

Research Article

Dynamical Behaviors of a Fractional-Order Three Dimensional Prey-Predator Model

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In this paper, the dynamical behavior of a three-dimensional fractional-order prey-predator model is investigated with Holling type III functional response and constant rate harvesting. It is assumed that the middle predator species consumes only the prey species, and the top predator species consumes only the middle predator species. We also prove the boundedness, the non-negativity, the uniqueness, and the existence of the solutions of the proposed model. Then, all possible equilibria are determined, and the dynamical behaviors of the proposed model around the equilibrium points are investigated. Finally, numerical simulations results are presented to confirm the theoretical results and to give a better understanding of the dynamics of our proposed model.

1. Introduction

The most influential theme in ecology and mathematical modeling is the dynamic of the relationship among species. Many authors extended or modified the work of the Lotka and Voltera model [1, 2], and they have investigated thse topics widely by using ordinary differential equations or deference equations, see [3-9], and references therein. Nowadays, authors formulate their mathematical models by fractional order differential equation due to their ability to give the precise description for various linear and nonlinear phenomena [10–15]. The increasing of mathematical models that based on fractional order differential equation has recently obtained popularity in the studying the behavior of biological models. Fractional-order differential equation has been successfully used and applied to model many areas of science, engineering, and phenomena that cannot be formulated by other types of equations [10, 16]. In [12, 16-21], authors have investigated the effects of the fractional order differential equation on a prey predator model as well as they also discussed the stability analysis of equilibrium points of fractional order model with and without harvesting, as well as the existence, uniqueness, and boundedness of the solutions that are proved.

There are several different types of definitions of fractional-order differential equation in the literatures [16, 22-25], for e.g., Caputo, Riemann-Litouville, Fabrizio, Marechand, Grunwald-Letnikov, wayl, and Riesz fractional-order derivatives. Throughout this work, we used the Caputo fractional-order derivatives because it is not necessary to define the initial conditions of fractional-order and its fractional-order derivative of constant function is zero, as well as the similarity of the initial conditions of fractional order differential and the integer order ones [8]. This work is organized as follows: in Section 2, some useful definitions and concept that concern to the fractional order are presented. In Section 3, a three-dimensional fractional-order prey-predator model is considered. The uniqueness and boundedness as well as the nonnegativity of its solution are proved. In Section 4, all the equilibrium points are determined, and the conditions to achieve its local stability are set. In Section 5, numerical simulations are given to confirm the theoretical results. Finally, conclusions are given in Section 6.

2. Preliminaries

Definition 1. [24, 26]: Caputo's definition of fractional derivatives is given as follows:

 $D_t^{\alpha}f(t) = I^{[\alpha]-\alpha}f^{[\alpha]}(t), \ \alpha > 0,$

where $[\alpha]$ is the least integer which is not less than α , and I^{θ} is the Riemann-Liouville integral operator of order θ which is given by

 $I^{\theta}f(t) = 1/\Gamma(\theta) \int_0^t (t-\tau)^{\theta-1} f(\tau) d\tau, \, \theta > 0.$ $\Gamma(\theta)$ is the Euler Gamma function.

Throughout this work, we need some useful results for the fractional-order derivative. We start with the following results which are proved in [13, 16, 27].

Lemma 1.

(1) Suppose that $f(t) \in C[a, b]$ and $D_a^{\alpha} f(t) \in C(a, b]$ with $0 < \alpha \le 1$, then we have

$$f(t) = f(a) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (D_a^{\alpha} f)(\xi)(t-a)^{\alpha}, \qquad (1)$$

where $a \le \xi \le x$, $\forall x \in (a, b]$.

- (2) Suppose $f(t) \in C[a, b]$ and $D_t^{\alpha} f(t) \in C(a, b)$, $0 < \alpha \le 1$. If $D_a^{\alpha} f(t) \ge 0$, $\forall t \in (a, b)$, then f(t) is a nondecreasing function $\forall t \in [a, b]$, and if $_{t_0}^c D_a^{\alpha} f(t) \le 0$, $\forall t \in (a, b)$, then f(t) is a nonincreasing function $\forall t \in [a, b]$
- (3) Consider the Cauchy problem

$$D_a^{\alpha} x(t) = \lambda x(t) + f(t),$$

$$x(a) = b \quad (b \in \mathbb{R}).$$
(2)

With $0 < \alpha \le 1$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, then the form of the solution is given by

$$x(t) = bE_{\alpha}[\lambda(t-a)^{\alpha}] + \int_{a}^{t} (t-s)^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha,\alpha}[\lambda(t-s)^{\alpha}]f(s)ds.$$
(3)

While the solution to the problem

$$D_a^{\alpha} x(t) = \lambda x(t),$$

$$x(a) = b \quad (b \in \mathbb{R}),$$
(4)

is given by

$$x(t) = bE_{\alpha}[\lambda(t-a)^{\alpha}].$$
(5)

(4) Let u(t) be a continuous function on $[t_0, \infty]$ and satisfy

$$D_a^{\alpha} u(t) \le -\lambda u(t) + \mu, \tag{6}$$

where $0 < \alpha < 1$, $(\lambda, \mu) \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $\lambda \neq 0$, and $t_0 \ge 0$ is the initial time. Then, its solution has the form

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{t}) \le \left(\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{t}_0} - \frac{\mu}{\lambda}\right) \mathbf{E}_{\alpha} \left[-\lambda (\mathbf{t} - \mathbf{t}_0)^{\alpha}\right] + \frac{\mu}{\lambda}.$$
 (7)

For the existence a unique solution for the general fractional-order derivative, we have the next lemma that appeared in [28].

Lemma 2. Consider the system

 $D_t^{\alpha} x(t) = f(t, x), \ t > t_0$

with the initial condition x_{t_0} , where $0 < \alpha \le 1$, $f : [t_0, \infty) \times \Omega \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. If f(t, x) satisfies the locally Lipchitz condition with respect to x, then there exists a unique solution of the above system on $[t_0, \infty) \times \Omega$.

3. Model Formulation

Frist, the following three dimension prey-predator model with functional response of Holling type III is considered as follows:

$$\frac{dX}{dT} = R_0 X \left(1 - \frac{X}{K_0} \right) - \frac{a_1 Y X^2}{B_1 + X^2}
\frac{dY}{dT} = \frac{a_2 Y X^2}{B_1 + X^2} - \frac{b_1 Z Y^2}{B_2 + Y^2} - c_1 Y - h_2 Y
\frac{dZ}{dT} = \frac{b_2 Z Y^2}{B_2 + Y^2} - c_2 Z$$
(8)

where X, Y, and Z are the density of prey species, middle species, and the top predator species. R_0 , K_0 , c_1 , c_2 , and b_1 are the intrinsic growth rates, the carrying capacity of the prey population, the death rates for middle predator population and top predator population, and capture rate of prey and middle predator, respectively. The parameter a_1 is the conservation rate of prey X, and the parameters a_2 and b_2 are the conservation rate of middle predator Y to the top predator Z, respectively. The constants B_1 and B_2 are the predation rates and half saturation constants, respectively. The parameter h_2 denotes to the constant harvesting rate.

We use the following transformation to reduce the dimension of model (8). x = X/k, $y = (a_1/k_0R_0)Y$, $z = (a_1b_1/R_0^2k_0)Z$, and $t = R_0T$, and then we obtain the following system:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(1-x) - \frac{ax^2y}{1+ax^2}
\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{bx^2y}{1+ax^2} - \frac{dy^2z}{1+dy^2} - m_1y - hy
\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{cy^2z}{1+dy^2} - m_2z$$
(9)

where $a = k_0^2/B_1$, $b = aa_2/R_0$, $c = R_0 d/b_2$, $d = k_0^2 R_0^2/a_1^2 B_2$, $m_1 = c_1 k_0^2 R_0/a_1$, $m_2 = R_0/c_2$, and $h = h_2 k_0 R_0/a_1$.

Next, we introduce the fractional-order derivative α in model (2) with the help of fractional order Caputo type derivative. Then, the system (9) becomes as follows:

$$D_{t}^{\alpha}x(t) = x(1-x) - \frac{ax^{2}y}{1+ax^{2}}$$

$$D_{t}^{\alpha}y(t) = \frac{bx^{2}y}{1+ax^{2}} - \frac{dy^{2}z}{1+dy^{2}} - m_{1}y - hy$$

$$D_{t}^{\alpha}z(t) = \frac{cy^{2}z}{1+dy^{2}} - m_{2}z$$
(10)

Remark 3. Because of the biological significance, we are interesting solutions that are nonnegative and bounded only, so that we will prove the following theorem.

Theorem 4. Let $\Omega_+ = \{(x, y, z) \mid x \ge 0, y \ge 0 \text{ and } z \ge 0\}$ and denotes all nonnegative real numbers in \mathbb{R}^3 , and then all solutions of the system (10) with $x_0 \ge 0, y_0 \ge 0$ and $z_0 \ge 0$ are uniformly bounded and nonnegative.

Proof. we have to show that $x(t) \ge 0$, $\forall t \ge 0$, assuming x(0) > 0 for t = 0 considering that $x(t) \ge 0$, $\forall t \ge 0$ is not true. Then, there exists a constant $t_1 > 0$ such that

$$\begin{cases} x(t) > 0, & 0 \le t < t_1, \\ x(t) = 0, & t = t_1, \\ x(t) < 0, & t > t_1. \end{cases}$$
(11)

From the first equation of system (10), we have

$$D_{t_1}^{\alpha} x(t) \Big|_{t=t_1} = 0.$$
 (12)

According to part 1 in Lemma 1, we have $x(t_1^+) = 0$, which contradicts the fact that $x(t_1^+) < 0$, i.e., $x(t) < 0, t > t_1$. Therefore, we have $x(t) \ge 0, \forall t \ge 0$. By the same arguments, $y(t) \ge 0, \forall t \ge 0$ and $z(t) \ge 0$ can get $\forall t \ge 0$. For the uniformly bounded, Let V(t) = (1/a)x + (1/b)y + (d/bc)z, and then we have

$$D^{\alpha}V(t) = \frac{1}{a}D^{\alpha}x(t) + \frac{1}{b}D^{\alpha}y(t) + \frac{d}{bc}D^{\alpha}z(t)$$

= $\frac{1}{a}x(1-x) - \frac{1}{b}(m_1+h)y - \frac{d}{bc}m_2z.$ (13)

Now, for each $\eta > 0$, we have

$$D^{\alpha}V(t) + \eta V(t) = \frac{1}{a}x(1-x) - \frac{1}{b}(m_1+h)y - \frac{d}{bc}m_2z + \eta \frac{1}{a}x + \eta \frac{1}{b}y + \eta \frac{d}{bc}z \le -\frac{1}{a}x^2 + (\eta+1)\frac{1}{a}x + (\eta - (m_1+h))\frac{1}{b}y + (\eta - m_2)\frac{d}{bc}z \le -\frac{1}{a}\left[x^2 - (\eta+1)x + \frac{1}{4}(\eta+1)^2 - \frac{1}{4}(\eta+1)^2\right] + (\eta - (m_1+h))\frac{1}{b}y + (\eta - m_2)\frac{d}{bc}z = -\frac{1}{a}\left(x - \frac{1}{2}(\eta+1)\right)^2 + \frac{(\eta+1)^2}{4a} + (\eta - (m_1+h))\frac{1}{b}y + (\eta - m_2)\frac{d}{bc}z \le \frac{1}{4a}(\eta+1)^2 + (\eta - (m_1+h))\frac{1}{b}y + (\eta - m_2)\frac{d}{bc}z.$$
(14)

Therefore,

 $D^{\alpha}V(t) + \eta V(t) \le l$, by taking $\eta < \min((m_1 + h), m_2)$, where $l = (1/4a)(\eta + 1)^2 > 0$. Now by using part 4 in Lemma 1, we have

$$V(t) \leq \left(V(0) - \frac{l}{\eta}\right) E_{\alpha}[-\eta(t-0)^{\alpha}] + \frac{l}{\eta},$$

$$\leq V(0)E_{\alpha}[-\eta t^{\alpha}] + \frac{l}{\eta}(1 - E_{\alpha}[-\eta t^{\alpha}]).$$
(15)

Thus, $V(t) \longrightarrow l/\eta$ as $t \longrightarrow \infty$ and $0 < V(t) \le l/\eta$. Therefore, all solutions of system (10) that starts from Ω_+ are confined in the region $\Omega = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid V(t) \le (l/\eta) + \varepsilon$, for any $\varepsilon > 0\}$.

Now, the existence and uniqueness of the solution of the considered system (10) are shown in the next theorem:

Theorem 5. Let γ be a sufficiently large, and then for each $S_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0) \in \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \max \{|x|, |y|, |z| \le \gamma\}\},$ there exists a unique solution $S = (x, y, z) \in \Omega$ of the fractional-order system (10) with initial condition S_0 , which is defined for all $t \ge 0$.

Proof. Let S = (x, y, z), $\overline{S} = (\overline{x}, \overline{y}, \overline{z})$, and consider a mapping $H(S) = (H_1(S), H_2(S), H_3(S))$, such that

$$H_{1}(S) = x(1-x) - \frac{ax^{2}y}{1+ax^{2}}$$

$$H_{2}(S) = \frac{bx^{2}y}{1+ax^{2}} - \frac{dy^{2}z}{1+dy^{2}} - m_{1}y - hy$$

$$H_{3}(S) = \frac{cy^{2}z}{1+dy^{2}} - m_{2}z$$
(16)

For any $S, \overline{S} \in \Omega$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |H(S) - H(\bar{S})|| &= |H_1(S) - H_1(\bar{S})| + |H_2(S) - H_2(\bar{S})| \\ &+ |H_3(S) - H_3(\bar{S})| = \left| x(1-x) - \frac{ax^2y}{1+ax^2} \right. \\ &- \bar{x}(1-\bar{x}) + \frac{a\bar{x}^2\bar{y}}{1+a\bar{x}^2} \right| + \left| \frac{bx^2y}{1+ax^2} - \frac{dy^2z}{1+dy^2} \right. \\ &- m_1y - hy - \frac{b\bar{x}^2\bar{y}}{1+a\bar{x}^2} + \frac{d\bar{y}^2\bar{z}}{1+d\bar{y}^2} + m_1\bar{y} + h\bar{y}| \\ &+ \left| \frac{c\bar{y}^2\bar{z}}{1+d\bar{y}^2} - m_2z - \frac{c\bar{y}^2\bar{z}}{1+d\bar{y}^2} + m_2\bar{z} \right| \\ &= |(x-\bar{x})(1-(x+\bar{x}))) \\ &- a\left(\frac{(x^2y - \bar{x}^2\bar{y}) + ax^2\bar{x}^2(y-\bar{y})}{(1+ax^2)(1+a\bar{x}^2)} \right) \right| \\ &+ \left| b\left(\frac{(x^2y - \bar{x}^2\bar{y}) + ax^2\bar{x}^2(y-\bar{y})}{(1+ax^2)(1+a\bar{x}^2)} \right) \\ &- d\left(\frac{(y^2z - \bar{y}^2\bar{z}) + dy^2\bar{y}^2(z-\bar{z}))}{(1+dy^2)(1+d\bar{y}^2)} \right) \\ &- m_1(y-\bar{y}) - h(y-\bar{y}) \right| \\ &+ \left| c\left(\frac{(y^2z - \bar{y}^2\bar{z}) + dy^2\bar{y}^2(z-\bar{z}))}{(1+dy^2)(1+d\bar{y}^2)} \right) - m_2(z-\bar{z}) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $|1/(1+dy^2)(1+dy^2)| \le 1$ and $|1/(1+ax^2)(1+ax^2)| \le 1$ and $\max \{|x|, |y|, |z|\} \le \gamma$, we can have

$$\begin{split} \left\| H(S) - H\left(\bar{S}\right) \right\| &\leq |x - \bar{x}| |1 - (x + \bar{x})| \\ &+ (a + b) \frac{|x^2 y - \bar{x}^2 \bar{y}| + a |x^2| |\bar{x}^2| |y - \bar{y}|}{|(1 + ax^2)(1 + a\bar{x}^2)|} \\ &+ (a + c) \frac{|y^2 z - \bar{y}^2 \bar{z}| + d |y^2| |\bar{y}^2| |z - \bar{z}|}{|(1 + dy^2)(1 + d\bar{y}^2)|} \\ &+ (m_1 + h) |y - \bar{y}| + m_2 |z - \bar{z}| \\ &\leq (1 + 2\gamma + 2\gamma^2(a + b)) |x - \bar{x}| \\ &+ ((a + b)\gamma^2 + a(a + b)\gamma^4 + 2\gamma^2(d + c) \\ &+ (m_1 + h)) |y - \bar{y}| + ((d + c)\gamma^2 \\ &+ d(d + c)\gamma^4 + m_2) |z - \bar{z}| = L \|S - \bar{S}\|, \end{split}$$
(18)

where $L = \max \{(1 + 2\gamma + 2\gamma^2(a + b)), ((a + b)\gamma^2 + a(a + b)\gamma^4 + 2\gamma^2(d + c) + (m_1 + h)), ((d + c)\gamma^2 + d(d + c)\gamma^4 + m_2)\}.$

Therefore, H(S) satisfies the Lipchitz condition. By Lemma 2, the proof is finished.

4. The Equilibrium Points and Local Stability Analysis

In this section, the existence and the local stability of equilibrium points of the considered system (10) are studied and investigated. Before that, we need the following theorem. **Theorem 6** (see [29]). Consider the fractional-order differential system $d^{\alpha}x/dt^{\alpha} = f(x)$; $x(0) = x_0$, with $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. The equilibrium points of the above system are solutions to the equation f(x) = 0. An equilibrium point is locally asymptotically stable if all the eigenvalues λ_j of the Jacobian matrix $J = \partial f/\partial x$ evaluated at the equilibrium satisfy |arg $(\lambda_i)| > \alpha \pi/2$.

Proof (see [29]). To obtain the equilibrium points of the considered system (10), we solve the following simultaneous equations:

$$D_t^{\alpha} x(t) = 0,$$

 $D_t^{\alpha} y(t) = 0,$ (19)
 $D_t^{\alpha} z(t) = 0.$

Thus, the considered system (10) has the following possible equilibrium points:

- (1) The trivial equilibrium point $E_0 = (0, 0, 0)$ and the equilibrium point $E_1 = (1, 0, 0)$ without any restriction on the parameters
- (2) The top predator free equilibrium point $E_2 = (\bar{x}, \bar{y}, 0)$ exists if $b > a(m_1 + h)$ and $0 < \bar{x} < 1$, where $\bar{x} = \sqrt{m_1 + h/b - a(m_1 + h)}$ and $\bar{y} = (1/ax)(1 - \bar{x})(1 + a \bar{x}^2)$
- (3) The interior equilibrium point $E_3 = (x^*, y^*, z^*)$ exists if $c > m_3 d$ and $bx^{*2}/1 + ax^{*2} > (m_1 + h)$, where $y^* = \sqrt{m_2/c - m_2 d}$, x^* , is the positive root of the equation $ax^3 - ax^2 + (ay^* + 1)x - 1 = 0$ and $z^* = (1 + dy^{*2}/dy^*)(bx^{*2}/1 + ax^{*2} - (m_1 + h))$

The Jacobian matrix of system (10) at (x, y, z) is given by

$$J(x, y, z) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2x - \frac{2axy}{k^2} & -\frac{ax^2}{k} & 0\\ \frac{2bxy}{k^2} & \frac{bx^2}{k} - \frac{2dyz}{k_1^2} - m_1 - h & -\frac{dy^2}{k_1}\\ 0 & \frac{2cyz}{k_1^2} & \frac{cy^2}{k_1} - m_2 \end{bmatrix},$$
(20)

where
$$k = (1 + ax^2)$$
 and $k_1 = (1 + dy^2)$.

The next theorems give the local stability of E_0 , E_1 , and E_2 , respectively.

Theorem 7. The trivial equilibrium point E_0 of the system (10) is always unstable point.

Proof. The Jacobian matrix J at E_0 is given by

$$J(E_0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -(m_1 + h) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -m_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$
 (21)

The characteristic equation of the Jacobian matrix $J(E_0)$ is given by

$$(1 - \lambda)(-(m_1 + h) - \lambda)(-m_2 - \lambda) = 0.$$
 (22)

Therefore, the roots of the above characteristic equation are $\lambda_1 = 1$, $\lambda_2 = -(m_1 + h)$, and $\lambda_3 = -m_3$. Then, $|\arg(\lambda_1)|$ $= 0 < \alpha \pi/2$, $|\arg(\lambda_2)| = \pi > \alpha \pi/2$ and also $|\arg(\lambda_3)| = \pi > \alpha$ $\pi/2$. Hence, the trivial equilibrium point is always unstable point. Π

Theorem 8. The equilibrium point E_1 of system (10) is locally asymptotically stable if $\langle (m_1 + h)(1 + a)$.

Proof. The Jacobian matrix J at E_1 is given by

$$J(E_1) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & \frac{-a}{1+a} & 0\\ 0 & \frac{b}{(1+a)} - (m_1 + h) & 0\\ 0 & 0 & -m_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$
 (23)

The characteristic equation of the Jacobian matrix $J(E_1)$ is given by

$$(-1-\lambda)\left(\frac{b}{(1+a)}-(m_1+h)-\lambda\right)(-m_2-\lambda)=0. \hspace{1cm} (24)$$

The roots of the above characteristic equation are $\lambda_1 =$ -1, $\lambda_2 = b/(1+a) - (m_1 + h)$ and $\lambda_3 = -m_2$. Then, $|\arg(\lambda_1)|$ the equilibrium point E_1 is locally asymptotically stable if < $(m_1 + h)(1 + a)$. Otherwise, it is unstable point.

Theorem 9. The equilibrium point E_2 is locally asymptotically stable if one of the following holds:

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(i)
$$cy^2/k_1 < m_2 l_1 < 0, l_2 > 0, and \Delta \ge 0$$

(ii) $cy^2/k_1 < m_2 l_1 < 0$ and $\Delta < 0$ and $|\arg(\lambda_i)| = \tan^{-1}(\sqrt{-\Delta}/l_1) > \alpha \pi/2, i = 2, 3$ where $\lambda_{2,3} = l_1 \mp \sqrt{l_1^2 - 4l_2/2}, l_1 = 1 - 2x - (2(1-x) - bx^2/k) - (m_1 + h), l_2 = (bx^2/k)(1-2x) - (m_1 + h)(1-2x-2(1-x)/k), and \Delta = l_1^2 - 4l_2$

Proof. The Jacobian matrix J at E_2 is given by

$$J(E_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2x - \frac{2axy}{k^2} & -\frac{ax^2}{k} & 0\\ \frac{2bxy}{k^2} & \frac{bx^2}{k} - (m_1 + h) & -\frac{dy^2}{k_1}\\ 0 & 0 & \frac{cy^2}{k_1} - m_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$
(25)

The characteristic equation of the Jacobian matrix $J(E_2)$ is given by

$$\left(\frac{cy^2}{k_1} - m_2 - \lambda\right) \left(\lambda^2 - l_1\lambda + l_2\right) = 0.$$
(26)

It is clear that $\lambda_1 = cy^2/k_1 - m_2$ is negative if $cy^2/k_1 < m_2$ so that $|\arg(\lambda_1)| = \pi > \alpha \pi/2$. The other two roots λ_2 and λ_3 are $\lambda_{2,3} = l_1 \mp \sqrt{l_1^2 - 4l_2/2}$. Hence, if $\Delta \ge 0$. then the eigenvalue λ_2 and the eigenvalue λ_3 are taken negative value; thus, | $\arg(\lambda_2) = \arg(\lambda_3) = \pi > \alpha \pi/2$. Therefore, the point E_2 is locally asymptotically stable. Also, if $\Delta < 0$ and if $|\arg(\lambda_i)|$ $= \tan^{-1}(\sqrt{-\Delta}/l_1) > 0, i = 2, 3$ hold, then the equilibrium point E_2 is asymptotically stable. Otherwise, it is unstable point.

In order to discuss the local stability of the interior point, we need the following definition and lemma.

Definition 10 (see [30]). The discriminant D(f) of a polynomial

$$f(x) = x^{n} + a_{1}x^{n-1} + a_{2}x^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n}$$
(27)

is defined by $D(f) = (-1)^{n(n-1)/2} R(f, f')$, where f' is the derivative of f and where $g(x) = x^n + b_1 x^{l-1} + b_2 x^{l-2} + \dots + b_n x^{l-1}$ b_l and R(f, g) is an $(n+l) \bigotimes (n+l)$ determinant. If n = 3, then D(f) is given by

$$D(f) = 18a_1a_2a_3 + (a_1a_2)^2 - 4a_3(a_1)^3 - 4(a_2)^3 - 27(a_3)^2.$$
(28)

Lemma 11 (see [30]). Let D(p) be a discriminant of the cubic polynomial equation, $p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 + a_1\lambda^2 + a_2\lambda + a_3 = 0$, then

- (1) If D(p) > 0, $a_1 > 0$, $a_3 > 0$, $a_1a_2 > a_3$, then $|\arg(\lambda_i)| > 0$ $\alpha \pi/2, i = 1, 2, 3 \forall \alpha \in (0, 1)$
- (2) If D(p) < 0, $a_1 \ge 0$, $a_2 \ge 0$, and $a_3 > 0$, then $|\arg(\lambda_i)|$ $> \alpha \pi/2, i = 1, 2, 3$ for $\alpha < 2/3$
- (3) If D(P) < 0, $a_1 < 0$, $a_2 < 0$, and $\alpha > 2/3$, then $|\arg(\lambda_i)|$ $< \alpha \pi/2, i = 1, 2, 3$
- (4) If D(P) < 0, $a_1 > 0$, $a_2 > 0$, and $a_1a_2 = a_3$, then |arg $(\lambda_i) > \alpha \pi/2, i = 1, 2, 3. \ \forall \alpha \in (0, 1)$



FIGURE 1: This figure shows the local stability of the point E_1 and the time series of the three species. (a) The point E_1 . (b) Time series of the three species.

Theorem 12. The interior equilibrium point E_3 is locally asymptotically stable if one of the following conditions holds:

(1) If D(p) > 0, $N_1 > 0$, $N_3 > 0$ and $N_1N_2 - N_3 > 0$, for $0 < \alpha < 1$

(2) If $D(p) < 0, N_1 \ge 0, N_2 \ge 0, N_3 > 0$, for $0 < \alpha < 2/3$ (3) If $D(p) < 0, N_1 > 0, N_2 > 0, N_1N_2 = N_3$, for $0 < \alpha < 1$

where $N_1 = -1 + 2x + (2axy/k^2) - (bx^2/k) + (2dyz/k_1^2) + (m_1 + h) - (cy^2/k_1) + m_2$, $N_2 = (1 - 2x - 2axy/k^2)(bx^2/k - 2dyz/k_1^2 - (m_1 + h) + (cy^2/k_1) - m_2) + (bx^2/k - 2dyz/k_1^2 - (m_1 + h) + (cy^2/k_1) - m_2)$



FIGURE 2: This figure shows the local stability of the point E_2 and the time series of the three species. (a) The point E_2 . (b) Time series of the three species.



FIGURE 3: This figure shows the local stability of the point E_3 and the time series of the three species. (a) The point E_3 . (b) Time series of the three species.

$$\begin{split} &+h))(cy^2/k_1-m_2)+(2abx^3y/k^3)+(2cdy^3z/k_1^{-3}), \ and \ N_3=\\ &-(1-2x-2axy/k^2)[(bx^2/k-2dyz/k_1^2-(m_1+h))(cy^2/k_1-m_2)+(2cdy^3z/k_1^3)]-(2abx^3y/k^3)(cy^2/k_1-m_2). \end{split}$$

Proof. The Jacobian matrix of system (10) at E_3 is given by

$$J(E_3) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2x - \frac{2axy}{k^2} & -\frac{ax^2}{k} & 0\\ \frac{2bxy}{k^2} & \frac{bx^2}{k} - \frac{2dyz}{k_1^2} - (m_1 + h) & -\frac{dy^2}{k_1}\\ 0 & \frac{2cyz}{k_1^2} & \frac{cy^2}{k_1} - m_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$
(29)

Therefore, the characteristic equation of $J(E_3)$ is given by

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 + N_1 \lambda^2 + N_2 \lambda + N_3 = 0.$$
 (30)

Thus, the discriminant D(p) of the cubic polynomial $p(\lambda)$ is

$$D(p) = -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & N_1 & N_2 & N_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & N_1 & N_2 & N_3 \\ 3 & 2N_1 & N_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 2N_1 & N_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2N_1 & N_2 \end{vmatrix},$$
(31)

where $D(p) = 18N_1N_2N_3 + (N_1N_2)^2 - 4N_1^3N_3 - 4N_2^3 - 27N_3^2$.

Then, all results can be obtained by Lemma 6.

5. Numerical Simulation

All previous theoretical results in Section 4 are confirmed by giving numerical simulations. At different set of values of parameters, the local stability of E_1 , E_2 , and E_3 of the considered system (10) is investigated numerically.

First, for the point E_1 , the following set of values of the parameters is chosen : $a_1 = 0.5$; $c_1 = 0.1$; $b_1 = 0.5$; $d_1 = 0.2$; $m_1 = 0.15$; $m_2 = 0.1$; h = 0.8, $\alpha = 0.98$, and (0.1,0.5,0.9) is the initial value. Therefore, the condition in Theorem 4 is satisfied. Figure 1 shows that the point E_1 is locally stable.

For the point E_2 , we choose the values of parameters as following E_2 , $a_1 = 0.6$; $c_1 = 0.1$; $b_1 = 0.3$; $d_1 = 0.2$; $m_1 = 0.03$; $m_2 = 0.32$; and h = 0.01, $\alpha = 0.95$, and (0.5,2.5,03) is the initial value. According to Theorem 9, the local stability of E_2 is satisfied. Figure 2 illustrates the local stability of the point E_2 .

To show the local stability of the unique positive equilibrium point E_3 , these values of parameters are chosen $a_1 = 0.75$; $c_1 = 0.17$; $b_1 = 0.3$; $d_1 = 0.3$; $m_1 = 0.03$; $m_2 = 0.3$; h = 0.02, and $\alpha = 0.95$, (0.82,1.95,0.9) is the initial value so that according to Theorem 12, the equilibrium point E_3 is local

stability point, and the trajectories of prey and predator are shown in Figure 3.

6. Conclusions

Fractional-order differential equations have recently been successfully used and applied to model many areas of science, especially, phenomena that cannot be formulated by other types of equations, so that this work concerns a study of a three-dimensional fractional-order prey-predator model with Holling type III functional response and constant rate harvesting. It is shown that the model possesses the existence, nonnegativity, boundedness, and uniqueness of the solutions, as desired in any population dynamics. The local stability of all possible equilibrium points of the considered system is investigated analytically then confirms by numerical verifications.

Data Availability

All simulations in the article are used by the authors to confirm the theoretical results. We have also cited references that were used, and we gave the DOI in the references.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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