
Homework #3

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Problem 1

In class we constructed the leading order composite expansion to the initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon \ddot{u} + \dot{u} + u &= 0, \\ u(0) &= 0, \quad \varepsilon \dot{u}(0) = 1.\end{aligned}$$

- (a) Find the terms at order ε for the inner and outer expansions, perform matching at this order using the intermediate scale, and give the composite expansion.
- (b) Compute the exact solution to this problem. Use it to assess the accuracy of the leading order composite expansion and the expansion from part (a) for different values of ε .

Proof. First, we compute the outer solution. Since the layer is located at 0, none of the boundary conditions apply. Let $u = u_0 + \varepsilon u_1 + \varepsilon^2 u_2 + \dots$ and let $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. Then combine terms of similar order:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{u}_0 + u_0 &= 0 \\ \dot{u}_1 + u_1 &= -\ddot{u}_0 \\ \dot{u}_2 + u_2 &= -\ddot{u}_1 \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

The general forms of the solutions are

$$u_0 = Ae^{-t} \quad \text{and} \quad u_1 = Be^{-t} - Ate^{-t}.$$

Next, denote $\tau = \frac{t}{\varepsilon}$ and $U(\tau) = u(t)$. This yields the following inner layer problem (where the boundary conditions apply):

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{U} + \dot{U} + \varepsilon U = 0 \\ U(0) = 0 \\ \dot{U}(0) = 1 \end{cases}$$

Then let $U = U_0 + \varepsilon U_1 + \varepsilon^2 U_2 + \dots$. Combining terms of similar order gives

$$\begin{aligned}&\begin{cases} \ddot{U}_0 + \dot{U}_0 = 0 \\ U_0(0) = 0 \\ \dot{U}_0(0) = 1 \end{cases} \\ &\begin{cases} \ddot{U}_1 + \dot{U}_1 = -U_0 \\ U_1(0) = 0 \\ \dot{U}_1(0) = 0 \end{cases} \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

Thus, $U_0(\tau) = 1 - e^{-\tau}$, which subsequently yields $U_1(\tau) = -\tau(1 + e^{-\tau}) + 2(1 - e^{-\tau})$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}u_{\text{out}}(t) &= Ae^{-t} + \varepsilon(Be^{-t} - Ate^{-t}) \\ u_{\text{in}}(t) &= \left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}}\right) + \varepsilon\left(-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}\left(1 + e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}}\right) + 2\left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}}\right)\right) \\ &= \left[1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} - t\left(1 + e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}}\right)\right] + 2\varepsilon\left[1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}}\right]\end{aligned}$$

Obviously these don't simply match up, i.e. A and B are not easily determined. So we need to create an intermediate time scale $t_\eta = \frac{t}{\eta}$, such that $\varepsilon < \eta < 1$. We want to match terms such that u_{in} and u_{out} match

up to order ε . So, we want to consider $0 = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{u_{\text{in}}(\eta t_\eta) - u_{\text{out}}(\eta t_\eta)}{\varepsilon} \right]$.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(\left[1 - e^{-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon}} - \eta t_\eta \left(1 + e^{-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon}} \right) \right] + 2\varepsilon \left[1 - e^{-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon}} \right] - A e^{-\eta t_\eta} - \varepsilon (B e^{-\eta t_\eta} - A \eta t_\eta e^{-\eta t_\eta}) \right) \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(\left[1 - e^{-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon}} - \eta t_\eta \left(1 + e^{-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon}} \right) - A e^{-\eta t_\eta} \right] + \varepsilon \left[2 \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon}} \right) - B e^{-\eta t_\eta} + A \eta t_\eta e^{-\eta t_\eta} \right] \right) \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \exp \left[-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon} \right] - \frac{\eta}{\varepsilon} t_\eta - \frac{\eta}{\varepsilon} t_\eta \exp \left[-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon} \right] - \frac{A}{\varepsilon} e^{-\eta t_\eta} + 2 - 2 \exp \left[-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon} \right] - B e^{-\eta t_\eta} + A \eta t_\eta e^{-\eta t_\eta} \right] \end{aligned}$$

We neglect the transcendentally small terms (terms containing $\exp \left[-\frac{\eta t_\eta}{\varepsilon} \right]$).

$$0 = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon} - \frac{\eta}{\varepsilon} t_\eta - \frac{A}{\varepsilon} e^{-\eta t_\eta} + 2 - B e^{-\eta t_\eta} + A \eta t_\eta e^{-\eta t_\eta} \right]$$

Note that since $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ then $\eta \rightarrow 0$ since $\varepsilon < \eta < 1$. Next we employ Taylor expansions of $e^{-\eta t_\eta}$.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left(1 - A \left[1 - \eta t_\eta + \frac{1}{2} (\eta t_\eta)^2 + \dots \right] \right) + \left(2 - B \left[1 - \eta t_\eta + \frac{1}{2} (\eta t_\eta)^2 + \dots \right] \right) - \frac{\eta}{\varepsilon} t_\eta \right. \\ &\quad \left. + A \eta t_\eta \left[1 - \eta t_\eta + \frac{1}{2} (\eta t_\eta)^2 + \dots \right] \right] \end{aligned}$$

Assuming $\eta^2 < \varepsilon$, then $\frac{\eta^2}{\varepsilon} \rightarrow 0$, and so

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} - \frac{A}{\varepsilon} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 2 - B = 0 \quad \implies \quad A = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad B = 2.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} u_{\text{out}}(t) &= e^{-t} + \varepsilon (2e^{-t} - t e^{-t}) \\ u_{\text{in}}(t) &= \left[1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} - t \left(1 + e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} \right) \right] + 2\varepsilon \left[1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Finally, the composite expansion for this problem is

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) &= u_{\text{out}}(t) + u_{\text{in}}(t) - u_{\text{match}}(t) \\ &= \underbrace{e^{-t} + \varepsilon (2e^{-t} - t e^{-t})}_{\text{outer layer expansion}} + \underbrace{\left[1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} - t \left(1 + e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} \right) \right] + 2\varepsilon \left[1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} \right]}_{\text{inner layer expansion}} - \underbrace{[1 - t + 2\varepsilon]}_{\text{matched terms}} \\ &= \left[e^{-t} - (1 + t) e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} \right] + \varepsilon \left[(2 - t) e^{-t} - e^{-\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Figures (0.1) and (0.2) depicts the accuracy of the expansion for various values of ε . □

Problem 2

Compute the leading order composite expansion to the problem

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon u'' + \sqrt{x} u' - u &= 0, \\ u(0) &= 0, \quad u(1) = \varepsilon^2. \end{aligned}$$

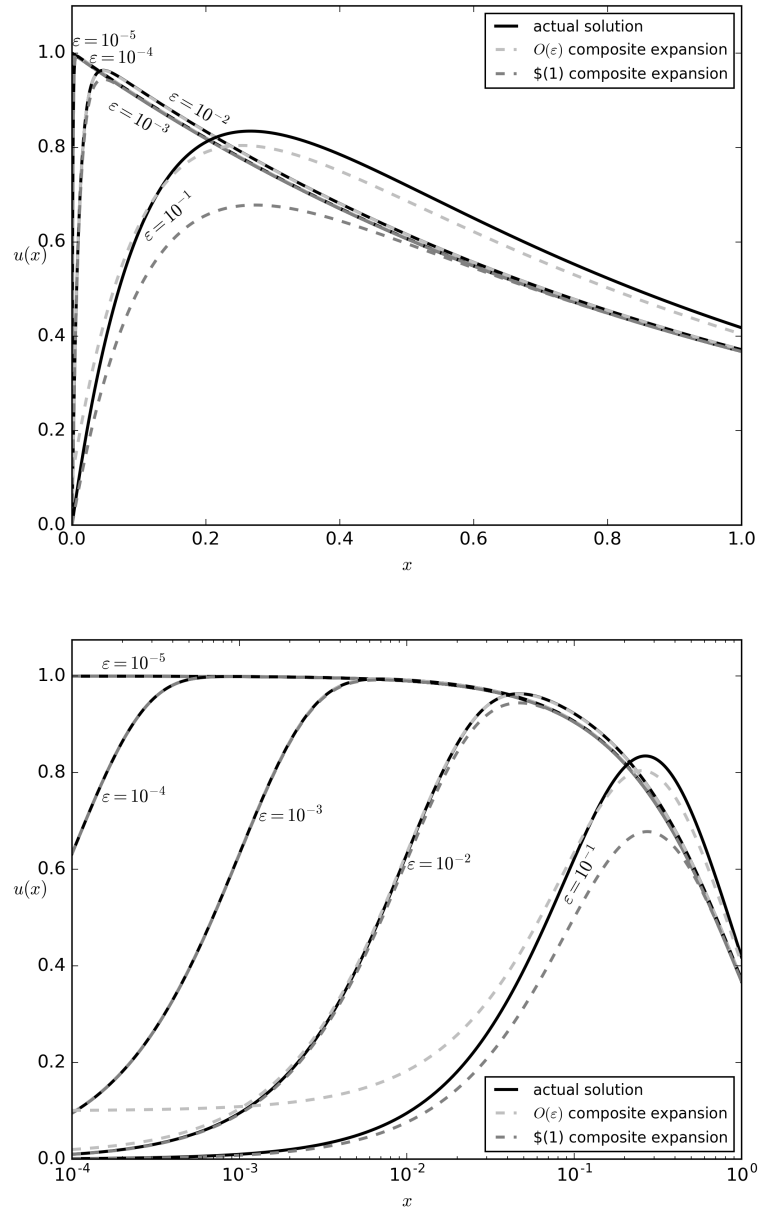


Figure 0.1: The first two graphs show the actual solutions and composite expansions between 0 and 1 for $\epsilon = 10^{-k}$ for $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ (calculated and plotted using Python 2.7).

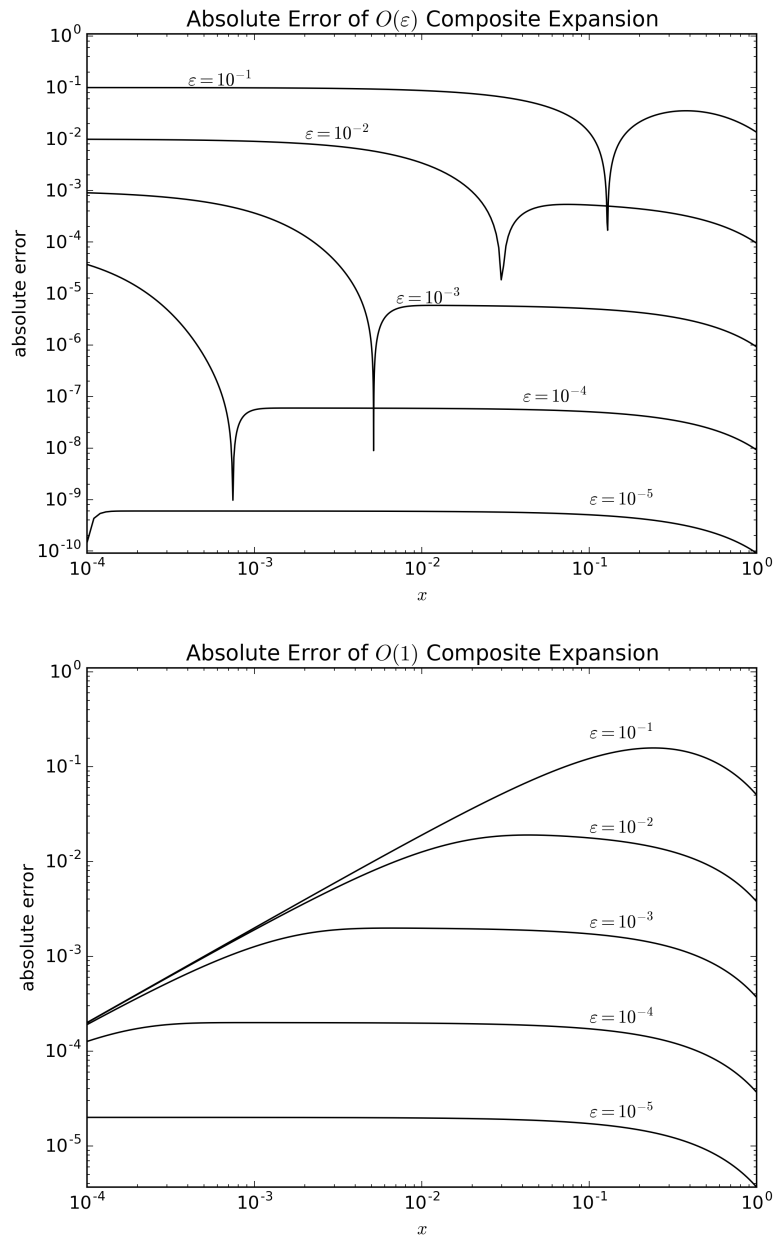


Figure 0.2: The two graphs show the absolute errors between the actual solutions and composite expansions for $\varepsilon = 10^{-k}$ for $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ (calculated and plotted using Python 2.7).

Proof. First let $X = \frac{x-x_0}{\varepsilon^\alpha}$ and $U(X) = u(x)$. Then $x = x_0 + \varepsilon^\alpha X$ and

$$\varepsilon \ddot{U} + \sqrt{x_0 + \varepsilon^\alpha X} \varepsilon^\alpha \dot{U} - \varepsilon^{2\alpha} U = 0$$

There are three possibilities in matching two of these three terms in ε order: $\alpha = 1, 0, \frac{1}{2}$. $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ does not work since the term not matched is lower order than the others. $\alpha = 0$ is the original problem, and so the only choice is $\alpha = 1$. Then

$$\ddot{U} + \sqrt{x_0 + \varepsilon X} \dot{U} - \varepsilon U = 0$$

Assuming $U = U_0 + U_1 \varepsilon + U_2 \varepsilon^2 + \dots$, then the $O(1)$ expansion (U_0) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{U}_0 + \sqrt{x_0} \dot{U}_0 &= 0 \\ \implies U_0 &= A + B e^{-\sqrt{x_0} X}. \end{aligned}$$

This forces $x_0 = 0$, and thus the equation

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon \ddot{U} + \sqrt{x_0 + \varepsilon^\alpha X} \varepsilon^\alpha \dot{U} - \varepsilon^{2\alpha} U &= 0 \\ \varepsilon \ddot{U} + \sqrt{X} \varepsilon^{\frac{3\alpha}{2}} \dot{U} - \varepsilon^{2\alpha} U &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Now there are three different α possibilities to match two of the three terms: $\alpha = 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}$. $\alpha = 0$ is the original problem, $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ does not work since the term not matched is lower order than the others, and so the only choice is $\alpha = \frac{2}{3}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon \ddot{U} + \varepsilon \sqrt{X} \dot{U} - \varepsilon^{\frac{4}{3}} U &= 0 \\ \implies \ddot{U} + \sqrt{X} \dot{U} - \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} U &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Assume $U = U_0 + \varepsilon U_1 + \varepsilon^2 U_2 + \dots$. Then setting $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ yields

$$\ddot{U}_0 + \sqrt{X} \dot{U}_0 = 0 \quad \implies \quad U_0(x) = \int \left[C \exp \left[-\frac{2}{3} x^{\frac{3}{2}} \right] \right]$$

□