

# MATH550: Coursework 2

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## Parameters for the Lotka-Volterra model

```
alpha <- 0.05 # Birth rate of rabbits beta <- 1.2e-4 # Rate of foxes eating rabbits gamma <- 0.04 #  
Death rate of foxes initial_rabbits <- 60 # Initial population of rabbits (R1) initial_foxes <- 30 # Initial  
population of foxes (F1) time_steps <- 104 # Total time steps (104 weeks for a 2-year period)
```

## Initialization function to set up population vectors

```
initialize_population <- function(initial_rabbits, initial_foxes, time_steps) { rabbit_population <- nu-  
meric(time_steps) # Vector to store rabbit population over time fox_population <- numeric(time_steps) #  
Vector to store fox population over time rabbit_population[1] <- initial_rabbits # Set initial number of rab-  
bits fox_population[1] <- initial_foxes # Set initial number of foxes list(rabbit_population, fox_population)  
# Return vectors as a list }
```

## Initialize population vectors

```
populations <- initialize_population(initial_rabbits, initial_foxes, time_steps) rabbit_population <- pop-  
ulations[[1]] fox_population <- populations[[2]]
```

## Unified Lotka-Volterra Model function with input validation

```
lotka_volterra_model <- function(rabbit_population, fox_population, alpha, beta, gamma, time_steps,  
stochastic = FALSE) { # Input validation if (!is.numeric(alpha) || alpha <= 0) stop("Error: alpha (birth  
rate) must be a positive number.") if (!is.numeric(beta) || beta <= 0) stop("Error: beta (consumption rate)  
must be a positive number.") if (!is.numeric(gamma) || gamma <= 0) stop("Error: gamma (death rate)  
must be a positive number.") if (!is.numeric(rabbit_population[1]) || rabbit_population[1] < 0) stop("Error:  
initial_rabbits must be a non-negative number.") if (!is.numeric(fox_population[1]) || fox_population[1] <  
0) stop("Error: initial_foxes must be a non-negative number.") if (!is.numeric(time_steps) || time_steps  
<= 0 || round(time_steps) != time_steps) stop("Error: time_steps must be a positive integer.")  
# Set seed for stochastic model if (stochastic) set.seed(17540)  
# Loop through each time step, calculating population changes for (t in 2:time_steps) { # Calcul-  
late births, deaths, and predation based on model type if (stochastic) { rabbits_born <- rbinom(1,  
rabbit_population[t-1], alpha) rabbits_eaten <- rbinom(1, rabbit_population[t-1] * fox_population[t-1],  
beta) foxes_died <- rbinom(1, fox_population[t-1], gamma) } else { rabbits_born <- alpha *  
rabbit_population[t-1] rabbits_eaten <- beta * rabbit_population[t-1] * fox_population[t-1] foxes_died  
<- gamma * fox_population[t-1] }
```

```
# Update populations and ensure non-negative values
rabbit_population[t] <- max(0, rabbit_population[t-1] + rabbits_born - rabbits_eaten)
fox_population[t] <- max(0, fox_population[t-1] + rabbits_eaten - foxes_died)

}

# Return the final populations as a list list(rabbits = rabbit_population, foxes = fox_population) }
```

## Task 1: Run the deterministic model

```
det_results <- lotka_volterra_model(rabbit_population, fox_population, alpha, beta, gamma, time_steps,
stochastic = FALSE) det_rabbits <- det_results[[1]] det_foxes <- det_results[[2]]
```

## Display the last few values of the deterministic model results

```
print("Deterministic Model - Last few values:") print(tail(det_rabbits, n = 5)) print(tail(det_foxes, n = 5))
```

## Task 2: Run the stochastic model

```
sto_results <- lotka_volterra_model(rabbit_population, fox_population, alpha, beta, gamma, time_steps,
stochastic = TRUE) sto_rabbits <- sto_results[[1]] sto_foxes <- sto_results[[2]]
```

## Display the last few values of the stochastic model results

```
print("Stochastic Model - Last few values:") print(tail(sto_rabbits, n = 5)) print(tail(sto_foxes, n = 5))
```

## Task 3: Visualization of Results

### Create the data frame for visualization

```
create_LV_dataframe <- function(rabbit_det, fox_det, rabbit_sto, fox_sto, time_steps) { data.frame(
time = rep(1:time_steps, 4), group = rep(c("rabbits_deterministic", "foxes_deterministic", "rab-
bits_stochastic", "foxes_stochastic"), each = time_steps), size = c(rabbit_det, fox_det, rabbit_sto,
fox_sto) ) }
```

### Prepare data for visualization

```
LV <- create_LV_dataframe(det_rabbits, det_foxes, sto_rabbits, sto_foxes, time_steps)
```

### Task 3: Plotting the Results

```
library(ggplot2)

ggplot(LV, aes(x = time, y = size, color = group, linetype = group)) + geom_line(linewidth = 1) + #
Adjust line thickness using linewidth labs( title = "Lotka-Volterra Model: Deterministic vs Stochastic", x =
"Time (weeks)", y = "Population Size" ) + theme_minimal() + # Use a minimal theme for a cleaner look
theme( legend.position = "top" # Place legend at the top for better visibility )
```