Topics for Exam 2

1. Analysis of Linear Systems

- 1.1 Construction of solutions
- 1.2 Linearly independent solutions
- 1.3 The fundamental matrix
- 1.4 Existence and uniqueness for linear, initial value problems

2. Applications to Second Order Linear Differential Equations

- 2.1 Construction of solutions to linear second order equations
- 2.2 Linearly independent solutions
- 2.3 Structure of the solutions space for linear, second-order, homogeneous differential equations (Problem 3 in Assignment #11)
- 2.4 Existence and uniqueness for the initial value problem

3. Analysis of General Systems

- 3.1 Local Existence and Uniqueness Theorem
- 3.2 Maximal interval of existence
- 3.3 Global existence
- 3.4 Qualitative analysis
 - 4.1 Nullclines
 - 4.2 Equilibrium points
- 3.5 Principle of Linearized Stability
 - 5.1 Stable equilibrium points
 - 5.2 Unstable equilibrium points
 - 5.3 Types of equilibrium points

Relevant sections in text: Sections 2.2, 2.6, 3.1, 3.2,3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 5.1 and 5.2

Relevant chapters in the online class notes: Chapters 3, 4 and 5

Relevant assignments: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Important concepts: Linearly independent functions, fundamental matrix, local existence and uniqueness, nullclines, equilibrium points, stability of equilibrium points, linearization, Principle of Linearized Stability.

Important skills:

- Know how to compute fundamental matrices for homogenous, autonomous linear systems
- Know how to construct solutions of second order linear equations with constant coefficients
- Know how to apply the existence and uniqueness theorems
- Know how to apply the principle of linearized stability
- Know how to use nullclines and the principle of linearized stability to sketch the phase portrait of general, two–dimensional, autonomous systems