

Perturbation methods for oscillator problems (The last HW)

0. Reading: Lecture notes 23, 24 and B&O: Chapter 11.
1. Use multiple-scales to obtain the leading order solution of

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + 9y = -8\epsilon \sin\left(6t + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \frac{dy}{dt} \quad y(0) = 0 \quad y'(0) = 12$$

- (a) Writing $Y_0(t, T) = A(T) \sin(\omega_0 t) + B(T) \cos(\omega_0 t)$, determine the amplitude ODE's, $dA/dT = F(A, B)$ and $dB/dT = G(A, B)$.
 - (b) Solve the amplitude equations and use the initial conditions to determine $y(t)$ to leading order. Is its amplitude growing or decaying?
2. Solve for the leading order general solution $y(t)$ as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ of

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + y = \epsilon y^2$$

- (a) First use a naive regular expansion and expand out to $y(t) \sim y_0(t) + \epsilon y_1(t) + \epsilon^2 y_2(t)$ to observe what combination of ϵ, t selects the slow timescale T , then use the method of multiple scales to re-solve the problem and derive the amplitude equations for $A(T), B(T)$ that determine the leading order solution $Y_0(t, T) = A(T) \sin(t) + B(T) \cos(t)$.
Hint: Use of Maple/Mathematica for algebraic assistance may be helpful.
 - (b) This problem can also be solved using Poincare-Lindstedt, but NO, don't go through all of that work. Instead we can get those results by using the ODE's for $A(T), B(T)$ from (a): if $A(T) = R(T) \cos(\Theta(T))$ and $B(T) = R(T) \sin(\Theta(T))$, what are the ODE's for $R(T), \Theta(T)$?
What does this tell you about the PL variable $\tau = (1 + \epsilon \sigma_1 + \epsilon^2 \sigma_2)t$?
3. Use the method of multiple scales with $T = \epsilon t$ for

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + y = -\epsilon \tanh\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{dy}{dt}\right), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1, \quad \epsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

- (a) Show that the leading order solution can be written in the polar form

$$Y_0(t, T) = R(T) \sin(t + \Theta(T)).$$

Relate the amplitude R and phase Θ to the coefficients A, B in $Y_0 = A(T) \sin(t) + B(T) \cos(t)$. What are the initial conditions for R, Θ ?

- (b) Derive and solve the amplitude equations for $R(T)$ and $\Theta(T)$ to obtain the leading order solution $y(t) \sim Y_0(t, T)$.
Hint: You will need to calculate some terms from a Fourier series. Write the series in terms of the variable $s = t + \Theta$ on $-\pi < s < \pi$, namely $\sum_k a_k \sin(ks) + b_k \cos(ks)$.
Meta-Hint: Doing the asymptotics of the integrals with the $\tanh$ might not be easy – so go ahead and replace the $\tanh(\cdot)$ with the $\text{sgn}(\cdot)$ step function to get an easier piecewise-defined integral that has $O(\epsilon^2)$ error from the exact $\tanh$ integral.
- (c) Your amplitude equation from (b) based on the step function approximation should show that the oscillations stops at a finite time. What is that time?
Should this happen if you keep the correct “low-speed” ($y' = o(\epsilon)$) influence of the damping?
What is the leading order version of the ODE in the “low-speed” distinguished limit?

(continued)

- (d) This problem models the classic physics example of a mass on a spring on a table with friction given by Coulomb damping (a constant force proportional to weight, opposite to the direction of motion (velocity)), $My'' + Ky = -\mu Mg \operatorname{sgn}(y')$.

This can be understood as a “hybrid dynamical system” with two piecewise modes of evolution:

$$\begin{cases} y''_+ + y_+ = -\epsilon & \text{when } y'_+ > 0 \\ y''_- + y_- = \epsilon & \text{when } y'_- < 0 \end{cases}$$

and the y_+ and y_- pieces smoothly patching together

$$y_+(t_*) = y_-(t_*) \quad \text{at time } t_* \text{ when } y'_+(t_*) = y'_-(t_*) = 0.$$

Construct the solution $y(t)$ as a sequence of pieces $\{y_+, y_-, y_+, y_-, \dots\}$ and show that the rate of decay of the amplitude is the same as given by the amplitude eqn in part (b).

4. Find the leading order large amplitude periodic solution of

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + y = \epsilon y^2 + \epsilon \cos t \quad y'(0) = 0$$

Hints: Let $y(t) = \epsilon^\beta Y(t, T)$ with $T = \epsilon^\alpha t$ and $Y \sim Y_0 + \epsilon^\gamma Y_1 + \epsilon^{2\gamma} Y_2$. To find α, β, γ you'll need to look at the equations up to $O(\epsilon^{\beta+2\gamma})$. To get Y_0 you'll need to use Y_0, Y_1 in the equation for Y_2 .
