

Coexistence and climate change:
The role of temporal-variability in structuring future
communities
Updating To Do List from Skype Meetings

Wolkovich & Donahue

Last updated: 26 Aug 2014

Contents

1 Skype Meeting - August 24, 2014	2
2 Megan: September 8 15, 2014	2

1 Skype Meeting - August 24, 2014

- Running PhenologyModel.R does not produce coexistence even with two species set with the same parameters as Chesson et al 2004. In Chesson et al 2004, species' biomasses bounce around 0.2. Our sims drop to very low numbers by year 30. Why?
- Previous sims which stepped thru within year dynamics resulted in coexistence
- Tried: decreasing extinction threshold to 1/100000 from 1/10000. This does increase persistence (obviously) but does not change the pattern of species bouncing at very low densities
- Tried: increasing the within-season time to 8 days from 5 days. I did this because the in some years it wasn't clear from the plots (I did not check the numerics) that the species had reached max biomass. Not clear that this had any effect.
- Compared to Chesson: there are a few details of the simulation that aren't clearly laid out in Chesson et al 2004. Particularly, it isn't clear when "flowering" occurs. That is, when is the end of the season? we take the max biomass of each species, but could have a set flowering time for both species (say, when $R \downarrow R^*$). However, I think we have made a reasonable choice here and that, while it might result in differences with Chesson et al 2004, it should not result in the problem at hand.
- Things to look at: what does R-uptake look like within a season? Does it match the patters in Fig 2 of Chesson et al 2004?
- : To do: when preparing for ASN, I changed the within-year simulation from a for-loop to an ode solver. I did this because the within-season step size needed to be adjusted for differences in initial biomass and resource level: if step size was small enough to catch the crossing of the Rstar threshold, then it took forever the rest of the season. However, I never completed the comparison of the ode solver and the within year for-loop. That is the next task

2 Megan: September 8 15, 2014

- Step-step solution is clearly incorrect: the resource does not decline exponentially, as it should, and there is no apparent relationship between the decline of resources and the biomass of competing plants
- The ODE solution appears to be correct.

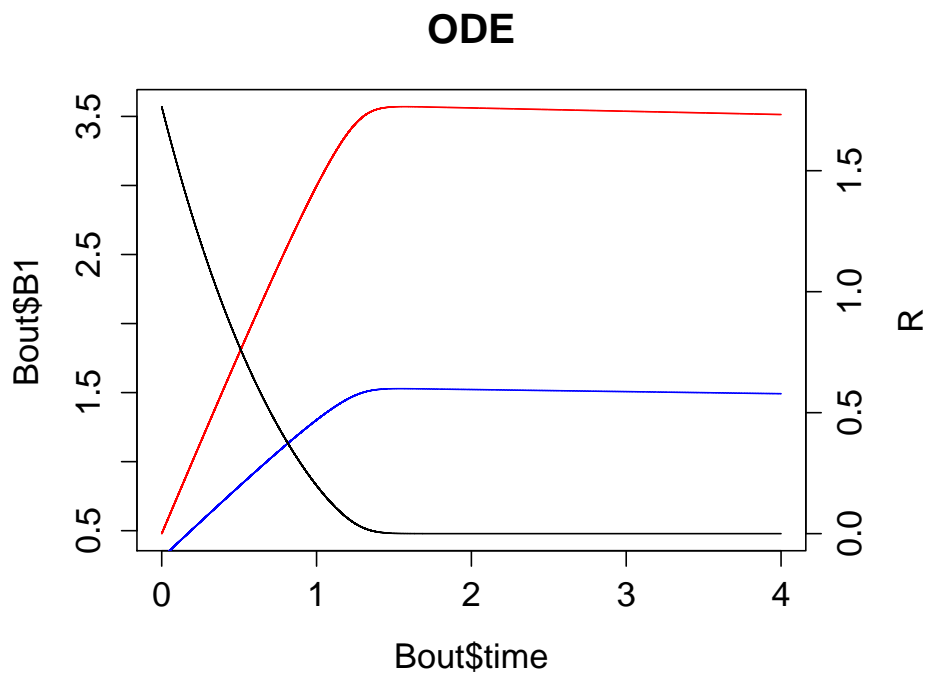


Figure 1: Compare ODE and StepStep solutions to our equations

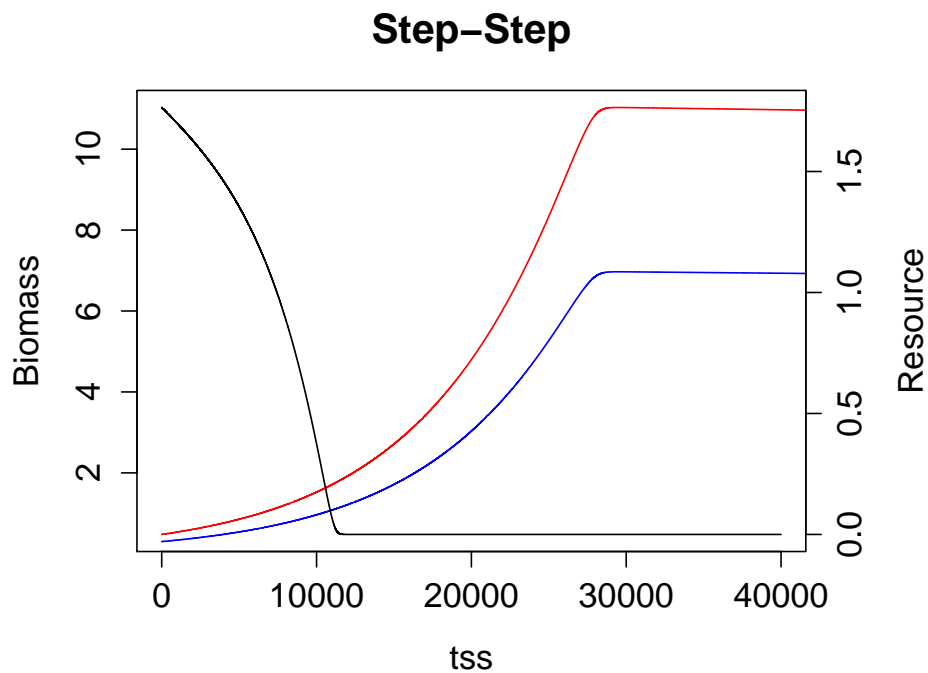


Figure 2: Compare ODE and StepStep solutions to our equations

- Re-running the Nov 6, 2013 code that Lizzie dug up shows that in that simulation which we thought was working, resources do not decline exponentially. The Biomasses do stop rising abruptly when R reaches R^* , but that is because the loop is forced to end when $R \leq \min(R^*)$. The ODE solution does not end when $R \leq R^*$.

—