

MAT119A Final Exam
March 18, 2005

Write solutions in the exam booklet provided. Start each problem on a new page. Be sure to label diagrams carefully and justify all of your answers. Remember to print your name on the exam booklet. Good Luck!

1. Consider the equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \alpha x - \frac{x}{1+x}, \quad (1)$$

with $\alpha > 0$ and $x > -1$.

- (a) Calculate the location of all fixed points x^* of equation 1 as a function of the parameter α .
- (b) Determine the stability of these fixed points analytically. Use graphical means to determine stability of fixed points when the analytical method is inconclusive.
- (c) Plot the bifurcation diagram for the system using α as the control parameter. Indicate the stability of the fixed points on the diagram. At what values of x and α does a bifurcation occur? What type of bifurcation is it?
- (d) What type of bifurcations would occur if

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \alpha x - \frac{x}{1+x} + \beta, \quad \beta \neq 0.$$

Briefly explain why?

2. Consider the nonlinear system of ODEs

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= x(x - x^2 - y) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= y(x - 1) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

- (a) Find all fixed points and use linear stability analysis to assess their stability. What conclusions can be made about the flow around the fixed point in the nonlinear system?
- (b) Plot the nullclines of the system. Indicate the direction of the flow on the nullclines and in the different regions of phase space.
- (c) On a new plot, re-sketch the nullclines and sketch trajectories in the phase plane.
- (d) Calculate the index of the fixed point at $(0,0)$. By examining trajectories in the phase plane, determine the stability of the fixed point at $(0,0)$ for the nonlinear system? What type of fixed point is $(0,0)$?

3. Consider the equation

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = x - x^3. \quad (3)$$

(a) Find the energy function $E(x, x')$ for equation 3. Show that E is constant along trajectories (i.e. $\frac{dE}{dt} = 0$.)

(b) Plot level sets (contours) of $E(x, x')$.

(c) Sketch trajectories in the x, x' -phase plane. How do the trajectories relate to the level sets of $E(x, x')$? What is the asymptotic behavior of the system, as $t \rightarrow \infty$, of the trajectory starting at $(2, 1)$?

(d) What type of fixed point is $(1, 0)$? What is its stability? Give an argument why conservative systems cannot have attracting fixed points.

4. Consider the nonlinear system of ODEs

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= -x(x^2 + y^2) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -y(x^2 + y^2) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

(a) Use linear stability analysis to assess the stability of the unique fixed point at $(0, 0)$. What conclusions can be made about the flow around the fixed point in the nonlinear system?

(b) Show that system 4 is a gradient system and find the potential function $V(x, y)$.

(c) Use $V(x, y)$ to show that $(0, 0)$ is a global attractor?

(d) Show that trajectories system 4 are in the direction of the $-grad(V)$.

5. Consider the nonlinear system of ODEs

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= y - x(r^4 - \mu(r^2 - 1) - 1) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -x - y(r^4 - \mu(r^2 - 1) - 1) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$.

(a) Rewrite the system in polar coordinates.

(b) For $\mu = 0$, show that the circle $r = 2$ is a trapping region, i.e. show $r' < 0$ on the circle $r = 2$. Use the Poincaré-Bendixson theorem to show that there is a periodic orbit in the circle $r = 2$.

(c) Show that there is a Hopf Bifurcation at $(0, 0)$ and $\mu = 1$. Is the Hopf bifurcation supercritical or subcritical? (hint: examine the system in polar coordinates to determine this).