

# Final exam, Mathematical Modelling (WISB357)

Tuesday, 30 Jan 2018, 13.30-16.30, BBG 0.23

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- Write your name on each page you turn in, and additionally, on the first page, write your student number and the *total number of pages submitted*.
  - For each question, motivate your answer.
  - You may make use of results from previous subproblems, even if you have been unable to prove them.
  - For this exam you are allowed to bring an A4 with notes on both sides. You may not consult solutions to the exercises, nor use a graphical calculator or smart phone.
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Solution. In small type-font letters.

Scoring.

Maximum possible points per part is shown in the margin.

Your score is the total number of points received divided by 3.

**Problem 1.** The relative air speed  $v(x)$  (with units  $m/s$ ) at a height  $x > 0$  above the wing of an airplane flying at constant speed  $V_0$  ( $m/s$ ) is modelled by the differential equation:

$$\rho V_0 \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = 0,$$

where  $\rho > 0$  is the constant density ( $kg/m^3$ ) and  $\mu > 0$  is the viscosity parameter with units  $kg/(m \cdot s)$ . In a coordinate system fixed to the wing, the boundary conditions are

$$v(0) = 0, \quad v(L) = V_0,$$

where  $L$  is a given height (in  $m$ ), far enough from the airplane to neglect its influence.

- (a) Nondimensionalize the equation and boundary conditions, using  $L$  and  $V_0$  to rescale  $x$  and  $v$ , respectively. Show that you obtain a dimensionless parameter  $Re = \rho V_0 L / \mu$ , the “Reynolds number”.

[2] Solution. Let  $v = V_0 \tilde{v}$  and  $x = L \tilde{x}$ . Then  $\frac{d}{dx} = \frac{1}{L} \frac{d}{d\tilde{x}}$ . The differential equation becomes

$$\frac{\rho V_0}{L} \tilde{v}'(\tilde{x}) + \frac{\mu V_0^2}{L^2} \tilde{v}''(\tilde{x}).$$

Dividing by the first coefficient, introducing the Reynolds number, and dropping the tildes gives

$$v'(x) + \frac{1}{Re} v''(x) = 0.$$

The boundary conditions become  $v(0) = 0$ ,  $v(1) = 1$ .

- (b) The Reynolds number is typically very large. Let  $\varepsilon = Re^{-1} \ll 1$ , and construct a two-term outer expansion for  $v(x)$ . Use it to satisfy the boundary condition at  $x = L$ .

[2] Solution. The differential equation becomes  $v'(x) + \varepsilon v''(x) = 0$ . Insert the asymptotic expansion  $v(x) = v_0(x) + \varepsilon v_1(x) + \dots$ . The order  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  term is

$$v_0'(x) = 0,$$

We can satisfy the boundary condition  $v_0(1) = 1$  to yield  $v_0(x) = 1$ . However this does not satisfy the other boundary condition  $v_0(0) = 0$ . The order  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$  term satisfies

$$v_1'(x) + v_0''(x) = 0,$$

from which follows that  $v_1(x)$  is a constant function that needs to satisfy the boundary conditions  $v_1(0) = v_1(1) = 0$ . Consequently, we find  $v_1(x) = 0$ . In fact, all other terms are identically zero and the outer solution is just  $v(x) = v_0(x) = 1$ .

(c) Construct a one-term inner expansion.

[2] Solution. Introduce a rescaling  $\bar{x} = \varepsilon^{-\gamma} x$  near  $x = 0$ . The derivative rescales as  $d/dx = \varepsilon^{-\gamma} d/d\bar{x}$ . The differential equation becomes

$$\varepsilon^{-\gamma} V' + \varepsilon^{1-2\gamma} V'' = 0$$

Choosing  $\gamma = 1$  makes these terms of equal order in  $\varepsilon$ , leaving

$$V' + V'' = 0$$

Integrate once to obtain  $V' + V = c$ ,  $c$  a constant. Using an integrating factor we find the solution

$$V(\bar{x}) = e^{-\bar{x}} V(0) + c(1 - e^{-\bar{x}}) = c(1 - e^{-\bar{x}}),$$

where the last equality follows from the initial condition  $V(0) = 0$ .

(d) Use the matching condition to construct a one-term composite solution.

[2] Solution. The matching condition requires  $\lim_{\bar{x} \rightarrow \infty} V(\bar{x}) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} v_0(x) = 1$ . Consequently, we need  $c = 1$ . The composite solution is

$$v(x) \approx v_0(x) + V(x/\varepsilon) - v_0(0) = 1 - e^{-x/\varepsilon}.$$

(e) An airplane manufacturer can use a simplified model outside of the “boundary layer” which is defined as the region where  $v(x) < 0.99V_0$ . How thick is the boundary layer as a function of  $\varepsilon$ ?

[2] Solution. The boundary layer is the region  $0 \leq x < \delta$ , where

$$v(\delta) = 0.99V_0.$$

In terms of the rescaled variables,  $\hat{\delta} = \delta/L$  satisfies

$$v(\hat{\delta}) = 0.99 = 1 - e^{-\hat{\delta}/\varepsilon}.$$

We find:

$$e^{-\hat{\delta}/\varepsilon} = 0.01 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \hat{\delta} = \varepsilon \ln 100$$

Consequently, the boundary layer thickness is  $\delta = \varepsilon L \ln 100$ .

**Problem 2.** Analysis of traffic in a section of highway within a distance  $\pi$  kilometers of a tunnel (i.e.  $x \in [-\pi, \pi]$ ) has shown that density perturbations  $\rho(x, t)$  to the otherwise steady flow evolve according to the relation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} J(\rho) = 0, \quad J(\rho) = \frac{\rho^2}{2}.$$

During a given morning rush hour, the perturbation is observed to be

$$\rho(0, x) = \rho_0(x) = -\sin x.$$

Answer the following questions:

(a) What are the velocity function  $v(\rho)$  and wave speed  $c(\rho)$  that hold for this perturbation?

[2] Solution. The velocity and wave speed are related to the flux function by

$$J(\rho) = \rho v(\rho), \quad c(\rho) = J'(\rho),$$

respectively. Apparently,  $v(\rho) = \rho/2$  and  $c(\rho) = \rho$ .

(b) Sketch the characteristics and describe how the density perturbation evolves. (*Hint:* Here it is helpful to consider what happens to the characteristics emanating from points  $x_0$  small enough that the approximation  $\sin(x_0) \approx x_0$  holds.)

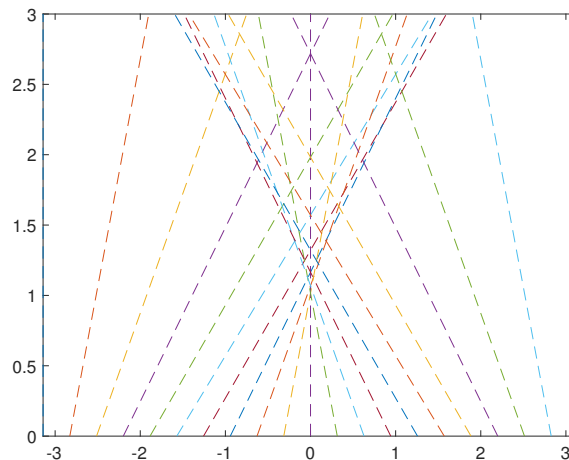
[4] Solution. The characteristic curves are

$$X(t) = x_0 + c(\rho_0(x_0))t = x_0 + \rho_0(x_0)t.$$

Due to the initial condition, all characteristics on  $x_0 < 0$  have positive slope and those on  $x_0 > 0$  have negative slope. The characteristics will intersect and form a shock wave. For  $\sin x_0 \approx x_0$ , the characteristics approximately satisfy

$$X(t) = x_0 - \sin(x_0)t \approx x_0(1 - t)$$

These all coalesce at  $x = 0$  at time  $t = 1$ . For larger  $|x_0|$  the characteristics intersect at a later time.



(c) What is the speed of the resulting shock wave?

[4] Solution. The Rankine-Hugoniot condition yields shock speed

$$s'(t) = \frac{1}{\rho_R - \rho_L} \int_{\rho_L}^{\rho_R} c(\rho) d\rho = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho_R^2 - \rho_L^2}{\rho_R - \rho_L} = \frac{\rho_R + \rho_L}{2}$$

Since the initial density  $\rho_0$  is an odd function, we have  $\rho_R = -\rho_L$ . Hence,  $s'(t) = 0$ . The shock wave is stationary.

**Problem 3.** A manufacturer of bungee cords has developed a new cord for which the elasticity, expressed in terms of Young's modulus, varies with length according to  $E(A) = (A/\ell_0)^{-2}$  for a cord of length  $\ell_0$ , cross-sectional area  $\sigma$  and constant density  $R_0$ . To a good approximation, the bungee cord is linearly elastic  $T(A) = E(A)\partial U/\partial A$  where  $U(A, t)$  is the displacement function. The momentum equation for the motion of the bungee cord is expressed in material coordinates as:

$$R_0 \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial t^2} = gR_0 + \frac{\partial T}{\partial A}.$$

Suppose a student of mass  $M > 0$  is fastened to the end of the bungee cord at  $A = \ell_0$ . The other end at  $A = 0$  is attached to a high bridge, and the student jumps off and bounces around awhile until he reaches a steady state  $\partial U/\partial t \equiv \partial^2 U/\partial t^2 \equiv 0$  (due to air friction, apparently).

- (a) State the boundary condition that holds for the stress  $T(A)$  at  $A = \ell_0$  and solve the differential equation for the stress along the cord  $T(A)$ ,  $0 \leq A \leq \ell_0$ .

[4] Solution. The stress at  $A = \ell_0$  is the weight of the student divided by the cross-sectional area:  $T(\ell_0) = Mg/\sigma$ . At steady state the stress satisfies:

$$\frac{dT}{dA} = -gR_0.$$

Integrating this expression from  $A$  to  $\ell_0$  gives

$$\int_A^{\ell_0} \frac{dT(a)}{da} da = \int_A^{\ell_0} -gR_0 da \Rightarrow T(\ell_0) - T(A) = -gR_0(\ell_0 - A).$$

Noting the boundary condition,

$$T(A) = \frac{Mg}{\sigma} + gR_0(\ell_0 - A).$$

- (b) State the boundary condition on the displacement  $U(A)$  at  $A = 0$  and solve for  $U(A)$  and the equilibrium length  $\ell = \ell_0 + U(\ell_0)$ .

[4] Solution. At  $A = 0$  there is no displacement, so  $U(0) = 0$ . Since  $T(A) = E(A)U_A$ , the differential equation for the displacement is

$$E(A) \frac{\partial U}{\partial A} = \frac{Mg}{\sigma} + gR_0(\ell_0 - A).$$

The displacement is

$$U(A) = U(0) + \int_0^A \left( \frac{Mg}{\sigma} + gR_0\ell_0 \right) \frac{a^2}{\ell_0^2} - gR_0 \frac{a^3}{\ell_0^2} da = \left( \frac{Mg}{\sigma} + gR_0\ell_0 \right) \frac{A^3}{3\ell_0^2} - gR_0 \frac{A^4}{4\ell_0^2}$$

The equilibrium length is

$$\ell = \left( 1 + \frac{Mg}{3\sigma} \right) \ell_0 + \frac{gR_0}{12} \ell_0^2$$

- (c) Note that  $E(A)$  becomes unbounded as  $A \rightarrow 0$ . If the stress is to be finite at  $A = 0$ , what additional boundary condition should hold on the displacement at  $A = 0$ ? Does your solution satisfy this condition? What does this condition imply about the stiffness or stretchability of the new bungee cord near  $A = 0$ ?

[2] Solution. Finite stress as  $A \rightarrow 0$  implies

$$\lim_{A \rightarrow 0} T(A) = \lim_{A \rightarrow 0} E(A)U_A < \infty.$$

For  $E(A) = A^2/\ell_0^2$ , this means

$$\lim_{A \rightarrow 0} \frac{U_A}{A^2} < \infty,$$

which (by l'Hôpital's rule) implies that the function  $U(A)$  should satisfy the conditions

$$\lim_{A \rightarrow 0} U_A(0) = \lim_{A \rightarrow 0} U_{AA}(0) = 0.$$

This clearly holds for our solution. The bungee cord is very stiff near  $A = 0$  since the rate of deformation is zero, even under loading.