

CA167: Practical X09

Note: This practical forms the third continuous assessment test, following the lab exams of semester 1. It is important that the work submitted be the student's own and a clear statement to this effect should be included; *specifically, the front page of the submission should be a completed copy of page 5 of DCU's "Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy"*
(<https://www4.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/registry/docs/IntegrityPlagiarism.pdf>)

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1. Mathematical model

Consider the problem of a sphere of radius a , which is at an initial temperature of T_0 . If the material is characterized by a diffusivity α^2 and it is placed in 0°C air, the sphere will slowly cool by convection and radiation. If the rate of temperature decrease at the surface is characterized by an experimental constant h , the solution for the temperature at the centre of the sphere is

$$T_c = T_0 \left(\frac{ah}{\sigma} \right) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n^{-\beta_n^2 t} \quad (*)$$

where

$$\beta_n^2 = \theta_n \frac{\alpha^2}{a^2} \quad (**)$$

$$C_n = \frac{4 \sin(\theta_n)}{2\theta_n - \sin(2\theta_n)} \quad (***)$$

and θ_n is the n^{th} root of the equation

$$\tan(\theta_n) = \frac{\theta_n}{1 - \frac{ah}{\sigma}} \quad (****)$$

2. Statement of the programming problem

Write a Matlab program that takes a set of parameter values as input (see below on sets of values). These values should be read from a text file. Then, the program should (A) Determine and report the first 10 roots of Equation (****).

(B) Then use Equation (*) to compute and report the temperature at the centre of the sphere for values of time $t = 0$ to $t = 3600$ seconds (that is, one hour) in steps of 60 seconds. The program should generate a plot of the centre temperature.

2. 1 Specific guidance on the root-finding step (A)

(1) Express Equation (****) in the form $f(\theta) = 0$ so that the first 10 roots of this are what is required. You will also need to work out a formula for the derivative $f'(\theta)$

(2) Finding the roots θ_n

(a) **First Root:** Write Matlab code that will start at $\theta = 0.1$ and step in values of 0.1 to find the first time that $f(\theta)$ changes sign. (*HINT: This should be near 0.4 for the parameter values of Set 1 – see below*). Then use the Newton-Raphson method to refine this rough estimate of the first root so that it is known to an accuracy of at least 10^{-5} .

(b) **Subsequent Roots:** You must be careful about how to find the remaining 9 roots that are required. One cannot proceed to look for sign changes in $f(\theta)$ because there are discontinuities at multiples of $\pi/2$. Instead, for all roots after the first, you should begin the Newton-Raphson method with the initial guess

$$\theta_n = (n - \frac{1}{2})\pi(1 - \frac{1}{(n - \frac{1}{2})^2 \pi^2 k^2}), (n = 2, 3, \dots, 9)$$

where $k = 1 - (\frac{ah}{\sigma})$

3. Values of the parameters (2 sets)

Set 1: First, use the following values of the parameters

T_0	α^2	h	σ	a
250°C	$1.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{sec}$	23.0 W/m ² -°C	46.0 W/m ² -°C	0.1m

Set 2: Next, modify the values in Set 1 and re-run the program to see what the impact of the modifications is. The choice of modification is up to you (*so it is anticipated that students will make different choices*). Note that this may impact on the value of the rough estimate of the first root of Equation (****).

Correction to Specification

Following questions from some students, I have re-checked the formulae in the specification. It turns out, unfortunately, that the textbook I used for this problem had an error in equation (*). Having calculated the solution myself, I see that this equation should read

$$T_c = T_0 \left(\frac{ah}{\sigma} \right) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n e^{-\beta_n^2 t} \quad (*)$$

This error does not impact at all on the root finding part of the question.