

ODE & PDE exam–August 2005

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August 16, 2005

WORK ALL FOUR PROBLEMS

ODE PART

1. (25 pts) Consider the nonlinearly damped mass-spring system

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + f\left(x, \frac{dx}{dt}\right) \frac{dx}{dt} + \lambda x = 0 \quad (1)$$

with $\lambda, m > 0$ and smooth $f(x, x') \geq 0$ in a neighborhood of the origin in the (x, y) phase plane (i.e. with $y = dx/dt$).

- (a) (15pts) Show that the non-negative function

$$V(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} (\lambda x^2 + m y^2) \quad (2)$$

is a weak Lyapounov function for equation (1)

- (b) (5 pts) Use the result in part (1) to show that the zero solution is stable.
- (c) (5 pts) Is the zero solution always asymptotically stable?

2. (25 pts) Consider the system

$$\mathbf{x}' = P(t)\mathbf{x}, \quad P \in R^n, \quad P(t+T) = P(t), \quad (3)$$

with $P(t)$ continuous and real $T > 0$.

- (a) (5pts) State (without proof) the Floquet theorem for this system, and discuss its implications for the existence of periodic solutions.
 (b) (10 pts) Given the 2×2 system

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = P(t)\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad P(t) = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin 2t & \cos 2t - 1 \\ \cos 2t + 1 & \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

Show that a Fundamental matrix is given by

$$\Phi(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^t (\cos t + \sin t) & e^{-t} (\cos t + \sin t) \\ e^t (\cos t - \sin t) & -e^{-t} (\cos t - \sin t) \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

- (c) (5 pts) Find the characteristic numbers μ_i , $i = 1, 2$ for the system in part b, so that there exist solutions of the form (with T the period of P):

$$\mathbf{y}_i(t+T) = \mu_i \mathbf{y}_i(t), \quad i = 1, 2. \quad (6)$$

- (d) (5 pts) Does the system in (part b) have a periodic solution? If yes, what is its period? If no, why not?

PDE PART

1. (25 pts) Solve the initial value problem

$$u_t + u_x = u^2, \quad u(x, 0) = \frac{1}{2} \cos x, \quad (7)$$

and determine the largest time $T > 0$ for which $u(x, t)$ is finite for

$$-T < t < T, \quad -\infty < x < \infty. \quad (8)$$

2. (25 pts) Solve the initial value problem

$$u_{tt} = u_{xx} - 3u, \quad u(x, 0) = \cos x, \quad u_t(x, 0) = \sin x. \quad (9)$$