

Homework assigned Friday, January 27.

The following rate equation is sometimes used as a variant on the logistic equation.

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = rN \left(1 - \left(\frac{N}{K} \right)^\theta \right)$$

where, as usual, r is the intrinsic growth rate and K is carrying capacity. The parameter θ can be chosen to make the equation fit data. Here is a particular case

$$(1) \quad \frac{dN}{dt} = .1N \left(1 - \left(\frac{N}{1,000} \right)^{1.4} \right)$$

Problem 1. Draw a graph of $\frac{dN}{dt}$ as a function of N for $0 \leq N \leq 1,000$.

Problem 2. What are the stationary solutions? *Answer:* $N = 0$ and $N = 1,000$.

Problem 3. If the population is now harvested at a rate of 20 the rate equation becomes

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = .1N \left(1 - \left(\frac{N}{1,000} \right)^{1.4} \right) - 20.$$

Graph $\frac{dN}{dt}$ as a function of N for $0 \leq N \leq 1,000$, use this to find the stationary solutions and graph the solutions with $N(0) = 1000$, $N(0) = 50$ and determine which of the stationary solutions is stable. *Answers:* The stationary solutions are $N = 229.1$ and $N = 818.7$. The stationary solution $N = 818.7$ is stable.

Problem 4. Starting with a population that grows by the rate equation (1) what is the largest harvesting rate that can be used without killing off the population? *Answer:* This largest harvesting rate is the maximum of $.1N \left(1 - \left(\frac{N}{1,000} \right)^{1.4} \right)$ on $0 \leq N \leq 1,000$. Using the graph from problem 1 and the calculator compute this maximum to be 31.23