
MATH 046 - Spring 2018
Worked Problems - Chapter 7

1. A body of mass 3 slugs is dropped from a height of 500 ft in a with zero velocity. Assuming no air resistance, find
- (a) an expression for the velocity of the body at any time t
 - (b) an expression for the position of the body at any time t .

Solution: (a) Use the example 7.11 as a guide. The “positive” orientation is given to be pointing downward, which is in the same direction as the motion, so $v(t)$ will be positive. It states that the motion is governed by the ODE

$$F = ma \Rightarrow m \frac{dv}{dt} = mg \Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dt} = g$$

where g is a constant. This is a separable ODE, which we solve

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dv}{dt} &= g \\ dv &= g \, dt \\ \int dv &= \int g \, dt \\ v &= gt + C \\ v(t) &= gt + C \quad \text{general solution} \\ v(0) &= g(0) + C \\ C &= 0 \\ v(t) &= gt \quad \text{solution with zero initial velocity } v(0) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) To find the position function, we integrate the velocity function

$$\begin{aligned} v(t) &= gt \\ \int v(t) \, dt &= \int gt \, dt \\ s(t) &= \frac{1}{2}gt^2 + C \quad \text{general solution} \\ s(0) &= \frac{1}{2}g(0^2) + C \\ C &= 0 \\ s(t) &= \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \quad \text{solution with initial position at } s(0) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

2. Redo Problem 1 above, assuming there is air resistance which creates a force on the body equal to $-2v$ lbs.

Solution: (a) Use the example 7.11 as a guide. The “positive” orientation is given to be pointing downward, which is in the same direction as the motion, so $v(t)$ will be positive. The air resistance acts opposite the direction of motion, that is why the air resistance is $-2v$ lbs. The motion is governed by the ODE

$$F = ma \Rightarrow m \frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv \Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dt} = g - \frac{k}{m}v \Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{k}{m}v = g$$

Here, our $-kv = -2v \Rightarrow kv = 2v$ from the problem statement, as well as $m = 3$. Therefore we solve the ODE

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{2}{3}v &= g \\ \frac{dv}{dt}e^{\frac{2}{3}t} + \frac{2}{3}e^{\frac{2}{3}t}v &= ge^{\frac{2}{3}t} \\ \frac{d}{dt} \left[ve^{\frac{2}{3}t} \right] &= ge^{\frac{2}{3}t} \\ \int \frac{d}{dt} \left[ve^{\frac{2}{3}t} \right] dt &= \int ge^{\frac{2}{3}t} dt \\ ve^{\frac{2}{3}t} &= C + \frac{3}{2}ge^{\frac{2}{3}t} \\ v(t) &= Ce^{-\frac{2}{3}t} + \frac{3}{2}g \quad \text{general solution} \\ v(0) &= Ce^{-\frac{2}{3}0} + \frac{3}{2}g \\ C &= -\frac{3}{2}g \\ v(t) &= \frac{3}{2}g - \frac{3}{2}ge^{-\frac{2}{3}t} \quad \text{solution with zero initial velocity } v(0) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) To find the position function, we integrate the velocity function

$$\begin{aligned} v(t) &= \frac{3}{2}g - \frac{3}{2}ge^{-\frac{2}{3}t} \\ \int v(t) dt &= \int \frac{3}{2}g - \frac{3}{2}ge^{-\frac{2}{3}t} dt \\ s(t) &= \frac{3}{2}gt + \frac{9}{4}ge^{-\frac{2}{3}t} + C \quad \text{general solution} \\ s(0) &= \frac{3}{2}g(0) + \frac{9}{4}ge^{-\frac{2}{3}0} + C \\ C &= -\frac{9}{4}g \\ s(t) &= \frac{9}{4}ge^{-\frac{2}{3}t} + \frac{3}{2}gt - \frac{9}{4}g \quad \text{solution with initial position at } s(0) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

3. Suppose you opened a savings account with the annual interest rate 2% and deposited \$100,000 at the time you opened it. Suppose the interest compounds continuously in time and you deposit \$10,000 into this account annually. How much money do you have in this account after 10 years?

Solution: First we must set up the differential equation describing this situation. Let $P = 100000$ be the principal (initial amount in account), $r = 0.02$ the interest rate, and S be the amount added annually. The rate at which money accumulates from interest is just rA if $A(t)$ represents the money in the account at time t , since we compound continuously. Since we add 10,000 for every year, this is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dA}{dt} &= rA + 10000 \\ \frac{dA}{dt}e^{-rt} - re^{-rt}A &= 10000e^{-rt} \\ \frac{d}{dt} [Ae^{-rt}] &= 10000e^{-rt} \\ Ae^{-rt} &= C - \frac{10000}{r}e^{-rt} \\ A(t) &= Ce^{rt} - \frac{10000}{r} \\ \text{using } A(0) = 100000 &\Rightarrow C = 100000 + \frac{10000}{r} \\ A(t) &= 100000e^{rt} + \frac{10000}{r}(e^{rt} - 1) \\ A(10) &= 100000e^{0.02(10)} + \frac{10000}{0.02}(e^{0.02(10)} - 1)\end{aligned}$$

We can recover this in an alternate way. We can express the amount if interest is compounded n times, where t is overall amount of time. Let S be the amount we add each period. We can write how much we money have at each n by

$$\begin{aligned}A_n(t) &= P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt} + \frac{S \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt} - S}{r} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n(t) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt} + \frac{S \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt} - S}{r} \\ A(t) &= Pe^{rt} + \frac{S}{r}(e^{rt} - 1)\end{aligned}$$

where in the first line, we have the amount after the interest, plus the second term which is the interest plus the amount we are adding, S , subtracted by the added amount, S , over the interest rate. Taking the limit tells us we will compound continuously, and we get the same solution as the ODE method. \square