

**EG02041 Advanced Mathematics**  
**Class 7: First-Order Differential Equations**

### 8.3 Autonomous Differential Equations and Stability

#### Equilibrium Values and Stability

In an autonomous equation, the right-hand side is only function of  $y$

$$y' = 6y^2 - y^3 \text{ is autonomous}$$

$$y' = x - 6y \text{ is not autonomous}$$

Autonomous differential equations are often used to predict the population growth. If  $Y$  represent the size of the population, it seems reasonable to assume that the rate of the population size not dependent on time.

#### Equilibrium Values:

One model of population growth (decay) sets the relative rate of growth as a constant so that population satisfies the autonomous differential equation:

$$y' = ky \text{ for same constant of } k$$

#### Definition:

Let  $C$  be an equilibrium value of autonomous differential equation, with an initial value  $y(0) = y_0$  that is close to  $C$

- 1) If  $y$  diverges from  $C$  for large value,  $x$ , we say that  $C$  is unstable
- 2) If  $y$  coverage to  $C$  for large value of  $x$ , we say that  $C$  asymptotically stable
- 3) If slightly diverge above coverage  $C$  is semistable.

**Example 1:** Find the equilibrium value of differential equation  $y^2 - y - 2 = 0$ , and assess the stability of each.

**Example 2:** Determine the equilibrium value of  $y' = y^4 - 4y^2$  and assess the stability of each.

#### Logistic Growth Model

A population that grows with a constant per capita rate  $K$  satisfies the inhibited growth model

$$y' = ky$$

We have seen the non-zero solutions:

$$y' = ky(1 - y/L)$$

Where  $k$  and  $L$  are positive constants. The per capita growth rate is  $k(1 - y/L)$ , which decrease from  $k$  to 0 as  $y$  increase from 0 to  $L$ . The physical significant of  $L$  will become apparently shortly.

**Example 5:** Determine the equilibrium value of the logistic growth model and assess the stability of each.

**Example 6:** *Bacteria growth.* Many bacteria strains are used by the dairy industry to produce different types of fermented milk and yogurts. During a fermentation experiment, the population  $y$  of bacteria lactobacillus fermented after  $t$  hour in a wheat media satisfied the differential equation.

$$y' = 0.532y\left(1 - \frac{y}{1900}\right)$$

Initially 8 million bacteria per ml were present. Determine the number of bacteria per ml after 5 hours