Individual Reflection Letter

I believe that overall, this class is well put together, as I only believe there is one main weakness. Let me start out with all the strengths of the class. The pacing was great. Chapters 7 and 8, which needed to be longer, were the appropriate length, and not much time was spent over chapters 4 and 6, which didn’t require as much time. The only thing is that I think one more class going over chapter 9 would be very beneficial. I believe chapter 3 was slightly longer than needed, so that is probably a good place to look to get more time for chapter 9.

Another thing I generally liked about the class was the flipped set-up. It allowed us to focus more on examples during class instead of lecturing, which gave us good experiences learning the harder topics. However, there is one issue I had with it. Due to spending a lot of time in class going over what was covered in the notes and on the quizzes, someone wouldn’t lose out on a lot of information if they did the tactic to skip watching the videos and still get full credit on the quiz (by using your first attempt to get the answer and using the second attempt to enter that correct answer). To fix this problem, I would make it so you couldn’t see the correct answer on the first try, so people would have to go through the videos to get the correct answer. Also, by not going over the notes as much in class, I think that would encourage people to pay more attention during the videos.

The main weakness I this class has to do with the tests. You underestimate the power of ChatGPT to answer the test problems. Now you can upload images to the website and get answers back in seconds. Now I haven’t used ChatGPT to get answers on your tests, but I’ve heard from other people that it is correct almost all the time. Since wrong answers you have on your tests aren’t close to being correct (The answers that you can get if you make common mistakes aren’t answer choices), you can just keep asking ChatGPT to fix the code it gives you until you get an answer choice, which is usually correct. My suggestion would be to just have everyone take the exam in class and have proctors to make sure no one is using ChatGPT.

As for what was most meaningful for me, probably everything. I’m an avid coder, so getting to learn some math techniques that might come in handy is exciting to me. Being able to solve the single nonlinear equations and initial differential equations were particularly exciting to me. The only thing is, I’m going to back and relearn the built-in functions in python because I use that way more than MATLAB. I doubt it will be very bad to relearn It all though, because you did such a good job teaching it to us in MATLAB, that it’ll be easy to get the hang of it there.