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*Research article*

## Dynamics of a nonlinear state-dependent feedback control ecological model with fear effect

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**Abstract:** Integrated pest management is a pest control strategy that combines biological and chemical methods to reduce environmental pollution and protect biodiversity. Recent research indicated that the fear caused by predators had a significant effect on the growth, development, and reproductive processes of prey. Therefore, we have proposed a pest-natural enemy system, which is a nonlinear state-dependent feedback control model that incorporated the fear effect in the predator-prey relationship. We discussed impulsive sets and phase sets of the model and derived an expression for the Poincaré map. Furthermore, we analyzed the existence and stability of order-1 periodic solutions and explored the existence of order- $k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) periodic solutions. Finally, numerical simulations were conducted to validate our theoretical results and reveal their biological implications.

**Keywords:** integrated pest management; Poincaré map; periodic solution; existence and stability; fear effect

**Mathematics Subject Classification:** 34D23, 37N25, 93C27

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### 1. Introduction

The relationship between predation and prey is one of the focal points in ecological research. As is well known, Lotka and Volterra independently proposed the famous Lotka-Volterra model, which has played an important role in describing the relationship between predators and prey [1]. However, as the model was applied in practice, scientists discovered that it also had some shortcomings, which are mainly reflected in the assumption that the number of prey eaten by a predator per unit time is linearly related, and this assumption is not reasonable when the number of prey is large. To address these issues, many scholars have improved the Lotka-Volterra model and introduced various functional response functions that more accurately simulate predation phenomena and made the model closer to

reality [2–5]. In addition to the relationships of predation and prey, intraspecific competition is also an important factor affecting the change of biological populations, so many researchers have taken into account intraspecific competition while analyzing the interactions between species [6–8].

Predators play a crucial role in ecosystems, shaping communities through a chain reaction of “who eats whom”. However, recent research has revealed that the fear of being “eaten” can impact individual behaviors and even entire ecosystems, not just the act of being consumed. Zanette et al. conducted simulations on song sparrows and observed that predator-induced fear led to a significant reduction (up to 40%) in the number of offspring produced by these sparrows [9]. Similar evidence exists for other bird species [10–14], elk [15], snowshoe hare [16], and dugongs [17], demonstrating the impact of fear on population size. Insects can also be influenced by natural enemies. For instance, researchers demonstrated that the presence of a natural enemy causes two species of dragonflies, *Enallagma cyathigerum* and *Ischnura rufostigma*, to reduce their food intake, resulting in slower growth rates [18]. When aphids detect the presence of their natural enemy *Hippodamia convergens*, they produce more winged aphids as a defense mechanism against predation by *Hippodamia convergens* [19]. Furthermore, it was discovered that even after the departure of *Hippodamia convergens*, aphids continue to sense its scent and consequently increase the production of winged aphid offspring [20]. As a result, numerous scholars have conducted research on prey-predator relationships incorporating fear effects and have obtained rich biological conclusion [21–23].

In 2016, Wang, Zanette, and Zou proposed a predator–prey model incorporating the cost of fear into prey reproduction [24], and the model is as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{r_0 x}{1 + ky} - dx - ax^2 - \frac{pxy}{1 + qx}, \\ \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{cpxy}{1 + qx} - my. \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  denote the population densities of prey and predators, and  $r_0$  is the intrinsic growth rate of the prey. In addition,  $d$  is the natural mortality rate of the prey and  $a$  denotes the mortality rate due to intraspecific competition of the prey, and  $k$  denotes the level of fear (the level of fear reflected in the prey’s fear of the predator and, hence, anti-predator behavior).  $\frac{px}{1+qx}$  is the Holling type II functional response function,  $c$  is the efficiency of biological energy conversion, and  $m$  represents the mortality rate of predators. The dynamical behaviour of the system (1.1) has been studied detailedly in literature [24].

Integrated pest management (IPM) was first proposed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1996. IPM is a comprehensive approach to pest management that utilizes appropriate techniques and methods based on the population dynamics of pests and their environmental relationships, aiming to maintain pest populations below the economic threshold. IPM includes chemical control (spraying pesticide), biological control (the utilization of biometabolites, parasites), agricultural control (crop rotation, adjustment of planting periods), physical control measures, and more. In recent years, agricultural monitoring and early warning, model prediction, optimal control, and complex network technologies have played an important role in protecting the ecological environment and promoting agricultural development [25–29]. IPM uses information technology to achieve more intelligent agricultural production management. Some scholars have developed biological mathematical models based on the biological background and mathematical principles of

IPM [30–33]. In these IPM models, differential systems with state-dependent impulses exhibits both continuous and discrete characteristics. Therefore, it is very suitable for portraying the interaction between pests and natural enemies, pesticide spraying, releasing of natural enemies, and so on. Literature [34–36] shows that the state-dependent feedback control model can effectively analyze the dynamic behavior of pests and natural enemies under the interference of the external environment and provide a theoretical basis for establishing a more optimized control strategy.

In the context of the above knowledge, we take the integrated control tactics into account for model (1.1). Then, model (1.1) becomes:

$$\left. \begin{cases} \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \frac{r_0x}{1+ky} - dx - ax^2 - \frac{pxy}{1+qx}, \\ \frac{dy(t)}{dt} = \frac{cpxy}{1+qx} - my, \end{cases} \right\} x(t) < E_T, \quad (1.2)$$

$$\left. \begin{cases} x(t^+) = \left[ 1 - \frac{\delta x(t)}{x(t) + \beta} \right] x(t), \\ y(t^+) = y(t) + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y(t)}, \end{cases} \right\} x(t) = E_T.$$

If the density of the pest population is below the economic threshold  $E_T$ , the pest-predator system is not affected by external chemical and biological control, and the first two equations of (1.2) reflect the rate of change of the pest and predator in their interactions within this stage. Once the density of the pest population reaches  $E_T$ , we take chemical and biological approaches, i.e., spraying insecticides and releasing natural enemies at the same time. The third equation of system (1.2) indicates that the density of pests is impulsively reduced to  $(1 - \frac{\delta x(t)}{x(t) + \beta})x(t)$  by poisoning with chemicals, and the fourth equation of system (1.2) means that the density of natural enemies is impulsively increased to  $y(t) + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y(t)}$  by artificial breeding and releases. Here,  $\delta > 0$  is defined as the maximum kill rate of the pests with the use of insecticides,  $\beta > 0$  is the half-saturation constant, and  $\theta > 0$  denotes the parameter for regulating the density of the natural enemy.  $\tau > 0$  is the number of natural enemies to be released. Obviously,  $\tau$  is the maximum number of natural enemies released. The third and fourth equations of system (1.2) reflect the density dependence of the implementation of the control strategy. Some previous models mainly focus on the linear impulses, in which the number of natural enemies released is a constant in the models no matter how large the natural enemies and pests remain in the field. However, in this work, we introduced the nonlinear state-dependent feedback control strategy, which shows that the instant killing rate of insecticide and the number of natural enemies released depend on their density, and this is the characteristic of system (1.2). Combined with the “fear effect” of biological populations, next we will study the global dynamical behavior of the model (1.2) and to reveal how the main parameters of the model (1.2) affect the dynamics of the system.

To do this, we first summarize the key properties of the corresponding ordinary differential equation (ODE) system (1.1) in the case of no external interference, and then construct the impulsive sets and phase sets in relation to impulsive differential equations (1.2) by using the basic theory of the impulsive semi-dynamic system. The existence and stability of order-1 periodic solutions for  $\tau = 0$  and  $\tau > 0$  have been addressed and the existence of order- $k$  ( $k > 1$ ) periodic solutions are discussed. Furthermore, numerical simulations are conducted to validate our theoretical findings, and biological significance are discussed. All the results can help us to further understand and give insight into the dynamic complexity

of the predator-prey biological system with nonlinear impulsive control.

## 2. Analytical formula and properties for the Poincaré map

The main conclusions of literature [24] for the equilibrium point of system (1.1) are summarized as follows:

**Lemma 2.1.** (i) The trivial equilibrium  $E_0 = (0, 0)$  is unstable and the boundary equilibrium  $E_1 = (\frac{r_0-d}{a}, 0)$  is locally asymptotically stable if  $r_0 > d$  and  $(r_0 - d)(cp - mq) < am$ ;  
(ii) The trivial equilibrium  $E_0 = (0, 0)$  is unstable and the boundary equilibrium  $E_1$  is globally asymptotically stable if the inequality  $r_0 > d$  and  $cp \leq mq$  are satisfied.

If  $(cpr_0 - cpd - am)(cp - mq) > aqm^2$ , then the positive equilibrium point  $E_2 = (x_2, y_2)$  exists for system (1.1), in which

$$x_2 = \frac{m}{cp - mq}, \quad y_2 = \frac{-(p + dk + dkqx_2 + akx_2 + akqx_2^2) + \sqrt{\Delta_2}}{2pk},$$

where

$$\Delta_2 = (p + dk + dkqx_2 + akx_2 + akqx_2^2)^2 + 4pk(r_0 + r_0qx_2 - d - dqx_2 - ak - aqx_2^2).$$

**Lemma 2.2.** The positive equilibrium  $E_2$  is locally asymptotically stable if

$$\frac{am}{cp - mq} < r_0 - d \leq \frac{a(cp + mq)}{q(cp - mq)} \quad (2.1)$$

or

$$\begin{cases} r_0 - d > \frac{a(cp + mq)}{q(cp - mq)}, \\ k > \frac{q(cp - mq)^2[(r_0 - d)q(cp - mq) - a(cp + mq)]}{c^2pa[qd(cp - mq) + a(cp + mq)]}. \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

is satisfied.

**Lemma 2.3.** The positive equilibrium  $E_2$  is globally asymptotically stable if

$$\frac{am}{cp - mq} < r_0 - d \leq \frac{a(cp + mq)}{q(cp - mq)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{r_0q}{cp - mq} \geq 1. \quad (2.3)$$

We summarize the equilibrium points of system (1.1) and their stability in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Stability of the equilibrium points.

Points	$r_0 > d, cp \leq mq$	$cp > mq, 0 < r_0 - d < \frac{am}{cp - mq}$	$cp > mq, \frac{am}{cp - mq} < r_0 - d \leq \frac{a(cp + mq)}{q(cp - mq)}$
$E_0 = (0, 0)$	unstable	unstable	unstable
$E_1 = (\frac{r_0-d}{a}, 0)$	stable	stable	unstable
$E_2 = (x_2, y_2)$	does not exist	does not exist	stable

## 2.1. Impulsive set

In order to derive the analytical form of the Poincaré map and investigate the dynamics of model (1.2), we first focus on the precise domains of the impulsive set and phase set of model (1.2).

As shown in Figure 1, we define two straight lines related to economic thresholds:  $L_1 : x = E_T$ ,  $L_2 : x = (1 - H)E_T$ , where  $H = \frac{\delta E_T}{E_T + \beta}$ . The two isoclines of system (1.2) are denoted by  $L_3$  and  $L_4$ , in which

$$L_3 : y = \frac{-(p + dk + dkqx + akx + akqx^2) + \sqrt{\Delta}}{2pk} \quad L_4 : x = \frac{m}{cp - mq}$$

where

$$\Delta = (p + dk + dkqx + akx + akqx^2)^2 + 4pk(r_0 + r_oqx - d - dqx - ak - aqx^2)$$

Next, we will discuss the impulsive set and phase set of system (1.2) if the positive equilibrium point  $E_2 = (x_2, y_2)$  is globally asymptotically stable for system (1.1).

Denote the point  $E_3 = (x_{E_3}, y_{E_3})$  as the intersection point of the trajectory  $\tau_1$  with the line  $L_3$ . If line  $L_2$  intersects  $\tau_1$ , the intersections of  $\tau_1$  with  $L_2$  are  $B_1 = (x_{B_1}, y_{B_1})$  and  $B_2 = (x_{B_2}, y_{B_2})$ , and  $\tau_1$  is tangent to the line  $L_1$  at point  $T = (x_T, y_T)$ . If the trajectory  $\tau_2$  is tangent to the line  $L_2$ , then denote the tangent point as  $C_0 = (x_{C_0}, y_{C_0})$  and point  $C_1 = (x_{C_1}, y_{C_1})$  as the intersection of the trajectory  $\tau_2$  with the line  $L_1$ , as shown in Figure 1(A).

It is easy to see that in Figure 1(A), if  $E_T > x_2$ , the line  $L_1$  is to the right of the point  $E_2$ . In Figure 1(B), if  $E_T < x_2$ , the line  $L_1$  is to the left of the point  $E_2$ . In order to facilitate the discussion of the impulsive set and phase set of system (1.2) in different cases, we divide the relationship between  $E_T$  and  $x_2$  into the following two cases:

$$A_1 : E_T > x_2, \quad A_2 : E_T \leq x_2,$$

and consider the relationship between  $(1 - H)E_T$  and  $x_{E_3}$  into the following two cases:

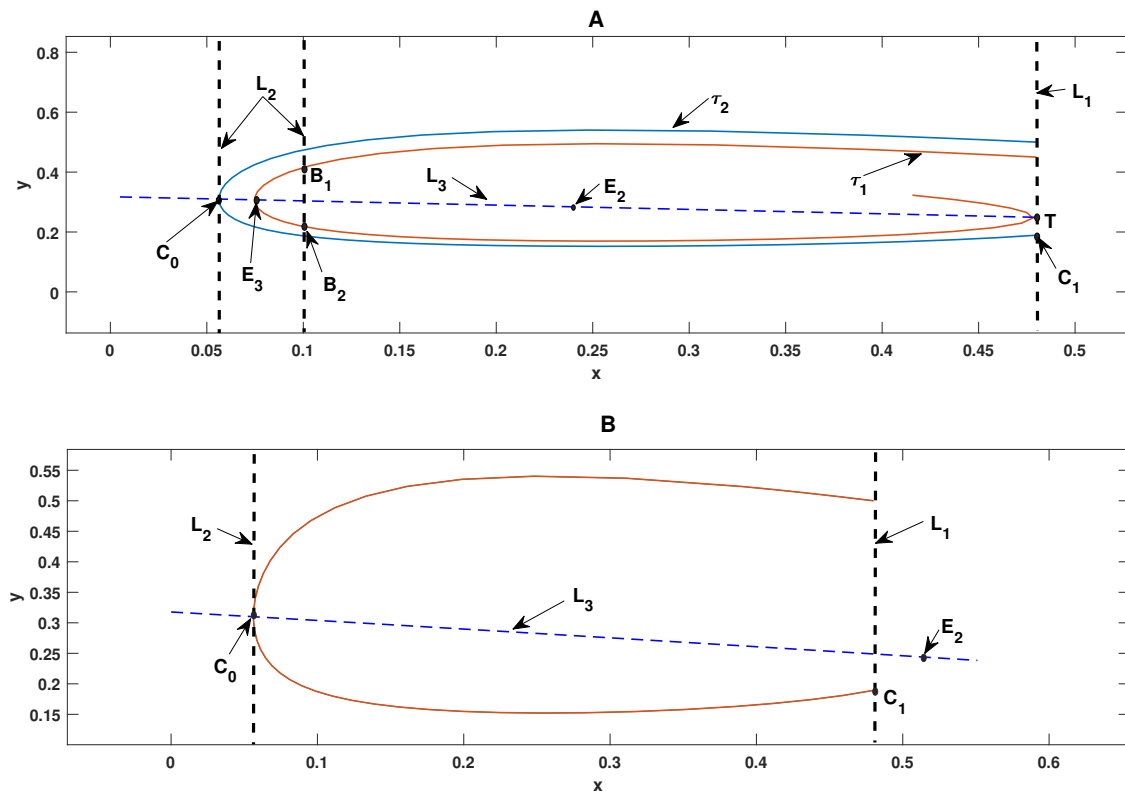
$$(1) : (1 - H)E_T \geq x_{E_3}, \quad (2) : (1 - H)E_T < x_{E_3}.$$

For system (1.2), define two impulsive sets as follows:

$$\mathcal{I} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x = E_T, 0 \leq y \leq y_T\}. \quad (2.4)$$

and

$$\mathcal{I}_0 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x = E_T, 0 \leq y \leq y_{C_1}\}. \quad (2.5)$$



**Figure 1.** The definitions of impulsive sets and phase sets are related to the positional relationship between two straight lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  for case  $A_1$  and case  $A_2$ .

As shown in Figure 1(A), if  $(1 - H)E_T > x_{E_3}$ ,  $\tau_1$  is tangent to  $L_1$  at point  $T$ , arbitrary trajectory starting from point  $G = ((1 - H)E_T, y_G)$ ,  $y_G \in (y_{B_2}, y_{B_1})$  will not eventually reach the line  $L_1$ , then we have the following results:

**Lemma 2.4.** For case  $A_1(1)$ , any solution starting from the point  $(x_0^+, y_0^+) \in L_2$  with  $y_0^+ \in (y_{B_2}, y_{B_1})$  does not experience pulse effects.

Based on the above definition, we define the impulsive sets in different cases.

**Lemma 2.5.** For case  $A_1(1)$ , the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}$ , and the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}_0$  for case  $A_1(2)$ . For case  $A_2$ , the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}_0$ .

*Proof.* According to Lemma 2.4, for case  $A_1(1)$ , any solution of system (1.2) initiating from the set  $\{(x, y) \mid x = (1 - H)E_T, y \in (y_{B_2}, y_{B_1})\}$  will not reach the line  $L_1$  and will be free from the pulse effect, which also implies that the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}$ . For case  $A_1(2)$ , it is easy to see that any solution of system (1.2) starting from the line  $L_2$  can only be below point  $T$  upon reaching line  $L_1$ , which indicates that the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}_0$ . Applying the same method of analysis to case  $A_2$  also yields that the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}_0$  (as shown in Figure 1(B)). This completes the proof.  $\square$

## 2.2. Phase set

According to the proof of Lemma 2.4, define the following set for case  $A_1(1)$ :

$$D_0 = [0, y_{B_2}] \cup [y_{B_1}, +\infty). \quad (2.6)$$

Moreover, the study of the properties of impulsive function  $y(t^+) = y(t) + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y(t)}$  is the key to determining the phase set, so the impulsive function can be described as

$$f(z) = z + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta z}, \quad z \in [0, y_T]. \quad (2.7)$$

Taking the derivative of function  $f(z)$ :  $f'(z) = 1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1 + \theta z)^2}$  and  $f'(z) = 0$  at  $z = \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta}$ . By the way, we denote the useful point:  $V = (x_V, y_V) = (E_T, \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta})$ , and the point  $V$  is located in the impulsive set. It will map to impulsive point  $V^+ = (x_{V^+}, y_{V^+}) = ((1 - H)E_T, \frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta})$  after one impulsive effect.

Then, we will discuss the monotonicity of the function  $f(z)$  and consider the exact phase set of the different cases.

For case  $A_1(1)$ , we have known that the impulsive set in this case is  $\mathcal{I} = \{(x, y) \in R_+^2 \mid x = E_T, 0 \leq y \leq y_T\}$ , then according to the monotonicity of  $f(z)$ , the phase set will be discussed under different conditions:

(I)  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} \leq 0$ . We can get that  $f'(z) \geq 0$  for all  $z \in [0, y_T]$ , which implies that the function  $f(z)$  is monotonically increasing. We denote

$$D_1^0 = [\tau, y_T + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y_T}], \quad D_1 = D_0 \cap D_1^0.$$

Then, the phase set under the condition  $A_1(1)$  (I) is

$$\mathcal{X}_1 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in R_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1 - H)E_T, y^+ \in D_1\}$$

(II)  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} \geq y_T$ . Derivative function  $f'(z) \leq 0$  for  $z \in [0, y_T]$ , thus  $f(z)$  is monotonically decreasing and  $y_T + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y_T} \leq f(z) \leq \tau$ . We denote

$$D_2^0 = [y_T + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y_T}, \tau], \quad D_2 = D_0 \cap D_2^0.$$

Then, the phase set under the condition  $A_1(1)$  (II) is

$$\mathcal{X}_2 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in R_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1 - H)E_T, y^+ \in D_2\}$$

(III)  $0 < \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} \leq y_T$ . If  $0 < z \leq \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta}$ , then  $f'(z) \leq 0$  and the function  $f(z)$  is monotonically decreasing. Thus,  $\frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} \leq f(z) < \tau$  and we denote

$$D_3^0 = [\frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta}, \tau), \quad D_3 = D_0 \cap D_3^0.$$

If  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta} < z \leq y_T$ ,  $f'(z) > 0$ , and the function  $f(z)$  is monotonically increasing. Thus,  $\frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta} < f(z) \leq y_T + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y_T}$  and we denote

$$D_4^0 = \left( \frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta}, y_T + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y_T} \right], \quad D_4 = D_0 \cap D_4^0.$$

Now, under the conditions of case  $A_1(1)$  (III), the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_2$ , where

$$\mathcal{I}_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x = E_T, 0 < y \leq \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{I}_2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x = E_T, \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta} < y \leq y_T\}.$$

The corresponding phase set of impulsive set  $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_2$  is  $\mathcal{X}_3 \cup \mathcal{X}_4$ , where

$$\mathcal{X}_3 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1-H)E_T, y^+ \in D_3\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{X}_4 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1-H)E_T, y^+ \in D_4\}.$$

For case  $A_1(2)$ , it can be seen that the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}_0$ , then based on the monotonicity of the function  $f(z)$ , the phase set will be discussed as follows:

(I)  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta} \leq 0$ . We know that  $f'(z) \geq 0$  for all  $z \in [0, y_{C_1}]$ , which implies that the function  $f(z)$  is monotonically increasing, i.e.,  $\tau \leq f(z) \leq y_{C_1} + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y_{C_1}}$ , so the phase set can be defined as:

$$\mathcal{X}_5 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1-H)E_T, y^+ \in D_5\}$$

where

$$D_5 = \left[ \tau, y_{C_1} + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y_{C_1}} \right].$$

(II)  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta} \geq y_{C_1}$ . We know that  $f'(z) \leq 0$  for  $z \in [0, y_{C_1}]$ , thus the function  $f(z)$  is monotonically decreasing and  $y_{C_1} + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y_{C_1}} \leq f(z) \leq \tau$ . The phase set is defined as

$$\mathcal{X}_6 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1-H)E_T, y^+ \in D_6\}$$

where

$$D_6 = \left[ y_{C_1} + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y_{C_1}}, \tau \right].$$

(III)  $0 < \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta} \leq y_{C_1}$ . If  $0 < z \leq \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta}$ , then  $f'(z) \leq 0$  and the function  $f(z)$  is monotonically decreasing. We denote:

$$D_7 = \left[ \frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta}, \tau \right).$$

If  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta} < z \leq y_{C_1}$ , then  $f'(z) > 0$  and the function  $f(z)$  is monotonically increasing, then

$$D_8 = \left( \frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta}, y_{C_1} + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y_{C_1}} \right].$$



Under the condition  $A_1(2)$  (III), the impulsive set is  $\mathcal{I}_0 = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_3$ , where

$$\mathcal{I}_3 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x = E_T, \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} < y \leq y_{C_1}\}.$$

The corresponding phase set of impulsive set  $\mathcal{I}_0 = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_3$  is  $\mathcal{X}_7 \cup \mathcal{X}_8$ , where

$$\mathcal{X}_7 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1 - H)E_T, y^+ \in D_7\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{X}_8 = \{(x^+, y^+) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x^+ = (1 - H)E_T, y^+ \in D_8\}.$$

For case  $A_2$ , the phase sets can be analyzed in a similar way as described in case  $A_1(2)$ , then we have:

(I)  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} \leq 0$ . The phase set is  $\mathcal{X}_5$ .

(II)  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} \geq y_{C_1}$ . The phase set is  $\mathcal{X}_6$ .

(III)  $0 < \frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta} - 1}{\theta} \leq y_{C_1}$ . The phase set is  $\mathcal{X}_7 \cup \mathcal{X}_8$ .

For the sake of convenience, and to explore the complexity of the system (1.2) under varying parameters more clearly such as  $E_T$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $\delta$ , etc., we summarized the impulsive sets and phase sets for different cases as follows in Table 2:

**Table 2.** Impulsive sets and phase sets in different cases.

Cases		Impulsive set	Phase set
$A_1(1)$	(I)	$\mathcal{I}$	$\mathcal{X}_1$
	(II)	$\mathcal{I}$	$\mathcal{X}_2$
	(III)	$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_2$	$\mathcal{X}_3 \cup \mathcal{X}_4$
$A_1(2)$	(I)	$\mathcal{I}_0$	$\mathcal{X}_5$
	(II)	$\mathcal{I}_0$	$\mathcal{X}_6$
	(III)	$\mathcal{I}_0 = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_3$	$\mathcal{X}_7 \cup \mathcal{X}_8$
$A_2$	(I)	$\mathcal{I}_0$	$\mathcal{X}_5$
	(II)	$\mathcal{I}_0$	$\mathcal{X}_6$
	(III)	$\mathcal{I}_0 = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_3$	$\mathcal{X}_7 \cup \mathcal{X}_8$

### 2.3. Poincaré map

Consider the Poincaré map in case  $A_1(2)$ . First, the defining two sections are as follows:

$$S_{E_T} = \{(x, y) \mid x = E_T, y \geq 0\}, \quad S_{\delta E_T} = \{(x, y) \mid x = (1 - H)E_T, y \geq 0\}.$$

Point  $Q_k^+ = ((1 - H)E_T, y_{Q_k^+})$  is located on the line  $L_2$ , and the trajectory of system (1.2) passing through  $Q_k^+$  will reach  $S_{E_T}$ , i.e., the trajectory initiating from  $Q_k^+$  will arrive at line  $L_1$ , and the intersection of the trajectory with line  $L_1$  is  $Q_{k+1} = (E_T, y_{Q_{k+1}}) \in S_{E_T}$ . After one time impulsive effect,  $Q_{k+1}$  will map to  $Q_{k+1}^+ = ((1 - H)E_T, y_{Q_{k+1}}^+)$  with  $y_{Q_{k+1}}^+ = y_{Q_{k+1}} + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y_{Q_{k+1}}}$  on  $S_{\delta E_T}$ . Thus, we can define  $P(y_{Q_k}^+) = y_{Q_{k+1}}$  and the Poincaré map  $P_M$  as

$$y_{Q_{k+1}}^+ = y_{Q_{k+1}} + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta y_{Q_{k+1}}} = P(y_{Q_k}^+) + \frac{\tau}{1 + \theta P(y_{Q_k}^+)} = P_M(y_{Q_k}^+). \quad (2.8)$$

Further, noting that

$$P(x, y) = \frac{r_0x}{1+ky} - dx - ax^2 - \frac{pxy}{1+qx}, \quad Q(x, y) = \frac{cpy}{1+qx} - my,$$

then

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{Q(x, y)}{P(x, y)} = \frac{\frac{cpy}{1+qx} - my}{\frac{r_0x}{1+ky} - dx - ax^2 - \frac{pxy}{1+qx}} = g(x, y), \\ y((1-H)E_T) = y_0^+, \end{cases} \quad (2.9)$$

For model (2.9), we only focus on the region

$$\Omega = \{(x, y) \mid x > 0, y > 0, y < \frac{-(p+dk+dkqx+akx+akqx^2) + \sqrt{\Delta}}{2pk}\}. \quad (2.10)$$

where

$$\Delta = (p+dk+dkqx+akx+akqx^2)^2 + 4pk(r_0+r_0qx-d-dqx-ak-akqx^2).$$

Noting the point  $C_0 = ((1-H)E_T, y_{C_0}) \in S_{\delta E_T}$  with

$$y_{C_0} = \frac{-(p+dk+dkq(1-H)E_T+ak(1-H)E_T+akq(1-H)^2E_T^2) + \sqrt{\Delta_1}}{2pk}$$

where

$$\Delta_1 = (p+dk+dkqx_t+akx_t+akqx_t^2)^2 + 4pk(r_0+r_0qx_t-d-dqx_t-ak-akqx_t^2), \quad x_t = (1-H)E_T.$$

The initial value of model (2.9) is  $x_0^+ = (1-H)E_T$ ,  $y_0^+ = S$  with  $S < y_{C_0}$  (i.e.,  $(x_0^+, y_0^+) \in \Omega$ ), then we have

$$y(x, S) = S + \int_{(1-H)E_T}^x g(s, y(s, S)) ds. \quad (2.11)$$

Thus, the Poincaré map  $P_M$  in the region  $\Omega$  is

$$P_M(S) = y(E_T, S) + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y(E_T, S)}. \quad (2.12)$$

### 3. Existence and stability of the boundary order-1 periodic solution for $\tau = 0$

If  $\tau = 0$ , then we consider the following subsystem:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = r_0x - dx - ax^2, x < E_T, \\ x(t^+) = \left(1 - \frac{\delta x(t)}{x(t) + \beta}\right) x(t), x = E_T. \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

The initial condition for system (3.1) is  $x(0^+) = (1-H)E_T$ , and solving the first equation of the system (3.1):

$$x^T(t) = \frac{F e^{(r_0-d)t}(r_0-d)}{a(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})} \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$F = \frac{a(1-H)E_T}{r_0 - d - a(1-H)E_T}$$

If the trajectory  $x^T(t)$  reaches  $L_1$ , letting  $E_T = \frac{Fe^{(r_0-d)T}(r_0-d)}{a(1+Fe^{(r_0-d)T})}$ , we have

$$T = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{aE_T}{F(r_0-d-aE_T)}\right)}{r_0 - d}.$$

Therefore, there exists a boundary order-1 periodic solution  $(x^T(t), 0) = \left(\frac{Fe^{(r_0-d)t}(r_0-d)}{a(1+Fe^{(r_0-d)t})}, 0\right)$  for system (1.2), and we have the following conclusions about the stability of  $(x^T(t), 0)$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *The boundary order-1 periodic solution  $(x^T(t), 0)$  is orbitally asymptotically stable if and only if,*

$$0 < \delta < \frac{(E_T + \beta)(r_0 - d - aE_T)}{aE_T^2 \exp(A')} - \frac{(E_T + \beta)(r_0 - d)}{aE_T^2} + 1 + \frac{\beta}{E_T}, \quad (3.3)$$

where

$$A' = (r_0 - d - m)T + 2 \ln\left(\frac{1+F}{1+F(e^{(r_0-d)T})}\right) + \frac{cp}{q(r_0-d)+a} \ln\left(\frac{[q(r_0-d)+a]Fe^{(r_0-d)T}+a}{[q(r_0-d)+a]F+a}\right).$$

*Proof.* Denoting

$$P(x, y) = \frac{r_0 x}{1+ky} - dx - ax^2 - \frac{pxy}{1+qx}, \quad Q(x, y) = \frac{cpxy}{1+qx} - my,$$

$$\alpha(x, y) = -\frac{\delta x^2(t)}{x(t)+\beta}, \quad \varphi(x, y) = \frac{\tau}{1+\theta y(t)}, \quad \phi(x, y) = x - E_T.$$

By calculating:

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = \frac{r_0}{1+ky} - d - 2ax - \frac{py(1+qx) - pqxy}{(1+qx)^2}, \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} = \frac{cpx}{1+qx} - m,$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial x} = -\frac{\delta x^2 + 2\delta \beta x}{(x+\beta)^2}, \quad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} = -\frac{\tau \theta}{(1+\theta y)^2}, \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = 1,$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 0, \quad (x^T(T), y^T(T)) = (E_T, 0), \quad (x^T(T^+), y^T(T^+)) = ((1-H)E_T, 0).$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 &= \frac{P_+ \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) + Q_+ \left( \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right)}{P \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + Q \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}} \\ &= \frac{(1-H)(1-\tau\theta)[r_0 - d - a(1-H)E_T]}{r_0 - d - aE_T} \\ &= \frac{(1-H)[r_0 - d - a(1-H)E_T]}{r_0 - d - aE_T} \\ &< \frac{r_0 - d - a(1-H)E_T}{r_0 - d - aE_T} \end{aligned}$$

From the previous analysis on the existence of boundary order-1 periodic solution, we know that:  $\Delta_1 > 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \exp\left(\int_0^T \left[\frac{\partial P}{\partial x}(x^T(t), y^T(t)) + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y}(x^T(t), y^T(t))\right] dt\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\int_0^T \left[r_0 - d - 2a\left(\frac{F e^{(r_0-d)t}(r_0-d)}{a(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})}\right) + \frac{cp\left(\frac{F e^{(r_0-d)t}(r_0-d)}{a(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})}\right)}{1+q\left(\frac{F e^{(r_0-d)t}(r_0-d)}{a(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})}\right)} - m\right] dt\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\int_0^T [I_1 + I_2 + I_3] dt\right) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= r_0 - d - m, \quad I_2 = -\frac{2(r_0-d)F e^{(r_0-d)t}}{1+F e^{(r_0-d)t}}, \\ I_3 &= \frac{[cp(r_0-d)F e^{(r_0-d)t}][a(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})]}{[a(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})][q(r_0-d)F e^{(r_0-d)t} + a(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})]} \\ &= \frac{cp(r_0-d)F e^{(r_0-d)t}}{F e^{(r_0-d)t}[q(r_0-d)+a] + a}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \exp\left(\int_0^T I_1 dt\right) &= \exp((r_0-d-m)T), \\ \exp\left(\int_0^T I_2 dt\right) &= \exp\left(-2 \ln(1+F e^{(r_0-d)t})\Big|_0^T\right) = \exp\left(2 \ln\left(\frac{1+F}{1+F(e^{(r_0-d)T})}\right)\right), \\ \exp\left(\int_0^T I_3 dt\right) &= \exp\left(\int_0^T \frac{cp(r_0-d)F e^{(r_0-d)t}}{F e^{(r_0-d)t}[q(r_0-d)+a] + a} dt\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{cp}{q(r_0-d)+a} \ln(F e^{(r_0-d)t}[q(r_0-d)+a] + a)\Big|_0^T\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{cp}{q(r_0-d)+a} \ln\left(\frac{[q(r_0-d)+a]F e^{(r_0-d)T} + a}{[q(r_0-d)+a]F + a}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\exp\left(\int_0^T [I_1 + I_2 + I_3] dt\right) = \exp(A')$$

where

$$A' = (r_0-d-m)T + 2 \ln\left(\frac{1+F}{1+F(e^{(r_0-d)T})}\right) + \frac{cp}{q(r_0-d)+a} \ln\left(\frac{[q(r_0-d)+a]F e^{(r_0-d)T} + a}{[q(r_0-d)+a]F + a}\right).$$

Then, the Floquet multiplier  $\mu_2$  can be obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_2 &= \Delta_1 \exp\left(\int_0^T \left[\frac{\partial P}{\partial x}(x^T(t), y^T(t)) + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y}(x^T(t), y^T(t))\right] dt\right) \\ &= \frac{(1-H)[r_0-d-a(1-H)E_T]}{r_0-d-aE_T} \exp(A') \\ &< \frac{r_0-d-a(1-H)E_T}{r_0-d-aE_T} \exp(A') \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it follows from (3.3) that  $|\mu_2| < 1$ , and the boundary order-1 periodic solution  $(x^T(t), 0)$  is orbitally asymptotically stable. This completes the proof.  $\square$

#### 4. Existence and stability of the order-1 periodic solution for $\tau > 0$

Previously, the impulsive sets and phase sets under different conditions are plotted in Table 2 and the boundary order-1 periodic solution for  $\tau = 0$  has been discussed. Then, if  $\tau > 0$ , we will consider the existence and stability of the periodic solution for system (1.2).

**Theorem 4.1.** *For case  $A_1(1)(I)$  (or case  $A_1(1)(II)$ ), if  $y_{T^+} \geq y_{B_1}$ , there exists at least one fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$ , i.e., there exists at least one order-1 periodic solution for the system (1.2); if  $y_{T^+} < y_{B_1}$ ,  $P_M(y_i^+)$  does not have any fixed point.*

*Proof.* For case  $A_1(1)$ , as shown in Figure 1, there exists a curve  $\tau_1$  intersecting the line  $L_2$  at two points  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  and  $\tau_1$  is tangent to the line  $L_1$  at point  $T$ . If  $y_{T^+} = y_{B_1}$ , then the curve  $\widehat{B_1 T}$  constitutes the order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2).

For case  $A_1(1)(I)$ , if  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$ , i.e., the point  $T^+$  is above the point  $B_1$ , we know that

$$P_M(y_{B_1}) > y_{B_1}. \quad (4.1)$$

Moreover, the trajectory from  $T^+$  intersects the line  $L_1$  at  $T_1$  which lies below the point  $T$ , i.e.,  $y_{T_1} < y_T$ . For case  $A_1(1)(I)$ , the impulsive function  $f(z)$  is monotonically increasing on the interval  $[0, y_T]$ , then  $f(y_{T_1}) < f(y_T)$ , i.e.,  $y_{T_1^+} < y_{T^+}$ . The above results show that for case  $A_1(1)(I)$ , the Poincaré map satisfies

$$P_M(y_{T^+}) < y_{T^+}. \quad (4.2)$$

It follows from (4.1) and (4.2) that there exists a fixed point of the Poincaré map on interval  $(y_{B_1}, y_{T^+})$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2).

For case  $A_1(1)(I)$ , if  $y_{T^+} < y_{B_1}$ , the impulsive point will be located on the phase set with  $y_i^+ \in [\tau, y_{T^+}]$ . According to Lemma 2.4, we know that any solution of system (1.2) will undergo a finite number of impulses and will not eventually reach the line  $L_1$ . Thus, there is no fixed point for system (1.2).

For case  $A_1(1)(II)$ , if  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$ , the inequality (4.1) holds. The highest impulsive point is denoted as  $B_\tau = ((1 - H)E_T, \tau)$  that satisfies the inequality

$$P_M(\tau) < \tau. \quad (4.3)$$

It follows from (4.1) and (4.3) that there exists a fixed point of the Poincaré map on the interval  $(y_{B_1}, \tau)$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2).

Similarly, for  $A_1(1)(II)$ , if  $y_{T^+} < y_{B_1}$ , any solution of system (1.2) will undergo a finite number of impulses, and will not eventually reach the line  $L_1$ , which indicates that there is no fixed point for system (1.2). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.** *For case  $A_1(1)(III)$ , if  $y_{T^+} \geq y_{B_1}$ , there exists at least one fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$ , i.e., there exists at least one order-1 periodic solution for the system (1.2); if  $y_{T^+} < y_{B_1}$ , then  $P_M(y_i^+)$  does not have any fixed point.*

*Proof.* If  $y_{T^+} = y_{B_1}$ , the curve  $\widehat{B_1T}$  constitutes an order-1 periodic solution of system (1.2). Otherwise, we consider the following two cases:

$$(i)y_{T^+} \geq \tau, \quad (ii)y_{T^+} < \tau.$$

For case (i), if  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$ , then  $P_M(y_{B_1}) > y_{B_1}$ . Moreover, if  $y_{T^+} \geq \tau$ , any impulsive point is below the point  $T^+$ , then we have  $P_M(y_{T^+}) < y_{T^+}$ . It shows that there exists a fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $(y_{B_1}, y_{T^+})$ .

For case (ii), if  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$ , then  $P_M(y_{B_1}) > y_{B_1}$ . If  $y_{T^+} < \tau$ ,  $B_\tau = ((1 - H)E_T, \tau)$  is the highest impulsive point for which the inequality  $P_M(\tau) < \tau$  holds. It shows that there exists a fixed point for the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $(y_{B_1}, \tau)$ .

In summary, if  $y_T^+ \geq y_{B_1}$ , there exists an order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2).

For  $y_{T^+} < y_{B_1}$ , any solution of system (1.2) will undergo a finite number of impulses and it does not eventually reach the line  $L_1$ , which indicates that there is no fixed point for system (1.2). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3.** For case  $A_1(2)(I)$  (or case  $A_1(2)(II)$ ), there exists at least one fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$ , i.e., there exists at least one order-1 periodic solution for the system (1.2).

*Proof.* For case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , there exists a curve  $\tau_2$  tangents to the line  $L_2$  at the point  $C_0$  and intersects with the line  $L_1$  at point  $C_1$ . If  $P_M(y_{C_0}) = y_{C_1}^+ = y_{C_0}$ , then the curve  $\widehat{C_0C_1}$  constitutes the order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2).

If  $y_{C_1}^+ > y_{C_0}$  or  $y_{C_1}^+ < y_{C_0}$ , the trajectory starting from the point  $C_1^+$  eventually reaches at the line  $L_1$  with a point  $C_2 = (E_T, y_{C_2})$  and it is clear that  $y_{C_2} < y_{C_1}$ . At the same time, the point  $C_2$  undergoes impulsive action and then arrives at the phase set, where the phase point is  $C_2^+ = ((1 - H)E_T, y_{C_2}^+)$ . For case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , the impulsive function is monotonically increasing on the interval  $[0, y_{C_1}]$ , and the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_{C_1}^+)$  satisfies

$$P_M(y_{C_1}^+) < y_{C_1}^+. \quad (4.4)$$

In addition, the point  $B_\tau = ((1 - H)E_T, \tau)$  is the lowest impulsive point that satisfies

$$P_M(\tau) > \tau. \quad (4.5)$$

It follows from (4.4) and (4.5) that there exists a fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $(\tau, y_{C_1}^+)$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for the system (1.2).

For case  $A_1(2)(II)$ , the impulsive function is monotonically decreasing on the interval  $[0, y_{C_1}]$ . If  $y_{C_1}^+ > y_{C_0}$  or  $y_{C_1}^+ < y_{C_0}$ , the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_{C_1}^+)$  satisfies

$$P_M(y_{C_1}^+) > y_{C_1}^+. \quad (4.6)$$

In addition, now  $B_\tau = ((1 - H)E_T, \tau)$  is the highest impulsive point, which satisfied inequality (4.3).

It follows from (4.3) and (4.6) that there exists a fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $(y_{C_1}^+, \tau)$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.4.** For case  $A_1(2)(III)$ , there exists at least one fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$ , i.e., there exists at least one order-1 periodic solution for the system (1.2).

*Proof.* If  $y_{C_1^+} = y_{C_0}$ , the curve  $\widehat{C_0C_1}$  constitutes the order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2). Otherwise, we consider the following two cases:

$$(i)y_{C_1^+} \geq \tau, \quad (ii)y_{C_1^+} < \tau.$$

For case (i), if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$ , then

$$P_M(y_{C_0}) > y_{C_0}. \quad (4.7)$$

By the monotonicity of the impulsive function, the point  $C_1^+$  is the highest impulsive point that satisfies

$$P_M(y_{C_1^+}) < y_{C_1^+}. \quad (4.8)$$

It follows from (4.7) and (4.8) that there exists a fixed point for the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $(y_{C_0}, y_{C_1^+})$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for the system (1.2).

For case (i), if  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$ , on one hand,

$$P_M(y_{C_0}) < y_{C_0}. \quad (4.9)$$

On the other hand, the point  $V^+ = ((1 - H)E_T, \frac{2\sqrt{\tau\theta}-1}{\theta})$  is the lowest impulsive point, and we have

$$P_M(y_{V^+}) \geq y_{V^+}. \quad (4.10)$$

It follows from (4.9) and (4.10) that there exists a fixed point for the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $(y_{V^+}, y_{C_0})$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2).

For case (ii), if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$ , then

$$P_M(y_{C_0}) > y_{C_0}. \quad (4.11)$$

Moreover, in this case, the point  $B_\tau = ((1 - H)E_T, \tau)$  is the highest impulsive point that satisfies inequality (4.3).

It follows from (4.3) and (4.11) that there exists a fixed point for the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $(y_{C_0}, \tau)$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2).

For case (ii), if  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$ , then

$$P_M(y_{C_0}) < y_{C_0}. \quad (4.12)$$

Furthermore, the point  $V^+$  is the lowest impulsive point that satisfies

$$P_M(y_{V^+}) \geq y_{V^+}. \quad (4.13)$$

It follows from (4.12) and (4.13) that there exists a fixed point for the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$  on the interval  $[y_{V^+}, y_{C_0}]$ , i.e., there exists an order-1 periodic solution for system (1.2). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.5.** *For case  $A_2(I)$  (or case  $A_2(II)$  and case  $A_2(III)$ ), there exists at least one fixed point of the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$ , i.e., there exists at least one order-1 periodic solution for the system (1.2).*

The proof is similar to Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 4.4.

After discussing the existence of order-1 periodic solutions under different cases, we will address the stability of the order-1 periodic solutions.

**Theorem 4.6.** *The order-1 periodic solution  $(\xi(t), \eta(t))$  is orbitally asymptotically stable if, and only if,*

$$\left| \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2}\right) \left[\left(\frac{r_0(1-H)E_T}{1+k(\eta_0 + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta\eta_0})}\right) - d(1-H)E_T - a[(1-H)E_T]^2 - \frac{p(1-H)E_T(\eta_0 + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta\eta_0})}{1+q(1-H)E_T}\right]}{\frac{r_0E_T}{1+k\eta_0} - dE_T - aE_T^2 - \frac{pE_T\eta_0}{1+qE_T}} \exp\left(\int_0^T G(t)dt\right) \right| < 1, \quad (4.14)$$

where

$$G(t) = \frac{r_0}{1+k\xi(t)} - d - 2a\xi(t) - \frac{p\eta(t)(1+q\xi(t)) - pq\xi(t)\eta(t)}{(1+q\xi(t))^2} + \frac{cp\xi(t)}{1+q\xi(t)} - m.$$

*Proof.* We discuss the asymptotic stability of order-1 periodic solutions with respect to system (1.2) under the conditions for Theorem 4.3.

By using the Poincaré criterion, first, assuming the order-1 periodic solutions  $(\xi(t), \eta(t))$  passes point  $C = (E_T, \eta_0)$  and the corresponding impulsive point is  $C^+ = ((1-H)E_T, \eta_0 + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta\eta_0})$ . The Floquet multiplier  $\mu_2$  can be expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_2 &= \Delta_1 \exp\left(\int_0^T \left[\frac{\partial P}{\partial x}(\xi(t), \eta(t)) + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y}(\xi(t), \eta(t))\right] dt\right) \\ &= \frac{P_+ \left(\frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x}\right) + Q_+ \left(\frac{\partial\alpha}{\partial x} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial\alpha}{\partial y} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y}\right)}{P \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} + Q \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y}} \exp\left(\int_0^T G(t)dt\right) \\ &= \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2}\right) \left[\left(\frac{r_0(1-H)E_T}{1+k(\eta_0 + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta\eta_0})}\right) - d(1-H)E_T - a[(1-H)E_T]^2 - \frac{p(1-H)E_T(\eta_0 + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta\eta_0})}{1+q(1-H)E_T}\right]}{\frac{r_0E_T}{1+k\eta_0} - dE_T - aE_T^2 - \frac{pE_T\eta_0}{1+qE_T}} \exp\left(\int_0^T G(t)dt\right) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$G(t) = \frac{r_0}{1+k\xi(t)} - d - 2a\xi(t) - \frac{p\eta(t)(1+q\xi(t)) - pq\xi(t)\eta(t)}{(1+q\xi(t))^2} + \frac{cp\xi(t)}{1+q\xi(t)} - m.$$

Denote

$$F(y) = \left(\frac{r_0(1-H)E_T}{1+ky}\right) - d(1-H)E_T - a[(1-H)E_T]^2 - \frac{p(1-H)E_T y}{1+q(1-H)E_T},$$

and it is easy to see that  $F'(y) = -\left(\frac{kr_0(1-H)E_T}{(1+ky)^2} + \frac{p(1-H)E_T}{1+q(1-H)E_T}\right) < 0$ , so the monotonically decreasing interval of the function  $F(y)$  is  $(-\infty, +\infty)$ .

If  $x = (1-H)E_T$ ,  $y = y_{C_0}$ , we know that

$$F(y_{C_0}) = \left(\frac{r_0(1-H)E_T}{1+ky_{C_0}}\right) - d(1-H)E_T - a[(1-H)E_T]^2 - \frac{p(1-H)E_T y_{C_0}}{1+q(1-H)E_T} = 0.$$

If  $y_{C_1^+} = y_{C_0}$ , i.e.,  $F(y_{C_1^+}) = F(y_{C_0}) = 0$ , it means that  $|\mu_2| = 0 < 1$ , and the order-1 periodic solution is orbitally asymptotically stable.

For case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$  and point  $C^+$  is below point  $C_0$ , by the monotonicity of the impulsive function, then  $1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2} > 0$ ,  $\exp\left(\int_0^T G(t)dt\right) > 0$ , and  $F(y_{C^+}) > 0$ , and we can know that  $\mu_2 > 0$ .



If  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$  and point  $C^+$  is above point  $C_0$ , then  $1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2} > 0$ ,  $\exp(\int_0^T G(t)dt) > 0$ , and  $F(y_{C^+}) < 0$ , and we can know that  $\mu_2 < 0$ .

For case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$ , by the monotonicity of the impulsive function, the point  $C^+$  must be below the point  $C_0$  clearly, then  $1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2} > 0$ ,  $\exp(\int_0^T G(t)dt) > 0$ , and  $F(y_{C^+}) > 0$ , and we can know that  $\mu_2 > 0$ .

For case  $A_1(2)(II)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$ , by the monotonicity of the impulsive function, the point  $C^+$  must be above the point  $C_0$  clearly, then  $1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2} < 0$ ,  $\exp(\int_0^T G(t)dt) > 0$ , and  $F(y_{C^+}) < 0$ , and we can know that  $\mu_2 > 0$ .

For case  $A_1(2)(II)$ , by the monotonicity of the impulsive function, if  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$  and point  $C^+$  is above point  $C_0$ , then  $1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2} < 0$ ,  $\exp(\int_0^T G(t)dt) > 0$ , and  $F(y_{C^+}) < 0$ . We can know  $\mu_2 > 0$ . If  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$  and point  $C^+$  is below point  $C_0$ , then  $1 - \frac{\tau\theta}{(1+\theta\eta_0 + \frac{\tau\theta}{1+\theta\eta_0})^2} < 0$ ,  $\exp(\int_0^T G(t)dt) > 0$ , and  $F(y_{C^+}) > 0$ , and we can know that  $\mu_2 < 0$ .

Therefore, if  $|\mu_2| < 1$ , i.e., the inequality (4.14) holds true, then the order-1 periodic solution  $(\xi(t), \eta(t))$  of system (1.2) is orbitally asymptotically stable. Similarly, we can prove that under the conditions of Theorem 4.4 and Theorem 4.5, the order-1 periodic solutions of system (1.2) are also orbitally asymptotically stable. This completes the proof.  $\square$

## 5. Existence of order- $k$ periodic solutions

In this section, we will discuss the existence of order- $k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) periodic solutions in some cases for the system (1.2).

**Theorem 5.1.** *For case  $A_1(1)(II)$ , if the condition  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$  is satisfied (or for case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , if the condition  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$  is satisfied; if the condition  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$  is satisfied for case  $A_1(2)(III)$ ), then there is no order- $k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) periodic solution of system (1.2).*

*Proof.* For case  $A_1(1)(II)$ , if  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$ , by Theorem 4.1, there exists an order-1 periodic solution on the interval  $(y_{B_1}, \tau)$  for system (1.2). Without loss of generality, assume that the order-1 periodic solution passes through points  $B^+ = ((1-H)E_T, \eta_0^+)$  and  $B = (E_T, \eta_0)$ . The trajectory starting from the initial point  $T^+$  reaches at the line  $L_1$  with the point  $T_1 = (E_T, y_{T_1})$ . Since any two trajectories are disjoint, the point  $T_1$  lies below  $T$ . Subsequently, after the impulsive action,  $T_1$  will map to the line  $L_2$  at point  $T_1^+$ .

If  $\frac{\sqrt{\tau\theta-1}}{\theta} \geq y_T$ , we know that the impulsive function  $f(z_i) = z_i + \frac{\tau}{1+\theta z_i}$  is monotonically decreasing on the interval  $[0, y_T]$ , so the point  $T_1^+$  lies above the point  $T^+$ . By analogy, it can be shown that the point  $T_{i+1}^+$  lies above the point  $T_i^+$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ), which indicating that  $T_i^+$  is monotonically increasing, i.e.,

$$y_{B_1} < y_{T^+} < y_{T_1^+} < y_{T_2^+} < \dots < y_{T_i^+} < \dots < y_{T_n^+} < \dots < \eta_0^+ < \tau.$$

In summary, there is no order- $k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) periodic solution for system (1.2). For case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$  (or for case  $A_1(2)(III)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$ ), a similar method can be used to prove that there is no order- $k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) periodic solution for system (1.2). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.2.** For case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$  and  $y_{C_2^+} \geq y_{C_0}$  (or for case  $A_1(2)(II)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$  and  $y_{C_2^+} \leq y_{C_0}$ ; for case  $A_1(1)(I)$ , if  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$  and  $y_{T_1^+} \geq y_{B_1}$ ), then there is no order- $k$  ( $k \geq 3$ ) periodic solution for the system (1.2).

*Proof.* For case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$  and  $y_{C_2^+} = y_{C_0}$ , the two curves  $\widehat{C_0 C_1}$  and  $\widehat{C_1^+ C_2}$  form an order-2 periodic solution.

If  $y_{C_2^+} > y_{C_0}$ , the impulsive points of the solutions which start from the interval  $[y_{C_2^+}, y_{C_1^+}] \in \mathcal{X}_5$  are higher than the point  $C_2^+$ . In fact, any two trajectories are disjoint, it follows that for case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , and we derive

$$y_{C_0} < y_{C_2^+} < y_{C_4^+} < y_{C_3^+} < y_{C_1^+} = P_M(y_{C_0}),$$

where  $y_{C_k^+}$  is the ordinate of the point lies on the phase set which corresponds to the trajectory undergoing one pulse from the initial point  $C_{k-1}^+ = ((1-H)E_T, y_{C_{k-1}^+})$ . Thus, the following relations for the sequence of impulsive points  $y_{C_i^+}$  can be obtained:

$$y_{C_0} < y_{C_2^+} < y_{C_4^+} < \cdots < y_{C_{2n}^+} < y_{C_{2n+2}^+} < \cdots < y_{C_{2n+1}^+} < y_{C_{2n-1}^+} < \cdots < y_{C_3^+} < y_{C_1^+} = P_M(y_{C_0}). \quad (5.1)$$

It follows from (5.1) that either there exists a unique  $y^* \in [y_{C_2^+}, y_{C_1^+}]$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{C_{2n}^+} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{C_{2n-1}^+} = y^*, \quad (5.2)$$

or there exist two different values  $y_1^* \neq y_2^* (y_1^*, y_2^* \in [y_{C_2^+}, y_{C_1^+}])$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{C_{2n}^+} = y_1^*, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_{C_{2n-1}^+} = y_2^*. \quad (5.3)$$

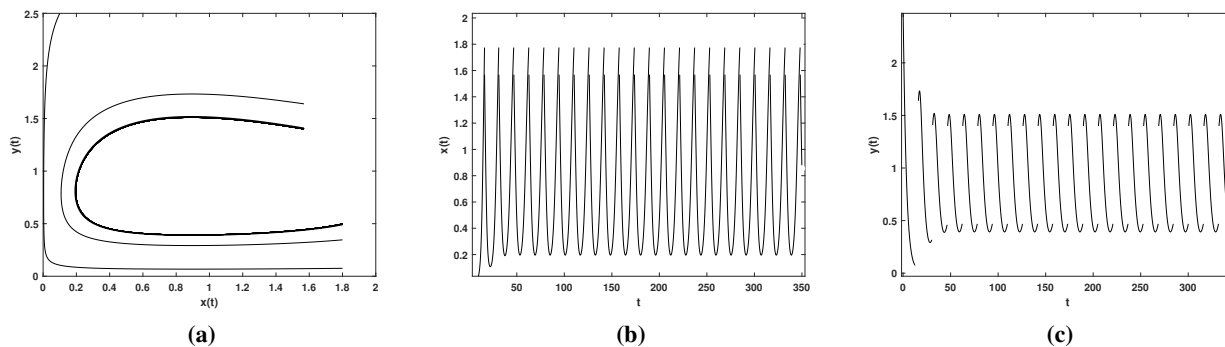
Therefore, it follows from (5.2) and (5.3) that there exists either a fixed point or a two-point periodic cycle for the Poincaré map  $P_M(y_i^+)$ . That is, for case  $A_1(2)(I)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} > y_{C_0}$  and  $y_{C_2^+} \geq y_{C_0}$ , there exist an order-1 periodic solution and order-2 periodic solution for system (1.2), and there is no order- $k$  ( $k \geq 3$ ) periodic solutions.

In a similar way, it can be shown that for case  $A_1(2)(II)$ , if  $y_{C_1^+} < y_{C_0}$  and  $y_{C_2^+} \leq y_{C_0}$  (or for case  $A_1(1)(I)$ , if  $y_{T^+} > y_{B_1}$  and  $y_{T_1^+} \geq y_{B_1}$ ), there is no order- $k$  ( $k \geq 3$ ) periodic solution for system (1.2). This completes the proof.  $\square$

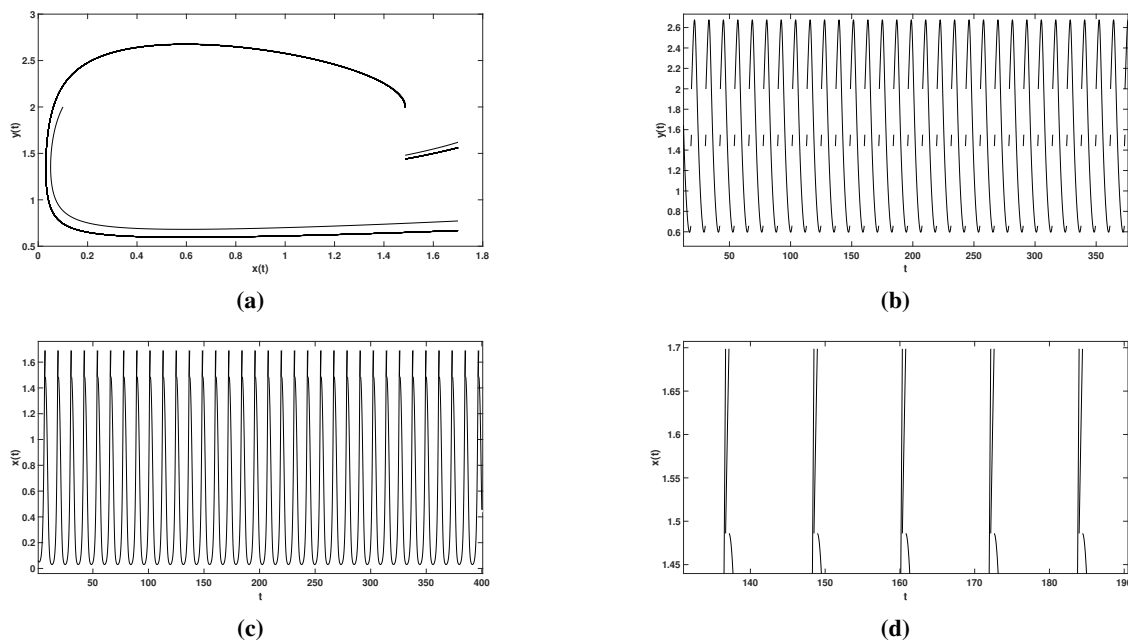
## 6. Numerical simulation

In this section, we will verify the results obtained in the theoretical part and the influence of the fear factor on the dynamics of system (1.2) through numerical simulations. Figures 2 and 3 demonstrate the existence of order-1 and order-2 periodic solutions for system (1.2), respectively. Furthermore, Figures 4, 5, and 6 illustrate higher-order periodic solutions for system (1.2), including an order-3 periodic solution in Figure 4, an order-4 periodic solution in Figure 5, and an order-5 periodic solution in Figure 6. Figures 2 to 6 illustrate the rich dynamic behaviors of system (1.2). Under certain conditions of the integrated control strategy, the populations of pests and predators will display periodic oscillations, maintaining both population densities in a stable state while ensuring that the pest density remains below the economic threshold. In Figures 2 to 6, despite consistent values for the fear factor  $k$ , there is variation in the order of periodic solutions. This indicates that the fear factor  $k$  is not the only condition

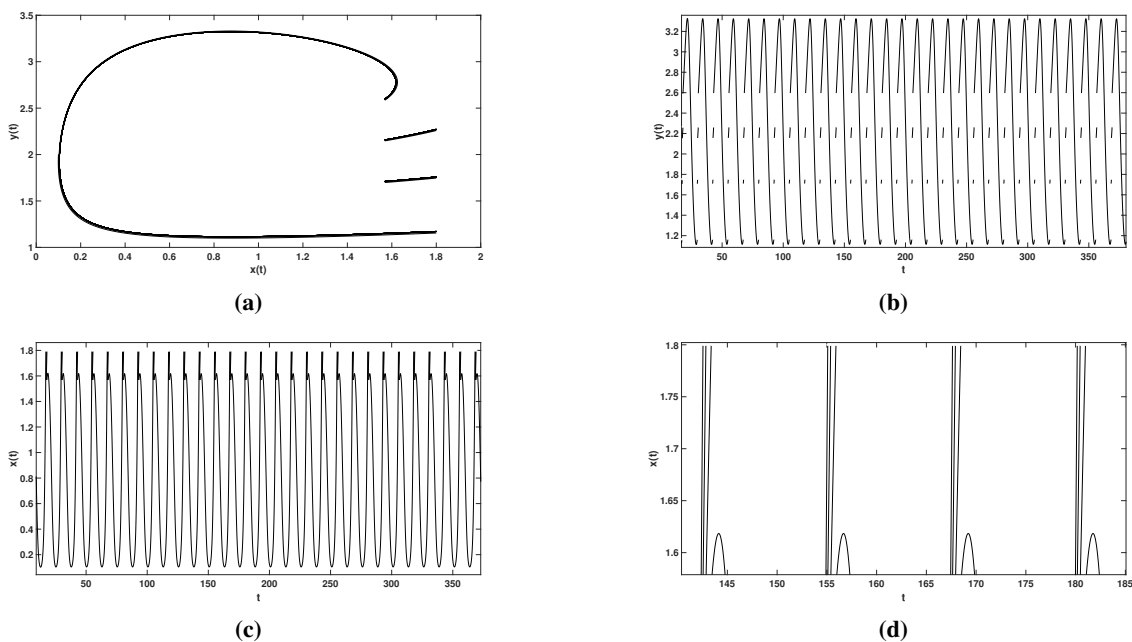
that determines the order of periodic solutions, and it is closely related to other parameters of the system (1.2).



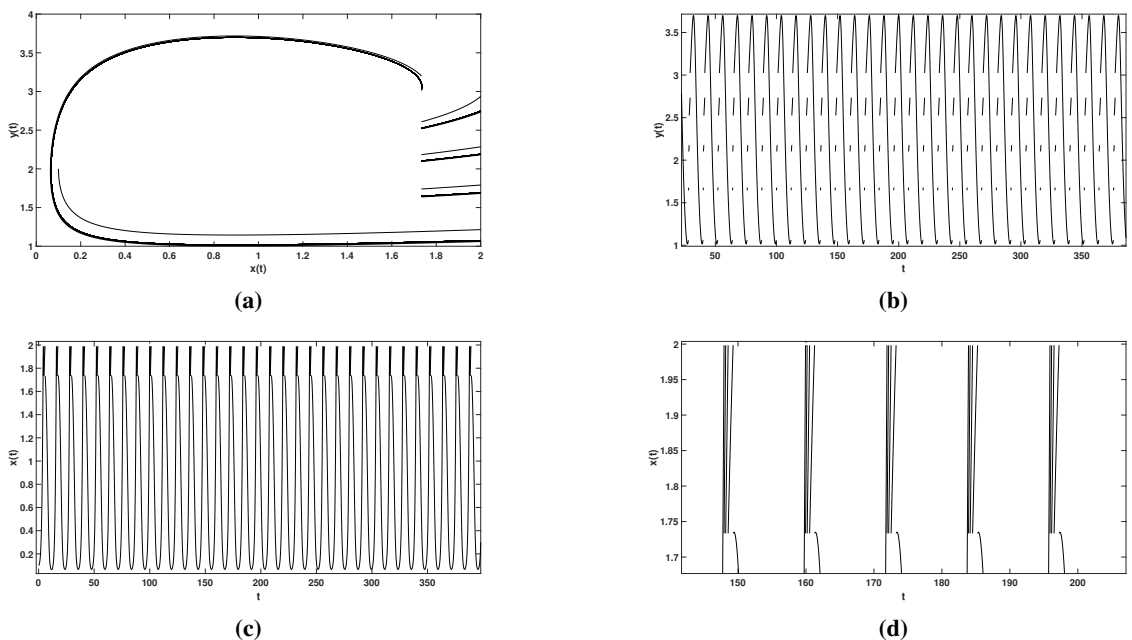
**Figure 2.** The order-1 periodic solution of system (1.2), where  $r_0 = 1$ ,  $a = 0.08$ ,  $k = 0.3$ ,  $p = 1.2$ ,  $c = 0.53$ ,  $d = 0.4$ ,  $m = 0.3$ ,  $q = 1$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1.8$ ,  $\theta = 2$ ,  $\delta = 0.2$ ,  $E_T = 1.8$ . (a) Graph of the relationship between  $x$  and  $y$ ; (b) Times series of  $x$ ; (c) Times series of  $y$ .



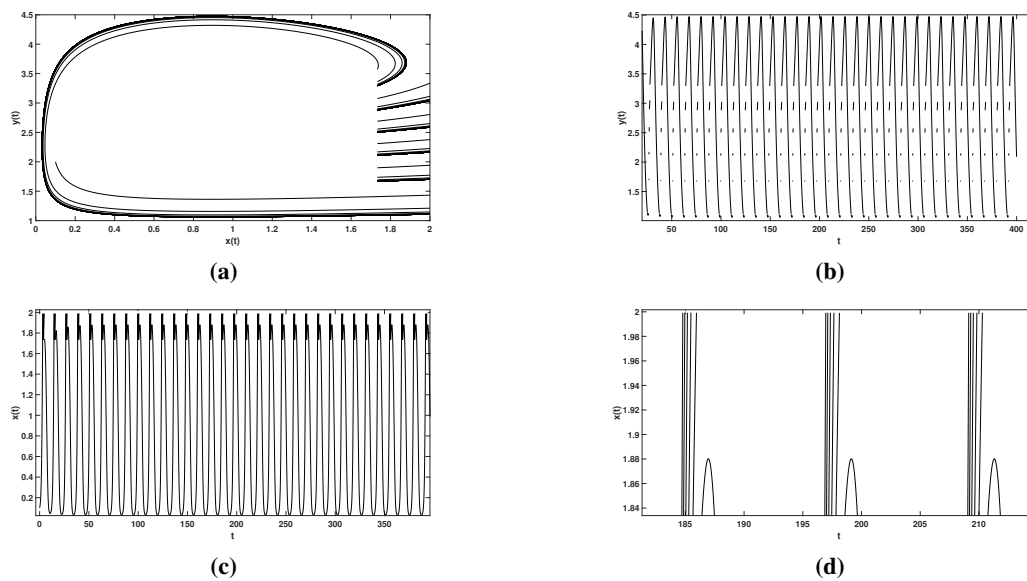
**Figure 3.** The order-2 periodic solution of system (1.2), where  $r_0 = 2$ ,  $a = 0.1$ ,  $k = 0.3$ ,  $p = 1.5$ ,  $c = 0.5$ ,  $d = 0.03$ ,  $m = 0.28$ ,  $q = 1$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1.8$ ,  $\theta = 2$ ,  $\delta = 0.2$ ,  $E_T = 1.7$ . (a) Graph of the relationship between  $x$  and  $y$ ; (b) Times series of  $y$ ; (c) Times series of  $x$ ; (d) The partial enlargement of (c).



**Figure 4.** The order-3 periodic solution of system (1.2), where  $r_0 = 2.2$ ,  $a = 0.11$ ,  $k = 0.3$ ,  $p = 1.2$ ,  $c = 0.5$ ,  $d = 0.03$ ,  $m = 0.28$ ,  $q = 1$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1.8$ ,  $\theta = 2$ ,  $\delta = 0.2$ ,  $E_T = 1.8$ . (a) Graph of the relationship between  $x$  and  $y$ ; (b) Times series of  $y$ ; (c) Times series of  $x$ ; (d) The partial enlargement of (c).

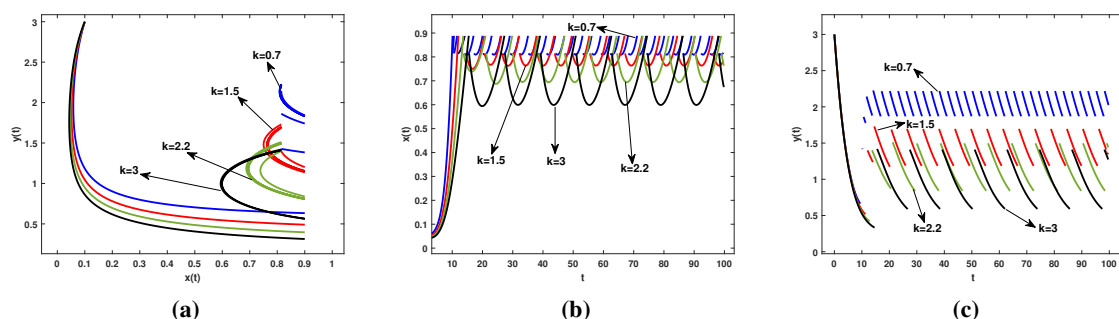


**Figure 5.** The order-4 periodic solution of system (1.2), where  $r_0 = 2.3$ ,  $a = 0.08$ ,  $k = 0.3$ ,  $p = 1.2$ ,  $c = 0.53$ ,  $d = 0.03$ ,  $m = 0.3$ ,  $q = 1$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1.8$ ,  $\theta = 2$ ,  $\delta = 0.2$ ,  $E_T = 2$ . (a) Graph of the relationship between  $x$  and  $y$ ; (b) Times series of  $y$ ; (c) Times series of  $x$ ; (d) The partial enlargement of (c).



**Figure 6.** The order-5 periodic solution of system (1.2), where  $r_0 = 2.7$ ,  $a = 0.08$ ,  $k = 0.3$ ,  $p = 1.2$ ,  $c = 0.53$ ,  $d = 0.04$ ,  $m = 0.3$ ,  $q = 1$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1.8$ ,  $\theta = 2$ ,  $\delta = 0.2$ ,  $E_T = 2$ . (a) Graph of the relationship between  $x$  and  $y$ ; (b) Times series of  $y$ ; (c) Times series of  $x$ ; (d) The partial enlargement of (c).

The impact of fear factor on population size is addressed in Figure 7, which reveals important discoveries. Specifically, the graph demonstrates that a decrease in the fear factor leads to an increase in the frequency of oscillations within prey and predator cycles, and their populations remain at relatively high levels. Conversely, an increase in the fear factor intensifies the predator's disruptive influence on prey dynamics, resulting in amplified amplitude of prey cycle oscillations and prolonged decline periods for their populations. These findings align with previous studies and further confirm that predators exert coercive effects on prey by inducing stress responses that impede development and reproduction rates, ultimately leading to population declines. This further implies that the fear effect cannot be ignored in terms of its impact on the population density of pests and predators.



**Figure 7.** The influence of the fear factor on population size, where  $r_0 = 1$ ,  $a = 0.01$ ,  $d = 0.04$ ,  $p = 0.5$ ,  $q = 1$ ,  $c = 0.6$ ,  $m = 0.2$ ,  $E_T = 0.9$ ,  $\delta = 0.2$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1.8$ ,  $\theta = 2$ . Here the fear factors are  $k = 0.7$ ,  $k = 1.5$ ,  $k = 2.2$  and  $k = 3$ .

## 7. Conclusions

The IPM approach combines biological and chemical technologies to offer an economical and efficient ecological solution for controlling plant diseases and insect pests. Moreover, it serves as a foundation for establishing state-dependent impulsive prey-predator models [37–39]. Recently, ecologists and biologists have discovered that the interactions between prey and predators should not be solely described by direct predation, and the fear effect may also play a significant role in predator-prey interactions. When prey becomes aware of the presence of predators, their growth, development, and reproduction are significantly affected. Considering these factors, we propose a nonlinear state-dependent feedback control predator-prey model (1.2) with fear effect, and the aim of this paper is to reveal the dynamical behavior and biological implications of the model.

We used the qualitative theory for impulsive semi-dynamical system to study the impulsive sets and phase sets of system (1.2) under different external conditions if the equilibrium point  $E_2$  is stable, and defined the Poincaré map for impulsive point series in the phase set. The existence and the stability of periodic solutions were discussed by using the principle of successor functions and the Poincaré criteria. Subsequently, numerical simulations were conducted utilizing MATLAB software. The results indicate that the population dynamics of the predator-prey system are influenced by multiple factors, including the initial density of pests and predators, intraspecifics competition, the numbers of released predators, the mortality rate of insecticides, and the fear caused by predators. The global asymptotic stability of periodic solution means that under appropriate control strategies, pests and natural enemies can coexist, the populations reach dynamic equilibrium, and the pest density remains below the economic threshold. In addition, based on previous researches, our study introduces the fear effect as an important biological evolutionary force into the predator-prey model, making the model more practical. Figure 7 shows the impact of different levels of species' fear responses on population size, depicting the changes in the amplitude and frequency of predator-prey population oscillations corresponding to changes in fear levels, demonstrating the undeniable influence of fear effects on biological population interactions.

The model developed in this paper incorporates the natural enemy density regulation factor  $\theta$  and the fear factor  $k$  of prey to predator. The introduction of  $\theta$  is motivated by the rapid development and application of pest monitoring and early warning technology, as well as information agriculture technology which enhances resource efficiency. The inclusion of the fear factor  $k$  objectively reflects a new understanding of human influence on species evolution, leaving ample room for studying the fear effect in species interactions. In fact, some real prey-predator interactions are often neglected when constructing models, such as the anti-predation behavior of adult prey against young predators, the hiding of predators, the aggregation of prey, or the reduction of prey activity, etc. It has been shown in many previous papers that the existence of refuges may have a significant impact on the coexistence of prey and predators [40–42]. Therefore, in the future, we will consider incorporating these factors into mathematical models and conducting the dynamics analysis of them, which will be helpful for designing IPM strategies and making management decisions.

## Author contributions

Zhanhao Zhang: Conceptualization, Investigation, Methodology, Validation, Writing-original draft, Data curation, Software; Yuan Tian: Conceptualization, Methodology, Writing-review and editing, Supervision.

## Use of AI tools declaration

The authors declare they have not used Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in the creation of this article.

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## Conflict of interest

All authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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