Homework 3

Please consider the following two questions. Please set up difference models for changes and present your results in a mini-paper with 2+ pages using latex.

Question 1:

With the price of gas continuing to rise, you wish to look at cars that get better gas mileage. You narrow down your choices to the following 2012 models: Ford Fiesta, Ford Focus, Chevy Volt, Chevy Cruz, Toyota Camry, Toyota Camry Hybrid, Toyota Prius and Toyota Corolla. Each company has offered you their "best deal" as listed in the following table. You are able to allocate approximately \$500 for a car payment each month up to 60 months, although less time would be preferable. Use dynamical systems to determine which new car you can afford.

| 2012 Model | Best Deal Price | Cash Down | Interest and Duration |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Ford Fiesta | \$14,200 | \$500 | 4.5% APR for 60 months |
| Ford Focus | \$20,705 | \$750 | 4.38% APR for 60 months |
| Chevy Volt | \$39,312 | \$1,000 | 3.28% APR for 48 months |
| Chevy Cruz | \$16,800 | \$500 | 4.4% APR for 60 months |
| Toyota Camry | \$22,955 | 0 | 4.8% APR for 60 months |
| Toyota Camry Hybrid | \$26,500 | 0 | 3% APR for 48 months |
| Toyota Corolla | \$16,500 | \$900 | 4.25% for 60 months |
| Toyota Prius | \$19,950 | \$1,000 | 4.3% for 60 months |

Question 2:

You are considering a 30-year mortgage that charges 0.4% interest each month to pay off a \$250,000 mortgage.

- a. Determine the monthly payment p that allows the loan to be paid off at 360 months.
- b. Now assume that you have been paying the mortgage for 8 years and now have an opportunity to refinance the loan. You have a choice between a 20-year loan at 4% per year with interest charged monthly and a 15-year loan at 3.8% per year with interest charged monthly. Each of the loans charges a closing cost of \$2500. Determine the monthly payment p for both the 20-year loan and the 15-year loan. Do you think refinancing is the right thing to do? If so, do you prefer the 20-year or the 15-year option?

Due: 10:00am 22, Mar. 2013. Please email your homework to TA.