

# Recent Trends in Mathematical Sciences

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction: The Importance and Evolving Role of Mathematics
  - Early Developments (Pre-17th Century)
  - 17th-19th Century: Calculus and More
  - 20th Century: The Rise of Abstract Mathematics and Computing
- 2 Key Trends and Recent Developments: Interdisciplinary and Applied Mathematics
  - Mathematical Biology and Medicine
  - Financial Mathematics and Economics
  - Machine Learning and Data Science
  - Quantum Computing and Information Theory
- 3 An Example: Mathematical Epidemiology
- 4 Future Directions
- 5 Concluding Remarks: The Role of Mathematics in Shaping the Future

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# Introduction: The Importance and Evolving Role of Mathematics

- Together with other sciences, mathematics forms the foundation for understanding the world around us. It is the language of science, technology, engineering and many other fields, driving innovation and problem solving.
- Mathematics continues to evolve rapidly across a diverse range of fields, with significant advancements influencing both theoretical and applied domains.
- The evolution of interest in different topics in mathematics has been shaped by a combination of intrinsic mathematical curiosity and practical applications in science, technology, and society.

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- Arithmetic and Geometry:
  - Ancient civilizations like the Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks, and Indians developed mathematical methods for trade, construction, astronomy, and navigation.
  - Applications: Measuring land, building structures (e.g., pyramids), and tracking celestial bodies.
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- Mathematical epidemiology focuses on the spread and control of infectious diseases.
- It uses mathematical models to understand disease dynamics, predict outbreaks, and evaluate interventions
- It could predict whether the disease will die out or persists in the population, via the calculation of

The basic reproduction number  $\mathcal{R}_0$

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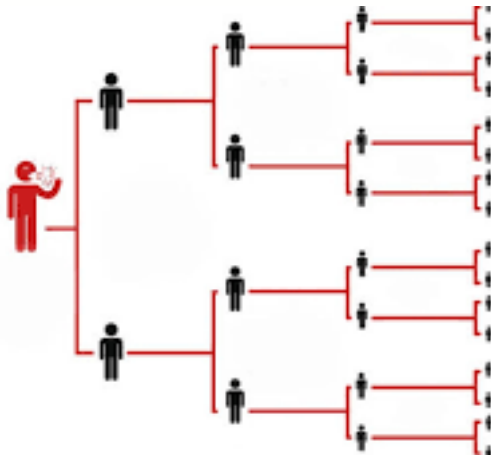
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## The basic reproduction number $\mathcal{R}_0$

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# Illustration of $\mathcal{R}_0$



# A Well-Known Result

- $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$ : On average, infected individual produces less than one new infected individual over the course of its infectious period  $\implies$  infection will die out.
- $\mathcal{R}_0 > 1$ : each infected individual produces, on average more than one new infection  $\implies$  the disease can invade the population.
- $\mathcal{R}_0 = 1$ : sometimes it is a ( forward or backward) bifurcation.

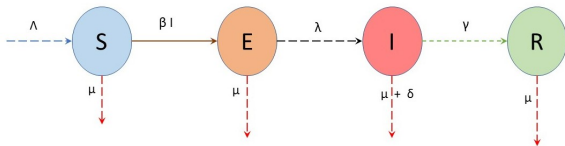
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# Illustrative Example: An SEIR Model



Consider the following SEIR model:

$$S'(t) = \mu - \beta SI - \mu S$$

$$E'(t) = \beta SI - (\alpha + \mu)E$$

$$I'(t) = \alpha E - (\gamma + \mu)I$$

$$R'(t) = \gamma I - \mu R$$

for which

$$\mathcal{R}_0 = \frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha + \mu)(\gamma + \mu)}$$

## Illustrative Example: An SEIR Model

If a portion  $\epsilon$  of the new-born susceptible is vaccinated, then the model becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}S'(t) &= (1 - \epsilon)\mu - \beta SI - \mu S \\E'(t) &= \beta SI - (\alpha + \mu)I \\I'(t) &= \alpha E - (\gamma + \mu)I \\R'(t) &= \gamma I - \mu R\end{aligned}$$

for which

$$\hat{\mathcal{R}}_0 = \frac{(1 - \epsilon)\alpha\beta}{(\alpha + \mu)(\gamma + \mu)} = (1 - \epsilon)\mathcal{R}_0$$

Hence it is enough to vaccinate a percentage of  $1 - \frac{1}{\mathcal{R}_0}$  to eliminate the disease.

# Future Directions

- **Advanced AI Models and Mathematical Foundations:** More research is needed to understand the theory behind deep learning networks, including their capabilities and limitations.
- **Advanced Mathematical Models for Climate Change:** The urgent need to understand and mitigate climate change has driven interest in mathematical models of climate systems.
- **Advanced Computational Techniques:** With advances in hardware, we can now solve increasingly complex mathematical problems, pushing the boundaries of simulation and numerical methods.
- **Unsolved Problems and Open Questions:** like the Riemann Hypothesis, Navier-Stokes existence, and P vs NP.

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# Concluding Remarks: The Role of Mathematics in Shaping the Future

- **Enhancing Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Mathematics is increasingly at the heart of interdisciplinary research. Collaboration between mathematicians and other scientists in various fields to solve real-world problems needs to be enhanced.
- **Revisiting Mathematical Education:** we should aim for an integrative approach that combines conceptual understanding, problem-solving, technological tools, and real-world applications along with fostering critical thinking, inclusivity, and effective communication.
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