

Problem Set #1 Solutions

Problem 1.1: Manipulation of complex vectors

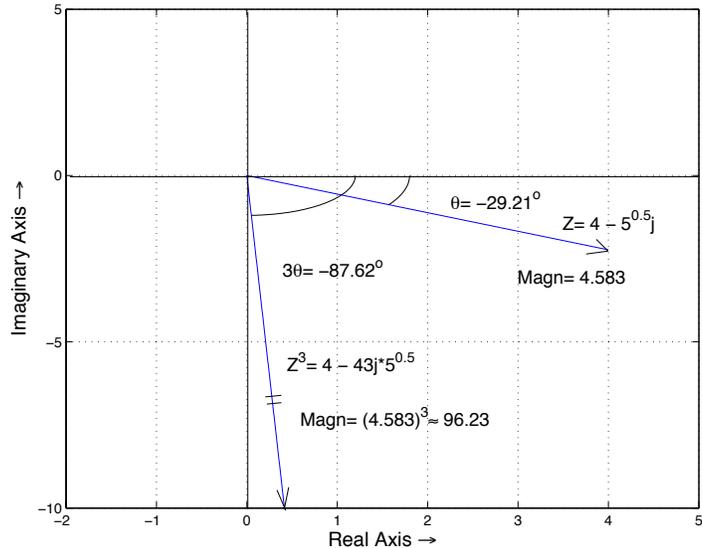
$$\begin{aligned} \text{a)} \quad (4 - \sqrt{5}j)^3 &= 4^3 - 3 \cdot 4^2 \cdot \sqrt{5}j + 3 \cdot 4 \cdot (\sqrt{5}j)^2 - (\sqrt{5}j)^3 = 64 + 5\sqrt{5}j - 48\sqrt{5}j - 60 \\ &= 4 - 43\sqrt{5}j \end{aligned}$$

Magnitude:

$$|(4 - \sqrt{5}j)^3| = \sqrt{4^2 + (43\sqrt{5})^2} = \sqrt{16 + 9245} = \sqrt{9261} = 96.23$$

$$\text{Direction: } \arctan\left(\frac{-43\sqrt{5}}{4}\right) = -87.62^\circ$$

We show a graphical representation. Raising the complex vector Z to the power 3 means that the new angle is 3 times larger than that of Z , and the length of the new vector is the length $|Z|^3$. The length of the vector Z^3 is not to scale ($|Z|^3 \approx 96$).



$$\begin{aligned} \text{b)} \quad \frac{Ae^{j(\omega t + \pi/2)}}{4 + 5j} &= \frac{A(\cos(\omega t + \pi/2) + j \sin(\omega t + \pi/2))}{4 + 5j} \\ &= \frac{A(\cos(\omega t + \pi/2) + j \sin(\omega t + \pi/2))}{4 + 5j} \times \frac{4 - 5j}{4 - 5j} \\ &= \frac{A[4 \cos(\omega t + \pi/2) + 5 \sin(\omega t + \pi/2) + j[4 \sin(\omega t + \pi/2) - 5 \cos(\omega t + \pi/2)]]}{4^2 + 5^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Real Part} \quad \frac{A}{41}[4 \cos(\omega t + \pi/2) + 5 \sin(\omega t + \pi/2)]$$

$$\text{Imaginary Part} \quad j \frac{A}{41}[(4 \sin(\omega t + \pi/2) - 5 \cos(\omega t + \pi/2))]$$

c) Remember $e^{j\theta} = \cos(\theta) + j \sin(\theta)$

$$\begin{aligned} Z_1 &= j^j = [e^{j(\pi/2 \pm 2n\pi)}]^j = e^{j(\pi/2 \pm 2n\pi) \times j} = e^{j^2(\pi/2 \pm 2n\pi)} = e^{-(\pi/2 \pm 2n\pi)} \\ &\simeq 0.208, 3.88 \times 10^{-4}, 1.11 \times 10^2 \dots \quad (n = 0, 1, \dots) \end{aligned}$$

Note: All values are real!

$$\begin{aligned} Z_2 &= j^{8.03} = [e^{j(\pi/2 \pm 2n\pi)}]^{8.03} = e^{j(8.03 \times (\pi/2 \pm 2n\pi))} \\ &= \cos\left[8.03 \times \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \pm 2n\pi\right)\right] + j \sin\left[8.03 \times \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \pm 2n\pi\right)\right] \\ &= 0.999 + 0.047j, 0.9724 + 0.233j, 0.990 - 0.141j \dots \quad (n = 0, 1, \dots) \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1.2: (French 1-10)¹ SHM of y as a function of x

$$y = A \cos(kx) + B \sin(kx) \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = -Ak \sin(kx) + Bk \cos(kx)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -Ak^2 \cos(kx) - Bk^2 \sin(kx) = -k^2[A \cos(kx) + B \sin(kx)] \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -k^2y$$

Hence the given differential equation has $y = A \cos(kx) + B \sin(kx)$ as its solution.

Now to express the equation in the desired form, we divide and multiply it by $\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$. When we substitute $\cos(\alpha) = A/\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$ and $\sin(\alpha) = -B/\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$, the equation takes the form:

$$y = \frac{A \cos(kx) + B \sin(kx)}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}} \times \sqrt{A^2 + B^2} = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2}[\cos(\alpha) \cos(kx) - \sin(\alpha) \sin(kx)]$$

$$= \sqrt{A^2 + B^2} \cos(kx + \alpha)$$

$$y = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2} \cos(kx + \alpha) = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2} \operatorname{Re}[e^{j(kx + \alpha)}] = \operatorname{Re}[(\sqrt{A^2 + B^2} e^{j\alpha}) e^{jkx}]$$

where $C = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$ $\alpha = \tan^{-1} -(\frac{B}{A})$

Problem 1.3: (French 1-11) Oscillating springs

a) The mass at the end of the spring oscillates with an amplitude of 5 cm and at a frequency of 1 Hz, hence the values of A and ω are: $A = 5$ cm $\omega = 2\pi f = 2\pi \times 1 = 2\pi$ rad/s.

We are given that at time $t = 0$ the mass is at the position $x = 0$. Using this and substituting the values from above in the equation $x = A \cos(\omega t + \alpha)$ we get $0 = 5 \cos(\alpha) \Rightarrow \cos(\alpha) = 0$ $\alpha = \pm \frac{\pi}{2}$. Hence the possible equations of motion for the mass as a function of time are $x = 5 \cos(2\pi t + \frac{\pi}{2})$ and $x = 5 \cos(2\pi t - \frac{\pi}{2})$ cm where the values are $A = 5$ cm, $\omega = 2\pi$ rad/s, and $\alpha = \pm \frac{\pi}{2}$.

b) $x = A \cos(\omega t + \alpha) \Rightarrow dx/dt = -A\omega \sin(\omega t + \alpha) \Rightarrow d^2x/dt^2 = -A\omega^2 \cos(\omega t + \alpha) = -\omega^2 x$
Substituting values for A, ω , and α from part (a); and putting $t = \frac{8}{3}$ sec, we get

$$x = 5 \cos \left[\left(2\pi \times \frac{8}{3} \right) \pm \frac{\pi}{2} \right] = 5 \cos \left(\frac{16\pi}{3} \pm \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

$$= 5 \cos \left(\frac{35\pi}{6} \right), 5 \cos \left(\frac{29\pi}{6} \right) = 5 \cos \left(\frac{11\pi}{6} \right), 5 \cos \left(\frac{5\pi}{6} \right) = \pm \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ cm} = \pm 4.330 \text{ cm}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -5 \times 2\pi \sin \left[\left(2\pi \times \frac{8}{3} \right) \pm \frac{\pi}{2} \right] = -10\pi \sin \left(\frac{16\pi}{3} \pm \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = \pm 5\pi \text{ cm/s} = \pm 15.708 \text{ cm/s}$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 5 \times (2\pi)^2 \cos \left[\left(2\pi \times \frac{8}{3} \right) \pm \frac{\pi}{2} \right] = 20\pi^2 \cos \left(\frac{16\pi}{3} \pm \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

$$= \pm 10\sqrt{3}\pi^2 \text{ cm/s}^2 = \pm 170.95 \text{ cm/s}^2$$

¹The notation “French” indicates where this problem is located in one of the textbooks used for 8.03 in 2004: French, A. P. *Vibrations and Waves. The M.I.T. Introductory Physics Series.* Cambridge, MA: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1971. ISBN-10: 0393099369; ISBN-13: 9780393099362.

Problem 1.4: (French 3-4) Floating Cylinder

a) The diameter of the floating cylinder is d and it has l of its length submerged in water. The volume of water displaced by the submerged part of the cylinder in equilibrium condition is $\pi d^2 l / 4$. Let the density of water be ρ_w and that of the cylinder be ρ_{cyl} . Hence the mass of the cylinder is:

$$M_{cyl} = \rho_w V_{displaced} = \rho_w \pi \frac{d^2 l}{4} = \rho_{cyl} \pi \frac{d^2 L}{4}$$

When the cylinder is submerged by an additional length x from its equilibrium position, the restoring force acting on it is $F_{restoring} = -\frac{\rho_w g \pi d^2}{4} x \Rightarrow M_{cyl} \ddot{x} = -\frac{\rho_w g \pi d^2}{4} x \Rightarrow 0 = \ddot{x} + \frac{\rho_w g \pi d^2 x}{4 M_{cyl}} \Rightarrow$

$$\omega^2 = \rho_w \frac{g \pi d^2}{4 M_{cyl}} = \frac{g}{l} \Rightarrow x(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \alpha) = A \cos\left(\sqrt{\frac{g}{l}} t + \alpha\right)$$

Hence the angular frequency of the oscillations is $\omega = \sqrt{g/l}$ rad/s and the frequency in cycles per second is $f = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}}$ Hz

b) The equation of motion is of the form:

$x(t) = B \cos(\omega t + \alpha)$. We assume *up* to be the positive and *down* to be the negative direction. At $t = 0$, $x = -B$

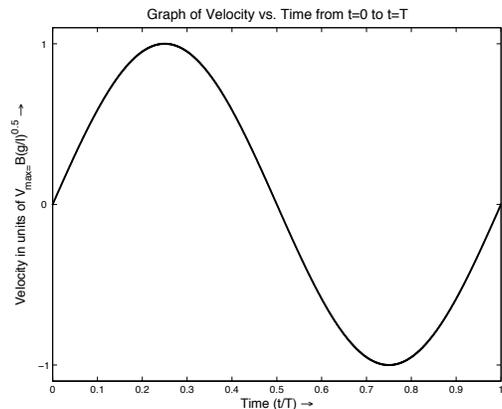
$$x(0) = -B = B \cos\left(\sqrt{\frac{g}{l}} \times 0 + \alpha\right)$$

$$\alpha = \cos^{-1}(-1) = \pi$$

The velocity of the mass is

$$\dot{x}(t) = -B \sqrt{g/l} \sin\left(\sqrt{g/l} t + \pi\right) = B \sqrt{g/l} \sin\left(\sqrt{g/l} t\right)$$

The amplitude of the velocity is $V_{max} = B \sqrt{g/l}$.



Problem 1.5: (French 3-14) A damped oscillating spring

The mass of the object is $m = 0.2$ kg and the spring constant is $k = 80$ N/m. The resistive force providing the damping force has the value of $-bv$, where v is velocity in m/s.

a) Let the oscillations of the spring be along the x axis. The spring force and damping force acting on the mass are: $F_{restoring} = -kx$ $F_{damping} = -bv = -b\dot{x}$

$$\text{Newton's 2}^{nd} \text{ law: } m\ddot{x} = F_{net} = F_{restoring} + F_{damping} = -kx - b\dot{x} \quad \ddot{x} = -\frac{k}{m}x - \frac{b}{m}\dot{x}$$

Hence the differential equation describing the motion of the mass is:

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{b}{m}\dot{x} + \frac{k}{m}x = 0 \quad \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = 0 \quad \text{where } \gamma = \frac{b}{m} \quad \omega_0^2 = \frac{k}{m}$$

b) We are given that the damped frequency is $\omega = 0.995\omega_0$. The value of the damped frequency in terms of the undamped frequency and damping parameter is:

$$\omega^2 = \omega_0^2 - \frac{\gamma^2}{4} \quad (0.995\omega_0)^2 = 0.99\omega_0^2 = \omega_0^2 - \frac{\gamma^2}{4}$$

$$\frac{\gamma^2}{4} = \frac{b^2}{4m^2} = 0.01\omega_0^2 = 0.01 \frac{k}{m} \quad b = \sqrt{0.04km} = 0.2\sqrt{km}$$

substituting the values given in the problem, we find $b = 0.8$ Ns/m = 0.8 kg/s.

c) $\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} = 20 \text{ rad/s}$ $\gamma = \frac{b}{m} = 4 \text{ rad/s}$ $Q = \frac{\omega_0}{\gamma} = 5$. Four complete cycles imply that the time $t = 8\pi/\omega$. The envelope for the damped oscillatory motion as a function of time $A(t) = A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{\gamma t}{2}\right) = A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{4 \cdot 4\pi}{0.995 \cdot 20}\right) = A_0 \exp(-0.804\pi)$ $\frac{A(t)}{A_0} = \exp(-0.804\pi) = 0.08$

The factor by which the amplitude is reduced after four complete cycles is 0.08.

d) The equation defining the decay of energy of the system is: $E(t) = E_0 e^{-\gamma t}$. Substituting values from above, we get $\frac{E(t)}{E_0} = \exp(-\gamma t) = \exp(-1.608\pi) = 0.0064$. The factor by which the energy is reduced after four complete cycles is 6.4×10^{-3} ; this is the square of the ratio of the amplitudes.

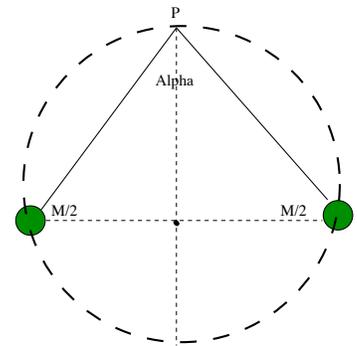
Problem 1.6: A physical pendulum

a) To solve this problem, we first consider the simpler case of a two mass rigid pendulum, both of whose masses are equidistant from the pivot point at P. All three points lie on a circle of diameter D and subtend an angle α at the pivot, as shown. In this system, let the distance of each mass from the pivot point be l .

The moment of inertia of the two masses together is $I_p = Ml^2/2 + Ml^2/2 = Ml^2$. At equilibrium the position of each mass is $l \cos(\alpha/2) = l^2/D$ below P. The gravitational potential energy of the system, after being displaced over a small angle θ is $U \approx Mg \frac{l^2 \theta^2}{D}$

$$E \approx \frac{1}{2} Ml^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + \frac{1}{2} g \frac{Ml^2}{D} \theta^2 \quad \frac{dE}{dt} = Ml^2 \dot{\theta} \ddot{\theta} + Mg \frac{l^2}{D} \theta \dot{\theta} = 0$$

$$0 = \ddot{\theta} + \frac{g}{D} \theta \quad T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{D}{g}}$$

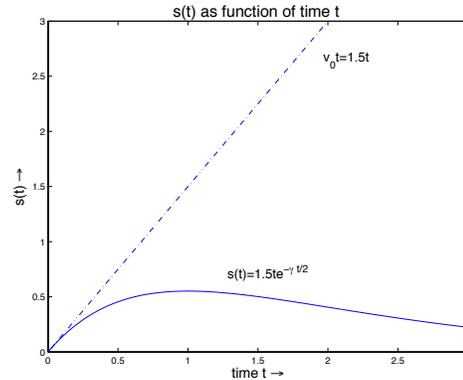


Hence the period is independent of the mass M and angle α . It only depends on the diameter D of the circle. So now considering the circular arc system whose period we have to calculate, we now realize that we can see it as a collection of many such two-mass pendulums. Since the period of all those pendulums is the same $T = 2\pi \sqrt{D/g}$, the period of the arc is also $T = 2\pi \sqrt{D/g} = 2\pi \sqrt{2R/g}$.

b) The period of the oscillations is independent of the length of the arc and the 120° angle. Hence when we complete the arc to form the hoop, the period of the hoop is same as the period of the small angle oscillations of the arc.

Problem 1.7: Damped oscillator and initial conditions

a) The solution for the case of critical damping ($\gamma/2 = \omega_0$) is of the form $s = (A + Bt)e^{-\gamma t/2}$. We know that $s(t = 0) = 0$ and $\dot{s}(t = 0) = v_0$. So $s(0) = Ae^0 = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$
 $\dot{s}(0) = Be^{-\gamma t/2} - \frac{\gamma}{2}(A + Bt)e^{-\gamma t/2} = -\frac{\gamma}{2}A + B = v_0$
 $\Rightarrow B = v_0$. Hence the time evolution of the displacement of the pen is $s(t) = v_0te^{-\gamma t/2} = v_0te^{-\omega_0 t}$ and so $s(t)$ does *not* change sign before it settles to its equilibrium position as $s = 0$.



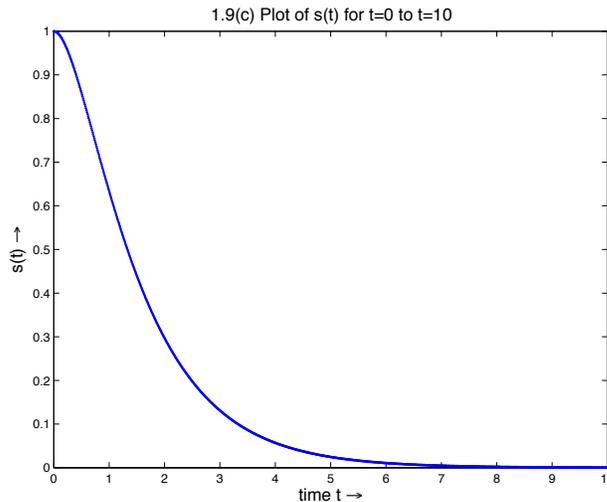
b) The solution describing the evolution of an overdamped system is $s = A_1e^{-(\gamma/2+\beta)t} + A_2e^{-(\gamma/2-\beta)t}$.
 Now $s(0) = A_1 + A_2 = s_0$ $\dot{s}(0) = -A_1\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right)e^{-(\gamma/2+\beta)t} - A_2\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} - \beta\right)e^{-(\gamma/2-\beta)t}$

$$0 = -A_1\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right) - A_2\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} - \beta\right) \quad 0 = (A_2 - s_0)\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right) - A_2\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} - \beta\right)$$

$$2A_2\beta = s_0\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right) \Rightarrow A_2 = s_0\frac{1}{2\beta}\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right) \Rightarrow A_1 = s_0\left[1 - \frac{1}{2\beta}\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right)\right]$$

$$s = s_0\left[1 - \frac{1}{2\beta}\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right)\right]e^{-(\gamma/2+\beta)t} + s_0\frac{1}{2\beta}\left(\frac{\gamma}{2} + \beta\right)e^{-(\gamma/2-\beta)t} \quad \text{where } \beta = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma^2}{4} - \omega_0^2}$$

c) Plot of $s(t)$ for the given values



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