

## On a System of Rational Difference Equations

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we have studied the stability of the difference equation system

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n + y_{n-2}}{x_n y_{n-2} + 1}, \quad y_{n+1} = \frac{y_n + x_{n-2}}{y_n x_{n-2} + 1}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

where  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0$  are positive real numbers.

**Key words:** Difference equation system • Stability • Periodicity

### INTRODUCTION

Our aim in this paper is to investigate the stability of the difference equation system.

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n + y_{n-2}}{x_n y_{n-2} + 1}, \quad y_{n+1} = \frac{y_n + x_{n-2}}{y_n x_{n-2} + 1}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (1)$$

Where

$$x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+ \quad (2)$$

**Some Papers Related to this Subject Are the Following:**

Cinar [1] has obtained a sufficient condition for the global stability of the difference equation system

$$z_{n+1} = \frac{z_n t_{n-1} + a}{z_n + t_{n-1}}, \quad t_{n+1} = \frac{t_n z_{n-1} + a}{t_n + z_{n-1}}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (3)$$

Where  $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$  and  $(z_k, t_k)$  for  $k = -1, 0, \dots$

Li and Zhu [2] proved that the unique positive equilibrium of the difference equation

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n x_{n-1} + a}{x_n + x_{n-1}}, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (4)$$

Where  $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0$  are positive, is globally asymptotically stable.

Berenhaut, Foley and Stevic [3] has showed that the unique positive equilibrium  $\bar{y} = 1$  of the difference equation

$$y_n = \frac{y_{n-k} + y_{n-m}}{1 + y_{n-k} y_{n-m}}, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (5)$$

is globally asymptotically stable.

Moreover, Amleh, Kruse and Ladas [4] proved that all positive solutions of the difference equations:

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n + x_{n-1} x_{n-2}}{x_n x_{n-1} + x_{n-2}}, \quad x_{n+1} = \frac{x_{n-1} + x_n x_{n-2}}{x_n x_{n-1} + x_{n-2}}, \quad x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n + x_{n-1} x_{n-2}}{x_n x_{n-2} + x_{n-1}} \quad (6)$$

Where the initial values  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0$  are positive, converge to 1 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Abu-Saris, Cinar and Yalcinkaya [5] have proved that the equilibrium solution of the difference equation

$$y_{n+1} = \frac{y_n y_{n-k} + a}{y_n + y_{n-k}}, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (7)$$

Where  $k$  is a non-negative integer,  $\alpha \in [0, \infty)$  and  $x_{-k}, \dots, x_0$  are positive, is globally asymptotically stable.

In this paper, in a similar way to the before mentioned works, we define the equation system (1) with conditions (2) and investigate the solutions of this difference equation system. Here, we review some results [6] which will be useful in our investigation of the behavior of the solutions of the system (1).

Let  $I$  be some interval of real numbers and let  $f, g : I \times I \rightarrow I$  be continuously differentiable functions. Then for all initial values  $(x_k, y_k) \in I$  and  $k = -2, -1, 0$  the system of difference equation

$$x_{n+1} = f(x_n, y_{n-2}), y_{n+1} = g(y_n, x_{n-2}), n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (8) \quad \text{The linear map}$$

has a unique solution  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$ .

**Definition 1.1:** A point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is called an equilibrium point of the system (1) if.

$$\bar{x} = f(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \text{ and } \bar{y} = g(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \quad (9)$$

**Definition 1.2:** Let  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  be an equilibrium point of the system (1).

- An equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is said to be stable if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$  such that for every initial points  $(x_{-2}, y_{-2}), (x_{-1}, y_{-1})$  and  $(x_0, y_0)$  for which

$$\|(x_{-2}, y_{-2}) - (\bar{x}, \bar{y})\| + \|(x_{-1}, y_{-1}) - (\bar{x}, \bar{y})\| + \|(x_0, y_0) - (\bar{x}, \bar{y})\| < \delta$$

the iterates  $(x_n, y_n)$  of  $(x_{-2}, y_{-2}), (x_{-1}, y_{-1})$  and  $(x_0, y_0)$  satisfy

$$\|(x_n, y_n) - (\bar{x}, \bar{y})\| < \varepsilon, \text{ for all } n > 0 \quad (10)$$

An equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is said to be unstable if it is not stable. (By  $\|\cdot\|$  we denote the Euclidean norm in  $R^2$  given by  $\|(x_n, y_n)\| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ ).

- An equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is said to be asymptotically stable if there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $(x_n, y_n) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $(x_{-2}, y_{-2}), (x_{-1}, y_{-1})$  and  $(x_0, y_0)$  that satisfy.

$$\|(x_{-2}, y_{-2}) - (\bar{x}, \bar{y})\| + \|(x_{-1}, y_{-1}) - (\bar{x}, \bar{y})\| + \|(x_0, y_0) - (\bar{x}, \bar{y})\| < r \quad (11)$$

**Definition 1.3:** Let  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  be an equilibrium point of a map  $F = (f, g)$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are continuously differentiable functions at  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ . The Jacobian Matrix of  $F$  at  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is the matrix.

$$J_F(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

$$J_F(p, q)(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})x + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})y \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})x + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})y \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

is called the linearization of the map  $F$  at  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ .

**Theorem 1.4:** Let  $F = (f, g)$  be a continuously differentiable function defined on an open set  $I$  in  $R^2$  and let  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  be an equilibrium point of the map  $F = (f, g)$ .

- If all the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix  $J_F(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  have modulus less than one, then the equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is asymptotically stable.
- If at least one of the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix  $J_F(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  has modulus greater than one, then the equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is unstable.
- An equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  of the map  $F = (f, g)$  is locally asymptotically stable if and only if every solution of the characteristic equation.

$$\lambda^2 - \text{tr} J_F(\bar{x}, \bar{y})\lambda + \det J_F(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = 0 \quad (14)$$

lies inside the unit circle, that is, if and only if

$$|\text{tr} J_F(\bar{x}, \bar{y})| < 1 + \det J_F(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) < 2 \quad (15)$$

**Definition 1.5:** Let  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  be a positive equilibrium point of the system (1).

A string of consecutive terms  $\{x_s, \dots, x_m\}$  (resp.  $\{y_s, \dots, y_m\}$ ),  $s \geq -1$ ,  $m$  is said to be a positive semicycle if  $x_i \geq \bar{x}$  (resp.  $y_i \geq \bar{y}$ ),  $i \in \{s, \dots, m\}$  (resp.  $x_{s-1} < \bar{x}$  ( $y_{s-1} < \bar{y}$ ) and  $x_{m+1} < \bar{x}$  (resp.  $y_{m+1} < \bar{y}$ )).

A string of consecutive terms  $\{x_s, \dots, x_m\}$  (resp.  $\{y_s, \dots, y_m\}$ ),  $s \geq -1$ ,  $m < \infty$  is said to be a negative semicycle if  $x_i < \bar{x}$  (resp.  $y_i < \bar{y}$ ),  $i \in \{s, \dots, m\}$  ( $x_{s-1} \geq \bar{x}$  (resp.  $y_{s-1} \geq \bar{y}$ ) and  $x_{m+1} \geq \bar{x}$  (resp.  $y_{m+1} \geq \bar{y}$ )).

A string of consecutive terms  $\{y_s, \dots, y_m\}$  (resp.  $\{x_s, \dots, x_m\}$ ),  $s \geq -1$ ,  $m < \infty$  is said to be a positive (resp. negative) semicycle if  $\{y_s, \dots, y_m\}$ ,  $\{x_s, \dots, x_m\}$  are positive (resp. negative) semicycles.

Finally, a string of consecutive terms  $\{(x_s, y_s), \dots, (x_m, y_m)\}$  is said to be a semicycle positive (resp. negative) with respect to  $x_n$  and negative (resp. positive) with respect to  $y_n$  if  $\{y_s, \dots, y_m\}$  is a positive (resp. negative) semicycle and  $\{y_s, \dots, y_m\}$  is a negative (resp. positive) semicycle.

A solution  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  of the system (1) is called non-oscillatory about  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ , or simply non-oscillatory, if there exists  $N \geq -2$  such that either  $x_n \geq \bar{x}$  and  $y_n \geq \bar{y}$  for all  $n \geq N$  or  $x_n < \bar{x}$  and  $y_n < \bar{y}$  for all  $n \geq N$ . Otherwise, the solution  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  is called oscillatory about  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ , or simply oscillatory.

**Main Results:** The equilibrium points  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  of the system (1) are the solutions of the system.

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\bar{x} + \bar{y}}{1 + \bar{x}\bar{y}}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\bar{y} + \bar{x}}{1 + \bar{x}\bar{y}} \quad (16)$$

So  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1, 1)$  is the unique positive equilibrium and  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (0, 0)$  is the zero equilibrium. The characteristic equations of the system (1) at  $(1, 1)$  and  $(0, 0)$  are respectively

$$\lambda^2 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda^2 - 2\lambda = 0 \quad (17)$$

**Theorem 2.1:** Let  $(1, 1)$  and  $(0, 0)$  be the equilibrium points of the system (1).

- The unique positive equilibrium  $(1, 1)$  is locally asymptotically stable.
- The zero equilibrium  $(0, 0)$  is unstable.

**Proof (1):** According to (17), the eigenvalues at the unique positive equilibrium  $(1, 1)$  are  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$ . Therefore, the system (1) is locally asymptotically stable at  $(1, 1)$ .

(2) According to (17), the eigenvalues at the zero equilibrium  $(1, 1)$  are  $\lambda_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ . Thus, the system (1) is unstable at  $(0, 0)$ .

**Lemma 2.2:** A positive solution  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  of the system (1) is eventually equal to  $(1, 1)$  if and only if

$$(x_{-1} - 1)(x_0 - 1)(y_{-2} - 1)(y_0 - 1) = 0 \quad (18)$$

**Proof:** Let  $x_{-2} - 1$ . Then from (1),

$$y_1 = \frac{y_0 + x_{-2}}{1 + y_0 x_{-2}} = \frac{y_0 + 1}{y_0 + 1} = 1, \quad y_2 = \frac{1 + x_{-1}}{x_{-1} + 1} = 1, \quad y_3 = \frac{1 + x_0}{x_0 + 1} = 1$$

and

$$x_1 = \frac{x_0 + y_{-2}}{1 + x_0 y_{-2}}, \quad x_2 = \frac{x_1 + y_{-1}}{1 + x_1 y_{-1}}, \quad x_3 = \frac{x_2 + y_0}{1 + x_2 y_0},$$

$$x_4 = \frac{x_3 + y_1}{1 + x_3 y_1} = \frac{x_3 + 1}{1 + x_3} = 1, \quad x_5 = \frac{x_4 + 1}{1 + x_4} = 1, \quad x_6 = \frac{x_5 + 1}{1 + x_5} = 1$$

From (1),  $(x_i, y_i) = (1, 1)$ , for  $(i = 4, 5, \dots)$ . Similarly, for  $x_0 = 1, y_{-2} = 1$  and  $y_0 = 1$  we get  $(x_i, y_i) = (1, 1)$ , for  $(i = 4, 5, \dots)$ . Conversely, for  $t \in \{-2, 0\}$  assume that

$$x_i \neq 1 \text{ or } y_i \neq 1 \quad (20)$$

Then we must show that

$$x_n \neq 1 \text{ or } y_n \neq 1 \text{ for } n \geq 1 \quad (21)$$

Consider that for some  $N \geq 1$ ,

$$\text{For } -1 \leq n \leq N-1, \quad x_N = y_N = 1 \text{ and } x_n \neq 1, y_n \neq 1 \quad (22)$$

We can easily say that

$$1 = x_N = \frac{x_{N-1} + y_{N-3}}{1 + x_{N-1} y_{N-3}} \Rightarrow (x_{N-1} - 1)(y_{N-3} - 1) = 0 \quad (23)$$

From (23),  $x_{N-1} = 1$  or  $y_{N-3} = 1$ . This contradicts equation (22).

**Lemma 2.3:** Let  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  be a positive solution of the system (1) which is not eventually equal to  $(1, 1)$ . Then the following statements are true:

- (i)  $(x_{n+1} - x_n)(x_n - 1) < 0$  and  $(y_{n+1} - y_n)(y_n - 1) < 0$ , for  $n \geq 0$
- (ii)  $(x_{n+1} - x_n)(x_n - 1)(1 - y_{n-2}) > 0$  and  $(y_{n+1} - y_n)(y_n - 1)(1 - x_{n-2}) > 0$ , for  $n \geq 0$

**Proof:** From the system (1),

$$x_{n+1} - x_n = \frac{y_{n-2}(1 - x_n)(1 + x_n)}{1 + x_n y_{n-2}} \quad \text{and} \quad y_{n+1} - y_n = \frac{x_{n-2}(1 - y_n)(1 + y_n)}{1 + y_n x_{n-2}} \quad (24)$$

and

$$x_{n+1} - I = \frac{(x_n - I)(I - y_{n-2})}{I + x_n y_{n-2}} \text{ and } y_{n+1} - I = \frac{(y_n - I)(I - x_{n-2})}{I + y_n x_{n-2}} \quad (25)$$

for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$  from which inequalities in (i) and (ii) follow.

**Lemma 2.4:** If  $x_k, y_k < 1$  for  $k = -2, -1, 0$  then  $(x_n, y_n)$  is a negative semicycle of the system (1) with an infinite number of terms and it monotonically tends to the unique positive equilibrium  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (I, I)$ .

**Proof:** If  $x_k, y_k < 1$  for  $k = -2, -1, 0$ , then from Lemma 2.3.[ii] and [i],

$$0 < x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n < 1 \text{ and } 0 < y_0 < x_1 < \dots < y_n < 1 \quad (26)$$

Clearly,  $(x_n, y_n)$  is a negative semicycle of the system (1) with an infinite number of terms. Furthermore, we know that  $(x_n, y_n)$  is strictly increasing for  $n \geq 0$ . So the limits

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \ell_1 \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = \ell_2 \quad (27)$$

exists and are finite. Taking the limits on both sides of the system (1), we have

$$\ell_1 = \frac{\ell_1 + \ell_2}{I + \ell_1 \ell_2} \text{ and } \ell_2 = \frac{\ell_2 + \ell_1}{I + \ell_2 \ell_1} \quad (28)$$

thus  $\ell_1 = \ell_2 = 1$ .

**Lemma 2.5:** Let  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  be a positive solution of the system (1), and consider the following cases:

- 1:  $x_{-2} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 2:  $x_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 3:  $y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 4:  $x_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 5:  $y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_0 < 1$
- 6:  $y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1} < 1$
- 7:  $y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0 < 1$
- 8:  $y_{-2}, y_{-1}, x_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_0 < 1$
- 9:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 10:  $x_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2} < 1$
- 11:  $x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1} < 1$
- 12:  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0 < 1$
- 13:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1} < 1$

If one of the above cases occurs, then

- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of one term and negative semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of five, three or one terms;
- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of six or two terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of four or two terms;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{y_n\}$  one of the form is  $1^+, 5^-, 1^+, 1^+, 1^+, 1^+, 3^-$ ;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{y_n\}$  one of the form is  $6^+, 2^-, 2^+, 4^-$ .

**Proof:** Consider  $x_{-2} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$ , then in view of inequality (ii) of Lemma 2.3. we have:

$x_{-1} < 1, y_{-1} > 1; x_{-2} < 1, y_{-2} > 1; x_3 < 1, y_3 > 1; x_4 > 1, y_4 > 1; x_5 < 1, y_5 > 1; x_6 > 1, y_6 > 1; x_7 < 1, y_7 < 1; x_8 > 1, y_8 > 1; x_9 < 1, y_9 > 1; x_{10} < 1, y_{10} > 1; x_{11} < 1, y_{11} < 1; x_{12} > 1, y_{12} < 1; x_{13} < 1, y_{13} > 1; x_{14} < 1, y_{14} < 1$  which imply that a positive semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of length one is followed by a negative semicycle of length five, three or one which in turn is followed by a positive semicycle length one. Similarly, a positive semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of length six is followed by a negative semicycle of length two, the negative semicycle of length two is followed by a positive semicycle of length two, the positive semicycle of length two is followed by a negative semicycle of length four.

The other cases can be easily shown. We omit the proofs of the following three results since they can easily be obtained in a similar way to the proof of Lemma 2.5.

**Lemma 2.6:** Let  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  be a positive solution of the system (1), and consider the following cases:

- 14:  $x_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 < 1$
- 15:  $y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1} < 1$
- 16:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2} > 1$  and  $x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 17:  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, y_{-2}, y_0 < 1$
- 18:  $x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2} < 1$
- 19:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 20:  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-1} < 1$
- 21:  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, y_0 < 1$
- 22:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, y_{-2} < 1$
- 23:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 24:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2} > 1$  and  $y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 25:  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0 < 1$
- 26:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_0 < 1$

If one of the above cases occurs, then

- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of three, two or one terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of three or one terms;
- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of four, two or one terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of two or one terms;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{x_n\}$  one of the form is  $3^+, 3^-, 2^+, 1^-, 1^+, 2^+, 1^-$ ;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{y_n\}$  one of the form is  $4^+, 1^-, 2^+, 2^-, 1^+, 2^-, 1^+, 1^-$ .

**Lemma 2.7:** Let  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  be a positive solution of the system (1), and consider the following cases:

- 27:  $x_{-2}, x_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 28:  $x_{-1}, y_{-2} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 29:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 30:  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, y_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 31:  $x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 32:  $x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 33:  $x_{-2}, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_0 < 1$
- 34:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_0 < 1$
- 35:  $x_{-1}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2} < 1$
- 36:  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 37:  $x_{-2}, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0 < 1$
- 38:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_0, y_{-2} < 1$
- 39:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_0, y_{-1} < 1$
- 40:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $y_{-2} < 1$
- 41:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $y_0 < 1$

If one of the above cases occurs, then

- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of four, two or one terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of two or one terms;
- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of three, two or one terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of three or one terms;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{x_n\}$  one of the form is  $4^+, 1^-, 2^+, 2^-, 1^+, 2^-, 1^+, 1^-$ ;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{y_n\}$  one of the form is  $3^+, 3^-, 2^+, 1^-, 1^+, 2^+, 1^-$ .

**Lemma 2.8:** Let  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  be a positive solution of the system (1), and consider the following cases:

- 42:  $x_{-2}, y_{-2} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 43:  $x_{-1}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 < 1$
- 44:  $x_0, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 45:  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, y_{-2} < 1$
- 46:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_{-1} < 1$
- 47:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_0, y_0 < 1$
- 48:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$

If one of the above cases occurs, then

- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of three or one terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of two or one terms;
- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of three or one terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of two or one terms;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{x_n\}$  one of the form is  $3^+, 1^-, 1^+, 2^-, 3^+, 1^-, 1^+, 2^-$ ;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{y_n\}$  one of the form is  $3^+, 1^-, 1^+, 2^-, 3^+, 1^-, 1^+, 2^-$ .

**Lemma 2.9:** Let  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  be a positive solution of the system (1), and consider the following cases:

- 49:  $x_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 50:  $y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 < 1$
- 51:  $y_{-2} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 52:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 53:  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_0 < 1$
- 54:  $x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 55:  $x_{-2}, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_0 < 1$
- 56:  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_0 < 1$
- 57:  $x_{-1}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, x_0, y_{-2} < 1$
- 58:  $x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-2}, y_{-1} < 1$
- 59:  $x_{-2}, y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_{-1}, x_0 < 1$
- 60:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_0, y_{-2} < 1$
- 61:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, y_{-2}, y_0 > 1$  and  $x_0, y_{-1} < 1$
- 62:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-1}, y_0 > 1$  and  $y_{-2} < 1$
- 63:  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, y_{-2}, y_{-1} > 1$  and  $y_0 < 1$

If one of the above cases occurs, then

- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of six or two terms and negative semicycle associated with  $\{x_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of four or two terms;
- Every positive semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of one term and negative semicycle associated with  $\{y_n\}$  of the system (1) consists of five, three or one terms;
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{x_n\}$  one of the form is  $6^+, 2^-, 2^+, 4^-$
- The positive and negative semicycles associated with  $\{y_n\}$  one of the form is  $1^+, 3^-, 1^+, 5^-, 1^+, 1^-, 1^+, 1^-$ .

**Theorem 2.10:** The unique positive equilibrium  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1, 1)$  of the system (1) is globally asymptotically stable.

**Proof:** From theorem 2.1. we know that the unique positive equilibrium  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1, 1)$  of the system (1) is locally asymptotically stable. So we must show that every positive solution  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  of the system (1) converges to  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1, 1)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Namely, we want to prove.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \bar{x} = 1, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = \bar{y} = 1 \quad (29)$$

If the solution  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  of the system (1) is non-oscillatory about the unique positive equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1, 1)$ , then according to Lemma 2.2. and Lemma 2.4. we know that the solution is either eventually equal to  $(1, 1)$  or an eventually positive one that has an infinite number of terms and monotonically tends to the unique positive equilibrium point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1, 1)$  of the system (1).

Therefore, equation (29) holds. So we have to show that equation (29) holds for strictly oscillatory solutions. For this, let  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=-2}^{\infty}$  be strictly oscillatory about  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1, 1)$  of the system (1). According to Lemma 2.3.(i) and Lemma 2.9., the  $\{x_n\}$  solution of the system (1) has the positive and negative semicycles of the form  $6^+, 2^-, 2^+, 4^-$ . Also,  $\{y_n\}$  solution of the system (1) has the positive and negative semicycles of the form  $1^+, 3^-, 1^+, 5^-, 1^+, 1^-, 1^+, 1^-$ . So we have the following sequences:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{x_{p+14n}, x_{p+14n+1}, x_{p+14n+2}, x_{p+14n+3}, x_{p+14n+4}, x_{p+14n+5}\}^+ \\ & \{x_{p+14n+6}, x_{p+14n+7}\}^-, \{x_{p+14n+8}, x_{p+14n+9}\}^+ \\ & \{x_{p+14n+10}, x_{p+14n+11}, x_{p+14n+12}, x_{p+14n+13}\}^-, \{y_{p+14n}\}^+ \\ & \{y_{p+14n+1}, y_{p+14n+2}, y_{p+14n+3}\}^-, \{y_{p+14n+4}\}^+ \\ & \{y_{p+14n+5}, y_{p+14n+6}, y_{p+14n+7}, y_{p+14n+8}, y_{p+14n+9}\}^- \\ & \{y_{p+14n+10}\}^+, \{y_{p+14n+11}\}^-, \{y_{p+14n+12}\}^+, \{y_{p+14n+13}\}^- \end{aligned}$$

We now have the following assertions:

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} & x_{p+14n} > x_{p+14n+1} > x_{p+14n+2} > x_{p+14n+3} > x_{p+14n+4} \\ & > x_{p+14n+5}; x_{p+14n+7} > x_{p+14n+6} > x_{p+14n+8} > x_{p+14n+9}; x_{p+14n+13} \\ & > x_{p+14n+12} > x_{p+14n+11} > x_{p+14n+10} \text{ and} \\ & y_{p+14n+3} > y_{p+14n+2} > y_{p+14n+1}; y_{p+14n+9} > y_{p+14n+8} \\ & > y_{p+14n+7} > y_{p+14n+6} > y_{p+14n+5} \end{aligned}$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} & x_{p+14n+5}x_{p+14n+6} > I; x_{p+14n+7}x_{p+14n+8} < I; \\ & x_{p+14n+9}x_{p+14n+10} > I; x_{p+14n+13}x_{p+14n+14} < I \text{ and} \\ & y_{p+14n}y_{p+14n+1} > I; y_{p+14n+3}y_{p+14n+4} < I; \\ & y_{p+14n+4}y_{p+14n+5} > I; y_{p+14n+9}y_{p+14n+10} < I; \\ & y_{p+14n+10}y_{p+14n+11} > I; y_{p+14n+11}y_{p+14n+12} < I; \\ & y_{p+14n+12}y_{p+14n+13} > I; y_{p+14n+13}y_{p+14n+14} < I \end{aligned}$$

inequality (I) can easily be seen from Lemma 2.3.(i). for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{p+14n+6} &= \frac{x_{p+14n+5} + y_{p+14n+3}}{1 + x_{p+14n+5}y_{p+14n+3}} > \frac{x_{p+14n+5} + y_{p+14n+3}}{x_{p+14n+5}(1 + y_{p+14n+3})} > \frac{I}{x_{p+14n+5}} \\ x_{p+14n+8} &= \frac{x_{p+14n+7} + y_{p+14n+5}}{1 + x_{p+14n+7}y_{p+14n+5}} < \frac{x_{p+14n+7} + y_{p+14n+5}}{x_{p+14n+7}(1 + y_{p+14n+5})} < \frac{I}{x_{p+14n+7}} \end{aligned}$$

$x_{p+14n+9}x_{p+14n+10} > I$  and  $x_{p+14n+13}x_{p+14n+14} < I$  can easily be shown.

$$\begin{aligned} y_{p+14n+1} &= \frac{y_{p+14n} + x_{p+14n-2}}{1 + y_{p+14n}x_{p+14n-2}} > \frac{y_{p+14n} + x_{p+14n-2}}{y_{p+14n}(1 + x_{p+14n-2})} > \frac{I}{y_{p+14n}} \\ y_{p+14n+4} &= \frac{y_{p+14n+3} + x_{p+14n+1}}{1 + y_{p+14n+3}x_{p+14n+1}} < \frac{y_{p+14n+3} + x_{p+14n+1}}{y_{p+14n+3}(1 + x_{p+14n+1})} < \frac{I}{y_{p+14n+3}} \end{aligned}$$

$$y_{p+14n+4}y_{p+14n+5} > I; y_{p+14n+9}y_{p+14n+10} < I$$

$$\begin{aligned} & y_{p+14n+10}y_{p+14n+11} > I; y_{p+14n+11}y_{p+14n+12} < I; \\ & y_{p+14n+12}y_{p+14n+13} > I; y_{p+14n+13}y_{p+14n+14} < I \end{aligned}$$

can easily be shown. From inequality (i) and (ii),

$$\begin{aligned} x_{p+14n+14} &< \frac{1}{x_{p+14n+13}} < \frac{1}{x_{p+14n+12}} < \frac{1}{x_{p+14n+11}} < \frac{1}{x_{p+14n+10}} < \\ x_{p+14n+9} &< x_{p+14n+8} < \frac{1}{x_{p+14n+7}} < \frac{1}{x_{p+14n+6}} < x_{p+14n+5} < x_{p+14n+4} < \\ x_{p+14n+3} &< x_{p+14n+2} < x_{p+14n+1} < x_{p+14n} \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_{p+14n+14} &< \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+13}} < y_{p+14n+12} < \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+11}} < y_{p+14n+10} < \\ \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+9}} &< \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+8}} < \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+7}} < \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+6}} < \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+5}} < \\ y_{p+14n+4} &< \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+3}} < \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+2}} < \frac{1}{y_{p+14n+1}} < y_{p+14n} \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

From equation (30) and (31), we can see that  $\{x_{p+14n+14}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{y_{p+14n+14}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  are decreasing with lower bound 1. So the limits

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+14} = L_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+14} = L_2 \quad (32)$$

exist and are finite. From equation (30) and (31), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+9} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+8} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+5} = \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+4} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+3} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+2} = \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n} = L_1 \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+13} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+12} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+11} = \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+10} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+7} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+6} = \frac{1}{L_1} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+12} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+10} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+4} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n} = L_2 \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+13} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+11} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+9} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+8} = \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+7} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+6} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+5} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+3} = \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+2} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+1} = \frac{1}{L_2} \end{aligned}$$

It suffices to verify that  $L_1 = L_2$ . For this,

$$x_{p+14n+14} = \frac{x_{p+14n+13} + y_{p+14n+11}}{1 + x_{p+14n+13}y_{p+14n+11}}; y_{p+14n+14} = \frac{y_{p+14n+13} + x_{p+14n+11}}{1 + y_{p+14n+13}x_{p+14n+11}} \quad (33)$$

If we take the limits on both sides of the equation (33), we obtain

$$L_1 = \frac{\frac{1}{L_1} + \frac{1}{L_2}}{1 + \frac{1}{L_1} \frac{1}{L_2}}; \quad L_2 = \frac{\frac{1}{L_2} + \frac{1}{L_1}}{1 + \frac{1}{L_2} \frac{1}{L_1}} \quad (34)$$

Which imply that  $L_1 = L_2$ . So we have shown that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{p+14n+k} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{p+14n+k} = 1 \quad \text{for } k \in \{0, \dots, 14\} \quad (35)$$

Similarly, from Lemma 2.3.(i) and Lemma 2.5., Lemma 2.6., Lemma 2.7. and Lemma 2.8. one can see that equation (35) holds. Therefore, the proof is completed.

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