Solutions

1. a. This differential equation can be written

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -0.2(y - 50)$$

Substitute z(t) = y(t) - 50, then  $\frac{dz}{dt} = -0.2 z$  with  $z(0) = z_0$  (some initial value). Thus,  $z(t) = z_0 e^{-0.2 t} = y(t) - 50$ . It follows that

$$y(t) = 50 + z_0 e^{-0.2t},$$

for some constant  $z_0$ . The equilibrium occurs at  $y_e = 50$ , and it's stable. Below to the left is a sketch of the right hand side of this differential equation and the phase portrait is on the y-axis.





b. This differential equation can be written

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.1(y - 120).$$

Substitute z(t) = y(t) - 120, then  $\frac{dz}{dt} = 0.1 z$  with  $z(0) = z_0$  (some initial value). Thus,  $z(t) = z_0 e^{0.1 t} = y(t) - 120$ . It follows that

$$y(t) = 120 + z_0 e^{0.1 t},$$

for some constant  $z_0$ . The equilibrium occurs at  $y_e = 120$ , and it's unstable. Above to the right is a sketch of the right hand side of this differential equation and the phase portrait is on the y-axis. 2. a. For the differential equation,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.3 y(4 - y^2)$ , the equilibria are easily found by setting the right hand side of the equation equal to zero. There are three equilibria  $y_e = 0, \pm 2$ . Below is the graph and the phase portrait.



b. For the differential equation,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.1y\left(1 - \frac{y}{20}\right)$ , the equilibria are easily found by setting the right hand side of the equation equal to zero. There are two equilibria  $y_e = 0, 20$ . Below is the graph and the phase portrait.



c. For the differential equation,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.8 - 0.2 y - 0.1 y^2$ , the equilibria are found by factoring the right hand side of the equation. There are two equilibria  $y_e = -4, 2$ . Below is the graph and the phase portrait.



d. For the differential equation,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{0.2 y}{1+y^2}$ , the equilibria are easily found by setting the right hand side of the equation equal to zero. There is one equilibrium  $y_e = 0$ . Below is the graph and the phase portrait.



e. For the differential equation,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.1y^2 - 4y$ , the equilibria are found by factoring the right hand side of the equation. There are two equilibria  $y_e = 0, 40$ . Below is the graph and the phase portrait.



f. For the differential equation,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \cos(y)$ , the equilibria are found from the zeroes of the cosine function. There are infinity many equilibria  $y_e = \frac{\pi}{2} + n\pi$ ,  $n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$  Below is the graph and the phase portrait.



3. (Subcritical Pitchfork bifurcation) For the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dt} = y^3 - \alpha y$ , the phase portraits are shown below. When  $\alpha = 4$ , there are three equilibria,  $y_e = 0$ , which is stable, and  $y_e = \pm 2$ , which are both unstable. When  $\alpha = -4$ , there is only one equilibrium,  $y_e = 0$ , which is unstable. The behavior switches from one equilibrium to three equilibria at  $\alpha = 0$ .





4. (Transcritical bifurcation) For the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \alpha y - y^2$ , the phase portraits are shown below. When  $\alpha = 3$ , there are two equilibria,  $y_e = 0$ , which is unstable, and  $y_e = 3$ , which is stable. When  $\alpha = -3$ , there are two equilibria,  $y_e = 0$ , which is stable, and  $y_e = -3$ , which is unstable. At  $\alpha = 0$ , there is only one equilibrium ( $y_e = 0$ ) and it switches stability at this value of  $\alpha$ .





5. (Saddle-node or Blue sky bifurcation) For the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \alpha - y^2$ , the phase portraits are shown below. When  $\alpha = 4$ , there are two equilibria,  $y_e = -2$ , which is unstable, and  $y_e = 2$ , which is stable. When  $\alpha = -4$ , there are no equilibria. At  $\alpha = 0$ , the behavior switches, and there is only one equilibrium ( $y_e = 0$ ). In this case,  $y_e = 0$  is said to be half-stable as it is stable to the right and unstable to the left.





6. (Allee effect) For the model  $\frac{dP}{dt} = P(4 - 0.01(P - 50)^2)$ , the phase portrait is shown below. There are three equilibria,  $P_e = 0$ , which is stable,  $P_e = 30$ , which is unstable, and  $P_e = 70$ , which is stable. The carrying capacity is 70, while the critical threshold number of animals required to avoid extinction is 30.



7. a. (Harvesting 1) For the model  $\frac{dF}{dt} = 0.2 F \left(1 - \frac{F}{100}\right) - hF$ , the phase portrait is shown below. There are two equilibria,  $F_e = 0$ , which is unstable, and  $F_e = 100$ , which is stable and the carrying capacity.



7 b. For h = 0.05, the phase portrait is shown below. There are two equilibria,  $F_e = 0$ , which is unstable, and  $F_e = 75$ , which is stable and the carrying capacity.

c. When h = 0.2, the only equilibrium is  $F_e = 0$ , and it is half stable. Thus, any level of fishing at or above h = 0.2 results in the fish going extinct.



8. a. (Harvesting 2) For the model  $\frac{dF}{dt} = 0.2 F \left(1 - \frac{F}{100}\right) - h$ , with h = 1.8, the phase portrait is shown below. There are two equilibria,  $F_e = 10$ , which is unstable, and  $F_e = 90$ , which is stable and the carrying capacity.



b. When h = 5, the only equilibrium is  $F_e = 50$ . The phase portrait is shown below. For h > 5, there are no equilibria, and the population goes extinct.

