

# LG5 Function Errata Updated

Albert Y. Kim

Last updated on 2020-11-16

## 1 LG5 model formula typo

The formula is written as follows in [McMahon and Parker 2015 Eq 1 \(page 245\)](#). Note how in the numerator the  $L$ 's cancel out, leaving only  $K$  being included in the formula:

$$dbh = \frac{L + (K - L)}{1 + 1/\theta * \exp(-r(doy - doy_{ip})/\theta)^\theta}$$

The formula is written as follows in the D'Orangeville et al. draft manuscript (page 9). Note the numerator is different than McMahon and Parker's formulation:

$$dbh = \frac{K - L}{1 + 1/\theta * \exp(-r(doy - doy_{ip})/\theta)^\theta}$$

However the `lg5.pred()` function from the [RDendrom package](#) computes DBH as follows:

```
lg5.pred <- function(params, doy) {  
  L <- params[1] # min(dbh, na.rm = T)  
  K <- params[2]  
  doy.ip <- params[3]  
  r <- params[4]  
  theta <- params[5]  
  dbh <- vector(length = length(doy))  
  dbh <- L + ((K - L) / (1 + 1 / theta * exp(-(r * (doy - doy.ip) / theta))^theta))  
  return(dbh)  
}
```

which corresponds to the following formula:

$$dbh = L + \frac{K - L}{1 + 1/\theta * \exp(-r(doy - doy_{ip})/\theta)^\theta}$$

Also note that the denominator of the LG5 function can be simplified since

$$\exp(-r(doy - doy_{ip})/\theta)^\theta = \exp(-r(doy - doy_{ip}))$$

## 2 $doy_{ip}$ and $r$ parameter from LG5 model

I have a suspicion both these interpretations of the  $r$  and  $doy_{ip}$  parameters of LG5 model are incorrect:

1. McMahon and Parker 2015 state just above Eq 1 (page 245): “ $doy_{ip}$  marks the day of the year when the inflection of the curve is predicted to occur, and the rate parameter  $r$  describes the slope of the curve at the inflection point”

2. D’Orangeville et al. state (page 9): “ $r$  represents the maximum growth rate” and “ $doy_{ip}$  is the day of year when maximum growth rate occurs” and “ $doy_{ip}$  is the day of year (doy) when maximum growth rate occurs...”

Rather, I believe that the correct formulations of (1) the slope/the maximum growth rate and (2) inflection points are instead:

$$doy_{ip}^* = -\frac{\log(\theta)}{r} + doy_{ip}$$

$$r^* = \frac{r(K - L)}{4}$$

## 2.1 Plot LG5 diameter and growth curves

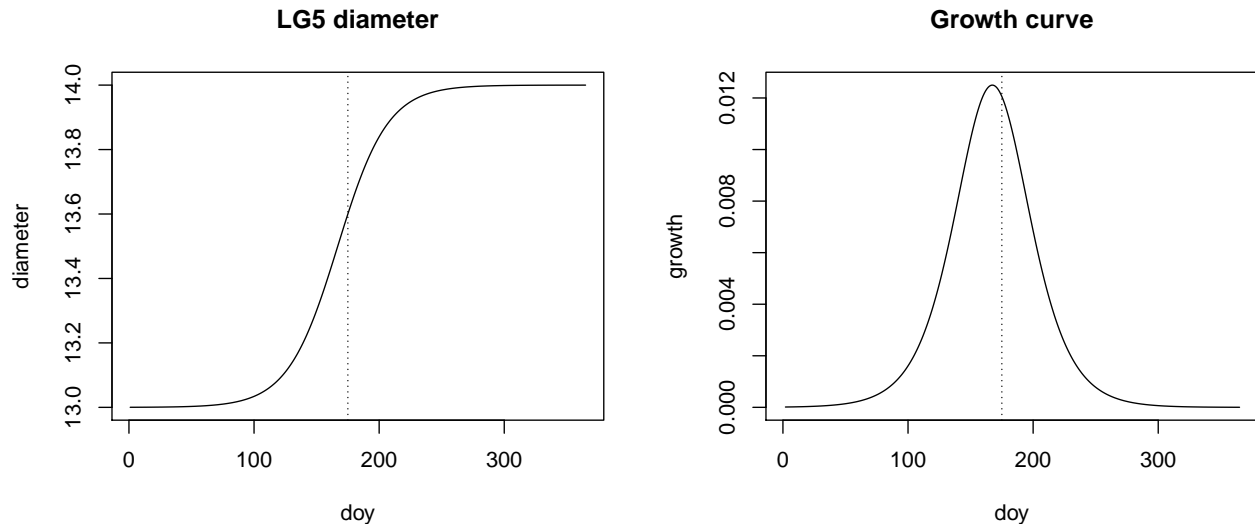
Let’s set arbitrarily chosen parameter values **but making sure to use a value other than  $\theta = 1$ :**

1. Use `lg5.pred()` to compute all diameters for all  $DOY = 1, \dots, 365$
2. Compute growth by taking differences of diameters

```
L <- 13
K <- 14
doy.ip <- 175
r <- 0.05
# Use a value other than theta = 1:
theta <- 1.5
```

## 2.2 Original interpretations of $doy_{ip}$

We then plot both the diameter curve as well as the growth curve, with `doy.ip` marked with a vertical dotted line.

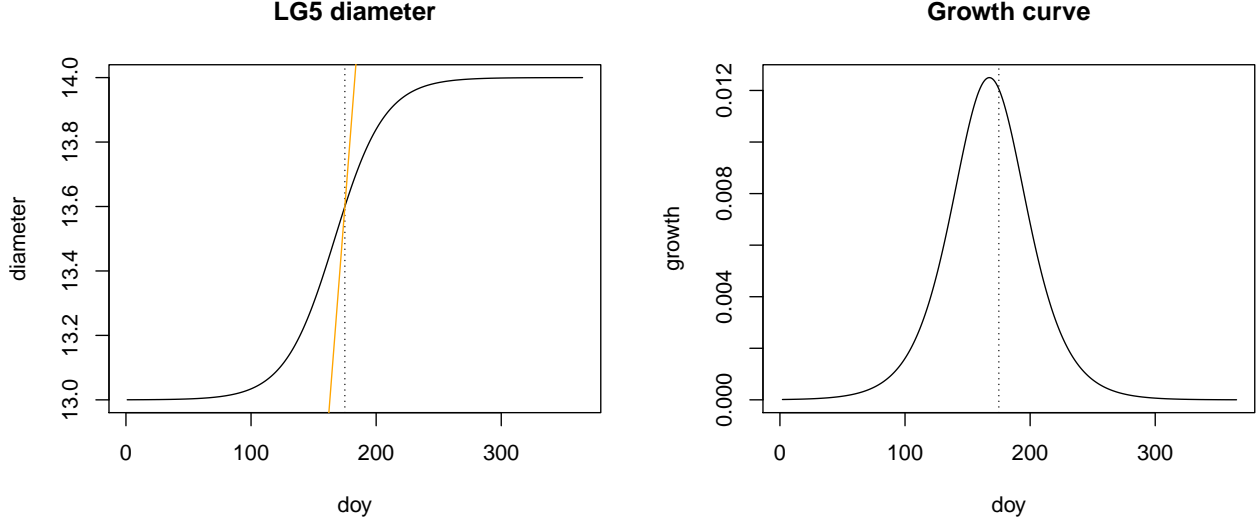


Observe how `doy.ip` is not the day the peak growth occurs.

## 2.3 Original interpretations of $r$

1. McMahon and Parker 2015 state: “the rate parameter  $r$  describes the slope of the curve at the inflection point”. We mark the appropriate line with slope `r` in orange in the diameter plot.

2. D'Orangeville et al. state: “ $r$  represents the maximum growth rate” and “ $doy_{ip}$  is the day of year when maximum growth rate occurs”. Let’s mark this maximum growth rate with a horizontal orange line in the growth plot.



Observe

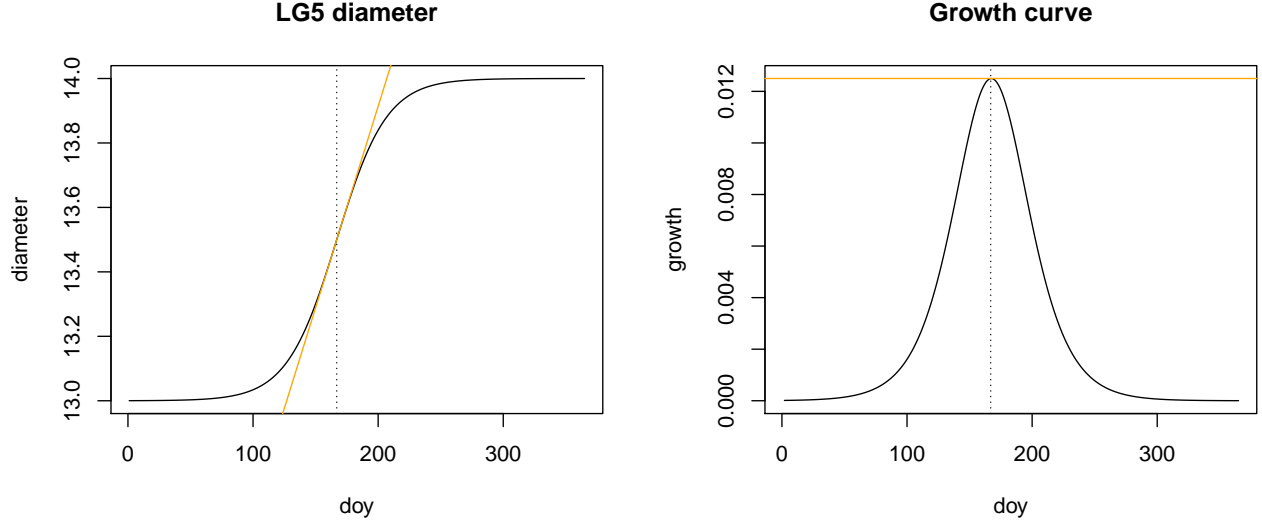
1. In the left plot how the orange line does not appear to be tangent to the LG5 curve at  $doy_{ip}$  and hence is not the slope at that point.
2. In the right plot  $r = 0.05$  does not correspond to the growth rate at the peak of the curve, rather it appears to be around 0.012.

## 2.4 Proposed $doy_{ip}^*$ and $r^*$

Let’s repeat the above with our proposed  $doy_{ip}^*$ , which is the point  $x$  at which  $\frac{d^2}{dx^2}LG5(x) = 0$  (per calculus on inflection points), and our proposed new growth rate  $r^*$ , which is  $\frac{d}{dx}LG5(x)$  evaluated at  $x = doy_{ip}^*$ . See [this](#) and [this](#) PDF for all analytic derivative derivations.

$$r^* = \frac{r(K - L)}{4}$$

$$doy_{ip}^* = -\frac{\log(\theta)}{r} + doy_{ip}$$



Observe:

1. In the left plot how the orange line is now tangent to the LG5 curve at `day.ip` and thus is the correct slope.
2. In the right plot  $r^* = 0.0125$  now corresponds to the max growth rate correctly occurring at `day.ip`.

### 3 Previous errata

In the previous errata PDF `LG5_errata.pdf` I suggested that the correct max growth rate was

$$r_{new} = \frac{K - L}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{\theta}\right)^2} \frac{r}{\theta}$$

However, this result was based on the incorrect assumption that `dayip` was the correct inflection point, which we evaluated  $\frac{d}{dx} LG5(x)$  to obtain the max growth rate. Furthermore, the empirical simulations/plots I showed were for  $\theta = 1$ . If we plug this value into the previous  $r_{new}$  we get

$$r_{new} = \frac{K - L}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{\theta}\right)^2} \frac{r}{\theta} = \frac{K - L}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{1}\right)^2} \frac{r}{1} = \frac{r(K - L)}{4}$$

which is our updated formulation above.