
Damped Pendulum — Coordinates and Graphics

Done in class, February 7, 2025

This is the sixth notebook for you to finish in-class.

Forced Oscillation

Force and Acceleration

```
In[186]:=  
gravity = 9.80665;  
(* the value of gravity in units of meters / seconds-squared *)  
length = 0.24840;  
(* A pendulum whose length is 9.7795 inches converted to meters *)  
(* The natural frequency of such a  
pendulum provided the swings are not large: *)  
omega0 = Sqrt[gravity / length];  
gamma = 0.03;  
(* A real pendulum swinging in air typically has a small gamma. *)  
period = 2 Pi / omega0;  
(* The length was chosen so that the period is 1 second. To be *)  
(* precise, 2 Pi / omega0 = 0.999989,  
and 2 Pi / Sqrt[omega0^2-gamma^2] = 1.000000. *)  
alpha[t_, theta_, omega_] := -omega0^2 Sin[theta] - 2 gamma omega;
```

Simulation Parameters

```
In[192]:=  
tInitial = 0.0;  
tFinal = 50.0;  
steps = 200 000;  
deltaT = (tFinal - tInitial) / steps;
```

Initial Angle and Angular Velocity

Let's let the pendulum be initially held still at 10° and gently released:

```
In[196]:=  
thetaInitial = 10 °;  
omegaInitial = -gamma thetaInitial;  
(* gamma is small, and this is only  $0.3^\circ$  / second. *)  
(* Putting in the small initial velocity  
makes the algebra work out more tidily later. *)  
initialConditions = {tInitial, thetaInitial, omegaInitial};
```


General Second-Order Runge-Kutta – Implementation

The implementation of the damped pendulum is almost the same as the damped oscillator that you just completed. Paste in the code and figure out what needs to be changed.

```
In[199]:= lambda = 1;
rungeKutta2[cc_] := (
  (* Extract time, angle, and angular velocity from the list *)
  curTime = cc[[1]];
  curAngle = cc[[2]];
  curAngularVelocity = cc[[3]];
  (* Compute tStar, xStar, vStar *)
  tStar = curTime + lambda deltaT;
  thetaStar = curAngle + curAngularVelocity lambda deltaT;
  omegaStar =
    curAngularVelocity + α[curTime, curAngle, curAngularVelocity] lambda deltaT;
  (* Implement General Second-Order Runge-Kutta *)
  newTime = curTime + deltaT;
  newAngularVelocity =
    curAngularVelocity + ((1 - 1/(2 lambda)) α[curTime, curAngle, curAngularVelocity] +
      1/(2 lambda) α[tStar, thetaStar, omegaStar]) deltaT;
  newAngle = curAngle + (curAngularVelocity + newAngularVelocity) deltaT / 2;
  (* We are keeping track of the contribution
   * to the acceleration due to the external force *)
  {newTime, newAngle, newAngularVelocity}
)
N[rungeKutta2[initialConditions]] (* Test your rungeKutta2 function. *)
(* The output just below should be {0.0025, 0.174498, -0.022372} *)
```

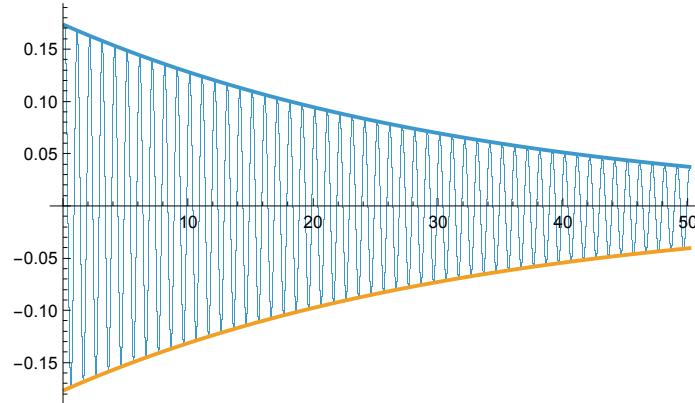
Out[201]= {0.00025, 0.174531, -0.00694977}

Displaying Oscillation

Nest the procedure, transpose the results, and produce a plot of the angle θ as a function of time:

```
In[202]:= rk2Results = NestList[rungeKutta2, initialConditions, steps];
rk2ResultsTransposed = Transpose[rk2Results];
times = rk2ResultsTransposed[[1]];
thetas = rk2ResultsTransposed[[2]];
thetaPlot = ListPlot[Transpose[{times, thetas}]];
(* the theoretical solution is approximately known,
provided the angle remains small *)
(* let's plot the envelope of the theoretical solution *)
envelopeFunction[t_] := thetaInitial Exp[-gamma t]
approximateTheoreticalEnvelope =
  Plot[{envelopeFunction[t], -envelopeFunction[t]}, {t, tInitial, tFinal}];
Show[{thetaPlot, approximateTheoreticalEnvelope}]
```

Out[208]=



In the preceding plot, the theoretical solution is approximately known, provided the angle remains small, and so I added the envelope of the theoretical solution to the plot.

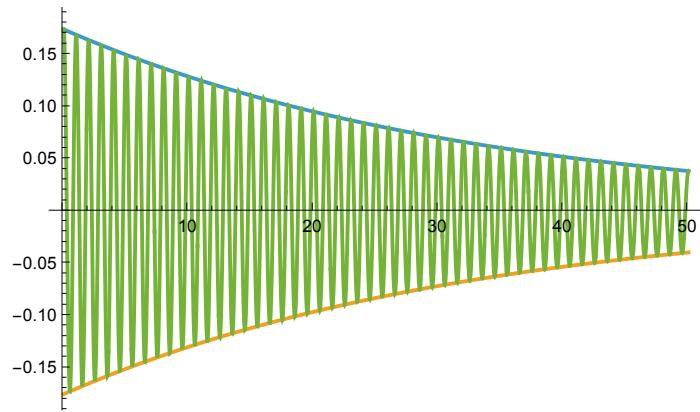
Displaying Theory

In the following plot, I have included the theoretical oscillation, not just the envelope (but the same approximation that the angle must remain small still applies):

```
In[209]:= approximateTheoreticalOscillationPlot =
  Plot[{envelopeFunction[t], -envelopeFunction[t],
    envelopeFunction[t] Cos[Sqrt[omega0^2 - gamma^2] t]}, {t, tInitial, tFinal}];
```

```
In[210]:= Show[{thetaPlot, approximateTheoreticalOscillationPlot}]
```

```
Out[210]=
```



```
In[211]:=
```

Drawing a Pendulum with Coordinates and Graphics

To do a legible job of this, we may need to review Section 14 of EWL3. First we need a circle whose radius is length:

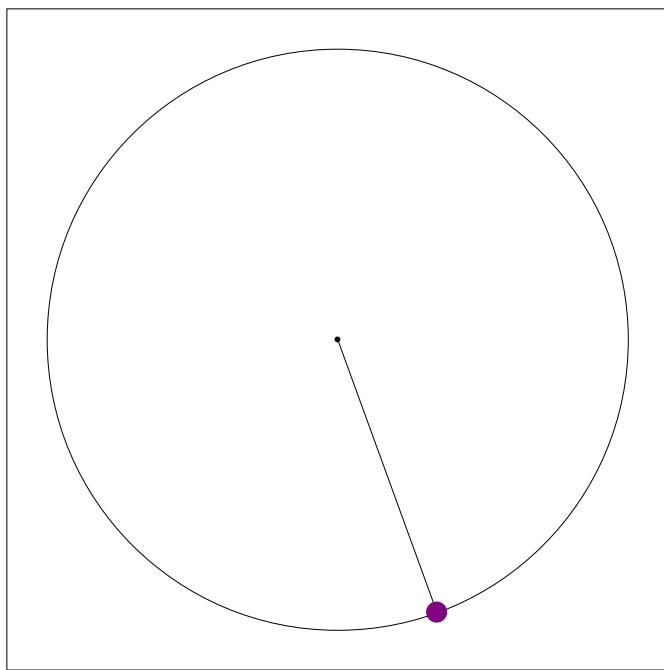
In[212]:=

```

pendulumGraphic[angle_] := Graphics[{
    EdgeForm[Thin], White,
    RegularPolygon[{0.0, 0.0}, 0.4, 4],
    Black,
    Circle[{0, 0}, length],
    Point[{0, 0}],
    Line[{{0, 0}, length {Sin[angle], -Cos[angle]} }],
    PointSize[0.03], Purple,
    (* This directive affects any remaining items in the list *)
    Point[length {Sin[angle], -Cos[angle]}]
}]
pendulumGraphic[20 °]

```

Out[213]=



Animating the Graphics

It's also nice to have an animation, arranged so that the default duration of the animation is the actual duration of the animation:

In[214]:=

```

Animate[pendulumGraphic[thetas[[step]]],
{step, 0, steps, 1}, DefaultDuration → tFinal - tInitial]

```

Out[214]=



