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**Preliminary Examination in  
ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS  
January 2010**

**Instruction.** 90 points are required for passing, 150 points for a "100% performance". Time: 3 hours.

1. Find the principal fundamental matrix solution of

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = x - y + z, \\ \dot{y} = -x + y - z, \\ \dot{z} = x - y + z. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

20 pts.

2. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $V \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $\lim_{\|x\| \rightarrow \infty} V(x) = \infty$ , and  $f(x) \cdot \nabla V(x) \leq 0$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Denote by  $\varphi$  the solution flow of

$$\dot{u} = f \circ u, \quad (2)$$

and set  $Z := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \nabla V(x) \cdot f(x) = 0\}$ .

- a. Show that  $t^+(x) = \infty$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and that  $\gamma^+(x)$  is bounded for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- b. Show that the  $\omega$ -limit set  $\omega(x)$  of  $\varphi(\cdot, x)$  is a subset of  $Z$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- c. Show that (2) has no nontrivial periodic solution, if  $Z$  is an isolated set. ( $Z$  is called isolated, iff for  $z \in Z$ , there exists an  $r \in (0, \infty)$  with  $Z \cap B_z(r) = \{z\}$ .)

30 pts.

3. a. State Gronwall's inequality.  
b. State a variation of parameters formula.

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $A, B \in C([0, \infty), \mathfrak{M}_{n,n})$ , and  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  be fundamental matrix solutions of  $\dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t)$  and  $\dot{y}(t) = B(t)y(t)$ , respectively. Assume  $\sup\{\|\Phi(t)\|_{n,n} : t \geq 0\} < \infty$  and  $\sup\{\|\Phi(t)^{-1}\|_{n,n} : t \geq 0\} < \infty$ .

- c. Prove that  $u \equiv 0$  is the only solution  $u \in C^1([0, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n)$  of  $\dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t)$  which satisfies  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(t) = 0$ .
- d. Assume that  $\int_0^\infty \|A(t) - B(t)\|_{n,n} dt < \infty$ . Show that  $\sup\{\|\Psi(t)\|_{n,n} : t \geq 0\} < \infty$ .

30 pts.

4. Consider

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -(x^2 + y^2)y \\ \dot{y} = x + y - (x^2 + y^2)y \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

- Verify that  $X : t \mapsto (\cos(t), \sin(t))$  is a  $(2\pi)$ -periodic solution of (3).
- Prove that  $X$  is orbitally stable under the solution flow of (3).

25 pts.

5. a. Define the concept “center manifold” and state the center manifold theorem.

b. Let  $f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^3)$ ,  $f(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $g \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $S := \{\mathbf{x} : g(\mathbf{x}) = 0\}$ ,  $\nabla g(\mathbf{x}) \neq \mathbf{0}$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in S$ , and  $f(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \nabla g(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in S$ . Denote by  $\varphi$  the solution flow of  $\dot{u} = f \circ u$ . Assume that

- ▶  $\mathbf{0}$  is an isolated zero of  $f$ ;
- ▶  $\mathbf{0} \in \sigma((Df)(\mathbf{0}))$  with a 2-dimensional eigenspace  $E$ ;
- ▶  $(Df)(\mathbf{0})$  has an eigenvalue with nonzero real part;
- ▶  $z \cdot \nabla g(\mathbf{0}) = 0$  for  $z \in E$ .

Prove that  $S$  is a center manifold of  $\varphi$  at  $\mathbf{0}$ .

25 pts.

6. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be open,  $z \in U$ , and  $f \in C^1(U, \mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $f(z) = 0$ . Denote by  $\varphi$  the solution flow of  $\dot{u} = f \circ u$ , and assume that  $z$  is asymptotically stable under  $\varphi$ . Prove that  $\{x \in U : z \in \omega(x)\}$  is open. Give a counterexample if the stability assumption is dropped.

20 pts.

7. Consider

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -x^3 \\ \dot{y} = -y + x^2 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

- Show that (4) has no non-constant periodic solution.
- Show that  $(0, 0)$  is the only rest point of the solution flow  $\varphi$  of (4) and determine the stable and center spaces of the linearization at  $(0, 0)$ .
- Prove that  $(0, 0)$  is a stable rest-point of  $\varphi$ .

30 pts.

8. a. Define the concept “global attractor” and state the existence theorem for a global attractor.

b. Denote by  $\varphi$  the solution flow of

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = x(1 - x^2 - y^2) \\ \dot{y} = y(1 - \frac{x^2}{4} - y^2) \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

- (i) Find the nullclines for (5) and rest points of  $\varphi$ .
- (ii) For each rest point, linearize (5) at the rest point and determine the stable, unstable and center spaces of the linearization.
- (iii) Show that  $\varphi$  has a global attractor.
- (iv) Determine positively invariant sets under  $\varphi$  and conclude that  $\varphi$  has no regular periodic orbit.
- (v) Describe an under  $\varphi$  invariant compact set with  $(0, 0)$  as interior point by means of unstable manifolds.
- (vi) Use (v), possibly without proof, do describe the global attractor.

70 pts.