



# NCU Qualify Exam for Ordinary Differential Equations

09/01/2009

1. (a) (10 pts) Let  $f(t, x)$  be continuous on

$$S = \{(t, x) : |t - t_0| \leq a, |x - x_0| \leq b\}$$

and let  $f(t, x)$  satisfy a Lipschitz condition in  $x$  with Lipschitz constant  $L$ . Let  $M \equiv \max\{|f(t, x)| : (t, x) \in S\}$ . Show by contraction principle that there exists a unique solution of initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= f(t, x), \\ x(t_0) &= x_0\end{aligned}$$

on  $I = \{t : |t - t_0| \leq \alpha\}$ , where  $\alpha < \min\{a, \frac{b}{M}, \frac{1}{L}\}$ .

- (b) (10 pts) Consider the equation

$$\dot{x} = \phi(t) \frac{x}{1 + t^2 + x^2} = f(t, x)$$

for all  $t, x$ ,  $\phi(t) > 0$ , and  $\int^\infty \phi(t) dt < \infty$ . Show that every solution approaches a constant as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

2. (a) (10 pts) We consider Hill's equation

$$x'' + (\alpha + p(t))x = 0,$$

where  $\alpha > 0$  and  $p(t)$  is periodic with period  $T$ . Rewrite Hill's equation as a linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = A(t) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $\Phi(t)$  be the fundamental matrix of the linear system above. Also let

$$\Phi(0) = I, \quad -2 < \text{tr}(\Phi(t)) < 2.$$

Show that the solutions of Hill's equation are bounded.