



QUESTION 2. Find the global minimum and the global maximum of  $f(x) = x - \ln x$  on the interval  $[0.1, 2]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 1 - \frac{1}{x} \\ f'(x) = 0 & \quad 1 - \frac{1}{x} = 0 \\ & \quad x = 1 \quad (\text{critical point}) \\ f(0.1) &= 0.1 - \ln(0.1) \approx 2.4025 \leftarrow \text{value of } f \text{ at the} \\ & \quad \text{endpoint } x=0.1 \\ f(1) &= 1 - \ln(1) = 1 \\ f(2) &= 2 - \ln(2) \approx 1.3068 \leftarrow \text{value of } f \text{ at the} \\ & \quad \text{endpoint } x=2. \end{aligned}$$

Global maximum  $\boxed{2.4}$  at  $x = \boxed{0.1}$ .

Global minimum  $\boxed{1}$  at  $x = \boxed{1}$ .

QUESTION 3.

Consider the following DTDS:

$$x_{t+1} = \frac{1.5x_t^2}{x_t^2 + 0.5}$$

- (a) The DTDS has three equilibrium points. Give the equilibrium points in increasing order.

$$f(x) = \frac{1.5x^2}{x^2 + 0.5} = x$$

$$\frac{1.5x^2}{x^2 + 0.5} - x = 0$$

$$\frac{1.5x^2 - x^3 - 0.5x}{x^2 + 0.5} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad 1.5x^2 - x^3 - 0.5x = 0 \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(1.5x - x^2 - 0.5) = 0$$

$$x_1^* = 0$$

$$x^2 - 1.5x + 0.5 = 0$$

$$\Delta = 2.25 - 4 \cdot 0.5 = 0.25$$

$$x_2^* = \frac{1.5 - 0.5}{2} = 0.5 \quad x_3^* = \frac{1.5 + 0.5}{2} = 1$$

$$x_1^* = \boxed{0}$$

$$x_2^* = \boxed{0.5}$$

$$x_3^* = \boxed{1}$$

- (b) Find the derivative of the updating function of the DTDS.

$$f'(x) = \boxed{\frac{1.5x}{(x^2 + 0.5)^2}}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1.5 \cdot 2x(x^2 + 0.5) - 1.5x^2 \cdot 2x}{(x^2 + 0.5)^2} = \frac{3x^3 + 1.5x - 3x^3}{(x^2 + 0.5)^2} =$$

$$= \frac{1.5x}{(x^2 + 0.5)^2}$$

(c) For each of the equilibrium points in (a) find  $f'(x_i^*)$  and decide whether the equilibrium point is stable (circle the correct answer).

$$f'(x_1^*) = \boxed{0} \quad \text{stable} \quad \text{unstable}$$

$$f'(x_2^*) = \boxed{\frac{1.5 \cdot 0.5}{(0.25 + 0.5)^2} \approx 1.33} \quad \text{stable} \quad \text{unstable}$$

$$f'(x_3^*) = \boxed{\frac{1.5}{2.25} \approx 0.6} \quad \text{stable} \quad \text{unstable}$$

QUESTION 4.

The number of individuals (in thousands) of a certain species satisfies the DTDS:

$$x_{t+1} = \frac{4x_t}{1+x_t} - hx_t, \quad t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

The population is harvested with the rate  $h \geq 0$ . Answer the following questions:

(a) The equilibrium points of this DTDS are (Hint: one of the equilibrium points will depend on  $h$ ):

$0$  and  $\frac{3-h}{1+h}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x \\ \frac{4x}{1+x} - hx &= x \\ \frac{4x}{1+x} - hx - x &= 0 \\ x \left[ \frac{4}{1+x} - h - 1 \right] &= 0 \\ x_1^* &= 0 \end{aligned} \qquad \begin{aligned} \frac{4}{1+x} &= h+1 \\ (1+x)(h+1) &= 4 \\ 1+x &= \frac{4}{h+1} \\ x &= \frac{4}{h+1} - 1 = \frac{4-h-1}{h+1} = \frac{3-h}{1+h} \\ x_2^* &= \frac{3-h}{1+h} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Give the largest interval for  $h$  such that both equilibrium points in (a) are non-negative (i.e. biologically meaningful).

$h \in [0, 3]$

(c) What is the harvest at the positive equilibrium? (Hint: the answer will depend on  $h$ )

$R(h) = h \cdot \frac{3-h}{1+h}$

(d) The maximal harvest at the positive equilibrium is

$$\begin{aligned} R'(h) &= 0 \quad \left( \frac{3h-h^2}{1+h} \right)' = \frac{(3-2h)(1+h) - (3h-h^2) \cdot 1}{(1+h)^2} = \frac{3-2h+3h-2h^2-3h+h^2}{(1+h)^2} \\ &= \frac{-h^2-2h+3}{(1+h)^2} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad h^2+2h-3=0 \\ R(0) &= R(3) = 0 \qquad \Delta = 4 - 4(-3) = 16 \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad h_1 = \frac{-2+4}{2} = 1 \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad h_2 = \frac{-2-4}{2} = -3 \leftarrow \text{exclude, since } h \geq 0. \\ R(1) &= \frac{1 \cdot (3-1)}{1+1} = 1 \leftarrow \text{glob. max.} \end{aligned}$$

$$R_{max} = \boxed{1} \text{ and occurs for the harvesting rate } h = \boxed{1}$$

(e) For the values of  $h$  as in (b) let  $x^*$  be the positive equilibrium point. Then:

$$x^* \text{ is stable when } h \text{ is } \boxed{[0, 3)}$$

$$x^* \text{ is unstable when } h \text{ is } \boxed{\text{never}}$$

$$f'(x) = \left(\frac{4x}{1+x}\right)' - h = \frac{4 \cdot (1+x) - 4x \cdot 1}{(1+x)^2} - h = \frac{4}{(1+x)^2} - h$$

$$\left|f'\left(\frac{3-h}{1+h}\right)\right| = \left|\frac{4}{\left(1 + \frac{3-h}{1+h}\right)^2} - h\right| = \left|\frac{(1+h)^2}{4} - h\right| < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |1+2h+h^2-4h| < 4 \quad \text{or} \quad |1-2h+h^2| < 4$$

$$|(h-1)^2| < 4$$

$$(h-1)^2 < 4$$

$$|h-1| < 2$$

$$-2 < h-1 < 2$$

$$-1 < h < 3$$

$$h \geq 0$$

Thus, if  $h \in [0, 3)$  then

$x_2^*$  is stable. Otherwise, it's unstable, but  $x_2^*$  only exists if  $h \in [0, 3)$ . Therefore,  $x_2^*$  is never unstable.