

Introduction

Harmfulness of algal bloom



Possible reasons for algal bloom

- ◆ Nutrient
 - 1) Phosphorus
 - 2) Nitrogen
 - ...
- ◆ Environmental factors:
 - a) temperature
 - b) solar radiation
 - c) light
 - d) dissolved oxygen (DO)
 - ...

The roles of DO in water body

- ◆ Influencing the survival of aquatic organisms;
- ◆ Reflecting the extent of the contaminated water;
- ◆ Evaluating the quality of drinking water;
- ...

Our purpose

- ◆ Study the effect of DO concentration on the growth of phytoplankton and zooplankton;
- ◆ Obtain some useful information to better understand the mechanism of outbreaks of the bloom.

Mathematical Modeling

How to model

A model is proposed from a conceptual framework in view of the principles of mass balance.

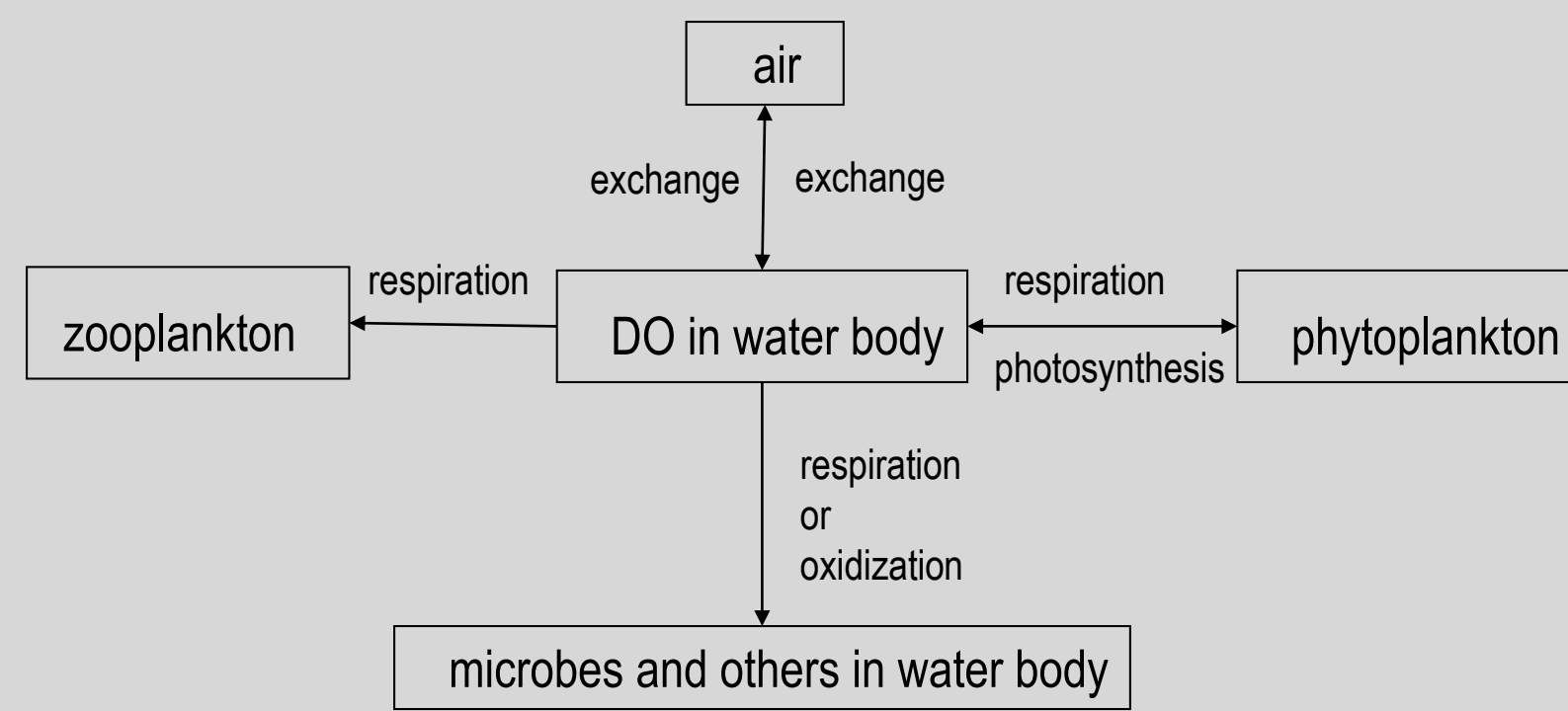


Figure1: Schematic diagram of the dissolved oxygen (DO) model.

Assumptions

- Zooplankton will be totally dead if DO concentration is below the critical value;
- The amount of DO for exploitation of microbial respiration et al. is assumed to be proportional to the concentration of DO in water body;
- The net production of DO from photosynthesis and respiration of phytoplankton is supposed to be proportional to the density of phytoplankton;
- The amount of DO consumed by zooplankton respiration depends linearly on the density of zooplankton.

Our model

The proposed model with three interacting components: phytoplankton (P), zooplankton (Z) and dissolved oxygen (DO)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dP}{dt} &= rP \left(1 - \frac{P}{K}\right) - \frac{mP}{P + P_0} F_1(D)Z \\
 (1) \quad \frac{dZ}{dt} &= \beta \frac{mP}{P + P_0} F_1(D)Z - dZ \\
 \frac{dD}{dt} &= q(D_2 - D) + \mu_1 P - \mu_2 Z - \mu_3 D
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$F_1(D) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } D < D_1, \\ \delta \frac{(D - D_1)}{D_0 + D} & \text{if } D \geq D_1, \end{cases}$$

and the ecological meanings of all parameters are given in table 1.

Parameter	Meanings
P	The density of phytoplankton
D	The concentration of DO
Z	The density of zooplankton
r	The growth rate of phytoplankton
K	The environmental carrying capacity of phytoplankton
m	The maximal per capita consumption rate
P ₀	The maximal relative influence ratio of DO on the predation ability of zooplankton
β	The conversion rate of consumed phytoplankton into new zooplankton
d	The mortality rate of zooplankton due to natural death as well as higher predation
q	The exchange velocity of DO through air-water interface
D ₂	The half saturation concentration of DO in water
D ₁	The critical concentration of DO leading to zooplankton death
D ₀	The saturation concentration of DO in water
μ ₁	The net growth rate of DO produced by photosynthesis and respiration of phytoplankton
μ ₂	The consumption rate of DO by zooplankton through respiration
μ ₃	The consumption rate of DO by others which need to consume oxygen in water

Table 1: The meanings of parameters of model.

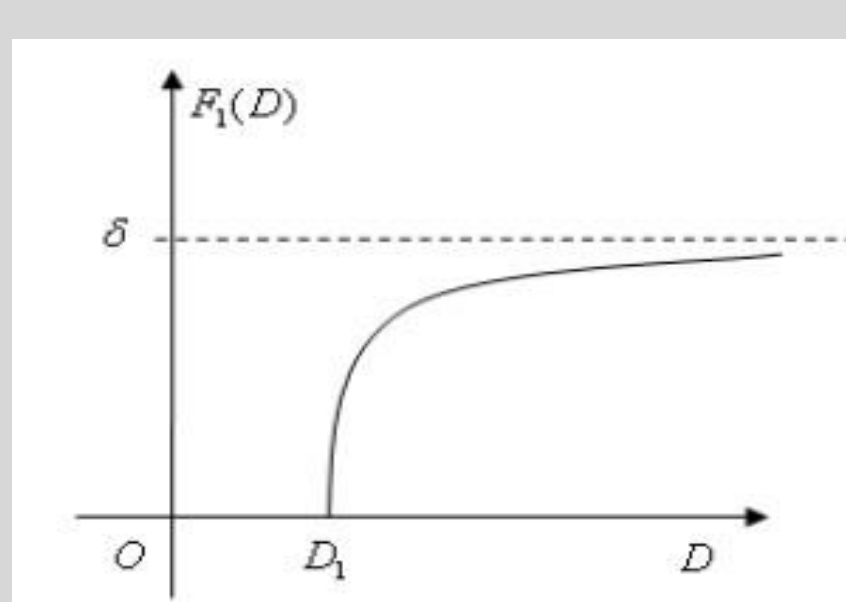


Figure 2: The effect of dissolved oxygen function.

Theoretical Analysis

Existence of equilibrium points

Theorem 1. For system (1), the equilibria $E_1(0, 0, \frac{qD_2}{q+\mu_3})$ and $E_2(K, 0, \frac{qD_2 + \mu_1 K}{q+\mu_3})$ always exist.

If $R_0 \leq 1$, there is no any positive equilibrium. If $R_0 > 1$, there will be at least one positive equilibrium and three positive equilibria at most, where $R_0 = \frac{\beta m \delta K [qD_2 + \mu_1 K - D_1(q + \mu_3)]}{d(P_0 + K)[qD_2 + \mu_1 K + D_0(q + \mu_3)]}$.

Stability of equilibrium points

Theorem 2. For system (1), we have

Equilibrium	$R_0 < 1$	$R_0 = 1$	$R_0 > 1$
E_1	Saddle	Saddle	Saddle
E_2	Stable node	Saddle-node	Saddle
E_3	Not exist	Not exist	Non-saddle

Theorem 3. Let $E^*(P^*, Z^*, D^*)$ be any equilibrium point of the model (1),

(a) if there exists δ satisfying $\frac{d}{\beta m} (1 + P_0/K) \leq \delta \leq \frac{d}{\beta m} (1 + 2P_0/K)$ and $H(\delta) > 0$, then the positive equilibrium E^* of the system (1) is asymptotically stable;

(b) if there exists δ^* satisfying $H(\delta^*) = 0$ and $(k'_0 - k_2(k_1))|_{\delta=\delta^*} \neq 0$, then the system (1) will experience a Hopf bifurcation at E^* , where

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_0 &= \left\{ (q + \mu_3)d + \left(\mu_1 d - \frac{\mu_2 \beta r (K - 2P^*)}{K} \right) \frac{((\beta m \delta - d)P^* - dP_0)^2}{\beta m \delta d P_0 (D_0 + D_1)} \right\} \frac{r P_0 (K - P^*)}{K(P_0 + P^*)}, \\
 k_1 &= \left\{ \frac{(\mu_2 \beta + \mu_1)((\beta m \delta - d)P^* - dP_0)^2}{\beta m \delta d P_0 (D_0 + D_1)} + (q + \mu_3 + d) \right\} \frac{r P_0 (K - P^*)}{K(P_0 + P^*)} \\
 &\quad - \frac{(q + \mu_3)r(K - 2P^*)}{K}; \\
 k_2 &= (q + \mu_3) + \frac{r P_0 (K - P^*)}{K(P_0 + P^*)} - \frac{r(K - 2P^*)}{K}; \\
 H(\delta) &= k_2 k_1 - k_0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Numerical Simulations

Comparing with a general phytoplankton-zooplankton model

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2) \quad \frac{dP}{dt} &= rP \left(1 - \frac{P}{K}\right) - \frac{mP}{P + P_0} Z \\
 \frac{dZ}{dt} &= \beta \frac{mP}{P + P_0} Z - dZ
 \end{aligned}$$

Parameters	Reference	Default values
r	0.07-0.28[6]	0.15(day ⁻¹)
K	108[19]	108(mg/l)
m	0.6-1.4[6]	0.8(dimensionless)
β	0.2-0.5[6]	0.3(dimensionless)
P ₀	5.7[19]	15(mg/l)
d	0.001-0.125[9]	0.1(day ⁻¹)
q	2[9]	2(day ⁻¹)
D ₀	1.4[9]	1.4(mg/l)
D ₁	-	1(mg/l)
D ₂	6.412-14.621[9]	9(mg/l)
μ ₁	1.4-1.8[9]	1.4(day ⁻¹)
μ ₂	0.01-0.36[9]	0.36(day ⁻¹)
μ ₃	-	6(day ⁻¹)

Table 2: Parameters for the simulations of the models.

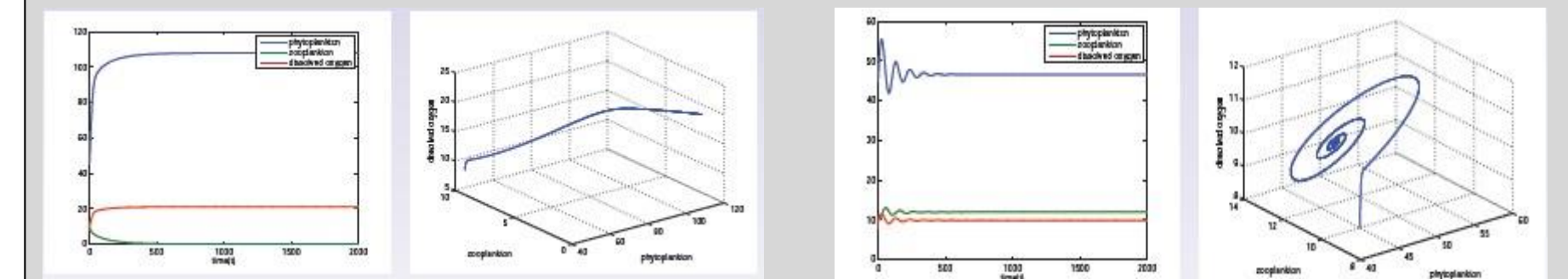


Figure 3: The solution curve and the phase space diagram of system with initial value (45; 10; 8) for $\delta=0.5$.

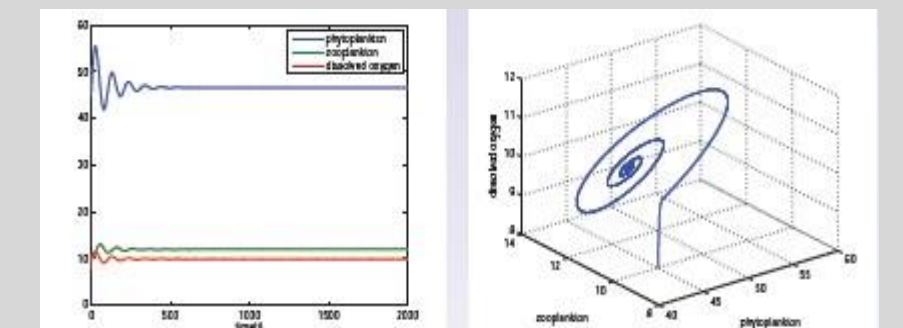


Figure 4: The solution curve and the phase space diagram of system with initial value (45; 10; 8) for $\delta=0.7$.

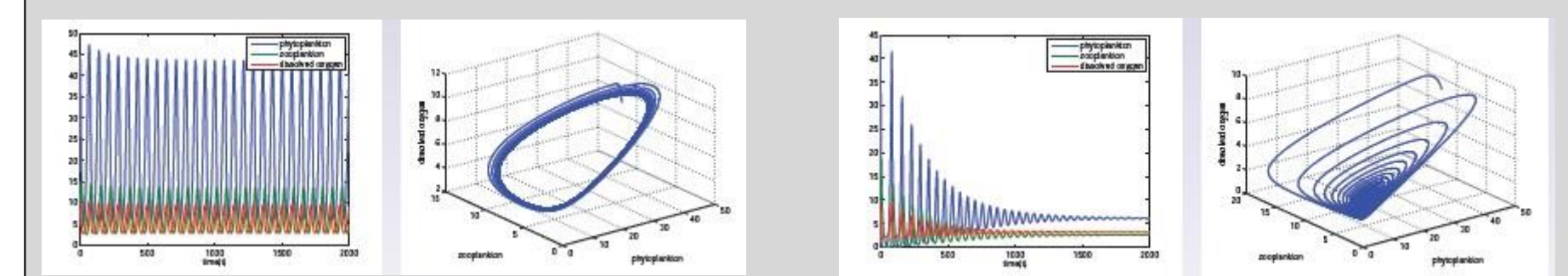


Figure 5: The solution curve and the phase space diagram of system with initial value (45; 10; 8) for $\delta=1.2$.

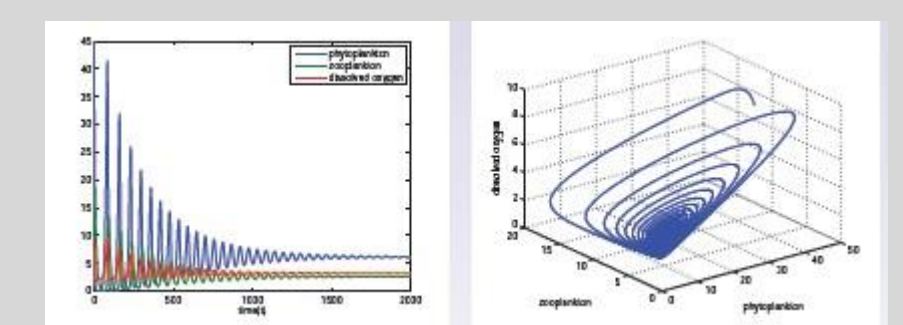


Figure 6: The solution curve and the phase space diagram of system with initial value (45; 10; 8) for $\delta=3$.

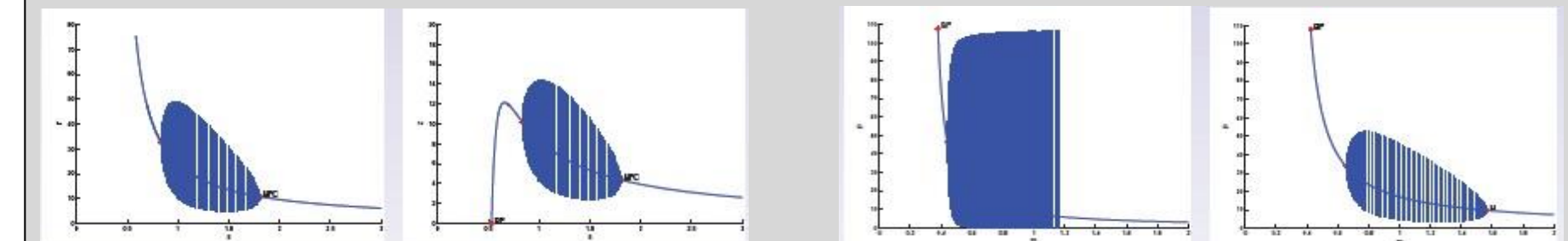


Figure 7: Bifurcation diagram of system (1) where P and Z are plotted as a function of δ respectively.

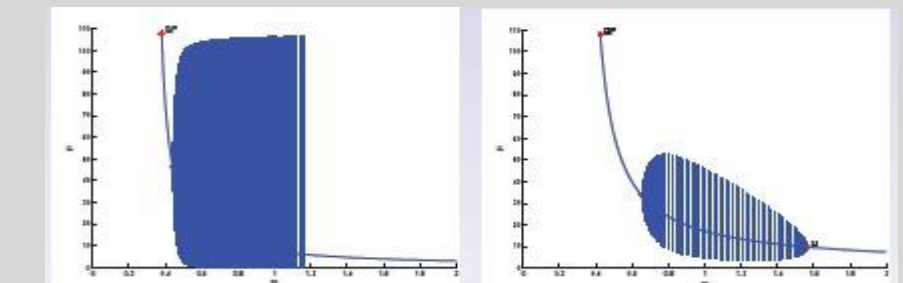


Figure 8: Bifurcation diagrams of system (1) (right) and system (2) (left) with $\beta=1.2$ by selecting m as a bifurcation parameter.

Conclusions

- ♣ Zooplankton must either coexist with phytoplankton or die out in the lake ecosystem;
- ♣ Zooplankton will become extinct and phytoplankton will have the maximal population if the growth rate of zooplankton is less than the death rate.
- ♣ Taking the maximum relative influence ratio of dissolved oxygen on the predation ability of zooplankton as a bifurcation parameter, periodic oscillatory behavior is shown within a continuous range of this parameter, which suggests that the algal bloom is likely to occur on different scales.
- ♣ By comparing with a general phytoplankton-zooplankton model, dissolved oxygen in water body does have an important impact on the dynamical behaviors of phytoplankton and zooplankton and plays a significant role in determining the occurrence and termination of algal blooms.