

Appendix 1

Details on the derivation of EC₅₀ estimators and their variances

Derivation of point estimators of EC₅₀

For NEL count, the GLM described in the manuscript yielded the following equation:

$$\frac{\hat{y}_j}{T} = e^{(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\tau}_j + \hat{\beta}_1 C + \hat{\beta}_2 t + \hat{\beta}_{3j} t + \hat{\beta}_4 C t)} \quad (1)$$

where $\frac{\hat{y}_j}{T}$, is the estimated ratio between NEL count under extract j and the offset T which corresponds to the natural logarithm of total eggs, C and t are extract concentration and time, $\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2, \{\hat{\beta}_{3j}\}_{j=1}^4, \hat{\beta}_4$ are the maximum likelihood estimates of the intercept, and regression coefficients for concentration, time, extract by time interaction (one coefficient per extract), and concentration by time interaction, $\hat{\tau}_j$ is the maximum likelihood estimate of the effect of extract $j, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$.

Let $p = \frac{\hat{y}_j}{T}$, from Equation 1, it follows that

$$\ln(p) = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\tau}_j + \hat{\beta}_1 C + \hat{\beta}_2 t + \hat{\beta}_{3j} t + \hat{\beta}_4 C t \quad (2)$$

Finding EC₅₀ for a given extract and time, say j and t , respectively, amounts to set $p=0.5$ and solving for C in Equation 2 which yields:

$$\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, t, \hat{\theta}) = \frac{\ln(0.5) - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\tau}_j + \hat{\beta}_2 t + \hat{\beta}_{3j} t)}{\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_4 t} \quad (3)$$

Notice that estimated EC₅₀ depends on the extract, time and estimated parameters, that is, depends on j, t and estimated model location parameters $\hat{\theta}$, hence the notation $\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, t, \hat{\theta})$.

On the other hand, for the EHT, EC₅₀ is obtained according to the following procedure. The GLM used to model these data permits to estimate cumulative probabilities as follows:

$$P(\widehat{Y} \leq k) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\hat{\beta}_{0k} + \hat{\tau}_{jk} + \hat{\beta}_{1jk} C)}} \quad (4)$$

where, $P(\widehat{Y} \leq k)$ is the estimated probability of the response variable (the ordinal variable described in the manuscript) being smaller or equal than $k, k=1, 2, \hat{\beta}_{0k}$ and $\{\hat{\beta}_{1jk}\}_{j=1}^4$, are maximum likelihood estimates of the intercept and regression coefficients for concentration by time interaction for the k^{th} response category, $\hat{\tau}_{jk}$ is the maximum likelihood estimate of the effect extract $j, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$, for the k^{th} response category, and C is the concentration. It is worth

mentioning that under this model, although there are three categories, cumulative probabilities are computed only for categories 1 and 2 since $P(Y \leq 3) = 1$.

Let $D := (Y = 2) \cup (Y = 3)$, that is, the event of death at ME or EL stages, equivalently, it is the event of not reaching the larvae stage. Thus, by properties of probability measures

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{P(D)} &= P(\widehat{Y=2}) + P(\widehat{Y=3}) = 1 - P(\widehat{Y=1}) \\ \text{but, } P(\widehat{Y=1}) &= P(\widehat{Y \leq 1}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\hat{\beta}_{01} + \hat{\tau}_{j1} + \hat{\beta}_{1j1}C)}} \\ \text{so, } 1 - P(\widehat{Y=1}) &= \widehat{P(D)} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\hat{\beta}_{01} + \hat{\tau}_{j1} + \hat{\beta}_{1j1}C}}\end{aligned}$$

Let $\pi := \widehat{P(D)}$, then

$$\ln\left(\frac{\pi}{1-\pi}\right) = -(\hat{\beta}_{01} + \hat{\tau}_{j1} + \hat{\beta}_{1j1}C) \quad (5)$$

Finding EC_{50} for a given extract, say j , amounts to set $\pi = 0.5$ in Equation 5 and solving for C , thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\ln(1) &= -(\hat{\beta}_{01} + \hat{\tau}_{j1} + \hat{\beta}_{1j1}C) \\ 0 &= -(\hat{\beta}_{01} + \hat{\tau}_{j1} + \hat{\beta}_{1j1}C) \\ \widehat{EC}_{50}(j, \hat{\delta}) &= -\frac{\hat{\beta}_{01} + \hat{\tau}_{j1}}{\hat{\beta}_{1j1}}\end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Again, notation $\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, \hat{\delta})$ is used to remark that estimated EC_{50} depends on extract level and estimated location model parameters $\hat{\delta}$.

Equations 3 and 6 show the estimators of EC_{50} for EHT and LEIT, since model parameters were estimated by maximum likelihood, by the invariance property of this kind of estimators, $\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, t, \hat{\theta})$ and $\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, \hat{\delta})$ are maximum likelihood estimators as well. Moreover, these are ratios of correlated random variables whose variances do not have a closed form. Thus, in order to obtain their standard errors, some approximate method must be used. In this case, the Delta method was employed to derive approximate algebraic expressions for $Var[\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, \hat{\delta})]$ and $Var[\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, t, \hat{\theta})]$.

Delta method

Let $\hat{\theta}$ be an estimator of a p -dimensional parameter θ from a sample of size n , such that

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta) \xrightarrow{D} N_p(0, \Sigma)$$

thus, Σ is the asymptotic covariance matrix of $\hat{\theta}$. Now, let $f(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_p)$ be a real-valued function with non-zero gradient vector in θ , then, the delta method states that

$$\sqrt{n}[f(\hat{\theta}) - f(\theta)] \xrightarrow{D} N_p(0, (\nabla f(\theta))' \Sigma(\nabla f(\theta)))$$

where $\nabla f(\theta)$ is the gradient vector of $f(\cdot)$ evaluated at θ .

Consequently, approximate standard errors can be computed as the positive square root of the quadratic form $(\nabla f(\theta))' \Sigma(\nabla f(\theta))$ evaluated at $\hat{\theta}$ and $\hat{\Sigma}$ and these can be used to build Wald-type confidence intervals.

Thus, in this case, $(1 - \alpha)\%$ Wald-type confidence intervals for $EC_{50}(j, \hat{\theta})$ and $EC_{50}(j, t, \hat{\theta})$ are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{EC}_{50}(j, \hat{\delta}) \pm z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\widehat{Var}[\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, \hat{\delta})]} \\ \widehat{EC}_{50}(j, t, \hat{\theta}) \pm z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\widehat{Var}[\widehat{EC}_{50}(j, t, \hat{\theta})]} \end{aligned}$$

where $z_{\alpha/2}$ is the $1 - \alpha$ percentile of the standard normal distribution.

Gradient vectors

The gradient of a scalar-valued differentiable multivariate function is a vector that contains its partial derivatives.

The partial derivatives of $g := EC_{50}(j, t, \theta)$ evaluated at $\hat{\theta}$ are

$$\left. \frac{\partial g}{\partial \beta_0} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} = -\frac{1}{\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_4 t}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial g}{\partial \tau_i} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} = -\frac{1}{\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_4 t}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial g}{\partial \beta_1} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} = -\frac{\ln(0.5) - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\tau}_j + \hat{\beta}_2 t + \hat{\beta}_3 j t)}{(\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_4 t)^2}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial g}{\partial \beta_2} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} = -\frac{t}{\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_4 t}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial g}{\partial \beta_{3j}} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} = -\frac{t}{\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_4 t}, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial g}{\partial \beta_4} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} = - \frac{t(\ln(0.5) - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\tau}_j + \hat{\beta}_2 t + \hat{\beta}_{3j} t))}{(\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_4 t)^2}$$

Similarly, the partial derivatives of $h := EC_{50}(j, \delta)$ evaluated at $\hat{\delta}$ are

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial \beta_{0k}} \right|_{\delta = \hat{\delta}} &= \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{\hat{\beta}_{1k}}, & \text{if } k = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial \tau_{jk}} \right|_{\delta = \hat{\delta}} &= \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{\hat{\beta}_{1k}}, & \text{if } k = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial \beta_{1k}} \right|_{\delta = \hat{\delta}} &= \begin{cases} \frac{\hat{\beta}_{0k} + \hat{\tau}_{jk}}{\hat{\beta}_{1k}^2}, & \text{if } k = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$