

# Asymptotic behaviour of positive solutions of the model which describes cell differentiation

Svetlin Georgiev Georgiev

University of Veliko Tarnovo, Department of Mathematical analysis and applications, 5000 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria  
e-mail : sgg2000bg@yahoo.com

## 1. Introduction

In this paper we will study the asymptotic behaviour of positive solutions to the system

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} x_1'(t) = \frac{A(t)}{1+x_2^n(t)} - x_1(t) \\ x_2'(t) = \frac{B(t)}{1+x_1^n(t)} - x_2(t), \end{cases}$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  belong to  $\mathcal{C}_+$  and  $\mathcal{C}_+$  is the set of continuous functions  $g : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ , which are bounded above and below by positive constants.  $n$  is fixed natural number. The system (1) describes cell differentiation, more precisely - its passes from one regime of work to other without loss of genetic information. The variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  make sense of concentration of specific metabolits. The parameters  $A$  and  $B$  reflect degree of development of base metabolism. The parameter  $n$  reflects the highest row of the repression's reactions. For more details on the interpretation of (1) one may see [1]. With  $\mathcal{C}_\circ$  we denote the space of continuous and bounded functions  $g : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ . For  $g \in \mathcal{C}_\circ$  we define

$$g_L(\infty) = \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} g(t), g_M(\infty) = \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} g(t), \\ g_L = \inf\{g(t) : t \in \mathcal{R}\}, g_M = \sup\{g(t) : t \in \mathcal{R}\}.$$

## 2. Preliminary results

Here and further next lemmas will pay important role.

**Lemma 1.**[2] Let  $g : (\alpha, \infty) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  be a bounded and differentiable function. Then there exists a sequence  $\{t_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that  $t_n \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $g'(t_n) \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $g(t_n) \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_M(\infty)$  (resp.  $g(t_n) \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_L(\infty)$ ).

**Lemma 2.**[2] Let  $g \in \mathcal{C}_\circ$  be a differentiable function. Then there exists a sequence  $\{t_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that  $g'(t_n) \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $g(t_n) \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_M$  (resp.  $g(t_n) \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_L$ ).

**Proposition 1.** Let  $(x_1, x_2)$  be a positive solution of (1) and  $A(t), B(t) \in \mathcal{C}_+$ . Then

$$\frac{A_L(\infty)}{1 + B_M^n(\infty)} \leq x_{1L}(\infty) \leq x_{1M}(\infty) \leq A_M(\infty),$$

$$\frac{B_L(\infty)}{1 + A_M^n(\infty)} \leq x_{2L}(\infty) \leq x_{2M}(\infty) \leq B_M(\infty).$$

*Proof.* From lemma 1 there exists a sequence  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty \subset \mathcal{R}$  for which  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $x'_1(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $x_1(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} x_{1M}(\infty)$ . Then from

$$x'_1(t_m) = \frac{A(t_m)}{1 + x_2^n(t_m)} - x_1(t_m),$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$0 = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{A(t_m)}{1 + x_2^n(t_m)} - x_{1M}(\infty) \leq A_M(\infty) - x_{1M}(\infty),$$

i. e.

$$x_{1M}(\infty) \leq A_M(\infty).$$

Let now  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  be a sequence of  $\mathcal{R}$  such that  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $x'_2(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $x_2(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} x_{2L}(\infty)$ . From

$$x'_2(t_m) = \frac{B(t_m)}{1 + x_1^n(t_m)} - x_2(t_m),$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we find that

$$0 = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B(t_m)}{1 + x_1^n(t_m)} - x_{2L}(\infty) \geq \frac{B_L(\infty)}{1 + A_M^n(\infty)} - x_{2L}(\infty)$$

or

$$x_{2L}(\infty) \geq \frac{B_L(\infty)}{1 + A_M^n(\infty)}.$$

Let  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty \subset \mathcal{R}$  is such that  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $x'_2(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $x_2(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} x_{2M}(\infty)$ . From

$$x'_2(t_m) = \frac{B(t_m)}{1 + x_1^n(t_m)} - x_2(t_m),$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$0 = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B(t_m)}{1 + x_1^n(t_m)} - x_{2M}(\infty) \leq B_M(\infty) - x_{2M}(\infty).$$

Consequently

$$x_{2M}(\infty) \leq B_M(\infty).$$

Let  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  be a sequence of  $\mathcal{R}$  such that  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $x_1'(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $x_1(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} x_{1L}(\infty)$ . From equality

$$x_1'(t_m) = \frac{A(t_m)}{1 + x_2^n(t_m)} - x_1(t_m),$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$0 = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{A(t_m)}{1 + x_2^n(t_m)} - x_{1L}(\infty) \geq \frac{A_L(\infty)}{1 + B_M^n(\infty)} - x_{1L}(\infty)$$

or

$$x_{1L}(\infty) \geq \frac{A_L(\infty)}{1 + B_M^n(\infty)}.$$

This completes the proof.

**Remark.** Proposition 1 shows that (1) is permanent, i. e. there exist positive constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that

$$0 < \alpha \leq \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_i(t) \leq \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_i(t) \leq \beta < \infty, \quad i = 1, 2,$$

where  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$  is a positive solution of (1). In [3] was proved that permanence implies existence of positive periodic solutions of (1), when  $A(t)$  and  $B(t)$  are continuous positive periodic functions.

Let  $X_1$  be a positive solution of the equation

$$x'(t) = A(t) - x(t),$$

and  $X_2$  be a positive solution of the equation

$$x'(t) = B(t) - x(t).$$

**Proposition 2.** Let  $X_1, X_2$  be as above and  $A(t), B(t) \in \mathcal{C}_+$ . Then

$$A_L(\infty) \leq X_{1L}(\infty) \leq X_{1M}(\infty) \leq A_M(\infty),$$

$$B_L(\infty) \leq X_{2L}(\infty) \leq X_{2M}(\infty) \leq B_M(\infty).$$

*Proof.* From lemma 1 there exists a sequence  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  for which  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $X_1'(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $X_1(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} X_{1L}(\infty)$ . Then from

$$X_1'(t_m) = A(t_m) - X_1(t_m),$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$0 = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} A(t_m) - X_{1L}(\infty) \geq A_L(\infty) - X_{1L}(\infty),$$

i. e.

$$X_{1L}(\infty) \geq A_L(\infty).$$

Let  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  be a sequence of  $\mathcal{R}$  such that  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $X_1'(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $X_1(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} X_{1M}(\infty)$ . From

$$X_1'(t_m) = A(t_m) - X_1(t_m),$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we find that

$$0 = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} A(t_m) - X_{1M}(\infty) \leq A_M(\infty) - X_{1M}(\infty)$$

or

$$X_{1M}(\infty) \leq A_M(\infty).$$

In the same way we may prove other pair of inequalities.

### 3. Asymptotic behaviour of positive solutions

The results which are formulated and proved below are connected to (1) and to

$$(1_*) \quad \begin{cases} x_1'(t) = \frac{A_*(t)}{1+x_2^n(t)} - x_1(t) \\ x_2'(t) = \frac{B_*(t)}{1+x_1^n(t)} - x_2(t), \end{cases}$$

where  $A_*, B_* \in \mathcal{C}_+$  and  $A(t) - A_*(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $B(t) - B_*(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ .

We notice that every solution to (1)(resp. (1<sub>\*</sub>)) with positive initial data  $x(t_0) = (x_1(t_0), x_2(t_0)) > 0$  ( $x_*(t_0) = (x_{1*}(t_0), x_{2*}(t_0)) > 0$ ) is defined and positive in  $[t_0, \infty)$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $A, B, A_*, B_* \in \mathcal{C}_+$  and*

$$A(t) - A_*(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0, B(t) - B_*(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

*Let also*

$$\frac{n^2 A_M^n(\infty) B_M^n(\infty) (1 + A_M^n(\infty))^{2n} (1 + B_M^n(\infty))^{2n}}{[A_L^n(\infty) + (1 + B_M^n(\infty))^n]^2 [B_L^n(\infty) + (1 + A_M^n(\infty))^n]^2} < 1.$$

If  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$  and  $(x_{1*}(t), x_{2*}(t))$  are positive solutions respectively of (1) and  $(1_*)$ , then  $(x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t), x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} (0, 0)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $h_1(t) = x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t)$ ,  $h_2(t) = x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} h_1'(t) &= x_1'(t) - x_{1*}'(t) = \\ &= \frac{A(t)}{1 + x_2^n(t)} - x_1(t) - \frac{A_*(t)}{1 + x_{2*}^n(t)} + x_{1*}(t) = \\ &= -A(t) \frac{(x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t))(x_2^{n-1}(t) + x_2^{n-2}(t)x_{2*}(t) + \cdots + x_{2*}^{n-1}(t))}{(1 + x_2^n(t))(1 + x_{2*}^n(t))} - \\ &\quad -h_1(t) + \frac{A(t) - A_*(t)}{(1 + x_{2*}^n(t))}. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\alpha(t) = A(t) \frac{x_2^{n-1}(t) + x_2^{n-2}(t)x_{2*}(t) + \cdots + x_{2*}^{n-1}(t)}{(1 + x_2^n(t))(1 + x_{2*}^n(t))}, \quad \beta(t) = \frac{A(t) - A_*(t)}{(1 + x_{2*}^n(t))}.$$

We notice that  $\beta(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . For  $h_1(t)$  we get the equation

$$h_1'(t) = -h_1(t) - \alpha(t)h_2(t) + \beta(t).$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} h_2'(t) &= x_2'(t) - x_{2*}'(t) = \\ &= \frac{B(t)}{1 + x_1^n(t)} - x_2(t) - \frac{B_*(t)}{1 + x_{1*}^n(t)} + x_{2*}(t) = \\ &= -B(t) \frac{(x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t))(x_1^{n-1}(t) + x_1^{n-2}(t)x_{1*}(t) + \cdots + x_{1*}^{n-1}(t))}{(1 + x_1^n(t))(1 + x_{1*}^n(t))} - \\ &\quad -h_2(t) + \frac{B(t) - B_*(t)}{(1 + x_{1*}^n(t))}. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\gamma(t) = B(t) \frac{x_1^{n-1}(t) + x_1^{n-2}(t)x_{1*}(t) + \cdots + x_{1*}^{n-1}(t)}{(1 + x_1^n(t))(1 + x_{1*}^n(t))}, \quad \delta(t) = \frac{B(t) - B_*(t)}{(1 + x_{1*}^n(t))},$$

$\delta(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . Then

$$h_2'(t) = -\gamma(t)h_1(t) - h_2(t) + \delta(t).$$

For  $h_1(t)$  and  $h_2(t)$  we find the system

$$\begin{cases} h_1'(t) = -h_1(t) - \alpha(t)h_2(t) + \beta(t) \\ h_2'(t) = -\gamma(t)h_1(t) - h_2(t) + \delta(t). \end{cases}$$

Let  $h(t) = (h_1(t), h_2(t))$  and  $|h|(t) = |h(t)|$ . We assume that  $|h_1|_M(\infty) > 0$ . From lemma 1 there exists a sequence  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  such that  $t_m \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $h_1'(t_m) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $|h_1|(t_m) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} |h_1|_M(\infty)$ . From

$$|h_1'(t_m)| = | -h_1(t_m) - \alpha(t_m)h_2(t_m) + \beta(t_m) |,$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$0 \geq |h_1|_M(\infty) - \alpha_M(\infty)|h_2|_M(\infty),$$

i. e.

$$(2) \quad |h_1|_M(\infty) \leq \alpha_M(\infty)|h_2|_M(\infty).$$

Since  $|h_1|_M(\infty) > 0$  then  $|h_2|_M(\infty) > 0$ . Let now  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty \subset \mathcal{R}$  is such that  $t_m \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $h_2'(t_m) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $|h_2|(t_m) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} |h_2|_M(\infty)$ . As  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , from

$$|h_2'(t_m)| = | -\gamma(t_m)h_1(t_m) - h_2(t_m) + \delta(t_m) |,$$

we get

$$0 \geq |h_2|_M(\infty) - \gamma_M(\infty)|h_1|_M(\infty)$$

or

$$|h_2|_M(\infty) \leq \gamma_M(\infty)|h_1|_M(\infty).$$

From last inequality and (2) we find that

$$|h_1|_M(\infty)|h_2|_M(\infty) \leq \alpha_M(\infty)\gamma_M(\infty)|h_1|_M(\infty)|h_2|_M(\infty),$$

from where

$$1 \leq \alpha_M(\infty)\gamma_M(\infty).$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_M(\infty) &= \left( A(t) \frac{x_2^{n-1}(t) + x_2^{n-2}(t)x_{2^*}(t) + \cdots + x_{2^*}^{n-1}(t)}{(1 + x_2^n(t))(1 + x_{2^*}^n(t))} \right)_M(\infty) \leq \\ &\leq A_M(\infty) \cdot \frac{n \cdot B_M^{n-1}(\infty)}{\left( 1 + \frac{B_L^n(\infty)}{(1 + A_M^n(\infty))^n} \right)^2} = \frac{n \cdot A_M(\infty) \cdot B_M^{n-1}(\infty) (1 + A_M^n(\infty))^{2n}}{[(1 + A_M^n(\infty))^n + B_L^n(\infty)]^2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_M(\infty) &= \left( B(t) \frac{x_1^{n-1}(t) + x_1^{n-2}(t)x_{1*}(t) + \dots + x_{1*}^{n-1}(t)}{(1+x_1^n(t))(1+x_{1*}^n(t))} \right)_M (\infty) \leq \\ &\leq B_M(\infty) \cdot \frac{n \cdot A_M^{n-1}(\infty)}{\left(1 + \frac{A_L^n(\infty)}{(1+B_M^n(\infty))^n}\right)^2} = \frac{n \cdot B_M(\infty) \cdot A_M^{n-1}(\infty) (1+B_M^n(\infty))^{2n}}{[(1+B_M^n(\infty))^n + A_L^n(\infty)]^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we get the contradiction

$$1 \leq \frac{n^2 \cdot A_M^n(\infty) \cdot B_M^n(\infty) (1+A_M^n(\infty))^{2n} (1+B_M^n(\infty))^{2n}}{[(1+B_M^n(\infty))^n + A_L^n(\infty)]^2 \cdot [(1+A_M^n(\infty))^n + B_L^n(\infty)]^2}.$$

The proof is complete.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} r_1 &= \frac{A_M^2(\infty)}{A_L^2(\infty)}, & r_2 &= \frac{B_M^2(\infty)}{B_L^2(\infty)}, \\ p_1 &= \frac{1}{r_1} \frac{1}{1+B_M^n(\infty)r_2^n}, & p_2 &= \frac{1}{r_2} \frac{1}{1+A_M^n(\infty)r_1^n}. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 2.** Let  $A, B, A_*, B_* \in \mathcal{C}_+$ ,  $A(t) - A_*(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $B(t) - B_*(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . If  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$  and  $(x_{1*}(t), x_{2*}(t))$  are positive solutions respectively to (1) and (1<sub>\*</sub>) and

$$\frac{n^2 r_1^n r_2^n A_M^n(\infty) B_M^n(\infty)}{(1+A_L^n(\infty)p_1^n)^2 (1+B_L^n(\infty)p_2^n)^2} < 1,$$

then  $(x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t), x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} (0, 0)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x = \frac{x_1}{X_1}$ ,  $y = \frac{x_2}{X_2}$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  as in proposition 2. Then

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= \frac{1}{X_1(t)} \cdot x_1'(t) - \frac{x_1(t)}{X_1^2(t)} \cdot X_1'(t) = \\ &= \frac{1}{X_1(t)} \cdot \left[ \frac{A(t)}{1+x_2^n(t)} - x_1(t) \right] - \frac{x_1(t)}{X_1^2(t)} [A(t) - X_1(t)] = \\ &= \frac{1}{X_1(t)} \cdot \frac{A(t)}{1+X_2^n(t)y^n(t)} - \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot \frac{x_1(t)}{X_1(t)} = -\frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot x(t) + \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)[1+X_2^n(t)y^n(t)]}, \end{aligned}$$

i. e.

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= -\frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot x(t) + \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)[1+X_2^n(t)y^n(t)]}, \\ y'(t) &= \frac{1}{X_2(t)} \cdot x_2'(t) - \frac{x_2(t)}{X_2^2(t)} \cdot X_2'(t) = \\ &= \frac{1}{X_2(t)} \cdot \left[ \frac{B(t)}{1+x_1^n(t)} - x_2(t) \right] - \frac{x_2(t)}{X_2^2(t)} [B(t) - X_2(t)] = \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{X_2(t)} \cdot \frac{B(t)}{1 + X_1^n(t)x^n(t)} - \frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)} \cdot \frac{x_2(t)}{X_2(t)} = -\frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)} \cdot y(t) + \frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)[1 + X_1^n(t)x^n(t)]},$$

i. e.

$$y'(t) = -\frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)} \cdot y(t) + \frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)[1 + X_1^n(t)x^n(t)]}.$$

Consequently for  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  we get the system

$$(3) \quad \begin{cases} x'(t) = -\frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot x(t) + \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)[1 + X_1^n(t)y^n(t)]} \\ y'(t) = -\frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)} \cdot y(t) + \frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)[1 + X_1^n(t)x^n(t)]}. \end{cases}$$

Let us consider the system

$$(3_*) \quad \begin{cases} x'(t) = -\frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} \cdot x(t) + \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y^n(t)]} \\ y'(t) = -\frac{B_*(t)}{X_{2*}(t)} \cdot y(t) + \frac{B_*(t)}{X_{2*}(t)[1 + X_{1*}^n(t)x^n(t)]}, \end{cases}$$

where  $X_{1*}$  and  $X_{2*}$  be a positive solutions respectively to

$$x'(t) = A_*(t) - x(t),$$

$$x'(t) = B_*(t) - x(t).$$

Let  $(x(t), y(t))$  be a positive solution to (3) and let  $(x_*(t), y_*(t))$  be a positive solution to (3<sub>\*</sub>). At first, we will prove that

$$(x(t) - x_*(t), y(t) - y_*(t)) \longrightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} (0, 0).$$

Let  $h(t) = x(t) - x_*(t)$ ,  $k(t) = y(t) - y_*(t)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} h'(t) &= x'(t) - x'_*(t) = \\ &= -\frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot x(t) + \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)[1 + X_2^n(t)y^n(t)]} + \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} \cdot x_*(t) - \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y_*(t)]} = \\ &= -\frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot x(t) + \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot x_*(t) - \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} \cdot x_*(t) + \frac{A(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} \cdot x_*(t) - \frac{A(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} \cdot x_*(t) + \\ &\quad + \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} \cdot x_*(t) + \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y_*(t)]} - \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_2^n(t)y^n(t)]} \\ &\quad - \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y_*(t)]} + \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)[1 + X_2^n(t)y^n(t)]} = \\ &= -\frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)} [x(t) - x_*(t)] - A(t)x_*(t) \left[ \frac{1}{X_1(t)} - \frac{1}{X_{1*}(t)} \right] - \frac{x_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} [A(t) - A_*(t)] + \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)[1 + X_2^n(t)y^n(t)]} - \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y^n(t)]} - \\
& - \frac{A_*(t)X_{2*}^n(t)[y(t) - y_*(t)][y^{n-1}(t) + y^{n-2}(t)y_*(t) + \dots + y_*^{n-1}(t)]}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y_*^n(t)][1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y^n(t)]}.
\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha(t) &= \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)}, \\
\beta(t) &= \frac{A_*(t)X_{2*}^n(t)[y^{n-1}(t) + y^{n-2}(t)y_*(t) + \dots + y_*^{n-1}(t)]}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y_*^n(t)][1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y^n(t)]}, \\
\gamma(t) &= A(t) \cdot x_*(t) \left[ \frac{1}{X_1(t)} - \frac{1}{X_{1*}(t)} \right] + \frac{x_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} [A(t) - A_*(t)] - \\
& - \frac{A(t)}{X_1(t)[1 + X_2^n(t)y^n(t)]} + \frac{A_*(t)}{X_{1*}(t)[1 + X_{2*}^n(t)y^n(t)]}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $X_1(t) - X_{1*}(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $A(t) - A_*(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ , then  $\gamma(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . For  $h(t)$  we get the equation

$$h'(t) = -\alpha(t)h(t) - \beta(t)k(t) - \gamma(t).$$

In the same way we find the equation

$$k'(t) = -\delta(t)h(t) - \sigma(t)k(t) - \rho(t),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma(t) &= \frac{B(t)}{X_{2*}(t)}, \\
\delta(t) &= \frac{B_*(t)X_{1*}^n(t)[x^{n-1}(t) + x^{n-2}(t)x_*(t) + \dots + x_*^{n-1}(t)]}{X_{2*}(t)[1 + X_{1*}^n(t)x_*^n(t)][1 + X_{1*}^n(t)x^n(t)]}, \\
\rho(t) &= B(t) \cdot y_*(t) \left[ \frac{1}{X_2(t)} - \frac{1}{X_{2*}(t)} \right] + \frac{y_*(t)}{X_{2*}(t)} [B(t) - B_*(t)] - \\
& - \frac{B(t)}{X_2(t)[1 + X_1^n(t)x^n(t)]} + \frac{B_*(t)}{X_{2*}(t)[1 + X_{1*}^n(t)x^n(t)]}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $X_2(t) - X_{2*}(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $B(t) - B_*(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ , then  $\rho(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ .

Therefore for  $h(t)$  and  $k(t)$  we get the system

$$\begin{cases} h'(t) = -\alpha(t)h(t) - \beta(t)k(t) - \gamma(t) \\ k'(t) = -\delta(t)h(t) - \sigma(t)k(t) - \rho(t). \end{cases}$$

We assume that  $|h|_M(\infty) > 0$ . From lemma 1 there exists a sequence  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  such that  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $|h'(t_m)| \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $|h|(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} |h|_M(\infty)$ . From

$$|h'(t_m)| = |-\alpha(t_m)h(t_m) - \beta(t_m)k(t_m) - \gamma(t_m)|,$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we find that

$$0 \geq |h|_M(\infty) - \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)_M(\infty)|k|_M(\infty),$$

i. e.

$$(4) \quad |h|_M(\infty) \leq \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)_M(\infty)|k|_M(\infty).$$

Consequently  $|k|_M(\infty) > 0$ . Let  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  be a sequence of  $\mathcal{R}$  for which  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $|k'(t_m)| \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $|k|(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} |k|_M(\infty)$ . As  $m \rightarrow \infty$  in

$$|k'(t_m)| = |-\delta(t_m)h(t_m) - \sigma(t_m)k(t_m) - \rho(t_m)|,$$

we get

$$0 \geq |k|_M(\infty) - \left(\frac{\delta}{\sigma}\right)_M(\infty)|h|_M(\infty),$$

i. e.

$$(5) \quad |k|_M(\infty) \leq \left(\frac{\delta}{\sigma}\right)_M(\infty)|h|_M(\infty).$$

From here and from (4) we find that

$$(6) \quad 1 \leq \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)_M(\infty) \left(\frac{\delta}{\sigma}\right)_M(\infty).$$

**Lemma 3.** Let  $(x, y)$  be a positive solution of (3). The following inequalities hold

$$p_1 \leq x_L(\infty) \leq x_M(\infty) \leq r_1,$$

$$p_2 \leq y_L(\infty) \leq y_M(\infty) \leq r_2.$$

*Proof of Lemma 3.* Let  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  be a sequence of  $\mathcal{R}$  for which  $t_m \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $x'(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $x(t_m) \rightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} x_M(\infty)$ . From the equality

$$x'(t_m) = -\frac{A(t_m)}{X_1(t_m)}x(t_m) + \frac{A(t_m)}{X_1(t_m)[1 + X_2^n(t_m)y^n(t_m)]},$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$0 \leq -\frac{A_L(\infty)}{X_{1M}(\infty)}x_M(\infty) + \frac{A_M(\infty)}{X_{1L}(\infty)},$$

i. e.

$$x_M(\infty) \leq \frac{A_M^2(\infty)}{A_L^2(\infty)}$$

or  $x_M(\infty) \leq r_1$ . In the same way we get  $y_M(\infty) \leq r_2$ . Let  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  be a sequence of  $\mathcal{R}$  for which  $t_m \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} \infty$ ,  $x'(t_m) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ ,  $x(t_m) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} x_L(\infty)$ . From

$$x'(t_m) = -\frac{A(t_m)}{X_1(t_m)}x(t_m) + \frac{A(t_m)}{X_1(t_m)[1 + X_2^n(t_m)y^n(t_m)]},$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we find that

$$0 \geq -\frac{A_M(\infty)}{X_{1L}(\infty)}x_L(\infty) + \frac{A_L(\infty)}{X_{1M}(\infty)} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + X_{2M}^n(\infty)y_M^n(\infty)},$$

i. e.

$$\begin{aligned} x_L(\infty) &\geq \frac{A_L(\infty)}{A_M(\infty)} \cdot \frac{X_{1L}(\infty)}{X_{1M}(\infty)} \frac{1}{1 + X_{2M}^n(\infty)y_M^n(\infty)} \geq \\ &\geq \left(\frac{A_L(\infty)}{A_M(\infty)}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{1 + B_M^n(\infty)r_2^n} = p_1, \end{aligned}$$

or  $x_L(\infty) \geq p_1$ . In the same way we get  $y_L(\infty) \geq p_2$ .

Now we will continue with the proof of Theorem 2. We have

$$\left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)_M(\infty) \leq \frac{\beta_M(\infty)}{\alpha_L(\infty)}.$$

Using the lemma 3 we get

$$\left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)_M(\infty) \leq \left(\frac{A_M(\infty)}{A_L(\infty)}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{nr_2^{n-1}(\infty)B_M^n(\infty)}{(1 + B_L^n(\infty)p_2^n)^2}.$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_M(\infty) &\leq \frac{B_M(\infty)nr_1^{n-1}A_M^n(\infty)}{B_L(\infty)[1 + A_L^n(\infty)p_1^n]^2}, \\ \sigma_L(\infty) &\geq \frac{B_L(\infty)}{X_{2M}(\infty)} \geq \frac{B_L(\infty)}{B_M(\infty)}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\left(\frac{\delta}{\sigma}\right)_M(\infty) \leq \left(\frac{B_M(\infty)}{B_L(\infty)}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{nr_1^{n-1}A_M^n(\infty)}{[1 + A_L^n(\infty)p_1^n]^2}.$$

From (6) we get the contradiction

$$1 \leq \frac{n^2 r_1^n r_2^n A_M^n(\infty) B_M^n(\infty)}{[1 + A_L^n(\infty) p_1^n]^2 [1 + B_L^n(\infty) p_2^n]^2}$$

with the condition of Theorem 2. Consequently  $|h|_M(\infty) = 0$ . From here  $x(t) - x_*(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . We assume that  $|k|_M(\infty) > 0$ . From (5) we find that  $|h|_M(\infty) > 0$ , which is contradiction. Consequently  $|k|_M(\infty) = 0$ . From here  $y(t) - y_*(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . Since

$$x(t) - x_*(t) = \frac{x_1(t)}{X_1(t)} - \frac{x_{1*}(t)}{X_{1*}(t)} \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

and  $X_1(t) - X_{1*}(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ , then  $x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . From

$$y(t) - y_*(t) = \frac{x_2(t)}{X_2(t)} - \frac{x_{2*}(t)}{X_{2*}(t)} \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

and  $X_2(t) - X_{2*}(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ , therefore  $x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{C}_+$ , and

$$\frac{n^2 A_M^n B_M^n (1 + A_M^n)^{2n} (1 + B_M^n)^{2n}}{[A_L^n + (1 + B_M^n)^n]^2 [B_L^n + (1 + A_M^n)^n]^2} < 1.$$

Then the system (1) has exactly one positive solution  $(x_{10}(t), x_{20}(t))$  such that  $x_{10}(t) \in \mathcal{C}_+$ ,  $x_{20}(t) \in \mathcal{C}_+$ . In particular

$$(x_1(t) - x_{10}(t), x_2(t) - x_{20}(t)) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} (0, 0),$$

for every positive solution  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$  of (1).

*Proof.* In  $\mathcal{C}_+$  we define the metric

$$\|g - f\| = \sup\{|g(t) - f(t)| : t \in \mathcal{R}\} \quad \text{for } f, g \in \mathcal{C}_+.$$

Let

$$X_{x_1} = \{x(t) \in \mathcal{C}_+ : \frac{A_L}{1 + B_M^n} \leq x(t) \leq A_M\},$$

$$X_{x_2} = \{x(t) \in \mathcal{C}_+ : \frac{B_L}{1 + A_M^n} \leq x(t) \leq B_M\}.$$

Let also  $x_2(t) \in X_{x_2}$  be fixed and  $x_{1x_2}(t)$  is the unique solution to the problem

$$u'(t) = \frac{A(t)}{1 + x_2^n(t)} - u(t), \quad u \in \mathcal{C}_+.$$

If  $x_{1x_2}(t)$  attains its maximum when  $t = t_1$ , then  $x'_{1x_2}(t_1) = 0$ . From

$$0 = x'_{1x_2}(t_1) = \frac{A(t_1)}{1 + x_2^n(t_1)} - x_{1x_2}(t_1),$$

we get

$$x_{1x_2}(t) \leq A_M \quad \forall t \in \mathcal{R}.$$

If  $x_{1x_2}(t)$  attains its minimum in  $t = t_1$ , then  $x'_{1x_2}(t_1) = 0$  and

$$0 = x'_{1x_2}(t_1) = \frac{A(t_1)}{1 + x_2^n(t_1)} - x_{1x_2}(t_1) \geq \frac{A_L}{1 + B_M^n} - x_{1x_2}(t_1).$$

Consequently

$$x_{1x_2}(t) \geq \frac{A_L}{1 + B_M^n}, \quad \forall t \in \mathcal{R},$$

i. e.  $x_{1x_2}(t) \in X_{x_1}$ ,  $\forall t \in \mathcal{R}$ . From here, the map

$$P : X_{x_2} \longrightarrow X_{x_1}, \quad Px_2 = x_{1x_2},$$

is well defined. Analogously, the map

$$Q : X_{x_1} \longrightarrow X_{x_2}, \quad Qx_1(t) = x_{2x_1}(t),$$

where  $x_{2x_1}(t)$  is the unique positive bound solution of

$$u'(t) = \frac{B(t)}{1 + x_1^n(t)} - u(t), \quad u \in \mathcal{C}_+,$$

is well defined. Let  $v_0(t), v_1(t) \in X_{x_2}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & [P(v_0) - P(v_1)]' = P'(v_0) - P'(v_1) = \\ &= \frac{A(t)}{1 + v_0^n(t)} - P(v_0) - \frac{A(t)}{1 + v_1^n(t)} + P(v_1) = \\ &= \frac{A(t)[v_1^n(t) - v_0^n(t)]}{[1 + v_0^n(t)][1 + v_1^n(t)]} - [P(v_0) - P(v_1)] = \\ &= -\frac{A(t)[v_1^{n-1}(t) + v_1^{n-2}(t)v_0(t) + \cdots + v_0^{n-1}(t)]}{[1 + v_0^n(t)][1 + v_1^n(t)]}(v_0(t) - v_1(t)) - [P(v_0) - P(v_1)]. \end{aligned}$$

From lemma 2 there exists a sequence  $\{t_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  for which

$$[P(v_0) - P(v_1)]'(t_m) \longrightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} 0, \quad |P(v_0) - P(v_1)|(t_m) \longrightarrow_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|P(v_0) - P(v_1)\|.$$

From

$$|[P(v_0) - P(v_1)]'(t_m)| =$$

$$= \left| - \frac{A(t_m)[v_1^{n-1}(t_m) + v_1^{n-2}(t_m)v_0(t_m) + \dots + v_0^{n-1}(t_m)]}{[1 + v_0^n(t_m)][1 + v_1^n(t_m)]} (v_0(t_m) - v_1(t_m)) - [P(v_0) - P(v_1)](t_m) \right|,$$

as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$\|P(v_0) - P(v_1)\| \leq \frac{n \cdot A_M \cdot B_M^{n-1} (1 + A_M^n)^{2n}}{[B_L^n + (1 + A_M^n)^n]^2} \|v_0 - v_1\|.$$

In the same way, we find that for  $v_0(t), v_1(t) \in X_{x_1}$

$$\|Q(v_0) - Q(v_1)\| \leq \frac{n \cdot B_M \cdot A_M^{n-1} (1 + B_M^n)^{2n}}{[A_L^n + (1 + B_M^n)^n]^2} \|v_0 - v_1\|.$$

Let  $R = Q \cdot P : X_{x_2} \rightarrow X_{x_2}$ . The map  $R$  is well defined and we have for it ( $v_0, v_1 \in X_{x_2}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \|R(v_0) - R(v_1)\| &= \|Q \cdot P(v_0) - Q \cdot P(v_1)\| \leq \\ &\leq \frac{n \cdot B_M \cdot A_M^{n-1} (1 + B_M^n)^{2n}}{[A_L^n + (1 + B_M^n)^n]^2} \|P(v_0) - P(v_1)\| \leq \\ &\leq \frac{n^2 \cdot A_M^n \cdot B_M^n (1 + A_M^n)^{2n} \cdot (1 + B_M^n)^{2n}}{[A_L^n + (1 + B_M^n)^n]^2 \cdot [B_L^n + (1 + A_M^n)^n]^2} \|v_0 - v_1\| < \|v_0 - v_1\|. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently  $R$  is a contraction map. Let  $x_{20} \in X_{x_2}$  be a unique fixed point of  $R$ . Then  $(Px_{20}, x_{20})$  is a solution to (1) in  $\mathcal{C}_+ \otimes \mathcal{C}_+$ . If  $(x_1, x_2)$  is another solution to (1) in  $\mathcal{C}_+ \otimes \mathcal{C}_+$ , then  $x_2 \in X_{x_2}$  and  $x_1 \in X_{x_1}$ . But  $P(x_2) = x_1$ ,  $Q(x_1) = x_2$  and  $R(x_2) = x_2$ . From here  $x_2 = x_{20}$  and  $x_1 = x_{10}$ . Therefore (1) has exactly one solution in  $\mathcal{C}_+ \otimes \mathcal{C}_+$ . The rest of the proof follows from theorem 1 since its conditions are hold.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $A, B, A_*, B_* \in \mathcal{C}_+$ ,

$$A(t) - A_*(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0, B(t) - B_*(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n A_M^{n-1}(\infty) B_M(\infty) (1 + A_M^n(\infty)) (1 + B_M^n(\infty))^{2n}}{B_L(\infty) ((1 + B_M^n(\infty))^n + A_L^n(\infty))^2} &< \frac{A_L(\infty)}{A_M^2(\infty) (1 + B_M^n(\infty))}, \\ \frac{n B_M^{n-1}(\infty) A_M(\infty) (1 + B_M^n(\infty)) (1 + A_M^n(\infty))^{2n}}{A_L(\infty) ((1 + A_M^n(\infty))^n + B_L^n(\infty))^2} &< \frac{B_L(\infty)}{B_M^2(\infty) (1 + A_M^n(\infty))}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, if  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$  and  $(x_{1*}(t), x_{2*}(t))$  are positive solutions respectively to (1) and  $(1_*)$ , then  $(x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t), x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} (0, 0)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(x_1(t), x_2(t)), (x_{1*}(t), x_{2*}(t))$  be positive solutions respectively to (1) and  $(1_*)$ , which are defined in  $(T, \infty)(T > 0)$ . For  $t > T$  we define

$$r(t) = \left| \ln \frac{x_{1*}(t)}{x_1(t)} \right| + \left| \ln \frac{x_{2*}(t)}{x_2(t)} \right|.$$

There exists  $X \subset (T, \infty)$  such that  $r(t)$  is differentiable in  $X$  and for  $t \in X$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} r'(t) &= sg \ln \frac{x_{1*}(t)}{x_1(t)} \left( \ln \frac{x_{1*}(t)}{x_1(t)} \right)' + sg \ln \frac{x_{2*}(t)}{x_2(t)} \left( \ln \frac{x_{2*}(t)}{x_2(t)} \right)' = \\ &= sg \ln \frac{x_{1*}(t)}{x_1(t)} \cdot \frac{x_1(t)}{x_{1*}(t)} \frac{x_{1*}'(t)x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t)x_1'(t)}{x_1^2(t)} + \\ &+ sg \ln \frac{x_{2*}(t)}{x_2(t)} \cdot \frac{x_2(t)}{x_{2*}(t)} \frac{x_{2*}'(t)x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)x_2'(t)}{x_2^2(t)} = \\ &= sg(x_{1*}(t) - x_1(t)) \left[ \frac{x_{1*}'(t)}{x_{1*}(t)} - \frac{x_1'(t)}{x_1(t)} \right] + sg(x_{2*}(t) - x_2(t)) \left[ \frac{x_{2*}'(t)}{x_{2*}(t)} - \frac{x_2'(t)}{x_2(t)} \right] = \\ &= sg(x_{1*}(t) - x_1(t)) \left[ \frac{A_*(t)}{x_{1*}(t)[1 + x_{2*}^n(t)]} - 1 - \frac{A(t)}{x_1(t)[1 + x_2^n(t)]} + 1 \right] + \\ &+ sg(x_{2*}(t) - x_2(t)) \left[ \frac{B_*(t)}{x_{2*}(t)[1 + x_{1*}^n(t)]} - 1 - \frac{B(t)}{x_2(t)[1 + x_1^n(t)]} + 1 \right] = \\ &= sg(x_{1*}(t) - x_1(t)) \left[ \frac{A_*(t)}{x_{1*}(t)[1 + x_{2*}^n(t)]} - \frac{A_*(t)}{x_{1*}(t)[1 + x_2^n(t)]} + \frac{A_*(t)}{x_{1*}(t)[1 + x_2^n(t)]} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{A_*(t)}{x_1(t)[1 + x_2^n(t)]} + \frac{A_*(t)}{x_1(t)[1 + x_2^n(t)]} - \frac{A(t)}{x_1(t)[1 + x_2^n(t)]} \right] + \\ &+ sg(x_{2*}(t) - x_2(t)) \left[ \frac{B_*(t)}{x_{2*}(t)[1 + x_{1*}^n(t)]} - \frac{B_*(t)}{x_{2*}(t)[1 + x_1^n(t)]} + \frac{B_*(t)}{x_{2*}(t)[1 + x_1^n(t)]} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{B_*(t)}{x_2(t)[1 + x_1^n(t)]} + \frac{B_*(t)}{x_2(t)[1 + x_1^n(t)]} - \frac{B(t)}{x_2(t)[1 + x_1^n(t)]} \right] = \\ &= sg(x_{1*}(t) - x_1(t)) \left[ \frac{A_*(t)}{x_{1*}(t)} \cdot \frac{x_2^n(t) - x_{2*}^n(t)}{(1 + x_{2*}^n(t))(1 + x_2^n(t))} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{A_*(t)(x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t))}{x_1(t)x_{1*}(t)(1 + x_2^n(t))} + \frac{A_*(t) - A(t)}{x_1(t)(1 + x_2^n(t))} \right] + \\ &+ sg(x_{2*}(t) - x_2(t)) \left[ \frac{B_*(t)}{x_{2*}(t)} \cdot \frac{x_1^n(t) - x_{1*}^n(t)}{(1 + x_{1*}^n(t))(1 + x_1^n(t))} + \right. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left. + \frac{B_*(t)(x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t))}{x_2(t)x_{2*}(t)(1 + x_1^n(t))} + \frac{B_*(t) - B(t)}{x_2(t)(1 + x_1^n(t))} \right] \leq \\
\leq & -\frac{A_L(\infty)}{A_M^2(\infty)(1 + B_M^n(\infty))} |x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t)| - \frac{B_L(\infty)}{B_M^2(\infty)(1 + A_M^n(\infty))} |x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)| + \\
& + \frac{B_M(\infty)}{\frac{B_L(\infty)}{1 + A_M^n(\infty)}} \cdot \frac{n \cdot A_M^{n-1}(\infty)}{\left(1 + \frac{A_L^n(\infty)}{(1 + B_M^n(\infty))^n}\right)^2} |x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t)| + \\
& + \frac{A_M(\infty)}{\frac{A_L(\infty)}{1 + B_M^n(\infty)}} \cdot \frac{n \cdot B_M^{n-1}(\infty)}{\left(1 + \frac{B_L^n(\infty)}{(1 + A_M^n(\infty))^n}\right)^2} |x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)| + \epsilon(t),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\epsilon(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . From the conditions of theorem 4 there exists a positive constant  $\alpha$  for which

$$r'(t) \leq -\alpha(|x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t)| + |x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)|) + \epsilon(t), \quad t \in X.$$

From the mean value theorem there exists a positive constant  $m > 0$  such that

$$|\ln x_1(t) - \ln x_{1*}(t)| \leq m^{-1}|x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t)|, \quad |\ln x_2(t) - \ln x_{2*}(t)| \leq m^{-1}|x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t)|$$

and we get

$$r'(t) \leq -\alpha m r(t) + \epsilon(t), \quad t \in X.$$

Therefore  $r(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$ , from where

$$x_1(t) - x_{1*}(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0, \quad x_2(t) - x_{2*}(t) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

**Remark.** Theorems 1, 2, 3, 4 show that the system (1) is globally stable, i. e. any two positive solutions attract each other as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . We notice that the condition of theorem 3 is stronger than the condition in [3].

## 4. Examples

Systems

$$(7) \quad \begin{cases} x'(t) = \frac{2 + \sin^2 \sqrt{t+1}}{5(1+y^3(t))} - x(t) \\ y'(t) = \frac{2 + \cos^2 \sqrt{t+1}}{5(1+x^3(t))} - y(t), \end{cases}$$

$$(7_*) \quad \begin{cases} x'(t) = \frac{2 + \sin^2 \sqrt{t}}{5(1+y^3(t))} - x(t) \\ y'(t) = \frac{2 + \cos^2 \sqrt{t}}{5(1+x^3(t))} - y(t), \end{cases}$$



satisfy all conditions of theorems 1, 2, 3.

Systems

$$\begin{cases} x_1'(t) = \frac{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{t^2+1}}{1+x_2^2(t)} - x_1(t) \\ x_2'(t) = \frac{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{t^2+1}}{1+x_1^2(t)} - x_2(t) \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} x_1'(t) = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{1+x_2^2(t)} - x_1(t) \\ x_2'(t) = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{1+x_1^2(t)} - x_2(t) \end{cases}$$

satisfy conditions of theorem 4.

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