

Modeling Intervention Strategies for United States TB Control

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Introduction

Epidemiological models offer insight into the structure of disease outbreaks and the merits of various interventions. The most common epidemiological models are compartmental differential equation models, such as the SIR system, illustrated in figures 1 and 2.

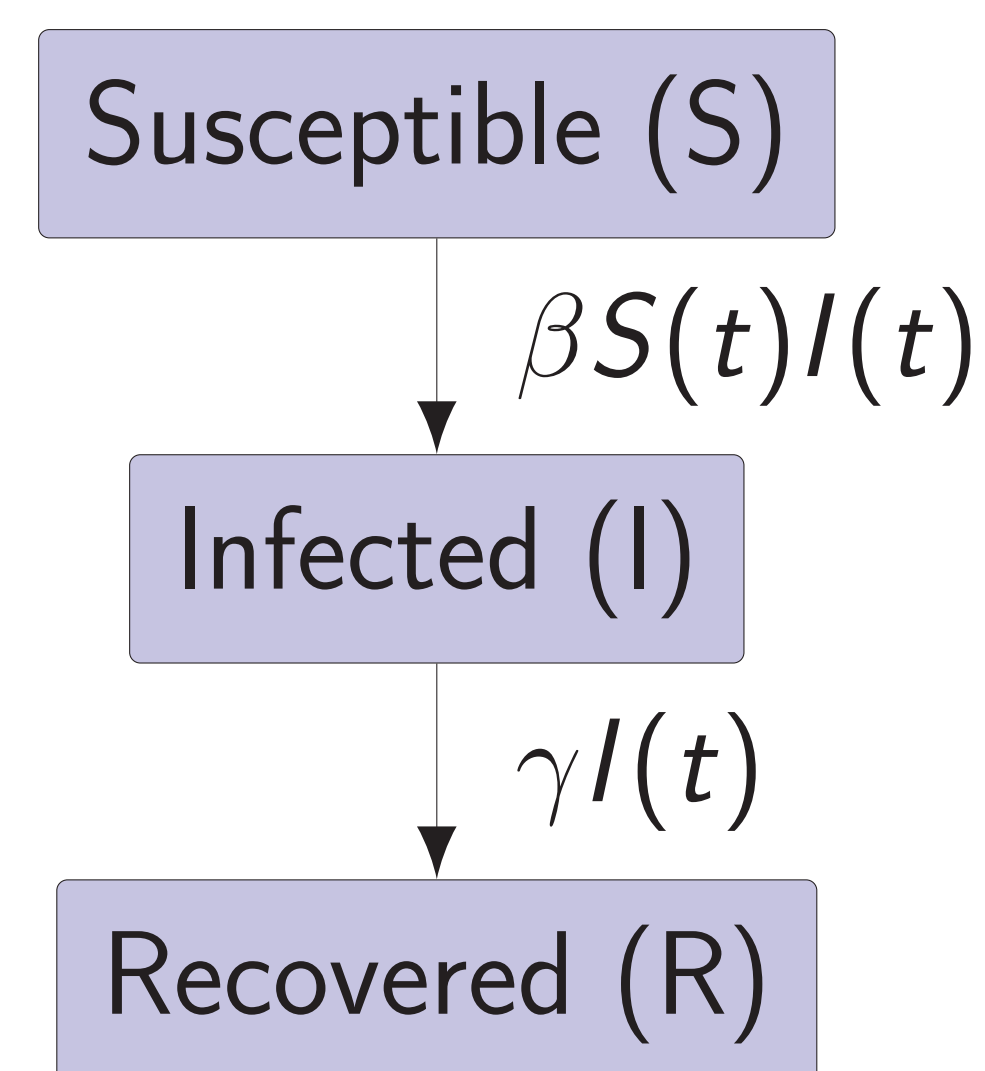


Figure: This flowchart depicts the standard SIR epidemiological model. It is accompanied by the system of differential equations 2.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dS}{dt} &= -\beta S(t)I(t) \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \beta S(t)I(t) - \gamma I(t) \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \gamma I(t) \\ N &= S(t) + I(t) + R(t)\end{aligned}$$

Figure: The system of differential equations governing the SIR model.

The Basic Hill Model

In order to model tuberculosis (TB) in the United States (US), Hill, Becerra, and Castro designed a complex compartmental model called the hill model.

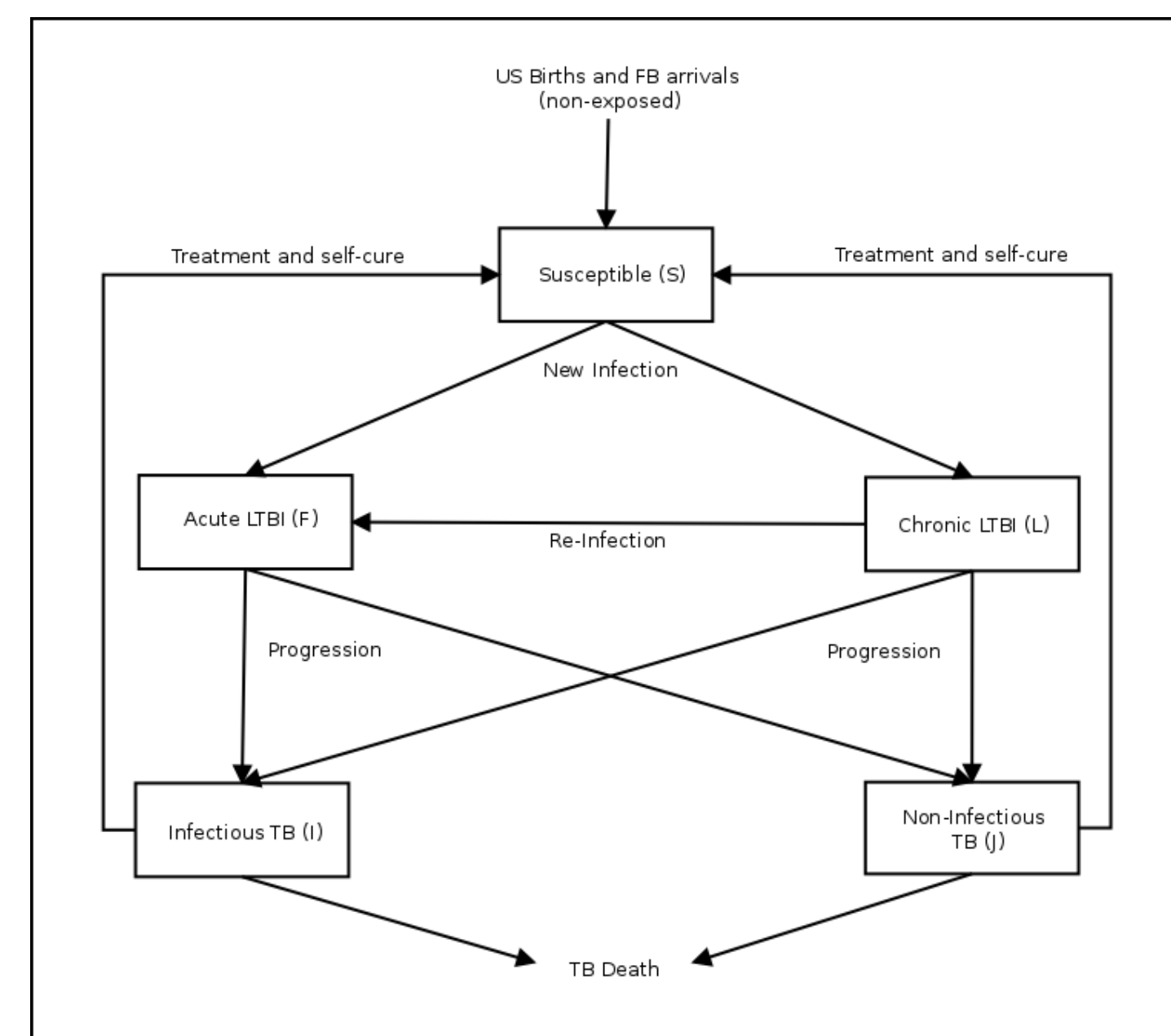


Figure: A flow chart representing the compartments of the Hill Model.

Populations:
► US Born Individuals (USB)
► Foreign Born Individuals (FB)
Individuals also leave the model due to natural death.

Analyzing US TB Reduction Strategies

1. Implemented in R, with various numerical DE solvers.
2. Tracks US Health Care System (HCS) cost.
3. Tracks statistics about various health states.

Basic Hill Behaviour

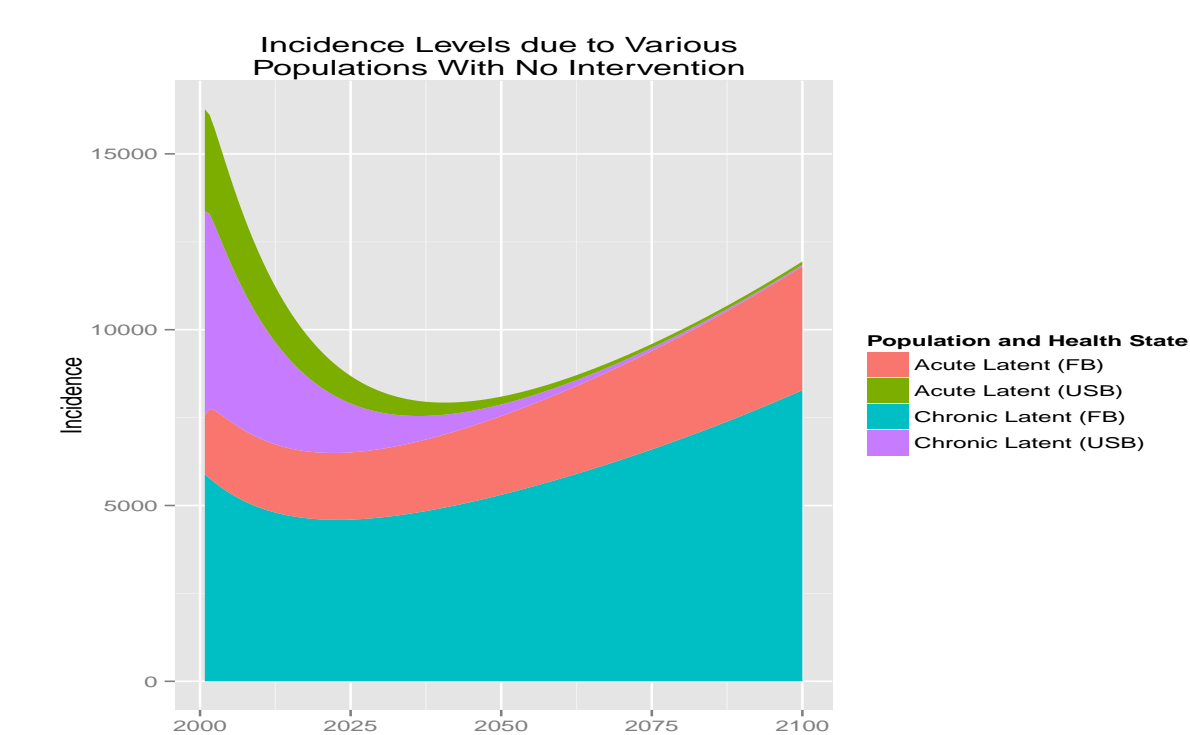


Figure: The source population of US TB incidence

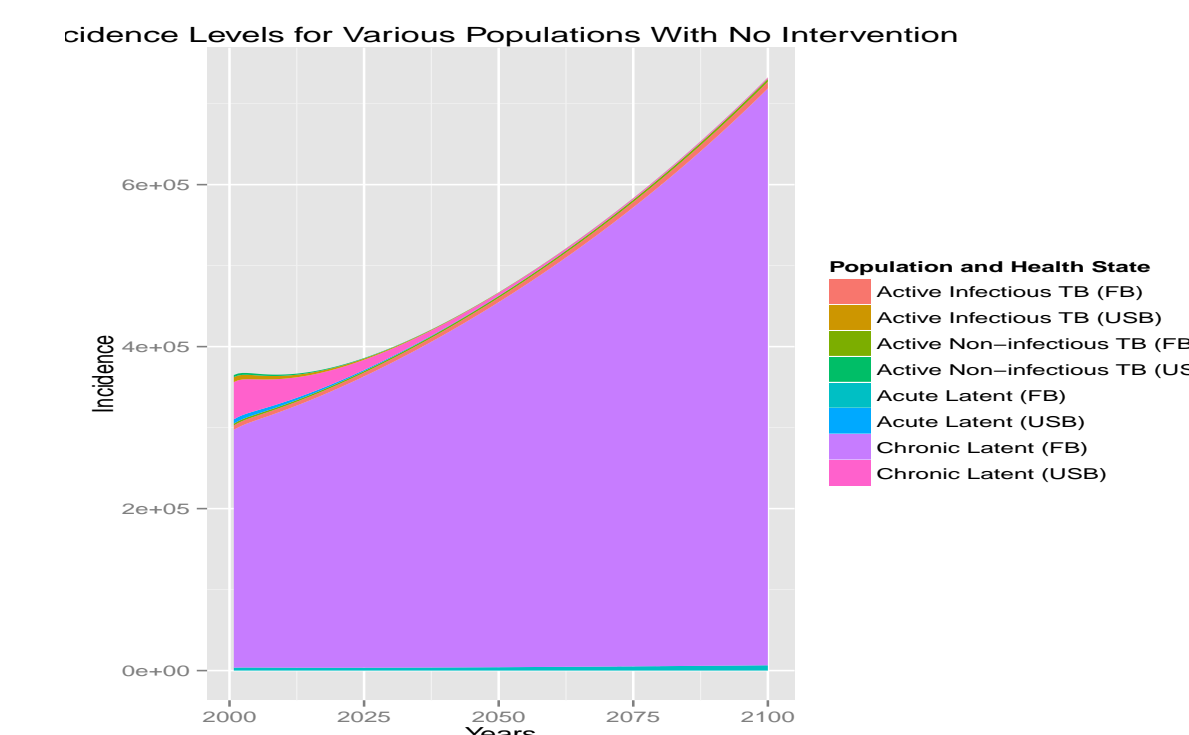


Figure: New cases per year of various types of TB in the US.

Intervention Analysis

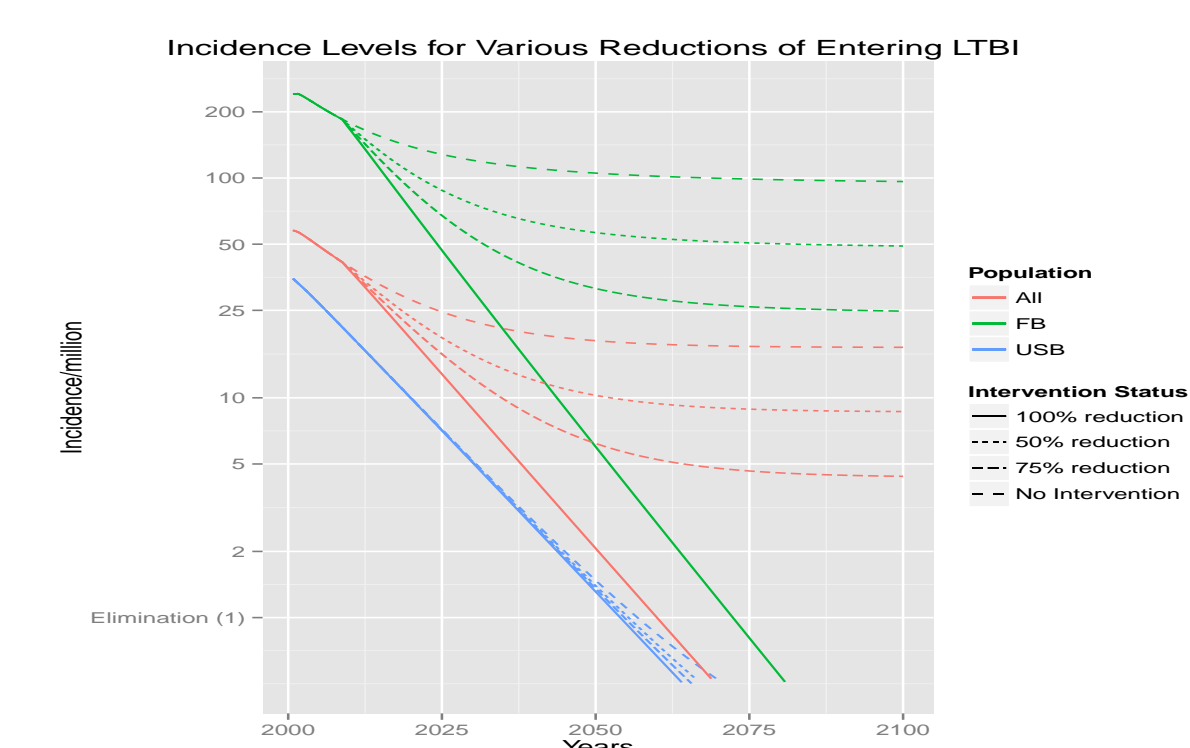


Figure: Incidence/million in USB, FB, and total populations, given 0%, 50%, 75%, or 100% treatment of incoming LTBI.

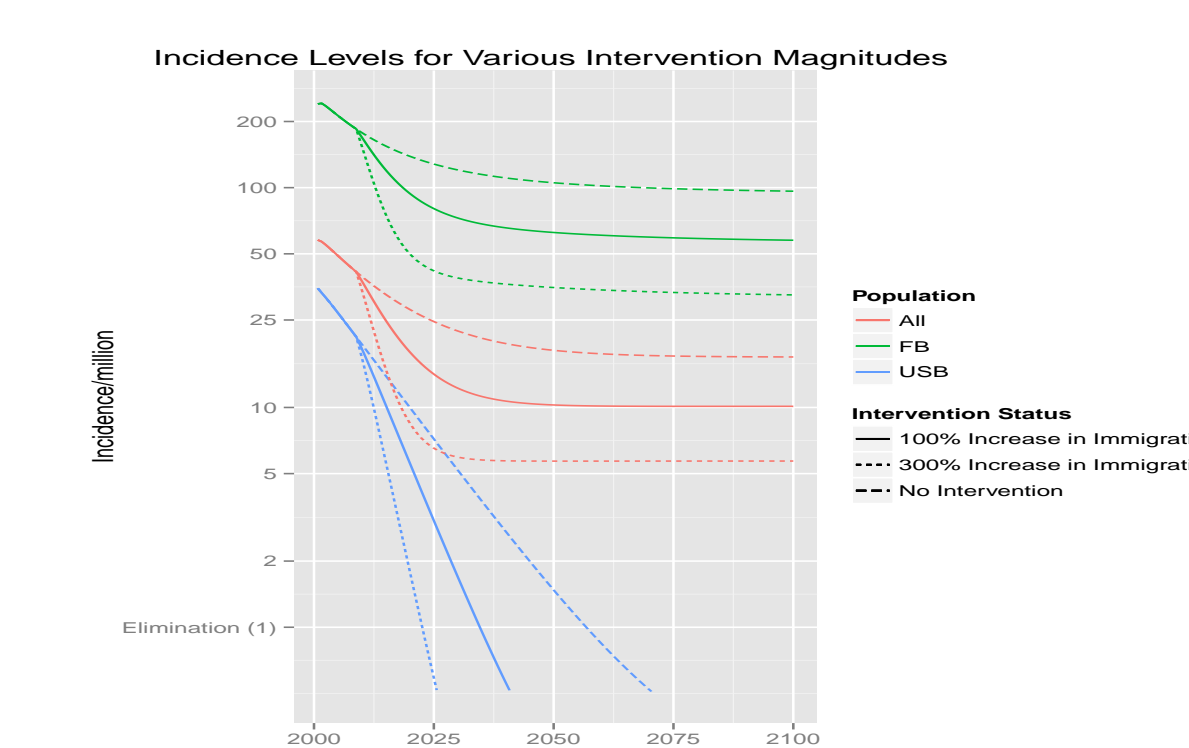


Figure: Incidence/million in USB, FB, and total populations, given 0%, 100%, or 300% LTBI treatment increase.

Economic Modeling

1. Tracks treatment costs for various disease states
2. Estimates implementation cost of intervention

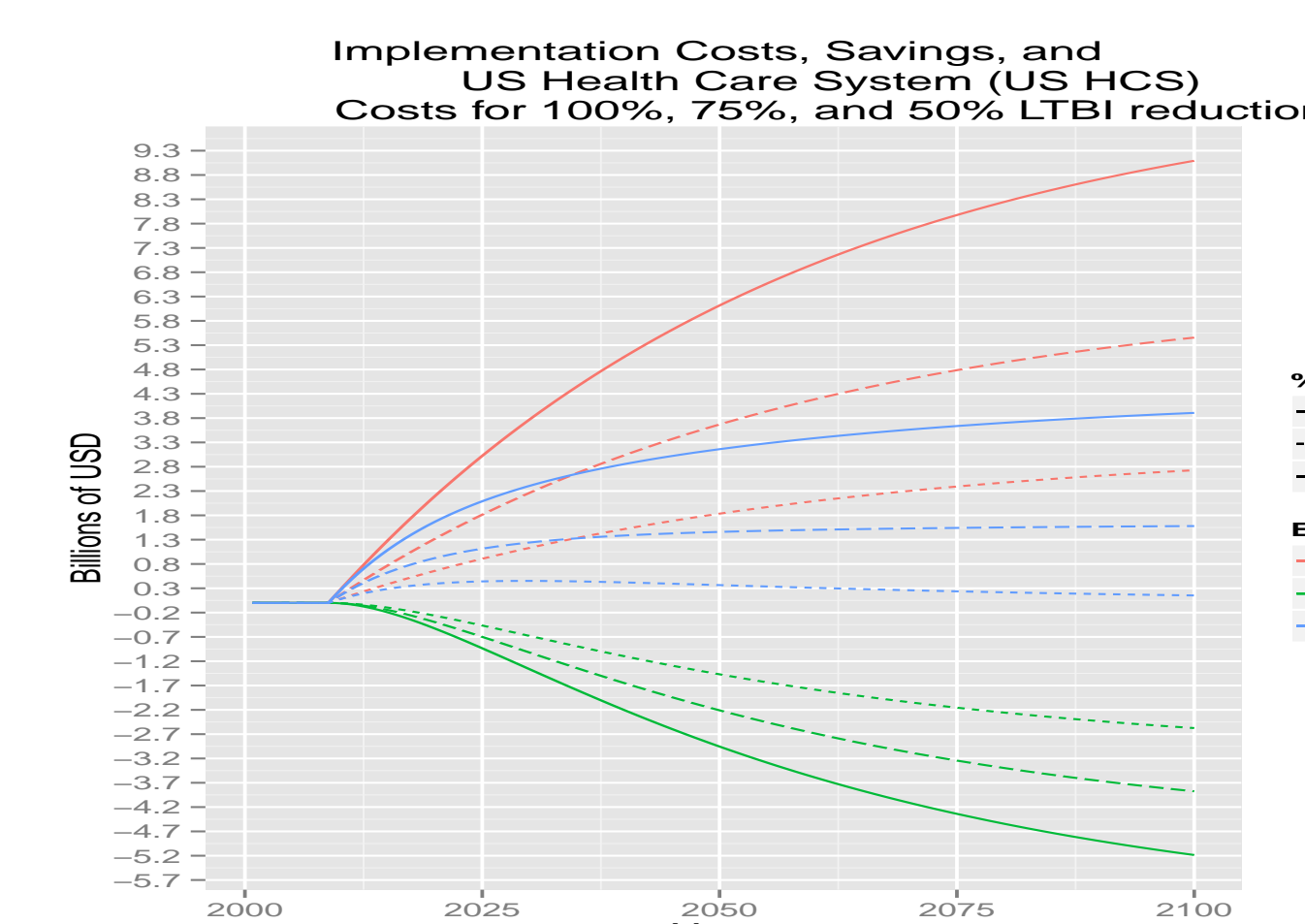


Figure: Cumulative implementation costs, US HCS savings, and net US costs of LTBI arrival cure rates. Cost/case cured was \$600, \$800, and \$1000 for 50%, 75%, and 100% cured.

Base HCS

Costs:

1. Active TB: \$14,014.90
2. LTBI: \$403.45

An Agent Based Implementation

We also wrote a stochastic agent-based version of the Hill model in both NetLogo and C++.

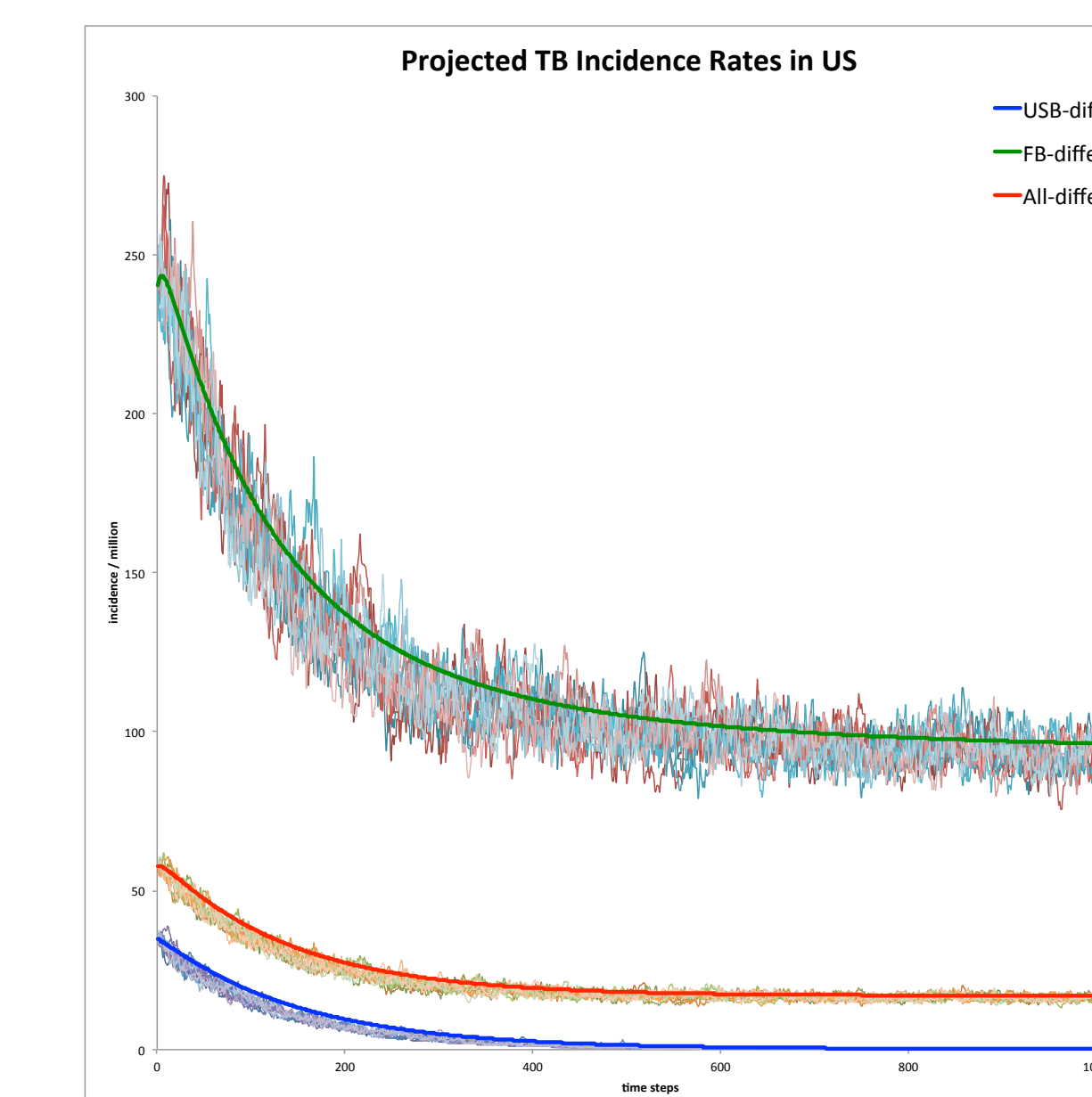


Figure: Incidence/million for R and NetLogo models (12 runs, $\Delta t = 0.1$, popConst = 100)

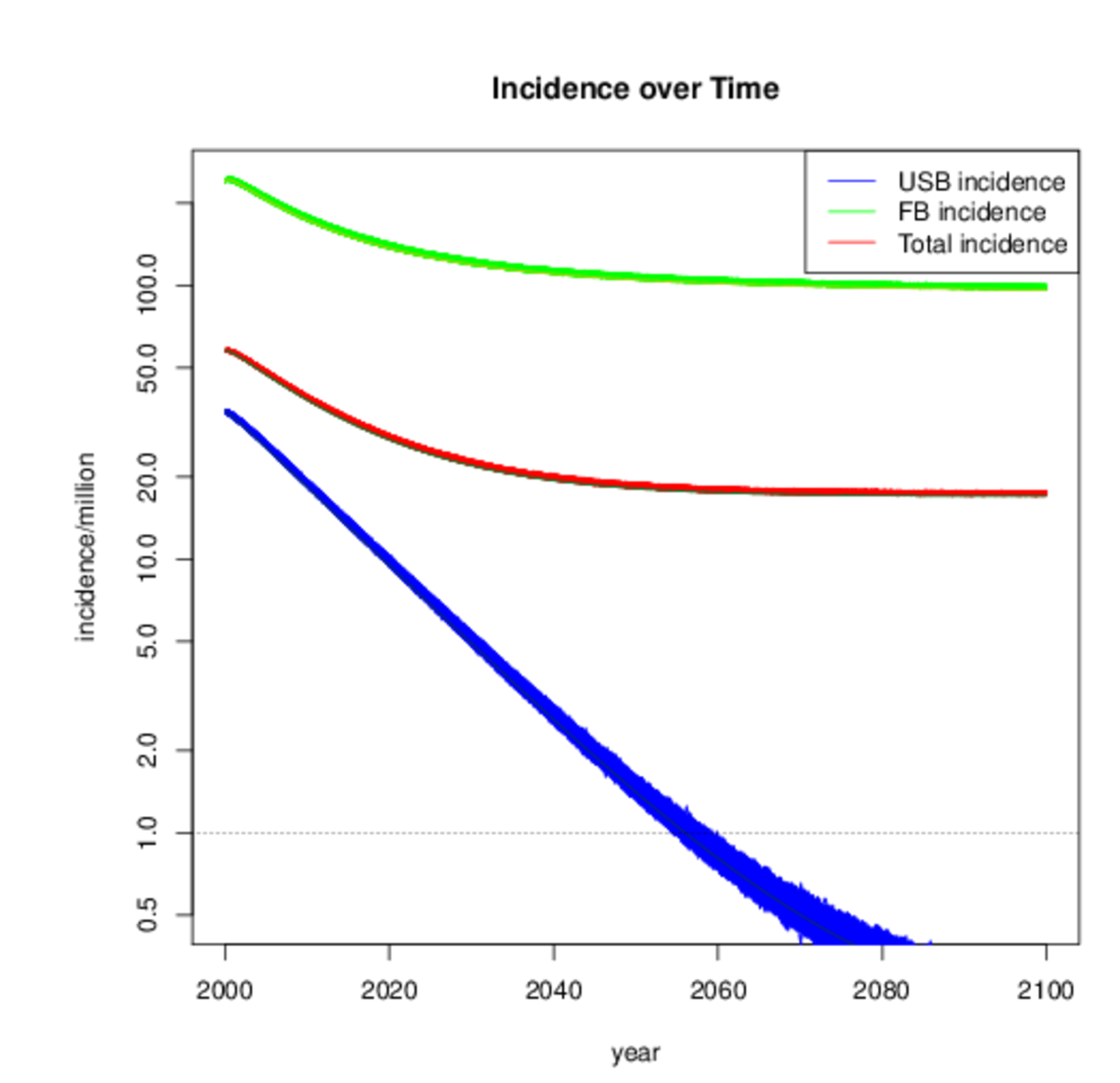


Figure: Incidence/million for R and C++ models (2100 runs, $\Delta t = 0.01$, popConst = 1)

Stochastic Models as a Measure of Variability

The stochastic model gives us a sense of the variability of the results of the deterministic model.

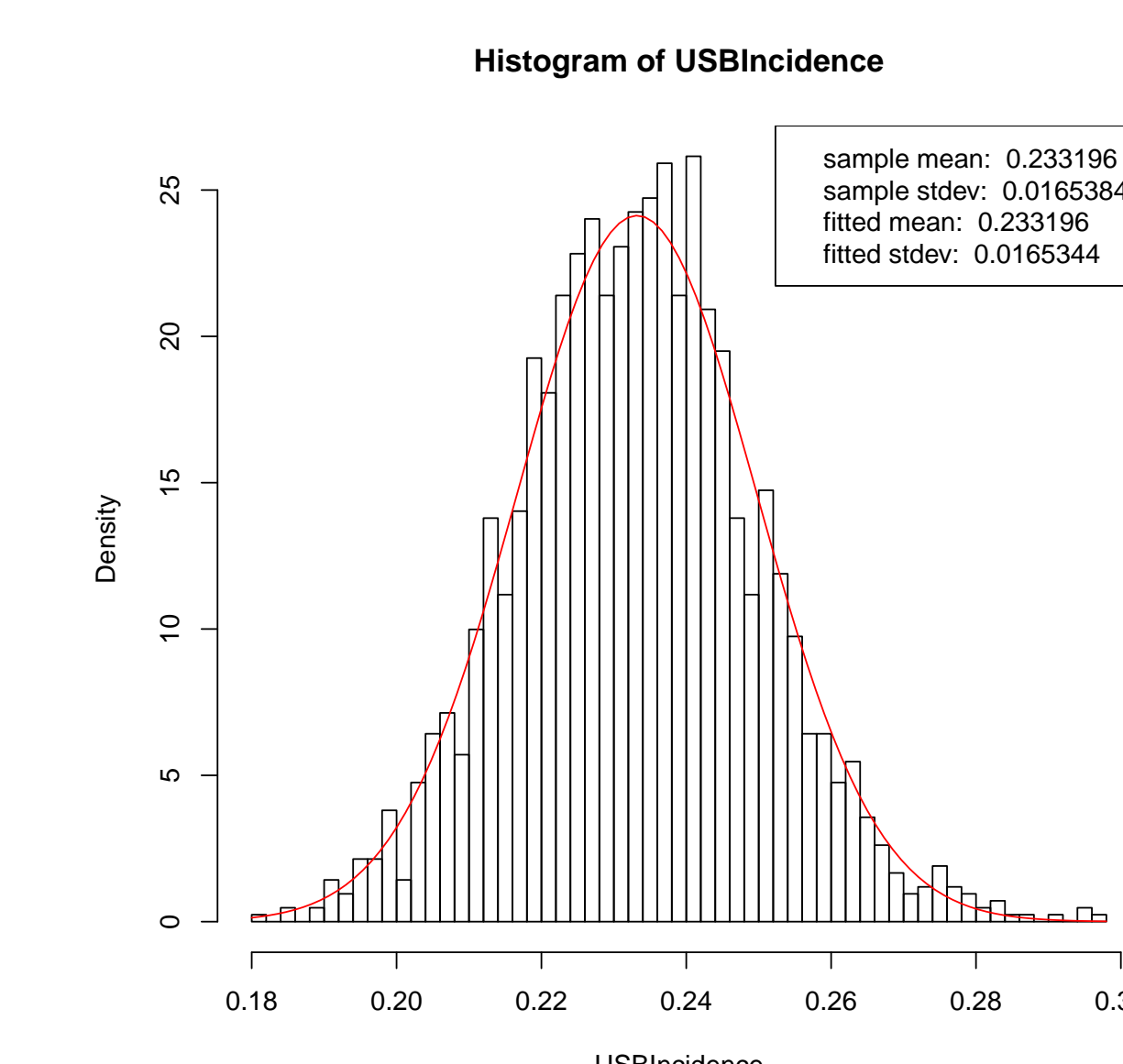


Figure: Distribution of USB Incidence (C++) with fitted Normal curve

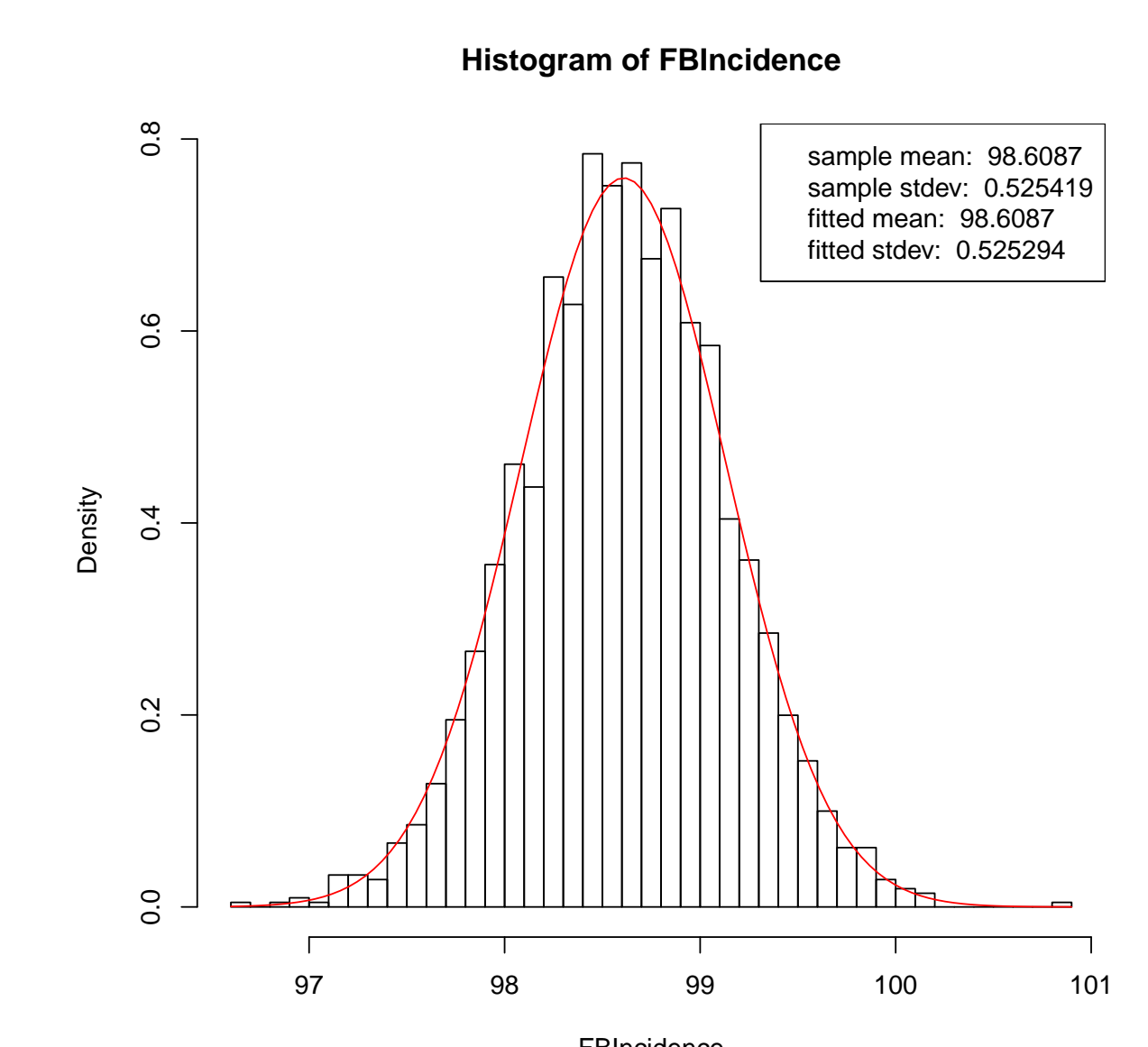


Figure: Distribution of FB Incidence (C++) with fitted Normal curve

Future Extensions

Possible extensions to our model include the incorporation of non-homogeneous contact structures and MDR (multi-drug resistant) TB.