Math 6330 Homework 5

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Bifurcation diagram for $\dot{x} = 1 + dx - x^3$

2.4

Let $f(x) = kx - cx^2 - hx$, where k, c, and h are positive. Consider the model $\dot{x} = f(x)$, where x represents the size of a population.

Then f(x) = 0 gives the equilibrium points as $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = \frac{k-h}{c}$. Thus, if k < h, then $x_2 < 0$. Moreover, $f(x) = -(h-k)x - cx^2 < 0$ for all x > 0, so solutions starting with $x_0 > 0$ approach $x_1 = 0$. That is, the population will always be exterminated.

If k = h, then $x_1 = x_2$, and there is only one equilibrium point. In this case, f(x) < 0 for all x > 0, so the population will still be exterminated.

If k > h, then, because f is a downward parabola, we have f(x) > 0 for $x < x_2$ and f(x) < 0 for $x > x_2$. Therefore, all solutions with $x_0 > 0$ approach the equilibrium $x_2 > 0$.

2.11

- (a)
- (b)