

CSE 6730, Final Report

Project 2: Complex Simulation

1 Project Title

Simulation of Predator-Prey Population Dynamics

2 Team Members

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3 Github

Currently, the github is at <https://github.gatech.edu/ser8/complex-sys>. The final submission for checkpoint and final project will be at the Folder Submission with each subfolder.

For the ABS model, we create one model with interaction but it is conflicting with macbook pro touch bar for one of our member laptop and the laptop shut down every time the code was executed. Running on other member laptops is completely fine.

We create one embedded version prior the GUI version as well. Embedded version support the step through function that allow user to look at each step.

4 Problem Description and Purpose

The predator and prey relationship is an important ecological system. Their populations rise and fall over time as they interact and impact one another. These interactions are the prime movers of energy through food chains. Both prey and predators are affecting each other. [5] In simplest interaction, predators depend on the prey as the food source. However, any abuse of the food source may result in decrease in population of the prey, and subsequently decrease the number of the predators due to lack of food. Because of such interaction, the population of the predators and the prey may oscillate, and inversely proportional to each others.[7]

The predator-prey relationship is important for us to understand the impact of the relationship on the ecological system in one area. Such relationships are always complicated. Without predators, prey (normally herbivores) will cause detrimental impact on the plants in that area. However, overkill by the predators may also impact the balance of the nature. Besides, there are effects from human intervention on such relationship (eg: hunting and destroy of the habitat). Furthermore, predator-prey model can be used to describe many fundamental characteristics of ecological systems and can even be extended to other ideas like military response [2].

One of the mathematical models that simulates predator-prey interactions is the Lotka-Volterra model proposed by Alfred Lotka and Vito Volterra. Lotka helped develop the logistic equation to explain auto-catalytic chemical reactions. Volterra interconnected the logistic equation to two separate populations in competition to explain predator and prey relationships. We hope to use this intuitive model in our complex system simulation, so that we could gain understanding of these relationships, as well as the impact of our activities on them. Furthermore, we would like to investigate the equilibria and stability of our ecological system, and to facilitate in understanding the general behavior of the system by finding the equilibrium solutions of a coupled set of nonlinear ordinary differential equations.[9][1]

5 General Assumptions

Important refinements such as environmental heterogeneities, more complex food web networks, and different functional responses will be selectively added to future models in iterative process. The following assumptions are made with current model:

- The environment is assumed homogeneous with no natural disasters or variations in temperature
- All species are of the same size, produce the same amount of resources when consume
- No limited lifetime for preys and predators
- Each prey or predator has a fixed probability of reproducing at each time step.
- Unlimited food available to the prey is assumes, and so the prey(and predator)growth rates are limited by corresponding capacity and growth coefficients
- Each predator eats a constant proportion of the prey population per year; In other words, doubling the prey population will double the number eaten per predator, regardless of how big the prey population is.
- Predator reproduction is directly proportional to prey consumed; another way of expressing this is that a certain number of prey consumed results in one new predator; or that one prey consumed produces some fraction of a new predator.
- A constant proportion of the predator population dies per year. In other words, the predator death rate is independent of the amount of food available.

6 Literature Review

Simple predator and prey interaction could be model using Lotka-Volterra model. In our model, we borrow idea from [8] to build firstly our simple interaction model. Firstly, our rabbit model is following the

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + growth_R \times \left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right) R_{t-1} \quad (1)$$

For the coyote,

$$\begin{aligned} C_t &\sim (1 - death_C) \times C_{t-1} \\ &= C_{t-1} - death_C \times C_{t-1} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

With the simple interaction from the first two parts, now we can combine both interaction and come out with simple interaction between the two species.

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + growth_R \times \left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right) R_{t-1} - death_R(C_{t-1}) \times R_{t-1} \quad (3)$$

$$C_t = C_{t-1} - death_C \times C_{t-1} + growth_C(R_{t-1}) \times C_{t-1} \quad (4)$$

In equations above, death rate of rabbit is a function parameterized by the amount of coyote. Similarly, the growth rate of coyotes is a function parameterized by the amount of the rabbit. The death rate of the rabbit should be 0 if there are no coyotes, while it should approach 1 if there are many coyotes. One of the formula fulfilling this characteristics is hyperbolic function.

$$death_R(C) = 1 - \frac{1}{xC + 1} \quad (5)$$

where x determines how quickly $death_R$ increases as the number of coyotes (C) increases. Similarly, the growth rate of the coyotes should be 0 if there are no rabbits, while it should approach infinity if there are many rabbits. One of the formula fulfilling this characteristics is a linear function.

$$growth_C(R) = yR \quad (6)$$

where y determines how quickly $growth_C$ increases as number of rabbit (R) increases.

Putting all together, the final equations are

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + growth_R \times \left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right) R_{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{xC_{t-1} + 1} \right) \times R_{t-1} \quad (7)$$

$$C_t = C_{t-1} - death_C \times C_{t-1} + yR_{t-1}C_{t-1} \quad (8)$$

The previous relationship could be extended to multiple predators and preys relationship. In the multiple predators and preys model, we will be focusing on a specific 2+2 model with two preys: rabbits and deers, and two predators: coyotes and wolfs. We assume that each predator preys on each prey but not on each other. And the preys population capacity are affecting each other:

$$capacity_D = capacity_{prey} - capacity_R \quad (9)$$

What difference from the simple predator and prey interaction is that, now the death rate of preys is a function parameterized by both the amount of coyotes and the amount of wolfs.

$$death_R(C, W) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{xC + 1} \right) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{vW + 1} \right) \quad (10)$$

$$death_D(C, W) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{xC + 1} \right) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{vW + 1} \right) \quad (11)$$

where v determines how quickly $death_R$ increases as the number of wolfs (W) increases. Similarly, the growth rate of predators is a function parameterized by the amount of both rabbits and deer. Where u determines how quickly $growth_W$ increases as number of rabbit (R) increases, and D_t represents the number of deer at time t .

$$growth_C(R) = yR + uD \quad (12)$$

$$growth_W(R) = yR + uD \quad (13)$$

Multiple Prey Multiple Predator model is described in the following equations:

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + growth_R \times \left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right) R_{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{xC_{t-1} + 1} \right) \times R_{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{vW_{t-1} + 1} \right) \times R_{t-1} \quad (14)$$

$$D_t = D_{t-1} + growth_D \times \left(\frac{capacity_D - D_{t-1}}{capacity_D} \right) D_{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{xC_{t-1} + 1} \right) \times D_{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{vW_{t-1} + 1} \right) \times D_{t-1} \quad (15)$$

$$C_t = C_{t-1} - death_C \times C_{t-1} + yR_{t-1}C_{t-1} + uD_{t-1}C_{t-1} \quad (16)$$

$$W_t = W_{t-1} - death_W \times W_{t-1} + yR_{t-1}W_{t-1} + uD_{t-1}W_{t-1} \quad (17)$$

7 Data Source

For this project, we do some simple simulation between rabbit and coyote. We obtained the idea from the Wikipedia for rabbits and coyotes growth and reduction rate.

8 Methodology

Our simulation will first simulate predators and prey entering and exiting a predefined area. Then through interactions, their population may affecting each others.

Traditionally, there is the nonlinear Lotka-Volterra Model of the predator-prey dynamic system [4, 6]. LVM approach is a simplified model and suitable for detailed stability analysis. However, it is also very limited model and lack of flexibility for complex interaction. Hence, we also hope to incorporate the Agent-Based Model [3] in this project to increase the completeness of our analysis. We gained most of insight of writing our simulation based on [8]. We also include another way to do the simulation through cellular automata.

In our project, some of the ideas that we wish to investigate include:

1. Long-term population interaction among predators and prey.
2. Introduction of the uncertainties like diseases.
3. Introduction of the third parties interaction: human activity, natural disasters etc.

9 Development Platform

The programming language is Python 3. We will provide a Jupyter notebook for user interaction. In the Jupyter notebook, we will allow the user to change some of the probability and the simulation parameters to see different result of the simulation.

9.1 Lotka-Volterra Model

The Lotka-Volterra Model is a classic model of predator-prey interactions. It is based on a pair of first order non-linear differential equations. Volterra first proposed simple model for the predation of one species by another to explain the oscillatory levels of a certain population. In the continuous time model, if $x(t)$ is the prey population and $y(t)$ is the predator population at time t , the Volterra's model is:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= ax - bxy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= cxy - dy\end{aligned}$$

where a , b , c and d are all positive constants.

The exponential growth for prey is represented by the term ax , and the prey population is simultaneously destroyed by predators, and the rate of predation upon the prey is assumed to be proportional to the rate at which the predators and prey meet, that is represented by bxy . Also, we can tell by looking at the equation $\frac{dx}{dt}$, if either x or y is equal to zero, then there is no predation. In $\frac{dy}{dt}$, the cxy is the prey's contribution to predators growth rate, and it is assumed to be proportional to the size of available prey as well as the population of predator, the xy can be thought of as the conversion of energy from the food source. $-dy$ is the exponential decay in predator population due to lack of food. The equations above demonstrates a simple explanations of how prey and predator population fluctuate. Furthermore, If the number of prey becomes sufficiently great, then the prey may be interfering with each other in their quest for food and space. One way to describe this effect mathematically is to assume that the prey not grows indefinitely in the absence of predators, but will ultimately reach the carrying capacity of the environment. Hence prey doesn't grow exponentially but follow a logistic growth equation as below:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= ax(1 - \frac{x}{K}) - bxy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= y(cx - d)\end{aligned}$$

where K is the saturation constant.

By applying forward Euler method to the set of ODEs above, we obtain the discrete time Lotka-Volterra Model.

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + ax_{t-1}\left(1 - \frac{x_{t-1}}{K}\right) - bx_{t-1}y_{t-1}$$

$$y_t = y_{t-1} + y_{t-1}(cx_{t-1} - d)$$

In order to come up with mathematical form for b and c , we should consider the extreme cases. If there is no predator, the death rate for prey should be zero, and it should approach one as predator population keep increasing. With the equations above, we can determine the equilibrium points of the system, and then investigate their stability. Equilibrium points can be determined by setting x_t and y_t equal to x_{t-1} and y_{t-1} respectively, then solving the nonlinear equations. After we determined the existence of the equilibrium points of the Lotka-Volterra models, we could further investigate their stability by calculating the eigenvalues for the Jacobian matrix of the Lotka-Volterra models at each equilibrium point of them. To better illustrate the patterns we can fix the parameters with some initial values and generate the phase portrait of the system. By looking at the plot [Fig 11] we can observe that every trajectory in the first quadrant is a closed curve. Thus the predator and prey populations oscillate in cycles.

Currently, we have successfully model the world, rabbits and coyotes. Since this is a step by step tutorial based project, we first create the simulation with only the rabbits growth rate, and coyotes death rate. Finally, we allow some interaction between rabbits and coyotes. This is the first phase of our Lotka-Volterra Model.

In the program, simply run python notebook for the current main.ipynb. The tutorial should be self contained. Some of the current parameters that could be play with is as per table below

Parameter	Description
Single Rabbit Model	
Initial population	Initial rabbit population
Capacity	Capacity of the environment
Growth rate	How fast rabbit could grow
Single Coyote Model	
Initial population	Initial coyote population
Death rate	How fast coyote could decrease
Coyote Rabbit Interaction Model	
Initial rabbit population	Initial rabbit population
Capacity	Capacity of the environment
Growth rate	How fast rabbit could grow
Initial coyote population	Initial coyote population
Death rate	How fast coyote could decrease
x	How fast rabbit decrease due to the coyote population
y	How fast coyote increase due to the rabbit population
Multiple Preys and Predators Model	
Initial prey population	Initial rabbit and deer population
Capacity	Capacity of the environment and capacity of rabbit
Growth rate of each prey	How fast rabbit and deer could grow
Initial predator population	Initial coyote and wolf population
Death rate of each predator	How fast coyote and wolf could decrease
Death rate ratio due to coyote	How fast rabbit and deer decrease due to the coyote population
Death rate ratio due to wolf	How fast rabbit and deer decrease due to the wolf population
Growth rate ratio due to rabbit	How fast coyote and wolf increase due to the rabbit population
Growth rate ratio due to deer	How fast coyote and wolf increase due to the deer population

9.2 Cellular Automata

We have cellular Automata that include space constraint on the prey and predator relationship. The prey and predator is playing "hide and seek" where predator can only eat those within its neighborhood. We define the neighborhood as up, down, left and right location of the cell. That is, we follow the von Neumann neighborhoods. Cellular rules:

Parameter	Description
World size	The canvas size in nxn dimension
Maximum predator	How many predator initialized
Prey reproductive probability	Probability of prey reproduce
Predator reproductive probability	Probability of predator reproduce with prey around
Predator dying probability	Probability of predator die if no prey around
Maximum step	maximum step run for the cellular automata

9.3 Agent Based Simulation

In population dynamics we generally analyze either how a single population changes over time, or how two populations interact and influence their population sizes over time. The role of decision making by individual species is largely ignored in the simulation models of ecology, such as Lotka-Volterra model we mentioned previously. To better understand how modeling helps link individual behaviors to phenomena at the level of population interaction, we want to introduce agent based modeling. Agent-based modeling brings understanding and clarity to complex natural interactions by allowing them to develop through the individuals. This individual development can provide added realism over other modeling approaches. In agent based model, agents can be born and die during a simulation, and certain rules are defined for encounters between individuals. This means that the number of state variables involved in a system can change dynamically over time. Agent rules:

- For prey each individual agent reproduces at a certain reproduction rate
- If a prey agent meets a predator agent, it dies with some probability because of predation
- Predator agent dies with certain probability if no prey nearby
- Predators can diffuse a little faster than prey
- To handle situations where the size of the agent population changes rapidly, we assume in each asynchronous updating, $\frac{1}{\text{agent population}}$ of a unit length of time passes by

We improve our model to Agent Based Model for the same relationship. We have one gui interaction model, and another static model populate the outcome of interaction.

Parameter	Description
Initial rabbit count	Initial rabbit population
Rabbit capacity	Capacity of the environment
Rabbitreproduction	How fast rabbit could grow
Initial coyote count	Initial coyote population
Coyote death rate	How fast coyote could decrease
Coyote birth rate	How fast coyote could increase

9.4 Event-Based Simulation

We covered event-based simulations in the first half of the course. We modeled the predator-prey this way as well. The result runs slowly and takes up a lot of memory, but it enables us to model some of the more subtle effects:

- the delay between birth and sexual maturity
- the effects of fluctuating nutrition during pregnancy
- the effects of over-grazing by herbivores
- the natural lifespans of the predator and the prey

In this model, each coyote and each rabbit are entities. Grass is a resource that gradually renews. Every mating and every resulting birth are events, governed by the gestation period and litter size of the animal. When each animal is created, its natural death is added to the queue. (Few rabbits ever made it to their natural death, however.)

10 Tutorial

The tutorial is divided into two portion. One is the basic Lotka-Volterra Model. Another is the Agent Based Simulation Model. Both the tutorials are run on Jupyter Notebook.

10.1 Lotka-Volterra Model

10.1.1 Introduction

Project topic: **Simulation of Predator-Prey Population Dynamics**

our model is single relationship, multiple relationship Our prey are rabbits and deers, while the predators are coyote and wolves. Pending for screenshot

10.1.2 Part 1: Rabbits without predators

In part 1 of the tutorial, first we introduce a relationship for a prey (rabbits) without predators. The default capacity of 605 is chosen by making some assumption. Here, we introduce the formula used.

Part 1: Rabbits without predators

According to [Mother Earth News](#), a rabbit eats six square feet of pasture per day. Let's assume that our rabbits live in a five acre clearing in a forest: 217,800 square feet/6 square feet = 36,300 rabbit-days worth of food. For simplicity, let's assume the grass grows back in two months. Thus, the carrying capacity of five acres is 36,300/60 = 605 rabbits.

Female rabbits reproduce about six to seven times per year. They have six to ten children in a litter. According to [Wikipedia](#), a wild rabbit reaches sexual maturity when it is about six months old and typically lives one to two years. For simplicity, let's assume that in the presence of unlimited food, a rabbit lives forever, is immediately sexually mature, and has 1.5 children every month.

For our purposes, then, let x_t be the number of rabbits in our five acre clearing on month t .

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + 1.5 \frac{605 - R_{t-1}}{605} R_{t-1}$$

The formula could be put into general form

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + growth_R \times \left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right) R_{t-1}$$

By doing this, we allow users to interact with growth rate and the capacity value visualize different interaction

Figure 1: Introduce rabbit population without predators formula

Then, we allow users to change the default value of initial rabbit population, growth rate and capacity of the rabbit. Once users key in the value, they could visualize the dynamic of the population of the rabbits.

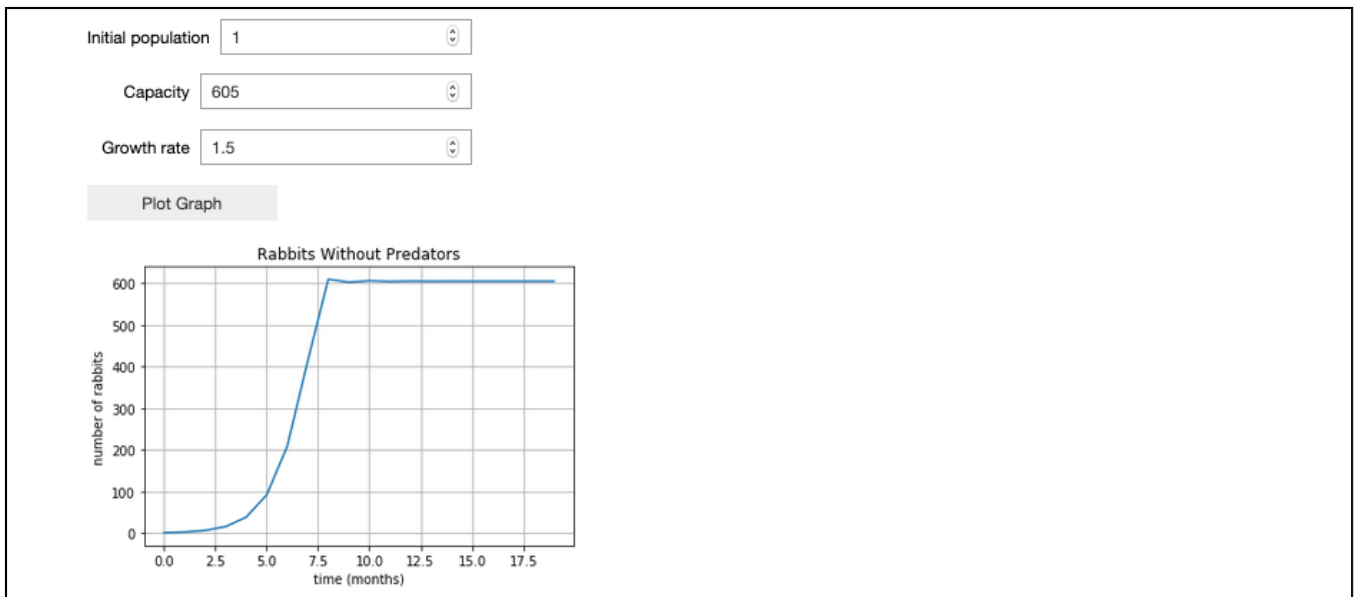


Figure 2: Interaction for different initial rabbit population, growth rate and population capacity

One important interaction is the growth rate, as we change from 1.5 to 3, the population dynamics of the rabbits become no longer stable.

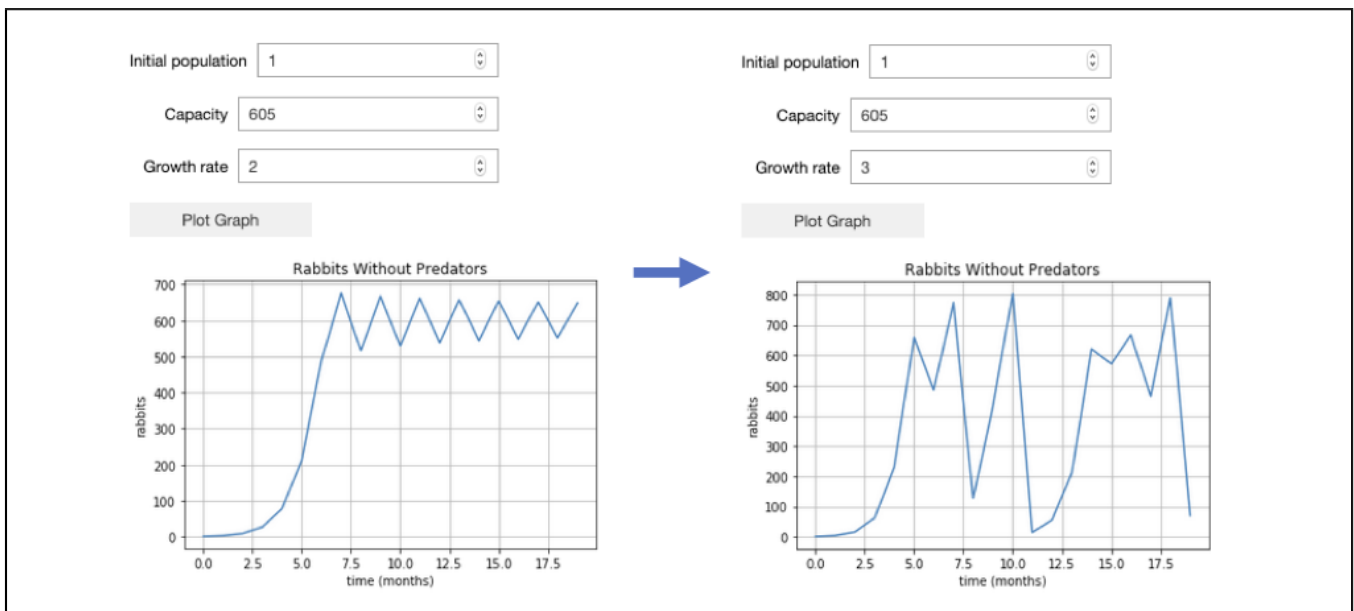


Figure 3: Changing of growth rate lead to unstable population

We could review our growth rate formula of the rabbit by changing the original formula. In current formula, there is a shaping factor. This shaping factor could be generalized to situation such as mass destruction due to destruction of fores, or more natural condition such as different in food source for different seasons.

Tweaking the Growth Function

The growth is regulated by this part of the formula:

$$\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R}$$

That is, this fraction (and thus growth) goes to zero when the land is at capacity. As the number of rabbits goes to zero, this fraction goes to 1.0, so growth is at its highest speed. We could substitute in another function that has the same values at zero and at capacity, but has a different shape. For example,

$$\left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right)^\beta$$

where β is a positive number. For example, if β is 1.3, it indicates that the rabbits can sense that food supplies are dwindling and pre-emptively slow their reproduction.

Figure 4: Changing of growth formula

With such changes, now we have more simulate that rabbit could sense how much the food supplies are dwindling by changing their reproductive condition. With such interaction, even with the same growth rate of 3. Once we throttled their overall growth rate by this shaping condition, we could get a more realistic population dynamic.

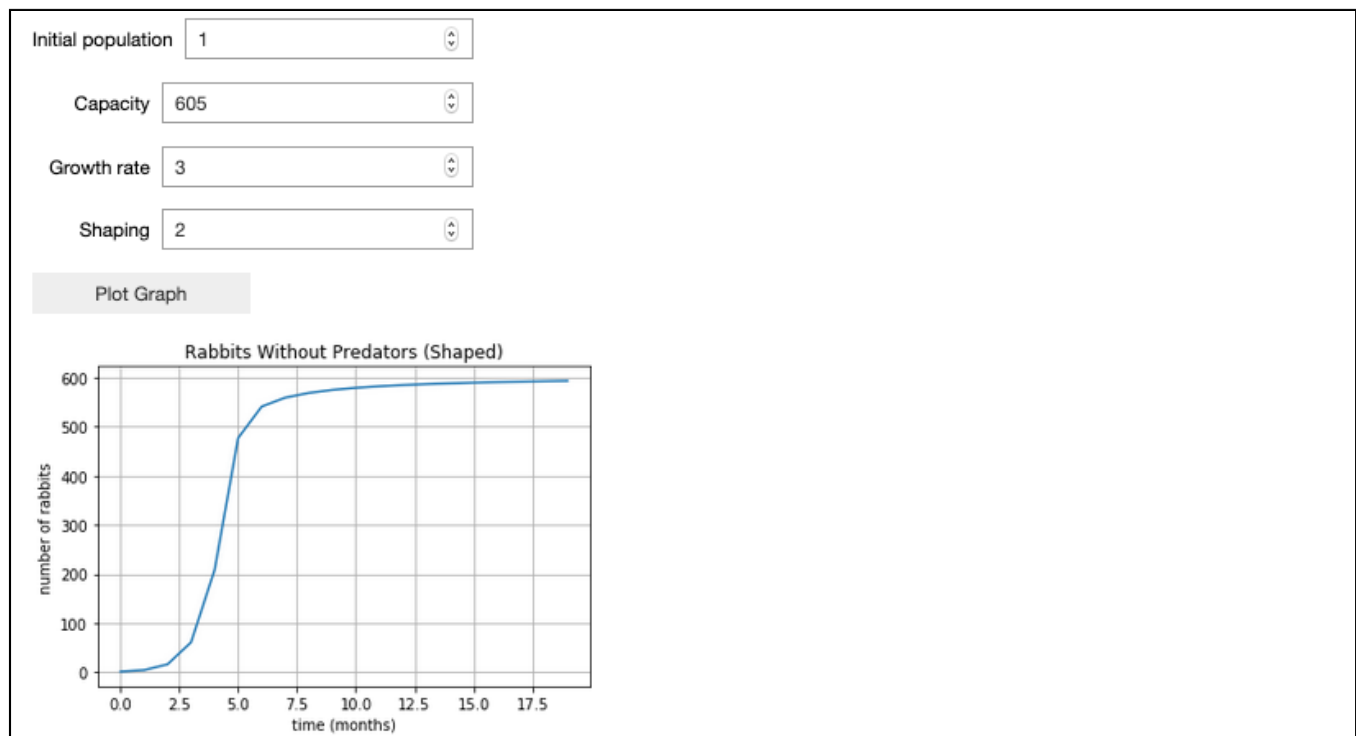


Figure 5: With shaping force, the rabbit population become stable

10.1.3 Part 2: Coyote without preys

In part 2, we introduce basic predator (coyotes) without preys. It is obvious that the formula will be a decreasing function. Since without preys, coyotes will die due to lack of food source.

Part 2: Coyotes without preys ¶

According to [Huntwise](#), coyotes need to consume about 2-3 pounds of food per day. Their diet is 90 percent mammalian. The perfect adult cottontail rabbits weigh 2.6 pounds on average. Thus, we assume the coyote eats one rabbit per day.

For coyotes, the breeding season is in February and March. According to [Wikipedia](#), females have a gestation period of 63 days, with an average litter size of 6, though the number fluctuates depending on coyote population density and the abundance of food. By fall, the pups are old enough to hunt for themselves.

In the absence of rabbits, the number of coyotes will drop, as their food supply is scarce. The formula could be put into general form:

$$\begin{aligned}C_t &\sim (1 - death_C) \times C_{t-1} \\ &= C_{t-1} - death_C \times C_{t-1}\end{aligned}$$

Figure 6: Introduce coyote population without preys formula

We allows users to change how fast coyotes die, as well as their initial population.

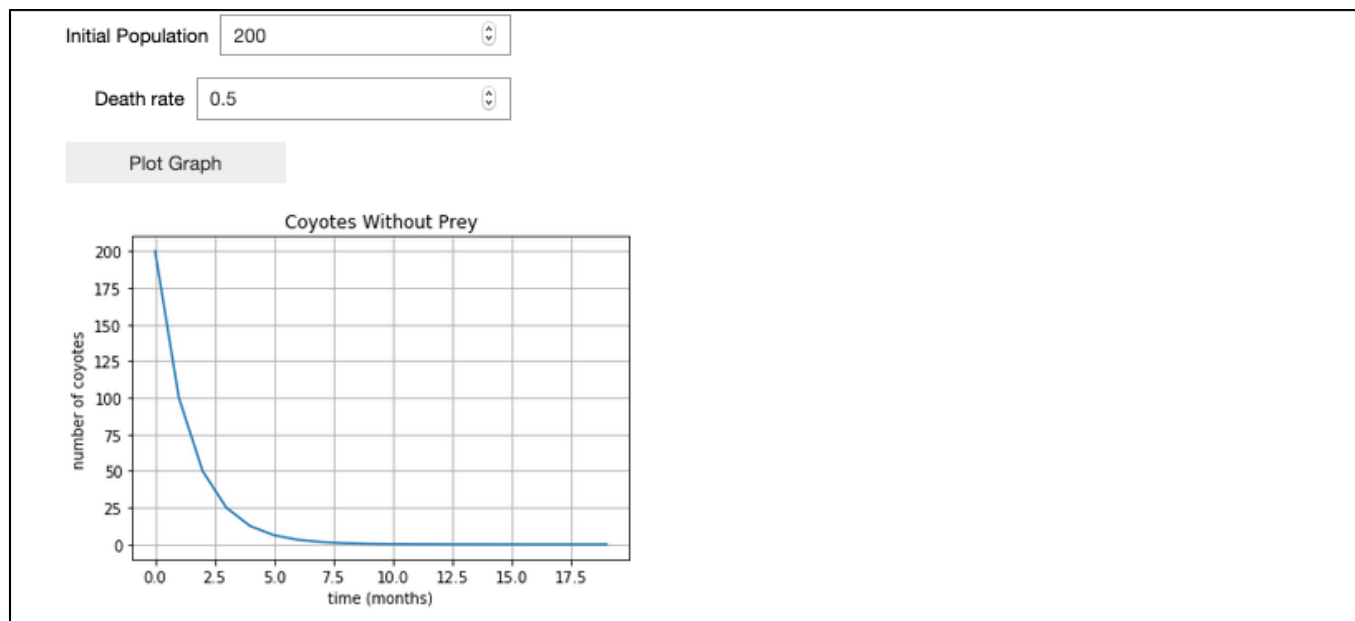


Figure 7: Interaction for different initial coyote population and dead rate

10.1.4 Part 3: Interaction between coyotes and rabbits

In part 3, we start to allow interaction between coyotes and rabbits.

Part 3: Interaction Between Coyotes and Rabbit

With the simple interaction from the first two parts, now we can combine both interaction and come out with simple interaction.

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + growth_R \times \left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right) R_{t-1} - death_R(C_{t-1}) \times R_{t-1}$$

$$C_t = C_{t-1} - death_C \times C_{t-1} + growth_C(R_{t-1}) \times C_{t-1}$$

In equations above, death rate of rabbit is a function parameterized by the amount of coyote. Similarly, the growth rate of coyotes is a function parameterized by the amount of the rabbit.

The death rate of the rabbit should be 0 if there are no coyotes, while it should approach 1 if there are many coyotes. One of the formula fulfilling this characteristics is hyperbolic function.

$$death_R(C) = 1 - \frac{1}{xC + 1}$$

where x determines how quickly $death_R$ increases as the number of coyotes (C) increases. Similarly, the growth rate of the coyotes should be 0 if there are no rabbits, while it should approach infinity if there are many rabbits. One of the formula fulfilling this characteristics is a linear function.

$$growth_C(R) = yC$$

where y determines how quickly $growth_C$ increases as number of rabbit (R) increases.

Putting all together, the final equations are

$$R_t = R_{t-1} + growth_R \times \left(\frac{capacity_R - R_{t-1}}{capacity_R} \right) R_{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{xC_{t-1} + 1} \right) \times R_{t-1}$$

$$C_t = C_{t-1} - death_C \times C_{t-1} + yR_{t-1}C_{t-1}$$

Figure 8: Interaction between coyotes and rabbits

Users have control for rabbit and coyote initial population, capacity for the rabbit, growth rate for rabbit and death rate for coyote. From the formula, we know the x and y are two new parameters introduced in current interactions. Specifically, x determine how quickly rabbits are decreasing when the coyotes increases; whereas y decides how quickly coyotes are increasing when more rabbits are available.

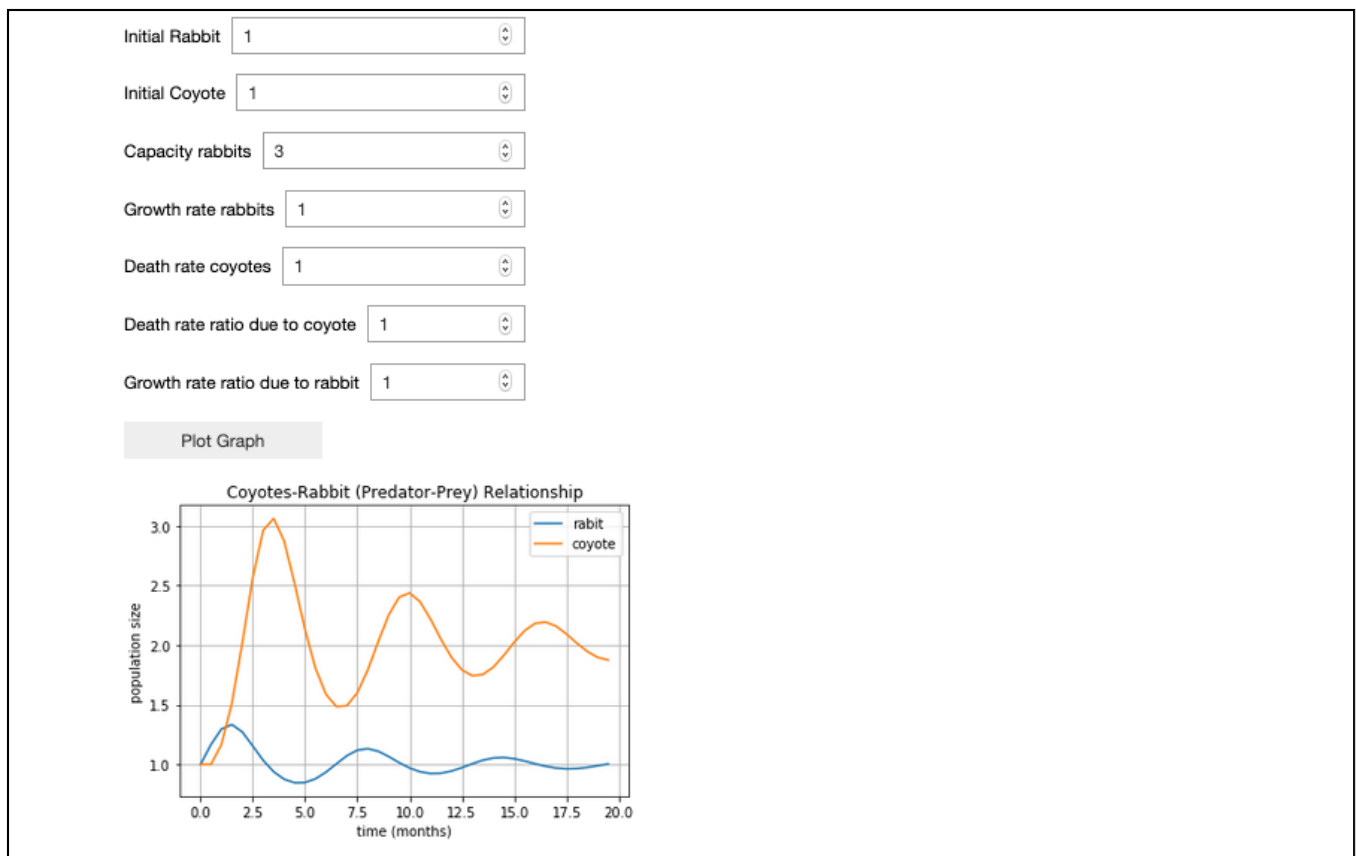


Figure 9: Users able to control interaction between coyotes and rabbits

In our model, it is obvious that the capacity of the rabbit decides the most of the population dynamic, since the coyotes are always hungry and always want to eat and reproduce in this case.

10.1.5 Part 4: Trajectories and Direction Fields for a system of equations

By looking at the trajectories and direction fields of a system of the predator and prey population, we could gain insight about their relationship.

Part 4: Trajectories and Direction Fields for a system of equations

To further demonstrate the predator numbers rise and fall cyclically with their preferred prey, we will be using the Lotka-Volterra equations, which is based on differential equations. The Lotka-Volterra Prey-Predator model involves two equations, one describes the changes in number of preys and the second one describes the changes in number of predators. The dynamics of the interaction between a rabbit population R_t and a coyotes C_t is described by the following differential equations:

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = aR_t - bR_tC_t$$

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = bdR_tC_t - cC_t$$

with the following notations:

R_t : number of preys(rabbits)

C_t : number of predators(coyotes)

a: natural growing rate of rabbits, when there is no coyotes

b: natural dying rate of rabbits, which is killed by coyotes per unit of time

c: natural dying rate of coyotes, when there is not rabbits

d: natural growing rate of coyotes with which consumed prey is converted to predator

We start from defining the system of ordinary differential equations, and then find the equilibrium points for our system. Equilibrium occurs when the growth rate is 0, and we can see that we have two equilibrium points in our example, the first one happens when there are no preys or predators, which represents the extinction of both species, the second equilibrium happens when $R_t = \frac{c}{bd}$ $C_t = \frac{a}{b}$. Move on, we will use the scipy to help us integrate the differential equations, and generate the plot of evolution for both species:

Figure 10: Introduce trajectories and direction fields for interaction between coyotes and rabbits

We allow users to tune the a, b, c and d parameters to see the interaction.

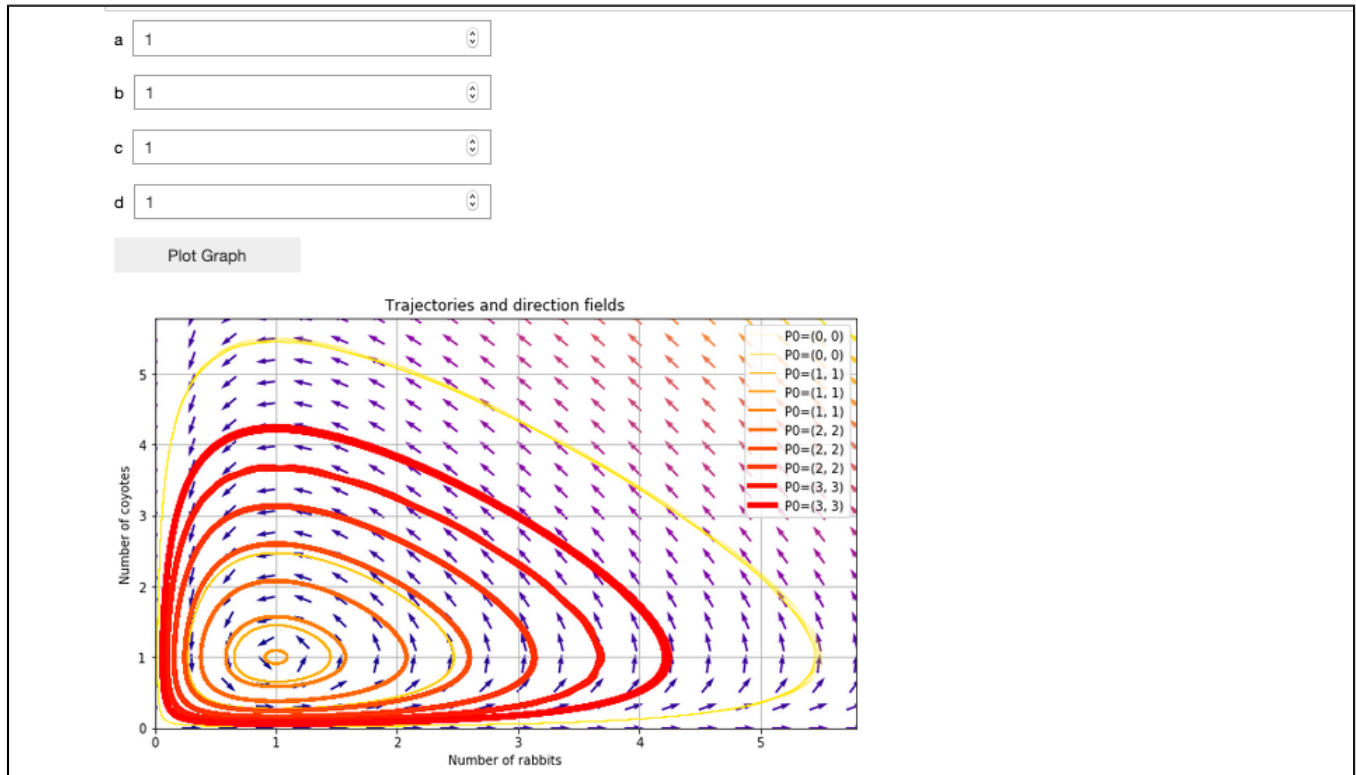


Figure 11: Trajectories and direction fields for interaction between coyotes and rabbits

10.1.6 Part 5: Multiple predators and preys relationship

We could extend our current model to multiple predators and preys relationship. The relationship is similar to the one predator one prey relationship. We assume each prey will give the same growth rate to the predators, while the predators will cause the same death rate to the preys. While we could change such relationship to one to one condition, such changes may not further improve our understanding of the relationship. We could assume our case as a special case where the growth rates are the same. We allow users to tune the different initial population, growth rate and death rate of different species to see the interaction.

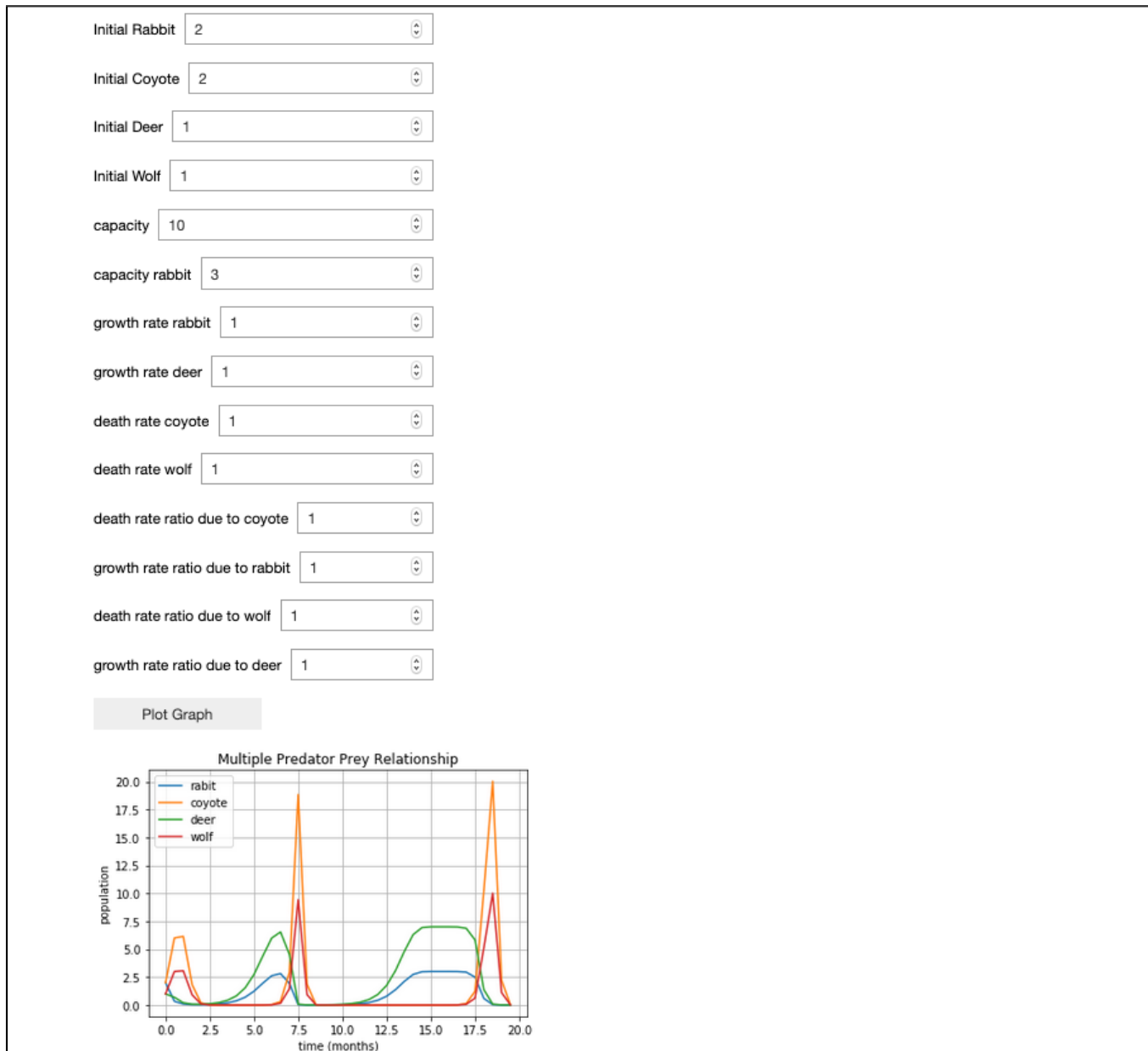


Figure 12: Interaction between multiple predators (wolves and coyotes) and preys (rabbits and deers)

10.2 Cellular Automata

10.2.1 Introduction to the world

Cellular Automata

Finally, another way to simulate the predators and preys relationship could be done through cellular automata way

Figure 13: Introduction to Cellular Automata

Some information will be introduced:

1. Possible states : EMPTY = 0; PREY = 1; PREDATOR = 2.
2. The world was created using 2D numpy array.

```
In [4]: def show_world (G, vmin=EMPTY, vmax=PREDATOR, values="states"):
        """A helper routine to visualize a 2-D world."""
        # Set color range
        assert values in ["states", "bool"]
        if values == "states":
            vticks = range (vmin, vmax+1)
            vlabels = ['Empty', 'PREY', 'PREDATOR']
        else:
            vticks = [0, 1]
            vlabels = ['False (0)', 'True (1)']

        m, n = G.shape[0], G.shape[1]
        plt.pcolor (G, vmin=vmin, vmax=vmax, edgecolor='black')
        cb = plt.colorbar ()
        cb.set_ticks (vticks)
        cb.set_ticklabels (vlabels)
        plt.axis ('square')
        plt.axis ([0, m, 0, n])

        # Create an empty world at time t=0
        N = 10
        world = create_world (N, 10)
        show_world (world)
```

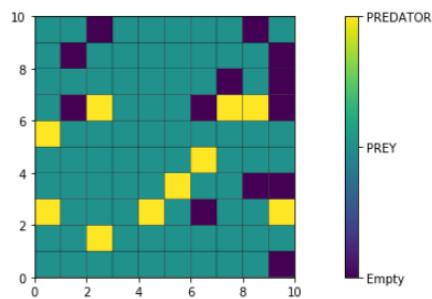


Figure 14: Introduction to Cellular Automata World

10.2.2 Utility functions

We requires users to create several functions: This to identify the empty space, prey and predator in the world.

Let's define some functions to help identify empty space, preys and predator in this world.

```
In [5]: def empty (G):  
        """  
        Given a grid, G, returns a grid S whose (i, j) entry  
        equals 1 if G[i, j] is empty or 0 otherwise.  
        """  
        return (G == EMPTY).astype (int)  
  
print ("There are", count (empty (world)), "empty location initially")  
  
There are 13 empty location initially
```

Exercise 1 (1 point). Complete the following functions, which should find prey in a given world.

```
In [6]: def prey(G):  
        """  
        Given a grid G, returns a grid I whose (i, j) entry equals 1 if  
        G[i, j] is prey or 0 otherwise.  
        """  
        ### BEGIN SOLUTION  
        return ((G == PREY)).astype (int)  
        ### END SOLUTION  
  
print ("There are", count (prey (world)), "prey initially")  
  
There are 77 prey initially
```

Exercise 2 (1 point). Complete the following functions, which should find predator in a given world.

```
In [7]: def predator(G):  
        """  
        Given a grid G, returns a grid I whose (i, j) entry equals 2 if  
        G[i, j] is predator or 0 otherwise.  
        """  
        ### BEGIN SOLUTION  
        return ((G == PREDATOR)).astype (int)  
        ### END SOLUTION  
  
print ("There are", count (predator (world)), "predator initially")  
  
There are 10 predator initially
```

Figure 15: Some utility functions

10.2.3 Get_neighbor functions

Get_neighbor function is important since cellular automata has space relationship among preys and predators. Predators can only eat preys within their neighborhood. Both prey and predators can only move to their neighborhood.

Get neighbor. Next, let's define a function that allow us to get the neighbor of the current location. We return a list of 4 location (top, left, right, bottom) and the status (prey, predator, empty, not valid (-1))

Exercise 3 (2 points). Write a function of get_neighbor

```
In [8]: def get_neighbor(G, x, y):
height = G.shape[1]
width = G.shape[0]
left = [x, (y-1)%width, G[x, (y-1)%width]]
right = [x, (y+1)%width, G[x, (y+1)%width]]
top = [(x-1)%height, y, G[(x-1)%height, y]]
bottom = [(x+1)%height, y, G[(x+1)%height, y]]
if y == 0:
    left[2] = -1
if x == 0:
    top[2] = -1
if y == G.shape[0]:
    right[2] = -1
if x == G.shape[1]:
    bottom[2] = -1
return [top, left, right, bottom]
```

Figure 16: Get neighbor functions

10.2.4 Predator movement functions

Once we have the get_neighbor function, we could write the movement function. We start with movement of predators. We list the assumptions.

1. If any of the neighbor is prey, predator will randomly move to that location and eat the prey, or has offspring occupy that space according to reproductive probability.
2. If the location is empty, it will move to that location randomly.
3. Without food, it may die according to the dying probability.

Movement of predator The predator will move according to the neighbors.

- R1) If any of the neighbor is prey, it will randomly move to that location and eat the prey, or has offspring occupy that space according to reproductive probability
- R2) If the location is empty, it will move to that location randomly, it may die according to dying probability.

Exercise 4 (2 points). Write a function of movement of predator

```
In [9]: def predator_move (G, x, y, dying_probability, reproductive_probability):
"""
Returns new Grid after movement
"""
```

Figure 17: Predator movement function

10.2.5 Prey movement functions

Similarly, we need to write the prey movement. The condition is much easier, if there is any empty space, prey could move to the location, or they can have their offspring there according to the reproductive probability.

Movement of prey The prey will move according to the neighbors.

- **R1)** If any of the neighbor is empty, it can move to that place or just replicate at that place according to the reproductive probability.

Exercise 5 (2 points). Write a function of movement of prey ¶

```
In [10]: def prey_move (G, x, y, reproductive_probability):  
    """  
    Returns new Grid after movement  
    """
```

Figure 18: Prey movement function

10.2.6 Step functions

We provide step function for each step of the simulation.

Step function for each time step

```
[11]: def step (G, prey_reproduce_prob, predator_reproduce_prob, predator_dying_prob):  
    """  
    Simulates one time step and returns G.  
    """  
    height, width = G.shape  
    for x in range(height):  
        for y in range(width):  
            if G[x, y] == PREDATOR:  
                G = predator_move(G, x,y, predator_reproduce_prob, predator_dying_prob)  
            elif G[x,y] == PREY:  
                G = prey_move(G, x,y, prey_reproduce_prob)  
    return G  
  
[12]: def show_world2 (G, vmin=EMPTY, vmax=PREDATOR, values="states"):  
    """A helper routine to visualize a 2-D world."""  
    # Set color range  
    assert values in ["states", "bool"]  
    # if values == "states":  
    #     vticks = range (vmin, vmax+1)  
    #     vlabels = ['Empty', 'PREY', 'PREDATOR']  
    # else:  
    #     vticks = [0, 1]  
    #     vlabels = ['False (0)', 'True (1)']  
  
    m, n = G.shape[0], G.shape[1]  
    fig = plt.figure()  
    ax = fig.add_subplot(111)  
    ax.pcolor (G, vmin=vmin, vmax=vmax, edgecolor='black')  
    #cb = plt.colorbar ()  
    #cb.set_ticks (vticks)  
    #cb.set_ticklabels (vlabels)  
    #plt.axis ('square')  
    #plt.axis ([0, m, 0, n])
```

Figure 19: Step function

10.2.7 Putting altogether

Finally, we put all the functions written together.

Putting all together

Now we need to simulate for some number of steps

```
In [13]: def summarize (G_t, verbose=True):
    #print(count(preys(G_t)))
    #print(count(predators(G_t)))
    n_preys = count(preys (G_t))
    n_predators = count(predators (G_t))

    if verbose:
        print ("# preys:", n_preys)
        print ("# predators:", n_predators)
    return n_preys, n_predators

def sim (G_0, max_steps, preys_reproduce_prob, predators_reproduce_prob, predators_dying_probability, verbose=False):
    """
    Starting from a given initial state, `G_0`, this
    function simulates up to `max_steps` time steps of
    the predator-prey cellular automaton.

    It returns a tuple `(t, G_t)` containing the final
    time step `t <= max_steps` and simulation state
    `G_t`.
    """
    #print(G_0)
    time = []
    mypreys = []
    mypredators = []
    t, G_t = 0, G_0.copy ()
    num_preys, num_predators = summarize (G_t, verbose=verbose)
    show_world2(G_t)
    while (num_preys > 0) and (num_predators > 0) and (t < max_steps):
        time = []
        time.append(t)
        t = t + 1
        G_t = step (G_t, preys_reproduce_prob, predators_reproduce_prob, predators_dying_probability)
        if verbose:
            show_world2(G_t)
            num_preys, num_predators = summarize (G_t, verbose=verbose)
            mypredators.append(num_predators)
            mypreys.append(num_preys)
        if not verbose:
            show_world2(G_t)
    return (time, mypreys, mypredators, G_t)

myworld = create_world(10, 10)
# print(myworld)
# print(count(preys(myworld)))

(t, preys_num, predators_num, G_t) = sim(myworld, 10, 0.5, 0.5, 0, verbose=False)
#print(preys_num, predators_num)
```

Figure 20: Putting all functions together

We also provide a interactive user input and button for users to try different value.

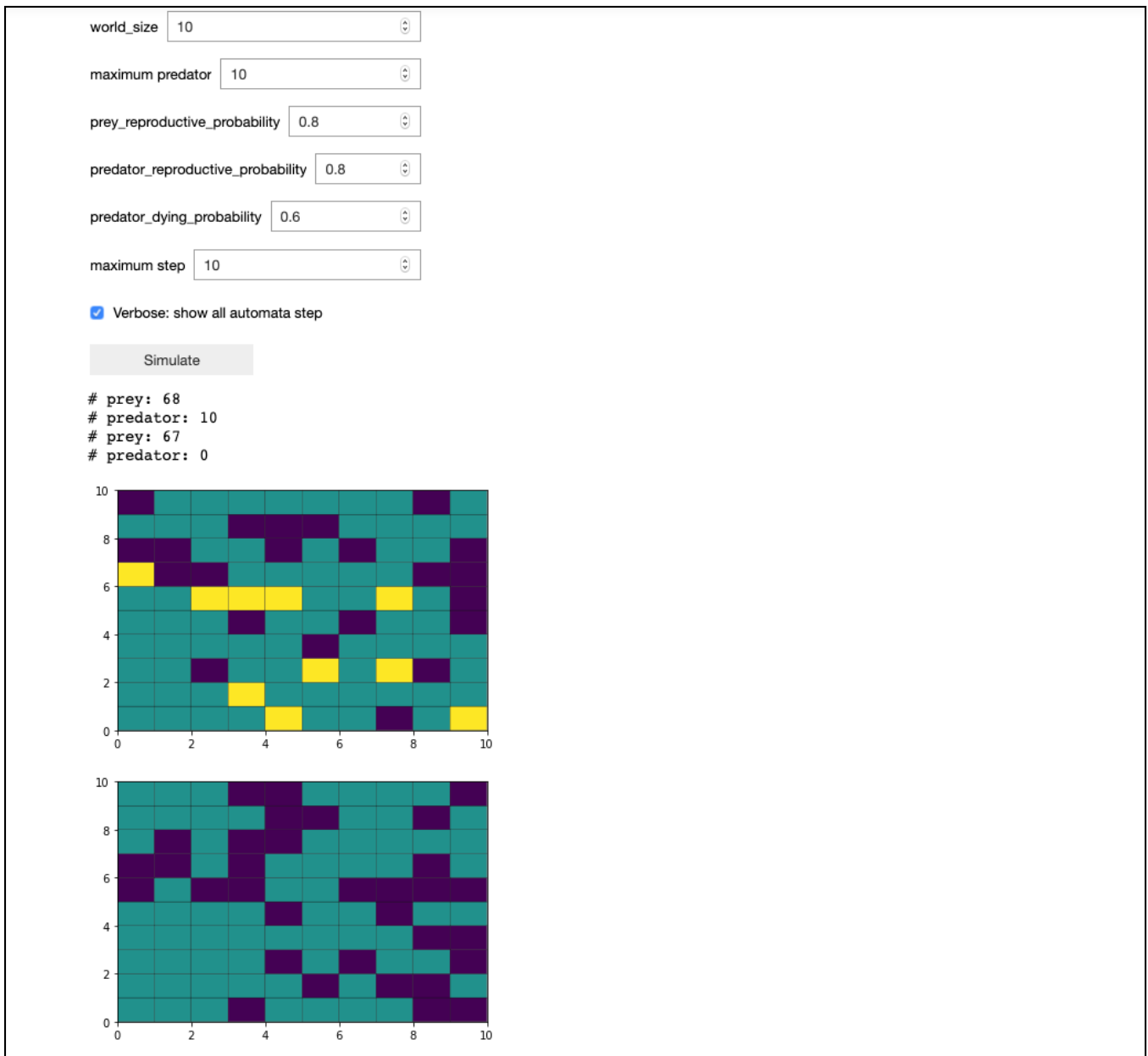


Figure 21: Users interaction

10.3 Agent Based Simulation / Agent Based Model

10.3.1 Introduction to the Agent-Based Simulation model framework

Agent Based Simulation

Using ABM simulation

In ABMs of ecological and evolutionary dynamics, prey naturally grow but get eaten by predators, while the predators grow if they get prey, but naturally die off if they can't find any food.

The rules for how prey and predators behave:

There is an initial rabbit and coyote population in a meadow that measures 450 feet by 450 feet. Each step of the simulation represents one day. Each day, every rabbit moves randomly up to 20 feet north/south and 20 feet east/west. Coyotes know they can move twice as far as rabbits. If there are any rabbits within a day's pounce, the coyote picks one and eats it. If there are any others within 20 feet the coyote may eat them too.

A coyote's metabolism burns through one rabbit per day. A coyote with no rabbits in its belly can eat up to three per day. A coyote with negative eight rabbits in its belly dies of starvation. A coyote with zero or fewer rabbits in his belly is weakened -- it will not reproduce and stands a slight chance of dying each day (parameter dc).

If there are no rabbits reachable within a day, the coyote takes a weighted average (weighted on the number of rabbits) of the location of all the other coyote's and moves in that direction. This has the effect of moving the coyote toward his well-fed friends and away from his hungry friends.

Coyotes and rabbits had a tendency to go extinct from fluctuations in the other's population, so we added immigrants. On average, 4 coyotes show up every 100 days and 1 rabbit shows up every 10 days.

Figure 22: Introduction to ABS framework

10.3.2 Embedded version

We have one embedded version that could support step function. The red spot is the predator (coyote), while the black spot is the rabbit (preys). Users press init, then step through the simulation.

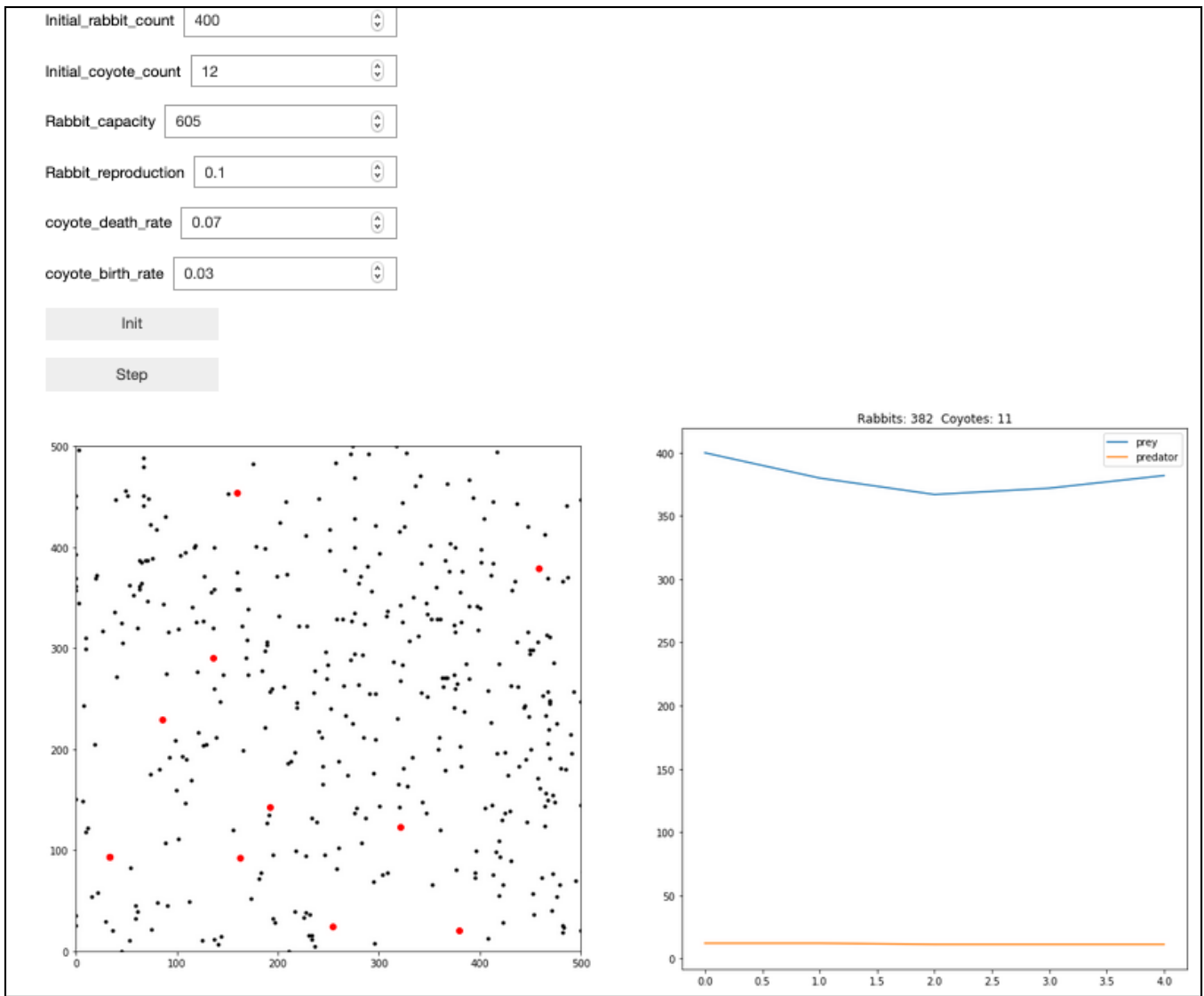


Figure 23: Embedded version

10.3.3 GUI version

We used GUI framework available from Sayama et al [8] to develop our model. At Jupyter Notebook, when running the simulation, we will have a working GUI. The red spot is the predator (coyote), while the black spot is the rabbit (preys).

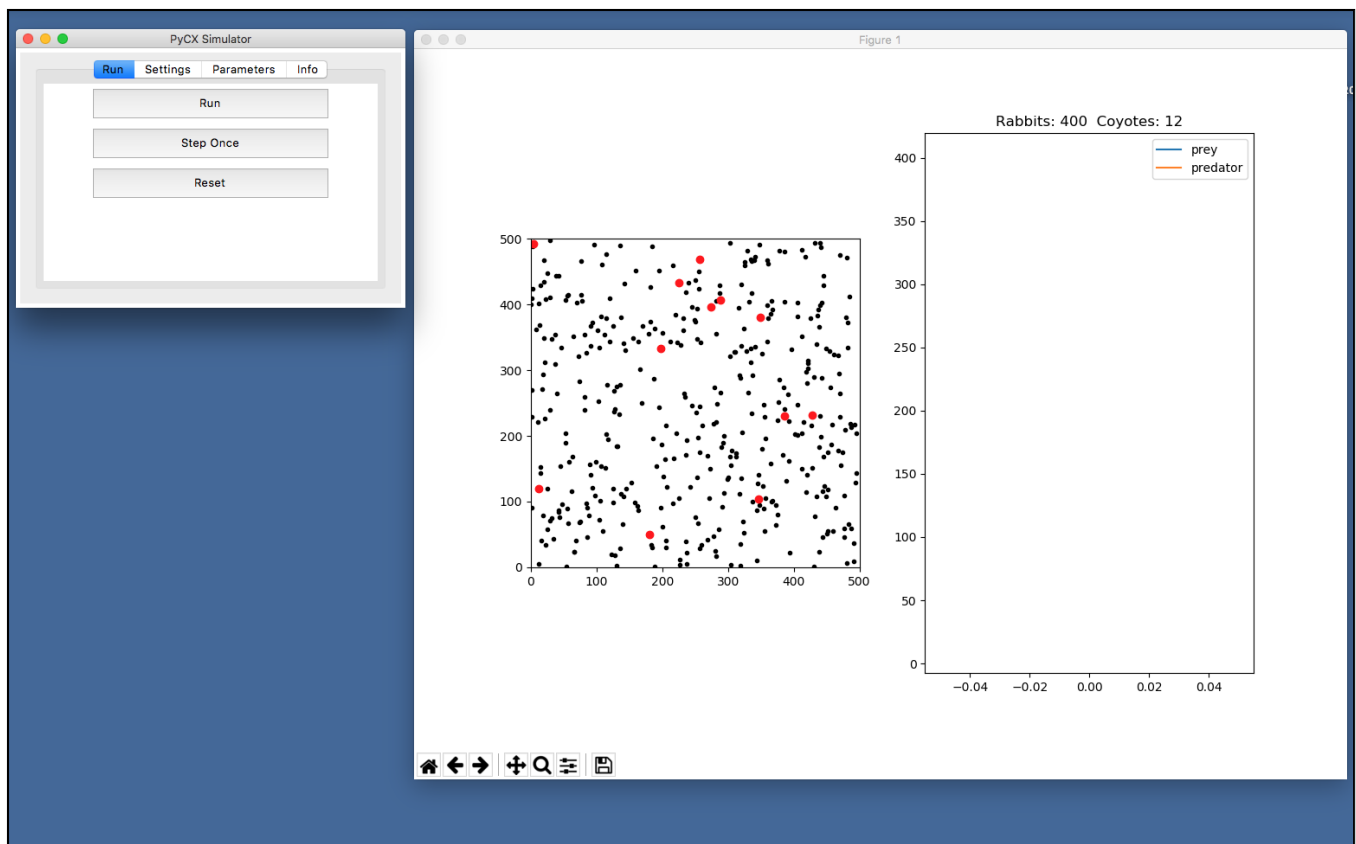


Figure 24: Start of ABS Simulation

10.3.4 Continuous run of simulation

Pressing run will enable the simulation to occurs, pressing pause will hold the simulation. The beginning of the predators and preys are randomly initialized.

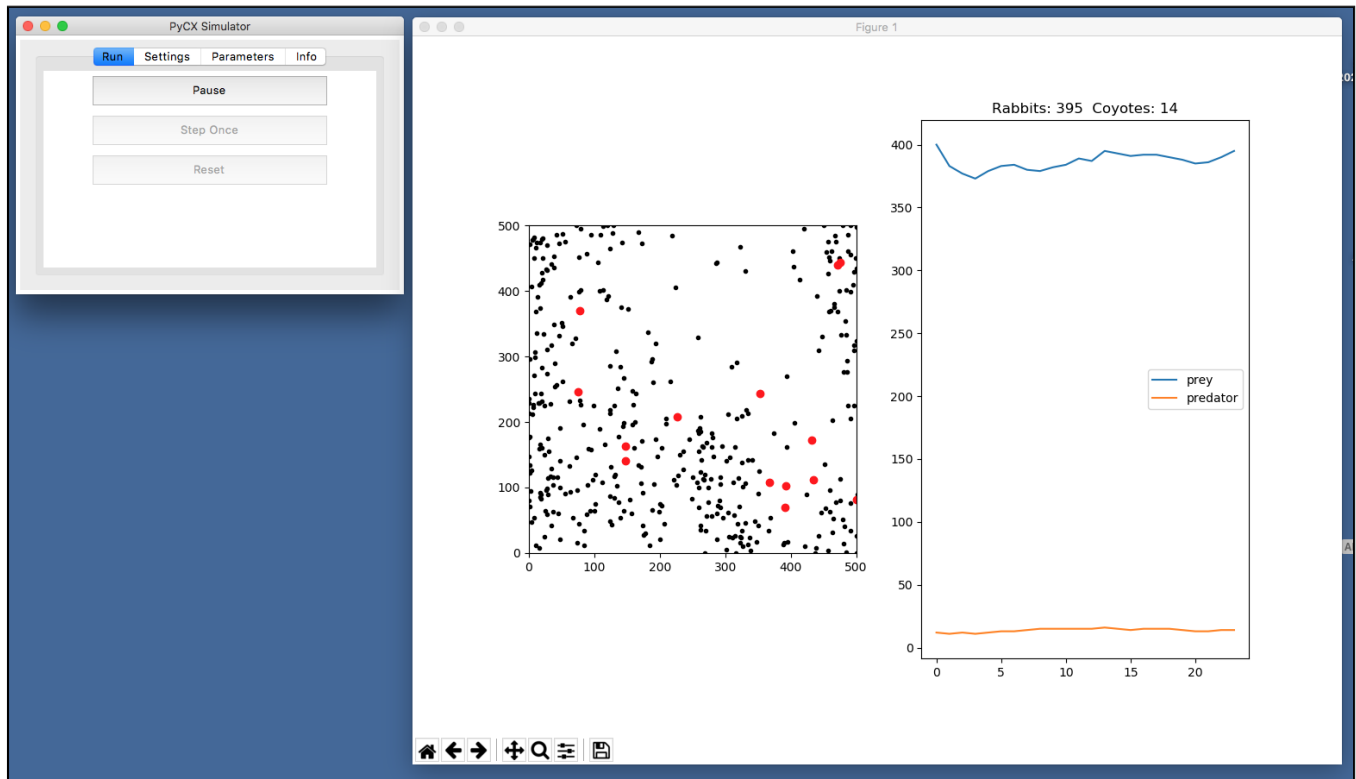


Figure 25: Running of ABS Simulation

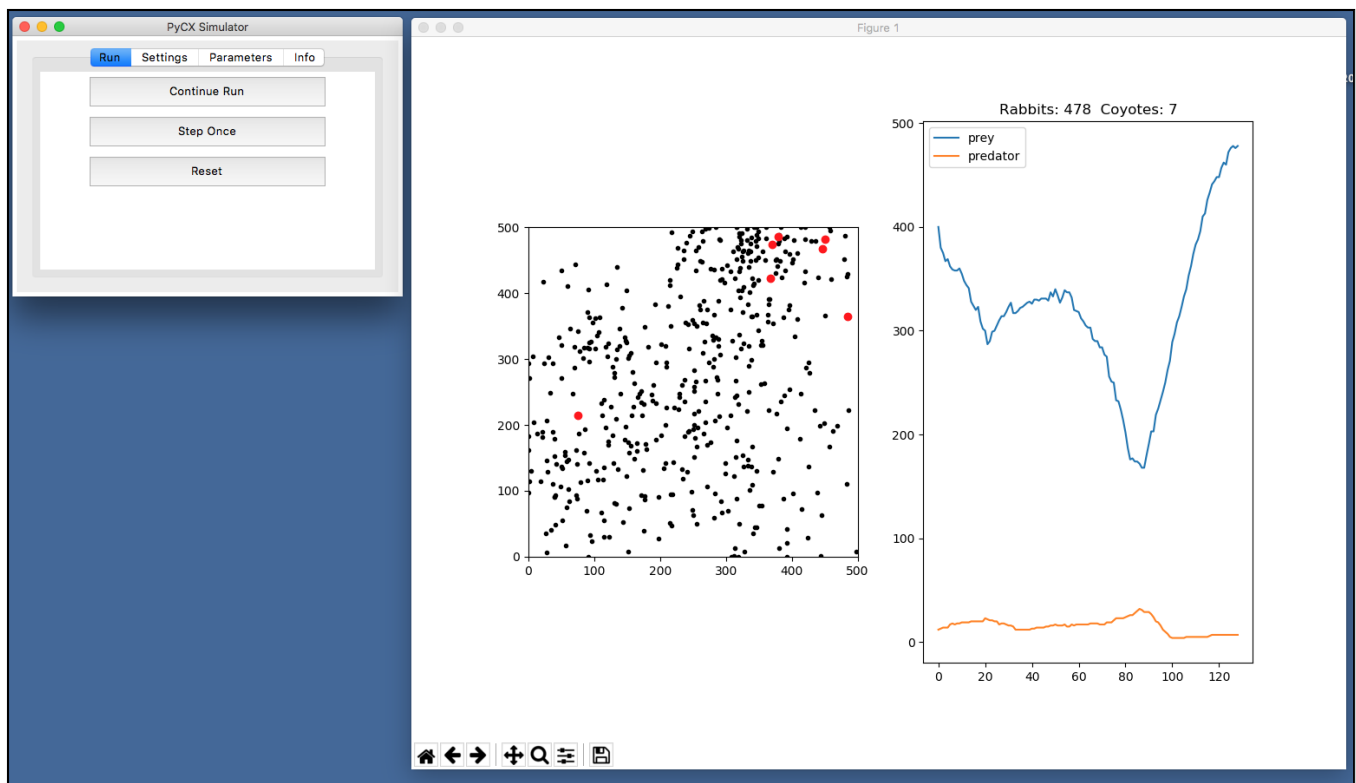


Figure 26: Pause of ABS Simulation

10.3.5 Stepping of simulation

Users can also choose to step through the simulation. We show randomly two screen shots after different steps for the simulation.

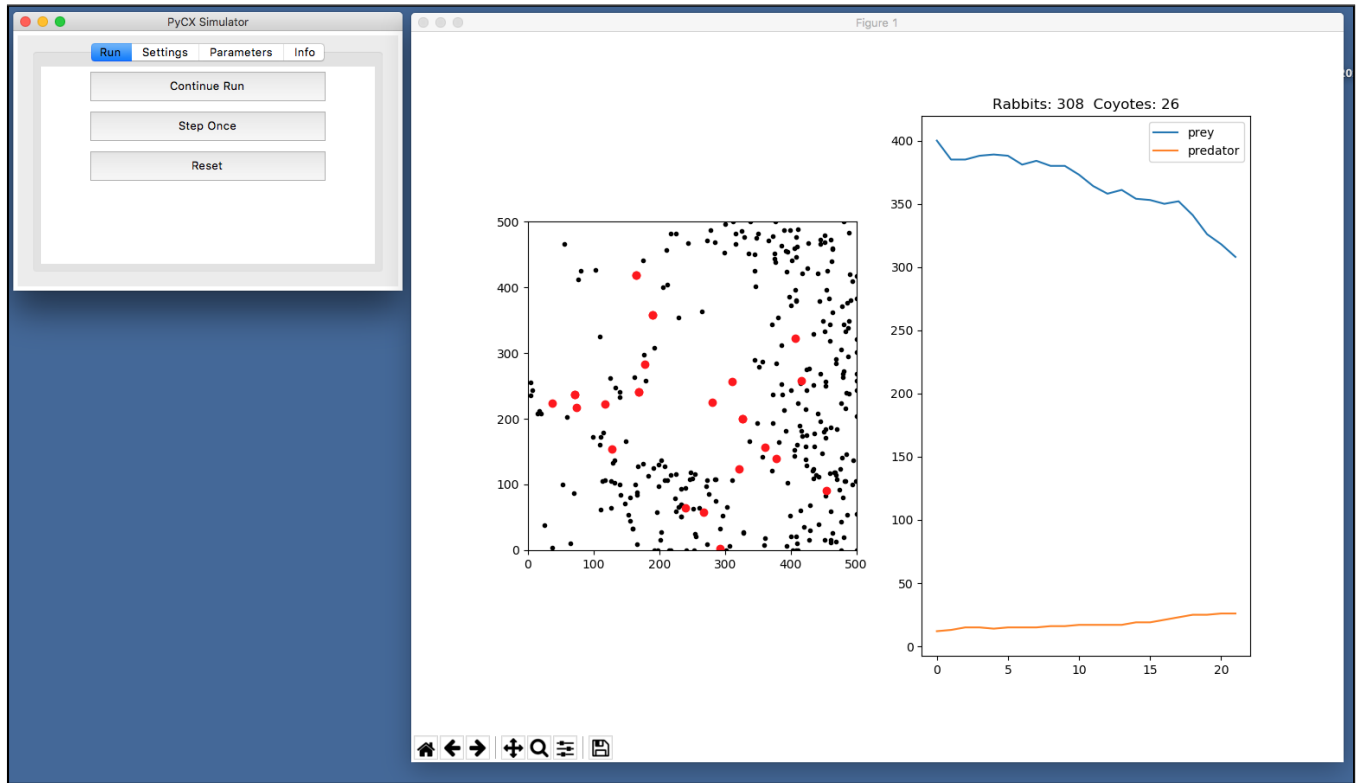


Figure 27: Stepping of Simulation 1

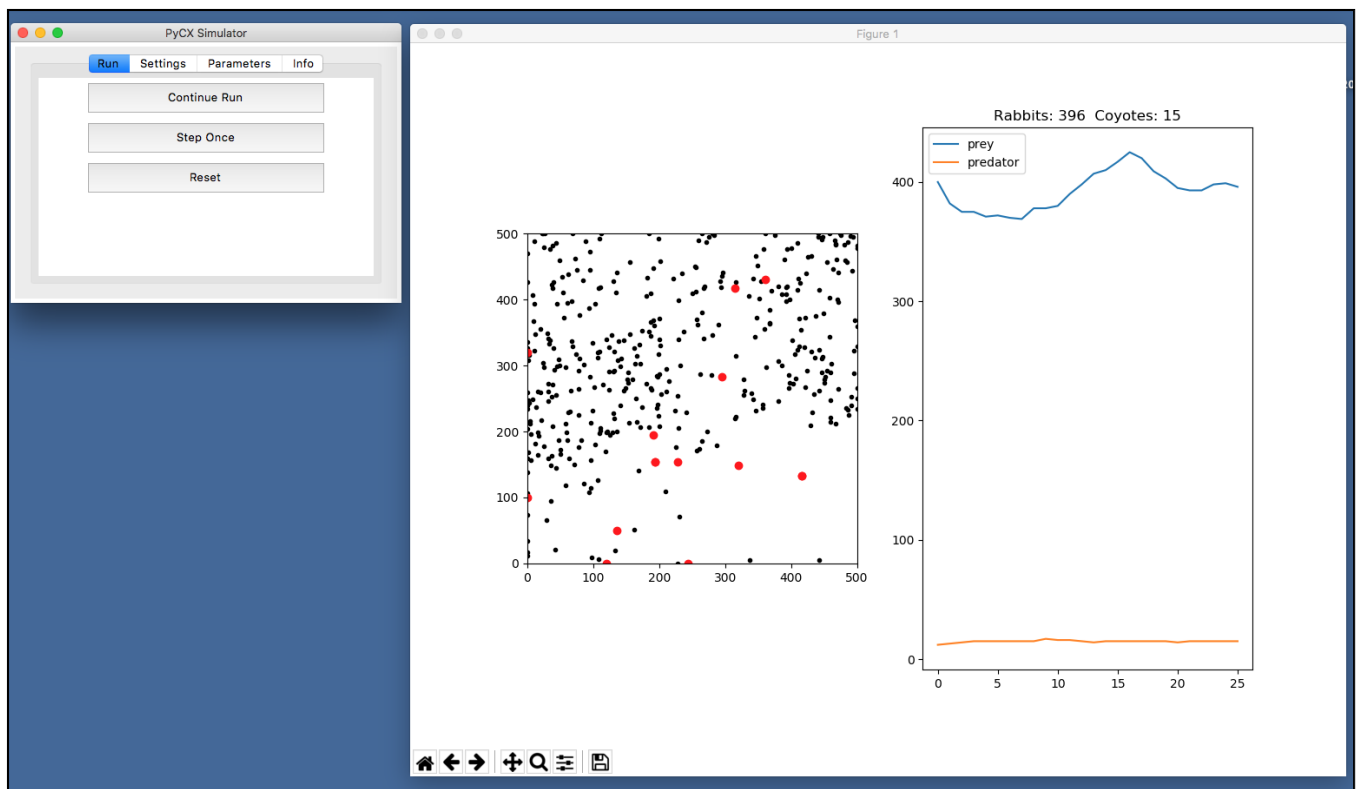


Figure 28: Stepping of Simulation 2

10.3.6 Parameters setup

Users are allowed to control the initial rabbit population, coyote population, rabbit capacity, rabbit reproduction, coyote death rate and birth rate in the Parameters tab.

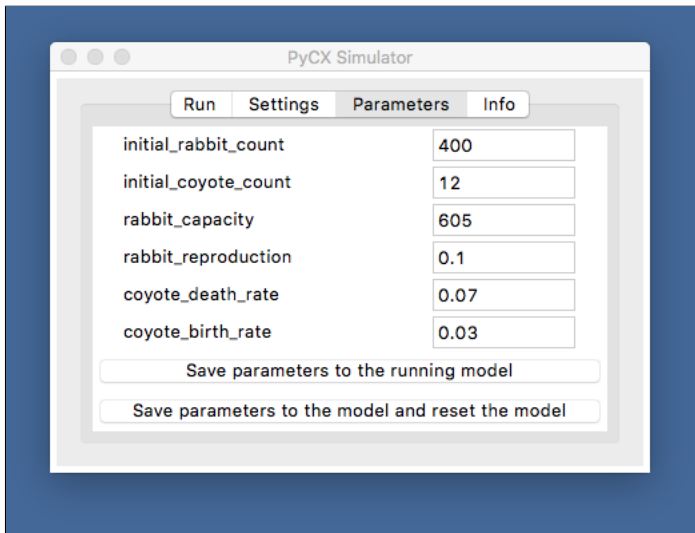


Figure 29: Parameters setup

10.3.7 Simulation settings

Users are allowed to change some of the simulation settings, such as step size and how fast the visualization delay.

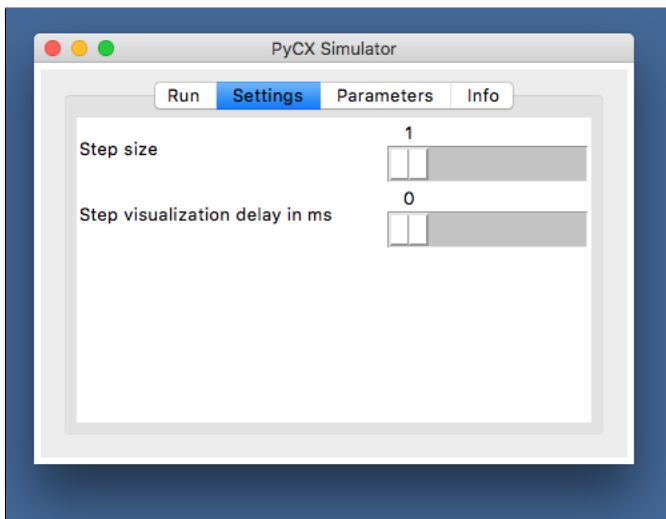


Figure 30: Simulation settings

10.3.8 Information

Finally, some additional information.

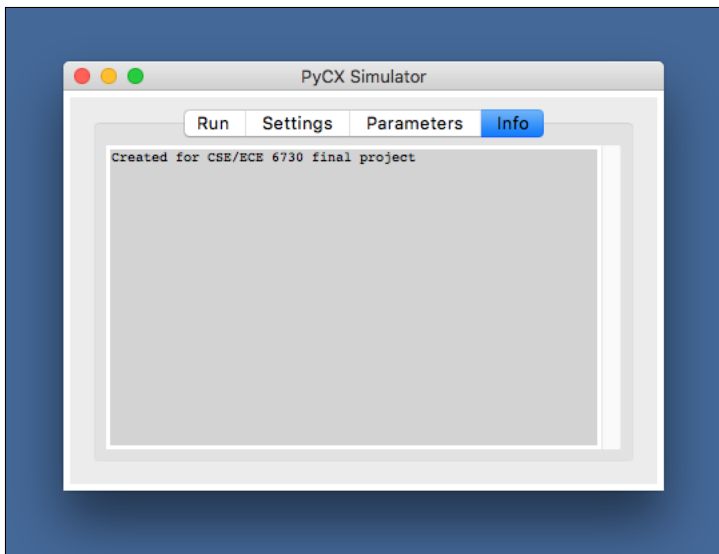


Figure 31: Additional Information

10.4 Event-based Simulation

10.4.1 Introduction

Simulating Predator and Prey Relationship : Event-based ¶

This is our most accurate model. It is also the most compute-intensive. Each animal is represented by an object with a birthdate and a gender. Every reproduction involves two events -- a mating event and a childbirth event. Every animal will eventually die of old age -- this is an event that is created when the animal is born.

Part 1: Rabbits without predators

This simulation uses the earlier assumptions that a rabbit eats six square feet of pasture per day and a coyote's metabolism burns one rabbit per day. Once again, this simulation occurs in a five acre clearing in a forest: about 218,000 square feet. We will assume that the pasture grows 3,630 square feet worth of new grass each day.

In the presence of at least one male, a female rabbits reproduce about six times per year. They have six to ten children in a litter. According to [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rabbit), a wild rabbit reaches sexual maturity when it is about six months old and typically lives one to two years.

Let's create an event-based simulation of the population of rabbits (no predators) with all of this taken into account. Here are the data structures and algorithms:

Exercise 1 (10 points). Build an event-based simulation of the lives of rabbits in a meadow in Python. Graph the number of rabbits for each day over 700 days.

Figure 32: Introduction to Event-Based Simulation

10.4.2 Just Rabbits

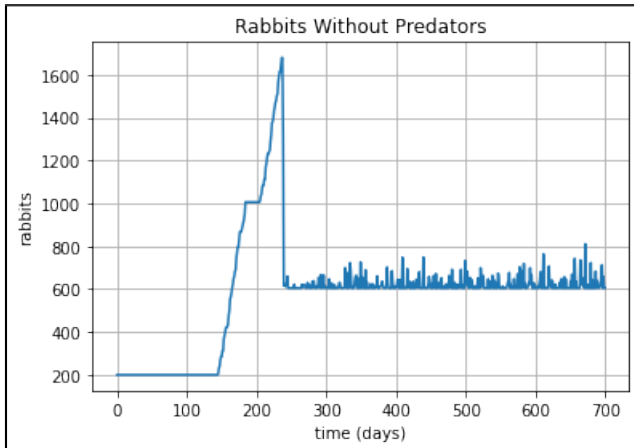


Figure 33: Rabbits only

This is what the simulation does for just rabbits. Note that in this simulation, which is our most accurate, there is a dramatic die-off. It seems that rabbits are reproducing at their fastest rate just as the meadow becomes over grazed. The system then settles near equilibrium very quickly.

10.4.3 Add Coyotes

Part 2: Interaction Between Coyotes and Rabbit

A coyote burns one rabbit worth of calories in a day. When a coyote has two rabbits in his stomach, it can't eat any more. A coyote doesn't mate unless he/she has at least one rabbit in his stomach. Coyotes with less than -7 rabbits in its stomach dies for sure. A coyote with negative rabbits feels weak and has a 1/100 chance of dying on a particular day. Pregnant coyotes with -3 rabbits stop being pregnant.

The gestation period for a coyote is 60 to 63 days. Easter Coyotes reach sexual maturity in about 700 days. They have an average litter size of six. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coyote> A well-fed coyote lives six to eight years in the wild. <https://www.coyotesmarts.org/coyotes101/>

Here are the data structures for that. We have subclassed the World from the previous example to extend it to include coyotes.

Exercise 2 (10 points). Extend you event-based simulation of the lives of rabbits in a meadow to include coyotes that eat them. Graph the number of rabbits and coyotes for each day over 2000 days. Give the rabbits a 200 day head-start before introducing a male and femall coyote.

Figure 34: Adding Coyotes

We give the rabbits a 200 day headstart to get to equilibrium with their meadow before introducing two coyotes.

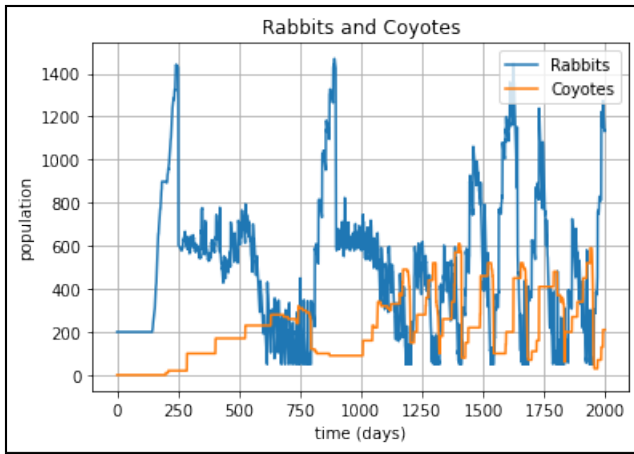


Figure 35: Coyotes and Rabbits

11 Division of Labor

As we move forward on our project, we plan to work concurrently. The timeline is as below:

Task	Duration
Literature review	2 weeks
Modeling design and implementaion	4 weeks
Modeling revised	4 weeks

Task	Member
Literature review	All members
Event-based Simulation	D. Aaron Hillegass
Single predator model, trajectories and direction field	Xiaotong Mu
UI interaction, predator prey interaction (single and multiple)	Siawpeng Er
Agent Based Simulation	All members
Cellular Automata	All members
Event Based Simulation	All members
Final Report	All members

References

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