

**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  $x$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $a$ , 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

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

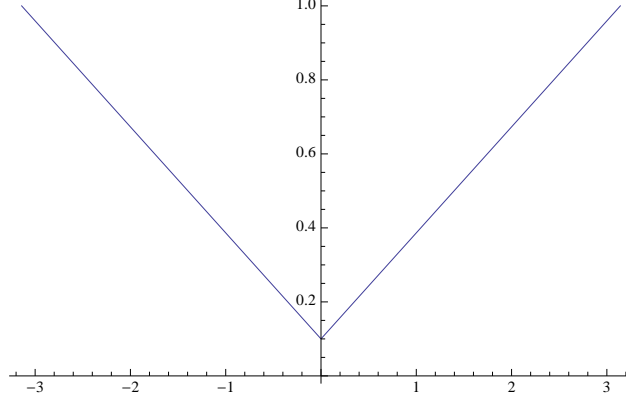


Figure 1: The graph of the function (2) for  $\omega = 1$  and  $a = 0.9$ .

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,  $\theta_1^*$  and  $\theta_2^*$  (assume that  $\theta_1^* < \theta_2^*$ ) find the values of  $\theta_1^*$  and  $\theta_2^*$  expressed in terms of the values of  $\omega$  and  $a$ . Plot these values in the  $(a, \theta^*)$  plane for a given value of  $\omega \geq 0$ . Indicate the value of  $\omega$  in the  $(a, \theta^*)$  plane. Use a solid line to denote the stable fixed point and a dashed line to denote the unstable fixed point in the  $(a, \theta^*)$  plane.
- In the  $(\omega, a)$  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  $\omega$  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  $\mathbf{M}$  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  $\mathbf{M}$  as

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

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  $\mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{M}} = \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{M}}\mathbf{M}$  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  $\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}t}$  as a function taking an argument from  $\mathbb{R}$  and having values in the  $m \times m$  matrices. Directly from (4), show that  $\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}t} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}t}$  and  $\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}t}|_{t=0} = \mathbf{I}$ .
- (c) Use your result from part (b) to show that the solution of the initial-value problem (5) can be written as

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

- (d) For any positive real numbers  $s$  and  $t$  show that  $\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}s}\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}t} = \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}(s+t)}$  and use this to show that  $\mathbf{x}(t+s) = \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}s}\mathbf{x}(t)$ . How can you interpret this result “physically”?
- (e) Directly from the definition (4), show that

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

- (f) Compute  $\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{B}t}$  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  $\mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{A}t}$  (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  $\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ .