

Problem 1. [A model of a fishery]

The equation

$$\dot{N} = RN \left(1 - \frac{N}{K}\right) - H \frac{N}{A + N} \quad (1)$$

provides a simple model of a fishery. Here $N(t) \geq 0$ is the population of fish at time t , $R = \text{const} > 0$ is the reproduction rate, $K = \text{const} > 0$ is the carrying capacity of the system, $H = \text{const} > 0$ characterizes the intensity of fishing, and $A = \text{const} > 0$ is another positive constant. In the absence of fishing, the population of fish evolves logistically, which is reflected by the term $RN \left(1 - \frac{N}{K}\right)$ in the right-hand side of (1). The term $-H \frac{N}{A + N}$ in the right-hand side of (1) models the effects of fishing. The choice of this particular form of the “fishing” term made because (i) it is simple, (ii) the model has a fixed point at $N = 0$ for all values of the parameters, as it should be, and (iii) it is reasonable to assume that the rate at which fish are caught increases with N , and for large N it “saturates” at H .

- (a) Show that the system (1) can be written in dimensionless form as

$$\frac{dx}{d\tau} = x(1 - x) - h \frac{x}{a + x}$$

for suitably defined dimensionless quantities x , τ , a , and h . (Write down explicitly the relations between the original quantities and the dimensionless ones.)

- (b) Show that the system can have one, two, or three fixed points, depending on the values of a and h . Classify the stability of the fixed points in each case.
- (c) Analyze the dynamics of the system near $x = 0$ and show that a bifurcation occurs when $h = a$. What kind of bifurcation is it?
- (d) Show that another bifurcation occurs when $h = \frac{1}{4}(a + 1)^2$, for $a < a_c$, where a_c is some “critical” value. What is the value of a_c ? Classify this bifurcation.
- (e) Plot the stability diagram of the system in the (a, h) parameter space. Can hysteresis occur in any of the stability regions?

Problem 2. [Dynamics on a circle]

Consider the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$ (with its ends identified) as a model of the circle S . Define the two-parameter family of functions $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$f(\theta) = \omega - a + \frac{a}{\pi} |\theta| . \quad (2)$$

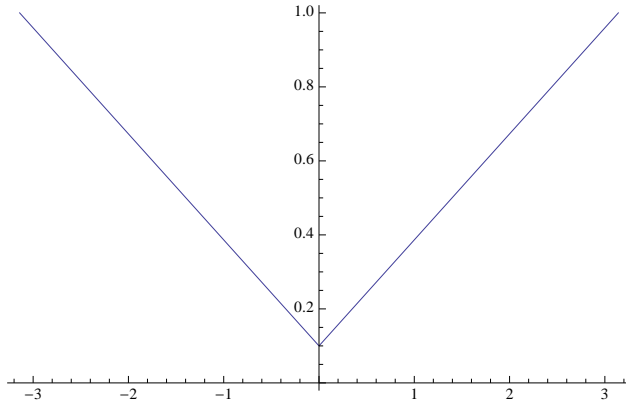


Figure 1: The graph of the function (2) for $\omega = 1$ and $a = 0.9$.

This function is piece-wise linear (i.e., its graph consists of segments of straight lines), and satisfies $f(-\pi) = f(\pi) = \omega$, $f(0) = \omega - a$; see Figure 1. For simplicity, in all parts of this problem assume that $\omega \geq 0$.

Consider the system

$$\dot{\theta} = \omega + a|\theta|, \quad (3)$$

where $\theta : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S$ is an unknown function.

- For each value of $\omega \geq 0$, find an explicit expression for the value of a for which the system (3) undergoes a bifurcation. What kind of bifurcation is it?
- For a given value of $\omega \geq 0$, and for a value of a in the range in which the system (2) has exactly two fixed points, θ_1^* and θ_2^* (assume that $\theta_1^* < \theta_2^*$) find the values of θ_1^* and θ_2^* expressed in terms of the values of ω and a . Plot these values in the (a, θ^*) plane for a given value of $\omega \geq 0$. Indicate the value of ω in the (a, θ^*) plane. Use a solid line to denote the stable fixed point and a dashed line to denote the unstable fixed point in the (a, θ^*) plane.
- In the (ω, a) plane, indicate the region in which the system (2) has two fixed points, and the region where it has no fixed points.
- For given values of $\omega \geq 0$ and a such that the system (2) has no fixed points, find the period T as a function of ω and a . For a given $\omega \geq 0$, sketch the graph of T vs. a .

Problem 3. [Solution of a constant-coefficient linear system as an exponential]

If M is a square $m \times m$ matrix (i.e., a matrix of size $m \times m$ with real or complex entries, one can define the *exponential* of M as

$$e^M \equiv \exp M := \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j!} M^j, \quad (4)$$

where \mathbf{M}^0 is by definition the identity matrix \mathbf{I} . It can be shown that this series converges for any square matrix \mathbf{M} .

Exponentials of matrices are useful for representing the solutions of initial-value problems for systems of linear ordinary differential coefficients with constant coefficients,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} &= \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} , & t \in [0, \infty) \\ \mathbf{x}(0) &= \mathbf{b} . \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

- (a) Directly from the definition (4), show that $\mathbf{M}e^{\mathbf{M}} = e^{\mathbf{M}}\mathbf{M}$ for any square matrix \mathbf{M} .
- (b) Let \mathbf{A} be a given $m \times m$ matrix, and t be a real number. Then one can think of $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ as a function taking an argument from \mathbb{R} and having values in the $m \times m$ matrices. Directly from (4), show that $\frac{d}{dt}e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \mathbf{A}e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ and $e^{\mathbf{A}t}|_{t=0} = \mathbf{I}$.

- (c) Use your result from part (b) to show that the solution of the initial-value problem (5) can be written as

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{b} .$$

- (d) For any positive real numbers s and t show that $e^{\mathbf{A}s}e^{\mathbf{A}t} = e^{\mathbf{A}(s+t)}$ and use this to show that $\mathbf{x}(t+s) = e^{\mathbf{A}s}\mathbf{x}(t)$. How can you interpret this result “physically”?

- (e) Directly from the definition (4), show that

$$e^{\mathbf{T}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{T}^{-1}} = \mathbf{T}e^{\mathbf{B}}\mathbf{T}^{-1} .$$

- (f) Compute $e^{\mathbf{B}t}$ for $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix}$.

- (g) Rewrite the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= 2x \\ \dot{y} &= 3x - y \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

in a matrix form as $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$. If $\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ with inverse $\mathbf{T}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, find $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{T}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{T}$.

- (h) Use your results from the previous part of this problem to write down $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ (where \mathbf{A} is the matrix from the right-hand side of (6)).
- (i) Use your result from part (h) to write down the solution of the initial-value problem consisting of the system (6) and the initial condition $\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$.