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Stability and periodic solutions for a price model with delay

THUY HOANG

Bolyai Institute, University of Szeged, Hungary htthuy@hcmulaw.edu.vn

We consider the delay differential equation:

$$x'(t) = a \left[x(t) - x(t-1) \right] - \left| x(t-\tau) \right| x(t-\tau), \tag{1}$$

with a > 0, $\tau > 0$. This is a modification of a model for exchange rates introduced by Brunovský, Erdélyi, Walther (2004) with $\tau = 0$. If $a \in (0, 1)$ and $\tau = 0$ then x = 0 is globally attracting (Balázs, Krisztin, 2019). If a > 1 and $\tau = 0$ then there is a stable slowly oscillating periodic solution (Brunovský, Erdélyi, Walther, 2004).

If $\tau = \frac{1}{4n}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then equation (1) has a $\frac{1}{n}$ -periodic solution and global attractivity of x = 0 is not satisfied. We estimate the region of attraction

$$A(a,\tau) = \{\varphi \in C([-1,0], \mathbb{R}) : x^{\varphi}(t) \to 0 \text{ as } t \to \infty\}$$

of 0 in case $a \in (0, 1)$, and show that $A(a, \tau)$ approaches $A(a, 0) = C([-1, 0], \mathbb{R})$ as $\tau \to 0^+$. Joint work with Tibor Krisztin.