

Research Article

On the Dynamics of a Nonautonomous Predator-Prey Model with Hassell-Varley Type Functional Response

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The dynamic behaviors of a nonautonomous system for migratory birds with Hassell-Varley type functional response and the saturation incidence rate are studied. Under quite weak assumptions, some sufficient conditions are obtained for the permanence and extinction of the disease. Moreover, the global attractivity of the model is discussed by constructing a Lyapunov function. Numerical simulations which support our theoretical analysis are also given.

1. Introduction

In the natural world, no species can survive alone. While species spread the disease, compete with the other species for space or food, or are predated by other species, predator-prey relationship can be important in regulating the number of preys and predators. And the dynamic relationship between predators and their preys has long been and will continue to be one of the dominant themes in both ecology and mathematical ecology due to its universal existence and importance [1]. Since the pioneering work of Hader and Freedman (1989) of describing a predator-prey model, where the prey is infected by a parasite and in turn infects the predator with the parasite [2], more and more mathematical models for predator-prey behavior are carried out in the following decades; see [3–7] and the references cited therein.

Migratory birds play an important role in the outburst of a new disease and the reintroduction of a disease to a place that was totally washed away from that place on various cases of infectious diseases [8]. For example, the epidemic of Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE) which broke in Jamaica in 1962 was suspected to result from transportation of the virus by birds from the continental United States [9, 10]. As another example, the West Nile Virus was introduced to the Middle East by migrating white storks. Therefore, to control and

eradicate infectious diseases spread by the migratory birds has been the key issue in the world as well as in the study of mathematical epidemiology [11].

When investigating biological phenomena, there are many factors which affect dynamical properties of biological and mathematical models. One of the familiar nonlinear factors is functional response. There are many significant functional responses in order to model various different situations. As to predator-prey model, the phenomenon that predators have to share or compete for food is common. Therefore, most of the functional responses, which are assumed to depend on the prey numbers only in most models, are not realistic in the real situation and the predators functional response (i.e., the rate of prey consumption by an average predator) is one of the significant elements which have influence on the relationship between predator and prey [12, 13]. The three classical predator-dependent functions are Crowley-Martin type [14], Beddington-DeAngelis type by Beddington [15] and DeAngelis et al. [16], and Hassell-Varley type [17]. A general predator-prey model with Hassell-Varley type functional response may take the following form:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = rx \left(1 - \frac{x}{K} \right) - \frac{cxy}{my^v + x},$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y \left(-d + \frac{fx}{my^\gamma + x} \right), \quad \gamma \in (0, 1),$$

$$x(0) > 0, \quad y(0) > 0,$$
(1)

where γ is called Hassell-Varley constant. In a typical predator-prey interaction, where predators do not form groups, one can assume that $\gamma = 1$, producing the so-called ratio-dependent predator-prey dynamics. For terrestrial predators that form a fixed number of tight groups, it is often reasonable to assume that $\gamma = 1/2$. For aquatic predators that form a fixed number of tight groups, $\gamma = 1/3$ may be more appropriate [18]. There are a lot of excellent works on predator-prey models with Hassell-Varley type functional response; for example, see [19–22] and the references therein.

Motivated by these factors, a new nonautonomous predator-prey model with Hassell-Varley type functional response and the saturation incidence rate is proposed to give a more appropriate result and better understanding of the role of migratory birds in pathophoresis. Moreover, under quite weak assumptions, sufficient conditions for the permanence and extinction of the disease are established. In addition, the existence of globally attractive periodic solutions of the system is proposed by discussion and numerical simulation.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows. In the next section, we will introduce the new model. In Section 3, some useful lemmas for one-dimensional nonautonomous equation are proposed. And we establish the sufficient conditions on the permanence and extinction of the disease. Also, by constructing a Lyapunov function, we obtain the global attractivity of the model. Moreover, as applications of the main results, some corollaries are introduced. Particularly, the periodic model is discussed. In Section 4, numerical simulations that verify our qualitative results and a discussion which is about the new model (2) are given. The paper ends with a conclusion.

2. The Basic Mathematical Model

In this paper, we propose a predator-prey system, where the predator population P is assumed to be present in the system and the prey population $N = S + I$ migrates into the system. Before we introduce the model, we would like to present a brief sketch of the construction of the model. This may indicate the biological relevance of it.

In the diseases like WNV and avian influenza, it was found that direct transmission in the bird-to-bird transmission of diseases is possible and birds get recovered from the disease, but the duration and variability of immunity among the WNV survivor are essentially unknown [5]; thus, it is reasonable to assume that all the recruitment in the bird population is in the susceptible class $S(t)$ and the infective prey population $I(t)$ is generated through infective of susceptible prey $S(t)$. Also, as time passes, some of the prey population is recovered from the disease at a rate of $f(t)$ and goes to the susceptible class. Furthermore, $\beta(t)SI/(1 + \alpha(t)S)$ is the saturation incidence, where $\beta(t) > 0$ and $\alpha(t) > 0$

measure the force of infective (contact rate) and the force of the inhibition effect at time t , respectively.

In the absence of the prey, it is assumed that there exists some alternative food source for the growth of the predator population. The predators eat the susceptible and infective prey with Hassell-Varley type functional response. The growth rate of the predator population is assumed to be $r(t)$ at time t . As after the predation of the infective prey, either the infected predators die immediately and thus are removed from the system, or they are dead-end host of the disease like mammals (such as cats) in the case of WNV and in the transmission of many diseases from the migratory birds to their predators, such as highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus (H5N1) [23, 24]. Then we assume that the disease is only spread among the prey population and the disease is not genetically inherited and also the predator becomes infected but the infection does not spread in the predator population.

The above considerations motivate us to introduce the nonautonomous model for the study of the migrating birds under the framework of the following set of nonlinear ordinary differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{S}(t) &= \Lambda(t) - \frac{\beta(t)S(t)I(t)}{1 + \alpha(t)S(t)} - d(t)S(t) \\ &\quad + f(t)I(t) - \frac{c_1(t)S(t)P(t)}{g(t)P^\gamma(t) + S(t) + I(t)}, \\ \dot{I}(t) &= \frac{\beta(t)S(t)I(t)}{1 + \alpha(t)S(t)} - e(t)I(t) - f(t)I(t) \\ &\quad - \frac{c_2(t)I(t)P(t)}{g(t)P^\gamma(t) + S(t) + I(t)}, \quad \gamma \in (0, 1), \\ \dot{P}(t) &= r(t)P(t) \left[1 - \frac{P(t)}{K(t)} \right] + \frac{c_3(t)S(t)P(t)}{g(t)P^\gamma(t) + S(t) + I(t)} \\ &\quad - \frac{c_4(t)I(t)P(t)}{g(t)P^\gamma(t) + S(t) + I(t)}, \end{aligned}$$
(2)

where $\Lambda(t)$ denotes the instantaneous recruitment rate of the prey population at time t . $d(t)$ denotes the natural death rate of the susceptible prey population and $e(t)$ is the death rate of the infective prey population, which includes the natural death rate and the death rate from the disease, at time t . Obviously, $e(t) \geq d(t)$ for all $t \geq 0$. $g(t)$ is half-saturation coefficient at time t and γ is called a Hassell-Varley constant. And, $c_1(t)$ (resp., $c_2(t)$) is the maximum value of the per capita rate of S (resp., I) due to P at time t and $c_3(t)$, $c_4(t)$ have the similar meaning to $c_1(t)$, $c_2(t)$. The predators eat both healthy and infected preys at different rates, since the healthy prey more likely escapes from an attack, thus $c_1(t) \leq c_2(t)$.

The initial conditions are

$$S(0) \geq 0, \quad I(0) \geq 0, \quad P(0) \geq 0. \quad (3)$$

Obviously, the set $\Omega = \{(S, I, P) \in R^3 : S > 0, I > 0, P > 0\}$ is a positively invariant set of system (2).

In this paper, let C denote all continuous functions on the real line. Given $f \in C$, we denote

$$f^M = \sup_{t \geq 0} f(t), \quad f^m = \inf_{t \geq 0} f(t). \quad (4)$$

If f is ω -periodic, then the average value of f on a time interval $[0, \omega]$ can be defined as

$$\bar{f} = \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^\omega f(t) dt. \quad (5)$$

3. Main Results

In this section, we consider the permanence and extinction of the infective prey. Moreover, by constructing a Lyapunov function and using the comparison theorem, the global attractivity of the model (2) is discussed under two cases; that is, the mutual interference constant γ is a rational number and a real-valued number in interval $(0, 1)$, respectively.

Firstly, for system (2), we make the following assumptions:

(H1) functions $\Lambda(t), \beta(t), \alpha(t), d(t), f(t), e(t), r(t), K(t), g(t)$, and $c_i(t)$ ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4$) are all nonnegative, continuous, and bounded on $R_+ = [0, +\infty)$;

(H2) there exist positive constants $\omega_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4$) such that

$$\begin{aligned} \liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_t^{t+\omega_1} \Lambda(\theta) d\theta > 0, \quad \liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_t^{t+\omega_2} d(\theta) d\theta > 0, \\ \liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_t^{t+\omega_3} [r(\theta) - c_4(\theta)] d\theta > 0, \\ \liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_t^{t+\omega_4} \frac{r(\theta)}{K(\theta)} d\theta > 0. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

For the permanence of the system (2), we have the following theorems.

Theorem 1. *Suppose that assumptions (H1) and (H2) hold and there is a constant $\omega_5 > 0$ such that*

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_t^{t+\omega_5} [\Lambda(\theta) - (c_1(\theta) + c_2(\theta)) M_2] d\theta > 0, \quad (7)$$

where the constant $M_2 = [(r + c_3)K/r]^M$ is the upper bound of the prey population. Then the prey population $x(t) = S(t) + I(t)$ and the predator population $P(t)$ are permanent.

Proof. Let $(S(t), I(t), P(t))$ be any positive solution of system (2) with initial conditions (3). From the first and second equation of (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{S}(t) + \dot{I}(t) &= \Lambda(t) - d(t)S(t) - e(t)I(t) \\ &\quad - \frac{(c_1(t)S(t)P(t) + c_2(t)P(t)I(t))}{g(t)P^\gamma(t) + S(t) + I(t)} \\ &\leq \Lambda(t) - d(t)(S(t) + I(t)) \quad \forall t \geq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

By Lemma 2.1 (see [25]) and the comparison theorem in differential equations, there exist constants $M_1 > 1$ and $T_1 > 0$, such that

$$S(t) + I(t) \leq M_1, \quad \forall t \geq T_1. \quad (9)$$

From the third equation of system (2), we further have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{P}(t) &= r(t)P(t) \left[1 - \frac{P(t)}{K(t)} \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{(c_3(t)S(t)P(t) - c_4(t)I(t)P(t))}{g(t)P^\gamma(t) + S(t) + I(t)} \\ &\leq P(t) \left[r(t) + c_3(t) - \frac{r(t)}{K(t)}P(t) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

for all $t \geq T_1$. By assumption (H2), conclusion (a) of Lemma 1 (see [26]), and the comparison theorem, there exist constants $M_2 > 1$ and $T_2(\geq T_1)$, such that

$$P(t) \leq M_2, \quad \forall t \geq T_2. \quad (11)$$

Therefore, all solutions (S, I, P) of system (2) with initial conditions (3) are ultimately bounded.

On the other hand, from the first and second equations of (2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{S}(t) + \dot{I}(t) &\geq \Lambda(t) - (c_1(t) + c_2(t)) M_2 - e(t)(S(t) + I(t)), \\ &\quad \forall t \geq T_2. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

By Lemma 2.1 in [25] and the comparison theorem, there are constants $0 < m_1 < 1$ and $T_3 > T_2$, such that

$$S(t) + I(t) \geq m_1, \quad \forall t \geq T_3. \quad (13)$$

Further, from the third equation of system (2),

$$\dot{P}(t) \geq P(t) \left[r(t) - c_4(t) - \frac{r(t)}{K(t)}P(t) \right]. \quad (14)$$

According to the comparison theorem, condition (7), and conclusion (a) of Lemma 1 (see [26]), there exist constants $0 < m_2 < 1$ and $T_4 > T_3$ such that

$$P(t) \geq m_2, \quad \forall t \geq T_4. \quad (15)$$

Therefore, from (9)–(15), we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} m_1 &\leq \liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} (S(t) + I(t)) \leq \limsup_{t \rightarrow +\infty} (S(t) + I(t)) \leq M_1, \\ m_2 &\leq \liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} P(t) \leq \limsup_{t \rightarrow +\infty} P(t) \leq M_2. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

The proof is completed. \square

Remark 2. Suppose that assumptions (H1) and (H2) hold for system (2), and $d^m > 0$, $(r/K)^m > 0$, then we can choose the constants given in the above theorem as follows:

$$M_1 = \left(\frac{\Lambda}{d}\right)^M, \quad M_2 = \left(\frac{Kr + Kc_3}{r}\right)^M, \tag{17}$$

$$m_1 = \left(\frac{\Lambda - (c_1 + c_2)M_2}{e}\right)^m, \quad m_2 = \left(\frac{Kr - Kc_4}{r}\right)^m.$$

Let $S_0(t)$ be some fixed solution of system

$$\dot{S}(t) = \Lambda(t) - c_1(t)M_0 - d(t)S, \tag{18}$$

and $y_0(t)$ is a fixed solution of the following nonautonomous Logistic equation:

$$\dot{y}(t) = y \left(r(t) + c_3(t) - \frac{r(t)}{K(t)}y \right), \tag{19}$$

where $M_0 = M_1 + M_2$. Then we have the following theorem.

Theorem 3. *Suppose that assumptions (H1) and (H2) hold. If there is a constant $\lambda > 0$, such that*

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_t^{t+\lambda} \left(\frac{\beta(\theta)S_0(\theta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)S_0(\theta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)}{g(\theta)}y_0(\theta) \right) d\theta > 0, \tag{20}$$

then the infective prey I is permanent.

Proof. Let $(S(t), I(t), P(t))$ be any solution of system (2). From (9)–(20), we can choose sufficiently small $\varepsilon_1 > 0$, $\varepsilon_2 > 0$; then there exists $T_1 > 0$ such that

$$\int_t^{t+\lambda} \left(\frac{\beta(\theta)(S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)}{g(\theta)}(y_0(\theta) + \varepsilon_1)^{1-\gamma} \right) d\theta > \varepsilon_2, \tag{21}$$

$$S(t) \leq M_0, \quad I(t) \leq M_0, \quad P(t) \leq M_0 \tag{22}$$

for all $t \geq T_1$.

Firstly, we will prove that there exists a positive constant $\varepsilon > 0$ such that

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} I(t) > \varepsilon. \tag{23}$$

Construct an auxiliary equation

$$\dot{x}(t) = \Lambda(t) - d(t)x(t) - c_1(t)M_0 - \beta(t)M_0\alpha_0. \tag{24}$$

By Lemma 4 (see [27]), for the given constants $\varepsilon_1 > 0$ and $M_0 > 0$, there exist positive constants $\delta_1 = \delta_1(\varepsilon_1) > 0$, $B_1 = B_1(\varepsilon_1, M_0) > 0$, such that for any $t_0 \in R_+$ and $x_0 \in [0, M_0]$, when $\beta(t)M_0\alpha_0 < \delta_1$ for all $t \geq t_0$, we have

$$|x(t, t_0, x_0) - S_0(t)| < \varepsilon_1 \quad \forall t \geq t_0 + B_1, \tag{25}$$

where $x(t, t_0, x_0)$ is the solution of (24) with initial value $x(t_0) = x_0$.

Choose a constant $\alpha_0 = (1/2)(\delta_1/(\beta^M M_0 + 1))$; we suppose that (23) is not true; then there exists a $Z \in R_3^+$ such that, for the positive solution $(S(t), I(t), P(t))$ of (2) with initial condition $(S(0), I(0), P(0)) = Z$, we have

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} I(t) < \alpha_0. \tag{26}$$

So there is a constant $T_2 (> T_1)$ such that

$$I(t) < \alpha_0, \tag{27}$$

for all $t \geq T_2$. Hence, from the first equation of system (2), we have

$$\dot{S}(t) \geq \Lambda(t) - c_1(t)M_0 - d(t)S(t) - \beta(t)M_0\alpha_0. \tag{28}$$

Let $u(t)$ be the solution of (24) with the condition $x(T_2) = S(T_2)$. In view of comparison theorem, we obtain

$$S(t) \geq u(t), \quad \forall t \geq T_2. \tag{29}$$

Therefore, from (25), we get

$$S(t) \geq S_0(t) - \varepsilon_1, \quad \forall t \geq T_2 + B_1. \tag{30}$$

From the third equation of system (2), we have

$$\dot{P}(t) \leq P(t) \left(r(t) - \frac{r(t)}{K(t)}P(t) + c_3(t) \right) \tag{31}$$

for the given constants $\varepsilon_1 > 0$, by comparison theorem, we obtain

$$P(t) \leq y_0(t) + \varepsilon_1, \quad \forall t \geq T_2. \tag{32}$$

Therefore, from the second equation of system (2), we further have

$$\dot{I}(t) \geq I(t) \left[\frac{\beta(t)(S_0(t) - \varepsilon_1)}{1 + \alpha(t)(S_0(t) - \varepsilon_1)} - (e(t) + f(t)) - \frac{c_2(t)}{g(t)}(y_0(t) + \varepsilon_1)^{1-\gamma} \right], \quad \forall t \geq T^*, \tag{33}$$

where $T^* = T_2 + B_1$, so

$$I(t) \geq I(T^*) \exp \int_{T^*}^t \left[\frac{\beta(t)(S_0(t) - \varepsilon_1)}{1 + \alpha(t)(S_0(t) - \varepsilon_1)} - (e(t) + f(t)) - \frac{c_2(t)}{g(t)}(y_0(t) + \varepsilon_1)^{1-\gamma} \right] dt. \tag{34}$$

Therefore (21) implies that $I(t) \rightarrow +\infty$, as $t \rightarrow +\infty$. This is a contradiction. Hence, (23) is true.

Thus, for any $t_0 \geq 0$ we claim that it is impossible that $I(t) \leq \alpha_0$, for all $t \geq t_0$. From this claim, we will only have to discuss the following possibilities.

- (i) There exists $T \geq T^*$, such that $I(t) \geq \alpha_0$ for all $t \geq T$.
- (ii) $I(t)$ oscillates about α_0 for all large t .

Obviously, we only need to consider case (ii). In the following, we will prove $I(t) \geq \alpha_0 \exp(-h_1 H + h_2 \lambda) \triangleq m$ for sufficiently large t , where

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_1 &= \sup_{t \geq 0} \left[e(t) + f(t) + \frac{c_2(t)}{g(t)} M_0^{1-\gamma} \right], \\
 h_2 &= \sup_{t \geq 0} \left[\frac{\beta(t) S_0(t)}{1 + \alpha(t) S_0(t)} + e(t) + f(t) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{c_2(t)}{g(t)} (y_0(t) + \varepsilon_1)^{1-\gamma} \right], \\
 H &= \max \{B_1, B_2\}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

Let t_1, t_2 be sufficiently large times satisfying

$$I(t_1) = I(t_2) = \alpha_0; \quad I(t) < \alpha_0, \quad \forall t \in (t_1, t_2). \tag{36}$$

If $t_2 - t_1 \leq H$, then from the second equation of system (2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 I(t) &= I(t_1) \exp \int_{t_1}^t \left(\frac{\beta(\theta) S(\theta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta) S(\theta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{c_2(\theta) P(\theta)}{g(t) P^\gamma + S + I} \right) d\theta \\
 &\geq I(t_1) \exp \int_{t_1}^t \left(-e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)}{g(\theta)} M_0^{1-\gamma} \right) d\theta \\
 &\geq \alpha_0 \exp(-h_1 H), \quad \forall t \in [t_1, t_2].
 \end{aligned} \tag{37}$$

If $t_2 - t_1 > H$, being similar to the proof in (30), (32), we know that

$$S(t) \geq S_0(t) - \varepsilon_1, \quad P(t) \leq y_0(t) + \varepsilon_1 \quad \forall t \in [t_1 + H, t_2]. \tag{38}$$

For any $t \in [t_1, t_2]$, if $t \leq t_1 + H$, from the above discussion, we obtain that

$$I(t) \geq \alpha_0 \exp(-h_1 H). \tag{39}$$

If $t \geq t_1 + H$, letting $q \geq 0$ be a nonnegative integer such that $t \in [t_1 + H + q\lambda, t_1 + H + (q + 1)\lambda)$, then from (21), (37), and (38) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 I(t) &= I(t_1 + H) \exp \int_{t_1 + H}^t \left(\frac{\beta(\theta) S(\theta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta) S(\theta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{c_2(\theta) P(\theta)}{g(t) P^\gamma + S + I} \right) d\theta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\geq \alpha_0 \exp(-h_1 H) \\
 &\quad \times \exp \int_{t_1 + H}^t \left(\frac{\beta(\theta) (S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)}{1 + \alpha(\theta) (S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)} - e(\theta) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)}{g(\theta)} (y_0(\theta) + \varepsilon_1)^{1-\gamma} \right) d\theta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \alpha_0 \exp(-h_1 H) \\
 &\quad \times \exp \left[\int_{t_1 + H}^{t_1 + H + q\lambda} + \int_{t_1 + H + q\lambda}^t \right] \\
 &\quad \times \left(\frac{\beta(\theta) (S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)}{1 + \alpha(\theta) (S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{c_2(\theta)}{g(\theta)} (y_0(\theta) + \varepsilon_1)^{1-\gamma} \right) d\theta \\
 &\geq \alpha_0 \exp(-h_1 H) \\
 &\quad \times \exp \int_{t_1 + H + q\lambda}^t \left(\frac{\beta(\theta) (S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)}{1 + \alpha(\theta) (S_0(\theta) - \varepsilon_1)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{c_2(\theta)}{g(\theta)} (y_0(\theta) + \varepsilon_1)^{1-\gamma} \right) d\theta \\
 &\geq \alpha_0 \exp(-(h_1 H + h_2 \lambda)) \triangleq m.
 \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

Therefore, we have

$$I(t) \geq m \quad \forall t \in [t_1, t_2]. \tag{41}$$

The proof is completed. \square

Nextly, we will discuss the extinction of infective I and obtain the following result.

Theorem 4. *Suppose that assumptions (H1) and (H2) hold. If there are constants $\gamma, \lambda^* > 0$, such that*

$$(H3)$$

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_t^{t+\gamma} \frac{\beta(\theta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta) \widetilde{S}_0(\theta)} d\theta > 0, \tag{42}$$

$$(H4)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \limsup_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda^*} \int_t^{t+\lambda^*} \left(\frac{\beta(\theta) \widetilde{S}_0(\theta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta) \widetilde{S}_0(\theta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) \right. \\
 \left. - \frac{c_2(\theta) \widetilde{P}_0(\theta)}{(g(\theta) + 2) M_0} \right) d\theta \leq 0,
 \end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

where $\widetilde{S}_0(t)$ is some fixed solution of system

$$\dot{S}(t) = \Lambda(t) - d(t) S, \tag{44}$$

and $\bar{y}_0(t)$ is a fixed solution of the following nonautonomous Logistic equation:

$$\dot{y}(t) = y \left(r(t) - c_4(t) - \frac{r(t)}{K(t)} y \right), \quad (45)$$

then the infective prey I is extinct.

Proof. From assumption (H3), we can choose $\eta > 0$ small enough and $T_0 > 0$ big enough satisfying

$$\int_t^{t+\gamma} \frac{\beta(\theta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)\bar{S}_0(\theta)} d\theta \geq \eta, \quad \forall t \geq T_0. \quad (46)$$

For any $0 < \sigma < 1$, we set $\sigma_0 = \min\{\lambda^* \eta \sigma / 2\gamma, (1/2)\eta \sigma\}$. If (H4) holds, then there exist $\delta > 0$ and $T_1 \geq T_0$ such that

$$\int_t^{t+\lambda^*} \left(\frac{\beta(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)(\bar{y}_0(\theta) - \delta)}{(g(\theta) + 2)M_0} \right) d\theta \leq \sigma_0 \quad (47)$$

for all $t \geq T_1$. Choose an integer n_0 satisfying $2\gamma/\lambda^* \leq n_0 \leq (2\gamma/\lambda^*) + 1$. Set $\lambda_0 = n_0 \lambda^*$; then

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_t^{t+\lambda_0} \left(\frac{\beta(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)(\bar{y}_0(\theta) - \delta)}{(g(\theta) + 2)M_0} - \frac{\beta(\theta)\sigma}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)} \right) d\theta \\ & \leq \int_t^{t+n_0\lambda^*} \left(\frac{\beta(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)(\bar{y}_0(\theta) - \delta)}{(g(\theta) + 2)M_0} \right) d\theta \\ & \quad - \int_t^{t+2\gamma} \frac{\beta(\theta)\sigma}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)} d\theta \\ & \leq n_0\sigma_0 - 2\eta\sigma \leq -\frac{1}{2}\eta\sigma. \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

Differentiating $S + I$ along a solution of system (2), by the comparison theorem and Lemma 2.1 (b) (see [25]), there exists a constant $T_2 \geq T_1$ such that

$$S(t) + I(t) \leq \bar{S}_0(t) + \delta, \quad \forall t \geq T_2. \quad (49)$$

Further, from the third equation of system (2) and Lemma 1 (b) (see [26]), there is a $T_3 \geq T_2$ such that

$$P(t) \geq \bar{y}_0(t) - \delta, \quad \forall t \geq T_3. \quad (50)$$

Let $T = \max\{T_2, T_3\}$, $h = \sup_{t \geq T} \{\beta(t)(\bar{S}_0(t) + \delta) + e(t) + f(t) + (c_2(t)/2M_0)(\bar{y}_0(t) + \delta) + \beta(t)\}$; then, for all $t \geq T$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{I}(t) & \leq I(t) \left[\frac{\beta(t)(\bar{S}_0(t) + \delta - I(t))}{1 + \alpha(t)(\bar{S}_0(t) + \delta)} - e(t) - f(t) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \frac{c_2(t)}{(g(t) + 2)M_0} (\bar{y}_0(t) - \delta) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

If $I(t) \geq \sigma$ for all $t \geq T$, then let $q^* \geq 0$ be a nonnegative integer such that $t \in [T + q^* \lambda_0, T + (q^* + 1)\lambda_0)$; integrating (51) from T to t , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & I(t) \\ & \leq I(T) \\ & \quad \times \exp \int_T^t \left[\frac{\beta(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)(\bar{y}_0(\theta) - \delta)}{(g(\theta) + 2)M_0} - \frac{\beta(\theta)\sigma}{1 + \alpha(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)} \right] d\theta \\ & = I(T) \exp \left[\int_T^{T+q^*\lambda_0} + \int_{T+q^*\lambda_0}^t \right] \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \frac{\beta(\theta)(\bar{S}_0(\theta) + \delta)}{1 + \alpha(\theta)\bar{S}_0(\theta)} - e(\theta) - f(\theta) - \frac{c_2(\theta)(\bar{y}_0(\theta) - \delta)}{(g(\theta) + 2)M_0} - \frac{\beta(\theta)\sigma}{1 + \alpha(\theta)\bar{S}_0(\theta)} \right\} d\theta \\ & \leq I(T) \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2}\eta\sigma q^* \right] \exp(\lambda_0 h). \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

Then it follows that $I(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow +\infty$. This is a contradiction with $I(t) \geq \sigma$. Hence there must be a $t_1 \geq T$ such that $I(t_1) < \sigma$.

Finally, we will prove

$$I(t) \leq \sigma \exp(h\lambda_0) \quad (53)$$

for all $t \geq t_1$. If it is not true, there exists a $t_2 > t_1$ such that $I(t_2) > \sigma \exp(h\lambda_0)$. Hence, there exists a $t_3 \in (t_1, t_2)$ such that $I(t_3) = \sigma$ and $I(t) > \sigma$ for all $t \in (t_3, t_2)$. Let l_1 be a nonnegative integer such that $t_2 \in [t_3 + l_1 \lambda_0, t_3 + (l_1 + 1)\lambda_0)$; then integrating (51) from t_3 to t_2 , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sigma \exp(h\lambda_0) \\ & \leq I(t_2) \leq I(t_3) \\ & \quad \times \exp \int_{t_3}^{t_2} \left[\frac{\beta(t)(\bar{S}_0(t) + \delta)}{1 + \alpha(t)(\bar{S}_0(t) + \delta)} - e(t) - f(t) - \frac{c_2(t)(\bar{y}_0(t) - \delta)}{(g(t) + 2)M_0} - \frac{\beta(t)I(t)}{1 + \alpha(t)(\bar{S}_0(t) + \delta)} \right] dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq I(t_3) \exp \left[\int_{t_3}^{t_3+l_1\lambda_0} + \int_{t_3+l_1\lambda_0}^{t_2} \right] \\ &\quad \times \left[\frac{\beta(t) (\overline{S_0}(t) + \delta)}{1 + \alpha(t) (\overline{S_0}(t) + \delta)} - e(t) - f(t) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{c_2(\theta) (\overline{y_0}(\theta) - \delta)}{(g(\theta) + 2) M_0} - \frac{\beta(t) \sigma}{1 + \alpha(t) (\overline{S_0}(t) + \delta)} \right] dt \\ &\leq \sigma \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \eta \sigma l_1 \right) \exp(\lambda_0 h). \end{aligned} \tag{54}$$

This leads to a contradiction. Hence, inequality (53) holds. Furthermore, since σ can be arbitrarily small, we conclude that $I(t) \rightarrow 0$, as $t \rightarrow +\infty$. The proof is completed. \square

In particular, when system (2) degenerates into an ω -periodic system, then assumptions (H1), (H2), and (H3) are equivalent to the following forms:

- (C1) functions $\Lambda(t)$, $\beta(t)$, $\alpha(t)$, $d(t)$, $f(t)$, $e(t)$, $r(t)$, $K(t)$, $g(t)$, and $c_i(t)$ ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4$) are all nonnegative, continuous periodic functions with a period $\omega > 0$;
- (C2) $\overline{\Lambda} > 0$, $\overline{d} > 0$, $\overline{r - c_4} > 0$, $\overline{(r/K)} > 0$;
- (C3) $\overline{\beta/(1 + \alpha \overline{S_0})} > 0$.

As consequences of Theorems 3 and 4, we have the following corollaries.

Corollary 5. *Suppose that assumptions (C1) and (C2) hold, and*

$$R_* = \frac{\overline{\beta S_0/(1 + \alpha S_0)}}{(\overline{e} + \overline{f} + \overline{c_2 y_0/g})} > 1; \tag{55}$$

then the infective I of system (2) is permanent.

Corollary 6. *Suppose that assumptions (C1), (C2), and (C3) hold, and*

$$R^* = \frac{\overline{\beta \overline{S_0}/(1 + \alpha \overline{S_0})}}{(\overline{e} + \overline{f} + \overline{c_2 \overline{y_0}/(g + 2) M_0})} \leq 1; \tag{56}$$

then the infective I of system (2) is extinct.

Lastly, we will give the discussion on the global attractivity of model (2) as follows:

Theorem 7. *Suppose that assumptions (H1) and (H2) hold and $\gamma \in (0, 1)$ is a rational number. If there are constants $\mu_i > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) such that $\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} A_i(t) > 0$ and $\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} (M_2^{1-\gamma} A_3(t) + A_4(t)) > 0$, where*

$$\begin{aligned} A_1(t) &= \mu_1 \left[d(t) - (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) \frac{M_1 M_2^{1-\gamma}}{m_1} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &- \mu_2 \left[\beta(t) - \frac{M_2^{1-\gamma} c_2(t)}{m_1 g(t)} \right] \\ &- \mu_3 \left[\frac{c_3(t)}{m_1} + \frac{(c_3(t) + c_4(t)) M_1}{m_1^2} \right], \\ A_2(t) &= \mu_2 \frac{\beta(t)}{(1 + \alpha(t) M_1)^2} \\ &- \mu_1 \left[e(t) - d(t) + (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) \left(M_2^{1-\gamma} + \frac{M_2}{m_1} \right) \right] \\ &- \mu_1 [c_2(t) - c_1(t)] M_1 - 2\mu_3 \frac{[c_3(t) + c_4(t)]}{m_1}, \\ A_3(t) &= \mu_3 \frac{r(t)}{K(t)} - \mu_1 \left[2c_2(t) + \frac{M_1}{m_1} (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) g(t) \right] \\ &- \mu_2 \frac{2c_2(t)}{m_1}, \\ A_4(t) &= -\mu_1 \left[M_2^{2-\gamma} c_1(t) - (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) g(t) \frac{M_1 M_2}{m_1^2} \right] \\ &- \mu_2 c_2(t) \frac{M_2^{1-\gamma}}{m_1} - \mu_3 g(t) \left[\frac{c_3(t)}{m_1} + \frac{(c_3(t) + c_4(t)) M_1}{m_1^2} \right], \end{aligned} \tag{57}$$

and M_1, M_2 are the constants obtained in Theorem 1, then model (2) is globally attractive.

Proof. Let $x = S + I$; then system (2) is equivalent to the following system:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= \Lambda(t) - d(t)x - [e(t) - d(t)]I \\ &\quad - \frac{c_1(t)xP}{g(t)P^\gamma + x} + \frac{[c_1(t) - c_2(t)]PI}{g(t)P^\gamma + x}, \\ \dot{I}(t) &= I \left[\frac{\beta(t)(x - I)}{1 + \alpha(t)(x - I)} - e(t) - f(t) - \frac{c_2(t)P}{g(t)P^\gamma + x} \right], \\ \dot{P}(t) &= P \left[r(t) + \frac{c_3(t)x}{g(t)P^\gamma + x} - \frac{(c_3(t) + c_4(t))I}{g(t)P^\gamma + x} - \frac{r(t)}{K(t)}P \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{58}$$

Let $(x_1(t), I_1(t), P_1(t)), (x_2(t), I_2(t), P_2(t))$ be any two solutions of system (58). Then, from (9)–(13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} m_1 \leq x_k(t) \leq M_1, \quad I_k(t) \leq M_1, \quad P_k(t) \leq M_2, \\ \forall t \geq 0, \quad k = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \tag{59}$$

Construct a Lyapunov function

$$V(t) = \mu_1 |x_1(t) - x_2(t)| + \mu_2 |\ln I_1(t) - \ln I_2(t)| + \mu_3 |\ln P_1(t) - \ln P_2(t)|. \quad (60)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} D^+(V(t)) &= \mu_1 \operatorname{sgn}(x_1 - x_2) \\ &\times \left\{ -d(t)(x_1 - x_2) - (e(t) - d(t))(I_1 - I_2) \right. \\ &\quad - c_1(t) \left(\frac{P_1 x_1}{g(t)P_1^\gamma + x_1} - \frac{P_2 x_2}{g(t)P_2^\gamma + x_2} \right) \\ &\quad \left. + [c_1(t) - c_2(t)] \left(\frac{P_1 I_1}{g(t)P_1^\gamma + x_1} - \frac{P_2 I_2}{g(t)P_2^\gamma + x_2} \right) \right\} \\ &+ \mu_2 \operatorname{sgn}(I_1 - I_2) \\ &\times \left\{ \frac{\beta(t)(x_1 - I_1)}{1 + \alpha(t)(x_1 - I_1)} - \frac{\beta(t)(x_2 - I_2)}{1 + \alpha(t)(x_2 - I_2)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - c_2(t) \left(\frac{P_1}{g(t)P_1^\gamma + x_1} - \frac{P_2}{g(t)P_2^\gamma + x_2} \right) \right\} \\ &+ \mu_3 \operatorname{sgn}(P_1 - P_2) \\ &\times \left\{ c_3(t) \left(\frac{x_1}{g(t)P_1^\gamma + x_1} - \frac{x_2}{g(t)P_2^\gamma + x_2} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (c_3(t) + c_4(t)) \left(\frac{I_1}{g(t)P_1^\gamma + x_1} - \frac{I_2}{g(t)P_2^\gamma + x_2} \right) \right\} \\ &- \mu_3 \frac{r(t)}{k(t)} (P_1 - P_2) \\ &\leq \mu_1 \left\{ -d(t)|x_1 - x_2| + (e(t) - d(t))|I_1 - I_2| + c_1(t)M_2^{2-\gamma} \right. \\ &\quad \times |P_1^\gamma - P_2^\gamma| + 2c_1(t)M_1|P_1 - P_2| \\ &\quad + g(t)[k_2(t) - k_1(t)] \frac{M_1 M_2}{m_1^2} |P_1^\gamma - P_2^\gamma| \\ &\quad + [c_2(t) - c_1(t)] \frac{M_1}{m_1} |I_1 - I_2| \\ &\quad + (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) \frac{M_2^{1-\gamma} M_1}{m_1} |x_1 - x_2| \\ &\quad + (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) M_2^{1-\gamma} \\ &\quad \left. \times |I_1 - I_2| g(t)(c_2(t) - c_1(t)) \frac{M_1}{m_1} |P_1 - P_2| \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \mu_2 \left\{ \beta(t)|x_1 - x_2| - \frac{\beta(t)}{(1 + \alpha(t)M_1)^2} |I_1 - I_2| \right. \\ &\quad + 2c_2(t) \frac{1}{m_1} |P_1 - P_2| + \frac{M_2^{1-\gamma} c_2(t)}{m_1 g(t)} \\ &\quad \left. \times |x_1 - x_2| + c_2(t) \frac{M_2^{1-\gamma}}{m_1} |P_1^\gamma - P_2^\gamma| \right\} \\ &+ \mu_3 \left\{ \frac{c_3(t)}{m_1} |x_1 - x_2| + 2 \frac{(c_3(t) + c_4(t))}{m_1} |I_1 - I_2| \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{(c_3(t) + c_4(t))M_1}{m_1^2} |x_1 - x_2| \\ &\quad + \frac{[(m_1 + M_1)c_3(t) + M_1 c_4(t)]}{m_1^2} g(t) |P_1^\gamma - P_2^\gamma| \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{r(t)}{k(t)} |P_1 - P_2| \right\} \\ &= \left\{ -\mu_1 \left[d(t) - (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) \frac{M_1 M_2^{1-\gamma}}{m_1} \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \mu_2 \left[\beta(t) - \frac{M_2^{1-\gamma} c_2(t)}{m_1 g(t)} \right] + \mu_3 \frac{(c_3(t) + c_4(t))M_1}{m_1^2} \right\} \\ &\times |x_1 - x_2| \\ &+ \left\{ \mu_1 \left[e(t) - d(t) + (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) \left(M_2^{1-\gamma} + \frac{M_2}{m_1} \right) \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \mu_2 \frac{\beta(t)}{(1 + \alpha(t)M_1)^2} + \mu_1 [c_2(t) - c_1(t)] M_1 \right\} |I_1 - I_2| \\ &+ 2\mu_3 \frac{[c_3(t) + c_4(t)]}{m_1} |I_1 - I_2| + \mu_3 \frac{c_3(t)}{m_1} |x_1 - x_2| \\ &= \left\{ -\mu_3 \frac{r(t)}{K(t)} + \mu_1 \left[2c_2(t) + \frac{M_1}{m_1} (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) g(t) \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \mu_2 \frac{2c_2(t)}{m_1} \right\} |P_1 - P_2| \\ &= \left\{ \mu_1 \left[M_2^{2-\gamma} c_1(t) - (c_2(t) - c_1(t)) g(t) \frac{M_1 M_2}{m_1^2} \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \mu_2 c_2(t) \frac{M_2^{1-\gamma}}{m_1} + \mu_3 g(t) \left[\frac{c_3(t)}{m_1} + \frac{(c_3(t) + c_4(t))M_1}{m_1^2} \right] \right\} \\ &\times |P_1^\gamma - P_2^\gamma| \\ &= -A_1(t)|x_1 - x_2| - A_2(t)|I_1 - I_2| \\ &\quad - A_3(t)|P_1 - P_2| - A_4(t)|P_1^\gamma - P_2^\gamma|. \quad (61) \end{aligned}$$

Note that γ is a rational number, which yields that there exist two mutually prime numbers p and q with $p > q$ and $\gamma = q/p$, such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P_1^\gamma(t) - P_2^\gamma(t) \\
 &= [P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)] \sum_{i=1}^q P_1^{(q-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t), \\
 P_1(t) - P_2(t) & \tag{62} \\
 &= [P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)] \sum_{i=1}^p P_1^{(p-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t).
 \end{aligned}$$

Then, we can obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^+(V(t)) & \leq -A_1(t) |x_1 - x_2| - A_2(t) |I_1 - I_2| \\
 & - \left\{ A_3(t) \sum_{i=1}^p P_1^{(p-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + A_4(t) \sum_{i=1}^q P_1^{(q-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) \right\} \\
 & \times |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)| \\
 &= -A_1(t) |x_1 - x_2| - A_2(t) |I_1 - I_2| \\
 & - A_3(t) \sum_{i=q}^p P_1^{(p-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)| \\
 & - \left[A_3(t) \sum_{i=1}^q P_1^{(p-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + A_4(t) \sum_{i=1}^q P_1^{(q-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) \right] \\
 & \times |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)| \\
 &= -A_1(t) |x_1 - x_2| - A_2(t) |I_1 - I_2| \\
 & - A_3(t) \sum_{i=q}^p P_1^{(p-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)| \\
 & - [A_3(t) P_1^{\gamma-1}(t) + A_4(t)] \\
 & \times \sum_{i=1}^q P_1^{(q-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)| \\
 & \leq -A_1(t) |x_1 - x_2| - A_2(t) |I_1 - I_2| \\
 & - A_3(t) \sum_{i=q}^p P_1^{(p-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)| \\
 & - [A_3(t) M_2^{\gamma-1}(t) + A_4(t)] \\
 & \times \sum_{i=1}^q P_1^{(q-i)/p}(t) P_2^{(i-1)/p}(t) |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)|.
 \end{aligned} \tag{63}$$

Since $\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} A_i(t) > 0$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) and $\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} (M_2^{1-\gamma} A_3(t) + A_4(t)) > 0$, there exist constants $\alpha > 0$ and $T_0 > 0$ such that $A_i(t) \geq \alpha$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) for all $t \geq T_0$. Furthermore, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^+(V(t)) & \leq -\alpha (|x_1(t) - x_2(t)| + |I_1(t) - I_2(t)| \\
 & \quad + |P_1(t) - P_2(t)| + |P_1^{1/p}(t) - P_2^{1/p}(t)|)
 \end{aligned} \tag{64}$$

for all $t \geq T_0$. Taking integral on both sides of (64) from T_0 to t , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 V(t) - V(T_0) & \leq -\alpha \int_{T_0}^t (|x_1(s) - x_2(s)| + |I_1(s) - I_2(s)| \\
 & \quad + |P_1(s) - P_2(s)| + |P_1^{1/p}(s) - P_2^{1/p}(s)|) ds;
 \end{aligned} \tag{65}$$

that is,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha \int_{T_0}^t (|x_1(s) - x_2(s)| + |I_1(s) - I_2(s)| + |P_1(s) - P_2(s)| \\
 + |P_1^{1/p}(s) - P_2^{1/p}(s)|) ds \leq V(T_0) < +\infty.
 \end{aligned} \tag{66}$$

On the other hand, from (58) and (59), we can get that $(d/dt)(x_1 - x_2)$, $(d/dt)(I_1 - I_2)$, and $(d/dt)(P_1 - P_2)$ are all bounded on $[0, \infty)$. So from (66),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |x_1(t) - x_2(t)| = 0, \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |I_1(t) - I_2(t)| = 0, \\
 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |P_1(t) - P_2(t)| = 0.
 \end{aligned} \tag{67}$$

The proof is completed. \square

Theorem 8. *If we replace the term $M_2^{1-\gamma} A_3(t) + A_4(t)$ in Theorem 7 by $A_3(t) + \gamma M_2^{\gamma-1} A_4(t)$, then the result still holds without the need for the assumption that γ is a rational number.*

Proof. The mean value theorem yields that there is $\xi \in (m_2, M_2)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 |P_1^\gamma(t) - P_2^\gamma(t)| &= \gamma \xi^{\gamma-1} |P_1(t) - P_2(t)| \\
 &\geq \gamma M_2^{\gamma-1} |P_1(t) - P_2(t)|,
 \end{aligned} \tag{68}$$

which, together with (61), makes us obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^+V(t) & \leq -A_1(t) |x_1(t) - x_2(t)| - A_2(t) |I_1(t) - I_2(t)| \\
 & - [A_3(t) + \gamma M_2^{\gamma-1} A_4(t)] |P_1(t) - P_2(t)|.
 \end{aligned} \tag{69}$$

The remainder of the proof is similar to the previous proof of Theorem 7. Here we omit it. \square

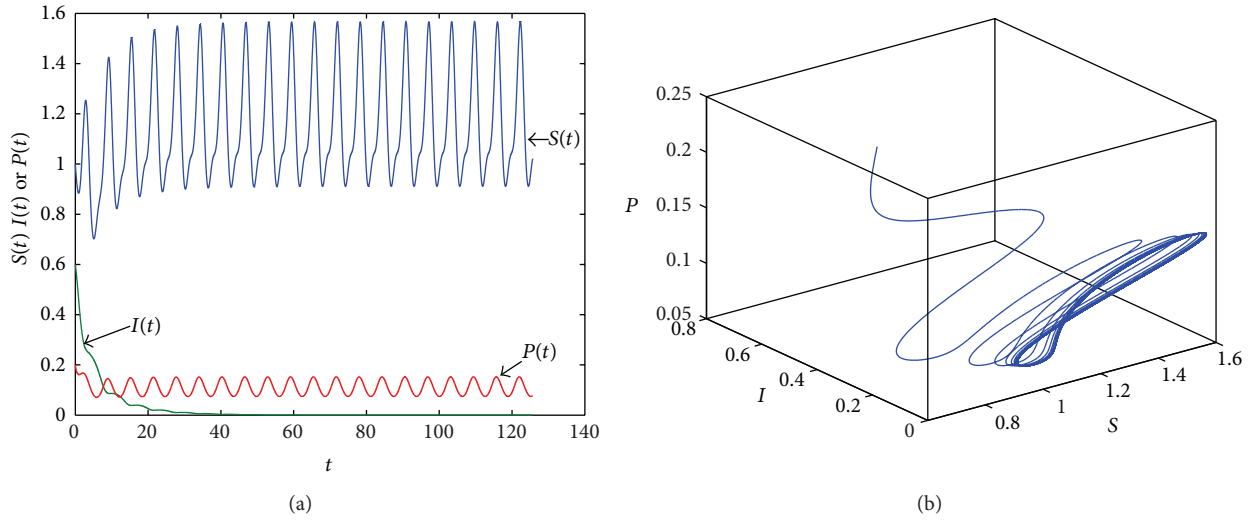


FIGURE 1: (a) The movement paths of S , I , and P as functions of time t . The graph of the trajectory in (S, I, P) -Space is shown in (b). $R^* = 0.9898 < 1$. The disease is extinct.

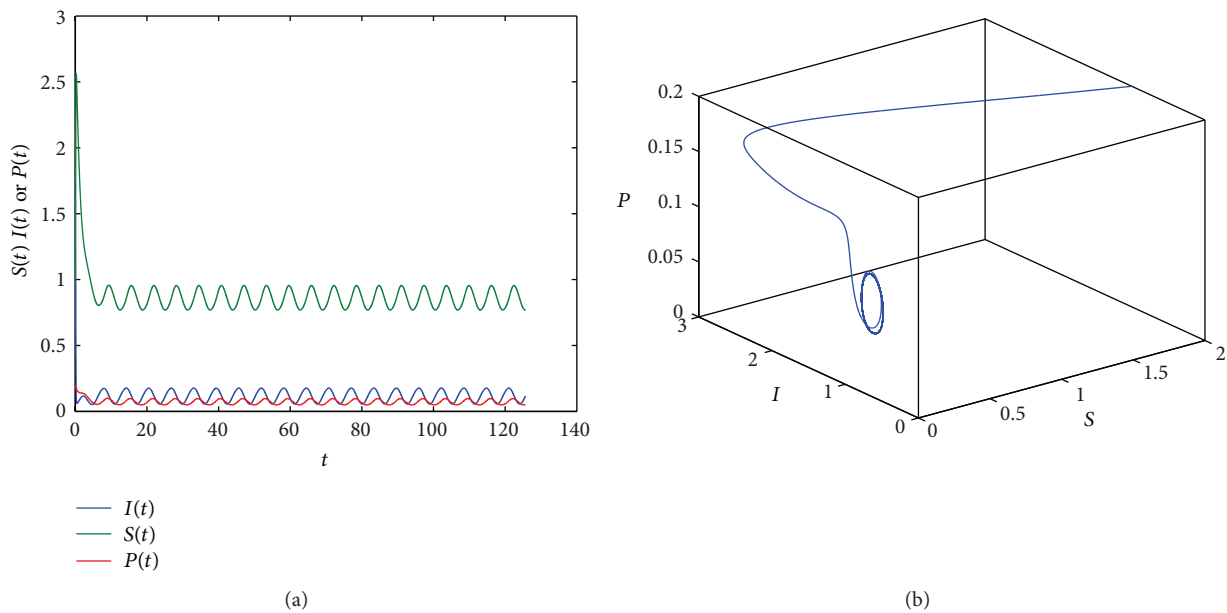


FIGURE 2: (a) The movement paths of S , I , and P as functions of time t . The graph of the trajectory in (S, I, P) -Space is shown in (b). $R_* = 1.2288 > 1$. The disease is permanent.

4. Numerical Simulation

In this section, we present some numerical simulations to substantiate and augment our analytical findings of system (2) by means of the software Matlab.

In system (2), let $\Lambda(t) = 0.6 + 0.3 \sin(2t)$, $d(t) = 0.5 + 0.2 \sin(2t)$, $e(t) = 0.6 + 0.2 \sin(t)$, $f(t) = 0.05 + 0.04 \sin(t)$, $r(t) = 0.5 + 0.4 \sin t$, $K(t) = 0.1 + 0.08 \sin t$, $\alpha(t) = 0.2 + 0.01 \sin t$, $c_1(t) = 0.18 + 0.1 \cos t$, $c_2(t) = 0.5 + 0.1 \sin t$, $c_3(t) = 0.06 + 0.01 \sin t$, $c_4(t) = 0.2 + 0.08 \cos t$, $g(t) = 0.6 + 0.1 \sin t$,

$\gamma = 0.5$. Obviously, it is easy to verify that assumptions (C1) and (C2) hold. Let $\beta(t) = 0.63 + 0.1 \sin t$; our results show that the upper threshold value $R^* = 0.9898 < 1$, under which the conditions of Corollary 6 are satisfied. Hence, the disease will be extinct (see Figure 1). Increasing the infective rate to $\beta(t) = 6 + 0.1 \sin t$, we can easily get the lower threshold value $R_* = 1.2288 > 1$ and observe that all three species follow the system (2), which reaches a stable state. The conclusion of Corollary 5 is verified (see Figure 2). Also, we find that the force of infection or the contact rate is one of the important

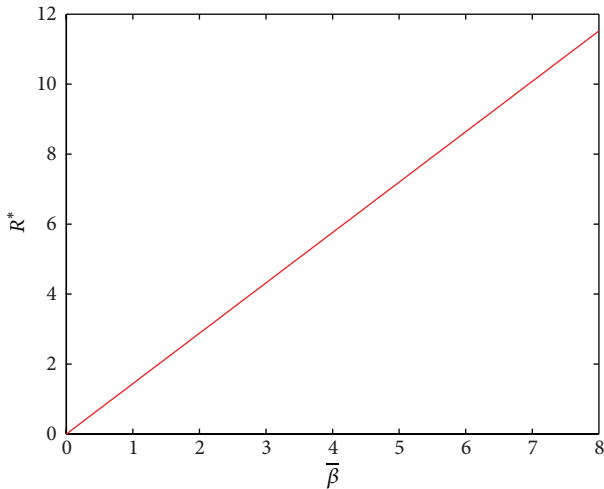


FIGURE 3: The graph of the upper threshold value R^* versus $\bar{\beta}$.

parameters that control disease in an eco-epidemiological system. The graph for the relation of the basic reproduction ratio to $\bar{\beta}$ is obtained (see Figure 3).

Next, considering system (2) with initial conditions $(0.05, 0.01, 0.03)$, $(0.6, 0.1, 0.1)$, $(0.05, 1.2, 0.3)$, $(0.6, 0.8, 0.6)$, and $(0.05, 0.03, 0.6)$, numerical simulation shows that the solution curves finally converge into a closed curve in three-dimensional space, which imply that there exists a periodic solution of system (2) with the above conditions and it is globally attractive (see Figure 4). Therefore, we conjecture that if all the conditions of Corollary 5 hold, then system (2) has a positive periodic solution which is globally attractive.

Finally, it is well known that the disease plays an important role in a predator-prey system. Anderson and May [28] pointed that invasion of a resident predator-prey system by a new strain of parasites could cause destabilization and exhibits limit cycle oscillation. Thus to keep the system stability we have to make the system disease free. In the following, we will perform some numerical simulations to show the importance of recovery rate f for controlling disease in an eco-epidemiological system. For system (2), we will discuss the effect of the mean value of recovery rate, \bar{f} , in the dynamics of the system. We choose $d(t) = 0.5 + 0.2 \sin 2t$, $c_1(t) = 0.18 + 0.1 \cos t$, $\Lambda(t) = 0.6 + 0.3 \sin 2t$, $c_2(t) = 0.5 + 0.1 \sin t$, $e(t) = 0.6 + 0.2 \sin t$, $r(t) = 0.5 + 0.4 \sin t$, $K(t) = 0.1 + 0.08 \sin t$, $\alpha(t) = 0.2 + 0.01 \sin t$, $\beta(t) = 0.8 + 0.1 \sin t$, and the period $T = 2\pi$. As \bar{f} varies in $[0, 9]$, we obtain the graph for the relation of the basic reproduction ratio to \bar{f} (see Figure 5). This figure shows that increasing the amplitude of periodically recovery rate reduces the risk of epidemic prevalence and the recovery rate on the system is also an important parameter for controlling disease in an eco-epidemiological system.

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

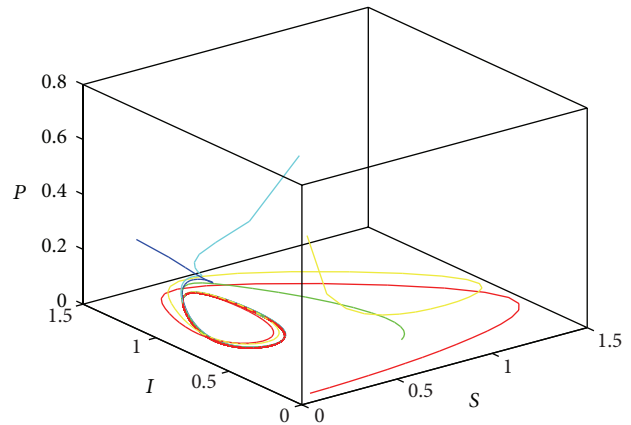


FIGURE 4: The existence of periodic solution of system (2). $d(t) = 0.5 + 0.2 \sin(2t)$, $\Lambda(t) = 0.6 + 0.5 \sin t$, $\beta(t) = 3.2 + \sin t$, $e(t) = 0.6 + 0.2 \sin t$, and $f(t) = 0.05 + 0.045 \sin t$. The periodic solution is globally attractive.

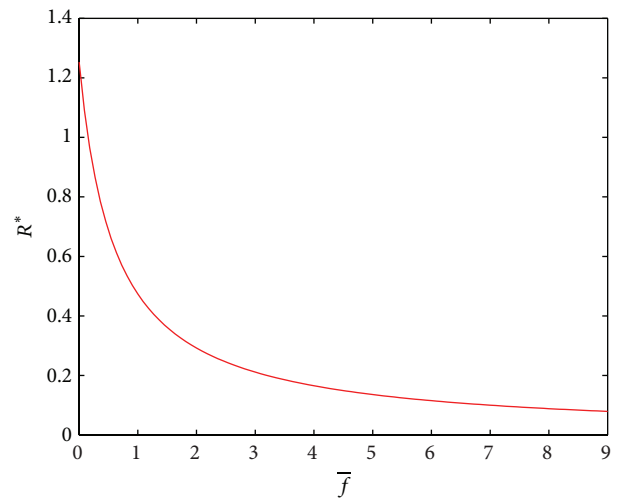


FIGURE 5: The graph of the upper threshold value R^* versus \bar{f} .

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