

NB

$$u_1 = \left\{ \underbrace{\left[\lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \frac{P}{\int_0^P \frac{ds}{D(x,s)}} \right\} \int_0^X \frac{ds}{D(s,x)} \right]}_{\text{ord}(1) \text{ as } X \rightarrow \infty} - X \right\} u_{0,x} + d_2(x)$$

$$\int_0^X u_{1,x} ds = \int_0^X \text{ord}(1) u_{0,x} + d_2(x) ds = \text{ord}(X) \text{ as } X \rightarrow \infty$$

∴ For $u_2(x, X)$ to be bounded, we must have

$$d_{1,x} = f(x)$$

∴ $\frac{d}{dx} \left(D_H(x) \frac{du_0}{dx} \right) = f(x) \quad (*)$

with $D_H(x) = \lim_{X \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{X}{\int_0^X \frac{ds}{D(x,s)}} \right]$

$u_0(0) = a, \quad u_0(1) = b$

(*) is a "homogenized" ODE

NB If $D(x,s)$ is periodic, say with period 1, D_H simplifies by taking $X \in \mathbb{N}$

$$D_H = \lim_{X \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{X}{X \int_0^1 \frac{ds}{D(x,s)}} \right] = \underline{\underline{\int_0^1 \frac{ds}{D(x,s)}}}$$

In higher dimensional problems, periodicity often has to be assumed to make progress

7. WKB Method

7.1

- After Wentzel, Kramers, Brillouin (1920s) ✓ Also known as WKBJ where J is for Jeffries. First used by Liouville and Green in ~~18~~(1830s).
- Important in semi-classical analysis of quantum mechanics.

Example

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon^2 y'' + y = 0 \\ 0 < \varepsilon \ll 1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow y = R \cos(x/\varepsilon + \theta) ; R, \theta \in \mathbb{R}, \text{const.}$$

High frequency oscillations. What if frequency of oscillation depends on the slow scale ...

Example

$$\varepsilon^2 y'' + q(x)y = 0 \quad q(x) > 0 \\ 0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$$

Try multiple scales $x = \varepsilon X \quad \therefore \frac{d^2 y}{dX^2} + q(\varepsilon X)y = 0$

treat x, X as independent

$$\frac{dy}{dX} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial x}{\partial X} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) y$$

$$\therefore y_{XX} + 2\varepsilon y_{xX} + \varepsilon^2 y_{xx} + q(x)y = 0$$

let $y = y_0(x, X) + \varepsilon y_1(x, X) + \dots$

0th order

$$y_{0xx} + q(x)y_0 = 0 \quad \therefore y_0 = R(x) \cos(\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x))$$

1st order

$$y_{1xx} + q(x)y_1 = -2y_{0xx} X$$

$$= -2 \left[R(x) \cos(\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x)) \right]_{xx} X$$

$$= +2 \left[\sqrt{q(x)} R(x) \sin(\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x)) \right]_x X$$

$$= 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\sqrt{q(x)} R(x) \right] \sin(\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x)) + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x)) \sqrt{q(x)} R(x) \cos(\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x))$$

Both terms on RHS are resonant.

Secular conditions : $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\sqrt{q(x)} R(x)) = 0 = \sqrt{q(x)} R \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x))$

$q > 0 \therefore$ Either $R(x) = 0$ (trivial solution obvious and useless)

or $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x)) = 0$ i.e. $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\sqrt{q(x)} X + \theta(x)) = 0$

i.e. $X = \frac{-\theta'(x)}{\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\sqrt{q(x)})}$ ~~function of x cannot be equal to X for all X .~~

Happens whenever frequency of fast oscillation drifts on a slow scale.

\therefore Try a WKB expansion

$$y = \exp\left[i/\varepsilon \varphi(x)\right] A(x, \varepsilon)$$

$$y' = e^{i\varphi/\varepsilon} \left[i\varphi' A/\varepsilon + A' \right]$$

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$$y'' = e^{i\varphi/\varepsilon} \left[\frac{i\varphi'}{\varepsilon} (i\varphi' A/\varepsilon + A') + (i\varphi' A/\varepsilon + A')' \right]$$

$$\therefore \varepsilon^2 e^{i\varphi/\varepsilon} \left[\frac{-\varphi'^2 A}{\varepsilon^2} + \frac{2i\varphi' A'}{\varepsilon} + i\varphi'' A + A'' \right] + q e^{i\varphi/\varepsilon} A = 0$$

$$\therefore \varepsilon^2 A'' + \{2i\varepsilon\varphi' A'\} + \{-\varphi'^2 + i\varepsilon\varphi'' + q\} A = 0$$

Let $A = A_0 + \varepsilon A_1 + \dots$

$$O(\varepsilon^0) \quad \{-\varphi'^2 + q\} A_0 = 0 \quad \therefore \text{For } A_0 \neq 0, \quad \underline{\varphi'^2 = q}$$

$$O(\varepsilon^1) \quad 2i\varphi' A_0' + i\varphi'' A_0 + \underbrace{\{-\varphi'^2 + q\}}_0 A_1 = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{2A_0'}{A_0} + \frac{\varphi''}{\varphi'} = 0$$

$$\therefore \log A_0^2 \varphi' = \text{Const} \quad \therefore A_0 = \frac{\alpha_0}{(\varphi')^{1/2}} \quad \alpha_0 \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$O(\varepsilon^{n+1}) \quad A_{n-1}'' + 2i\varphi' A_n' + i\varphi'' A_n = 0$$

$$\therefore \left((\varphi')^{1/2} A_n \right)' = -\frac{1}{2i(\varphi')^{1/2}} A_{n-1}''$$

$$\therefore A_n = \frac{i}{2(\varphi')^{1/2}} \int \frac{A_{n-1}''(s)}{2(\varphi')^{1/2}(s)} ds$$

At leading order

$$y \sim \frac{\alpha_+}{(q(x))^{1/4}} \exp\left[\frac{i}{\epsilon} \int^x \sqrt{q(s)} ds\right] + \frac{\alpha_-}{(q(x))^{1/4}} \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\epsilon} \int^x \sqrt{q(s)} ds\right]$$

In principle can go to higher orders as is generally known.

$$\alpha_{\pm} \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Method breaks down near $q' = 0$, as amplitude blows up.

↑ Fix at turning points considered later.

Example

Find eigenvalues with $\lambda \gg 1$ for $p(x)$ a positive function and

$$y'' + \lambda p(x)y = 0 \quad 0 < x < 1 \quad y(0) = 0 \quad y(1) = 0$$

Let $\lambda = 1/\varepsilon^2$, $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$. Then

$$\varepsilon^2 y'' + p(x)y = 0$$

WKB let $y = e^{i\varphi/\varepsilon} A(x, \varepsilon) \sim e^{i\varphi/\varepsilon} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon^n A_n(x)$.

$O(\varepsilon^0)$ $\varphi'^2 = p \quad \therefore \varphi' = \pm \sqrt{p(x)} \quad \therefore \varphi = \pm \int_0^x p(s)^{1/2} ds$

$O(\varepsilon^1)$ $2\varphi' A_0' + \varphi'' A_0 = 0 \quad \therefore A_0 = \frac{\text{const}}{(p(x))^{1/4}}$

const of integration absorbed into A_0 .

Two lin. independent solutions

$$y_+ \sim A_0 e^{i\varphi/\varepsilon} \quad y_- \sim A_0 e^{-i\varphi/\varepsilon}$$

General solution, at leading orders:

$$y \sim \alpha A_0(x) \cos\left(\frac{\varphi(x)}{\varepsilon}\right) + \beta A_0(x) \sin\left(\frac{\varphi(x)}{\varepsilon}\right)$$

$$\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$y(0) = 0 \quad \therefore \alpha = 0$

$y(1) = 0$ satisfied at leading order only if $\beta A_0(1) \sin\left(\frac{\varphi(1)}{\varepsilon}\right) = 0(1)$

small "ch"

We have $A_0(1) \neq 0$, $\beta > 0$ for a non-trivial solution

$$\therefore \varphi(1) \sim n\pi\varepsilon \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

$$\therefore \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}}}_{n^{\text{th}} \text{ eigenvalue}} = E_n \sim \frac{\varphi(1)}{n\pi} = \frac{1}{n\pi} \int_0^1 \sqrt{p(x)} dx$$

$$\therefore \lambda_n \sim \left(\frac{n\pi}{\int_0^1 \sqrt{p(x)} dx} \right)^2 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

Example Semi-Classical Quantum. Turning Points.

The non-dimensional steady state Schrödinger equation for the even wavefunctions of the simple harmonic oscillator is given by

$$\psi'' - x^2 \psi = -E \psi$$

$$\psi \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } x \rightarrow \infty, \quad \psi'(0) = 0.$$

Find the large, $E \gg 1$, energy eigenvalues.

Let $y = \psi$. $x = \bar{x}/\sqrt{\epsilon}$ with $\epsilon = 1/E$. Then, dropping bars,

$$\epsilon^2 y'' + (1 - x^2) y = 0$$

$$y(\infty) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0, \quad 0 < \epsilon \ll 1.$$

Let $y = e^{i\varphi/\epsilon} A(x, \epsilon) \sim e^{i\varphi/\epsilon} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \epsilon^n A_n(x)$

WKB

$O(\epsilon^0)$

$$\varphi' = \pm \sqrt{1 - x^2}$$

$O(\epsilon^1)$

$$A_0 = \frac{\text{const}}{(1 - x^2)^{1/4}}$$

Hence

$$\text{For } 0 < x < 1, \quad y \sim \frac{M_0}{(1-x^2)^{1/4}} e^{i/\epsilon \int_0^x \sqrt{1-s^2} ds} + \frac{N_0}{(1-x^2)^{1/4}} e^{-i/\epsilon \int_0^x \sqrt{1-s^2} ds}$$

$$\sim \frac{P_0}{(1-x^2)^{1/4}} \cos\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \int_0^x \sqrt{1-s^2} ds\right)$$

using $y'(0) = 0$

For $x > 1$

$$y \sim \frac{Q_0}{(x^2-1)^{1/4}} e^{-1/\epsilon \int_1^x \sqrt{s^2-1} ds}$$

using $y(\infty) = 0$

However, these breakdown near $x \approx 1$ as $\varphi'(1) = 0$.

Resolve using matched asymptotics

Inner region around $x=1$

$$\text{let } x = 1 + \delta_1(\epsilon) X$$

$$Y(X) = \delta_2(\epsilon) y(x)$$

$$\frac{\epsilon^2}{\delta_1^2} \frac{d^2 Y}{dX^2} + \underbrace{\left(1 - (1 + 2\delta_1 X + \delta_1^2 X^2)\right)}_{2\delta_1 X + \delta_1^2 X^2} Y = 0$$

Dominant balance when $2\delta_1^3 = \epsilon^2 \quad \therefore \text{let } \delta_1 = \frac{\epsilon^{2/3}}{2^{1/3}}$

δ_2 undetermined as yet

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With $Y = Y_0(X) + o(1)$ small "oh"

$$\frac{d^2 Y_0}{dX^2} - X Y_0 = 0 \quad \therefore Y_0 = R_0 \text{Ai}(X) + S_0 \text{Bi}(X) \quad \text{where Ai, Bi are Airy functions.}$$

Airy Functions

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ai}(X) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \cos\left(t^3/3 + Xt\right) dt \sim \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi} X^{1/4}} e^{-2/3 X^{3/2}} \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow \infty \\ &\sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi} (-X)^{1/4}} \sin\left(2/3 (-X)^{3/2} + \pi/4\right) \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow -\infty. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bi}(X) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \exp\left(-t^3/3 + Xt\right) dt \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi} X^{1/4}} e^{2/3 X^{3/2}} \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow \infty \\ &\sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi} (-X)^{1/4}} \cos\left(2/3 (-X)^{3/2} + \pi/4\right) \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow -\infty \end{aligned}$$

Matching Inner ($x \rightarrow \infty$) with RH outer ($x \rightarrow 1^+$)

$$S_0 = 0 \quad \text{else } Y_0 \text{ blows up as } X \rightarrow \infty.$$

On matching everything scales with $\frac{1}{x^{1/4}} e^{-2/3 x^{3/2}}$ whether using Van Dyke or intermediate region. Naively one gets simply $0=0$. Thus, on matching, insist the coefficients in front of $\frac{1}{x^{1/4}} e^{-2/3 x^{3/2}}$ match.

Matching (intermediate variable)

Let $x-1 = \delta_1^\beta \hat{x} = \delta_1 X$ ($0 < \beta < 1$) with $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$, $x \rightarrow 1$, $X \rightarrow \infty$, $\hat{x} > 0$.

$$y_0 = R_0 \text{Ai}\left(\frac{\hat{x}}{\delta_1^{1-\beta}}\right) \sim \frac{R_0}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{(\delta_1^{1-\beta})^{1/4}}{\hat{x}^{1/4}} \exp\left[-\frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{(\delta_1^{1-\beta})^{3/2}} \hat{x}^{3/2}\right]$$

$$y \sim \frac{Q_0}{[(x-1)(x+1)]^{1/4}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} \int_1^x \sqrt{s^2-1} ds\right]$$

$$s^2-1 = (s-1)(s+1), \quad s = 1 + \eta$$

$$\int_1^x \sqrt{s^2-1} ds = \int_0^{x-1} \eta^{1/2} 2^{1/2} \sqrt{1+\eta/2} d\eta$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} (x-1)^{3/2} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \delta_1^{3\beta/2} \hat{x}^{3/2} + \dots$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2} \int_1^x \sqrt{s^2-1} ds = \frac{1}{(2^{1/3} \delta_1)^{3/2}} \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \delta_1^{3\beta/2} \hat{x}^{3/2} + \dots$$



$$\therefore y \sim \frac{Q_0}{2^{1/4} \delta_1^{\beta/4} \hat{x}^{1/4}} \exp \left[-\frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{(\delta_1^{1-\beta})^{3/2}} \hat{x}^{3/2} \right] + \dots$$

$$\therefore Y = \delta_2 y \sim \frac{Q_0 \delta_2(\varepsilon)}{2^{1/4} (\delta_1)^{\beta/4} \hat{x}^{1/4}} \exp \left[-\frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{(\delta_1^{1-\beta})^{3/2}} \hat{x}^{3/2} \right] + \dots \sim \frac{R_0 \delta_1^{1/4}}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{1}{\delta_1^{\beta/4}} \frac{1}{\hat{x}^{1/4}} \exp \left[-\frac{2}{3} \frac{\hat{x}^{3/2}}{(\delta_1^{1-\beta})^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$\therefore \delta_2 = \delta_1^{1/4} = \left(\frac{\varepsilon^{2/3}}{2^{1/3}} \right)^{1/4} = \frac{1}{2^{1/2}} \varepsilon^{1/6} \quad \text{and} \quad Q_0 = \frac{1}{2^{3/4} \sqrt{\pi}} R_0$$

Matching inner ($x \rightarrow -\infty$) with Ltl outer ($x \rightarrow 1^-$).

Let $x - 1 = \delta_1^\gamma \hat{x} = \delta_1 X$ ($0 < \gamma < 1$) with $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$, $x \rightarrow 1$, $X \rightarrow -\infty$, $\hat{x} < 0$.

$$y_0 = R_0 \text{Ai} \left(\frac{\hat{x}}{\delta_1^{1-\gamma}} \right) \sim \frac{R_0 (\delta_1)^{1-\gamma}}{\sqrt{\pi} (-\hat{x})^{1/4}} \sin \left(\frac{2}{3} (-\hat{x})^{3/2} \frac{1}{(\delta_1^{1-\gamma})^{3/2}} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$$

$$y \sim \frac{P_0}{2^{1/4} (-\hat{x})^{1/4} \delta_1^{\gamma/4}} \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \varepsilon - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_x^1 \sqrt{1-s^2} ds \right) \quad \text{using} \quad \int_0^1 \sqrt{1-s^2} ds = \pi/4$$

$$\therefore y \sim \frac{P_0}{2^{1/4} (-\hat{x})^{1/4} \delta_1^{3/4}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4\epsilon} - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \cdot \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} (1-x)^{3/2} + \dots\right) \leftarrow \text{Substituting } s = 1-\eta \text{ in integral and using } \sqrt{1-s^2} = \eta^{1/2} (2 + o(\eta))$$

$$\sim \frac{P_0}{2^{1/4} (-\hat{x})^{1/4} \delta_1^{3/4}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4\epsilon} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3\epsilon} \delta_1^{3/2} (-\hat{x})^{3/2} + \dots\right)$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3\epsilon} \delta_1^{3/2}}_{\frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{(\delta_1^{1-\gamma})^{3/2}}}$$

$$\sim \delta_2^{-1} \gamma_0 = \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{\pi} (-\hat{x})^{1/4} \delta_1^{3/4}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{3} (-\hat{x})^{3/2} \frac{1}{(\delta_1^{1-\gamma})^{3/2}}\right)$$

With $w = \frac{2}{3} (-\hat{x})^{3/2} \frac{1}{(\delta_1^{1-\gamma})^{3/2}}$,

$$\frac{P_0}{2^{1/4}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4\epsilon} - w\right) \sim \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{\pi}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + w\right)$$

$$\therefore \frac{P_0}{2^{1/4}} \left[\cos\frac{\pi}{4\epsilon} \cos w + \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4\epsilon}\right) \sin w \right] \sim \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[\sin\frac{\pi}{4} \cos w + \cos\frac{\pi}{4} \sin w \right]$$

$$\therefore \frac{P_0}{2^{1/4}} \frac{\cos\frac{\pi}{4\epsilon}}{\epsilon} \sim \frac{R_0 \sin\frac{\pi}{4}}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \quad \frac{P_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4\epsilon}\right)}{2^{1/4}} \sim \frac{R_0 \cos\frac{\pi}{4}}{\sqrt{\pi}}$$

For $P_0, R_0 \neq 0$

$$\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4\varepsilon}\right) \sim \cot\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 1 \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$$

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$$\therefore \frac{\pi}{4\varepsilon} \sim \frac{\pi}{4} + n\pi \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \text{ with } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\therefore E_n = \frac{1}{\varepsilon_n} = 1 + 4n \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \text{ for the energy levels.}$$

Once this holds

$$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4\varepsilon}\right) \sim \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + n\pi\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (-1)^n \quad \therefore P_0 = \frac{2^{1/4} (-1)^n R_0}{\sqrt{\pi}} = 2 (-1)^n Q_0 \quad \left. \vphantom{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4\varepsilon}\right)} \right\} \text{Connection formula}$$

$$y_n \sim \frac{Q_0}{(x^2-1)^{1/4}} e^{-1/\varepsilon_n \int_1^x \sqrt{s^2-1} ds} \quad x > 1, x \neq 1$$

$$\sim \frac{2^{1/2}}{\varepsilon^{1/6}} \cdot 2^{3/4} \sqrt{\pi} Q_0 \operatorname{Ai}\left(\frac{2^{1/3}(x-1)}{\varepsilon_n^{2/3}}\right) \quad x \leq 1$$

$$\sim \frac{2(-1)^n Q_0}{(1-x^2)^{1/4}} \cos\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon_n} \int_0^x \sqrt{1-s^2} ds\right) \quad \begin{matrix} x < 1 \\ x \neq 1 \end{matrix}, \quad \varepsilon_n = \frac{1}{1+4n}, \quad n \gg 1.$$