

Review of: "A Mathematical Characterisation of COVID-19 in Mauritius"

Giulia Cereda¹

¹ University of Florence

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper aims at studying the behaviour of the two waves (February 2020 to July 2022) of SARS COV 2 in Maritius, through mathematical models of the progression of COVID-19 in Mauritius and other countries

The authors fitted a logshaped curve with observed data, estimating the three parameters M , t_0 and α , and comparing the estimates for the different countries, for which the grow rate, the R_0 and the case fatality rate are also computed.

Additionally, and interestingly they observe and inverse relation between α and the value of M -normalised to the population size.

The paper is well structured and the content kept simple and interesting.

I believe it deserves acceptance upon addressing the following minor revisions.

In the abstract: I would rather change the sentence " An intriguing observation is made when the growth rate and the ceiling value of the mathematical models obtained for different countries are compared" to a more explicit one describing the observation.

When you performed the optimization, have you tried sensitivity to the initial point? I suggest to try optimize over a grid of different starting points because the optimization algorithms often are sensitive to starting point.

When talking about the three factors that determine R_0 you say

The first two factors are clearly highly dependent on the social habits of a given population.

However, the second factor depends also on the virus force.

As a suggestion to make the paper stronger: why don't you perform sensitivity analysys (for example using GSA) on the estimated parameter?

Is Section 3 the authors write "The aim of any government would be to act swiftly enough to limit the spread of the virus, thus reducing the number of positive cases (detected) " : I don't understand the brackets... the aim should be to reduce any type of positive cases non only detected...

