

# SCUDEM 2023-2024

## Problem B: Punishing Infants

Team Number: 1002

### Team Members:

Mihika Dusad Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Alexandria, VA, USA

Sashwat Ravishankar Jesuit High School, Portland, OR, USA

Danielle Sitalo Debakey High School for Health Professions, Houston, TX, USA

**Coach:** Padhu Seshaiyer, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA

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# Problem Overview

Punishing infants problem:

- Research shows that some infants develop a propensity to react to third party transgressions by punishing those they perceive as acting out against others
  - We suppose this proportion of infants is fixed
  - We seek to study interactions between individuals and the long-term dynamics of the system
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# Our Goals

1

Develop a model that includes different populations with different propensities of retribution

2

Incorporate various behaviors, especially varying degrees of retribution and alternative actions

3

Study the long-term effects of model's interactions

4

Generalize and apply our model to real-world scenarios

# Definitions

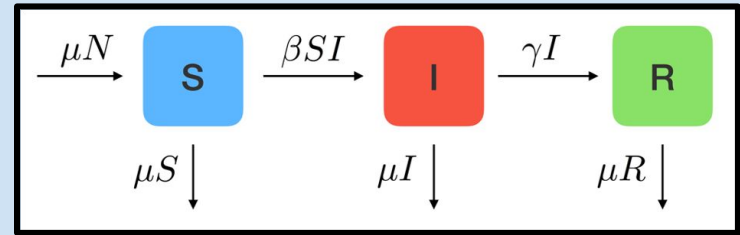
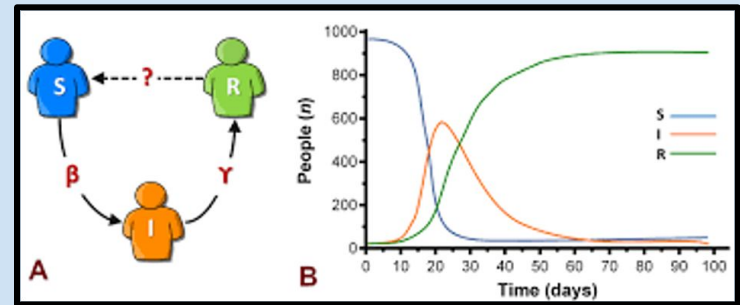
- Propensity of retribution: The likelihood of an observer to punish a third-party aggressor
- Propensity to aggress: The likelihood of every party to commit aggressions
- An individual can take 1 of 3 roles at any given moment:
  - Observer/bystander: Observing a conflict take place
  - Victim: Currently being “aggresed” or attacked
  - Aggressor: Currently aggressing, threatening to attack the victim

# Assumptions

- Population beliefs and distributions for each party is uniform
- There is always at least one ongoing conflict/instance of aggression
- Individuals can only be involved in one conflict at a time
- Actions should be cyclical, i.e. individuals can always cease action
- Linear progression between states of involvement in conflict
  - Movement between roles suggested the efficacy of an SIR model

# SIR Model of Epidemiology

- Susceptible-Infectious-Recovered model
- Infectious Disease Modeling
- Analyzing cross-compartmental interactions
- Application of Differential Equations



**S**

**Susceptible:** Countries that are aware of ongoing conflict

**I**

**Infected:** Countries that are involved in ongoing conflict

**D**

**Diplomatic:** Countries that choose to pursue a course of action

**D<sub>1</sub>**

**Diplomatic (1):** Countries that pursue a mild course of action (Sanctions, Treaties)

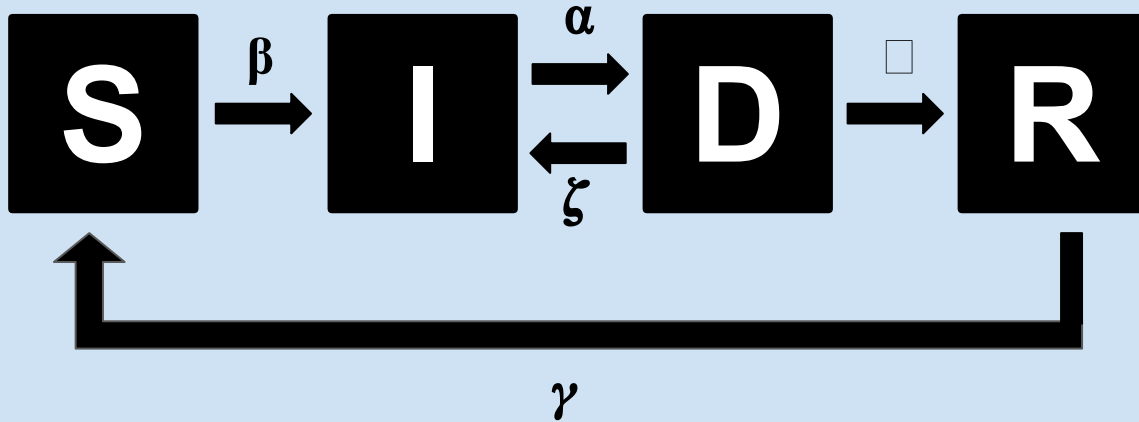
**D<sub>2</sub>**

**Diplomatic (2):** Countries that pursue a harsh course of action (War, Armed Attacks)

**R**

**Recovered:** Countries that stop pursuing course of action

# Susceptible-Infected-Diplomatic-Recovered Model (Stage 1)



$$dS/dt = \gamma R - \beta SI/N$$

$$dI/dt = \beta SI/N + \zeta D - \alpha I$$

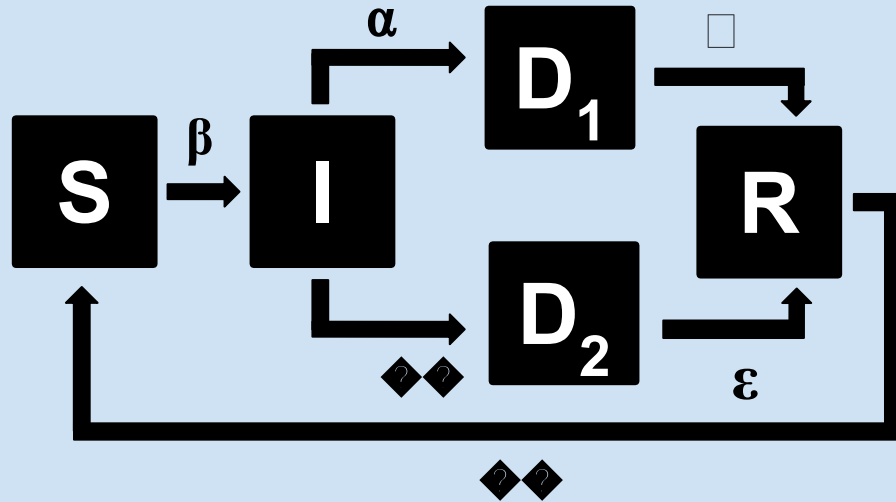
$$dD/dt = \alpha I - \zeta D - \delta D$$

$$dR/dt = \delta D - \gamma R$$

Parameter	Description
$\beta$	Rate at which a country is infected with conflict (how often conflict occurs)
$\alpha$	Rate at which a country pursues a diplomatic course of action
$\zeta$	Rate at which a country stops pursuing course of action
$\delta$	Rate at which a country recovers from course of action
$\gamma$	Rate at which a country is re-susceptible to conflict



# Susceptible-Infected- $D_1$ - $D_2$ -Recovered Model (Stage 2)



$$dS/dt = \gamma R - \beta SI/N$$

$$dI/dt = \beta SI/N + \zeta D - \alpha I$$

$$dD_1/dt = \alpha I - \delta D_1$$

$$dD_2/dt = \zeta I - \epsilon D_2$$

$$dR/dt = \delta D_1 + \epsilon D_2 - \gamma R$$

Parameter	Description
$\beta$	Rate at which a country is infected with conflict (how often conflict occurs)
$\alpha$	Rate at which a country pursues a mild course of action (Sanctions, Treaties)
$\zeta$	Rate at which a country pursues harsh course of action (War, Military Attack)
$\delta$	Rate at which a country stops pursuing mild course of action
$\epsilon$	Rate at which a country stops pursuing harsh course of action
$\gamma$	Rate at which a country is re-susceptible to conflict

# Stability Analysis

- Systematic evaluation of the behavior of a system
- Determine whether it remains within desired bounds
- Ensures reliability and predictability of systems,
- Prevents unexpected or undesirable behaviors

The equilibrium solution is asymptotically stable as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  for all positive values of the rates  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\sigma$  and  $\zeta$ .

$$S = \frac{\sigma}{\beta} N$$

$$I = \frac{\zeta \gamma}{\beta} \frac{\beta - \sigma}{\alpha \gamma + \gamma \zeta + \sigma \zeta} N$$

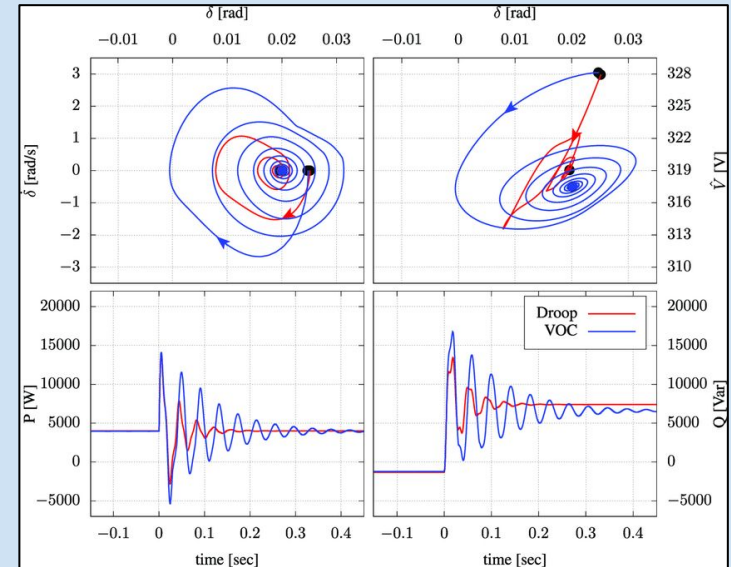
$$D = \frac{\alpha \gamma}{\beta} \frac{\beta - \sigma}{\alpha \gamma + \gamma \zeta + \sigma \zeta} N$$

$$R = \frac{\zeta \sigma}{\beta} \frac{\beta - \sigma}{\alpha \gamma + \gamma \zeta + \sigma \zeta} N$$

# Stability Analysis

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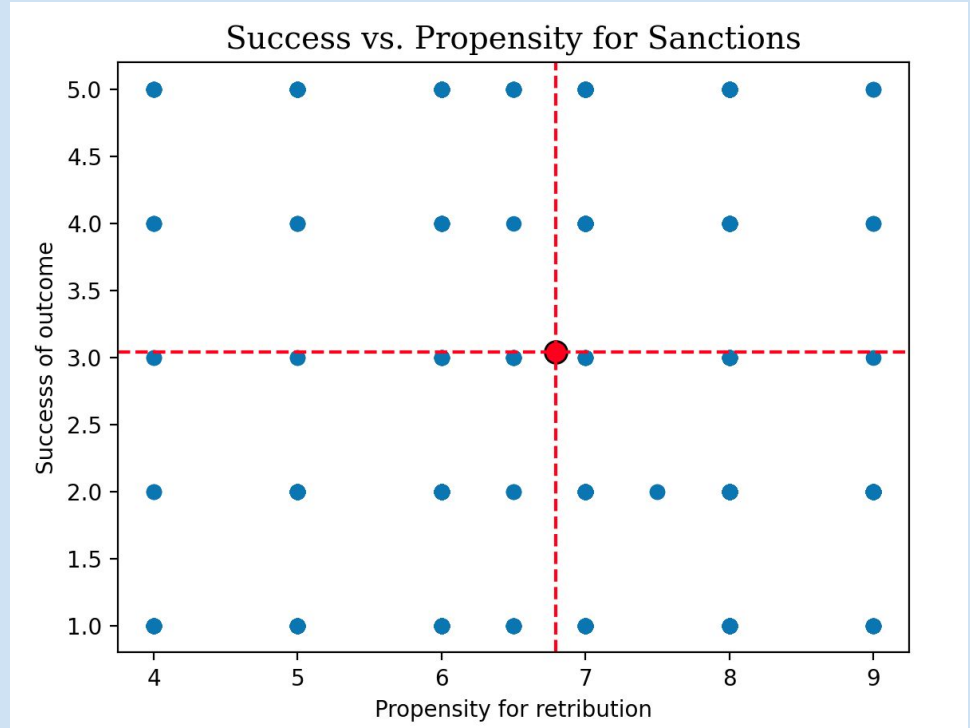


Visualization of stability analysis



# Hyperparameter Tuning

- Using data to optimize model parameters
- Obtained data from the Global Sanctions Database
- Numerically scaled objectives and successes
- Centroid: (6.793, 3.040)
  - Retributive tendencies
  - Using this value to investigate specific cases



# Case 1 (3rd Party - Diplomacy-Weighted)

Israel & Hamas (USA acting as 3rd Party)

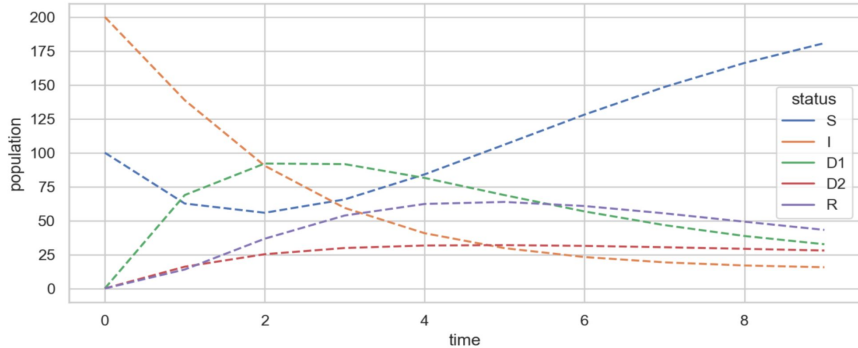
## S-I-D1-D2-R Infectious Model

Stage 1: S-I-D1-D2-R Model Help

N 300 Number of days 10 Beta 0.90 Alpha 0.50 Delta 0.40 Gamma 0.50 Zeta 0.10 epsilon 0.10

Run forward simulation

S-I-D1-D2-R model - Forward Simulation



10 Day Simulation

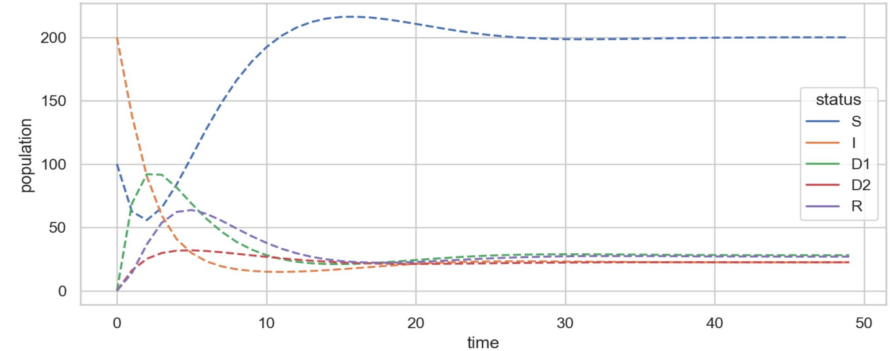
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Stage 1: S-I-D1-D2-R Model Help

N 300 Number of days 50 Beta 0.90 Alpha 0.50 Delta 0.40 Gamma 0.50 Zeta 0.10 epsilon 0.10

Run forward simulation

S-I-D1-D2-R model - Forward Simulation

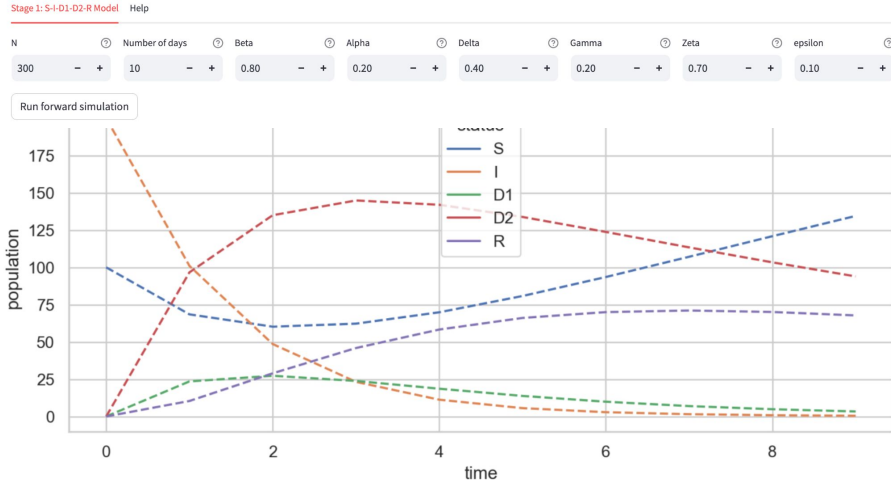


60 Day Simulation

# Case 2 (3rd Party - Retributive-Weighted)

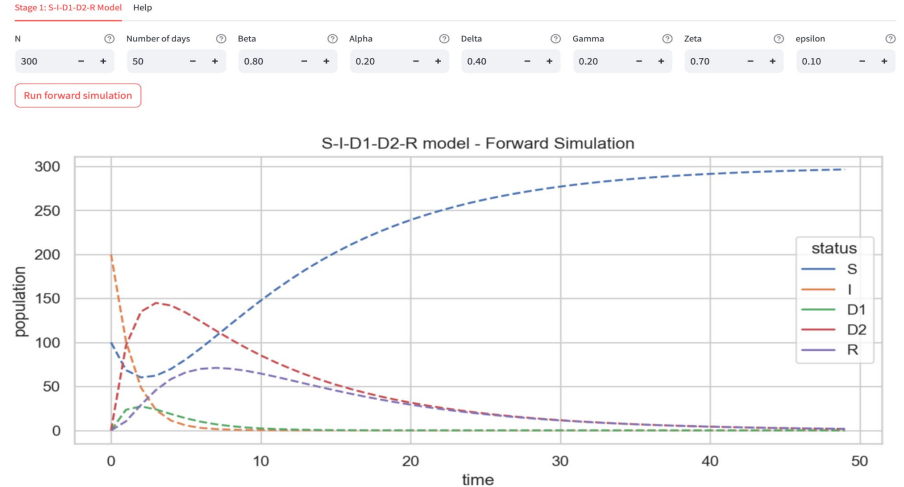
Russia & Ukraine (USA acting as 3rd Party)

## S-I-D1-D2-R Infectious Model



10 Day Simulation

## S-I-D1-D2-R Infectious Model



60 Day Simulation

# Final Thoughts & Future Work

- Created an SIR-based model of the punishing infants problem
- Incorporated varying degrees of retributive behavior
- Limitations of our model:
  - Only considers one conflict at a time
  - Movement between compartments was restricted
  - Likelihood of aggression is not considered
- Future Work
  - Including additional variables
  - Considering environmental factors
- Feedback



# References

Felbermayr, G., A. Kirilakha, C. Syropoulos, E. Yalcin, and Y.V. Yotov, 2020. "The Global Sanctions Database," *European Economic Review*, Volume 129.

Kanakogi, Y., Miyazaki, M., Takahashi, H. et al. 2022. Third-party punishment by preverbal infants. *Nat Hum Behav* 6, 1234–1242. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-022-01354-2> Last accessed 4 August 2023.

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Syropoulos, C., G. Felbermayr, A. Kirilakha, E. Yalcin, and Y.V. Yotov, 2023. "The Global Sanctions Database - Release 3: COVID-19, Russia, and Multilateral Sanctions," *Review of International Economics*.



**Thank you!**