

```

1 % falsepos_falling_mass
2
3 %{
4 This program uses the false position root finding method to
5 solve for the mass of a falling object with air resistance.
6 %}
7
8 % Author: Calvin Sprouse
9 % Date: 2024 February 05
10
11 % Version 2: Adapted to use false position method
12
13 % workspace init
14 clear;
15 close all;
16
17 % define constants
18 % acceleration of gravity [m/s^2]
19 g = 9.8;
20 % drag coefficient [kg/m]
21 cd = 0.25;
22 % velocity at t=4s [m/s]
23 v = 36;
24 % time [s]
25 t = 4;
26
27 % define the drag function
28 func = @(x) sqrt(g.*x./cd) .* tanh( sqrt(g.*cd./x) .* t ) - v;
29
30 % plot the function to make sure there is a root
31 plt = fplot(func, [0 500], "-k");
32 plt.Parent.FontWeight = "normal";
33 plt.Parent.FontName = "Times New Roman";
34 plt.Parent.FontSize = 16;
35 % ylim([-10, 10]);
36 % yline(0, "--k");
37 % xlabel("Mass [kg]");
38 % ylabel("Drag Force [N]");
39 % title("Drag force for an object with known velocity", FontWeight="normal");
40 % exportgraphics(gcf, "root_plot.pdf");
41
42 % define the questioning strings
43 xl_query = 'Enter the lower bound for mass in kg? ';
44 xu_query = 'Enter the upper bound for mass in kg? ';
45
46 % ask the user for the initial guess
47 xl = input(xl_query);
48 xu = input(xu_query);
49
50 % evaluate at the initial guesses to make sure they surround the root
51 while func(xl)*func(xu) > 0
52     disp('Supplied bounds do not surround the root. ');
53     xl = input(xl_query);
54     xu = input(xu_query);
55 end
56
57 % define initial values for while loop
58 approxerr = 1;
59 count = 0;
60 oldxr = 0;
61
62 % define stop conditions
63 err_thresh = 1e-6;
64 iter_max = 1e3;
65
66 % iterate with bisection method until error is less than 0.05 percent
67 while (approxerr > err_thresh) && (count < iter_max)
68     % calculate xr based on straight line slope
69     xr = (func(xl)*xu - func(xu)*xl) / (func(xl) - func(xu));
70
71     % figure out what side of the midpoint the root is on
72     if func(xr)*func(xu) < 0
73         % replace the lower bound with the midpoint
74         xl = xr;
75     else
76         % replace the upper bound with the midpoint
77         xu = xr;
78     end
79
80     % calculate the approximate error
81     approxerr = abs((xr - oldxr) / xr);
82
83     % store old guess for root
84     oldxr = xr;
85
86     % increase count value
87     count = count + 1;
88 end
89
90 % output the results
91 out_str = 'The root is %5.2f kg. It was found after %i iterations. The approximate error is %6.4f%%.\n';
92 fprintf(out_str, xr, count, approxerr*100);
93
94 % use built in fuction (fzero) to find the root
95 fprintf('The root found with fzero is %5.2f. \n', fzero(func, xl));
96

```