

**Problem 1** (8 points). Match the following equations to their names: (A) Linear system; (B) Gradient system; (C) Hamiltonian system; (D) Duffing's equation; (E) van der Pol's system; (F) Torqued pendulum equation; (G) Chemostat system; (H) Lotka-Volterra system; (I) Activator-Inhibitor system

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{(E)(i)} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = -\beta(x^2 - 1)y - x \end{cases} & \text{(B)(v)} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = D_x \Phi(x, y) \\ \dot{y} = D_y \Phi(x, y) \end{cases} \\
 \text{(D)(ii)} \quad \begin{cases} x'' + \beta x' - x + x^3 = 0 \end{cases} & \text{(G)(vi)} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = \frac{y}{y+1}x - \rho x, \\ \dot{y} = -\frac{y}{y+1}x - \rho(y - \sigma). \end{cases} & \text{(I)(viii)} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = \sigma \frac{1}{1+y} \frac{x^2}{1+x^2/\kappa^2} - x, \\ \dot{y} = \rho \left[ \frac{x^2}{1+x^2/\kappa^2} - y \right], \end{cases} \\
 \text{(F)(iii)} \quad \begin{cases} x'' = -\sin x - \beta x' + \mu \end{cases} & & \\
 \text{(C)(iv)} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = D_y \Psi(x, y) \\ \dot{y} = -D_x \Psi(x, y) \end{cases} & \text{(H)(vii)} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = axy - bx \\ \dot{y} = cy - dxy \end{cases} & \text{(A)(ix)} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = ax + by + g(t); \\ \dot{y} = -cx - dy + f(t); \end{cases}
 \end{array}$$

**Problem 2.** (6 points) Let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and consider the initial value problem

$$(*) \quad \dot{x} = F(x) \quad \text{with} \quad x(0) = b.$$

State, without proof, an example of  $F \in C(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that the initial value problem  $(*)$  has two solutions, and write down two different explicit solutions.

**Solution.**

Let  $F(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^{1/3}$ , then  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous and  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  has at least two solutions,

$$x_1(t) = 0 \text{ for } t \geq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad x_2(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq \sqrt{2}, \\ (t - \sqrt{2})^{3/2} & \text{for } t > \sqrt{2}. \end{cases}$$

**Problem 3.** (10 points) Let  $F : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and let  $b^* \in \mathbb{R}^d$  be a hyperbolic equilibrium of  $\dot{x} = F(x)$ .

- (i) Give the definition of “ $\mathcal{M}$  is a 1-dimensional differentiable manifold”, assuming  $1 < d$ .
- (ii) Give the definition of “ $\mathcal{M}_u$  is a local unstable manifold of  $b^*$ ”.

**Solution.**

(i) A subset  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is called a  $k$ -dimensional manifold if for each  $x_0 \in \mathcal{M}$ , there exists a neighborhood  $\mathcal{N}$  of  $x_0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that (after suitable orthogonal transformation)

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{N} = \{(x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathcal{N} : (x_{k+1}, \dots, x_d) = g(x_1, \dots, x_k)\} \quad \text{for some differentiable function } g.$$

(ii) A subset  $\mathcal{M}_u \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is called a local unstable manifold of  $b^*$  if there exists a neighborhood  $\mathcal{N}$  of  $b^*$  such that

$$\mathcal{M}_u \cap \mathcal{N} = \left\{ b \in \mathcal{N} : \varphi(t, b) \text{ is defined for all } t \leq 0, \quad \varphi((-\infty, 0], b) \subset \mathcal{N}, \quad \varphi(t, b) \rightarrow b^* \text{ as } t \rightarrow -\infty \right\}$$

(In addition, since  $b^*$  is hyperbolic, the local unstable manifold is tangent to the linear subspace spanned by the unstable eigenvectors. i.e. if we use the orthogonal transformation so that  $DF(b^*)$  is block diagonal as in the textbook, the subspace of unstable eigenvalues is  $\{(x_1, \dots, x_k, 0, \dots, 0)\}$ , then (1) holds with  $Dg(0) = 0$ .)

**Problem 4.** (8 points) Show that  $b^* = 1$  is a locally asymptotically stable equilibrium for

$$\dot{x} = x(x - 0.1)(x - 0.7)(1 - x) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}$$

by finding and verifying a strict Lyapunov function. (Do not use linearized stability principle.) Then state without proof the global stable and unstable manifolds for the other equilibrium  $b^* = 0$ .

**Solution.**

Let  $L(x) = \frac{1}{4}(x - 1)^4$ , then

$$L'(x)F(x) = (x - 1)^3 x(x - 0.1)(x - 0.7)(1 - x) = \begin{cases} < 0 & \text{for } x \in (0.7, \infty) \setminus \{1\}, \\ = 0 & \text{for } x = 1. \end{cases}$$

The equilibrium  $b^* = 0$  is unstable since  $F'(0) = (-0.1) \times (-0.7) \times 1 > 0$ . The unstable manifold is  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, 0.1)$  and the stable manifold is  $\{0\}$ .

**Problem 5.** (8 points) Suppose (i)  $K$  is a compact subset of an open set  $U$ ; (ii)  $K$  is a trapping region of  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  with smooth boundary, and with  $F : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  being  $C^1$ .

(a) Deduce that  $\varphi(t, b) \in K$  for all  $b \in \partial K$  for  $t \in [0, \sup I_b)$ .

(b) Show that such solutions exist globally forward in time, i.e. in  $[0, \infty)$ .

[Hint: You may use the theorems, provided on next page, without proof.] Here  $\varphi(t, b)$  denotes the solution of  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  with initial data  $x(0) = b$  for  $t$  in the maximal interval of existence  $I_b$ .

**Solution.**

(a): Let  $b_0 \in \partial K$  and let  $\{b_n\} \subset \text{Int } K$  be a sequence converging to  $b_0$ . By the standard existence uniqueness result, there exists an open interval  $I_{b_n} = (-\alpha_n, \beta_n)$  where  $\alpha_n, \beta_n \in [0, \infty]$  such that the solution map  $\varphi(t, b_n)$  is well defined for  $t \in I_{b_n}$ .

Moreover, note that by Theorem 4.2.3,

$$(2) \quad \varphi([0, b_n), b_n) \subset K \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1.$$

Next, we claim that for each  $t \in [0, \beta_0)$ , we have  $\varphi(t, b_0) \in K$ .

Indeed, by Theorem 4.5.1, then it follows that  $[0, t] \subset I_{b_n}$  for all  $n \gg 1$ , and that

$$\varphi(t, b_0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(t, b_n).$$

Since  $\varphi(t, b_n) \in K$  (thanks to (2)) and  $K$  is compact, it follows that the limit  $\varphi(t, b_0) \in K$ . □

(b): Since  $\varphi([0, \beta_0), b_0) \subset K$  and  $K$  is a compact set of  $U$ , Theorem 4.1.2 says that  $\beta_0 = +\infty$ . □

**Problem 6.** (15 points) Suppose  $\bar{B} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  is a trapping region of  $\dot{x} = F(x)$ , and where  $F : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is  $C^1$ .

- (a) (11 points) Use Brouwer's fixed point theorem (recalled below) to prove that  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  has at least one equilibrium point  $x^*$  in  $\bar{B}$ .
- (b) (4 points) Define a  $F : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  satisfying the above assumptions but the ODE has no equilibrium located in the open set  $B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \|x\| < 1\}$ . (Hint: Try a contraction mapping.)

**Solution.**

(a): By Problem 5,  $K = \bar{B}$  is a compact and forward-invariant set, i.e. for any  $b \in \bar{B}$ , solutions exists globally forward in time, and that

$$\varphi([0, \infty), b) \subset \bar{B}.$$

For  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in \bar{B}$ , define  $f_k(x) = \varphi(2^{-k}, x)$ . Then (i)  $f_k : \bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{B}$  (since  $\bar{B}$  is a forward-invariant set thanks to Problem 5); (ii)  $f_k$  is continuous in  $\bar{B}$  (thanks to Theorem 4.5.1). We can then apply Brouwer's fixed point theorem to conclude that, for each  $k$ , there exists  $x_k \in \bar{B}$  such that

$$\varphi(2^{-k}, x_k) = f_k(x_k) = x_k.$$

By semigroup property, we have

$$\varphi(t, x_k) = x_k \text{ for all } t \in S_k.$$

where

$$S_k = \left\{ \frac{m}{2^k} : m \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

Next, by compactness of  $\bar{B}$ , we pass to a strictly increasing sequence of integers  $\{k_n\} \subset \mathbb{N}$  so that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{k_n} = x^* \quad \text{for some } x^* \in \bar{B}.$$

We will show that  $x^*$  is an equilibrium for the continuous-time dynamical system.

For any natural number  $m$  such that  $m \leq k_n$ , we have  $S_m \subset S_{k_n}$  so that

$$\varphi(t, x_{k_n}) = x_{k_n} \quad \text{for all } t \in S_m.$$

By Theorem 4.5.1, we can send  $k_n \rightarrow \infty$  (while fixing  $t$ ) to deduce that

$$\varphi(t, x^*) = x^* \quad \text{for all } t \in S_m.$$

Since this holds for any  $m$ , it follows that

$$\varphi(t, x^*) = x^* \quad \text{for all } t \in S' = \left\{ \frac{n'}{2^m} : n', m \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

Since  $S'$  is dense in  $[0, \infty)$  and  $\varphi(t, x^*)$  is continuous in  $t$ , it follows that

$$\varphi(t, x^*) = x^* \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

i.e.  $x^*$  is an equilibrium. □

(b): Fix an arbitrary point  $x^* \in \partial B$ , and Set  $F(x) = -(x - x^*)$ , then it is clear that  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  has a unique equilibrium  $x^* \in \bar{B}$ . that occurs on the boundary but not in the interior of  $B$ .

It remains to show that  $\bar{B}$  is a trapping region. Indeed, for any  $x \in \partial B$ , we have

$$\langle N_x, F(x) \rangle = \langle -x, -(x - x^*) \rangle = \|x\|^2 - \langle x, x^* \rangle \geq 0,$$

where we used Cauchy-Schwartz's inequality and, of course,  $\|x\| = \|x^*\| = 1$ . □

## Appendix.

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**Theorem.** [Brouwer's Fixed Point Theorem] *Let  $\overline{B} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  be the closed unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . If  $f : \overline{B} \rightarrow \overline{B}$  is continuous, then there exists a point  $x^* \in \overline{B}$  such that*

$$f(x^*) = x^*.$$


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**Theorem 4.1.2.** *Suppose, regarding the maximal solution of  $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = F(\mathbf{x})$ ,*

$$\mathbf{x}_* : (-\alpha_*, \beta_*) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d,$$

*that  $\beta_* < \infty$ . Then for every compact set  $K \subset U$ , there is an  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that*

$$\mathbf{x}_*(t) \notin K \quad \text{for } \beta_* - \varepsilon < t < \beta_*.$$


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**Theorem 4.2.3** Suppose that  $\mathbf{F} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is  $C^1$  and that  $K$  is a compact trapping region for

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}).$$

If  $K$  has smooth boundary, then for any  $b \in \text{Int } K$ , solution exists for all positive time, and that

$$\varphi(t, b) \in K \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0, \text{ and all } b \in \text{Int } K.$$


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**Theorem 4.5.1.** Suppose  $F : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is locally Lipschitz, and let  $t \mapsto x_0(t) = \varphi(t, b_0)$ ,  $0 \leq t < \beta_0$  (with  $\beta_0 \in (0, \infty]$ ) be a solution forward in time satisfying

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_0(t) = F(x_0) \quad \text{with initial data } x_0(0) = b_0.$$

Then for each fixed number  $T \in (0, \beta_0)$ , there exists  $C_T > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  containing  $b_0$  such that

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|\varphi(t, b) - \varphi(t, b_0)\| \leq C_T \|b - b_0\| \quad \text{for all } b \text{ such that } \|b - b_0\| < \delta.$$


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