Ling Xue\* (lxue2@tulane.edu), Department of Mathematics, 6823 St Charles Ave, New Orleans, LA 70118, and Carrie Manore, Panpim Thongsripong, Soodeh Azizi and Mac Hyman. Two-Sex Mosquito Model for the Spread of Wolbachia. Preliminary report.

Wolbachia are maternally transmitted endosymbiotic bacteria that have the potential of reducing the ability of mosquitoes to transmit Dengue. To understand how Wolbachia can invade and sustain in mosquito populations, we developed an ordinary differential equation compartmental model. The model incorporates aquatic stage, female, and male adult mosquitoes taking into account fitness change and cytoplasmic incompatibility. Increasing the number of initial infections at endemic equilibrium leads to complete infection equilibrium and decreasing the number of initial infections at endemic equilibrium leads to disease free equilibrium, resulting in an interesting backward bifurcation. The thresholds for the number of Wolbachia infected mosquitoes needed to be released to establish Wolbachia in mosquitoes after implementing mosquito control strategies were compared. Killing uninfected female mosquitoes frequently requires the least number of Wolbachia-infected mosquitoes for Wolbachia to establish in mosquito population. Mathematical analysis and numerical simulation results help us understand factors that determine invasion and establishment of Wolbachia in mosquito populations. (Received July 29, 2014)