# MA146 Methods of Mathematical Modelling 1, Assignment 3

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# Question 1

Objects moving in air experience a drag. Let us specifically consider a ball of radius r that moves with velocity v. We assume that its drag d also depends on the density  $\rho$  of the air and its dynamic viscosity  $\mu$ , and write the problem in the form

$$d = u(r, v, \rho, \mu)$$

with some function u that we want to learn more about.

Perform a dimensional analysis using the power of  $\mu$  to express the solution to the emerging system of linear equations.

Hint: the viscosity has dimension  $[\mu]=ML^{-1}T^{-1},$  and the drag (force)  $[d]=MLT^{-2}$ 

Let  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$[d] = \left[ r^a v^b \rho^c \mu^d \right] = L^a L^b T^{-2b} M^c L^{-3c} M^d L^{-d} T^{-d} = M L T^{-2}$$

Then we get the simultaneous equations

$$c+d=1$$
 
$$a+b-3c-d=1$$
 
$$-2b-d=-2$$

We don't have enough information to solve the system from here, but we can simplify to get

$$a = 3 - \frac{3}{2}d$$
$$b = 1 - \frac{d}{2}$$
$$c = 1 - d$$

Since they're all integers, we know that d is even, so we can just try even values of d.

d=2 gives

$$a = 0$$

$$b = 0$$

$$c = -1$$

$$d = 2$$

But we want the radius and velocity to be part of the equation, so we don't want a=b=0.

d=4 gives

$$a = -3$$

$$b = -1$$

$$c = -3$$

$$d = 4$$

Therefore  $[d] = \left[r^{-3}v^{-1}\rho^{-3}\mu^4\right]$ .

# Question 2

To model the freezing of a pond at very cold temperatures, assume that the thickness of the ice on it increases at a rate inversely proportional to its thickness (we here ignore the finite depth of the pond).

#### Q2 (a)

Denoting the thickness of the ice by x(t) as a function of time t, formulate the problem as a differential equation for x using a proportionality constant denoted by  $\alpha$ .

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{\alpha}{x(t)}$$

#### Q2 (b)

If the ice initially (at midnight) is 2mm thick and at 4am it is 3mm thick, how thick will it be at 9:36am?

Let midnight be time t=0, t be in hours and x(t) be in millimetres. Then x(0)=2 and x(4)=3.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{x}$$

$$\int x dx = \int \alpha dt$$

$$\frac{x^2}{2} = \alpha t + C$$

$$\therefore x(t) = \sqrt{2\alpha t + C}$$

Then we can use the initial values.

$$x(0) = \sqrt{2\alpha \times 0 + C}$$

$$= \sqrt{C}$$

$$= 2$$

$$\implies C = 4$$

$$x(2) = \sqrt{2\alpha \times 4 + 4}$$

$$= 3$$

$$\implies 8\alpha = 3^{2} - 4$$

$$= 5$$

$$\implies \alpha = \frac{5}{8}$$

$$\therefore x(t) = \sqrt{\frac{5}{4}t + 4}$$

Now we can just plug in 9:36 am, which is 9.6 hours after midnight, and find that  $x(9.6) = \sqrt{12+4} = 4$ . Therefore the ice will be 4 mm thick at 9:36 am.

#### Q2 (c)

Assume that the proportionality factor  $\alpha$  is replaced by a time dependent function of the form  $\alpha(1+\cos(\omega t))$ , which aims for modelling temperature changes during the day. Here, t is time measured in hours (denoted h) and  $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{24h}$ .

Assuming also an initial condition of the form  $x(t_0) = x_0$ , find the ice thickness as a function of time. (You may keep the parameter  $\alpha$ , no need to replace it with the value from part (b).)

Now we have the differential equation

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{\alpha \left(1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{12}t\right)\right)}{x(t)}$$

We can solve this like before,

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{\alpha \left(1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{12}t\right)\right)}{x}$$

$$\int x \mathrm{d}x = \int \alpha \left(1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{12}t\right)\right) \mathrm{d}t$$

$$\frac{x^2}{2} = \alpha t + \alpha \frac{12}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{12}t\right) + C$$

$$\therefore x(t) = \sqrt{2\alpha t + \frac{24\alpha}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{12}t\right) + C}$$

Let  $t_0 = 0$ . Then  $x(t_0) = x(0) = \sqrt{0 + \frac{24\alpha}{\pi} \sin 0 + C} = \sqrt{C} = x_0$ , therefore  $C = (x_0)^2$ .

Therefore,

$$x(t) = \sqrt{2\alpha t + \frac{24\alpha}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{12}t\right) + (x_0)^2}$$

# Question 3

A model for the vibrations of a wine glass is given by the differential equation

$$x''(t) + \lambda x'(t) + \omega^2 x(t) = f(t) \tag{1}$$

where x is some measure of the deformation,  $\lambda, \omega > 0$  are given numbers and f is a given function called *(acoustic) forcing*. The equation is nondimensional. The glass shatters if  $|x(t)| \ge 1$  at any time t.

Please get the Jupyter notebook MA146\_Assignment3.ipynb for this question. It contains an example on how to solve initial value problems for second order equations with sympy.

#### Q3 (a)

Use the notebook to symbolically solve the initial value problem

$$x''(t) + \lambda x'(t) + \omega^2 x(t) = 0, \quad x(0) = x_i, x'(0) = d_i$$

with  $\lambda = 0.8$ ,  $\omega = 5.0$ ,  $x_i = 0$ , and d = 3.6.

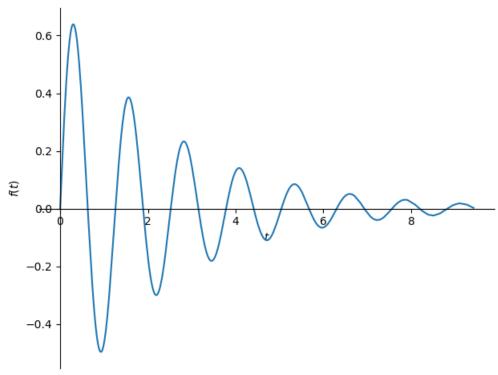
Provide your code, the algebraic expression for the solution produced by the software, and a plot on the interval  $(0, 3\pi)$  for t of the solution.

```
x = Function("x")
t = Symbol('t')

lam = 0.8
omega = 5
ode = Derivative(x(t), t, t) + lam * Derivative(x(t), t) + (omega ** 2) * x(t);

xi = 0
di = 3.6
sol = dsolve(ode, ics={x(0): xi, x(t).diff(t).subs(t, 0): di})

print(sol)
plot(sol.rhs, (t, 0, 3 * pi))
```



# Q3 (b)

Implement now a solver for (1) with

$$f(t) = a\cos(\alpha t)$$

and initial conditions

$$x(0) = 0, x'(0) = 0.$$

Assume that the parameters are  $\lambda = 0.0009$ ,  $\omega = 6.415$ ,  $\alpha = 2\pi$ .

Use your solver to computationally (for instance, by try and error) find the smallest number  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that a = n/10 is sufficient to ensure that  $x(t) \ge 1$  at some time t (i.e., the factor in the forcing is big enough to break the glass).

Provide your solution (n and a) and, for evidence, two graphs, one for the minimal  $n_{\min}$  and one for  $n_{\min} - 1$ .

(Hints: Start with n=3. You will need a sufficiently large domain for t to see what is going on, for instance,  $t \in (0,60)$ .

You might observe some odd behaviour in the graph but which (hopefully) are visualisation effects only. They should vanish if you increase the number of points in the variable <code>nb\_of\_points</code> that is used in the plotting command.)

My solution is  $n_{\min} = 9$ .

```
def solve_vibrations_ode(n: int):
    lam = 0.0009
    omega = 6.415
    a = n / 10
    alpha = 2 * pi
    ode = Derivative(x(t), t, t) + lam * Derivative(x(t), t) + (omega ** 2) * x(t) - a * cos(alpha * t);

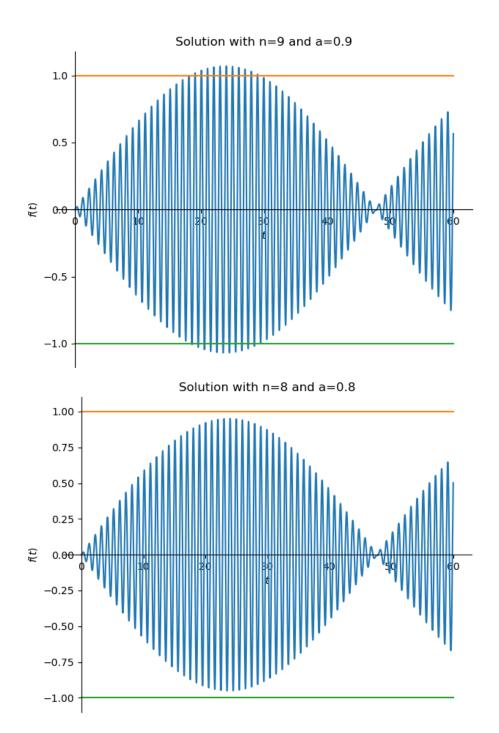
    xi = 0
    di = 0
        sol = dsolve(ode, ics={x(0): xi, x(t).diff(t).subs(t, 0): di})
    return sol

n = 9
    sol = solve_vibrations_ode(n)

from sympy.plotting import plot_parametric

p = plot(sol.rhs, (t, 0, 60), adaptive=False, nb_of_points=8000, show=False, title=f"Solution with n={n} and a={n/10}")

# Use parametric plots to add horizontal lines at y=1 and y=-1
# I'm sure there's a better way to do this, but this method works
p.extend(plot_parametric((t, 1), (t, 0, 60), show=False))
p.extend(plot_parametric((t, -1), (t, 0, 60), show=False))
p.show()
```



### Question 4

Find a particular integral for the second order differential equation

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2}{\mathrm{d}y^2}(t) + \eta \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}y(t) + by(t) = f\cos(\theta t)$$

with parameters  $b, \eta, \theta, f > 0$ .

Since the right hand side is  $f \cos(\theta t)$ , we will use  $y(t) = A \cos(\theta t) + B \sin(\theta t)$  as our particular integral.

$$y(t) = A\cos(\theta t) + B\sin(\theta t)$$
  

$$y'(t) = -\theta A\sin(\theta t) + \theta B\cos(\theta t)$$
  

$$y''(t) = -\theta^2 A\cos(\theta t) - \theta^2 B\sin(\theta t)$$

Plugging this into the ODE, we get

$$-\theta^2 A \cos(\theta t) - \theta^2 B \sin(\theta t) - \eta \theta A \sin(\theta t) + \eta \theta B \cos(\theta t) + b A \cos(\theta t) + b B \sin(\theta t) = f \cos(\theta t)$$

We can compare coefficients of sin and cos and conclude that

$$-\theta^2 B - \eta \theta A + bB = 0$$
$$-\theta^2 A - \eta \theta B + bA = f$$

The first equation implies  $B(b-\theta^2)=\eta\theta A$ . We can use this to get B in terms of A, so  $B=\frac{\eta\theta A}{b-\theta^2}$ . Then we can plug that into the second equation, which gives

$$A\left(-\theta^2 + \frac{\eta^2 \theta^2}{b - \theta^2} + b\right) = f$$

Therefore

$$A = \frac{f(b - \theta^2)}{\left(b - \theta^2\right)^2 + \eta^2 \theta^2}$$

And therefore

$$B = \frac{\eta \theta f}{\left(b - \theta^2\right)^2 + \eta^2 \theta^2}$$

Therefore the particular integral is

$$\frac{f(b-\theta^2)}{\left(b-\theta^2\right)^2+\eta^2\theta^2}\cos(\theta t)+\frac{\eta\theta f}{\left(b-\theta^2\right)^2+\eta^2\theta^2}\sin(\theta t)$$

Alternatively written as

$$\frac{f}{(b-\theta^2)^2 + \eta^2 \theta^2} \left( (b-\theta^2) \cos(\theta t) + \eta \theta \sin(\theta t) \right)$$