

# Large deviations for Poisson driven processes in epidemiology

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## 1 Motivation

- Deterministic compartmental models
- Long-term behavior
- Stochastic models
- Dynamically consistent finite difference schemes

## 2 General models

- Poisson models
- Law of large numbers

## 3 Large deviations

- Rate function
- Large deviations principle (LDP)
- Exit from domain

## 4 Diffusion approximation

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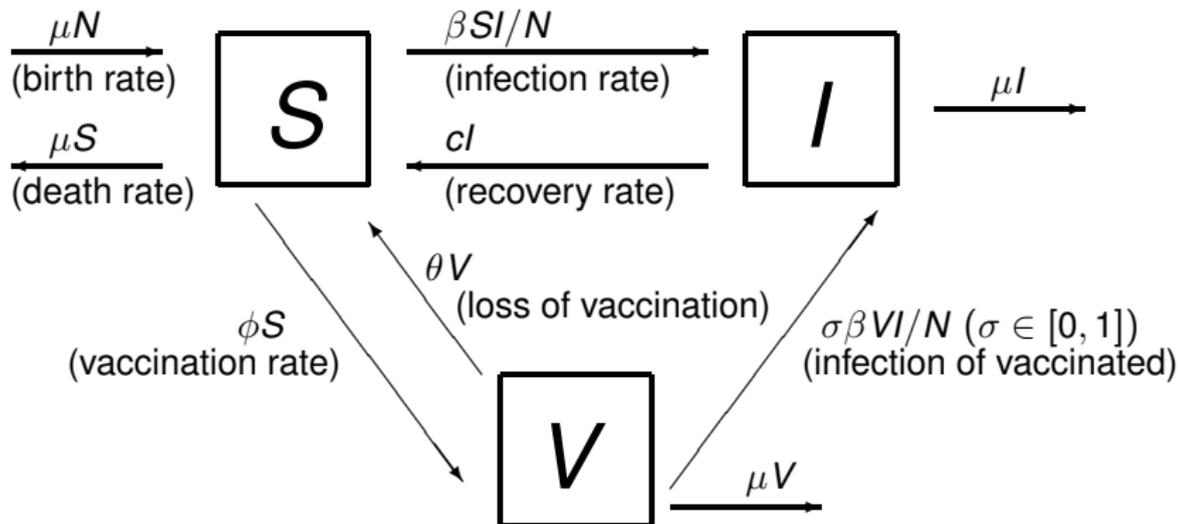
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# A model with vaccination

- SIV model by Kribs-Zaleta and Velasco-Hernández (2000)
- $S$  = # of susceptibles,  $I$  = # of infectives,  
 $V$  = # of vaccinated,  $N = S + I + V$  population size





$$\begin{aligned}S' &= \mu N - \beta \frac{SI}{N} - (\mu + \phi)S + cI + \theta V \\I' &= \beta \frac{(S + \sigma V)I}{N} - (\mu + c)I \\V' &= \phi S - \sigma \beta \frac{VI}{N} - (\mu + \theta)V\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

- Equation (1) has a unique solution satisfying  $0 \leq S, I, V \leq S + I + V = N$

# ODE and equilibria

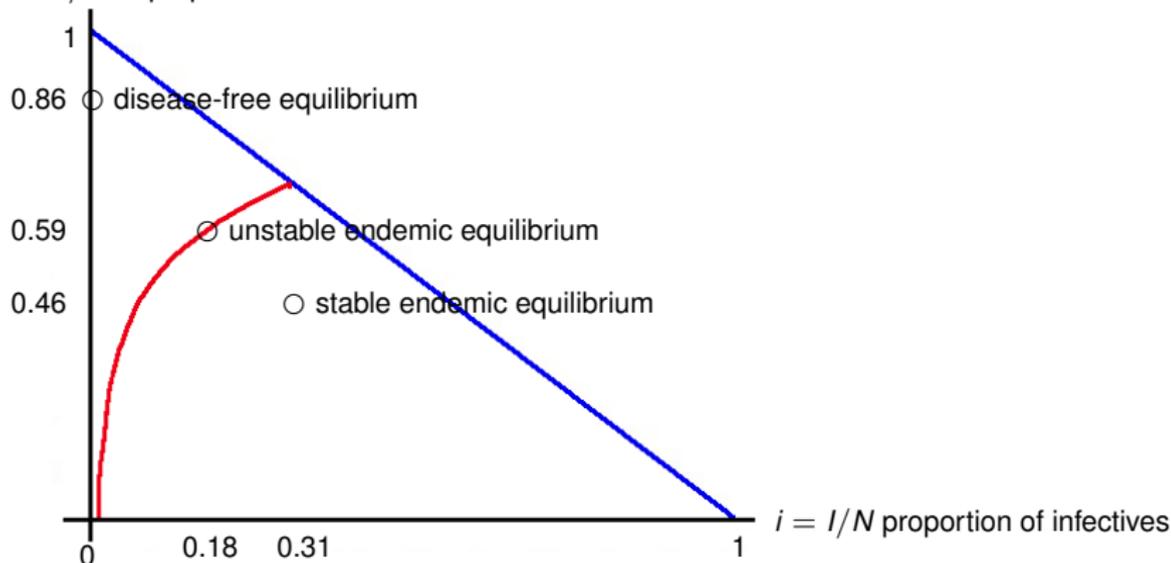
- We are interested in the long-term behavior of the model
  - Does the disease become extinct or endemic?
- Find equilibria of the ODE (1)
  - $R_0$  = basic reproduction number  
= “# of cases one case generates in its infectious period”  
a disease-free equilibrium ( $I = 0$ ) of (1) exists  
 $R_0 < 1 \Rightarrow$  the equilibrium is asymptotically stable
  - $\tilde{R}_0$  = basic reproduction number without vaccination  
 $\tilde{R}_0 > 1 \Rightarrow$  the disease-free equilibrium is unstable
  - $R_0 < 1 < \tilde{R}_0$  (and appropriate parameter choice)  
 $\Rightarrow$  two endemic equilibria ( $I > 0$ ) exist  
One is asymptotically stable, one is unstable

# Equilibria of the ODE

## ■ Reduction of dimension

$s = S/N = 1 - i - v =$  proportion of susceptibles

$v = V/N =$  proportion of vaccinated



- Stochastic model corresponding to the deterministic model
- Replace the deterministic rates by (independent) non-homogenous Poisson processes
  - An individual of type  $S$  becomes of type  $I$  at the jump time of the respective processes
  - Jump rates are constant in-between jumps
  - Example. Infection rate (at time  $t$ ):  $\beta \frac{S(t)I(t)}{N}$
- Questions
  - What is the difference between the two processes for large  $N$ ?
  - Can the stochastic process change between the domains of attraction of different stable equilibria (for large  $N$ )?
  - When does this happen?
  - For which population size  $N$  is it possible/probable?

# Alternative model with immigration

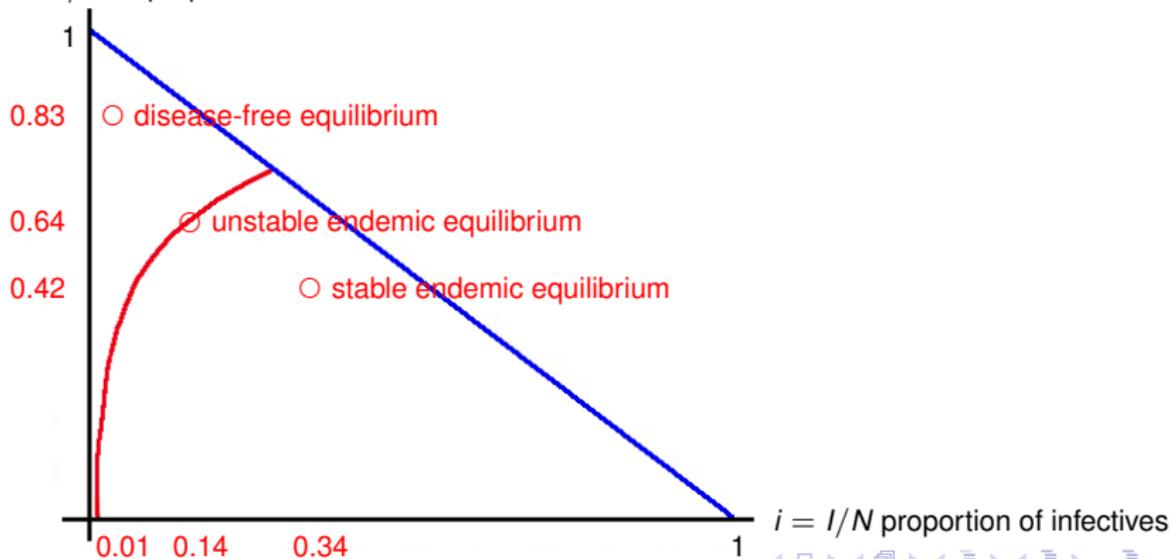
- We require a modification of the SIV-model in order to ensure that the process doesn't get stuck at  $I = 0$
- Immigration of infectives at rate  $\alpha > 0$  (small)

$$\begin{aligned}S' &= \mu N - \beta \frac{SI}{N} - (\mu + \phi + \alpha)S + cI + \theta V \\I' &= \alpha N + \beta \frac{(S + \sigma V)I}{N} - (\mu + c + \alpha)I \\V' &= \phi S - \sigma \beta \frac{VI}{N} - (\mu + \theta + \alpha)V\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

# Equilibria with immigration

- For  $\alpha \approx 0$  (but  $\alpha > 0$  sufficiently small) the equilibria and the regions of attraction remain similar
- The “disease-free” equilibrium satisfies  $I \approx 0$  (but  $I > 0$ )

$v = V/N =$  proportion of vaccinated



# Numerical solution of the ODE

- We require a numerical method for solving the ODE
- Anguelov et al. (2014): Non-standard finite difference scheme which is *elementary stable*
  - The standard denominator  $h$  of the discrete derivatives is replaced by a more complex function  $\phi(h)$
  - Nonlinear terms are approximated in a nonlocal way by using more than one point of the mesh
  - The equilibria and their local stability is the same as for the ODE

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$$\begin{aligned} Z^N(t) &:= x + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^k h_j P_j \left( \int_0^t N \beta_j(Z^N(s)) ds \right) \\ &= x + \int_0^t b(Z^N(s)) ds + \frac{1}{N} \sum_j h_j M_j \left( \int_0^t N \beta_j(Z^N(s)) ds \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

- $d$  = number of compartments (susceptible individuals, ...)  
 $N$  = “natural size” of the population  
 $Z_i^N(t)$  = proportion of individuals in compartment  $i$  at time  $t$   
 $A$  = domain of process (compact)
- $P_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, k$ ): independent standard Poisson processes
- $M_j(t) = P_j(t) - t$ : compensated Poisson processes
- $h_j \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ : jump directions  
 $\beta_j : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ : jump intensities  
 $b(x) = \sum_j h_j \beta_j(x)$

# Law of large numbers

## ■ Deterministic model

$$\phi(t) := x + \int_0^t b(\phi(s)) ds = x + \int_0^t \sum_{j=1}^k h_j \beta_j(\phi(s)) ds \quad (4)$$

### Theorem (Kurtz)

$x \in A$ ,  $T > 0$ ,  $\beta_j : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  bounded and Lipschitz. There exist constants  $C_1(\epsilon)$ ,  $C_2 > 0$  ( $C_1(\epsilon) = \Theta(1/\epsilon)$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,  $C_2$  independent of  $\epsilon$ ) such that for  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |Z^N(t) - \phi(t)| \geq \epsilon \right] \leq C_1(\epsilon) \exp(-C_2 \frac{N}{\log N} \epsilon^2).$$

*In particular,  $Z^N \rightarrow \phi$  almost surely uniformly on  $[0, T]$ .*

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- Recall (LLN):  $Z^N \rightarrow \phi$  almost surely uniformly on  $[0, T]$
- But: A (large) deviation of  $Z^N$  from the ODE solution  $\phi$  is nevertheless possible (even for large  $N$ , cf. Campillo and Lobry (2012))
- Fix  $T > 0$ ;  $D([0, T]; A) := \{\phi : [0, T] \rightarrow A \mid \phi \text{ càdlàg}\}$ ;
- Quantify

$$\mathbb{P}[Z^N \in G], \quad \mathbb{P}[Z^N \in F]$$

for  $G \subset D$  open,  $F \subset D$  closed ( $N$  large)

# Legendre-Fenchel transform

- Legendre-Fenchel transform

$x \in A$  position,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  direction of movement

$$L(x, y) := \sup_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} \ell(\theta, x, y)$$

for

$$\ell(\theta, x, y) = \langle \theta, y \rangle - \sum_j \beta_j(x) (e^{\langle \theta, h_j \rangle} - 1)$$

- $L(x, y) \geq L(x, \sum_j \beta_j(x) h_j) = 0$
- $L(x, y) < \infty$  iff  
 $\exists \mu \in \mathbb{R}_+^k$  s.t.  $y = \sum_j \mu_j h_j$  and  $\mu_j > 0 \Rightarrow \beta_j(x) > 0$
- “Local measure” for the “energy” required for a movement from  $x$  in direction  $y$

- Rate function ( $x \in A$ )

$$I_{x,T}(\tilde{\phi}) := \begin{cases} \int_0^T L(\tilde{\phi}(t), \tilde{\phi}'(t)) dt & \text{for } \tilde{\phi}(0) = x \text{ and } \tilde{\phi} \text{ is abs. cont.} \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- $I_{x,T}(\phi) = 0$  iff  $\phi$  solves (4) on  $[0, T]$
- Interpretation of  $I_{x,T}(\tilde{\phi})$ : the “energy” required for a deviation from  $\phi$

# Large deviations principle

- For appropriate assumptions (which are satisfied for the SIV-model with immigration)

Theorem (work in progress)

For  $G \subset D([0, T]; A)$  open and  $x \in A$ ,

$$\liminf_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \log \mathbb{P}[Z^N \in G] \geq - \inf_{\tilde{\phi} \in G} I_{x, T}(\tilde{\phi}).$$

For  $F \subset D([0, T]; A)$  closed and  $x \in A$ ,

$$\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \log \mathbb{P}[Z^N \in F] \leq - \inf_{\tilde{\phi} \in F} I_{x, T}(\tilde{\phi}).$$

- Problem:  $\beta_j(x) \rightarrow 0$  for  $x \rightarrow \partial A$  is possible

# Exit from domain

- $G =$  domain of attraction of an equilibrium  $x^*$ ;  $x \in G$
- When does  $Z^N$  exit from  $G$  (and enter the domain of attraction of another equilibrium)?
  - $\tau^N := \inf\{t > 0 | Z^N(t) \in A \setminus G\}$
- Where does  $Z^N$  exit  $G$  (and “on” which trajectory)?
- $T > 0, y, z \in A$ .

$$V(y, z, T) := \inf_{\phi: \phi(0)=y, \phi(T)=z} I_{y, T}(\phi)$$

$$V(y, z) := \inf_{T > 0} V(y, z, T)$$

$$\bar{V} := \inf_{z \in \partial G} V(x^*, z)$$

- The minimal energy required to go from  $y$  to  $z$  in  $[0, T]$ , respectively from  $y$  to  $z$ , respectively from  $x^*$  to the boundary

- For appropriate assumptions:

## Corollary (work in progress)

$x \in G, \delta > 0.$

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[e^{N(\bar{V} + \delta)} > \tau^N] = 1, \quad \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[e^{N(\bar{V} - \delta)} < \tau^N] = 1.$$

- This follows from the LDP (once it is completely established)

- For appropriate assumptions:

## Theorem (work in progress)

$x \in G$ ,  $F \subset \partial G$  closed,  $\inf_{z \in F} V(x^*, z) > \bar{V}$ .

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[Z^N(\tau^N) \in F] = 0.$$

*In particular, if there exists a  $z^* \in \partial G$  such that for all  $z \neq z^*$   $V(x^*, z^*) < V(x^*, z)$ , then for  $\delta > 0$ ,*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[|Z^N(\tau^N) - z^*| < \delta] = 1.$$

- Problem:  $\partial G$  is the “characteristic boundary” of  $G$ , i.e., for  $x \in G$ ,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \phi(t) \neq x^*$ .

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# Diffusion approximation

$$Y^N(t) = x + \int_0^t b(Y^N(s)) ds + \frac{1}{N} \sum_j h_j W_j \left( \int_0^t N \beta_j(Y^N(s)) ds \right),$$

- $W_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, k$ ): standard independent Brownian motions

## Theorem (Kurtz)

*There exists a RV  $X = X(N, T)$  whose distribution is independent of  $N$  with  $\mathbb{E}[\exp(\lambda X)] < \infty$  for some  $\lambda > 0$  such that*

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |Z^N(t) - Y^N(t)| \leq X \frac{\log N}{N}.$$

- Problem: Kurtz' Theorem does not explain the long-term behavior of the process
  - Pakdaman et al. (2010):  
 $Z^N$  and  $Y^N$  can differ not only quantitatively but also qualitatively

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- K. Pakdaman, M. Thieullen, and G. Wainrib. Diffusion approximation of birth-death processes: Comparison in terms of large deviations and exit points. *Statistics & Probability Letters*, 80(13-14):1121–1127, 2010.