



C program to study Projectile motion with air drag using Euler method

Term Paper

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Abstract

In this Term Paper we will discuss how numerical method can be used to Predict the motion of a projectile with air drag Using Euler method

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1 Introduction

Need of numerical analysis: Most of the problems in mechanics start with the questions of motion and analysis of trajectory of motion. During the process of solving the problems with analytical methods, we are forced to neglect many parameters to avoid complexity. If external parameter controlling the motion are large numbers, The error is also large. A Solution incorporating all these parameters will be highly complicated

In numerical analysis we can solve this problem by step by step, including all parameters, which we like to incorporate. By the fundamentals of differentiation,

$$v_t = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} = \frac{x_{t+h} - x_t}{h} \quad (1)$$

$$a_t = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} = \frac{v_{t+h} - v_t}{h} \quad (2)$$

This is true only if $h \rightarrow 0$ this means h must be infinitesimally small. This can be made reality only with a computer. so when h become very small, above set of equations become

$$x_{t+h} = x_t + hv_t \quad (3)$$

$$v_{t+h} = v_t + ha_t \quad (4)$$

$$a = \frac{F(x, v, t)}{m} \quad (5)$$

using this equations we can estimate the acceleration, velocity, displacement in step by step using a computer.

2 One Dimensional motion

2.1 Position and velocity of a body - Euler method

we know from fundamentals,

$$\Delta v = \Delta t \times a \quad (6)$$

if

$$\Delta t = h \quad (7)$$

$$\Delta v = ha \quad (8)$$

$$v_2 - v_1 = ha_1 \quad (9)$$

$$v_2 = v_1 + ha_1 \quad (10)$$

similarly

$$v_3 = v_2 + ha_2 \quad (11)$$

Extending this to particular time element

$$v_{i+1} = v_i + ha_i \quad (12)$$

From fundamentals

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta x}{h} \quad (13)$$

$$\Delta x = hv \quad (14)$$

$$x_2 - x_1 = hv_1 \quad (15)$$

$$x_2 = x_1 + hv_1 \quad (16)$$

similarly

$$x_3 = x_2 + hv_1 \quad (17)$$

Extending this to particular time element

$$x_{i+1} = x_i + ha_i \quad (18)$$

Divide the total time into small elements. From the initial value find the velocity and position during that element. Using that value, we can find the velocity and position in the next time element. This can be continued till last time slot to get the final value. This is the Euler method.

2.2 Freely falling body with air drag

When a body moves downward, The air drag is proportional to square of the velocity.

$$F_{air} \propto v^2 \quad (19)$$

$$F_{air} = kv^2 \quad (20)$$

$$F_{air} = \frac{1}{2}c\pi\rho r^2v^2 \quad (21)$$

where

c = Drag Coefficient

ρ = Density of Medium

r = Radius of the body

Net downward force

$$F = mg - \frac{1}{2}C\pi\rho r^2v^2 \quad (22)$$

$$a = g - Kv^2 \quad (23)$$

where $K = \frac{1}{2m}c\pi\rho r^2$

3 Two Dimensional Motion

When we are making Two Dimensional analysis, the analysis methodology is same as one dimensional, but we need to find the acceleration, velocity and displacement in x direction and y direction Separately.

from Euler method in One Dimension

$$v_{i+1} = v_i + ha_i \quad (24)$$

$$x_{i+1} = x_i + hv_i \quad (25)$$

Extending to x and y direction separately

$$v_{x(i+1)} = v_{xi} + ha_{xi} \quad (26)$$

$$v_{y(i+1)} = v_{yi} + ha_{yi} \quad (27)$$

$$x_{x(i+1)} = x_{xi} + hv_{xi} \quad (28)$$

$$x_{y(i+1)} = x_{yi} + hv_{yi} \quad (29)$$

A two dimensional analysis is equivalent to two one dimensional analysis. The analysis can be repeated with the correction due to variation in acceleration due to gravity, force of buoyancy, viscous force and air drag.

3.1 Projectile motion by Euler method

A projectile is a body projected with initial velocity at an angle with horizontal. In this case initial velocity and acceleration in x and y direction are different. Time of flight is same in x and y direction. consider the influence of gravity only. Then

$$F_x = 0 \quad F_y = -mg \quad (30)$$

$$F_y = 0 \quad F_x = -g \quad (31)$$

Since the projectile is projected at an angle, The initial velocity can be split into two components. They they are $v_0\cos\theta$ along x axis and $v_0\sin\theta$ along y axis. then as Discussed before. By Euler method,

3.1.1 Along x direction

Acceleration=0

initial velocity = $v_0\cos\theta$

$$v_{x(i+1)} = v_{xi} + ha_{xi}$$

$$x_{x(i+1)} = v_{xi} + hv_{xi}$$

3.1.2 Along y direction

Acceleration=-g

initial velocity = $v_0\sin\theta$

$$v_{y(i+1)} = v_{yi} + ha_{yi}$$

$$x_{y(i+1)} = v_{yi} + hv_{yi}$$

Using this formula the position and velocity at any stage can be calculated. In the case of a projectile, the maximum value of displacement in x direction is called maximum range. The maximum value of displacement in

y direction is called maximum height.

3.2 Projectile motion with air drag

On practical situations, the air drag will oppose the projectile motion. So we get a better estimate of trajectory, we have to incorporate the variation of acceleration force due to air drag. As discussed earlier, air drag,

$$F_d = \frac{1}{2}C\pi\rho r^2v^2 \quad (32)$$

The effect of air drag can be split into two components $F_d\cos\phi$ along x axis and $F_d\sin\phi$ along y axis where ϕ is the angle by velocity component with x direction at any instant.

3.2.1 x-component

Force due to Earth's gravity = 0

$$\text{Air drag} = -F_d\cos\phi = -\frac{1}{2}C\pi\rho r^2v^2\cos\phi = -\frac{1}{2}C\pi\rho r^2v^2$$

$$\text{Net force at any instant} = -\frac{1}{2}C\pi\rho r^2v^2\cos\phi$$

$$\text{Net acceleration at any instant} = -\frac{C\pi\rho r^2v^2\cos\phi}{2} = -kv^2\cos\phi$$

$$\text{Where } k = \frac{1}{2m}C\pi\rho r^2$$

$$\text{At any instant, } \cos\phi = \frac{v_x}{v}$$

Substituting

$$a_x = -kv^2\frac{v_x}{v} = -kvv_x = -kv\sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2}$$

3.2.2 y-component

Force due to Earths gravity $= -mg$

Air drag $= -F_d \sin \phi = \frac{1}{2} C \pi \rho r^2 v^2 \sin \phi = -\frac{1}{2} C \pi \rho r^2 v^2$

Net force at any instant $= -mg - \frac{1}{2} C \pi \rho r^2 v^2 \sin \phi$

Net acceleration at any instant $= -g - \frac{C \pi \rho r^2 v^2 \sin \phi}{2} = -g - k v^2 \cos \phi$

Where $k = \frac{1}{2m} C \pi \rho r^2$

At any instant, $\sin \phi = \frac{v_y}{v}$

Substituting

$a_x = -g - k v^2 \frac{v_y}{v} = -k v v_y = -k v \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2}$ From acceleration we can estimate

the velocity and position along x and y axis at any ins by Euler method.

4 programme for Projectile motion

4.1 C programme

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2  #include <math.h>
3  int main()
4  {
5      float v0, ang, tf, h, drag, ro, rad, mass, k, ay, ax, vy, vx, x, y, t;
6      printf("Enter initial velocity ");
7      scanf("%f", &v0);
```

```

8     printf("Enter angle of projection ");
9     scanf("%f",&ang);
10    printf("Enter time ");
11    scanf("%f",&tf);
12    printf("Enter the time step ");
13    scanf("%f",&h);
14    printf("Enter air drag ");
15    scanf("%f",&drag);
16    printf("Enter Dencity ");
17    scanf("%f",&ro);
18    printf("Enter radis of the body ");
19    scanf("%f",&rad);
20    printf("Enter the mass of the body ");
21    scanf("%f",&mass);
22    k=0.5*3.1415926*drag*ro*rad*rad/mass;
23    // printf("%f",k);
24    ang=ang*3.1415926/180;
25    ax=0;
26    ay=-9.8;
27    vx=v0*cos(ang);
28    vy=v0*sin(ang);
29    x=y=t=0;
30    printf("Time    X-acceleration    Y-acceleration    X-Velocity
Y-Velocity    X-Position    Y-position\n");

```

```

31     printf("%6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f \n
    ",t,ax,ay,vx,vy,x,y);
32     t=t+h;
33     while (t<=tf)
34     {
35         ax=-k*vx*sqrt(vx*vx+vy*vy);
36         ay=-9.8-k*vy*sqrt(vx*vx+vy*vy);
37         vx=vx+ax*h;
38         vy=vy+ay*h;
39         x=x+vx*h;
40         y=y+vy*h;
41         printf("Time    X-acceleration    Y-acceleration    X-
Velocity    Y-Velocity    X-Position    Y-position\n");
42         printf("%6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f  %6.3f
\n",t,ax,ay,vx,vy,x,y);
43         t=t+h;
44         ax=ax;
45         ay=ay;
46     }
47     printf("Thank You");
48 }

```

4.2 Example

A body is projected with a velocity of 10 m/s at an angle 60° . Considering the effect of air drag Tabulate the position and velocity for the first 0.6 Sec by Euler method with time step 0.1 sec. Coefficient of drag = 0.3, Density of air 1.2kgm^{-3} , Radius of the body = 0.5m, mass of the body = 1kg.

```
1   Enter initial velocity 10
2   Enter angle of projection 60
3   Enter time .6
4   Enter the time step .1
5   Enter air drag .3
6   Enter Dencity 1.2
7   Enter radis of the body .5
8   Enter the mass of the body 1
9   Time    X-acceleration    Y-acceleration    X-Velocity    Y-
      Velocity    X-Position    Y-position
10    0.000    0.000    -9.800    5.000    8.660    0.000    0.000
11    0.100    -7.069    -22.043    4.293    6.456    0.429    0.646
12    0.200    -4.706    -16.876    3.823    4.768    0.812    1.122
13    0.300    -3.303    -13.920    3.492    3.376    1.161    1.460
14    0.400    -2.398    -12.119    3.252    2.164    1.486    1.677
15    0.500    -1.796    -10.995    3.073    1.065    1.793    1.783
16    0.600    -1.413    -10.290    2.932    0.036    2.086    1.787
17
```

5 Conclusion

We were able to predict the motion of an Projectile with air drag with ease using numerical method. If we where to calculate this analytically it will be a hard process. Numerical methods using Programming make our life easier.

6 Reference

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