1. Problem 1

SOLUTION:

(a) The individual learns most rapidly when  $\frac{dL}{dt}$  is maximum, i.e., at L = 0. (b) At the given instant, Beth's learning rate is  $= 0.2 \cdot 0.5 = 0.1$  and Eric's learning rate is  $= 0.1 \cdot 0.75 = 0.075$ . So Beth is learning faster.

2. Problem 2

## SOLUTION:

(a) The fixed points are at  $p^* = 0$  and  $p^* = 100$ . Since f'(0) = 2000 > 0,  $p^* = 0$  is unstable and since f'(100) = -2000 < 0 $p^* = 100$  is stable.

(b) The term 10l shifts the parabola down, the fish will not go extinct as long as the parabola is not completely negative. The bifurcation point occurs when the parabola has a double root. This happens when the discriminant is 0.

 $2000^2 - 4 \cdot (-20) \cdot (-10l) = 0 \implies l = \frac{2000^2}{800} = 5000$  licenses. The only equilibrium fish population will be given by  $-20p^2 + 2000p - 50000 = 0 \implies p^* = 50.$ 

3. Problem 3

SOLUTION: (a)  $\dot{y} = -\frac{y}{a} +$ Case 1: a > 0



One fixed point at  $y^* = b$  and it is stable. Case 2: a < 0



One fixed point at  $y^* = b$  and it is unstable.

(b) Case 1: If a > 0, then regardless of b any solution will tend toward b as  $t \longrightarrow \infty$ .

Case 2: If a < 0, then regardless of b any solution such that  $y(0) \neq b$  will tend to  $+\infty$  if y(0) > b and tend to  $-\infty$  if y(0) < b. (c) Let u = b - y then  $\dot{u} = -\dot{y} = -\frac{b - y}{a} = -\frac{1}{a}u$  and hence  $u(t) = u(0)e^{-\frac{t}{a}}$ . Writing the solution in terms of y, we get  $b - y(t) = (b - y(0))e^{-\frac{t}{a}} \Longrightarrow y(t) = b - (b - y(0))e^{-\frac{t}{a}}.$ 

Clearly we can see from the solution that if a > 0, then  $\lim_{t \to \infty} y(t) = b$  and if a < 0 then  $\lim_{t \to \infty} y(t) = \pm \infty$  depending on whether b - y(0) < 0 or b - y(0) > 0.

4. Problem 4

# SOLUTION:

Case 1:  $\lambda \leq 0$  then we have one fixed point at  $x^* = \lambda$  and it is unstable. A typical graph is



Case 2:  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\lambda \neq 1$  then we have three fixed points at  $\lambda, \pm \sqrt{\lambda}$ . A typical graph is



Case 2:  $\lambda = 1 \Longrightarrow x = (x-1)^2(x+1)$  so we have two fixed points at  $\pm 1$ .



5. Problem 5

**SOLUTION:**  $f(N) = -aN\ln(bN)$  and  $f'(N) = -a(\ln(bN) + 1)$ To find fixed points we solve f(N) = 0 to get  $N^* = 0$  and  $N^* = \frac{1}{b}$ .  $f'(0) = \lim_{N \longrightarrow 0} (-a(\ln(bN) + 1)) = +\infty \Longrightarrow N^* = 0$  is unstable.  $f'(\frac{1}{b}) = -a < 0 \Longrightarrow N^* = \frac{1}{b}$  is stable.

6. Problem 6

## SOLUTION:

(a) See Homework set 2 solutions

(b) Since  $rx - \ln(1+x) = (r-1)x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + O(x^3)$  we expect a transcritical bifurcation at r = 1. Let us complete the analysis graphically. We will graph both rx and  $\ln(1+x)$ .



We can clearly see that  $x^* = 0$  is always a fixed point. When r < 1,  $x^* = 0$  is stable and the second fixed point is unstable and when r > 1,  $x^* = 0$  is unstable and the second fixed point is stable. This shows we do indeed have a transcritical bifurcation at r = 1. The bifurcation diagram is given below:



(c) By an easy change of variable we could bring the given problem into the supercritical pitchfork bifurcation normal form. The following graphical analysis confirms this fact.



When  $r \leq 0$ , we have one fixed point given by  $x^* = 0$  (stable),

When r > 0, we have three fixed points  $x^* = 0$  that is unstable and two other fixed points  $x^* = \pm \frac{\sqrt{r}}{2}$  that are both stable. The bifurcation diagram is



#### 7. Problem 7

**SOLUTION:** In this case the map is given by  $F(x) = -2x - x^2$ . To find the fixed points we solve F(x) = x, so

 $\begin{aligned} -2x - x^2 &= x \implies x^* = 0, x^* = -3. \\ \text{To find the points of period 2 , we solve } (F \circ F)(x) &= x \text{ or } 4x + 2x^2 - (-2x - x^2)^2 = 4x - 2x^2 - 4x^3 - x^4 = x. \\ \text{Simplifying we get } 3x - 2x^2 - 4x^3 - x^4 &= 0. \\ \text{Since we know already two roots 0 and } -3, \text{ to find the last two roots we solve } \frac{3x - 2x^2 - 4x^3 - x^4}{x(x+3)} = 0, \\ \text{We get the solutions : } -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5} - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5} - \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$ 

## 8. Problem 8

#### SOLUTION:

f(0) = 1, f(1) = 2, f(2) = 3, f(3) = 4, f(4) = 0, so the sequence is  $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \cdots$ We conclude that 0 is on a period 5 cycle. To determine the stability of the cycle we need to compute  $(f^5)'(0)$ . We have  $(f^5)'(0) = f'(0)f'(1)f'(2)f'(3)f'(4) = 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 = 2 \implies$  cycle is repelling.

9. Problem 9

**SOLUTION:** Clearly  $\tan x = x$  has infinitely many solutions so there are infinitely many fixed points.

The fixed points at 0 is neutral since  $\frac{d}{dx} \tan x \Big|_{x=0} = \sec^2 0 = 1$ . An easy graphical analysis shows that it is repelling. At all the other points  $\sec^2 x^* > 1$  and hence they are repelling.

10. Problem 10.

### SOLUTION:



This bifurcation is a pitchfork bifurcation. For  $\alpha \leq 1$ , the origin is an attracting fixed point since  $F'_{\alpha}(0) = \alpha$ . When  $\alpha = 1$ , the graph is tangent to the diagonal, but the graph shows that 0 is still attracting. For  $\alpha > 1$ , two attracting fixed points emerge and the origin becomes a repelling fixed point.