

# Controlling Epidemics and Economics Activity in Interacting Communities

May 23, 2021

We consider an SAIR model between two communities. Define the following variables for community  $i$ .

- $S_i(t)$  is the number of susceptible at time  $t$ .
- $A_i(t)$  is the number of infected at time  $t$  but asymptomatic total population in community.
- $I_i(t)$  is the number of infected but symptomatic.
- $R_i(t)$  is the number recovered from infection.
- $D_i(t)$  is the number of deaths from the infection.
- Let  $W_i(t) := S_i(t) + A_i(t) + R_i(t)$  be the number of active members available for economic activity in community  $i$ .

At time  $t$ , there are  $L_{ij}(t)$  meetings between members of community  $i$  and community  $j$ . Each meeting is an economic activity and generates an economic good. Furthermore in each meeting, we assume there are  $M_i$  members of community  $i$  and  $M_j$  members of community  $j$ . One motivation is a ‘service community’ in the neighbourhood of a more affluent community. The service could correspond to

Each  $i - j$  meeting results in an infection with rate  $p_{ij}$ .  $L_{ij}(t)$  is a control variable. The infected population does not participate in the economic activity. The following o.d.e.s can be written about this interaction. For the discrete time versions of the

following, replace  $\dot{S}(t) = S(t+1) - S(t)$ , etc.

$$\dot{S}_i(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^2 p_{ij} L_{ij}(t) \frac{A_j(t)}{W_j(t)} = - \sum_{j=1}^2 \lambda_{ij}(t) \frac{A_j(t)}{W_j(t)} \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{A}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^2 \lambda_{ij}(t) \frac{A_j(t)}{W_j(t)} - (\nu_i(t) + \mu_i(t) A_i(t)) \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{I}_i(t) = \nu_i(t) A_i(t) - \xi_i(t) I_i(t) \quad (3)$$

$$\dot{R}_i(t) = \mu_i(t) A_i(t) + \xi_i(t) I_i(t) \quad (4)$$

$$\dot{D}_i(t) = \delta_i(t) I_i(t) \quad (5)$$

If  $\delta$  is significantly small, we can assume it to be zero to obtain a population conserving model like i. We will assume  $\lambda_{ij}(t)$  and  $\nu_i(t)$  are controllable and  $\mu_i(t)$  and  $\xi(t)$  are exogenous.

The following are the kinds of optimisations that the different communities may seek over the period  $(0, T)$ .

- Community 1, denoted by  $C_1$ . is sparse,  $p_{11}(t)$  is low, just needs to maintain low levels of activity involving 1–1 meetings. It needs 1–2 meetings for ‘convenience’. It wants to keep its infections low. It can control  $L_{11}(t), L_{12}(t)$  and possibly the testing parameter,  $\nu_1(t)$

$$\min \max I_1(t) \quad (6)$$

subject to

$$\begin{aligned} F_1(L_{11}(t)) &> a_{11} \\ F_{12}(L_{12}(t)) &> a_{12} \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, it could have the objective of maximising convenience resulting from 1 – 2 meetings while keeping infections below a threshold.

Here  $F_1(\cdot), F_{12}(\cdot)$  are increasing functions and  $a_{11}$  and  $a_{12}$  are given constants.

- Community 2, denoted by  $C_2$ , is dense,  $p_{ij}(t)$  is high and it needs high levels of  $L_{22}$  and  $L_{21} = L_{12}$  for economic sustenance. It wants to keep infection/hospitalisation levels manageable. It can control only  $L_{22}(t)$

$$\max \min G_{11}(L_{11}(t)) + G_{21}(L_{12}(t)) \quad (7)$$

subject to

$$I_2(t) < b_{22}$$

Here  $G_{11}$  and  $G_{21}$  are increasing functions and  $b_{22}$  is a constant.

- The Government has the objective of reducing hospitalisations in  $C_2$  and overall deaths. It can control by putting upper limits on  $L_{ij}(t)$ .

$$\min \max H_1(I_1(t)) + H_2(I_2(t)) \quad (8)$$

Here  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are costs of hospitalisation and the cost of possible deaths. Government may also increase testing in  $C_2$  which can result in leaky isolation. This needs a bit more work.

The constants could also be known functions of time.