

# Math 537 - Ordinary Differential Equations

## Lecture Notes – Perturbation Methods

Joseph M. Mahaffy,  
([jmahaffy@sdsu.edu](mailto:jmahaffy@sdsu.edu))

Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
Dynamical Systems Group  
Computational Sciences Research Center  
San Diego State University  
San Diego, CA 92182-7720

<http://jmahaffy.sdsu.edu>

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## Introduction

**Mathematical Models** rarely have an *explicit form*.

- Require approximation and numerical methods.
- Approximations often use *perturbation methods*:
  - The equations have a *small term*.
  - One physical process is significantly less important than another dominant one.
- Often *rescale* problem with a *small parameter*.
- Use the *small parameter* to create a *Taylor-like series* expansion.
- These methods can be applied to *ODEs*, *PDEs*, *algebraic equations*, and *integral equations*.



## Outline

- Introduction**
  - Power Series Review
  - Algebraic Examples
  - Error Function
- Regular Perturbation Method**
  - Motion in Resistive Medium
  - Kepler's Laws
  - Precession of Perihelion
- Nonlinear Oscillations**
  - Duffing's Equation
  - Poincaré-Lindstedt Method



## Regular Perturbation

1

**Regular Perturbation:** For conceptual purposes an *ODE* is used to describe the approach:

$$F(t, y, y', y'', \varepsilon) = 0, \quad t \in I,$$

where  $t$  is the independent variable, defined in the interval  $I$ , and  $y$  is the dependent variable.

The *parameter*,  $\varepsilon$ , explicitly appears in the equation and is generally considered “small” with

$$\varepsilon \ll 1.$$

It may also occur in the *initial* or *boundary conditions*.

Sometimes a parameter,  $\lambda$ , is “large,” then often introduce

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ll 1.$$



**Perturbation Series:** Find an  $\varepsilon$ -*power series* of the solution to the problem with

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

The *regular perturbation method* assumes a solution to the *ODE* in this form, where the functions  $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots$  are found by substituting into the *ODE*.

The first few terms of the  $\varepsilon$ -*power series* form an approximate solution, called the *perturbation solution* or *approximation*.

Usually only a few terms are necessary.

The method is considered successful if the *approximation* is *uniform*: *i.e.*, the difference between the approximate and exact solutions converges to **zero** at some defined rate as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , uniformly on  $I$  (with  $\varepsilon < \varepsilon_0$  for some  $\varepsilon_0$ ).



**Regular Perturbation:** The dominant behavior comes from the term,  $y_0(t)$ , the *leading order term*, solving the *unperturbed problem*:

$$F(t, y_0, y_0', y_0'', 0) = 0, \quad t \in I,$$

where this problem is chosen to be solvable.

The term  $\varepsilon y_1(t), \varepsilon^2 y_2(t), \dots$  are considered *higher order correction* terms and are assumed to be small relative to the dominant behavior.

*Singular Perturbation* methods arise when the *regular perturbation* methods fail.

The naive approach often fails for many reasons such as the problem being ill-posed, the solution is invalid on all or parts of the domain, like when there are multiple time or space scales.



**Power Series Review:** Some important power series are listed.

$$f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a) + \frac{1}{2!}f''(a)(x - a)^2 + \dots$$

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

$$\sin(x) = x - \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \frac{1}{5!}x^5 - \frac{1}{7!}x^7 + \dots$$

$$\cos(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{4!}x^4 - \frac{1}{6!}x^6 + \dots$$

$$(1 + x)^p = 1 + px + \frac{p(p-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{p(p-1)(p-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots, \quad |x| < 1$$

$$\ln(1 + x) = x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \dots, \quad |x| < 1$$

$$(a + x)^p = a^p + pa^{p-1}x + \frac{p(p-1)}{2!}a^{p-2}x^2 + \frac{p(p-1)(p-2)}{3!}a^{p-3}x^3 + \dots, \quad \left|\frac{x}{a}\right| < 1$$

These power series are commonly used for *asymptotic expansions*.



**Quadratic Equation:** Consider the equation:

$$x^2 + 2\varepsilon x - 3 = 0, \tag{1}$$

and assume the expansion  $x = x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \varepsilon^2 x_2 + \dots$

The Eqn. (1) satisfies:

$$(x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \varepsilon^2 x_2 + \dots)^2 + 2\varepsilon(x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \varepsilon^2 x_2 + \dots) - 3 = 0,$$

which gives

$$x_0^2 - 3 + \varepsilon(2x_0x_1 + 2x_0) + \varepsilon^2(x_1^2 + 2x_0x_2 + 2x_1) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^3) = 0.$$

Solving each power of  $\varepsilon$  gives:

$$x_0 = \pm\sqrt{3}, \quad x_1 = -1, \quad x_2 = \pm\frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}, \quad \dots$$

The approximate solutions are

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \sqrt{3} - \varepsilon + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2\sqrt{3}} + \dots, \\ x &= -\sqrt{3} - \varepsilon - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2\sqrt{3}} + \dots \end{aligned}$$



## Quadratic Equation

2

**Quadratic Equation:** For the equation

$$x^2 + 2\epsilon x - 3 = 0,$$

the quadratic formula gives exact solution;

$$x = -\epsilon \pm \sqrt{3 + \epsilon^2},$$

which can be expanded by the binomial expansion

$$x = -\epsilon \pm \sqrt{3} \pm \frac{\epsilon^2}{2\sqrt{3}} + \dots$$

, agreeing with our asymptotic expansion.

If we take  $\epsilon = 0.1$ , then the exact and approximate solutions, are:

$$x = -0.1 + \sqrt{3.01} = 1.634935157, \quad x_a = \sqrt{3} - 0.1 + \frac{0.01}{2\sqrt{3}} = 1.634937560,$$

and

$$x = -0.1 - \sqrt{3.01} = -1.834935157, \quad x_a = \sqrt{3} - 0.1 + \frac{0.01}{2\sqrt{3}} = -1.834937560.$$

With  $\epsilon = 0.01$ , the answers are indistinguishable until the 9<sup>th</sup> decimal place with

$$x = -0.01 \pm \sqrt{3.0001} = 1.722079675 \quad \text{and} \quad -1.742079675.$$



## Transcendental Equation

1

**Transcendental Equation:** Consider the equation given by

$$x^3 + \epsilon \sin(x) + a = 0,$$

which clearly cannot be solved exactly for  $x$ .

Take  $x = x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \dots$  and find the solution to order  $\epsilon^2$ .

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \sin(x) &= \sin(x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \dots) \\ &= \sin(x_0) + \cos(x_0)(\epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \dots) + \dots \\ &= \sin(x_0) + x_1 \cos(x_0)\epsilon + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2), \end{aligned}$$

so the equation becomes:

$$(x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3))^3 + \epsilon(\sin(x_0) + x_1 \cos(x_0)\epsilon + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)) + a = 0.$$



## Transcendental Equation

2

**Transcendental Equation:** From

$$(x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3))^3 + \epsilon(\sin(x_0) + x_1 \cos(x_0)\epsilon + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)) + a = 0,$$

we expand to:

$$x_0^3 + a + (3x_0^2 x_1 + \sin(x_0))\epsilon + (3x_0^2 x_2 + 3x_0 x_1^2 + x_1 \cos(x_0))\epsilon^2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3) = 0.$$

Solving iteratively gives:

$$x_0 = -a^{\frac{1}{3}}, \quad x_1 = -\frac{\sin(x_0)}{3x_0^2}, \quad x_2 = -\frac{3x_0 x_1^2 + x_1 \cos(x_0)}{3x_0^2}.$$

For  $a = 5$ , we have  $x_0 = -1.709975947$ ,  $x_1 = 0.112896048$ , and  $x_2 = 0.009239083853$ .

With  $\epsilon = 0.1$ , then a 3 term expansion of  $x$  gives:

$$x = x_0 + 0.1x_1 + 0.01x_2 = -1.698593951.$$

Maple gives a numerical solution to the original equation as  $x = -1.698593473$ .



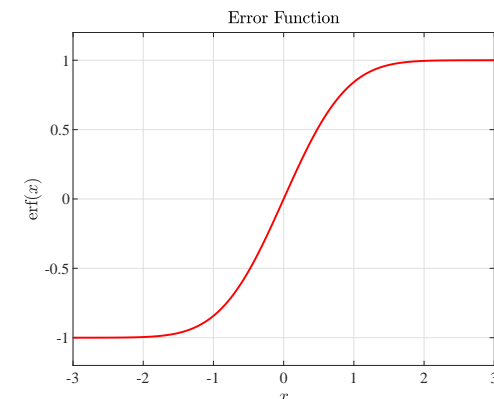
## Error Function

1

**Error Function:** The error function satisfies:

$$\text{erf}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-x}^x e^{-t^2} dt = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt.$$

In *statistics* with  $x > 0$  and a random variable  $Y$  that is *normally distributed* with *mean* 0 and *variance* 0.5, the *error function*,  $\text{erf}(x)$ , describes the *probability* of  $Y$  falling in the range  $[-x, x]$ .



Since

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{erf}(x) = 1,$$

the **complementary error function** is given by:

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) \equiv 1 - \operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt.$$

Let  $s = t - x$ , then

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-(s+x)^2} ds = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \int_0^\infty e^{-(s^2+2sx)} ds.$$

As a first order approximation, we see for  $x > 0$

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \int_0^\infty e^{-(s^2+2sx)} ds \leq e^{-x^2} \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-s^2} ds = e^{-x^2}.$$



**Complementary Error Function** is better approximated using *integration by parts*:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{erfc}(x) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \int_0^\infty e^{-(s^2+2sx)} ds = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \int_0^\infty e^{-s^2} e^{-2sx} ds \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \left[ -\frac{1}{2x} e^{-s^2} e^{-2sx} \Big|_0^\infty + \frac{1}{2x} \int_0^\infty (-2s) e^{-s^2} e^{-2sx} ds \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2x} - \frac{1}{x} \int_0^\infty s e^{-s^2} e^{-2sx} ds \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2x} - \frac{1}{x} \left( -\frac{s e^{-s^2} e^{-2sx}}{2x} \Big|_0^\infty + \frac{1}{2x} \int_0^\infty (1 - 2s^2) e^{-s^2} e^{-2sx} ds \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2x} - \frac{1}{2x^2} \int_0^\infty (1 - 2s^2) e^{-s^2} e^{-2sx} ds \right] \end{aligned}$$



**Complementary Error Function** is approximated for large  $x$  by the following:

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{e^{-x^2}}{x} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{e^{-x^2}}{x^2}\right) \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \infty.$$

	1	2	3	4	5
$\operatorname{erf}(x)$	0.8427	0.9953	0.9999779	0.9999999846	1.0
Approx	0.7924	0.9948	0.9999768	0.9999999841	1.0

A useful *asymptotic expansion* given by Wikipedia is

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) = \frac{e^{-x^2}}{x\sqrt{\pi}} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)}{(2x^2)^n} \right],$$

which agrees with our computation above.



**Resistive ODE:** A body mass  $m$  with initial velocity  $V_0$  moves in a straight line, where the **resistive force** has magnitude  $av - bv^2$  with  $v(\tau)$  being the velocity of the object.

It is assumed that  $b \ll a$  are constants, then *Newton's Law* gives:

$$m \frac{dv}{d\tau} = -av + bv^2, \quad v(0) = V_0.$$

With the maximum velocity of  $V_0$  and a time scaling based on the decay rate of the linear equation,  $a/m$ , we let

$$y = \frac{v}{V_0} \quad \text{and} \quad t = \frac{\tau}{m/a}.$$

This change of variables creates the *dimensionless problem* with  $t > 0$ :

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -y + \varepsilon y^2, \quad y(0) = 1,$$

where

$$\varepsilon \equiv \frac{bV_0}{a} \ll 1.$$

This last assumption is that the quadratic resistive force is small compared to the linear force.



Motion in Resistive Medium

2

**Resistive ODE:** The scaled model is a Bernoulli's equation and is readily solved exactly.

One makes the substitution  $w = y^{-1}$ , so  $\frac{dw}{dt} = -y^{-2} \frac{dy}{dt}$ , so transformed the scaled model becomes:

$$\frac{dw}{dt} - w = -\varepsilon, \quad w(0) = 1.$$

This is a **linear ODE** with the solution:

$$w(t) = e^t \left( 1 - \varepsilon \int_0^t e^{-s} ds \right),$$

or

$$w(t) = e^t (1 + \varepsilon(e^{-t} - 1)),$$

or

$$y(t) = \frac{e^{-t}}{1 + \varepsilon(e^{-t} - 1)},$$

which is just a slightly altered form of the **linearized scaled model**.



Motion in Resistive Medium

3

**Perturbation Method:** For this solution we assume a solution of the form:

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

and substitute this into the scaled model giving:

$$y'_0 + \varepsilon y'_1 + \varepsilon^2 y'_2 + \dots = -(y_0 + \varepsilon y_1 + \varepsilon^2 y_2 + \dots) + \varepsilon(y_0 + \varepsilon y_1 + \varepsilon^2 y_2 + \dots)^2.$$

Collecting powers of  $\varepsilon$  yields a series of **linear ODEs**:

$$\begin{aligned} y'_0 &= -y_0, \\ y'_1 &= -y_1 + y_0^2, \\ y'_2 &= -y_2 + 2y_0 y_1, \quad \dots \end{aligned}$$

The **initial condition** satisfies:

$$y_0(0) + \varepsilon y_1(0) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(0) + \dots = 1,$$

which gives the sequence of **initial conditions**:

$$y_0(0) = 1, \quad y_1(0) = y_2(0) = \dots = 0.$$



Motion in Resistive Medium

4

**Perturbation Method:** The sequence of **linear ODEs** are easily solved to give:

$$\begin{aligned} y_0(t) &= e^{-t}, \\ y_1(t) &= e^{-t} - e^{-2t}, \\ y_2(t) &= e^{-t} - 2e^{-2t} + e^{-3t}, \quad \dots \end{aligned}$$

It follows that the **approximate solution to  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2)$**  satisfies:

$$y_a(t) = e^{-t} + \varepsilon(e^{-t} - e^{-2t}) + \varepsilon^2(e^{-t} - 2e^{-2t} + e^{-3t}).$$

Recall that the exact solution is

$$y(t) = \frac{e^{-t}}{1 + \varepsilon(e^{-t} - 1)},$$

which has a **Taylor series** expansion in  $\varepsilon$  of

$$y(t) = e^{-t} + \varepsilon(e^{-t} - e^{-2t}) + \varepsilon^2(e^{-t} - 2e^{-2t} + e^{-3t}) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^3),$$

agreeing with the solution from the **perturbation method**.

**Note:** It is rare that one can obtain the exact solution for comparison.



Kepler's Laws

1

**Two Body Problem:** Consider the motion of a planet in the solar system.

- Planet has mass  $m$ , and Sun has mass  $M$ .
- The position is  $\mathbf{r}(t)$ .
- **Newton's Law** gives  $\mathbf{r}'' = \mathbf{F}$ .
- Newton postulated that the **gravitational force** is proportional to the product of the masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between the masses.
- In vector form the **Gravitational force** satisfies

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{GMm}{r^2} \mathbf{i}_r,$$

where  $\mathbf{i}_r$  is a unit vector in the radial direction and  $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{cm/g} \cdot \text{s}^2$ .



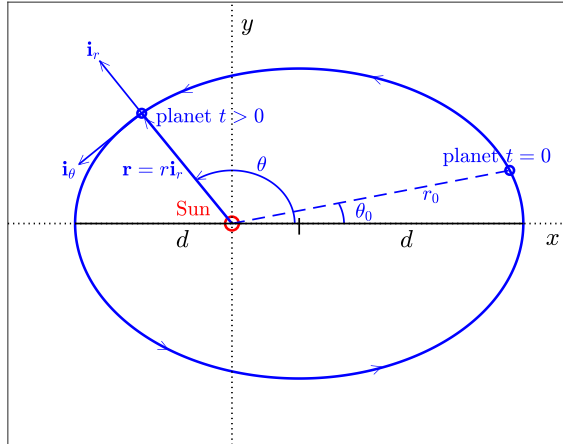
# Kepler's Laws

2

**Two Body Problem:** From *Newton's Law*, we have the **vector ODE**

$$m\mathbf{r}'' = -\frac{GMm}{r^2}\mathbf{i}_r.$$

Planetary Motion



# Kepler's Laws

3

**Two Body Problem:** The **vector ODE** satisfies:

$$\mathbf{r}'' = -\frac{GM}{r^2}\mathbf{i}_r,$$

where

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = r(t)\cos(\theta(t))\mathbf{i}_x + r(t)\sin(\theta(t))\mathbf{i}_y = x(t)\mathbf{i}_x + y(t)\mathbf{i}_y.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= \cos(\theta)\frac{dr}{dt} - r\sin(\theta)\frac{d\theta}{dt}, \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= \sin(\theta)\frac{dr}{dt} + r\cos(\theta)\frac{d\theta}{dt}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from the **vector ODE** that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} &= \cos(\theta)\frac{d^2r}{dt^2} - 2\sin(\theta)\frac{dr}{dt}\frac{d\theta}{dt} - r\sin(\theta)\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} - r\cos(\theta)\left(\frac{d\theta}{dt}\right)^2 = -\frac{GM}{r^2}\cos(\theta), \\ \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} &= \sin(\theta)\frac{d^2r}{dt^2} + 2\cos(\theta)\frac{dr}{dt}\frac{d\theta}{dt} + r\cos(\theta)\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} - r\sin(\theta)\left(\frac{d\theta}{dt}\right)^2 = -\frac{GM}{r^2}\sin(\theta). \end{aligned}$$



# Kepler's Laws

4

**Two Body Problem:** Multiplying the  $x''$  equation by  $\cos(\theta)$  and the  $y''$  equation by  $\sin(\theta)$  and adding the results gives the **nonlinear ODE**:

$$\frac{d^2r}{dt^2} - r\left(\frac{d\theta}{dt}\right)^2 = -\frac{GM}{r^2}.$$

Similarly, multiplying the  $x''$  equation by  $\sin(\theta)$  and the  $y''$  equation by  $\cos(\theta)$  and subtracting the results gives the **nonlinear ODE**:

$$r\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dr}{dt}\frac{d\theta}{dt} = 0.$$

Thus, we have **two nonlinear coupled 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODEs**, which with the **initial conditions** (4 of them):

$$\mathbf{r}(0) = \mathbf{r}_0 = r_0\mathbf{i}_{r0} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{r}'(0) = \mathbf{v}_0 = v_{r0}\mathbf{i}_{r0} + v_{\theta0}\mathbf{i}_{\theta0},$$

provide a **unique solution** for  $r(t)$  and  $\theta(t)$ , describing the **motion of the planet** for  $t > 0$ .



# Kepler's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law

1

**Kepler's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law:** Take the second **nonlinear ODE**:

$$r\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dr}{dt}\frac{d\theta}{dt} = 0.$$

and multiply by  $r$ , which gives:

$$r^2\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + 2r\frac{dr}{dt}\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{d(r^2\theta')}{dt} = 0.$$

This is integrated to give

$$r^2\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{p_0}{m},$$

where  $p_0$  is a constant depending on the initial position and velocity.

The quantity  $mr^2\theta'$  is the **angular momentum**, and this result shows that **angular momentum** of the planet is **conserved** (same for all time).



## Kepler's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law

2

**Kepler's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law:** Suppose at  $t_1$  the planet is at  $P_1 = (r_1, \theta_1)$  and at  $t_2$  the planet is at  $P_2 = (r_2, \theta_2)$ .

With  $\Delta t = t_2 - t_1$ , the position vector sweeps a sector with area:

$$\Delta A = \left[ \text{Area} \right] = \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} \int_0^{r(\theta)} r \, dr \, d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} r^2 d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} r^2 \theta' dt,$$

where  $r(\theta)$  is the plane curve traced by the planet's orbit.

From the *conservation of angular momentum* (integrand above being constant), it follows that

$$\Delta A = \frac{p_0}{2m} \Delta t.$$

### Property (Kepler's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law)

The position vector of the planet's orbit sweeps out sectors of equal area in equal time intervals.

The *integral for  $\Delta A$*  gives more by relating the area with the initial angular momentum per unit mass of the planet.

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## Kepler's 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Laws

1

**Kepler's 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Laws:** From the *conservation of angular momentum* with

$$r^2 \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{p_0}{m} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{p_0}{mr^2},$$

this is substituted into the other *nonlinear ODE* giving:

$$\frac{d^2 r}{dt^2} - \frac{p_0^2}{m^2} \frac{1}{r^3} = -\frac{GM}{r^2},$$

which is an *autonomous nonlinear ODE* that can be solved for  $r(t)$ , but results in a horrendous solution.

The shape of the planet's orbit is obtained by examining  $r(\theta)$ .

Differentiating and using the *conservation of angular momentum* gives

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\theta} \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{p_0}{mr^2} \frac{dr}{d\theta} = -\frac{p_0}{m} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \frac{1}{r} \right),$$

so

$$\frac{d^2 r}{dt^2} = -\frac{p_0}{m} \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \left( \frac{1}{r} \right) \frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\frac{p_0^2}{m^2 r^2} \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \left( \frac{1}{r} \right).$$

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## Kepler's 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Laws

3

**Kepler's 1<sup>st</sup> Law:** It follows that

$$\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \left( \frac{1}{r} \right) + \frac{1}{r} = \frac{GMm^2}{p_0^2}.$$

This *2<sup>nd</sup> order linear ODE* has the solution:

$$\frac{1}{r} = A \cos(\theta) + B \sin(\theta) + \frac{GMm^2}{p_0^2}.$$

With the *initial conditions*  $r(\theta_0) = r_0$  and  $\frac{dr}{d\theta}(\theta_0) = r_0 v_{r0}/v_{\theta 0}$ , then for  $v_{r0} = 0$  the solution satisfies:

$$r(\theta) = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{1 + e \cos(\theta - \theta_0)},$$

where

$$\frac{p_0^2}{GMm^2} = a(1 - e^2) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{p_0^2}{GMm^2 r_0} = 1 + e.$$

For  $0 < e < 1$  (*eccentricity* of the ellipse) the expression for  $r(\theta)$  gives:

### Property (Kepler's 1<sup>st</sup> Law)

The orbit of the planet around the sun is an ellipse.

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## Kepler's 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Laws

3

**Kepler's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law:** Let  $T$  be the time for the planet to complete one revolution of its orbit, so

$$\frac{p_0 T}{2m} = \text{area of the ellipse} = \pi a^2 \sqrt{1 - e^2} \quad \text{or} \quad T = \frac{2m\pi a^2 \sqrt{1 - e^2}}{p_0}.$$

However,

$$\sqrt{1 - e^2} = \frac{p_0}{m\sqrt{GMa}},$$

so

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2 a^3}{GM}.$$

This gives

### Property (Kepler's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law)

The square of the orbital period is proportional to the third power of the length of the semimajor axis of the elliptical orbit.

Our derivation using *Newton's law* gives a precise prediction of the period for a planet orbiting the sun.

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**Precession of Perihelion:** *Kepler's 1<sup>st</sup> Law* states that the orbit of a planet is *elliptical*.

- The point of the orbit closest to the *sun* is called *perihelion*, while the furthest point is called *aphelion*.
- Astronomical data show that the *perihelion of Mercury* advances about 574 seconds of arc/century ( $\frac{\pi}{2}$  radians =  $3.24 \times 10^5$  seconds of arc).
- *Newton's law* predicts no advance.
- The multi-body problem using *Newton's law* can account for about 531 seconds of arc/century.
- This leaves about 43 seconds of arc/century, which required *theory of general relativity* because of the speed of the planet *Mercury* and the accumulation of small effects over time.



**Relativistic Effects:** Dynamics of planetary motion are complex.

- The *sun* moves, which has a complex effect on the observed motion of the planets.
- This is from complex effects of the relative motion of two moving frames of reference.
- *Relativistic effects* are small except for:
  - When motion is comparable to the speed of light.
  - Time allows the accumulation of many small effects.
- We examine *relativistic effects* by studying the simplified *two-body problem*.
- The initial approximation uses the *Newtonian ODE* derived for studying *Kepler's Laws* to which *relativistic effects* are added.



**Relativistic Effects:** Let  $r(t)$  be the radial distance between the sun and the planet.

Define the dimensionless variable:

$$\omega_0 = \frac{a(1-e^2)}{r}, \quad \text{with} \quad a(1-e^2) = \frac{p_0^2}{GMm^2},$$

then our *Newtonian equation* from before

$$\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \left( \frac{1}{r} \right) + \frac{1}{r} = \frac{GMm^2}{p_0^2}.$$

becomes

$$\frac{d^2\omega_0}{d\theta^2} + \omega_0 = 1,$$

which has the solution:

$$\omega_0(\theta) = 1 + e \cos(\theta - \theta_0).$$



For the theory with the *relativistic effects*, we again define the dimensionless variable,  $\omega = \frac{a(1-e^2)}{r}$ .

The *relativistic equation* requires a working knowledge of tensor calculus, so we omit derivation of the equations of motion.

It can be shown that the *angular momentum* is still conserved and  $\omega(\theta)$  satisfies the equation:

$$\frac{d^2\omega}{d\theta^2} + \omega = 1 + \varepsilon\omega^2, \quad \text{where} \quad \varepsilon = 3 \left( \frac{GMm}{p_0 c} \right)^2,$$

with  $c$  being the speed of light.

From before we have  $r \approx a(1-e^2) = \frac{p_0^2}{GMm^2}$ , so the *angular velocity* is approximated by:

$$r \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{p_0}{mr} \approx \frac{GMm}{p_0}.$$

From the definition of  $\varepsilon$ , we find  $\sqrt{\varepsilon}$  is a ratio of the planet's speed to the speed of light, which for *Mercury* satisfies:

$$\varepsilon = \mathcal{O}(10^{-9}).$$





Precession of Perihelion

5

**Regular Perturbation:** Let

$$\omega(\theta) = \omega_0(\theta) + \varepsilon\omega_1(\theta) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2),$$

and consider the **ODE in  $\omega$**  with our perturbation method:

$$\frac{d^2\omega}{d\theta^2} + \omega = 1 + \varepsilon\omega^2.$$

Thus,

$$\omega_0'' + \varepsilon\omega_1'' + \omega_0 + \varepsilon\omega_1 + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2) = 1 + \varepsilon(\omega_0 + \varepsilon\omega_1 + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2))^2.$$

The **zeroth order** terms give:

$$\omega_0'' + \omega_0 = 1,$$

which from the initial value problem before has the solution:

$$\omega_0(\theta) = 1 + e \cos(\theta - \theta_0).$$



Precession of Perihelion

6

The  $\varepsilon$ -order terms give the **ODE**:

$$\omega_1'' + \omega_1 = \omega_0^2 = \left(1 + e \cos(\theta - \theta_0)\right)^2 = 1 + \frac{e^2}{2} + \frac{e^2}{2} \cos(2(\theta - \theta_0)) + 2e \cos(\theta - \theta_0).$$

This is solved using the **method of undetermined coefficients** yielding:

$$\omega_1(\theta) = A \cos(\theta) + B \sin(\theta) + 1 + \frac{e^2}{2} - \frac{e^2}{6} \cos(2(\theta - \theta_0)) + e\theta \sin(\theta - \theta_0).$$

The **homogeneous** part and first **3** terms of the **particular solution** are bounded solutions, which remain very small when multiplied by  $\varepsilon$ .

However the last term comes from **resonance** in this **ODE** and results in an **unbounded solution** (from the  $\theta$  factor), so results in the dominant behavior over time due to **relativistic effects**.



Precession of Perihelion

7

**Asymptotic Behavior:** The **resonance term** is the only significant one in the  $\omega_1(\theta)$  solution, so the asymptotic solution is

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(\theta) &\approx 1 + e \left[ \cos(\theta - \theta_0) + \varepsilon(\theta - \theta_0) \sin(\theta - \theta_0) \right] \\ &= 1 + e \sqrt{1 + (\varepsilon\bar{\theta})^2} \cos(\bar{\theta} - \phi), \quad \text{with } \bar{\theta} = \theta - \theta_0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi = \arctan(\varepsilon\bar{\theta}) \approx \varepsilon\bar{\theta}$  for  $|\varepsilon\bar{\theta}| \ll 1$ .

The phase angle  $\phi$  varies with  $\theta$ , (and thus, time).

From this the **perihelion** of the orbit advances by an amount approximately equal to  $2\pi\varepsilon = 4.9 \times 10^{-7}$  radian for each revolution of Mercury around the sun, or the **perihelion precesses**.

With an 88-day revolution, Mercury goes through 415 revolutions/century.

Property

By the relativistic theory, the **perihelion** of Mercury's orbit **precesses** by 43 seconds of arc for each century.



Spring-Mass Oscillators

**Spring-Mass System:** Consider a mass,  $m$ , connected to a **nonlinear spring** with restoring force  $ky + ay^3$  with  $y$  being the displacement from equilibrium.

**Newton's second law** gives:

$$m \frac{d^2y}{d\tau^2} = -ky - ay^3, \quad \tau > 0,$$

and initial conditions:

$$y(0) = A, \quad \frac{dy}{d\tau}(0) = 0.$$

This problem cannot be solved exactly, but for  $a \ll k$ , it suggests a **perturbation method**.

From the **initial conditions**, we scale  $y$  by the amplitude  $A$ .

For the scaling of time, we ignore the cubic term and examine the **ODE**,  $my'' + ky = 0$ , which has periodic solutions with a frequency of  $\sqrt{k/m}$  or period  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{m/k}$ .

This suggests a scaling of

$$t = \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{m/k}} \quad \text{and} \quad u = \frac{y}{A}.$$



# Duffing's Equation

1

**Duffing's Equation:** With the previous scaling, the nonlinear mass-spring equation becomes:

$$\ddot{u} + u + \varepsilon u^3 = 0, \quad u(0) = 1, \quad \dot{u}(0) = 0, \quad t > 0,$$

with the "small" dimensionless parameter (assuming  $aA^2 \ll k$ ):

$$\varepsilon \equiv \frac{aA^2}{k} \ll 1.$$

*Perturbation method* suggests a solution of the form:

$$u(t) = u_0(t) + \varepsilon u_1(t) + \varepsilon^2 u_2(t) + \dots$$

This is inserted into the equation above to give:

$$\ddot{u}_0 + \varepsilon \ddot{u}_1 + \varepsilon^2 \ddot{u}_2 + \dots + u_0 + \varepsilon u_1 + \varepsilon^2 u_2(t) + \dots + \varepsilon(u_0 + \varepsilon u_1 + \varepsilon^2 u_2(t) + \dots)^3 = 0.$$



# Duffing's Equation

2

**Duffing's Equation:** From *IVP* above, we obtain the following sequence of *IVPs*

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{u}_0 + u_0 &= 0, & u_0(0) &= 1, & \dot{u}_0(0) &= 0, \\ \ddot{u}_1 + u_1 &= -u_0^3, & u_1(0) &= 0, & \dot{u}_1(0) &= 0, \dots \end{aligned}$$

The first *IVP* is easily solved:

$$u_0(t) = \cos(t).$$

To solve the second *IVP*, we use the trig identity  $\cos(3t) = 4\cos^3(t) - 3\cos(t)$ , so

$$\ddot{u}_1 + u_1 = -\frac{1}{4}(3\cos(t) + \cos(3t)), \quad \text{with } u_1(0) = 0, \quad \dot{u}_1(0) = 0.$$

Once again, the *method of undetermined coefficients* is employed to yield the solution:

$$u_1(t) = \frac{1}{32}(\cos(3t) - \cos(t)) - \frac{3}{8}t \sin(t).$$

The last term (*resonance* again) is clearly unbounded for large  $t$ .

This term is called a *secular term* and is inconsistent with the *physical problem*.

Higher order approximations will contain *secular terms* and not cancel out this approximation.



# Duffing's Equation

3

**Duffing's Equation** is given by:

$$\ddot{u} + u + \varepsilon u^3 = 0, \quad u(0) = 1, \quad \dot{u}(0) = 0, \quad t > 0,$$

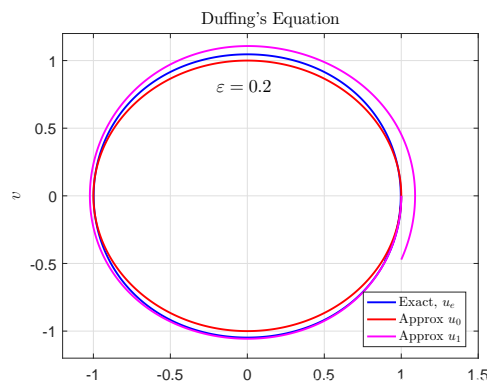
with approximate solutions:

$$u_0(t) = \cos(t).$$

and

$$u_0(t) + \varepsilon u_1(t) = \cos(t) + \varepsilon \left( \frac{1}{32}(\cos(3t) - \cos(t)) - \frac{3}{8}t \sin(t) \right).$$

Below is a *Phase Portrait* of  $v(t)$  vs  $u(t)$ , where  $v = \dot{u}$ .



# Duffing's Equation

4

```
1 function du = duffDE(t,u)
2 % Duffing's ODE
3 ep = 0.2;
4 du1 = u(2);
5 du2 = -u(1) - ep*(u(1))^3;
6 du = [du1;du2];
7 end
```

```
1 mytitle = 'Duffing's Equation'; % Title
2 xlab = '$u$'; % X-label
3 ylab = '$v$'; % Y-label
4 tt = linspace(0,2*pi,500);
5 [te,ue] = ode23(@duffDE,tt,[1;0]);
6 ep = 0.2;
7 u0 = cos(tt);
8 v0 = -sin(tt);
```



```

9  u1 = cos(tt) + ep*((1/32)*(cos(3*tt)-cos(tt))...
10      -(3/8)*tt.*sin(tt));
11  v1 = -sin(tt) + ep*((1/32)*(-3*sin(3*tt)+sin(tt))...
12      -(3/8)*(tt.*cos(tt)+sin(tt)));
13  plot(ue(:,1),ue(:,2),'b-','LineWidth',1.5);
14  hold on
15  plot(u0,v0,'r-','LineWidth',1.5);
16  plot(u1,v1,'m-','LineWidth',1.5);
17  grid % Adds Gridlines
18  h = legend('Exact, $u_e$', 'Approx $u_0$',...
19      'Approx $u_1$', 'Location','southeast');
20  set(h,'Interpreter','latex')
21  text(-0.2,0.8,'$\varepsilon = 0.2$','FontSize',14,...
22      'interpreter','latex');
23  xlim([-1.2 1.5]);
24  ylim([-1.2 1.2]);
    
```



```

25  fontlabs = 'Times New Roman'; % Font in labels
26  xlabel(xlab,'FontSize',14,'FontName',fontlabs,...
27      'interpreter','latex');
28  ylabel(ylab,'FontSize',14,'FontName',fontlabs,...
29      'interpreter','latex');
30  title(mytitle,'FontSize',16,'FontName',...
31      'Times New Roman','interpreter','latex');
32  set(gca,'FontSize',12); % Axis tick font size
33  print -depsc duff_plot.eps % Create figure ...
    as EPS file
    
```

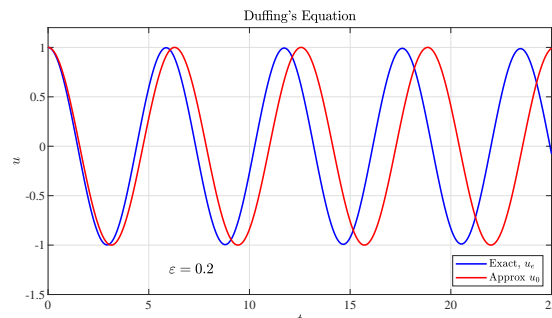


**Duffing's Equation Revisited:** The *regular perturbation method* applied to the equation:

$$\ddot{u} + u + \varepsilon u^3 = 0, \quad u(0) = 1, \quad \dot{u}(0) = 0, \quad t > 0,$$

resulted in a *secular term* due to *resonance* in the solution, giving an *unbounded solution*.

The *regular perturbation method* fails to correct for variations in the period, which accumulate over time leading to solutions *out-of-phase*.



**Poincaré-Lindstedt Method:** With *Duffing's equation* a perturbation is introduced into the time scale.

Specifically, let

$$u(\tau) = u_0(\tau) + \varepsilon u_1(\tau) + \varepsilon^2 u_2(\tau) + \dots,$$

where

$$\tau = \omega t \quad \text{with} \quad \omega = 1 + \varepsilon \omega_1 + \varepsilon^2 \omega_2 + \dots,$$

so  $\omega_0 = 1$ , matching the frequency of the unperturbed problem.

This scaling changes *Duffing's equation* (with ' differentiation with respect to  $\tau$ ) to

$$\omega^2 u'' + u + \varepsilon u^3 = 0, \quad u(0) = 1, \quad u'(0) = 0, \quad \tau > 0,$$

Substitution gives:

$$(1 + \varepsilon \omega_1 + \dots)^2 (u_0'' + \varepsilon u_1'' + \dots) + (u_0 + \varepsilon u_1 + \dots) + \varepsilon (u_0 + \varepsilon u_1 + \dots)^3 = 0,$$

and

$$u_0(0) + \varepsilon u_1(0) + \dots = 1, \quad u_0'(0) + \varepsilon u_1'(0) + \dots = 0.$$



## Poincaré-Lindstedt Method

2

**Poincaré-Lindstedt Method:** Collect coefficients of the powers of  $\varepsilon$  to give the following differential equations:

$$u_0'' + u_0 = 0, \quad u_0(0) = 1, \quad u_0'(0) = 0,$$

and

$$u_1'' + u_1 = -2\omega_1 u_0'' - u_0^3, \quad u_1(0) = u_1'(0) = 0, \dots$$

The solution to the **first equation** is:

$$u_0(\tau) = \cos(\tau),$$

so the **second DE equation** becomes:

$$u_1'' + u_1 = 2\omega_1 \cos(\tau) - \cos^3(\tau) = \left(2\omega_1 - \frac{3}{4}\right) \cos(\tau) - \frac{1}{4} \cos(3\tau).$$

Since  $\cos(\tau)$  is a solution to the **homogeneous equation**, this term on the right side leads to a particular solution, leading to a **secular term** of the form  $\tau \cos(\tau)$ .

This term is eliminated by taking  $\omega_1 = \frac{3}{8}$ .



## Poincaré-Lindstedt Method

3

**Poincaré-Lindstedt Method:** With  $\omega_1 = \frac{3}{8}$ , the **second DE equation** becomes:

$$u_1'' + u_1 = -\frac{1}{4} \cos(3\tau), \quad u_1(0) = u_1'(0) = 0.$$

The general solution is given by:

$$u_1(\tau) = c_1 \cos(\tau) + c_2 \sin(\tau) + \frac{1}{32} \cos(3\tau),$$

which with the initial conditions gives:

$$u_1(\tau) = \frac{1}{32} (\cos(3\tau) - \cos(\tau)).$$

Thus, a **first-order, uniformly valid perturbation solution** is

$$u(\tau) = \cos(\tau) + \frac{\varepsilon}{32} (\cos(3\tau) - \cos(\tau)) + \dots,$$

where

$$\tau = t + \frac{3\varepsilon}{8} t + \dots$$



## Poincaré-Lindstedt Method

4

**Duffing's Equation** is given by:

$$\ddot{u} + u + \varepsilon u^3 = 0, \quad u(0) = 1, \quad \dot{u}(0) = 0, \quad t > 0,$$

with the Poincaré-Lindstedt approximate solution:

$$u(\tau) = \cos(\tau) + \frac{\varepsilon}{32} (\cos(3\tau) - \cos(\tau)) + \dots,$$

where

$$\tau = t + \frac{3\varepsilon}{8} t + \dots$$

Below is a **Phase Portrait** and **Time Series** of  $v(t)$  vs  $u(t)$ , where  $v = \dot{u}$ .

