

Problem Solutions: Set 2 (September 10, 2003)

6. a) Units of a are $\text{m}^{-1}\text{s}^{-2}$, i.e., $(\text{meters})^{-1} \times (\text{seconds})^{-2}$.

$$\text{b) } x = \frac{2}{at^2 + (\text{constant})}.$$

$$\text{d) } x = \frac{2}{4t^2 + 1}.$$

$$\text{g) } t = \pm 1/2 \text{ s.}$$

7. a) From $\Sigma = ma$, $\frac{dv}{dt} = -g - bv$. Separate variables and integrate:

$$\frac{dv}{v + \frac{mg}{b}} = -\frac{b}{m} dt, \quad \ln\left(v + \frac{mg}{b}\right) = -\frac{b}{m}t + \text{const.}$$

$$v + \frac{mg}{b} = e^{-(b/m)t + \text{const}} = (\text{const}) e^{-(b/m)t}.$$

At time $t = 0$, $v_0 + \frac{mg}{b} = \text{const}$. Substitute and re-arrange to obtain

$$v = -\frac{mg}{b} + \left(v_0 + \frac{mg}{b}\right) e^{-(b/m)t} = \frac{dy}{dt}.$$

Separate variables and integrate again to obtain

$$y = -\frac{mg}{b}t + \left(v_0 + \frac{mg}{b}\right) \left(-\frac{m}{b}\right) e^{-(b/m)t} + \text{const.} \quad \text{At time } t = 0,$$

$$y_0 = \left(v_0 + \frac{mg}{b}\right) \left(-\frac{m}{b}\right) + \text{const.} \quad \text{Substitute into previous equation to obtain}$$

$$y = y_0 - \frac{mg}{b}t + \frac{m}{b} \left(v_0 + \frac{mg}{b}\right) (1 - e^{-(b/m)t}).$$

b) See bboard post for Maple code.

c) Substitute into previous results and simplify.

8. a) $e^{-(b/m)t} = 1 - \frac{b}{m}t + \frac{b^2 t^2}{2m^2} + \dots$

b)
$$v = -\frac{mg}{b} + \left(v_o + \frac{mg}{b}\right) \left(1 - \frac{b}{m}t + \frac{b^2 t^2}{2m^2} + \dots\right)$$

$$= v_o - gt - v_o \frac{b}{m}t + \frac{v_o b^2 t^2}{2m^2} + \frac{mgb^2 t^2}{2bm^2} + \dots$$

Because t is finite, the last three terms (and all successive terms) go to zero as $b \rightarrow 0$, leaving $v = v_o - gt$, as expected.

c)
$$y = y_o - \frac{mg}{b}t + \frac{m}{b} \left(v_o + \frac{mg}{b}\right) \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{b}{m}t + \frac{b^2 t^2}{2m^2} + \dots\right)\right]$$

Multiply out:

$$y = y_o - \frac{mg}{b}t + v_o t + \frac{mg}{b}t - \frac{v_o t^2 b}{2m} - \frac{1}{2}gt^2.$$

The second and fourth terms cancel and the fifth (and all successive terms) go to zero as $b \rightarrow 0$, leaving

$$y = y_o + v_o t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2, \text{ as expected.}$$

9. a) $-bv^2 + mg = m \frac{dv}{dt}$. When $\frac{dv}{dt} = 0$, $v = v_T = \sqrt{\frac{mg}{b}}$.

The units of b are $\frac{\text{force}}{(\text{velocity})^2} = \frac{\text{kg m/s}^2}{\text{m}^2/\text{s}^2} = \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}}$. The units of v_T are then

$$\sqrt{\frac{\text{kg m/s}^2}{\text{kg/m}}} = \text{m/s}, \text{ as expected.}$$

b) $v = \sqrt{\frac{mg}{b}} \tanh \sqrt{\frac{gb}{m}}t$. Let $\tau = \sqrt{\frac{m}{gb}}$; then $v = v_T \tanh \frac{t}{\tau}$.

The units of τ are $\sqrt{\frac{\text{kg}}{(\text{m/s}^2)(\text{kg/m})}} = \text{s}$,

(as required to make the quantity t/τ dimensionless).

(continued)

9. (continued)

$$c) \quad y = \frac{m}{b} \ln \left[\cosh \left(\sqrt{\frac{gb}{m}} t \right) \right] = v_T \tau \ln \left[\cosh \left(\frac{t}{\tau} \right) \right].$$

e) From Maple `taylor` command, the first term in the Taylor expansion of $v(t)$ reduces to gt . All other terms contain positive powers of b and therefore go to zero as $b \rightarrow 0$. Similarly, the first term in the Taylor series expansion of $y(t)$ is $gt^2/2$. All other terms contain positive powers of b .

$$10. a) \quad b = \frac{CA\rho}{2} = \frac{(0.8)(1 \text{ m}^2)(1.2 \text{ kg/m}^3)}{2} = 0.5 \text{ kg/m}.$$

$$v_T = \sqrt{\frac{mg}{b}} = \sqrt{\frac{(80 \text{ kg})(10 \text{ m/s}^2)}{0.5 \text{ kg/m}}} = 40 \text{ m/s} = 90 \text{ mi/hr}.$$

$$\tau = \sqrt{\frac{m}{gb}} = \sqrt{\frac{80 \text{ kg}}{(10 \text{ m/s}^2)(0.5 \text{ kg/m})}} = 4 \text{ s}.$$

b) With given numbers, $v = (40 \text{ m/s}) \tanh(t/4\text{s})$ and $x = (160\text{m}) \ln \cosh(t/4\text{s})$.

At 90% of v_T , $v = 36 \text{ m/s}$. `t90 := fsolve(36 = 40*tanh(t/4), t);` yields

$t_{90} = 5.9 \text{ s}$.

Substituting this into the expression for x , we get

$x = 130 \text{ m} = 430 \text{ ft}$.

c) Let the ball radius be R . From above analysis, b is proportional to A and hence to R^2 . Mass m of ball is proportional to its volume, and hence to R^3 . The terminal velocity v_T is proportional to $\sqrt{m/b}$ and hence to \sqrt{R} .