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# Lotka-Volterra with randomly fluctuating environments: a full description 

Florent Malrieu, Tran Hoa Phu

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#### Abstract

In this note, we study the long time behavior of Lotka-Volterra systems whose coefficients vary randomly. Benaïm and Lobry established that randomly switching between two environments that are both favorable to the same species may lead to four different regimes: almost sure extinction of one of the two species, random extinction of one species or the other and persistence of both species. Our purpose here is to provide a complete description of the model. In particular, we show that any couple of environments may lead to the four different behaviours of the stochastic process depending on the jump rates.


## 1 Introduction

For a given set of positive parameters $\varepsilon=(a, b, c, d, \alpha, \beta)$, consider the Lotka-Volterra differential system in $\mathbb{R}_{+}^{2}$, is given by

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
x^{\prime}=\alpha x(1-a x-b y) \\
y^{\prime}=\beta y(1-c x-d y) \\
\left(x_{0}, y_{0}\right) \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{2}
\end{array}\right.
$$

We denote by $F_{\varepsilon}$ the associated vector field: $\left(x^{\prime}, y^{\prime}\right)=F_{\varepsilon}(x, y)$. Let us note already that when $a<c$ and $b<d$, the point $(1 / a, 0)$ attracts any path starting in $(0,+\infty)^{2}$. We say that the environment is favorable to species $x$. Similarly, when $a>c$ and $b>d$, the point $(0,1 / d)$ attracts any path starting in $(0,+\infty)^{2}$. We say that the environment is favorable to species $y$. See [?] for a detailed presentation of the four generic configurations. The environment is said to be of

- Type 1: if $a<c, b<d$ (favorable to species $x$ )
- Type 2: if $a>c, b>d$ (favorable to species $y$ )
- Type 3: if $a>c, b<d$ (persistence)
- Type 4: if $a<c, b>d$ (extinction of species $x$ or $y$ depending on the starting point)

Consider two such systems $\varepsilon_{0}=\left(a_{0}, b_{0}, c_{0}, d_{0}, \alpha_{0}, \beta_{0}\right)$ and $\varepsilon_{1}=\left(a_{1}, b_{1}, c_{1}, d_{1}, \alpha_{1}, \beta_{1}\right)$ and introduce the random process $\left\{\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}, I_{t}\right)\right\}$ on $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times\{0,1\}$ obtained by switching between these two deterministic dynamics, at rates $\lambda_{0}, \lambda_{1}$. More precisely, we consider the Markov process driven by the following generator

$$
L f(z, i)=F_{i}(z) \cdot \nabla_{z} f(z, i)+\lambda_{i}(f(z, 1-i)-f(z, i)), \quad(z, i) \in \mathbb{R}^{2} \times\{0,1\} .
$$

Equivalently, $\left(I_{t}\right)_{t \geq 0}$ is a Markov process on $\{0,1\}$ with jump rate $\lambda_{0}$ and $\lambda_{1}$, that is

$$
\mathbb{P}\left(I_{t+s}=1-i \mid I_{t}=i, \mathcal{F}_{t}\right)=\lambda_{i} s+o(s),
$$

where $\mathcal{F}_{t}$ is the sigma field generated by $\left\{I_{u}, u \leq t\right\}$. Finally, $\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}\right)$ is solution of

$$
\left(X_{t}^{\prime}, Y_{t}^{\prime}\right)=F_{\varepsilon_{I_{t}}}\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}\right) .
$$

This process on $\mathbb{R}^{2} \times\{0,1\}$ has already been studied in [?, ?]. It belongs to the class of the piecewise deterministic Markov processes introduced by Davis [?]. See also [?] for a recent review of the application areas of such processes. Let us introduce the invasion rates of species $x$ and $y$ defined in [?] as

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Lambda_{y}=\int \beta_{0}\left(1-c_{0} x\right) \mu(d x, 0)+\int \beta_{1}\left(1-c_{1} x\right) \mu(d x, 1) \\
& \Lambda_{x}=\int \alpha_{0}\left(1-b_{0} y\right) \widehat{\mu}(d y, 0)+\int \alpha_{1}\left(1-b_{1} x\right) \widehat{\mu}(d y, 1)
\end{aligned}
$$

where $\mu$ is the invariant probability measure of $\left(X_{t}, I_{t}\right)$ associated to equation:

$$
X_{t}^{\prime}=\alpha_{I_{t}} X_{t}\left(1-a_{I_{t}} X_{t}\right)
$$

and $\widehat{\mu}$ is the invariant probability measure of $\left(Y_{t}, I_{t}\right)$ associated to equation:

$$
Y_{t}^{\prime}=\beta_{I_{t}} Y_{t}\left(1-d_{I_{t}} Y_{t}\right)
$$

The meaning of $\Lambda_{y}$ is the following: when species $y$ is close to extinction, species $x$ behaves approximately as $\left(X_{t}^{\prime}, 0\right)=F_{\varepsilon_{I_{t}}}\left(X_{t}, 0\right)$ and $\Lambda_{y}$ is the growth rate of species $y$ with respect to invariant measure $\mu$ of $(X, I)$. Note that the invasion rates depend on the jump rates $\left(\lambda_{0}, \lambda_{1}\right) \in$ $(0,+\infty)^{2}$. For every $\left(\lambda_{0}, \lambda_{1}\right) \in(0,+\infty)^{2}$, we have two parametrizations of these jump rates:

$$
\begin{gathered}
(s, t) \in[0,1] \times(0,+\infty): \quad s t=\lambda_{0}, \quad(1-s) t=\lambda_{1} . \\
(u, v) \in[0,1] \times(0,+\infty): \quad u v=\lambda_{0} / \alpha_{0}, \quad(1-u) v=\lambda_{1} / \alpha_{1} .
\end{gathered}
$$

The change of parameters $(u, v)=\xi(s, t)$ is triangular in the sense that $u$ only depends on $s$

$$
(u, v)=\xi(s, t)=\left(\frac{s \alpha_{1}}{(1-s) \alpha_{0}+s \alpha_{1}}, \frac{t}{\alpha_{0} \alpha_{1}}\left((1-s) \alpha_{0}+s \alpha_{1}\right)\right) .
$$

Let us denote the invasion rates in the $(u, v)$ coordinates by

$$
\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}(u, v)=\Lambda_{x}\left(\xi^{-1}(u, v)\right) \quad \text { and } \quad \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)=\Lambda_{y}\left(\xi^{-1}(u, v)\right)
$$

It is established in [?] that signs of $\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}$ and $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}$ determine the long time behavior of $\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}\right)$.

|  | $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}>0$ | $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}<0$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}>0$ | persistence of the two species | extinction of species $y$ |
| $\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}<0$ | extinction of species $x$ | extinction of species $x$ or $y$ |

Moreover, in [?] it is shown that two environments of Type 1 may lead to four regimes for the stochastic process. This surprising result is reminiscent of switched stable linear ODE studied in [?, ?].

A fundamental property of the model is that, for all $0 \leq s \leq 1$, the vector field $(1-s) F_{\varepsilon_{0}}+s F_{\varepsilon_{1}}$ is the Lotka-Volterra system associated to the environment $\varepsilon_{s}=\left(a_{s}, b_{s}, c_{s}, d_{s}, \alpha_{s}, \beta_{s}\right)$ with

$$
\begin{gather*}
\alpha_{s}=s \alpha_{1}+(1-s) \alpha_{0}, \quad a_{s}=\frac{s \alpha_{1} a_{1}+(1-s) \alpha_{0} a_{0}}{\alpha_{s}}, \quad b_{s}=\frac{s \alpha_{1} b_{1}+(1-s) \alpha_{0} b_{0}}{\alpha_{s}}  \tag{1.1}\\
\beta_{s}=s \beta_{1}+(1-s) \beta_{0}, \quad c_{s}=\frac{s \beta_{1} c_{1}+(1-s) \beta_{0} c_{0}}{\beta_{s}}, \quad d_{s}=\frac{s \beta_{1} d_{1}+(1-s) \beta_{0} d_{0}}{\beta_{s}} \tag{1.2}
\end{gather*}
$$

Set

$$
I=\left\{0 \leq s \leq 1: a_{s}>c_{s}\right\} \quad \text { and } \quad J=\left\{0 \leq s \leq 1: b_{s}>d_{s}\right\}
$$

We denote by $\tilde{I}$ the image of $I$ for the other parametrization.
Remark 1.1. As noticed in [?], if $\varepsilon_{0}$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ are of Type 1 then I or $J$ may generically be empty or an open interval which closure is contained in $(0,1)$.

Let us recall below the key result in [?] about the expression of the invasion rates.
Lemma 1.2. [?, Lemma 1.2] Assume that $\varepsilon_{0}$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ are of Type 1 and, w.l.g., $a_{0}<a_{1}$. The quantity $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}$ can be rewritten as:

$$
\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)=\frac{1}{\left(a_{1}-a_{0}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\alpha_{0}}(1-u)+\frac{1}{\alpha_{1}} u\right)} \mathbb{E}\left[\phi\left(U_{u, v}\right)\right]
$$

where $\phi:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$$
\phi(y)=\left(a_{0}+\left(a_{1}-a_{0}\right) y\right) P\left(\frac{1}{a_{0}+\left(a_{1}-a_{0}\right) y}\right),
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
P(x)=\left(\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}}\left(1-c_{1} x\right)\left(1-a_{0} x\right)-\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-c_{0} x\right)\left(1-a_{1} x\right)\right) \frac{a_{1}-a_{0}}{\left|a_{1}-a_{0}\right|} \tag{1.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $U_{u, v}$ is a Beta distributed Beta $(u v,(1-u) v)$ random variable. Moreover, $\phi$ has the following properties:

- If I is empty then $\phi$ is nonpositive.
- If $I$ is nonempty $\left(I=\left(u_{1}, u_{2}\right)\right)$ then $\phi$ is concave, negative on $\left(0, u_{1}\right) \cup\left(u_{2}, 1\right)$ and positive on $\tilde{I}=\left(u_{1}, u_{2}\right)$.

Our first result is the precise study of the properties of $\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}$ and $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}$ with two environments $\varepsilon_{0}, \varepsilon_{1}$ that are respectively of Type 1 and Type 2 . In particular, we describe the regions where $\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}$ and $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}$ are positive.

Theorem 1.3. (Shape of the regions). Assume that $\varepsilon_{0}$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ are respectively of Type 1 and Type 2. Then, there exists a function $u \mapsto v_{y}(u)$ from $(0,1) \rightarrow[0, \infty]$, such that $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)<0$ when $v<v_{y}(u)$ and $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)>0$ when $v>v_{y}(u)$. Let $a$ be the coefficient of second degree of polynomial $P$ given by (??).

If $a<0$, there exists $0<\alpha<\bar{\alpha}<1$ such that $v_{y}$ is infinite on $[0, \alpha]$, is decreasing and continuous on $(\alpha, \bar{\alpha})$, tends to $+\infty$ at $\alpha$, tends to 0 at $\bar{\alpha}$ and is equal to 0 on $[\bar{\alpha}, 1]$.

If $a>0$, there exists $0<\bar{\alpha}<\alpha<1$ such that $v_{y}$ is equal to 0 on $[0, \bar{\alpha}]$, is increasing and continuous on $(\bar{\alpha}, \alpha)$, tends to 0 at $\bar{\alpha}$, tends to $+\infty$ at $\alpha$, and is infinite on $[\alpha, 1]$.

Moreover, $\alpha$ and $\bar{\alpha}$ are explicit.

The second result is the following theorem.
Theorem 1.4. For any $(i, j)$ in $\{1,2,3,4\}^{2}$, there exist two environments $\varepsilon_{0}$ of Type $i$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ of Type $j$ such that the associated stochastic process has four possible regimes depending on the jump rates.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we prove the properties of $\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}$ and $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}$. In Section 3 we prove Theorem ??. In Section 4 we present illustrations obtained by numerical simulation. In Section 5 we study the case when the two environments are of Type 3. Finally, in Section 6, we prove Theorem ?? providing, in each case, a good couple of environments.

## 2 Expression of invasion rates

Lemma 2.1. If $\varepsilon_{0}$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ are respectively of Type 1 and Type 2, then $\tilde{I}$ is always nonempty and there exists $0<\alpha<1$ (depends on $\left.\alpha_{i}, \beta_{i}, a_{i}, c_{i}\right)$ such that $\tilde{I}=(\alpha, 1]$.

Proof. Set
$R=\frac{\beta_{0} \alpha_{1}}{\alpha_{0} \beta_{1}}, \quad u=\frac{s \alpha_{1}}{\alpha_{s}}, \quad A=\left(a_{1}-a_{0}\right)(R-1), \quad B=\left(2 a_{0}-c_{0}-a_{1}\right) R+\left(c_{1}-a_{0}\right), \quad C=\left(c_{0}-a_{0}\right) R$.
For any $s \in(0,1)$, we get that

$$
c_{s}-a_{s}=\frac{A u^{2}+B u+C}{R(1-u)+u}
$$

where $a_{s}$ and $c_{s}$ are given by (??) and (??). Set

$$
T(u)=A u^{2}+B u+C \quad \forall u \in[0,1] .
$$

We easily get

$$
T(0)=C=\left(c_{0}-a_{0}\right) R>0, \quad T(1)=A+B+C=c_{1}-a_{1}<0
$$

Because $T$ is a second degree polynomial with $T(0)>0$ and $T(1)<0$, we conclude that

$$
T(u)<0 \Leftrightarrow u>\alpha=\frac{-B-\sqrt{B^{2}-4 A C}}{2 A}
$$

Therefore $u \in \tilde{I} \Leftrightarrow T(u)<0 \Leftrightarrow u>\alpha \Leftrightarrow u \in(\alpha, 1]$. As a consequence, $\tilde{I}=(\alpha, 1]$.
Proposition 2.2. The map $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)$ satisfies the following properties:
For all $u \in[0,1]$

$$
\lim _{v \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)=\beta_{u}\left(1-\frac{c_{u}}{a_{u}}\right) \begin{cases}>0 & \text { if } u \in \tilde{I}=(\alpha, 1] \\ =0 & \text { if } u \in \partial \tilde{I}=\{\alpha\} \\ <0 & \text { if } u \in(0,1) \backslash \overline{\tilde{I}}=[0, \alpha)\end{cases}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{v \rightarrow 0} \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)=\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\alpha_{0}}(1-u)+\frac{1}{\alpha_{1}} u}\left(\left(\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}}\left(1-\frac{c_{1}}{a_{1}}\right)-\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-\frac{c_{0}}{a_{0}}\right)\right) u+\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-\frac{c_{0}}{a_{0}}\right)\right) \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. The proposition is obtained by changing variables $(s, t) \longleftrightarrow(u, v)$ from [?, Prop. 2.3].
Proposition 2.3. There exists $0<\bar{\alpha}<1$ such that $\lim _{v \rightarrow 0} \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)>0$ if $u>\bar{\alpha}$ and $\lim _{v \rightarrow 0} \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)<$ 0 if $u<\bar{\alpha}$.

Proof. The limit in (??) has the same sign than

$$
g(u)=\left(\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}}\left(1-\frac{c_{1}}{a_{1}}\right)-\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-\frac{c_{0}}{a_{0}}\right)\right) u+\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-\frac{c_{0}}{a_{0}}\right), \quad \forall u \in[0,1] .
$$

We get

$$
g(0)=\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-\frac{c_{0}}{a_{0}}\right)<0 \quad \text { and } \quad g(1)=\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}}\left(1-\frac{c_{1}}{a_{1}}\right)>0 .
$$

Since $g$ is a linear function, $\bar{\alpha}$ is the unique zero of $g$ and the result is clear.
Proposition 2.4. Let a be the coefficient of degree 2 of polynomial P given by (??)

$$
a=\left(\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}} c_{1} a_{0}-\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}} c_{0} a_{1}\right) \frac{a_{1}-a_{0}}{\left|a_{1}-a_{0}\right|} .
$$

If $a<0$ (resp. $a>0$ or $a=0$ ) then $\alpha<\bar{\alpha}$ (resp. $\alpha>\bar{\alpha}$ or $\alpha=\bar{\alpha}$ ).
Proof. By symmetry we only consider the case $a<0$. Without loss of generality, we assume that $a_{1}>a_{0}$ and $a$ becomes:

$$
a=\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}} c_{1} a_{0}-\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}} c_{0} a_{1} .
$$

To prove that $\alpha<\bar{\alpha}$, it is sufficient to prove $A \bar{\alpha}^{2}+B \bar{\alpha}+C<0$. Since, by definition of $\bar{\alpha}$,

$$
\left(\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}}\left(1-\frac{c_{1}}{a_{1}}\right)-\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-\frac{c_{0}}{a_{0}}\right)\right) \bar{\alpha}+\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}}\left(1-\frac{c_{0}}{a_{0}}\right)=0,
$$

we get, multiplying by $a_{0} a_{1} \alpha_{1} / \beta_{1}$, that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(a_{0} a_{1}-c_{1} a_{0}-R a_{1} a_{0}+R a_{1} c_{0}\right) \bar{\alpha}+R a_{1}\left(a_{0}-c_{0}\right)=0 . \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Replacing $\bar{\alpha}$ by its expression in (??), we get:

$$
A \bar{\alpha}^{2}+B \bar{\alpha}+C=\frac{R\left(a_{1}-c_{1}\right)\left(a_{0}-a_{1}\right)\left(a_{0}-c_{0}\right)\left(a_{0} c_{1}-R a_{1} c_{0}\right)}{\left(a_{0} a_{1}-a_{0} c_{1}-R a_{0} a_{1}+R a_{1} c_{0}\right)^{2}} .
$$

Since $c_{0}>a_{0}, a_{1}>c_{1}, a_{1}>a_{0}$ and $a_{0} c_{1}-R a_{1} c_{0}=\frac{\alpha_{1}}{\beta_{1}} a<0$, we conclude $A \bar{\alpha}^{2}+B \bar{\alpha}+C<0$.

## 3 Shape of the positivity region

Recall $a=\left(\frac{\beta_{1}}{\alpha_{1}} a_{0} c_{1}-\frac{\beta_{0}}{\alpha_{0}} a_{1} c_{0}\right) \frac{a_{1}-a_{0}}{\left|a_{1}-a_{0}\right|}$ is the coefficient of degree 2 of polynomial $P$ given by (??).

Lemma 3.1. [?, Lemma 4.1] Assume $\varepsilon_{0}$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ are of Type 1. If $\tilde{I}$ is nonempty, then the map $(u, v) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}\left[\phi\left(U_{u, v}\right)\right]$ is increasing in $v$ and concave in $u$.

Remark 3.2. In Benaïm and Lobry's case, if I is nonempty, $\phi$ is concave and the parameter a is always negative. In the present case, a may be negative, positive or zero. Therefore, we have the following lemma.

Lemma 3.3. Assume $\varepsilon_{0}$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ are respectively of Type 1 and Type 2, then the shape of $\phi$ depends on the sign of $a$ :

- If $a$ is negative, then $\phi$ is strongly concave and $(u, v) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}\left[\phi\left(U_{u, v}\right)\right]$ is increasing in $v$ and concave in $u$.
- If $a$ is positive, then $\phi$ is strongly convex and $(u, v) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}\left[\phi\left(U_{u, v}\right)\right]$ is decreasing in $v$ and convex in $u$.
- If $a$ is zero, then $\phi$ is linear and $(u, v) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}\left[\phi\left(U_{u, v}\right)\right]$ is constant in $v$ and linear in $u$.

Proof. This is a straightforward adaptation of [?, Lem 4.1].
Let us conclude this section with the proof of Theorem ??.
Proof of Theorem ??. We consider only the case $a<0$. Set $K=(\alpha, \bar{\alpha})$. We know clearly that $v \rightarrow \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)$ admits:

- negative limits at 0 and $\infty$ if $u \in[0, \alpha)$,
- positive limits at 0 and $\infty$ if $u \in(\bar{\alpha}, 1]$,
- a negative limit at 0 and a positive limit at $\infty$ if $u \in(\alpha, \bar{\alpha})$.

The fact that $v \mapsto \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)$ is increasing justifies the existence of $v_{y}$, and we have

$$
\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)=0 \Leftrightarrow u \in K, v=v_{y}(u) .
$$

Let us prove that $v_{y}$ is decreasing in $K$. Let $\delta_{1}<\delta_{2}$ be two points in $K$. Choose any $\delta_{3} \in(\bar{\alpha}, 1)$, we get $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}\left(\delta_{1}, v_{y}\left(\delta_{1}\right)\right)=0$ and $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}\left(\delta_{3}, v_{y}\left(\delta_{1}\right)\right)>0$. Since $\tilde{\Lambda}_{x}\left(\cdot, v_{y}\left(\delta_{1}\right)\right)$ is concave and $\delta_{1}<\delta_{2}<\delta_{3}$ we get $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}\left(\delta_{2}, v_{y}\left(\delta_{1}\right)\right)>0$. Since $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}\left(\delta_{2}, \cdot\right)$ is increasing, we obtain $v_{y}\left(\delta_{2}\right)<v_{y}\left(\delta_{1}\right)$.

The continuity of $v_{y}$ on $K$ is a straightforward consequence of the continuity of the function $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}$, which is obvious from the expression (??).

Let us show $v_{y}$ tends to $\infty$ on $\alpha$. Let $\left\{u_{n}\right\} \subset K: u_{n} \downarrow \alpha$. Since $v_{y}$ is decreasing in $K$, we get $v_{y}\left(u_{n}\right) \uparrow v \in[0, \infty]$. If $v$ is finite, since the zero set of $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}$ is closed, by continuity, $\alpha \in K$ (impossible). So $v_{y}\left(u_{n}\right) \uparrow \infty$.

Let us prove $v_{y}$ tends to 0 on $\bar{\alpha}$. Let $\left\{u_{n}\right\} \subset K: u_{n} \uparrow \bar{\alpha}$. Since $v_{y}$ is decreasing in $K$, we get $v_{y}\left(u_{n}\right) \downarrow \epsilon \in[0, \infty)$. If $\epsilon>0$, since $u_{n}<\bar{\alpha}$, we obtain $\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}\left(u_{n}, \epsilon / 2\right)<0 \forall n$. Therefore $0<\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(\bar{\alpha}, \epsilon / 2)=\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{\Lambda}_{y}\left(u_{n}, \epsilon / 2\right) \leq 0$ (impossible). As a consequence, $\epsilon=0$ and $v_{y}\left(u_{n}\right) \downarrow 0$.

## 4 Numerical illustrations

Recall that for all $u \in[0,1], v_{y}(u)$ and $v_{x}(u)$ are the unique respective solutions of

$$
\tilde{\Lambda}_{y}(u, v)=0 \quad \text { and } \quad \tilde{\Lambda}_{x}(u, v)=0
$$

We now consider, for a varying parameter $\rho$, the environments

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varepsilon_{0}=(1,5,2,8,3,3) \quad \text { and } \quad \varepsilon_{1}=(2,11,1, \rho, 2,1.8) . \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 1: The blue curve is the graph of $v_{y}$ (it does not depend on $\rho$ ); the green and red curves are $v_{x}$ for the environments given in (??) with $\rho=10$ and $\rho=9$ respectively.

Figure ?? represents the "critical" functions $v_{y}$ and $v_{x}$ for different choices of the environments. Thanks to [?], these plots give us information about how many regimes we can observe when the jump rates are modified. For example, the plot for $\rho=10$ has three regimes: extinction of $x$ (on the right of the green curve), persistence (between the green and blue curves) and extinction of $y$ (on the left of the blue curve). For $\rho=9$, there is an additional zone (above the red curve and below the blue curve) that corresponds to jump rates leading to random extinction of a species.

## 5 Switching between two persistent Lotka-Volterra systems

Let us assume that $\varepsilon_{0}$ and $\varepsilon_{1}$ are of Type 3. In this case, one can easily get that extinction of species $y$ is not possible if $u$ is to close of 0 or 1 ; in other words, $[0,1] \backslash I$ is either empty or is an open interval which closure is contained in $[0,1]$. Recall

$$
R=\frac{\beta_{0} \alpha_{1}}{\alpha_{0} \beta_{1}}, \quad A=\left(a_{1}-a_{0}\right)(R-1), \quad B=\left(2 a_{0}-c_{0}-a_{1}\right) R+\left(c_{1}-a_{0}\right), \quad C=\left(c_{0}-a_{0}\right) R .
$$

Then, we get that

$$
[0,1] \backslash \tilde{I} \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow\left\{\begin{array}{l}
A<0 \\
\Delta=B^{2}-4 A C>0 \\
0<\frac{-B-\sqrt{\Delta}}{2 A}<1 .
\end{array}\right.
$$

Moreover, if $[0,1] \backslash \tilde{I}$ is nonempty, then the map $(u, v) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}\left[\phi\left(U_{u, v}\right)\right]$ is (strictly) decreasing in $v$ and convex in $u$. This is a straightforward adaptation of Lemma 4.1 in [?].

Figure ?? provides the shape of $v_{x}$ and $v_{y}$ for the environments $\varepsilon_{0}=(6,1,4,2,1,5)$ and $\varepsilon_{1}=(3,3,2,5.5,5,1)$. Once again, the switched process has four regimes depending on the jump rates.

Remark 5.1. We see a surprising result : although both vector fields are persistent, the stochastic process may lead to the extinction of one of the two species.


Figure 2: Graph of $v_{y}$ (blue curve) and $v_{x}$ (red curve) for the environments $\varepsilon_{0}=(6,1,4,2,1,5)$ and $\varepsilon_{1}=(3,3,2,5.5,5,1)$.

## 6 General case: proof of Theorem ??

The following array presents, for any couple of types, an example of two environments that are associated to a stochastic process with four regimes depending on the jump rates. The first line has been obtained in [?]. The second line is studied in Section 2. The fifth line is studied in Section 5. The reader can easily check that the other cases correspond to Figure ??.

| $\left(F_{0}, F_{1}\right)$ | $a_{0}$ | $b_{0}$ | $c_{0}$ | $d_{0}$ | $\alpha_{0}$ | $\beta_{0}$ | $a_{1}$ | $b_{1}$ | $c_{1}$ | $d_{1}$ | $\alpha_{1}$ | $\beta_{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type 1-1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3.5 | 5 | 1 |
| Type 1-2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 1.8 |
| Type 1-3 | 1 | 1 | 3.5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5.5 | 5 | 1 |
| Type 1-4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3.5 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 |
| Type 3-3 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5.5 | 5 | 1 |
| Type 3-4 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 10 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 |
| Type 4-4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3.5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 |

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Figure 3: Graph of $v_{y}$ (blue curve) and $v_{x}$ (red curve) for the four last cases.

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