

# Study of Predator-Prey Dynamics

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## Lotka-Volterra Model (LVM)

The Lotka-Volterra Model (LVM) models the dynamics between a predator species ( $y$ ) and a prey species ( $x$ ) over time ( $t$ ).

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay + bxy \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = +dx - cyx$$

The model depends on four parameters.

- $a$ : decay rate of the predators
- $b$ : proportionality for how predators grow due to eating prey
- $c$ : proportionality for how prey decay due to being eaten by predators
- $d$ : growth rate of the prey

Dividing the differential equations by each other yields  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{b y \left( x - \frac{a}{b} \right)}{c x \left( \frac{d}{c} - y \right)}$$

Since this equation does not depend explicitly on time, it can be used to create phase portraits. The solutions swirl counter-clockwise around  $x = \frac{a}{b}$  and  $y = \frac{d}{c}$ .

## Types of Simulation Outcomes

### Conditions for Good Modeling

default\_parameters.py

```
parameters = {
    "breed_time": 3,
    "energy_gain": 4,
    "breed_energy": 15,
    "side_length": 80,
    "aspect_ratio": 9/8,
    "initial_fish": 500,
    "initial_sharks": 400,
    "steps": 500,
    "start_energy": 9,
    "use_basic_setup": True,
}

def get_initialization_parameters(params):
    """
    Return a dictionary with just the parameters needed to initialize the game array.
    """
    result = {}
```

```

desired_keys = ["initial_fish", "initial_sharks", "breed_time", "breed_energy"]
for key in desired_keys:
    result[key] = params[key]
return result

def get_simulation_parameters(params):
    """
    Return a dictionary with just the parameters needed to run the simulation.
    """
    result = {}
    desired_keys = ["steps", "breed_time", "energy_gain", "breed_energy",
"start_energy"]
    for key in desired_keys:
        result[key] = params[key]
    return result

```

### measure\_outcome\_chances.py

```

import wa_tor
import default_parameters
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Specify the test values to use when testing each parameter
test_ranges = {
    "breed_time": range(1, 15 + 1),
    "energy_gain": range(2, 18 + 1),
    "breed_energy": range(default_parameters.parameters["start_energy"] + 1, 25 + 1),
    "side_length": range(40, 120 + 10, 10),
    "aspect_ratio": [i/8 for i in range(8, 16 + 1)],
    "initial_fish": range(200, 1000 + 50, 50),
    "initial_sharks": range(200, 1000 + 50, 50),
    "start_energy": range(1, default_parameters.parameters["breed_energy"] - 1),
}

def test_outcome_chances(target_param, test_values, trials, params=None):
    """
    Vary the target parameter to have the given test values.
    For each value, run the simulation for the specified number of trials and
    calculate the chance of each of the possible outcomes.
    - Everything went extinct
    - Fish fill the board
    - Simulation could keep going

    Return a dictionary containing three lists of chances, one list for each outcome.
    Each list contains the chances found using each test value of the target
    parameter.
    """
    # Set the parameters to the default if not specified
    if params is None:
        params = default_parameters.parameters.copy()

```

```

overall_chances = {
    "everything_extinct": [],
    "fish_fill_board": [],
    "still_going": [],
}

for value in test_values:
    # Set the target parameter
    params[target_param] = value

    # Calculate the board dimensions based on side length and aspect ratio
    side_length = params["side_length"]
    other_side = int(side_length * params["aspect_ratio"])
    dims = [side_length, other_side]

    # Extract the needed parameters for later steps
    init_params = default_parameters.get_initialization_parameters(params)
    sim_params = default_parameters.get_simulation_parameters(params)
    # Keep track of the counts for the possible outcomes
    everything_extinct_count = 0
    fish_fill_count = 0

    for _ in range(trials):
        # Initialize the game array
        initial_game_array = wa_tor.create_empty_game_array(dims)
        if params["use_basic_setup"]:
            wa_tor.initialize_game_array_randomly(initial_game_array,
**init_params)
        else:
            wa_tor.initialize_game_array_circular(initial_game_array,
**init_params)

        # Run the simulation
        fish_counts, shark_counts =
wa_tor.run_simulation_minimal(initial_game_array, **sim_params)

        # Check whether fish filled the board or if sharks and fish both went
extinct

        # Update the counts for these events
        size = dims[0] * dims[1]
        if fish_counts[-1] + shark_counts[-1] < 0:
            everything_extinct_count += 1
        elif fish_counts[-1] == size:
            fish_fill_count += 1

    # Store the chances of each possible outcome
    still_going_count = trials - everything_extinct_count - fish_fill_count
    overall_chances["everything_extinct"].append(everything_extinct_count /
trials)
    overall_chances["fish_fill_board"].append(fish_fill_count / trials)
    overall_chances["still_going"].append(still_going_count / trials)

```

```

    return overall_chances

def plot_and_test_outcome_chances(fname, target_param, test_values, trials,
    params=None):
    """
    Run the function test_outcome_chances() with the given arguments, then plot the
    results.
    Save the figure at the given file name.
    """
    outcome_chances = test_outcome_chances(target_param, test_values, trials, params)

    fig, ax = plt.subplots()
    ax.plot(test_values, outcome_chances["everything_extinct"], "o", label="Both
    Extinct")
    ax.plot(test_values, outcome_chances["fish_fill_board"], "^", label="Sharks
    Extinct")
    ax.plot(test_values, outcome_chances["still_going"], ".", label="Neither Extinct")
    ax.set(xlabel=target_param, ylabel="Chance")
    ax.legend()
    fig.tight_layout()
    fig.savefig(fname)

def run_standard_test(target_parameter, use_basic_setup):
    """
    Run a standard test on the target parameter.
    Perform 25 trials with use_basic_setup optionally toggled.
    """
    trials = 25
    test_values = test_ranges[target_parameter]
    params = default_parameters.parameters.copy()
    params["use_basic_setup"] = use_basic_setup

    if use_basic_setup:
        fname = f"media/outcome_chances_{target_parameter}.svg"
    else:
        fname = f"media/outcome_chances_{target_parameter}_circular.svg"

    plot_and_test_outcome_chances(fname, target_parameter, test_values, trials,
    params)

import measure_outcome_chances as tst

tst.run_standard_test("breed_time", True)

```

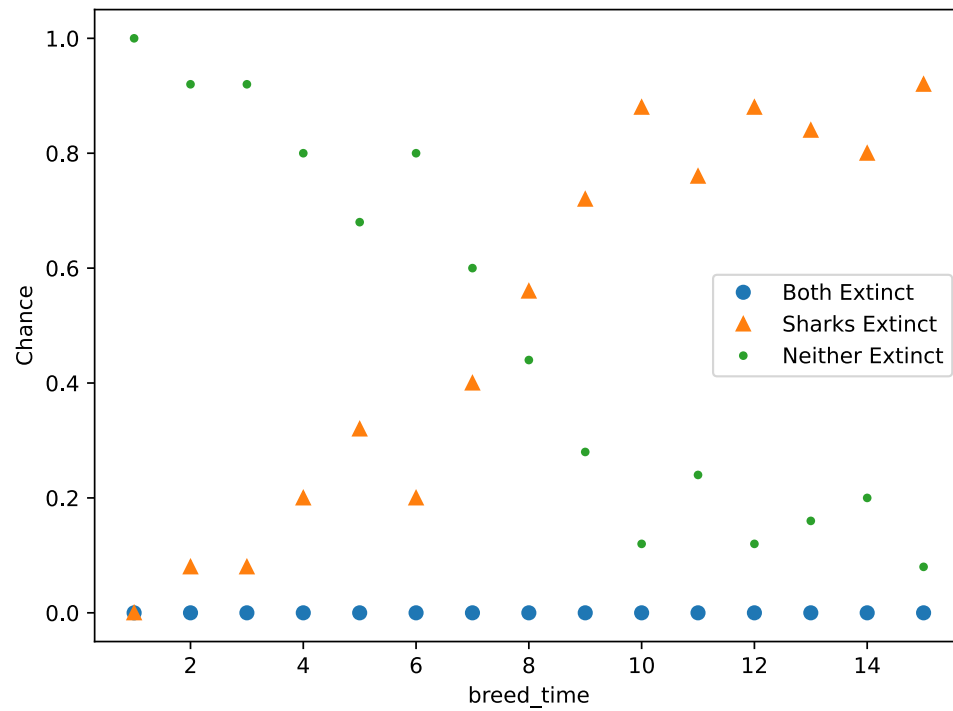


Figure 1: Outcome Chances vs breed\_time

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("energy_gain", True)
```

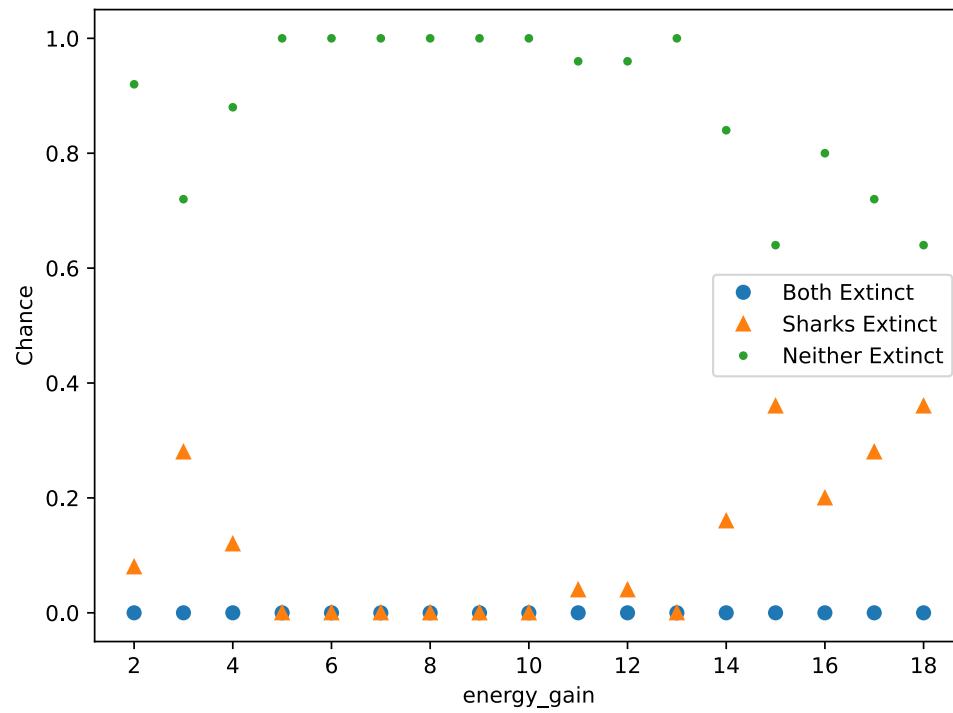


Figure 2: Outcome Chances vs energy\_gain

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("breed_energy", True)
```

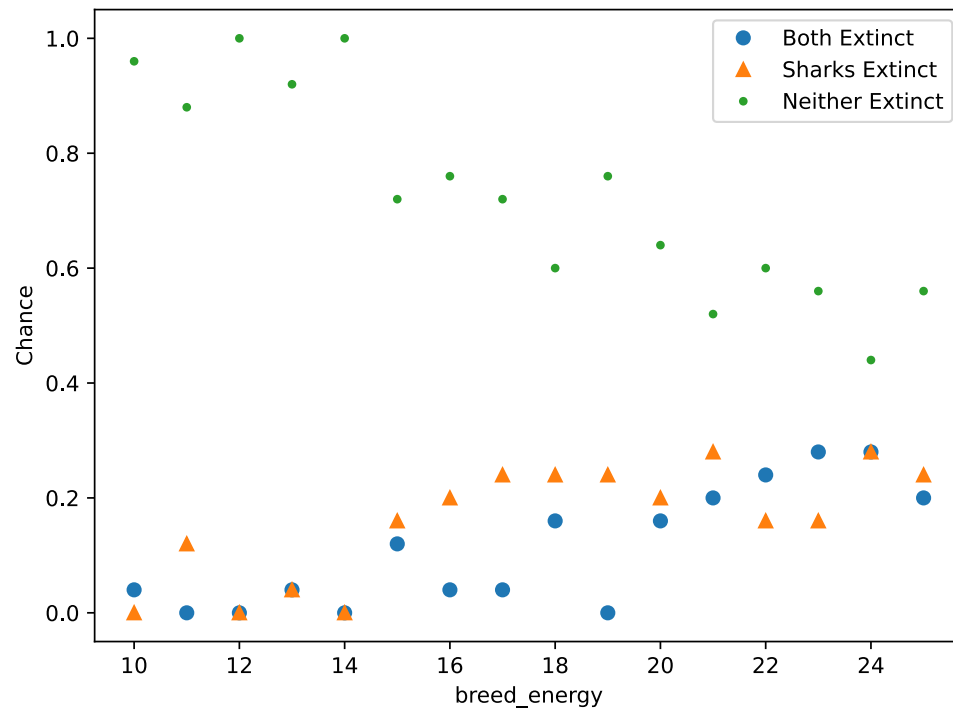


Figure 3: Outcome Chances vs breed\_energy

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("side_length", True)
```

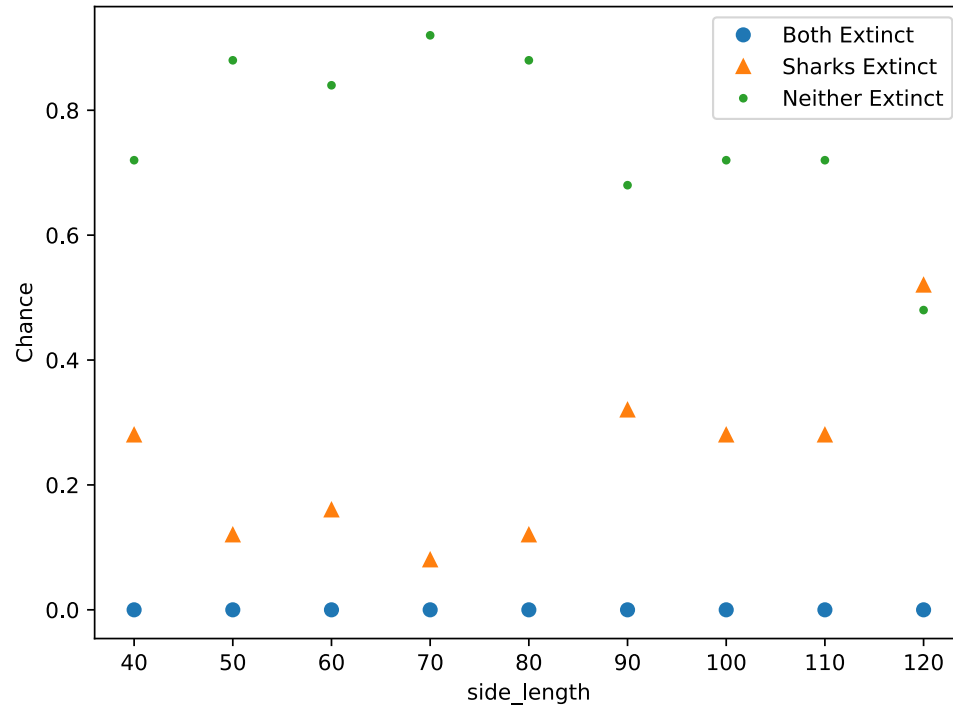


Figure 4: Outcome Chances vs side\_length

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("aspect_ratio", True)
```



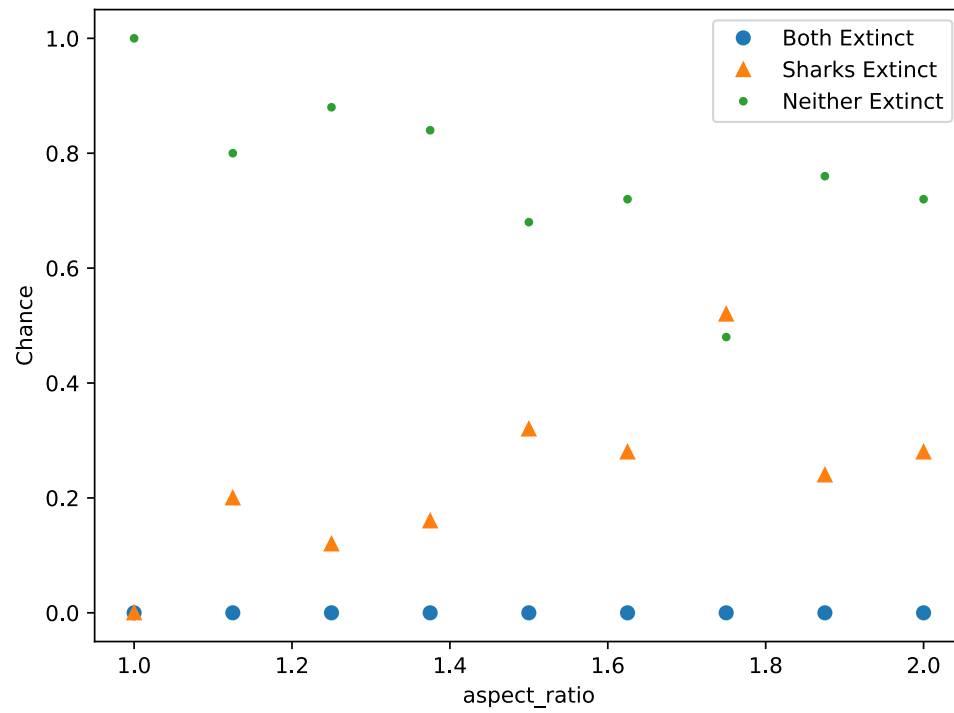


Figure 5: Outcome Chances vs aspect\_ratio

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("initial_fish", True)
```

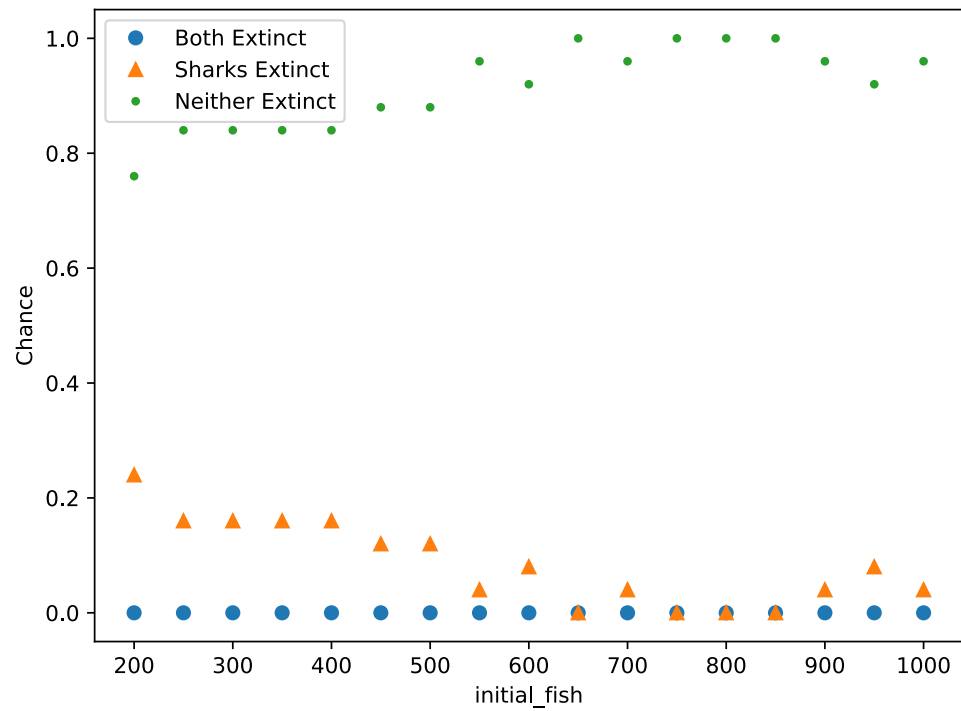


Figure 6: Outcome Chances vs initial\_fish

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("initial_sharks", True)
```

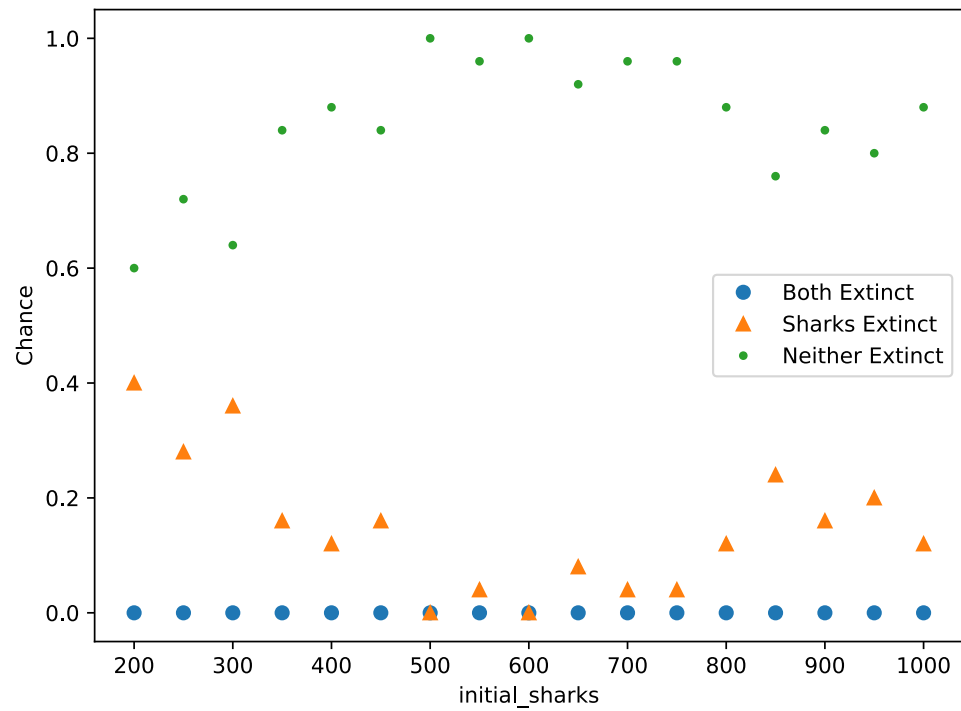


Figure 7: Outcome Chances vs initial\_sharks

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("start_energy", True)
```

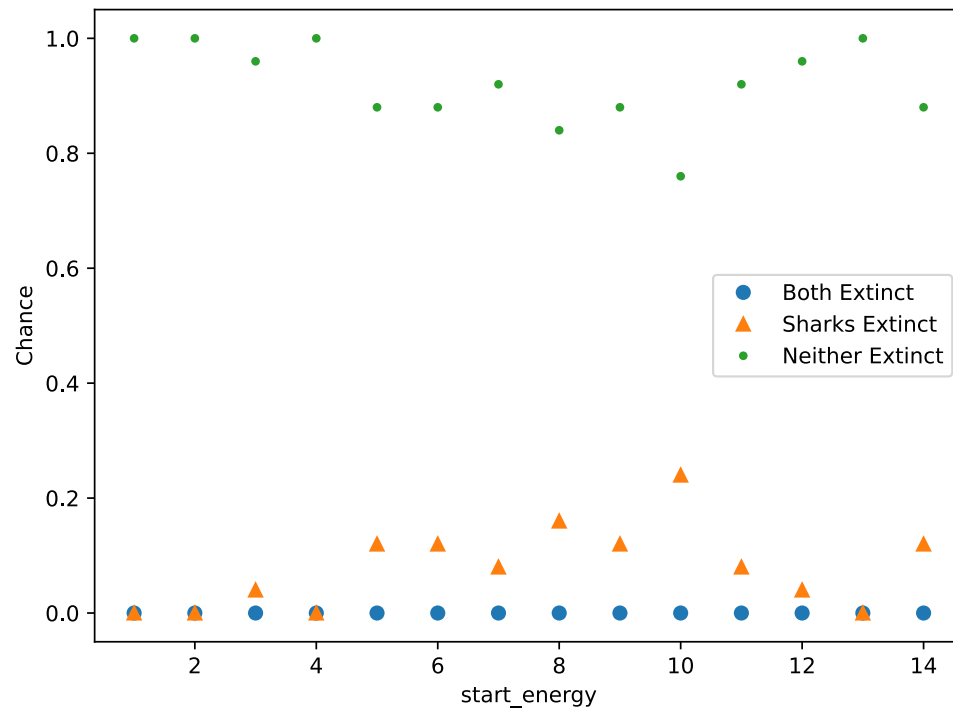


Figure 8: Outcome Chances vs start\_energy

## Main Simulation Parameters

**breed\_time**

**energy\_gain**

**breed\_energy**

## Circular Initialization

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
  
tst.run_standard_test("breed_time", True)
```

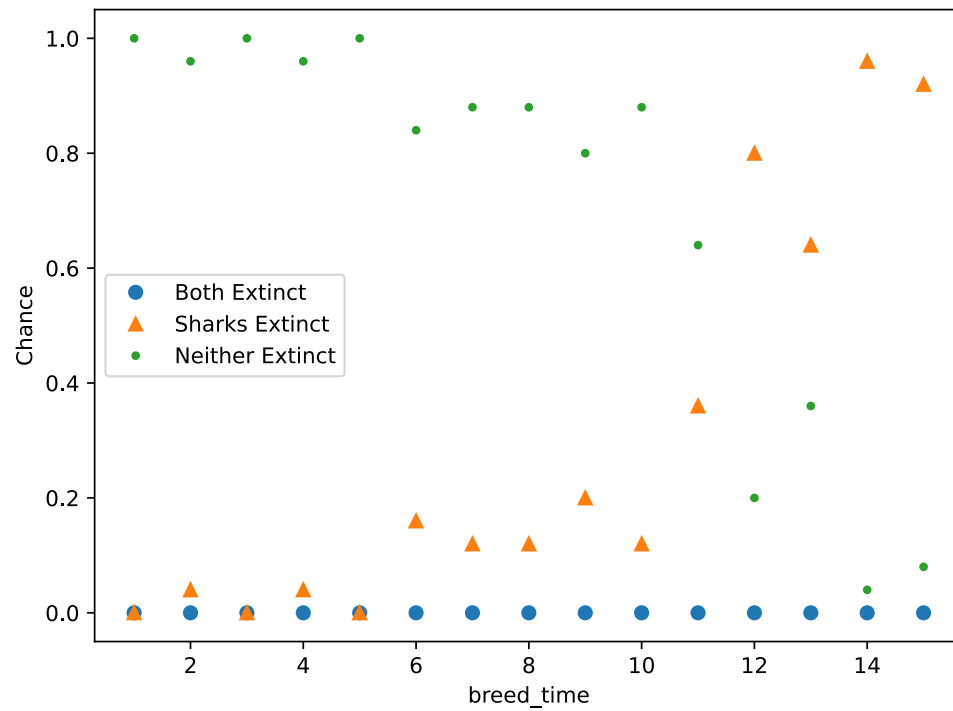


Figure 9: Outcome Chances vs breed\_time (Circular Initialization)

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("energy_gain", True)
```

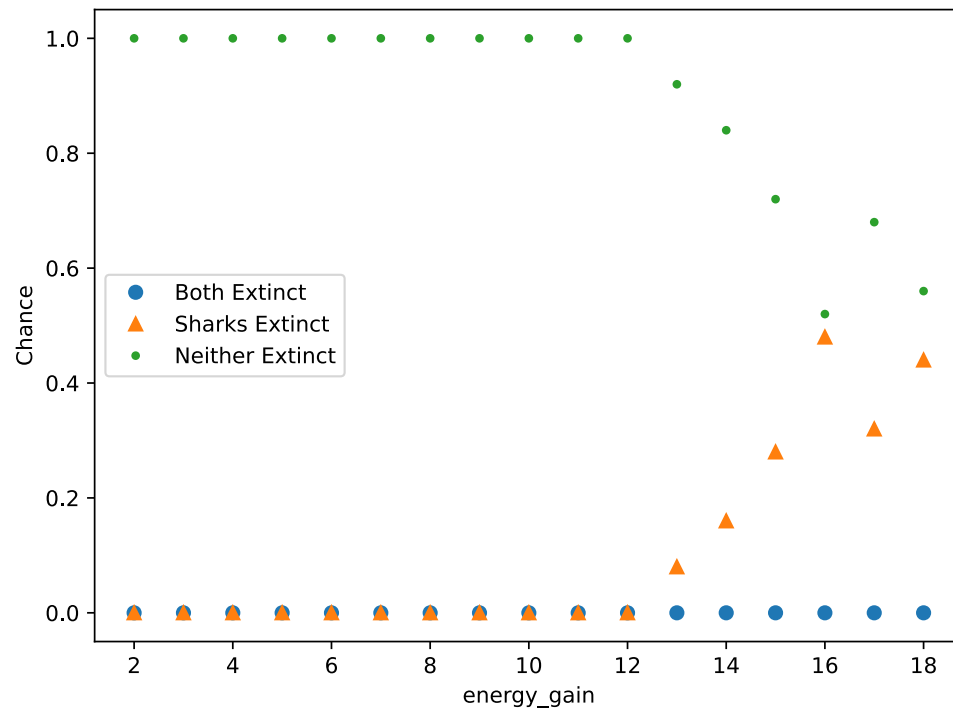


Figure 10: Outcome Chances vs energy\_gain (Circular Initialization)

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("breed_energy", True)
```

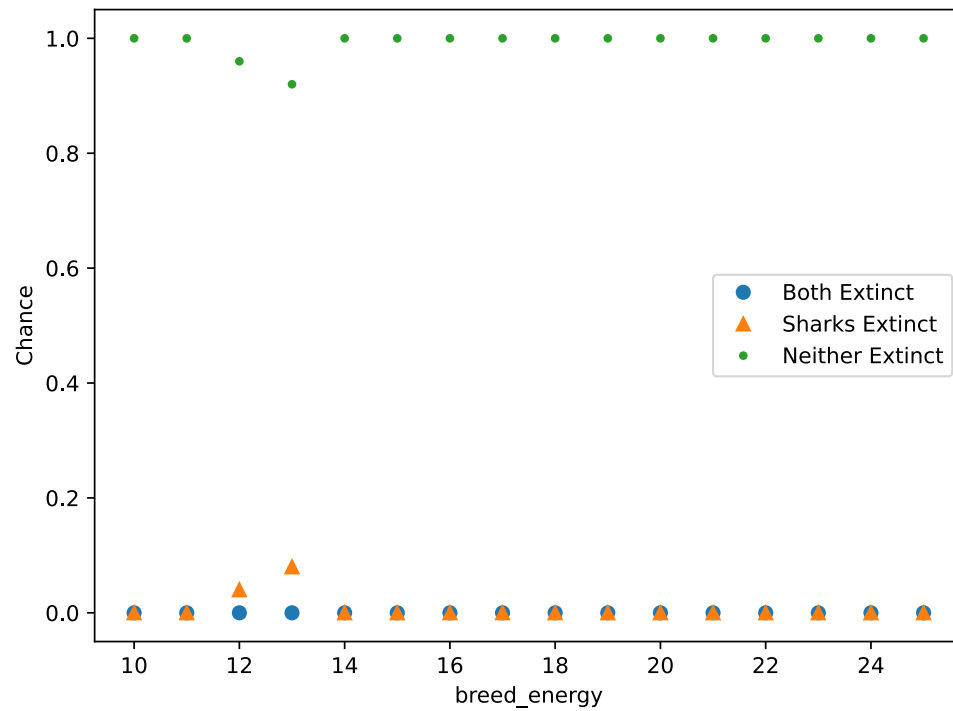


Figure 11: Outcome Chances vs breed\_energy (Circular Initialization)

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("side_length", True)
```

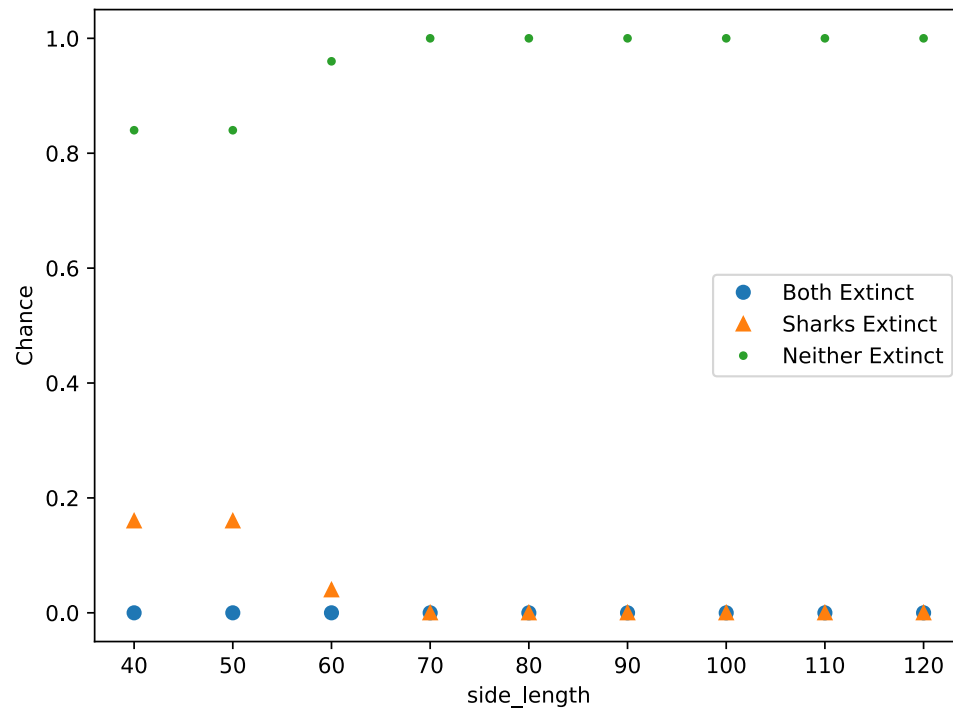


Figure 12: Outcome Chances vs side\_length (Circular Initialization)

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("aspect_ratio", True)
```



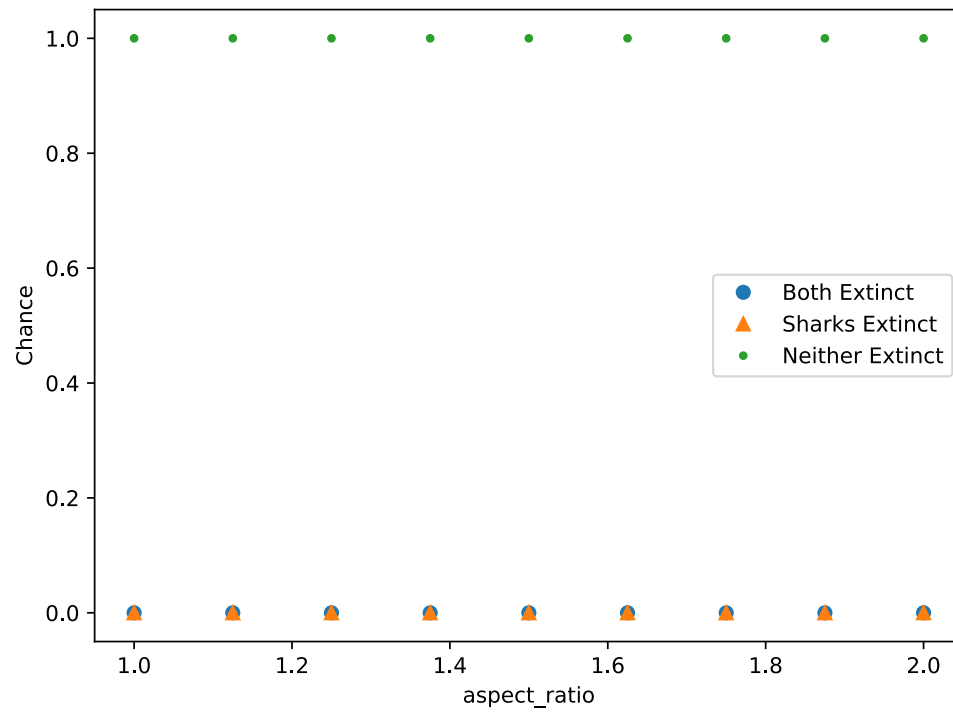


Figure 13: Outcome Chances vs aspect\_ratio (Circular Initialization)

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("initial_fish", True)
```

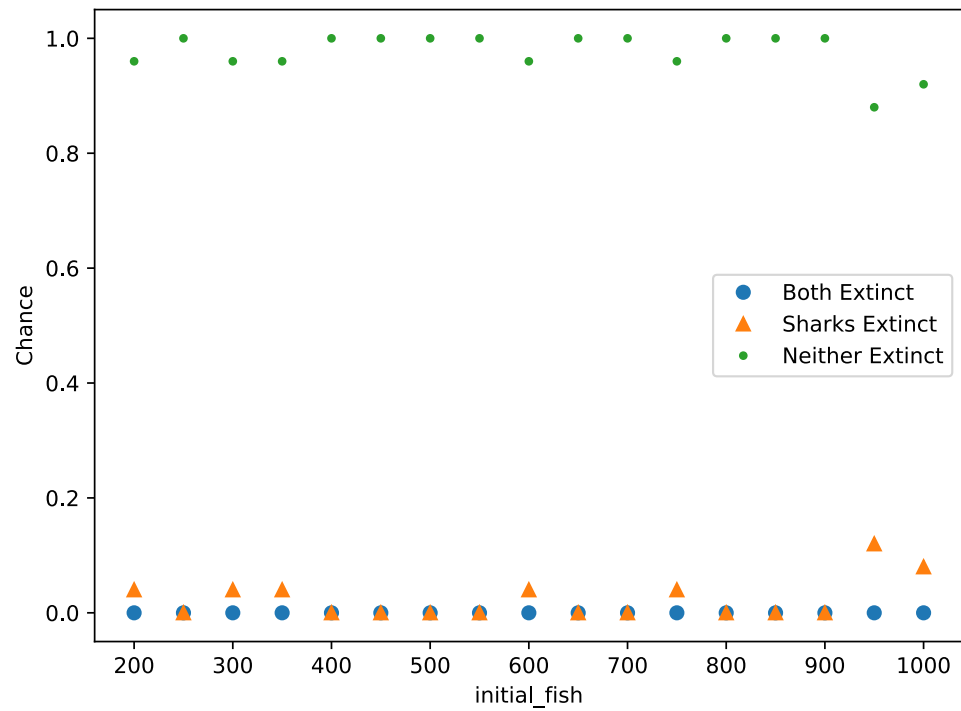


Figure 14: Outcome Chances vs initial\_fish (Circular Initialization)

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("initial_sharks", True)
```

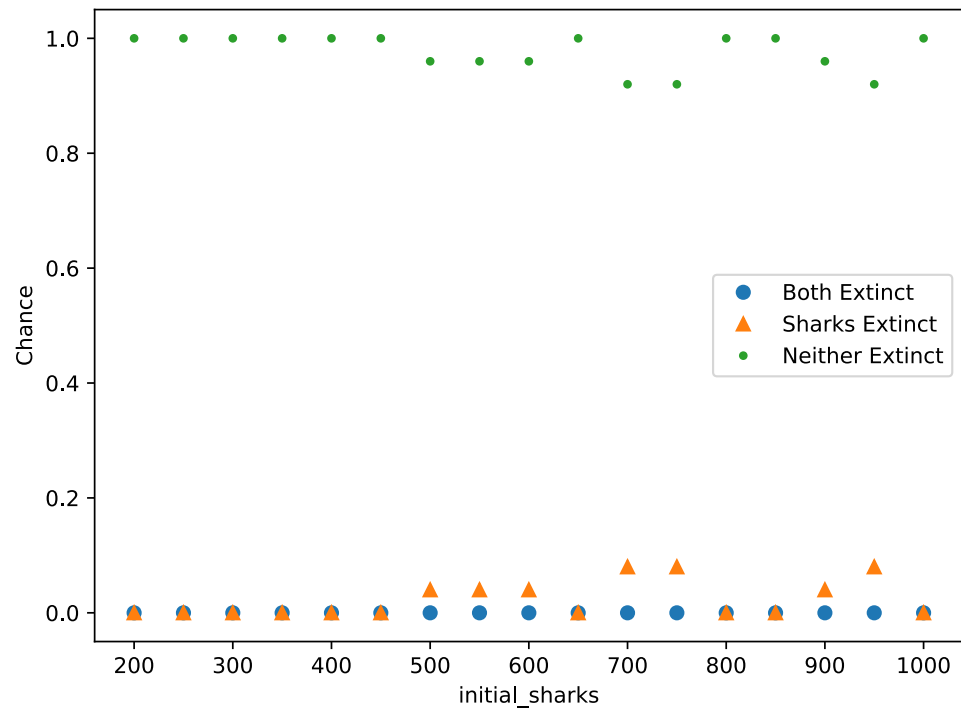


Figure 15: Outcome Chances vs initial\_sharks (Circular Initialization)

```
import measure_outcome_chances as tst  
tst.run_standard_test("start_energy", True)
```

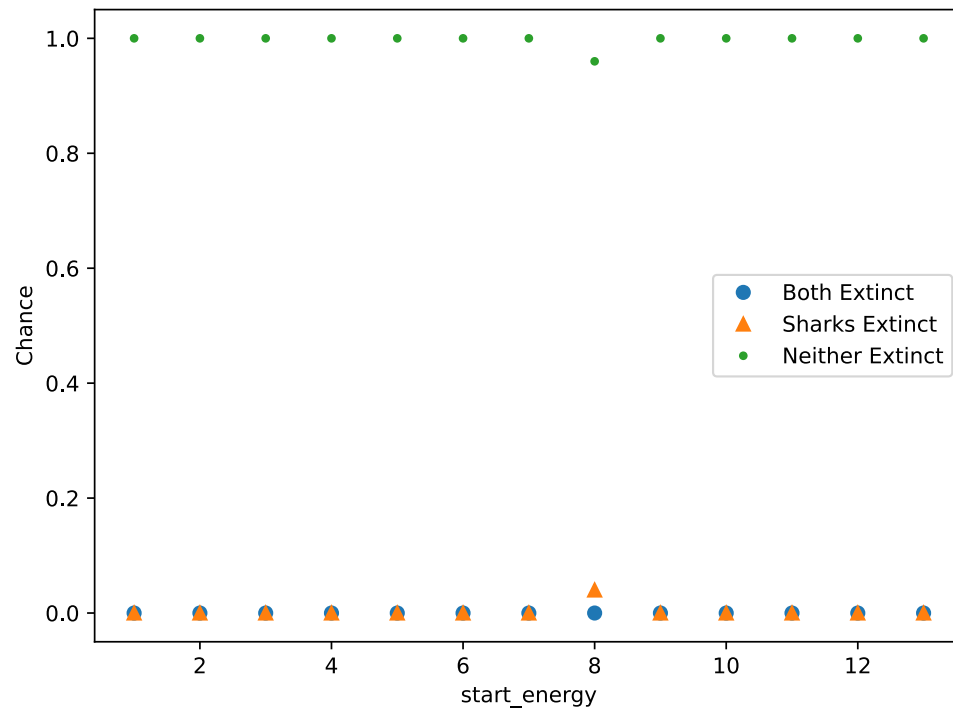


Figure 16: Outcome Chances vs start\_energy (Circular Initialization)

## Extension