Optimal control of long-term sentimental dynamics

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ABSTRACT

 Using accepted evidence from the psychology of marriage,   a simple theory of long-term sentimental dynamics based on optimal control theory is proposed. It is shown that there is a unique durable equilibrium path which however is unstable. Properties and implications of the model sentimental   dynamics are discussed. In particular, the model potential contribution to understanding the epidemic of marital disruption in the West is considered.