

Regular Perturbations - Nonlinear Oscillations

Depending on initial conditions and the function f , the solution $y(t, \varepsilon)$ of

$$y'' + y = \varepsilon f(y, y', t), \quad 0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$$

may or may not be periodic.

When the exact solution $y(t, \varepsilon)$ is periodic, regular perturbation techniques yield undesired results.

We illustrate this issue by way of example

EXAMPLE $y'' + y = \varepsilon y \quad y(0) = 0 \quad y'(0) = 1$

The exact solution is

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = \frac{\sin(\sqrt{1-\varepsilon}t)}{\sqrt{1-\varepsilon}}$$

Now suppose we assumed

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(t) + \varepsilon y_1(t) + \dots$$

Then

$$O(1) \quad y_0'' + y_0 = 0 \quad y_0(0) = 0 \quad y_0'(0) = 1$$

$$O(\varepsilon) \quad y_1'' + y_1 = y_0 \quad y_1(0) = 0 \quad y_1'(0) = 0$$

The solution of the $O(1)$ problem is

$$y_0(t) = \sin t$$

The simplified $O(\epsilon)$ problem is

$$y_1'' + y_1 = \sin t \quad y_1(0) = y_1'(0) = 0$$

Since $\sin t$ on the right side is part of the homogeneous soln one should seek particular solns of the form

$$y_1^p(t) = A t \sin t + B t \cos t$$

One finds $A = 0$, $B = -\frac{1}{2}$ via undetermined coefficients.

Ultimately

$$y_1(t) = c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t - \frac{1}{2} t \cos t$$

and the initial conditions lead to

$$y_1(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sin t - \frac{1}{2} t \cos t$$

Summary of regular series approximation:

$$y(t, \epsilon) = \sin t + \epsilon \left(\frac{1}{2} \sin t - \frac{1}{2} t \cos t \right) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

Term grows in time even though exact soln does not.

Although the expansion is not periodic, the exact soln is!

However the expansion can be verified using the exact soln

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = (1 - \varepsilon)^{-1/2} \sin((1 - \varepsilon)^{1/2} t) \quad \omega \equiv \sqrt{1 - \varepsilon}$$

$$y_\varepsilon(t, \varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \varepsilon)^{-3/2} \sin(\omega t) - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \varepsilon)^{-1} \cos(\omega t)$$

From which

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y(t, 0) + y_\varepsilon(t, 0) \varepsilon + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

$$(1) \quad y(t, \varepsilon) = \sin t + \varepsilon \left(\frac{1}{2} \sin t - \frac{1}{2} t \cos t \right) + O(\varepsilon^2).$$

The series (1) is an approximation valid for $t = O(1)$, i.e. t values not too large.

The series (1) fails to be a good approximation when $t = O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon})$.
Then the term

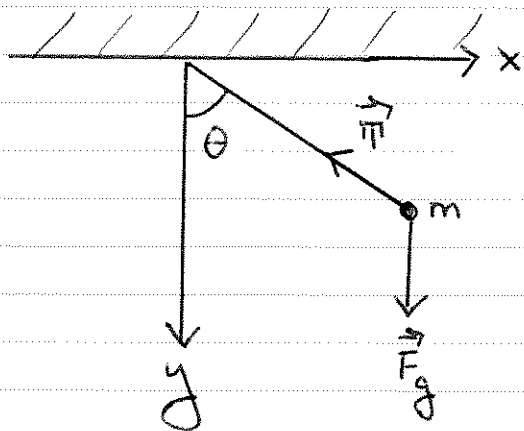
$\varepsilon t \cos t$

"secular term"

is $O(1)$. Such terms that grow and change order are said to be secular.

Pendulum Motion Derivation

Mass m swings on a wire of length L



Here

\vec{F}_g = gravitational force

\vec{T} = tension in wire

For the chosen coordinate orientation

$$\vec{F}_g = \langle 0, +mg \rangle$$

$$\vec{T} = \langle -T \sin \theta, -T \cos \theta \rangle$$

and $T \equiv |\vec{T}|$.

Also,

$$(1) \quad x = L \sin \theta \quad y = L \cos \theta$$

which we use to compute the acceleration

$$\vec{a} = \langle \ddot{x}, \ddot{y} \rangle \quad (\dot{\quad}) = \frac{d}{dt}(\quad)$$

Differentiation of (1) in t twice

$$(2) \quad \ddot{x} = -L \sin \theta \dot{\theta}^2 + L \cos \theta \ddot{\theta}$$

$$(3) \quad \ddot{y} = -L \cos \theta \dot{\theta}^2 - L \sin \theta \ddot{\theta}$$

Newtons Laws of Motion require

$$m \vec{a} = \vec{F}_g + \vec{T}$$

Written in component form

$$(4) \quad -mL \sin \theta \dot{\theta}^2 + mL \cos \theta \ddot{\theta} = -T \sin \theta$$

$$(5) \quad -mL \cos \theta \dot{\theta}^2 - mL \sin \theta \ddot{\theta} = mg - T \cos \theta$$

Then the algebra $\cos \theta$ Eqn (4) - $\sin \theta$ Eqn (5) yields

$$\ddot{\theta} + \frac{g}{L} \sin \theta = 0$$

$$(\dot{\quad}) = \frac{d}{dt}(\quad)$$

Let dimensionless time

$$t = \tau / \tau^* \quad \tau^* = \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$$

yields the dimensionless equation

$$(6) \quad \frac{d^2 \theta}{dt^2} + \sin \theta = 0$$

Small amplitude oscillations - Duffing's Egn

Seek small amplitude (angle) approximations to the pendulum problem

$$(1) \quad \theta'' + \sin \theta = 0$$

Let $0 < \delta \ll 1$ and

$$\theta(t) = \delta u(t)$$

Then using

$$\sin(\delta u) = \delta u - \frac{1}{3!} \delta^3 u^3 + O(\delta^5)$$

in equation (1) we have

$$\delta u'' + \delta u - \frac{1}{3!} \delta^3 u^3 + O(\delta^5) = 0$$

or

$$(2) \quad u'' + u = \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon u^3 + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

where $\varepsilon = \delta^2 \ll 1$. Setting $u = \sqrt{6} y$ we arrive at (dropping $O(\varepsilon^2)$ terms)

$$(3) \quad \boxed{y'' + y = \varepsilon y^3} \quad \text{Duffing's Equation}$$

Must be solved to obtain next order correcting to pendulum problem.

Assume a regular series approximation

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(t) + \varepsilon y_1(t) + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

yields

$$(4) \quad y_0'' + y_0 = 0$$

$$y_0(0) = 1, y_0'(0) = 0$$

$$(5) \quad y_1'' + y_1 = y_0^3$$

$$y_1(0) = 0, y_1'(0) = 0$$

Soln of $O(1)$ problem is clearly

$$y_0(t) = \cos t$$

To solve (5) one makes use of the method of undetermined coefficients to find a particular soln. That and the identity

$$\cos^3 t = \frac{3}{4} \cos t + \frac{1}{4} \cos 3t$$

After some work,

$$y_1(t) = \frac{1}{32} (\cos t - \cos 3t) + \frac{3}{8} t \sin t$$

To conclude

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = \cos t + \frac{1}{8} \varepsilon \left\{ \frac{1}{4} (\cos t - \cos 3t) + \underbrace{3t \sin t}_{\uparrow\uparrow} \right\} + \dots$$

Secular Term grows in time even though soln doesn't

Poincaré-Lindstedt Method

Seek a periodic approximation of

$$(1) \quad y'' + y = \varepsilon f(y, y')$$

$$(2) \quad y(0) = a$$

$$(3) \quad y'(0) = b$$

by assuming

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(\tau) + \varepsilon y_1(\tau) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(\tau) + \dots$$

for a "strained" or "scaled" time

$$\tau \equiv \omega(\varepsilon)t$$

where

$$\omega(\varepsilon) = 1 + \varepsilon \omega_1 + \varepsilon^2 \omega_2 + \dots$$

Object Choose ω_k so $y_k(\tau)$ are periodic in τ .

The resulting approximation will be

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega(\varepsilon)}$$

periodic in the original (nonstrained) time t .

If the original diff eqn is $y'' + \omega_0^2 y = \varepsilon f(y, y')$ the one can (instead) use

$$\omega(\varepsilon) = \omega_0 + \varepsilon \omega_1 + \varepsilon^2 \omega_2 + \dots$$

Transforming Derivatives

Define the strained time τ by

$$\tau = \omega(\varepsilon)t$$

and re-express $y(t, \varepsilon)$ in terms of (τ, ε) .

$$\Upsilon(\tau, \varepsilon) = y(t, \varepsilon)$$

Using the chain rule

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \omega \frac{d\Upsilon}{d\tau}$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = \omega^2 \frac{d^2\Upsilon}{d\tau^2}$$

Now let

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = \Upsilon(\tau, \varepsilon) = y_0(\tau) + \varepsilon y_1(\tau) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(\tau) + \dots$$

Then the time derivatives of y are found by expanding the following

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = (1 + \varepsilon\omega_1 + \varepsilon^2\omega_2 + \dots)(y_0' + \varepsilon y_1' + \varepsilon^2 y_2' + \dots)$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = (1 + \varepsilon\omega_1 + \varepsilon^2\omega_2 + \dots)^2 (y_0'' + \varepsilon y_1'' + \varepsilon^2 y_2'' + \dots)$$

Calculations reveal (to $O(\varepsilon^3)$)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y_0' + (y_1' + \omega_1 y_0') \varepsilon + (y_2' + \omega_1 y_1' + \omega_2 y_0') \varepsilon^2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = y_0'' + (y_1'' + 2\omega_1 y_0'') \varepsilon + \Lambda_2 \varepsilon^2 + \dots$$

where the $O(\varepsilon^2)$ coefficient for y'' is

$$\Lambda_2 = y_2'' + 2\omega_1 y_1'' + (2\omega_2 + \omega_1^2) y_0''$$

Transformation of initial conditions

Since $y(0, \varepsilon) = a$ we have

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(t) + \varepsilon y_1(t) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(t) + \dots$$

$$a = y_0(0) + \varepsilon y_1(0) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(0) + \dots$$

From which we conclude

$$y_0(0) = a$$

$$y_k(0) = 0$$

$$k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Initial conditions involving derivatives are different.

Recall

$$y'(t, \varepsilon) = y_0'(t) + (y_1'(t) + \omega_1 y_0'(t)) \varepsilon + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

$$y'(0, \varepsilon) = y_0'(0) + (y_1'(0) + \omega_1 y_0'(0)) \varepsilon + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

$$b = y_0'(0) + (y_1'(0) + \omega_1 y_0'(0)) \varepsilon + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

Equating powers of ε

$$y_0'(0) = b$$

$$y_1'(0) = -\omega_1 b$$

In particular, $y_1'(0)$ will not generally be zero.

The initial condition for $y_1(t)$ depends on ω_1 which we don't know yet.

EXAMPLE

$$y'' + y = \varepsilon y, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$$

Let

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(\tau) + \varepsilon y_1(\tau) + \dots$$
$$\tau = (1 + \omega_1 \varepsilon + \dots)t$$

Expand differential equation

$$(1 + \omega_1 \varepsilon + \dots)^2 (y_0'' + \varepsilon y_1'' + \dots) + (y_0 + \varepsilon y_1 + \dots) = \varepsilon (y_0 + \varepsilon y_1 + \dots)$$

$$(y_0'' + y_0) + (y_1'' + y_1 + 2\omega_1 y_0'')\varepsilon = \varepsilon y_0 + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

yields an $O(1)$ and $O(\varepsilon)$ eqn.

$$y_0'' + y_0 = 0$$

$$y_1'' + y_1 = y_0 - 2\omega_1 y_0''$$

Expand $y(0) = 0$

$$y(0, \varepsilon) = 0 = y_0(0) + \varepsilon y_1(0) + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

from which we conclude

$$y_0(0) = 0$$

$$y_1(0) = 0$$

Expand $y'(0) = 1$

$$y'(t.) = (1 + \epsilon \omega_1 + \dots)(y_0'(t) + \epsilon y_1'(t) + \dots)$$
$$1 = y_0'(0) + (y_1'(0) + \omega_1 y_0'(0)) \epsilon + O(\epsilon^2)$$

from which we conclude

$$y_0'(0) = 1$$

$$y_1'(0) = -\omega_1$$

Summary of $O(1)$ and $O(\epsilon)$ problems

$$O(1) \quad y_0'' + y_0 = 0 \quad , y_0(0) = 0, y_0'(0) = 1$$

$$O(\epsilon) \quad y_1'' + y_1 = \epsilon^{-2} \omega_1 y_0'' \quad , y_1(0) = 0, y_1'(0) = -\omega_1$$

Soln of $O(1)$ problem is

$$y_0(t) = \sin t$$

when used in $O(\epsilon)$ problem

$$y_1'' + y_1 = \underbrace{(1 + 2\omega_1)} \sin t$$

CRITICAL POINT HERE.

IF WE CHOOSE $(1 + 2\omega_1) = 0$

THEN y_1 WILL HAVE NO
SECULAR OR GROWING
TERMS.

Choose

$$\omega_1 = -\frac{1}{2}$$

So $y_1(\tau)$ is periodic in τ , hence bounded and not secular (growing)

Then the $O(1)$ problem is

$$y_1'' + y_1 = 0 \quad y_1(0) = 0 \quad y_1'(0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

whose soln is

$$y_1(\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \sin \tau$$

Summary of Soln approximation

$$y = \sin \tau + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon \sin \tau + O(\epsilon^2)$$

unlike regular series approx this term doesn't grow with time. So approximation remains better, longer

where

$$\tau = (1 - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon + O(\epsilon^2)) t$$

Note how this compares with the known exact solution

$$y(t, \epsilon) = \frac{\sin(\sqrt{1-\epsilon} t)}{\sqrt{1-\epsilon}}$$

Clearly the method is reproducing $\omega(\epsilon)$ needed to modify period

$$\omega(\epsilon) = \sqrt{1-\epsilon} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon + O(\epsilon^2)$$

Summary of solns and Approximations

The simple problem is

$$y'' + y = \varepsilon \quad y(0) = 0 \quad y'(0) = 1$$

has a known exact solution

EXACT (1) $y(t, \varepsilon) = \frac{\sin(\sqrt{1-\varepsilon} t)}{\sqrt{1-\varepsilon}}$

If one uses a regular expansion in t

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(t) + \varepsilon y_1(t) + \dots$$

we find

REGULAR (2) $y(t, \varepsilon) = \sin t + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(\sin t - \underbrace{t \cos t}_{\text{grows}}) + \dots$

However, if one uses Poincaré-Lindstedt

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(\tau) + \varepsilon y_1(\tau) + \dots$$

$$\tau = (1 + \omega_1 \varepsilon + \dots)t$$

we find

LINDSTEDT (3) $y(t, \varepsilon) = \sin \tau + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon \sin \tau + \dots$

$$\tau = \omega(\varepsilon)t = (1 - \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon + \dots)t$$

with a corrected period

$$\pi = \frac{2\pi}{\omega(\varepsilon)} = \frac{2\pi}{(1 - \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon + \dots)} = 2\pi(1 + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon + \dots)$$

EXAMPLE Use Poincaré-Lindstedt's method to approximate a periodic solution of Duffing's equation

$$y'' + y = \varepsilon y^3 \quad y(0) = 1 \quad y'(0) = 0$$

Let

$$y(t, \varepsilon) = y_0(\tau) + \varepsilon y_1(\tau) + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

$$\tau = (1 + \omega_1 \varepsilon + \dots) t$$

Expand differential equations

$$(1 + \omega_1 \varepsilon + \dots)^2 (y_0'' + \varepsilon y_1'' + \dots) + (y_0 + \varepsilon y_1 + \dots) = \varepsilon (y_0 + \varepsilon y_1 + \dots)^3$$

Expand and collect like powers of ε

$$O(1) \quad y_0'' + y_0 = 0$$

$$O(\varepsilon) \quad y_1'' + y_1 = y_0^3 - 2\omega_1 y_0''$$

Expand initial conditions

$$y(0, \varepsilon) = 1 = y_0(0) + \varepsilon y_1(0) + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

$$y'(0, \varepsilon) = 0 = y_0'(0) + \varepsilon (y_1'(0) + \omega_1 y_0'(0)) + O(\varepsilon^2)$$

Equating powers of ε

$$y_0(0) = 1 \quad y_0'(0) = 0$$

$$y_1(0) = 0 \quad y_1'(0) = 0$$

Summary of $O(1)$ and $O(\epsilon)$ problems

$$y_0'' + y_0 = 0$$

$$y_0(0) = 1$$

$$y_0'(0) = 0$$

$$y_1'' + y_1 = y_0^3 - 2\omega_1 y_0''$$

$$y_1(0) = 0$$

$$y_1'(0) = 0$$

The solution of the $O(1)$ problem is

$$\boxed{y_0(\tau) = \cos \tau}$$

Thus, the $O(\epsilon)$ problem becomes

$$y_1'' + y_1 = \cos^3 t + 2\omega_1 \cos t$$

Need to expand $\cos^3 t$ to reveal terms that generate secular (growing) solns

$$y_1'' + y_1 = \frac{3}{4} \cos t + \frac{1}{4} \cos 3t + 2\omega_1 \cos t$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{4} + 2\omega_1 \right) \cos t + \frac{1}{4} \cos 3t$$

choose ω_1 so this vanishes

Choose

$$\boxed{\omega_1 = -\frac{3}{8}}$$

then the solution of y_1 problem is

$$\boxed{y_1(\tau) = \frac{1}{32} (\cos \tau - \cos 3\tau)}$$

Correction to oscillation period

$$\pi = \frac{2\pi}{\omega(\epsilon)} = \frac{2\pi}{(1 - \frac{3}{8}\epsilon + \dots)} = 2\pi \left(1 + \frac{3}{8}\epsilon + \dots \right)$$