

Leslie Matrix Models

October 29, 2013

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- ▶ Locusts only reproduce during the adult stage of their life - the average female adult produces 1000 eggs before dying.
- ▶ Adults die soon after reproduction.

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- ▶ Females who reach age of 2 years survive an additional year with probability 0.95 and reproduce with the probability of 0.42.
- ▶ There is a 0.6 chance that a calf survives to be a yearling.
- ▶ There is a 0.7 chance that a yearling survives to adulthood.

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We clearly see the total female population is growing each year. While the trend in each individual class is not so clear.

General Leslie Matrix Definitions

In general a Leslie matrix model has the form $\vec{x}(t+1) = A\vec{x}(t)$, where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} F_1 & F_2 & F_3 & \dots & F_n \\ S_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & S_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots S_{n-1} & S_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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- ▶ Thus, our long term growth rate is 2. This means that for large time values, our population is doubling every time step, since $\vec{x}(t + 1) = 2\vec{x}(t)$.

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- ▶ $(\lambda^2 - \lambda - 2) = 0$ implies that $(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0$, so we need $\lambda = 2$ or $\lambda = -1$.
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- ▶ Thus, our long term growth rate is 2. This means that for large time values, our population is doubling every time step, since $\vec{x}(t + 1) = 2\vec{x}(t)$.

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- ▶ Leslie matrices ALWAYS have a unique positive eigenvalue.