

Q4a: We claim that $x'(t) > 0$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. First, notice that if $x'(t) = 0$ for some $t \in \mathbb{R}$, we have that by uniqueness $x \equiv a$ on all of \mathbb{R} . This can not be the case though, since $f(x(0)) = f(a) > 0$. Suppose now that $f(t_0) < 0$ at some point t_0 . Then by taking a sufficiently large interval with endpoints t_0 and 0, the intermediate value theorem implies that at some point x_0 , $f(x_0) = 0$. Once again, this implies that we have a constant solution which can not be the case.

Q4b: We first take note that the function $x(t)$ can never be equal to 0 or 1, since this would imply it is a constant solution. Thus we have that $0 < x(t) < 1$. Since $x(t)$ is strictly increasing and continuous and bounded above at each point, by the monotone convergence theorem $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t)$ converges to the supremum of $x(t)$. This will be 1. Similarly, $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} x(t)$ will converge to the infimum, which will be 0. We can evaluate that $\lim_{|t| \rightarrow \infty} x'(t) = 0$ in the following way.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x' &= \lim_{|t| \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t+h) - x(t)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \lim_{|t| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x(t+h) - x(t)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{h} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Q4c: Suppose that $y(t)$ is a solution of $x' = f(x)$, with initial value $y(0) \geq b > a$. We know that y will share properties with x , namely those shown in a and b. Suppose that in some neighborhood of a point t_0 , we have that $y(t_0) \leq x(t_0)$. The intermediate value theorem tells us that the functions x and y must be equal at some point. However, from our discussion in class we know that integral curves can not cross each other. Hence $y(t) > x(t) \forall t$.