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GLOBAL STABILITY OF A FRACTIONAL ORDER SIR EPIDEMIC MODEL WITH DOUBLE EPIDEMIC HYPOTHESIS AND NONLINEAR INCIDENCE RATE

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Abstract. In this paper, we consider a fractional order SIR epidemic model with double epidemic hypothesis and

specific functional response, where the fractional derivative is defined in the Caputo sense. The nonnegativity and

boundedness of solutions in this system are proved. The basic reproduction number is obtained. Qualitative results

show that the model has four equilibria: one disease-free equilibrium and three endemic equilibrium points. Local

and global stability analysis of the equilibria are established.

**Keywords:** fractional order SIR epidemic model; local stability; global stability.

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1. Introduction

Fractional calculus is the field of mathematical analysis aiming at the investigation of inte-

grals and derivatives of arbitrary (non integer) orders. In recent years, with the continuous de-

velopment of fractional calculus theory, fractional differential equations are increasingly used

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to modeling many phenomena in different fields see, e.g., [1, 2, 3, 4]. The importance of modeling real phenomena using the fractional differential equations is due to these fractional systems naturally include both memory and nonlocality effects [5]. These effects are quite relevant to epidemic spread. Therefore, large numbers of researchers have started to study the epidemic models using the fractional differential equations, see, e.g., [6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11]. Mouaouine et al. [10] proposed the following fractional order SIR epidemic model with nonlinear incidence rate

(1) 
$$\begin{cases} D^{\alpha}S(t) = & \Lambda - \mu S(t) - \frac{\beta S(t)I(t)}{1 + \alpha_1 S(t) + \alpha_2 I(t) + \alpha_3 S(t)I(t)}, \quad t \geq 0, \\ \\ D^{\alpha}I(t) = & \frac{\beta S(t)I(t)}{1 + \alpha_1 S(t) + \alpha_2 I(t) + \alpha_3 S(t)I(t)} - (\mu + d + r)I(t), \\ \\ D^{\alpha}R(t) = & rI(t) - \mu R(t), \end{cases}$$

where  $D^{\alpha}$  is the Caputo fractional derivative of order  $\alpha \in (0,1]$  defined for a function  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+,\mathbb{R})$  as follows [12]

$$D^{\alpha}f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{-\alpha} f'(s) ds,$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the Gamma function defined by the integral

$$\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty t^{\alpha - 1} e^{-t} dt.$$

In system (1), S(t), I(t), and R(t) represent the numbers of susceptible, infective, and recovered individuals at time t, respectively.  $\Lambda$  is the recruitment rate of the population,  $\mu$  is the natural death rate, d is the death rate due to disease and r is the recovery rate of the infective individuals. The incidence rate of disease in model (1) is modeled by the specific functional response  $\beta SI/(1+\alpha_1S+\alpha_2I+\alpha_3SI)$ , where  $\beta$  is the infection rate and  $\alpha_1,\alpha_2,\alpha_3$  are saturation factors measuring the psychological or inhibitory effect. This specific functional response was introduced by Hattaf et al. [13], and here it becomes to be, a bilinear incidence rate if  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = 0$ , a saturated incidence rate if  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_3 = 0$  or  $\alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = 0$ , a Beddington-DeAngelis functional response [14, 15] if  $\alpha_3 = 0$ , and a Crowley-Martin functional response [16] if  $\alpha_1\alpha_2 = \alpha_3$ . According to the theory in [10], the basic reproduction number of model (1) is  $R_0 = \beta \Lambda / [(\mu + \alpha_1\Lambda)(\mu + d + r)]$ . Moreover, if  $R_0 \le 1$ , model (1) has only the disease-free

equilibrium  $E_0 = (\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}, 0, 0)$  which is globally asymptotical stable, and if  $R_0 > 1$ ,  $E_0$  becomes unstable and system (1) has an endemic equilibrium which is globally asymptotically stable.

In classical epidemic models, there exists only one epidemic disease caused by one virus. In fact, there might be two epidemic diseases caused by two different viruses. Recently, many authors studied the epidemic models with double epidemic hypothesis, see, e.g., [17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26]. In this paper, we propose the fractional epidemic model (1) with double epidemic hypothesis written as follows

$$\begin{cases} D^{\alpha}S(t) = & \Lambda - \mu S(t) - \frac{\beta_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{1}S(t) + \gamma_{1}I_{1}(t) + \rho_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)} - \frac{\beta_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{2}S(t) + \gamma_{2}I_{2}(t) + \rho_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)}, \\ D^{\alpha}I_{1}(t) = & \frac{\beta_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{1}S(t) + \gamma_{1}I_{1}(t) + \rho_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)} - (\mu + r_{1} + \lambda_{1})I_{1}(t), \\ D^{\alpha}I_{2}(t) = & \frac{\beta_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{2}S(t) + \gamma_{2}I_{2}(t) + \rho_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)} - (\mu + r_{2} + \lambda_{2})I_{2}(t), \\ D^{\alpha}R(t) = & \lambda_{1}I_{1}(t) + \lambda_{2}I_{2}(t) - \mu R(t), \end{cases}$$

where S(t) is the number of susceptible individuals at time t,  $I_1(t)$  and  $I_2(t)$  are the numbers of infected individuals with virus  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  at time t, respectively, and R(t) is the number of individuals who have recovered,  $\beta_i$  is the transmission coefficients between S and  $I_i$ , i = 1, 2.  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\gamma_i$  and  $\rho_i$  are saturation factors,  $r_i$  is the disease related death rate caused by virus  $V_i$ ,  $\lambda_i$  is the recovery rate of the disease caused by virus  $V_i$ . As in model (1),  $\alpha \in (0,1]$  is the order of the fractional derivative,  $\Lambda$  is the recruitment rate of susceptible individuals,  $\mu$  is the natural death rate of the population. All parameters in model (2) are positive constants.

Since the three first equations in system (2) are independent of the four equation, system (2) can be reduced to the following equivalent system

$$\begin{cases} D^{\alpha}S(t) = \Lambda - \mu S(t) - \frac{\beta_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{1}S(t) + \gamma_{1}I_{1}(t) + \rho_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)} - \frac{\beta_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{2}S(t) + \gamma_{2}I_{2}(t) + \rho_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)}, \\ D^{\alpha}I_{1}(t) = \frac{\beta_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{1}S(t) + \gamma_{1}I_{1}(t) + \rho_{1}S(t)I_{1}(t)} - (\mu + r_{1} + \lambda_{1})I_{1}(t), \\ D^{\alpha}I_{2}(t) = \frac{\beta_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)}{1 + \alpha_{2}S(t) + \gamma_{2}I_{2}(t) + \rho_{2}S(t)I_{2}(t)} - (\mu + r_{2} + \lambda_{2})I_{2}(t). \end{cases}$$

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In the next section, the existence of equilibria and the well-posedness of the model including existence, nonnegativity and boundedness of the solutions are established. In Section 3, we discuss the local stability of the equilibria of model (3). By constructing suitable Lyapunov functionals, the global stability of the equilibria is investigated in Section 4. A conclusion is given in Section 5.

## 2. Well-Posedness and Equilibria

**Theorem 2.1.** For any nonnegative initial condition, system (3) has a unique solution. Moreover, this solution remains nonnegative and bounded.

**Proof.** By using Theorem 3.1 and Remark 3.2 in [27], it is easy to prove that system (3) has a unique solution  $(S, I_1, I_2)$  with any nonnegative initial condition. Now, we show the nonnegativity of this solution. From (3), one has

$$\begin{cases} D^{\alpha}S|_{S=0} = \Lambda > 0 \text{ for all } I_1, I_2 \ge 0, \\ D^{\alpha}I_1|_{I_1=0} = 0 \text{ for all } S, I_2 \ge 0, \\ D^{\alpha}I_2|_{I_2=0} = 0 \text{ for all } S, I_1 \ge 0. \end{cases}$$

By Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 in [28], one can deduce that the solution of the fractional order system (3) is nonnegative. Next, we prove the boundedness of solution. Summing all the equations of system (3) we find that the total population size  $N(t) = S(t) + I_1(t) + I_2(t)$  satisfies the inequality

$$D^{\alpha}N(t) = \Lambda - \mu N(t) - (r_1 + \lambda_1)I_1(t) - (r_2 + \lambda_2)I_1(t) \leq \Lambda - \mu N(t).$$

By Lemma 3 in [29], we have

$$N(t) \le \left(N(0) - \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}\right) E_{\alpha} \left(-\mu t^{\alpha}\right) + \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}.$$

where  $E_{\alpha}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{\Gamma(\alpha k+1)}$  is the Mittag-Leffler function of parameter  $\alpha$  [30]. Therefore,

$$\limsup_{t\to\infty} N(t) \leq \frac{\Lambda}{\mu},$$

which implies that S(t),  $I_1(t)$  and  $I_2(t)$  are bounded.

It is obvious that model (3) always has a disease-free equilibrium  $E_0 = (S_0, 0, 0)$ , where  $S_0 = \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}$ , that is, there is no infection present in the population and all individuals are susceptible.

By applying the next generation matrix approach provided by van den Driessche and Watmough [31], the basic reproduction number of model (3) is defined as follows

$$R_0 = \max\{R_{01}, R_{02}\},\$$

where

$$R_{01} = \frac{\beta_1 \Lambda}{(\mu + \alpha_1 \Lambda) (\mu + r_1 + \lambda_1)}$$
 and  $R_{02} = \frac{\beta_2 \Lambda}{(\mu + \alpha_2 \Lambda) (\mu + r_2 + \lambda_2)}$ .

Now, if  $R_{01} > 1$ , then system (3) has the endemic equilibrium  $E_1^* = (S_1^*, I_1^*, 0)$ , where

$$S_1^* = \frac{\Lambda - \boldsymbol{\omega}_1 I_1^*}{\mu},$$

$$I_1^* = \frac{2(\mu + \alpha_1 \Lambda)(R_{01} - 1)}{\beta_1 - \alpha_1 \boldsymbol{\omega}_1 + \gamma_1 \mu + \rho_1 \Lambda + \sqrt{\Delta_1}},$$

with  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 = \boldsymbol{\mu} + r_1 + \lambda_1$  and

$$\Delta_1 = [\beta_1 - \alpha_1 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \gamma_1 \boldsymbol{\mu} + \rho_1 \boldsymbol{\Lambda}]^2 - 4\rho_1 [\beta_1 \boldsymbol{\Lambda} - (\boldsymbol{\mu} + \alpha_1 \boldsymbol{\Lambda}) \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1]$$
$$= [\beta_1 - \alpha_1 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \gamma_1 \boldsymbol{\mu} - \rho_1 \boldsymbol{\Lambda}]^2 + 4\rho_1 \boldsymbol{\mu} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \gamma_1 \boldsymbol{\Lambda}).$$

Further, if  $R_{02} > 1$ , then system (3) has the endemic equilibrium  $E_2^* = (S_2^*, 0, I_2^*)$ , where

$$S_2^* = \frac{\Lambda - \boldsymbol{\omega}_2 I_2^*}{\mu},$$

$$I_2^* = \frac{2(\mu + \alpha_2 \Lambda)(R_{02} - 1)}{\beta_2 - \alpha_2 \boldsymbol{\omega}_2 + \gamma_2 \mu + \rho_2 \Lambda + \sqrt{\Delta_2}},$$

with  $\boldsymbol{\varpi}_2 = \boldsymbol{\mu} + r_2 + \lambda_2$  and

$$\Delta_2 = [\beta_2 - \alpha_2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 + \gamma_2 \mu + \rho_2 \Lambda]^2 - 4\rho_2 [\beta_2 \Lambda - (\mu + \alpha_2 \Lambda) \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2]$$
$$= [\beta_2 - \alpha_2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 + \gamma_2 \mu - \rho_2 \Lambda]^2 + 4\rho_2 \mu (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 + \gamma_2 \Lambda).$$

Now, we investigate the existence of the positive endemic equilibrium  $E_* = (S_*, I_*^1, I_*^2)$ . For this, we rearranged system (3) to get  $I_1^*$  and  $I_2^*$  as follows

$$I_*^1 = \frac{\left(\frac{\mu}{\Lambda}R_{01} + \alpha_1(R_{01} - 1)\right)S_* - 1}{\gamma_1 + \rho_1S_*},$$

$$I_*^2 = \frac{\left(\frac{\mu}{\Lambda}R_{02} + \alpha_2(R_{02} - 1)\right)S_* - 1}{\gamma_2 + \rho_2S_*}.$$

In addition,  $S_*$  is given by the following cubic equation

(4) 
$$C_0 S_*^3 + C_1 S_*^2 + C_2 S_* - C_3 = 0,$$

where

$$\begin{array}{lcl} C_0 & = & \mu \rho_1 \rho_2 > 0, \\ \\ C_1 & = & \mu \left( \gamma_1 \rho_2 + \gamma_2 \rho_1 \right) - \Lambda \rho_1 \rho_2 + \rho_1 (\beta_2 - \alpha_2 \varpi_2) + \rho_2 (\beta_1 - \alpha_1 \varpi_1), \\ \\ C_2 & = & \mu \gamma_1 \gamma_2 - \Lambda \left( \gamma_1 \rho_2 + \gamma_2 \rho_1 \right) + \gamma_1 (\beta_2 - \alpha_2 \varpi_2) - \rho_1 \varpi_2 + \gamma_2 (\beta_1 - \alpha_1 \varpi_1) - \rho_2 \varpi_1, \\ \\ C_3 & = & \Lambda \gamma_1 \gamma_2 + \gamma_1 \varpi_2 + \gamma_2 \varpi_1 > 0. \end{array}$$

With the help of Descartes' rule of signs [32], Eq. (4) has a unique positive real root  $S_*$  if any one of the following holds

- (i)  $C_1 > 0, C_2 > 0$ .
- (ii)  $C_1 > 0, C_2 < 0$ .
- (iii)  $C_1 < 0, C_2 < 0$ .

Hence the positive endemic equilibrium  $E_*$  exists when  $R_{01} > 1$ ,  $R_{02} > 1$ , one of the conditions (i), (ii) and (iii) hold true and  $S_* > \max_{i=1,2} \left\{ \frac{\Lambda}{\mu R_{0i} + \alpha_i \Lambda(R_{0i} - 1)} \right\}$ .

### 3. LOCAL STABILITY

In this section, we discuss the local stability of the equilibria of system (3).

**Lemma 3.1.** [33]. Consider the fractional order system

$$D^{\alpha}x(t) = f(x(t)), \ x(0) = x_0,$$

where  $\alpha \in (0,1]$ ,  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$  is a nonlinear function. An equilibrium point of the above system is locally asymptotically stable if all the eigenvalues  $\xi_j$   $(j=1,2,\ldots,n)$  of the Jacobian matrix  $J = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  evaluated at the equilibrium satisfy  $|\arg(\xi_j)| > \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}$ , and unstable if there exist an eigenvalue  $\xi_j$  such that  $|\arg(\xi_j)| < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}$ .

The Jacobian matrix of system (3) at the equilibrium  $E_0$  is as follows

$$J_{E_0} = \left(egin{array}{ccc} -\mu & rac{-eta_1\Lambda}{\mu+lpha_1\Lambda} & rac{-eta_2\Lambda}{\mu+lpha_2\Lambda} \ 0 & rac{eta_1\Lambda}{\mu+lpha_1\Lambda} - (\mu+r_1+\lambda_1) & 0 \ 0 & 0 & rac{eta_2\Lambda}{\mu+lpha_2\Lambda} - (\mu+r_2+\lambda_2) \end{array}
ight).$$

The three eigenvalues of  $J_{E_0}$  are  $\xi_1 = -\mu < 0$ ,  $\xi_2 = (\mu + r_1 + \lambda_1)(R_{01} - 1)$  and  $\xi_3 = (\mu + r_2 + \lambda_2)(R_{02} - 1)$ . So that all eigenvalues  $\xi_j$  (j = 1, 2, 3) of  $J_{E_0}$  satisfy  $\left|\arg(\xi_j)\right| = \pi > \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  if  $R_0 < 1$ . Further,  $\left|\arg(\xi_2)\right| = 0 < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  if  $R_{01} > 1$  and  $\left|\arg(\xi_3)\right| = 0 < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  if  $R_{02} > 1$ . Consequently, by Lemma 3.1, we have the following result. **Theorem 3.1.** If  $R_0 < 1$ , then the disease-free equilibrium  $E_0$  is locally asymptotically stable.  $E_0$  unstable if  $R_0 > 1$ .

The Jacobian matrix of system (3) at the equilibrium  $E_1^*$  is determined by

$$J_{E_1^*} = \left( egin{array}{cccc} -m_1 & -m_2 & -m_3 \\ m_4 & m_2 - m_5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3 - m_6 \end{array} 
ight),$$

where

$$m_{1} = \mu + \frac{\beta_{1}I_{1}^{*}(1 + \gamma_{1}I_{1}^{*})}{(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{1}^{*} + \gamma_{1}I_{1}^{*} + \rho_{1}S_{1}^{*}I_{1}^{*})^{2}},$$

$$m_{2} = \frac{\beta_{1}S_{1}^{*}(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{1}^{*})}{(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{1}^{*} + \gamma_{1}I_{1}^{*} + \rho_{1}S_{1}^{*}I_{1}^{*})^{2}},$$

$$m_{3} = \frac{\beta_{2}S_{1}^{*}}{1 + \alpha_{2}S_{1}^{*}},$$

$$m_{4} = \frac{\beta_{1}I_{1}^{*}(1 + \gamma_{1}I_{1}^{*})}{(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{1}^{*} + \gamma_{1}I_{1}^{*} + \rho_{1}S_{1}^{*}I_{1}^{*})^{2}},$$

$$m_{5} = \mu + r_{1} + \lambda_{1},$$

$$m_{6} = \mu + r_{2} + \lambda_{2}.$$

Clearly,  $\xi_1 = \frac{\beta_2 S_1^*}{1 + \alpha_2 S_1^*} - (\mu + r_2 + \lambda_2)$  is an eigenvalue of  $J_{E_1^*}$ . Since  $S_1^* < \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}$  because  $\Lambda - \mu S_1^* = \varpi_1 I_1^* > 0$  and the function  $g: x \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \frac{\beta_2 x}{1 + \alpha_2 x}$  is increasing, then  $\xi_1 \leq g(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}) - (\mu + r_2 + \lambda_2) = \frac{\beta_2 \Lambda}{\mu + \alpha_2 \Lambda} - (\mu + r_2 + \lambda_2) = (\mu + r_2 + \lambda_2) (R_{02} - 1)$ . Hence  $\xi_1 < 0$  if  $R_{02} < 1$ , then  $|\arg(\xi_1)| = \pi > \frac{\alpha \pi}{2}$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  if  $R_{02} < 1$ . The other two eigenvalues of  $J_{E_1^*}$  are determined by the

following equation

$$\xi^2 + P_1 \xi + P_0 = 0,$$

where

$$P_1 = m_1 + m_5 - m_2,$$
  
 $P_0 = m_1 (m_5 - m_2) + m_2 m_4.$ 

Since

$$m_5 - m_2 = \frac{\beta_1 S_1^* I_1^* (\gamma_1 + \rho_1 S_1^*)}{(1 + \alpha_1 S_1^* + \gamma_1 I_1^* + \rho_1 S_1^* I_1^*)^2} > 0,$$

then  $P_1>0$  and  $P_0>0$ . Thus the eigenvalues  $\xi_j$  (j=2,3) of  $J_{E_1^*}$  have negative real part, so that  $\left|\arg(\xi_j)\right|>\frac{\pi}{2}\geq\frac{\alpha\pi}{2}$  for all  $\alpha\in(0,1]$  if  $R_{01}>1$ . Hence, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.2.** If  $R_{02} < 1 < R_{01}$ , then the equilibrium  $E_1^*$  is locally asymptotically stable.

As in the stability analysis of previous case  $E_1^*$  we have following result.

**Theorem 3.3.** If  $R_{01} < 1 < R_{02}$ , then the equilibrium  $E_2^*$  is locally asymptotically stable.

The Jacobian matrix of system (3) at the positive equilibrium  $E_*$  is determined by

$$J_{E_*} = \begin{pmatrix} -p_1 & -p_2 & -p_3 \\ p_4 & p_2 - p_5 & 0 \\ p_6 & 0 & p_3 - p_7 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$p_{1} = \mu + \frac{\beta_{1}I_{*}^{1}(1 + \gamma_{1}I_{*}^{1})}{(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{*} + \gamma_{1}I_{*}^{1} + \rho_{1}S_{*}I_{*}^{1})^{2}} + \frac{\beta_{2}I_{*}^{2}(1 + \gamma_{2}I_{*}^{2})}{(1 + \alpha_{2}S_{*} + \gamma_{2}I_{*}^{2} + \rho_{2}S_{*}I_{*}^{2})^{2}},$$

$$p_{2} = \frac{\beta_{1}S_{*}(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{*})}{(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{*} + \gamma_{1}I_{*}^{1} + \rho_{1}S_{*}I_{*}^{1})^{2}},$$

$$p_{3} = \frac{\beta_{2}S_{*}(1 + \alpha_{2}S_{*})}{(1 + \alpha_{2}S_{*} + \gamma_{2}I_{*}^{2} + \rho_{2}S_{*}I_{*}^{2})^{2}},$$

$$p_{4} = \frac{\beta_{1}I_{*}^{1}(1 + \gamma_{1}I_{*}^{1})}{(1 + \alpha_{1}S_{*} + \gamma_{1}I_{*}^{1} + \rho_{1}S_{*}I_{*}^{1})^{2}},$$

$$p_{5} = \mu + r_{1} + \lambda_{1},$$

$$p_{6} = \frac{\beta_{2}I_{*}^{2}(1 + \gamma_{2}I_{*}^{2})}{(1 + \alpha_{2}S_{*} + \gamma_{2}I_{*}^{2} + \rho_{2}S_{*}I_{*}^{2})^{2}},$$

$$p_{7} = \mu + r_{2} + \lambda_{2}.$$

**Theorem 3.4.** The positive endemic equilibrium  $E_*$  is locally asymptotically stable if it is exists.

**Proof.** The characteristic equation of Jacobian matrix  $J_{E_*}$  can be given as

(5) 
$$\xi^3 + Q_2 \xi^2 + Q_1 \xi + Q_0 = 0,$$

where

$$Q_2 = p_1 + (p_5 - p_2) + (p_7 - p_3),$$

$$Q_1 = p_1(p_5 - p_2 + p_7 - p_3) + (p_5 - p_2)(p_7 - p_3) + p_2p_4 + p_3p_6,$$

$$Q_0 = p_1(p_5 - p_2)(p_7 - p_3) + p_2p_4(p_7 - p_3) + p_3p_6(p_5 - p_2).$$

Note that

$$p_5 - p_2 = \frac{\beta_1 S_* I_*^1 (\gamma_1 + \mu_1 S_*)}{(1 + \alpha_1 S_* + \gamma_1 I_*^1 + \rho_1 S_* I_*^1)^2} > 0,$$
  
$$p_7 - p_3 = \frac{\beta_2 S_* I_*^2 (\gamma_2 + \mu_2 S_*)}{(1 + \alpha_2 S_* + \gamma_2 I_*^2 + \rho_2 S_* I_*^2)^2} > 0,$$

then it is easy to show that  $Q_2 > 0$ ,  $Q_1 > 0$ ,  $Q_0 > 0$  and  $Q_2Q_1 > Q_0$ . Thus by the Routh-Hurwitz criterion, all roots  $\xi_i$  (i = 1, 2, 3), of (5) have negative real part. Therefore, the equilibrium  $E_*$  of the system (3) is asymptotically stable.

## 4. GLOBAL STABILITY

In this section, we investigate the global stability of the four equilibria.

**Theorem 4.1.** If  $R_0 \le 1$ , then the disease-free equilibrium  $E_0$  is globally asymptotically stable.

**Proof.** Let  $U_0$  be the Lyapunov functional defined as

$$U_0(t) = \frac{S_0}{(1 + \alpha_1 S_0)(1 + \alpha_2 S_0)} g\left(\frac{S}{S_0}\right) + \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_2 S_0} I_1 + \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_1 S_0} I_2,$$

where  $g(x) = x - 1 - \ln x$ , x > 0. According to Lemma 3.1 in [34], one gets

$$\begin{split} D^{\alpha}U_{0} & \leq & \frac{1}{(1+\alpha_{1}S_{0})(1+\alpha_{2}S_{0})} \left(1-\frac{S_{0}}{S}\right) D^{\alpha}S + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} D^{\alpha}I_{1} + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{1}S_{0}} D^{\alpha}I_{2} \\ & = & -\frac{\mu}{(1+\alpha_{1}S_{0})(1+\alpha_{2}S_{0})} \frac{(S-S_{0})^{2}}{S} - \frac{1}{(1+\alpha_{1}S_{0})(1+\alpha_{2}S_{0})} \left(1-\frac{S_{0}}{S}\right) \frac{\beta_{1}SI_{1}}{1+\alpha_{1}S+\gamma_{1}I_{1}+\rho_{1}SI_{1}} \\ & -\frac{1}{(1+\alpha_{1}S_{0})(1+\alpha_{2}S_{0})} \left(1-\frac{S_{0}}{S}\right) \frac{\beta_{2}SI_{2}}{1+\alpha_{2}S+\gamma_{2}I_{2}+\rho_{2}SI_{2}} + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} \frac{\beta_{1}SI_{1}}{1+\alpha_{1}S+\gamma_{1}I_{1}+\rho_{1}SI_{1}} \\ & -\frac{\mu+r_{1}+\lambda_{1}}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}}I_{1} + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{1}S_{0}} \frac{\beta_{2}SI_{2}}{1+\alpha_{2}S+\gamma_{2}I_{2}+\rho_{2}SI_{2}} - \frac{\mu+r_{2}+\lambda_{2}}{1+\alpha_{1}S_{0}}I_{2} \end{split}$$

$$= -\frac{\mu}{(1+\alpha_{1}S_{0})(1+\alpha_{2}S_{0})} \frac{(S-S_{0})^{2}}{S} + \frac{\mu+r_{1}+\lambda_{1}}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} \left(R_{01} \frac{1+\alpha_{1}S}{1+\alpha_{1}S+\gamma_{1}I_{1}+\rho_{1}SI_{1}} - 1\right) I_{1}$$

$$+ \frac{\mu+r_{2}+\lambda_{2}}{1+\alpha_{1}S_{0}} \left(R_{02} \frac{1+\alpha_{2}S}{1+\alpha_{2}S+\gamma_{2}I_{2}+\rho_{2}SI_{2}} - 1\right) I_{2}$$

$$D^{\alpha}U_{0} \leq -\frac{\mu}{(1+\alpha_{1}S_{0})(1+\alpha_{2}S_{0})} \frac{(S-S_{0})^{2}}{S} + \frac{\mu+r_{1}+\lambda_{1}}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} (R_{01}-1) I_{1} + \frac{\mu+r_{2}+\lambda_{2}}{1+\alpha_{1}S_{0}} (R_{02}-1) I_{2}.$$

Therefore,  $R_0 \leq 1$  ensures that  $D^{\alpha}U_0 \leq 0$ . Furthermore, it is easy to verify that the singleton  $\{E_0\}$  is the largest compact invariant set in  $\{(S,I_1,I_2) \in \mathbb{R}^3_+ : D^{\alpha}U_0 = 0\}$ . By Lemma 4.6 in [35], which generalized the integer order LaSalle's invariance principle to fractional order system, we conclude that  $E_0$  is globally asymptotically stable if  $R_0 \leq 1$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** If  $R_{02} \leq 1 < R_{01}$ , then the equilibrium  $E_1^*$  is globally asymptotically stable.

**Proof.** Let  $U_1$  be the Lyapunov functional defined as

$$U_1(t) = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_2 S_0} \frac{f_1(0, I_1^*)}{f_1(S_1^*, I_1^*)} S_1^* g\left(\frac{S}{S_1^*}\right) + \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_2 S_0} I_1^* g\left(\frac{I_1}{I_1^*}\right) + \frac{f_1(0, I_1^*)}{f_1(S_1^*, I_1^*)} I_2,$$

where  $f_1(S, I_1) = 1 + \alpha_1 S + \gamma_1 I_1 + \rho_1 S I_1$ . We have

$$D^{\alpha}U_{1} \leq \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_{2}S_{0}} \frac{f_{1}(0, I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*}, I_{1}^{*})} \left(1 - \frac{S_{1}^{*}}{S}\right) D^{\alpha}S + \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_{2}S_{0}} \left(1 - \frac{I_{1}^{*}}{I_{1}}\right) D^{\alpha}I_{1} + \frac{f_{1}(0, I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*}, I_{1}^{*})} D^{\alpha}I_{2}.$$

Using

$$\Lambda = \mu S_1^* + \frac{\beta_1 S_1^* I_1^*}{f_1(S_1^*, I_1^*)}, \ \frac{\beta_1 S_1^* I_1^*}{f_1(S_1^*, I_1^*)} = (\mu + r_1 + \lambda_1) I_1^*,$$

and

$$\frac{f_1(0,I_1^*)}{f_1(S_1^*,I_1^*)} \left(1 - \frac{S_1^*}{S}\right) = \left(1 - \frac{S_1^*f_1(S,I_1^*)}{Sf_1(S_1^*,I_1^*)}\right),$$

we obtain

$$\begin{split} D^{\alpha}U_{1} & \leq & \frac{-\mu_{0}}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}}\frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}\frac{(S-S_{1}^{*})^{2}}{S} + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}}(\mu+r_{1}+\lambda_{1})I_{1}^{*}\left(1-\frac{S_{1}^{*}f_{1}(S,I_{1}^{*})}{Sf_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}\right)\left(1-\frac{SI_{1}f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}{S_{1}^{*}I_{1}^{*}f_{1}(S,I_{1})}\right) \\ & - \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}}\frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}\left(1-\frac{S_{1}^{*}}{S}\right)\frac{\beta_{2}SI_{2}}{1+\alpha_{2}S+\gamma_{2}I_{2}+\rho_{2}SI_{2}} \\ & + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}}(\mu+r_{1}+\lambda_{1})I_{1}^{*}\left(1-\frac{I_{1}^{*}}{I_{1}}\right)\left(\frac{SI_{1}f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}{S_{1}^{*}I_{1}^{*}f_{1}(S,I_{1})}-\frac{I_{1}}{I_{1}^{*}}\right) \\ & + \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}\frac{\beta_{2}SI_{2}}{1+\alpha_{2}S+\gamma_{2}I_{2}+\rho_{2}SI_{2}}-\frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}(\mu+r_{2}+\lambda_{2})I_{2} \end{split}$$

$$= \frac{-\mu}{1+\alpha_2S_0} \frac{f_1(0,I_1^*)}{f_1(S_1^*,I_1^*)} \frac{(S-S_1^*)^2}{S} + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_2S_0} (\mu+r_1+\lambda_1)I_1^* \left(2 - \frac{S_1^*f_1(S,I_1^*)}{Sf_1(S_1^*,I_1^*)} - \frac{Sf_1(S_1^*,I_1^*)}{S_1^*f_1(S,I_1^*)}\right) \\ + \frac{f_1(0,I_1^*)}{f_1(S_1^*,I_1^*)} \frac{\beta_2I_2}{1+\alpha_2S_0} \frac{S_1^* + \alpha_2SS_0}{1+\alpha_2S + \gamma_2I_2 + \rho_2SI_2} - \frac{f_1(0,I_1^*)}{f_1(S_1^*,I_1^*)} (\mu+r_2+\lambda_2)I_2.$$

Since  $S_1^* \leq S_0$  because  $\Lambda - \mu S_1^* = \frac{\beta_1 S_1^* I_1^*}{f_1(S_1^*, I_1^*)}$ , then

$$D^{\alpha}U_{1} \leq \frac{-\mu}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})} \frac{(S-S_{1}^{*})^{2}}{S} + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} (\mu+r_{1}+\lambda_{1})I_{1}^{*} \left(2 - \frac{S_{1}^{*}f_{1}(S,I_{1}^{*})}{Sf_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})} - \frac{Sf_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}{S_{1}^{*}f_{1}(S,I_{1}^{*})} \right) \\ + \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})} (\mu+r_{2}+\lambda_{2}) \left(R_{02} \frac{1+\alpha_{2}S}{1+\alpha_{2}S+\gamma_{2}I_{2}+\rho_{2}SI_{2}} - 1\right)I_{2} \\ \leq \frac{-\mu}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})} \frac{(S-S_{1}^{*})^{2}}{S} + \frac{1}{1+\alpha_{2}S_{0}} (\mu+r_{1}+\lambda_{1})I_{1}^{*} \left(2 - \frac{S_{1}^{*}f_{1}(S,I_{1}^{*})}{Sf_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})} - \frac{Sf_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})}{S_{1}^{*}f_{1}(S,I_{1}^{*})} \right) \\ + \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{1}^{*})}{f_{1}(S_{1}^{*},I_{1}^{*})} (\mu+r_{2}+\lambda_{2}) (R_{02}-1)I_{2}.$$

Using the arithmetic-geometric inequality, we have

$$2 - \frac{S_1^* f_1(S, I_1^*)}{S f_1(S_1^*, I_1^*)} - \frac{S f_1(S_1^*, I_1^*)}{S_1^* f_1(S, I_1^*)} \le 0.$$

Therefore,  $R_{01} > 1$  and  $R_{02} \le 1$  ensures that  $D^{\alpha}U_1 \le 0$ . Furthermore, it is easy to verify that the singleton  $\{E_1^*\}$  is the largest compact invariant set in  $\{(S,I_1,I_2) \in \mathbb{R}^3_+ : D^{\alpha}U_1 = 0\}$ . By applying the LaSalle's invariance principle, we conclude that  $E_1^*$  is globally asymptotically stable if  $R_{02} \le 1 < R_{01}$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** If  $R_{01} \leq 1 < R_{02}$ , then the equilibrium  $E_2^*$  is globally asymptotically stable.

**Proof.** *It is analogue to the previous proof.* 

**Theorem 4.4.** The endemic equilibrium  $E_*$  is globally asymptotically stable if it is exists.

**Proof.** Consider the Lyapunov functional

$$V(t) = \frac{f_1(0,I_*^1)f_2(0,I_*^2)}{f_1(S_*,I_*^1)f_2(S_*,I_*^2)}S_*g\left(\frac{S}{S_*}\right) + \frac{f_2(0,I_*^2)}{f_2(S_*,I_*^2)}I_*^1g\left(\frac{I_1}{I_*^1}\right) + \frac{f_1(0,I_*^1)}{f_1(S_*,I_*^1)}I_*^2g\left(\frac{I_2}{I_*^2}\right),$$

where  $f_2(S, I_2) = 1 + \alpha_2 S + \gamma_2 I_2 + \rho_2 S I_2$ . By Lemma 3.1 in [34], we have

$$D^{\alpha}V \leq \frac{f_1(0,I^1_*)f_2(0,I^2_*)}{f_1(S_*,I^1_*)f_2(S_*,I^2_*)} \left(1 - \frac{S_*}{S}\right) D^{\alpha}S + \frac{f_2(0,I^2_*)}{f_2(S_*,I^2_*)} \left(1 - \frac{I^1_*}{I_1}\right) D^{\alpha}I_1 + \frac{f_1(0,I^1_*)}{f_1(S_*,I^1_*)} \left(1 - \frac{I^2_*}{I_2}\right) D^{\alpha}I_2.$$

Using

$$\Lambda = \mu S_* + \frac{\beta_1 S_* I_*^1}{f_1(S_*, I_*^1)} + \frac{\beta_2 S_* I_*^2}{f_2(S_*, I_*^2)}, \ \ \frac{\beta_1 S_* I_*^1}{f_1(S_*, I_*^1)} = (\mu + r_1 + \lambda_1) I_*^1, \ \ \frac{\beta_2 S_* I_*^2}{f_2(S_*, I_*^2)} = (\mu + r_2 + \lambda_2) I_*^2,$$

and

$$\frac{f_1(0,I_*^1)}{f_1(S_*,I_*^1)}\left(1-\frac{S_*}{S}\right) = \left(1-\frac{S_*f_1(S,I_*^1)}{Sf_1(S_*,I_*^1)}\right), \quad \frac{f_2(0,I_*^2)}{f_2(S_*,I_*^2)}\left(1-\frac{S_*}{S}\right) = \left(1-\frac{S_*f_2(S,I_*^2)}{Sf_2(S_*,I_*^2)}\right),$$

we obtain

$$\begin{split} D^{\alpha}V & \leq & -\mu \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{*}^{1})f_{2}(0,I_{*}^{2})}{f_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})f_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})} \frac{(S-S_{*})^{2}}{S} \\ & + \frac{f_{2}(0,I_{*}^{2})}{f_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})} (\mu + r_{1} + \lambda_{1})I_{*}^{1} \left(1 - \frac{S_{*}f_{1}(S,I_{*}^{1})}{Sf_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})}\right) \left(1 - \frac{SI_{1}f_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})}{S_{*}I_{*}^{1}f_{1}(S,I_{1})}\right) \\ & + \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{*}^{1})}{f_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})} (\mu + r_{2} + \lambda_{2})I_{*}^{2} \left(1 - \frac{S_{*}f_{2}(S,I_{*}^{2})}{Sf_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})}\right) \left(1 - \frac{SI_{2}f_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})}{S_{*}I_{*}^{2}f_{2}(S,I_{2})}\right) \\ & + \frac{f_{2}(0,I_{*}^{2})}{f_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})} (\mu + r_{1} + \lambda_{1})I_{*}^{1} \left(1 - \frac{I_{*}^{1}}{I_{1}}\right) \left(\frac{SI_{1}f_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})}{S_{*}I_{*}^{1}f_{1}(S,I_{1})} - \frac{I_{1}}{I_{*}^{1}}\right) \\ & + \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{*}^{1})}{f_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})} (\mu + r_{2} + \lambda_{2})I_{*}^{2} \left(1 - \frac{I_{*}^{2}}{I_{2}}\right) \left(\frac{SI_{2}f_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})}{S_{*}I_{*}^{2}f_{2}(S,I_{2})} - \frac{I_{2}}{I_{*}^{2}}\right) \\ & = -\mu \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{*}^{1})f_{2}(0,I_{*}^{2})}{f_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})} \frac{(S-S_{*})^{2}}{S} + \frac{f_{2}(0,I_{*}^{2})}{f_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})} (\mu + r_{1} + \lambda_{1})I_{*}^{1} \left(2 - \frac{S_{*}f_{1}(S,I_{*}^{1})}{Sf_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})} - \frac{Sf_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})}{S_{*}f_{1}(S,I_{*}^{1})}\right) \\ & + \frac{f_{1}(0,I_{*}^{1})}{f_{1}(S_{*},I_{*}^{1})} (\mu + r_{2} + \lambda_{2})I_{*}^{2} \left(2 - \frac{S_{*}f_{2}(S,I_{*}^{2})}{Sf_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})} - \frac{Sf_{2}(S_{*},I_{*}^{2})}{S_{*}f_{2}(S,I_{*}^{2})}\right). \end{split}$$

Using the arithmetic-geometric inequality, we have

$$2 - \frac{S_* f_1(S, I_*^1)}{S f_1(S_*, I_*^1)} - \frac{S f_1(S_*, I_*^1)}{S_* f_1(S, I_*^1)} \le 0,$$

$$2 - \frac{S_* f_2(S, I_*^2)}{S f_2(S_*, I_*^2)} - \frac{S f_2(S_*, I_*^2)}{S_* f_2(S, I_*^2)} \le 0.$$

Hence,  $D^{\alpha}V \leq 0$ . Further, the largest invariant set of  $\{(S,I_1,I_2) \in \mathbb{R}^3_+ : D^{\alpha}V = 0\}$  is the singleton  $\{E_*\}$ . By applying the LaSalle's invariance principle, we can obtain that the endemic equilibrium  $E_*$  of model (3) is globally asymptotically stable.

# 5. CONCLUSION

This paper presents a mathematical study on the dynamical behavior of a fractional order SIR epidemic model with double epidemic hypothesis and specific functional response. First, we

have proved the existence, nonnegativity and boundedness of the solution for any nonnegative initial value. It also identified four equilibria, viz, an disease-free equilibrium-free  $E_0$ , disease-free equilibrium for  $I_2$ ,  $E_1^*$ , disease-free equilibrium for  $I_1$ ,  $E_2^*$  and both-endemic equilibrium  $E_*$ . We have derived sufficient conditions for local asymptotic stability of the equilibria. Next, we have established the global asymptotic stability of the equilibria. Finally, from our theoretical analysis, it can be concluded that the fractional order parameter  $\alpha$  has no effect on the stability of the equilibria.

### **CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

The author(s) declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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