unfl]
Off[Solve::ifun]
Off[NIntegrate::nlim]
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The expected longevity of workers in colonies without polyethism is given by

$$p0 = \int_0^{\frac{k}{c_A f + c_B (1-f)}} \text{Exp}[-(m_A f + m_B (1-f)) t] dt$$
$$p0 = \text{Simplify}[\%]$$
$$\frac{1}{f m_A + m_B - f m_B} - \frac{e^{-\frac{k (f m_A + m_B - f m_B)}{c_B (1-f) + c_A f}}}{f m_A + m_B - f m_B}$$
$$- \frac{1 + e^{-\frac{k (f m_A + m_B - f m_B)}{c_B (1-f) + c_A f}}}{f (m_A - m_B) + m_B}$$

The expected longevity of workers during A-type tasks is given by

$$aA = \int_0^{t_s} \text{Exp}[-m_A t] dt$$
$$aA = \text{Simplify}[\%]$$
$$\frac{1}{m_A} - \frac{e^{-m_A t_s}}{m_A}$$
$$\frac{1 - e^{-m_A t_s}}{m_A}$$

The expected longevity of workers during B-type tasks is given by

$$aB = \text{Exp}[-m_A t_s] \int_0^{\frac{k - t_s c_A}{c_B}} \text{Exp}[-m_B t] dt$$
$$aB = \text{Simplify}[\%]$$

$$\frac{e^{-m_A t_s} \left(\frac{1}{m_B} - \frac{e^{-\frac{m_B (k - c_A t_s)}{c_B}}}{m_B} \right) + e^{-m_A t_s} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{m_B (k - c_A t_s)}{c_B}} \right)}{m_B}$$

The expected longevity of workers in colonies with age polyethism given by

$$p_a = a_A + a_B;$$

The switching time t_s cannot be found in a standard way.

$$\text{Solve}\left[\frac{a_A}{a_A + a_B} == f, t_s\right]$$

Solve::tdep : The equations appear to involve the variables to be solved for in an essentially non-algebraic way.

$$\text{Solve}\left[\frac{1 - e^{-m_A t_s}}{m_A \left(\frac{1 - e^{-m_A t_s}}{m_A} + \frac{e^{-m_A t_s} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{m_B (k - c_A t_s)}{c_B}} \right)}{m_B} \right)} == f, t_s\right]$$

1.2 Solution

It was noticed that the expected longevity of workers in colonies with age polyethism is the same as in colonies without polyethism when

$$c_B = \frac{m_B c_A}{m_A};$$

The expected longevity of workers in colonies without polyethism is given by

$$p_0s = \int_0^k \frac{c_A f + c_B (1-f)}{c_A f + c_B (1-f)} \text{Exp}[-(m_A f + m_B (1-f)) t] dt$$

$$p_0s = \text{Simplify}[\%]$$

$$\frac{1}{f m_A + m_B - f m_B} - \frac{e^{-\frac{k (f m_A + m_B - f m_B)}{c_A f + \frac{c_A (1-f) m_B}{m_A}}}}{f m_A + m_B - f m_B}$$

$$\frac{1 - e^{-\frac{k m_A}{c_A}}}{f m_A + m_B - f m_B}$$

The expected longevity of workers during A-type tasks is given by

$$a_As = \int_0^{t_s} \text{Exp}[-m_A t] dt$$

$$a_As = \text{Simplify}[\%]$$

$$\frac{1}{m_A} - \frac{e^{-m_A t_s}}{m_A}$$

$$\frac{1 - e^{-m_A t_s}}{m_A}$$

The expected longevity of workers during B-type tasks is given by

$$aBs = e^{-mA ts} \int_0^{\frac{k ts cA}{cB}} \frac{k ts cA}{cB} \text{Exp}[-mB t] dt$$

aBs = Simplify[%]

$$e^{-mA ts} \left(\frac{1}{mB} - \frac{e^{-\frac{mA (k ts cA)}{cA}}}{mB} \right) - \frac{e^{-\frac{k mA}{cA}} - e^{-mA ts}}{mB}$$

When $cB = \frac{mB cA}{mA}$ the switching time ts can be found analytically.

Solve[$\frac{aAs}{aAs + aBs} == f, ts]$

Simplify[%]

$$\left\{ \left\{ ts \rightarrow \frac{k mA + cA \text{Log}\left[\frac{f mA + mB - f mB}{\frac{k mA}{f mA + e cA} \frac{k mA}{mB - e cA} f mB} \right]}{cA mA} \right\} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ ts \rightarrow \frac{k}{cA} + \frac{\text{Log}\left[\frac{f mA + mB - f mB}{\frac{k mA}{f mA + e cA} \frac{k mA}{mB - e cA} f mB} \right]}{mA} \right\} \right\}$$

It can be demonstrated that the expected longevity of workers in colonies with age polyethism is the same as in colonies without polyethism when $cB = \frac{mB cA}{mA}$.

pas = aAs + aBs /. %[[1]]

pas = Simplify[%]

$$\frac{1 - e^{-mA \left(\frac{k}{cA} + \frac{\text{Log}\left[\frac{f mA + mB - f mB}{\frac{k mA}{f mA + e cA} \frac{k mA}{mB - e cA} f mB} \right]}{mA} \right)}}{mA} - \frac{e^{-\frac{k mA}{cA}} - e^{-mA \left(\frac{k}{cA} + \frac{\text{Log}\left[\frac{f mA + mB - f mB}{\frac{k mA}{f mA + e cA} \frac{k mA}{mB - e cA} f mB} \right]}{mA} \right)}}{mB}$$

$$\frac{1 - e^{-\frac{k mA}{cA}}}{f mA + mB - f mB}$$

p0s == pas

True

1.3 Numerical solution

The way in which the problem was solved does not imply that there is only one solution. Therefore the equations were solved numerically here.

Numerical values are assigned to parameters.

cA = 2;
cB = 4;
k = 200;
f = 0.5;
mA = 0.01;

Approximate function tsi represents the switching time ts .

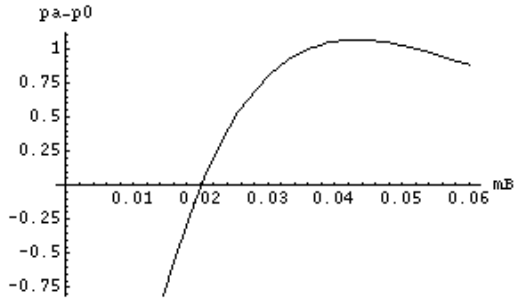
tsv[{mB_}?NumberQ] := ts /. FindRoot[$\frac{aA}{aA + aB} == f, \{ts, 5\}]$
tsi = FunctionInterpolation[tsv[mB], {mB, 0.001, 0.06}];

Switching time **ts** is replaced with approximate function **tsi**.

$$pa = aA + aB /. ts \rightarrow tsi[mB];$$

The difference between expected longevity of workers in colonies with and without age polyethism is plotted.

$$\text{Plot}[pa - p0, \{mB, 0.001, 0.06\}, \text{AxesLabel} \rightarrow \{ "mB", "pa-p0" \}];$$



1.4 Absence of aging

If there is no aging ($cA = cB = 0$) the maximum life span is infinity.

The previous definition of the parameters have to be removed to allow analytical computation.

$$\begin{aligned} cB &= . \\ cA &= . \\ cB &= . \\ k &= . \\ f &= . \\ mA &= . \end{aligned}$$

The expected longevity of workers in colonies without polyethism is given by

$$\begin{aligned} p00 &= \int_0^{\infty} \text{Exp}[-(mA f + mB (1 - f)) t] dt \\ p00 &= \text{Simplify}[\% /. \{ \text{Re}[f mA + mB - f mB] > 0 \rightarrow \text{True} \}] \\ &\text{If}[\text{Re}[f mA + mB - f mB] > 0, \frac{1}{f mA + mB - f mB}, \int_0^{\infty} e^{(-f mA - (1-f) mB) t} dt] \\ &\frac{1}{f mA + mB - f mB} \end{aligned}$$

The expected longevity of workers during A-type tasks is given by

$$\begin{aligned} aA0 &= \int_0^{ts} \text{Exp}[-mA t] dt \\ aA0 &= \text{Simplify}[\%] \\ &\frac{1}{mA} - \frac{e^{-mA ts}}{mA} \\ &\frac{1 - e^{-mA ts}}{mA} \end{aligned}$$

The expected longevity of workers during B-type tasks is given by

$$\begin{aligned} aB0 &= \text{Exp}[-mA ts] \int_0^{\infty} \text{Exp}[-mB t] dt \\ aB0 &= \% /. \{ \text{Re}[mB] > 0 \rightarrow \text{True} \} \\ &e^{-mA ts} \text{If}[\text{Re}[mB] > 0, \frac{1}{mB}, \int_0^{\infty} e^{-mB t} dt] \\ &\frac{e^{-mA ts}}{mB} \end{aligned}$$

When there is no aging the switching time t_s can be found analytically.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Solve}\left[\frac{aA0}{aA0 + aB0} == f, t_s\right] \\ & \text{Simplify}[\%] \\ & \left\{\left\{t_s \rightarrow \frac{\text{Log}\left[\frac{-f mA - mB + f mB}{(-1+f) mB}\right]}{mA}\right\}\right\} \\ & \left\{\left\{t_s \rightarrow \frac{\text{Log}\left[\frac{f mA + mB - f mB}{mB - f mB}\right]}{mA}\right\}\right\} \end{aligned}$$

When there is no aging the expected longevity of workers in colonies with age polyethism is the same as in colonies without polyethism.

$$\begin{aligned} & pa0 = aA0 + aB0 /. \%[[1]] \\ & pa0 = \text{Simplify}[\%] \\ & \frac{mB - f mB}{mB (f mA + mB - f mB)} + \frac{1 - \frac{mB - f mB}{f mA + mB - f mB}}{mA} \\ & \frac{1}{f mA + mB - f mB} \\ & p00 == pa0 \\ & \text{True} \end{aligned}$$

2 More realistic model

It is assumed that mortality rate r increases exponentially with age t : $r = m + \alpha t^\beta$ where m is aging-independent mortality. Aging-related mortality is described by two parameters: α controlling the magnitude of this mortality, and β controlling the shape of the curve depicting changes of aging-related mortality with age. α associated with tasks A and B is α_A and α_B respectively. Tasks A and B are associated with the same β .

The expected longevity of workers during A-type tasks is given by

$$aAx = \int_0^{t_s} \text{Exp}\left[-mA t - \frac{\alpha_A t^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right] dt;$$

The expected longevity of workers during B-type tasks is given by

$$aBx = \int_0^\infty \text{Exp}\left[-mB (t + tm) - \frac{\alpha_B (t + t\alpha)^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right] dt;$$

The correction terms tm and $t\alpha$ adjust the survivorship at the beginning of B-type tasks period to that the end of A-type tasks period.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Solve}[\text{Exp}[-mB tm] == \text{Exp}[-mA ts], tm] \\ & tm = tm /. \%[[1]] /. \text{Log}[\text{Exp}[-mA ts]] \rightarrow -mA ts \\ & \left\{\left\{tm \rightarrow -\frac{\text{Log}\left[e^{-mA ts}\right]}{mB}\right\}\right\} \\ & \frac{mA ts}{mB} \\ & \text{Solve}\left[\text{Exp}\left[-\frac{\alpha_B t\alpha^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right] == \text{Exp}\left[-\frac{\alpha_A ts^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right], t\alpha\right] \\ & t\alpha = t\alpha /. \%[[1]] /. \text{Log}\left[\text{Exp}\left[-\frac{ts^{1+\beta} \alpha_A}{1+\beta}\right]\right] \rightarrow -\frac{ts^{1+\beta} \alpha_A}{1+\beta} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left\{ \left\{ t \alpha \rightarrow \left(- \frac{(1 + \beta) \text{Log} \left[e^{-\frac{t s^{1+\beta} \alpha A}{1+\beta}} \right]}{\alpha B} \right)^{\frac{1}{1+\beta}} \right\} \right\}$$

$$\left(\frac{t s^{1+\beta} \alpha A}{\alpha B} \right)^{\frac{1}{1+\beta}}$$

The expected longevity of workers in colonies without polyethism p_0 depends on probability of survival s_m associated with aging-independent mortality and probability of survival s_α associated with aging-related mortality. The probability of survival to age t associated with aging-independent mortality is given by

$$s_m = \text{Exp}[-(m_A f + m_B (1 - f)) t];$$

The probability of survival to age t associated with aging-related mortality equals the probability of surviving B-type tasks during proportion $(1-f)$ of time t , taking into account the correction term t_α , where t_s is replaced by the proportion f of time t spent performing the A-type tasks.

$$s_\alpha = \text{Exp} \left[- \frac{1}{\beta + 1} \alpha B \left((1 - f) t + \sqrt[\beta+1]{\frac{\alpha A}{\alpha B} f t} \right)^{\beta+1} \right];$$

The expected longevity of workers in colonies without polyethism is given by

$$p_0 x = \int_0^\infty s_m s_\alpha dt;$$

Numerical values were assigned to the parameters.

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha A &= 1. \cdot 10^{-7}; \\ \alpha B &= 1. \cdot 10^{-6}; \\ \beta &= 3; \\ f &= 0.5; \\ m_A &= 0.01; \end{aligned}$$

Approximate function t_{si} represents the switching time t_s .

$$\begin{aligned} tsv[m_B] &:= t_s /. \text{FindRoot} \left[\frac{a_A x}{a_A x + a_B x} == f, \{t_s, 20\} \right] \\ tsi &= \text{FunctionInterpolation}[tsv[m_B], \{m_B, 0.001, 0.06\}]; \end{aligned}$$

To simplify computations the expected longevity of workers in colonies with age polyethism is expressed as

$$pax = \frac{a_A x}{f};$$

Switching time t_s is replaced with approximate function t_{si} .

$$pax = Pax /. ts \rightarrow tsi[m_B];$$

The difference in expected longevity of workers between colonies with and without age polyethism is plotted.

$$\text{Plot}[pax - p_0 x, \{m_B, 0.001, 0.06\}, \text{AxesLabel} \rightarrow \{m_B, "pax - p_0 x"\}];$$

