

Quiz Time: 12:05–12:45 PM

1. For the dynamic model

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \frac{1}{10} (8 - x_k^3)$$

(a) (5 points) Calculate the fixed point(s)  $x_*$ .

First substitute  $x_*$  in for  $x_k$  and  $x_{k+1}$ :

$$x_* = x_* + \frac{1}{10} (8 - x_*^3)$$

Now, solve for  $x_*$ :

$$0 = \frac{1}{10} (8 - x_*^3) \implies x_*^3 = 8 \implies x_* = 2$$

So,  $x_* = 2$  is the only fixed point.

(b) (6 points) Use a calculator and compute the first 6 elements for two different orbits: one starting from  $x_1 = 0$ , and the other starting from  $x_1 = 4$ . So, your answer should be two vectors, each with 6 elements.

vector 1: (0, 0.8, 1.55, 1.98, 2.00, 2.00)

vector 2: (4, -1.6, -0.39, 0.42, 1.21, 1.83)

(c) (4 points) Based on the orbits calculated, make a judgment about whether the fixed point(s) are stable, stable and attractive, or unstable. Justify your choice.

Both orbits appear to converge back to the fixed point  $x_* = 2$ , suggesting that this fixed point is stable and attractive.

2. (4 points) Provide a model that has no fixed points. Your answer should be in the form  $x_{k+1} = f(x_k)$ , and you provide the function  $f$ .

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + 1$$

3. (4 points) Provide a model that has infinitely many fixed points. Again, your answer should be in the form  $x_{k+1} = f(x_k)$ , and you provide the function  $f$ .

$$x_{k+1} = |x_k|$$

4. **Bonus:** (10 points) A dynamic model of a cruise-controlled car's speed is

$$v_{k+1} = v_k + \frac{\Delta}{m}[-bv_k + u_k],$$

where the cruise controller is  $u_k = c_1[v_{\text{des}} - v_k]$ ,  $c_1 > 0$ . Calculate the fixed point  $v_*$  assuming constant desired speed  $v_{\text{des}}$ .

First substitute  $u_k$  into the speed equation:

$$v_{k+1} = v_k + \frac{\Delta}{m}[-bv_k + c_1[v_{\text{des}} - v_k]].$$

Next, substitute  $v_*$  in for  $v_k$  and  $v_{k+1}$ :

$$v_* = v_* + \frac{\Delta}{m}[-bv_* + c_1[v_{\text{des}} - v_*]].$$

Now, solve for  $v_*$ . First, cancel the  $v_*$  terms on both sides and simplify a bit:

$$0 = \frac{\Delta}{m}[-bv_* + c_1v_{\text{des}} - c_1v_*].$$

Next, multiply both sides by the constant  $m/\Delta$ , collect terms that have  $v_*$  on one side of the equation, and collect all other terms on the other side of the equation:

$$v_*(b + c_1) = c_1v_{\text{des}}.$$

Solving for  $v_*$  gives the solution:

$$v_* = \frac{c_1v_{\text{des}}}{b + c_1}.$$

How close does the actual fixed point  $v_*$  get to the desired value  $v_{\text{des}}$ ? What choice for  $c_1$  reduces this discrepancy? These are important questions in determining how good the controller is, and we will address these in more detail in later chapters.

5. **Bonus:** (5 points) Prove analytically that the fixed point(s) computed in problem 1(a) have the stability behavior that you observed in part (b), and chose in part (c). Hint: this involves taking a derivative.

$$f(x) = x + (8 - x^3)/10 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{df(x)}{dx} = 1 - \frac{3}{10}x^2.$$

(The derivative was provided during the quiz). As discussed in class, the fixed point is stable and attractive since  $df(2)/dx = -0.2$  which has absolute value less than 1.