

Exam on Dynamical Systems.  
June 28, 2008

1. Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . We consider the differential equation  $x'' + \alpha x' + 9x = 0$ .  
(a) Find the general solution when  $\alpha = 4$  and  $\alpha = 0$ , respectively.  
(b) Find  $\alpha$  such that all the solutions are periodic. What is the period in this case? Does it depend on  $\alpha$ ?

2. We consider the Initial Value Problem  $x' + \alpha(t)x = f(t)$ , where  $\alpha, f \in C(\mathbb{R})$ .

- (a) Find the solution when  $\alpha(t) = 2t$  and  $f(t) = 3e^{-t^2}$ .  
(b) Find the solution (eventually only an integral representation of it) when  $\alpha(t) = 2t$  and  $f(t) = 1$ .  
(c) Write an integral representation of the solution of this IVP for arbitrary  $\alpha$  and  $f$ .

3. Find a first integral for the differential equation

$$(5x - 2xy)dx + (3y^2 - x^2)dy = 0.$$

4. Represent the phase portrait of the following differential equation:

$$\dot{x} = \frac{1}{2}x(1 - x).$$

5. We consider the map  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x(1 - x)$ . Find its fixed points and study their stability. For what type of values of  $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$  we can deduce from the above study that the sequence  $(x_n)_{n \geq 0}$  given by the recurrence  $x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}x_n(1 - x_n)$ ,  $n \geq 0$ ,  $x_0 = \eta$  is convergent?