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On oscillation of a food-limited population model with impulse and delay $*$

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Abstract

In this paper, we consider a food-limited population model with impulsive effect. Several explicit sufficient conditions are established for oscillation and nonoscillation of solutions of the equations. © 2006 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Oscillation; Nonoscillation; Impulsive delay equation

1. Introduction and preliminaries

The theory of impulsive delay differential equation is emerging as an important area of investigation, since it is a lot richer than the corresponding theory of delay differential equations without impulse effects. Moreover, such equations may describe several real world phenomena in physics, biology, engineering, etc. In recent years, oscillation theory of impulsive delay differential equations attracts attention of many mathematicians and numerous papers have been published on this class of equations (see [2,5,9,10] and references therein). For oscillation theory of nonimpulsive delay differential equations, we refer the reader to the references [3,4,6–8].

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L. Berezansky and E. Braverman [1] investigated oscillation of the nonautonomous foodlimited equation with nonconstant delay:

$$
\dot{N}(t) = r(t)N(t)\frac{K - N(h(t))}{K + s(t)N(g(t))}, \quad t \ge 0, \ h(t) \le t, \ g(t) \le t,
$$
\n(1.1)

which is a generalization of the equations in $[2-4,6,8,11]$.

The purpose of this paper is to derive sufficient conditions for oscillation and nonoscillation about K of generalized food-limited equation with impulsive effects

$$
\begin{cases}\n\dot{N}(t) = r(t)N(t)\frac{K - N(h(t))}{K + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)N(g_i(t))},\\ \nN(t_k^+) - N(t_k) = b_k(N(t_k) - K)\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(1.2)

under the following assumptions:

- (A1) $0 \le t_1 < t_2 < \cdots < t_k < \cdots$ are fixed points with $\lim_{k \to \infty} t_k = \infty, k = 1, 2, \ldots;$
- (A2) b_k > -1 , $k = 1, 2, ..., K$ is a positive constant;
- (A3) $r(t)$ and $p_i(t)$ are Lebesgue measurable locally essentially bounded functions, $r(t) \ge 0$ and $p_i(t) \geq 0, i = 1, 2, ..., m;$
- $(A4)$ $h, g_i : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are Lebesgue measurable functions, $h(t) \leq t$, $g_i(t) \leq t$, $\lim_{t\to\infty} h(t) = \infty$, $\lim_{t\to\infty} g_i(t) = \infty$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$.

The results of this are generalizations of those of (1.1) in [1]. We consider the impulsive differential equation

$$
\begin{cases} \dot{y}(t) = -r(t)y(h(t)) \frac{1 + y(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)[1 + y(g_i(t))]}, \\ y(t_k^+) - y(t_k) = b_k y(t_k), \end{cases} \quad t \ge T_0 \ge 0, \quad b_k > -1, \tag{1.3}
$$

and the initial value problem

$$
y(t) = \varphi(t) \ge 0, \quad \varphi(T_0) > 0, \ t \in [T^-, T_0]. \tag{1.4}
$$

Here for any $T_0 \ge 0$, $T^- = \min_{1 \le i \le m} \inf_{t \ge T_0}(g_i(t), h(t)), \varphi : [T^-, T_0] \to \mathbb{R}_+$ is a Lebesgue measurable function.

Definition 1.1. For any $T_0 \ge 0$ and $\varphi(t)$, a function $y: [T^-, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$ is said to be a solution of (1.3) on $[T_0, \infty)$ satisfying the initial value condition (1.4), if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) $y(t)$ satisfies (1.4) ;
- (ii) $y(t)$ is absolutely continuous in each interval (T_0, t_k) , (t_k, t_{k+1}) , $t_k > T_0$, $k \ge k_0$, $y(t_k^+)$, *y*(t_k^-) exist and $y(t_k^-) = y(t_k)$, $k > k_0$;
- (iii) $y(t)$ satisfies the former equation of (1.3) a.e. in $[T_0, \infty) \setminus \{t_k\}$ and satisfies the latter equation for every $t = t_k, k = 1, 2, ...$

For any $t \geqslant 0$, consider the nonlinear delay differential equation

$$
\dot{x}(t) = -r(t) \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right) x(h(t))
$$
\n
$$
\cdot \frac{1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) x(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) [1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)) x(g_i(t))]}.
$$
\n
$$
(1.5)
$$

Definition 1.2. A solution of (1.3) or (1.5) is said to be nonoscillatory if it is either eventually positive or eventually negative. Otherwise, it is called oscillatory. A solution *N (t)* of (1.2) is said to be nonoscillatory about *K* if $N(t) - K$ is either eventually positive or eventually negative. Otherwise, it is called oscillatory about *K*.

It is easy to see that the change of variable $y(t) = \frac{N(t)}{K} - 1$ reduces (1.2) to (1.3). Thus we have the following lemma.

Lemma 1.3. Assume that $(A1)$ – $(A4)$ *hold, then the solution* $N(t)$ *of* (1.2) *oscillates about* K *if and only if the solution y(t) of* (1.3) *oscillates about zero.*

Lemma 1.4. *Assume that* (A1)–(A4) *hold. For any* $T_0 \ge 0$, $y(t)$ *is a solution of* (1.3) *on* [T_0 *,* ∞) *if and only if*

$$
x(t) = \left(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)\right)^{-1} y(t) \tag{1.6}
$$

is a solution of nonimpulsive delay differential equation (1.5)*.*

The proof of Lemma 1.4 is similar to that in [9, Theorem 1] and will be omitted.

Remark 1.5. By Lemmas 1.3 and 1.4 we see that the solution $N(t)$ of (1.2) is oscillatory about *K* if and only if the solution $y(t)$ of (1.3) is oscillatory.

2. Main results

In this paper, consider only such solutions of (1.3) for which the following condition holds:

$$
1 + y(t) > 0 \quad \text{for } t \geqslant T_0,\tag{2.1}
$$

and hence, in view of (1.6),

$$
1 + \left(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)\right) x(t) > 0 \quad \text{for } t \ge T_0. \tag{2.2}
$$

Since $y(t) = \frac{N(t)}{K} - 1$ and (2.1), (2.2), it follows that

$$
N(t) = K\left(1 + \prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)x(t)\right) > 0, \quad t \ge T_0.
$$

Thus for the initial condition $N(t) = \varphi(t): [T^-, T_0] \to \mathbb{R}_+, \varphi(T_0) > 0$, the solution of (1.2) is positive on $[T_0, \infty)$.

We begin with the following lemma.

Lemma 2.1. *Assume that* (A1)–(A4) *hold,*

$$
\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)} dt = \infty
$$
\n(2.3)

and

$$
\prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \quad \text{is bounded and} \quad \liminf_{t \to \infty} \prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k) > 0. \tag{2.4}
$$

If $y(t)$ *is a nonoscillatory solution of* (1.3)*, then* $\lim_{t\to\infty} y(t) = 0$ *.*

Proof. Suppose first $y(t) > 0$ for $t \ge T_1 \ge 0$. From (1.6) and (A2), $x(t) > 0$ for $t \ge T_1$. Then there exists $T_2 \geqslant T_1$ such that

$$
h(t) \ge T_2
$$
, $g_i(t) \ge T_2$, $i = 1, 2, ..., m$, (2.5)

for $t \geqslant T_2$. Denote

$$
u(t) = -\frac{\dot{x}(t)}{x(t)}, \quad t \ge T_2. \tag{2.6}
$$

Then $u(t) \geqslant 0, t \geqslant T_2$,

$$
x(t) = x(T_2) \exp\left\{-\int_{T_2}^t u(s) ds\right\}, \quad t \ge T_2.
$$
 (2.7)

Let $c = x(T_2)$, we have

$$
u(t) = \frac{r(t)}{x(t)} \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right) x(h(t))
$$
\n
$$
\cdot \frac{1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) x(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)) x(g_i(t)))}
$$
\n
$$
\ge \frac{r(t)}{x(t)} \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right) x(t) \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + \prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)c)}
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)} \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right)
$$
\n
$$
\cdot \frac{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + \prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)c)}
$$
\n
$$
\ge \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)}
$$
\n
$$
\cdot \frac{1}{(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) (1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + \prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)c))}.
$$

Then, by (2.3) and (2.4), $\int_{T_2}^{\infty} u(t) dt = \infty$.

Now suppose $-1 < y(t) < 0$. Hence in view of (2.1), $-1 < \prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k)x(t) < 0, t > T_1$. Then there exists $T_2 > T_1$ such that (2.5) holds for $t > T_2$. Suppose $u(t)$ is denoted by (2.6) and $c = x(T_2)$. Then from (1.5) and (2.2) $u(t) \ge 0, -1 < c < 0$, we obtain

$$
u(t) = \frac{r(t)}{x(t)} \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right) x(h(t))
$$
\n
$$
\cdot \frac{1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) x(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)) x(g_i(t)))}
$$
\n
$$
\ge \frac{r(t)}{x(h(t))} \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right) x(h(t)) \frac{1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) c}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)}
$$
\n
$$
= \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right) \left(1 + \left(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \right) c \right) \cdot \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)}.
$$

Then by (2.2)–(2.4), again $\int_{T_2}^{\infty} u(t) dt = \infty$.

Equation (2.7) implies $\lim_{t\to\infty} x(t) = 0$. Use (1.6), then $\lim_{t\to\infty} y(t) = 0$. \Box

Theorem 2.2. *Assume that* (A1)–(A2)*,* (2.3) *and* (2.4) *hold and for some* $\epsilon > 0$ *, all solutions of the linear equation*

$$
\dot{x}(t) + (1 - \epsilon) \prod_{h(t) \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)} x(h(t)) = 0 \tag{2.8}
$$

are oscillatory. Then all solutions of (1.3) *are oscillatory.*

Proof. Suppose $y(t)$ is an eventually positive solution of (1.3). Then $x(t)$ is an eventually positive solution of (1.5). Lemma 2.1 implies that there exists $T_1 \geq 0$ such that

$$
0 < \bigg(\prod_{T_0 \leqslant t_k < t} (1 + b_k)\bigg) x(t) < \epsilon \quad \text{for } t \geqslant T_1.
$$

We suppose (2.5) holds for $t \ge T_2$, we have

$$
\frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t))(1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k))x(t))}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)[1 + (\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k))x(g_i(t))]}
$$
\n
$$
\ge \frac{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)(1 + \epsilon)} \ge \frac{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)}{(1 + \epsilon)(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t))} = \frac{1}{1 + \epsilon} \ge 1 - \epsilon. \tag{2.9}
$$

Equation (1.5) implies

$$
\dot{x}(t) + (1 - \epsilon) \prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)} x(h(t)) \le 0, \quad t \ge T_2. \tag{2.10}
$$

By a known result (see [7, p. 67]), (2.8) has a positive solution, which is a contradiction.

Now we suppose $-\epsilon < (\prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k))x(t) < 0$ for $t \geq T_1$ and (2.3) holds for $t \geq T_2 \geq T_1$. Then for $t \geqslant T_2$, we also get

$$
\frac{(1+\sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t))(1+(\prod_{T_0\leq t_k\n
$$
\geq \frac{(1+\sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t))(1-\epsilon)}{1+\sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)} = 1-\epsilon.
$$
\n(2.11)
$$

So we easily know that (2.8) has a nonoscillatory solution and we again obtain a contradiction which completes the proof. \square

From Theorem 2.2 and [7, Theorem 3.4.1], we have result

Corollary 2.3. *Assume that* (A1)–(A4)*,* (2.3) *and* (2.4) *hold and if*

$$
\liminf_{t \to \infty} \int_{h(t)}^{t} \prod_{h(s) \leq t_k < s} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \frac{r(s)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(s)} \, ds > \frac{1}{e},\tag{2.12}
$$

then all solutions of (1.3) *are oscillatory.*

Theorem 2.4. *Assume that* (A1)–(A4) *hold and*

$$
\prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \quad \text{is convergent.} \tag{2.13}
$$

Moreover, for some $\epsilon > 0$ *there exists a nonoscillatory solution of the linear delay differential equation*

$$
\dot{x}(t) + (1 + \epsilon) \prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)} x(h(t)) = 0,\tag{2.14}
$$

then there exists a nonoscillatory solution of (1.3)*.*

Proof. Suppose that $x(t) > 0$ for $t > T_0$ is a solution of (2.14). Then by (1.5) and [7, Corollary 3.1.2], there exist *T*⁰ ≥ 0 and $w_0(t)$ ≥ 0, t ≥ *T*₀; $w_0(t) = 0$, T_0^- ≤ t ≤ *T*₀ such that

$$
w_0(t) \geq (1+\epsilon) \frac{r(t)}{1+\sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)} \left(\prod_{h(t)\leq t_k < t} (1+b_k)^{-1} \right) \exp\left\{ \int_{h(t)}^t w_0(s) \, ds \right\}.
$$
 (2.15)

Since $\prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k)$ is convergent constant, there exists a positive constant *c* such that $0 < c(\prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t}(1 + b_k)) < \epsilon$, and consider two sequences:

$$
w_n(t) = r(t) \Biggl(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \Biggr) \exp \Biggl\{ \int_{h(t)}^t w_{n-1}(s) \, ds \Biggr\} \n\cdot \frac{1 + c \biggl(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \biggr) \exp \biggl\{ - \int_{T_0}^t v_{n-1}(s) \, ds \biggr\} \n\cdot \frac{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + c \biggl(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k) \biggr) \exp \biggl\{ - \int_{T_0}^{g_i(t)} w_{n-1}(s) \, ds \biggr\} }{1 + 2 \cdot \dots ;} \n v_n(t) = r(t) \Biggl(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \Biggr) \exp \Biggl\{ \int_{h(t)}^t v_{n-1}(s) \, ds \Biggr\} \n\cdot \frac{1 + c \biggl(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \biggr) \exp \biggl\{ - \int_{T_0}^t w_{n-1}(s) \, ds \biggr\} }{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + c \biggl(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k) \biggr) \exp \biggl\{ - \int_{T_0}^{g_i(t)} v_{n-1}(s) \, ds \biggr\} }, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, \tag{2.16}
$$

where w_0 was defined above and $v_0 \equiv 0$. We have

$$
w_1(t) = \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)} \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right) \exp\left\{ \int_{h(t)}^t w_0(s) ds \right\}
$$

$$
\frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)) (1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)))}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t) (1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)) \exp\{-\int_{T_0}^{g_i(t)} w_0(s) ds\})}
$$

$$
\le \frac{r(t)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)} \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \right)
$$

$$
\cdot \exp\left\{ \int_{h(t)}^t w_0(s) ds \right\} \frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)) (1 + \epsilon)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)}
$$

$$
\le w_0(t).
$$
 (2.17)

It is evident that $v_1(t) \ge v_0(t)$, $w_0(t) \ge v_0(t)$.

Hence by induction,

$$
0 \leq w_n(t) \leq w_{n-1}(t) \leq \dots \leq w_0(t),
$$

$$
v_n(t) \geq v_{n-1}(t) \geq \dots \geq v_0(t) = 0, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots,
$$
 (2.18)

and $w_n(t) \geq v_n(t)$.

There exist pointwise limits of nonincreasing nonnegative sequence $w_n(t)$ and of nondecreasing sequence $v_n(t)$. If we denote $w(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} w_n(t)$, $v(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} v_n(t)$, then by the Lebesgue Convergence Theorem, we conclude that

$$
w(t) = r(t) \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \right) \exp \left\{ \int_{h(t)}^t w(s) ds \right\}
$$

$$
\cdot \frac{1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) \exp \{- \int_{T_0}^t v(s) ds\}}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)) \exp \{- \int_{T_0}^{g_i(t)} w(s) ds\})},
$$

$$
v(t) = r(t) \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \right) \exp \left\{ \int_{h(t)}^t v(s) ds \right\}
$$

$$
\cdot \frac{1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) \exp \{- \int_{T_0}^t w(s) ds\}}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)) \exp \{- \int_{T_0}^{g_i(t)} v(s) ds\})},
$$
(2.19)

we fix $b \ge T_0$ and define operator $T: L_\infty[T_0, b] \to L_\infty[T_0, b]$ by the following equality:

$$
(Tu)(t) = r(t) \left(\prod_{h(t) \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k) \right) \exp \left\{ \int_{h(t)}^t u(s) \, ds \right\} \cdot \frac{1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < t} (1 + b_k)) \exp\{-\int_{T_0}^t u(s) \, ds\}}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t) (1 + c(\prod_{T_0 \le t_k < g_i(t)} (1 + b_k)) \exp\{-\int_{T_0}^{g_i(t)} u(s) \, ds\})}, \tag{2.20}
$$

where $L_\infty[T_0, b]$ is the space of all essentially bonded on $[T_0, b]$ functions with the usual norm.

For every function *u* from the interval $v \leq u \leq w$, we have $v \leq Tu \leq w$. The result of [2, Lemma 3] implies that operator *T* is a compact operator on the space $L_\infty[T_0, b]$. Then by Schauder's fixed-point theorem there exists a nonnegative solution of equation $u = Tu$.

Denote

$$
x(t) = \begin{cases} c \exp\{-\int_{T_0}^t u(s) \, ds\}, & t \ge T_0, \\ c, & T^- \le t < T_0. \end{cases}
$$
\n(2.21)

Then $x(t)$ is a nonoscillatory solution of (1.5). Thus by Lemma 1.1,

$$
y(t) = \bigg(\prod_{T_0 \leq t_k < t} (1 + b_k)^{-1}\bigg) x(t)
$$

is a nonoscillatory solution of (1.3) which completes the proof of Theorem 2.4. \Box

By Theorem 2.4 and [8, Theorem 3.3.1] we have the following result.

Corollary 2.5. *Assume that* $(A1)$ – $(A4)$ *and* (2.13) *hold and if there exists a constant* $\varepsilon > 0$ *such that*

$$
(1+\varepsilon)\int_{h(t)}^{t} \prod_{h(s)\leq t_k\n(2.22)
$$

then (1.3) *has a nonoscillatory solution.*

Now we consider the impulsive delay logistic equation (1.2). From Lemma 1.3 and Corollaries 2.3 and 2.5, we have the following results.

Corollary 2.6. *Assume that* (A1)–(A4)*,* (2.3)*,* (2.4) *and* (2.12) *hold, then all solutions of* (1.2) *are oscillatory about K.*

Corollary 2.7. *Assume that* (A1)–(A4)*,* (2.13) *and* (2.22) *hold, then* (1.2) *has a nonoscillatory solution about K.*

Remark 2.8. Similarly, we can study oscillation and nonoscillation about *K* for the following models:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\dot{N}(t) = r(t)N(t) \frac{K - N(h(t))|N(h(t))|^{l-1}}{K + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)N(g_i(t))|N(g_i(t))|^{l-1}}, \\
N(t_k^+) - N(t_k) = b_k(N(t_k) - K), \\
\dot{N}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} r_j(t)N(t) \frac{K - N(h_j(t))}{K + \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_{ij}(t)N(g_{ij}(t))}, \\
N(t_k^+) - N(t_k) = b_k(N(t_k) - K),\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(2.24)

and some relevant models.

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