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1 Introduction to the SIR Model and Notation

The susceptible-infected-removed (SIR) model is built based on the first-order derivative to model the spread of infectious disease, where the time dependent variables S , I , R each represent the following populations:

S (susceptible): number of individuals who are not infected but could become infected

I (infected): number of individuals who are already infected and can spread disease

R (removed): number of individuals who are either recovered and immune or have died

And s , i , r are used to represent the proportion of susceptible, infected and removed individuals among the population.

There are two parameters b and k in the model, where b indicates the number of interactions each day that could spread the disease (per individual) and k indicates the fraction of the infectious population which recovers each day.

In the ODE-based model, we can get the following system of differential equations, where t is time:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{ds}{dt} &= -b * s(t) * i(t) \\ \frac{dr}{dt} &= k * i(t) \\ \frac{di}{dt} &= b * s(t) * i(t) - k * i(t)\end{aligned}$$

2 Python Package 'sir'

3 Results of Simulations

3.1 Discrete Agent-Based Model

To investigate how a new disease spreads, we run the simulations of the discrete agent-based model and the continuous ODE model, starting with 100 infectious individuals out of total population 20000.

We generate several plots to show how s , i , and r change over the length of the simulation for a couple different choices of k and b . First we check the plots for $b = 2$, which means we assume each individual has two interactions each day that could spread the disease, with different k values.

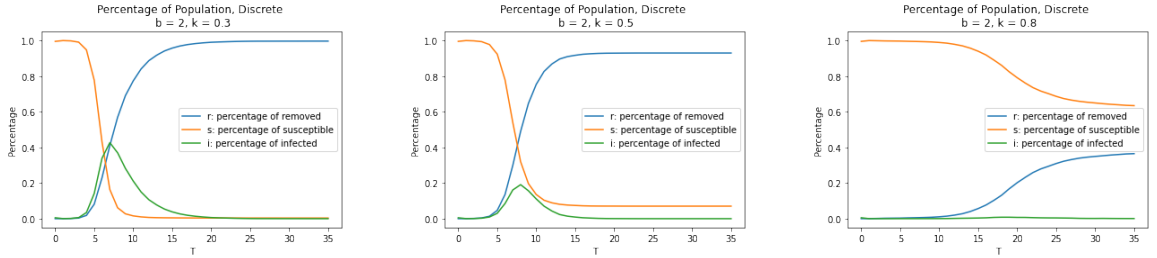


Figure 1: Percentage of population susceptible (s), infected (i), and removed (r), discrete

From the plots, we find that when the recovery rate is low (0.3), finally all people are removed, which indicates that all people were infectious and either have recovered and are now immune, or have died. As the recovery rate increases to a high value (0.8), the trends change obviously. The percentage of infected people does not increase, and the percentage of removed people increases to approximately 0.4 while the percentage of susceptible people decreases to 0.6. Finally, both trends of removed and susceptible people stay constant. In this case, there is a fairly large proportion of individuals who are never infected. Thus, when the recovery rate k is large enough (larger than 0.6) and b is relatively small (less than 3), then the herd immunity is eventually achieved. The herd

immunity occurs when a large portion of a community becomes immune to a disease, making the spread of disease unlikely, so the whole community becomes protected. Next, we increase the value of b and see whether the trends change.

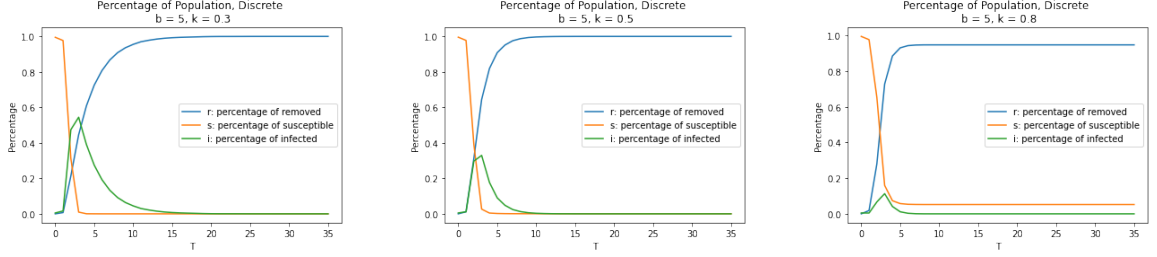


Figure 2: Percentage of population susceptible (s), infected (i), and removed (r), discrete

When $b = 5$, each individual has five interactions each day that could spread the disease. These plots suggest that when each individual get contacts with five infectious people per day, if the recovery rate is 0.3, then finally all people are removed after 20 days; if the recovery rate is 0.5, all people are removed after 10 days; even if the recovery rate is 0.8, less than 10% of individuals will remain susceptible after 10 days. As a result, when b is large enough, no matter how large k is, almost all people will be removed eventually, which means that all people will be infected and left with different results. Hence, people should avoid contacting in person with infectious people. Some suggestions include staying at home as much as possible and avoiding visiting areas where the disease is prevalent.

Now, we want to investigate some qualitative behaviors of the simulations based on the parameters b and k in the phase diagrams. The simulations are done with T values 10, 20 and 30 days for both discrete and continuous cases.

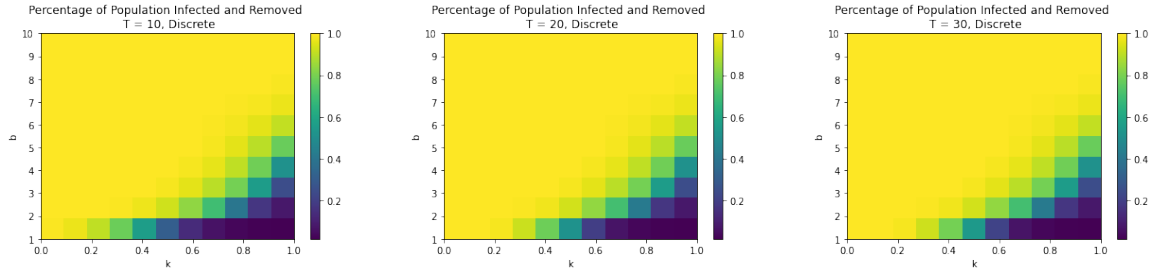


Figure 3: Phase diagrams for total percentage of population infected ($i+r$), discrete

In figure 3, three phase diagrams illustrate the percentage of population infected and removed, i.e., the total percentage of population infected. It depends on both b , the number of interactions per day per individual that could spread the disease, and k , the recovery rate. The diagrams look very similar for different lengths of simulation (10, 20, and 30 days). It is clear that as k increases and b decreases, the total percentage of population infected decreases. If each individual only has less than two interactions per day that could spread the disease and the recovery rate is higher than 0.6, then almost nobody will be infected over time. The yellow area represents that everyone is eventually infected. When k is less or equal to 0.2, then everyone is eventually infected. Also, when b is larger than 6, everyone is eventually infected. Furthermore, when b is relatively small (less than 7) but k is relatively large (larger than 0.3), everyone is eventually infected. More precisely, the cut edge between the area where all individuals are infected and the remaining area is approximately linear, so that we may estimate the edge by $b = 10k - 3$. Therefore, when $b - 10k + 3 > 0$, everyone

is eventually infected.

We set b is larger than 1 in the above simulations. However, b can be less than 1. For instance, $b = 0.5$ is equivalent to say, each individual has 50% chance to be infected by one interaction with infectious people per day.

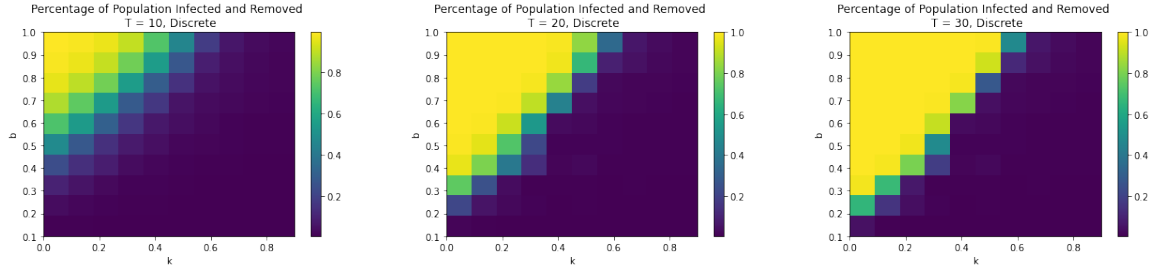


Figure 4: Phase diagrams for percentage of population infected and removed ($i+r$), discrete

There are some interesting findings in figure 4. When $T = 10$, only when b is larger than 0.7 and k is smaller than 0.3, everyone is eventually infected. However, as T increases, the yellow area takes more space in the phase diagram, which means the range of parameters b and k is wider corresponding to where everyone is eventually infected. We do not observe effect of T in figure 3, but here it seems that for $T = 30$ even if b is really small and k is moderate, there still exists chance that everyone is infected.

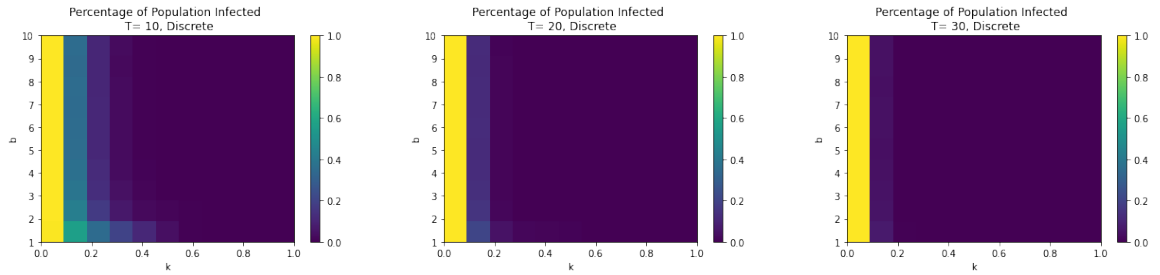


Figure 5: Phase diagrams for percentage of population infected (i), discrete

Then, we try to discover the parameter regimes that i will quickly go to 0. Figure 5 shows the phase diagrams for only infected population. We conclude that the percentage of infected people will quickly goes to 0, if the recovery rate k is large. Specifically, our simulations demonstrate when k is larger than 0.3, i will quickly go to 0 regardless of b .

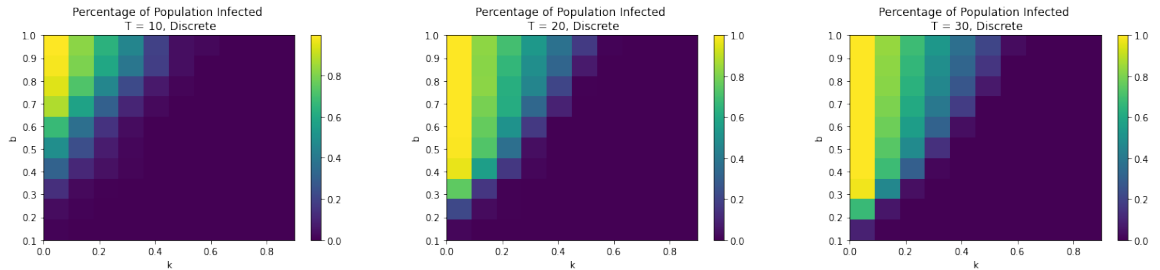


Figure 6: Phase diagrams for percentage of population infected (i), discrete

Based on figure 6, when b is really small, the percentage of infected people can go to 0 even if the recovery rate k is small.

3.2 Continuous/ODE-Based Model

4 Variations and Improvements

4.1 Modelling the usage of mask

In this section, we study the effectiveness of mask in the spreading of the novel COVID-19 disease and develop a variation of the susceptible-infected-removed (SIR) model that provides a theoretical framework to investigate its spread within a community. More specifically, we will investigate how the use of mask will influence the percentage of deaths and hospitalizations with respect to different infectious contact rate. The model is based on the paper "To mask or not to mask: Modeling the potential for face mask use by the general public to curtail the COVID-19 pandemic" by Steffen E. Eikenberry et al. Although it is now recommended and a common practice to wear mask to limit the spread of COVID 19, it is very controversial at the beginning of the pandemic that whether it is necessary and efficient to wear mask. So, we believe it is meaningful to understand quantitatively more about this topic. In this model, we will introduce seven variables. $S(t), E(t), I(t), H(t), A(t), R(t)$ each denote susceptible, exposed, symptomatic infectious, hospitalized, asymptomatic infectious, and recovered classes, with an assumption that people progress from

$S \rightarrow E \rightarrow A \rightarrow I \rightarrow H$

At each state, infectious people will be able to recover, and only people in severe condition will go to hospital and may die.

$D(t)$ is also included to track cumulative deaths. Two sets of ODE equations will be used during simulation to find how use of mask will impact the spread of disease. We first consider a baseline model for the case where no masks are used. In the second set of odes, we will introduce more variables $S_U(t), E_U(t), I_U(t), H_U(t), A_U(t), R_U(t), S_M(t), E_M(t), I_M(t), H_M(t), A_M(t), R_M(t)$ to divide the population in two part: The population wearing masks and the one not wearing masks Here are two sets of Odes:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dS}{dt} &= -\beta(t)(I + \eta A) \frac{S}{N} \\
 \frac{dE}{dt} &= \beta(t)(I + \eta A) \frac{S}{N} - \sigma E \\
 \frac{dI}{dt} &= \alpha \sigma E - \phi I - \gamma_I I \\
 \frac{dA}{dt} &= (1 - \alpha) \sigma E - \gamma_A A \\
 \frac{dH}{dt} &= \phi I - \sigma H - \gamma_H H \\
 \frac{dR}{dt} &= \gamma_I I + \gamma_A A + \gamma_H H \\
 \frac{dD}{dt} &= \sigma H
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dS_U}{dt} &= -\beta(I_U + \eta A_U) \frac{S_U}{N} - \beta((1 - \epsilon_0)I_M + (1 - \epsilon_0)\eta A_M) \frac{S_U}{N} \\
 \frac{dE_U}{dt} &= \beta(I_U + \eta A_U) \frac{S_U}{N} + \beta((1 - \epsilon_0)I_M + (1 - \epsilon_0)\eta A_M) \frac{S_U}{N} - \sigma E_U
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2}$$

We will run the simulation and observe what will happen in several days. Here, β is the infectious contact rate, σ is the transition exposed to infectious, η is the infectiousness factor for asymptomatic carrier, α is the fraction of infections that become symptomatic, ϕ is rate of hospitalization, γ_A is the recovery rate for asymptomatic, γ_I is the recovery rate, symptomatic, γ_H is the recovery rate for hospitalized.

σ is the death rate in hospital. ϵ_0 is the outward efficiency of the masks while ϵ_i is the inward efficiency of the masks.

We will find the default estimated values for all parameters with population masked and not masked. Here, an assumption is made that the inward efficiency and outward efficiency of masks are the same ($\epsilon_0 = \epsilon_1$). We will draw a 2 dimensional phase diagram to show how the efficiency of mask (homemade mask or surgery mask) and the percentage of masked people will influence the hospitalization as well as the total deaths among the population.

4.2 Fitting the data with SIR model

4.3 Data visualization of Covid-19