

Response to reviewers

A clear question about ecological communities

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Thank the editor and reviewers briefly. State which files accompany the revision. Comments below are invented examples, not actual peer-review correspondence. Blue text marks additions and struck-through text marks deletions inside manuscript excerpts. Page and line references point to the review copy compiled from `main.tex`.

Editor

Comment E.1.

Please clarify the biological question and the scope of inference.

Response. Describe the change directly and explain how it addresses the concern. The introductory example is located at page 1, lines 13–15.

The example question is how ~~populations change~~ density-dependent growth approaches a carrying capacity. The model is illustrative and is not evidence about a real population.

Reviewer 1

Comment 1.1.

The model's assumptions should be explicit.

Response. Point to the relevant section, explain the assumption and state what it limits. In this example, assumptions appear in section 2 on page 2. A mathematical result is demonstrated in proposition 1. Cite additional references when they substantiate the response (May, 1972).

Comment 1.2.

Please supply the intermediate steps of the derivation.

Response. The supplementary derivation is in section S1, including equation (S1). These references are generated from labels, rather than typed figure or equation numbers. A page/line range still needs checking against the exact PDF submitted to the journal.

Reviewer 2

Comment 2.1.

Please improve reproducibility reporting.

Response. Explain what was deposited, where it can be accessed and how it maps to the analyses. Do not promise public access when data restrictions apply. For simulation-based work, the model-description protocol of Grimm et al. (2006) provides a useful example.

References cited in this response

- Grimm, V., U. Berger, F. Bastiansen, S. Eliassen, V. Ginot, J. Giske, J. Goss-Custard, T. Grand, S. K. Heinz, G. Huse, A. Huth, J. U. Jepsen, C. Jørgensen, W. M. Mooij, B. Müller, G. Pe'er, C. Piou, S. F. Railsback, A. M. Robbins, M. M. Robbins, E. Rossmanith, N. Rüger, E. Strand, S. Souissi, R. A. Stillman, R. Vabø, U. Visser, and D. L. DeAngelis (2006). "A standard protocol for describing individual-based and agent-based models". In: *Ecological Modelling* 198.1–2, pp. 115–126. DOI: [10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2006.04.023](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2006.04.023).
- May, R. M. (1972). "Will a Large Complex System be Stable?" In: *Nature* 238, pp. 413–414. DOI: [10.1038/238413a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/238413a0).