

Mathematics 4MB3/6MB3 Mathematical Biology

<http://www.math.mcmaster.ca/earn/4MB3>

2019 ASSIGNMENT 4

Group Name: The Plague Doctors


Group Members: Sid Reed, Daniel Segura, Jessa Mallare, Aref Jadda

This assignment is **due in class** on **Wednesday March 13 2019 at 10:30am**.

1. (a) You should have received the following data files by e-mail:

meas_uk__lon_1944-94_wk.csv

meas_uk__lpl_1944-94_wk.csv

These plain text comma-separated-value files list weekly cases of measles (in London and Liverpool, England, from 1944 to 1994). Depending on which research direction you select, you might receive other files in the same `ymdc` (year,month,day,count) format, where the count column might contain cases or deaths, for example. Write the following  functions:

- (i) tmp
 - (ii) tmp
 - (iii) tmp
- (b) Using your functions, make a multi-panel plot that clearly shows the temporal pattern of the time series and how its frequency structure changes over time. Think carefully about how to make this multi-panel figure as clear as possible for yourselves and your readers. Describe your figure, explaining what aspects of your figure you feel are puzzling or interesting and may be possible to understand using mechanistic mathematical modelling. (Repeat this for each of the epidemic time series you are given.)
- tmp

2. Consider the SI model,

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \beta(N - I)I, \quad I(0) = I_0, \quad (1)$$

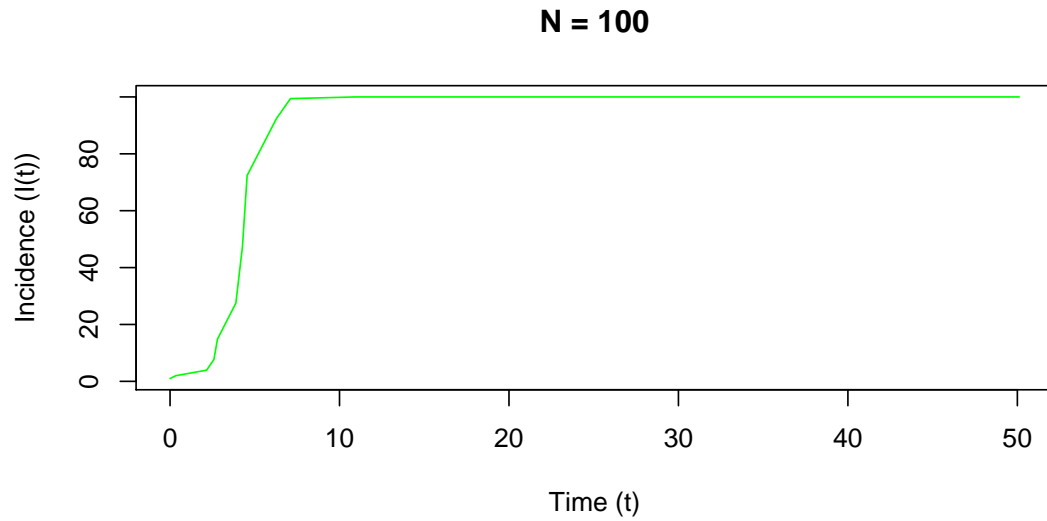
where β is the transmission rate, N is the population size and $I(t)$ is the number of infected individuals at time t .

```
(a) source('gillespie.R')
#simulation vars
beta = 1
N = 100
I0 = 1
```

```

tmax = 50
realizations = 30
result <- SI.Gillespie(beta,N,I0,tmax)
plot(result[[1]], result[[2]], col="green", type="l", xlab="Time (t)",
      ylab="Incidence (I(t))", main=paste("N =",N))

```

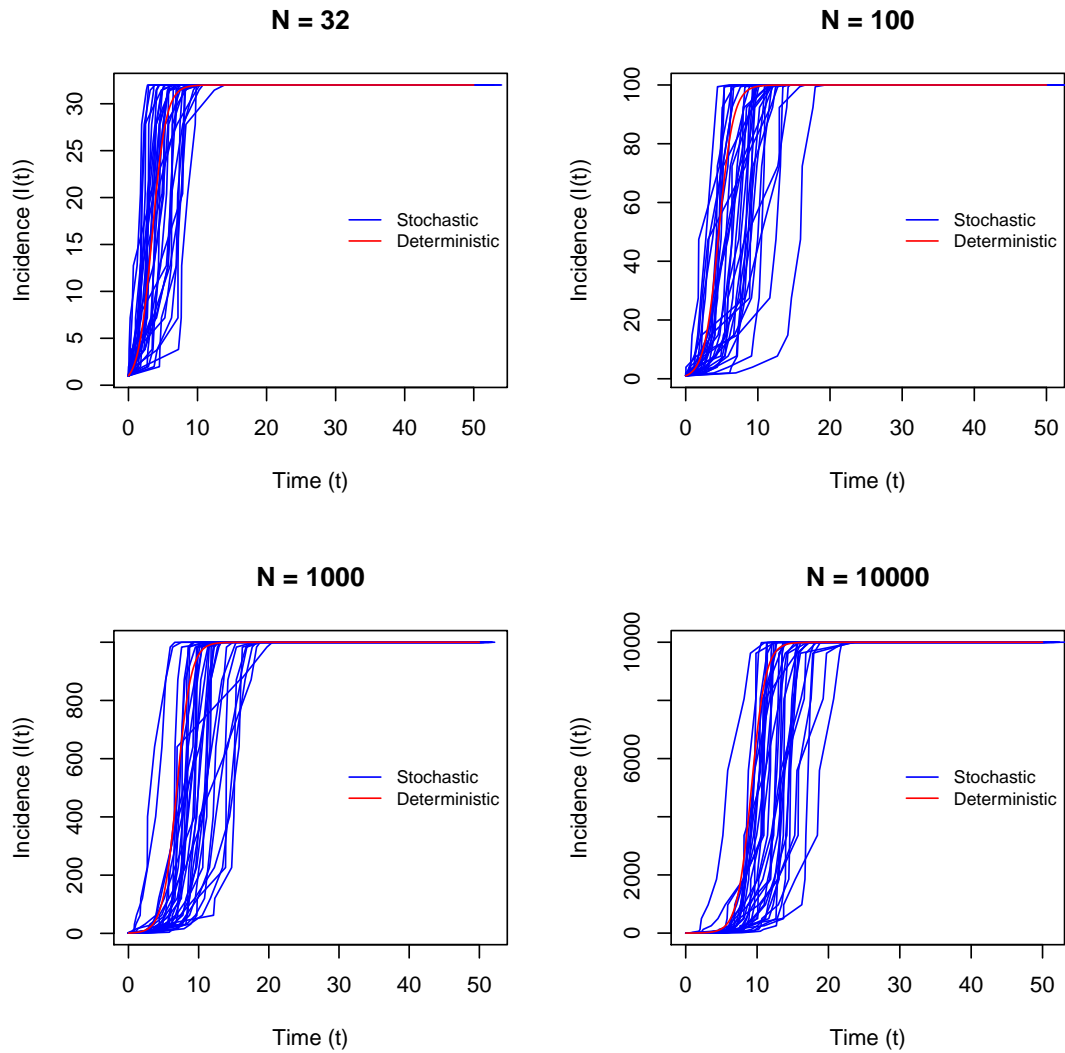


(b)

```

source('gillespie.R')
#simulation vars
beta = 1
ns = c(32,100,1000,10000)
I0 = 1
tmax = 50
realizations = 30
multipanel(realizations,beta,ns,I0,tmax)

```



3. The natural history of smallpox is shown in Figure 1. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recently discovered that a group of bioterrorists plans to reintroduce smallpox to the United States. The CDC has reason to believe that the terrorists are also bioengineers and have successfully altered the virus so that it causes the early rash stage to be twice as long as it was when the virus was last circulating naturally in the 1970s. Moreover, the existing smallpox vaccine apparently provides no protection against the altered virus. The CDC wants your opinion on how the alterations to the virus will affect \mathcal{R}_0 and the expected final size of an epidemic if the planned attack is successful.

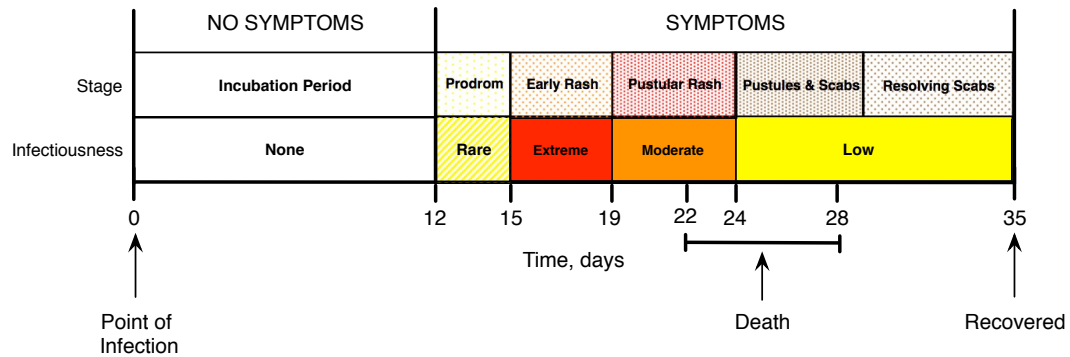


Figure 1: The natural history of smallpox infection. The prodrom stage begins with fever but the patient is very rarely contagious. Early rash is the most contagious stage, when the rash develops and transforms into bumps. During the pustular rash stage bumps become pustules, which then turn into scabs during the pustules and scabs stage and fall off during the resolving scabs stage. The infected person is contagious until the last scab falls off. (*This is Figure 3.4 from page 82 of Olga Krylova's 2011 McMaster University PhD thesis.*)

- (a) tmp
- (b) tmp
- (c) tmp
- (d) tmp
- (e) tmp

— END OF ASSIGNMENT —

Compile time for this document: March 4, 2019 @ 9:30