

# A Basic Course in Applied (7) Mathematics (10P)

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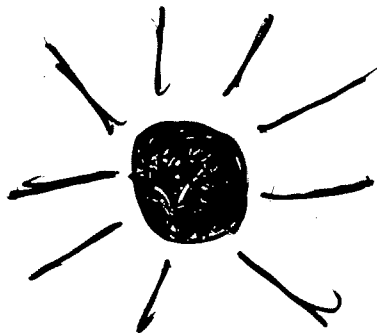
✦ 10 occasions, where three (\*) - problems are pointed out each time.

✦ These (\*) problems are important for the final examination which can be either

- a) usual written examination

or

- b) oral examination mainly with questions connected to these (\*) problems



# 1. THE PROGRAM OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS

TECHNICAL  
OR  
PHYSICAL PROBLEM

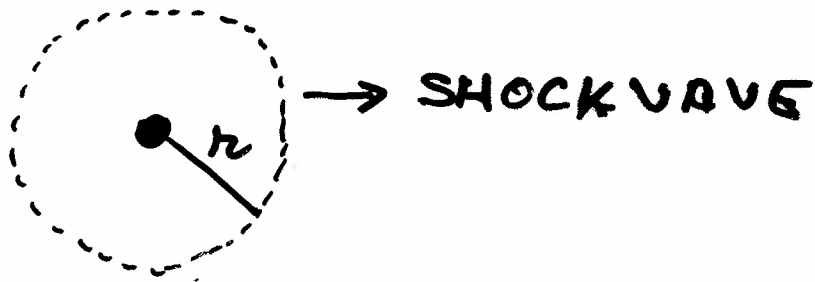
- A. FORMULATE A MATHEMATICAL MODEL OF THE SITUATION e.g. FORMULATE THE ACTUAL GOVERNING EQUATIONS.
- B. SOLVE THE EQUATIONS BY USING SOME ANALYTICAL AND/OR NUMERICAL METHOD.
- C. GO BACK AND VERIFY THAT THE OBTAINED SOLUTION IS CONSISTENT WITH THE EXPERIMENTAL OBSERVATIONS.

REMARK: IN STEP A WE CAN HAVE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT BY USING

- a) DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS
- b) SCALING.

## 2. AN INTRODUCTORY EXAMPLE (TAYLOR 1919) (3)

### ATOMIC EXPLOSION



WE ASSUME THAT THERE IS A PHYSICAL LAW

$$\otimes \quad g(t, r, \rho, e) = 0$$

WITH

	<u>DIMENSION</u>
$t$ : TIME	$T$
$r$ : LENGTH	$L$
$e$ : ENERGY	$ML^2/T^2$
$\rho$ : DENSITY	$M/L^3$

HOW CAN WE GET A DIMENSIONLESS VARIABLE FROM THESE QUANTITIES?

ANSWER: FIND  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$  and  $\alpha_4$  SUCH THAT

$$T^{\alpha_1} L^{\alpha_2} (ML^2/T^2)^{\alpha_3} (M/L^3)^{\alpha_4} = 1$$

$$T^{\alpha_1 - 2\alpha_3} L^{\alpha_2 + 2\alpha_3 - 3\alpha_4} M^{\alpha_3 + \alpha_4} = 1$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_1 - 2\alpha_3 = 0 \\ \alpha_2 + 2\alpha_3 - 3\alpha_4 = 0 \\ \alpha_3 + \alpha_4 = 0 \end{cases}$$

(4)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \\ \alpha_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

SOLUTIONS:  $\alpha_4 = u$ ,  $\alpha_3 = -u$ ,  $\alpha_2 = 5u$ ,  $\alpha_1 = -2u$

i.e.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \\ \alpha_4 \end{pmatrix} = u \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u \text{ is an arbitrary} \\ \text{real number} \end{array} \right\}$$

E.G. BY CHOOSING  $u = 1$  WE GET

$$\alpha_1 = -2, \alpha_2 = 5, \alpha_3 = -1 \text{ and } \alpha_4 = 1$$

THEREFORE

$$\pi = t^{\alpha_1} r^{\alpha_2} e^{\alpha_3} \cdot g^{\alpha_4} = \frac{r^5 g}{t^2 e}$$

IS A DIMENSIONLESS VARIABLE

THEREFORE WE KNOW (FROM THE PI-THEOREM) THAT  $\otimes$  CAN BE WRITTEN (EQUIVALENTLY) AS

$$f\left(\frac{\overset{\pi}{r^5 g}}{t^2 e}\right) = 0$$

i.e.

$$\frac{r^5 g}{t^2 e} = C \quad (C \text{ constant})$$

WE CONCLUDE

$$r = C_0 \left(\frac{e t^2}{g}\right)^{1/5}$$

~~~~~~~~~

### 3. A GENERALIZATION OF THE SITUATION (E)

WE CONSIDER A PHYSICAL LAW

$$(1) \quad f(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m) = 0$$

FUNDAMENTAL DIMENSIONS:  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n$ .

$$n < m.$$

THE DIMENSION OF  $q_i$ , denoted  $[q_i]$ , is

$$[q_i] = L_1^{a_{1i}} L_2^{a_{2i}} \dots L_n^{a_{ni}}$$

THE DIMENSION MATRIX is

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nm} \end{pmatrix}$$

CHANGE OF UNITS:

$$\bar{L}_i = \lambda_i L_i, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n \quad (\lambda_i > 0)$$

IF  $q$  HAS DIMENSION

$$[q] = L_1^{\alpha_1} L_2^{\alpha_2} \dots L_n^{\alpha_n}$$

THEN

$$\bar{q} = \lambda_1^{\alpha_1} \lambda_2^{\alpha_2} \dots \lambda_n^{\alpha_n} q$$

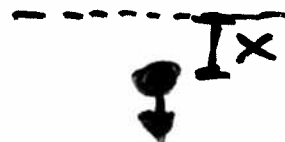
GIVES ~~UNITS~~  $q$  IN THE NEW SYSTEM

#### 4. A UNIT FREE PHYSICAL LAW (7)

THE PHYSICAL LAW (1) IS UNIT FREE IF FOR ALL POSITIVE  $\lambda_i$

$$f(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2, \dots, \bar{q}_m) = 0 \quad \text{IF AND ONLY IF}$$

$$f(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m) = 0.$$



EXAMPLE: THE PHYSICAL LAW

$$f(x, t, g) = x - \frac{1}{2} g t^2 = 0$$

IS UNIT FREE.

PROOF:  $\bar{x} = \lambda_1 x$ ,  $\bar{t} = \lambda_2 t$  GIVES THAT

$$\bar{g} = \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2^2} g \quad \left( [g] = \frac{L}{T^2} \right)$$

THUS

$$\begin{aligned} f(\bar{x}, \bar{t}, \bar{g}) &= \bar{x} - \frac{1}{2} \bar{g} \bar{t}^2 = \lambda_1 x - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2^2} g \lambda_2^2 t^2 \\ &= \lambda_1 \left( x - \frac{1}{2} g t^2 \right) = \lambda_1 f(x, t, g) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$f(\bar{x}, \bar{t}, \bar{g}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow f(x, t, g) = 0. \quad \blacksquare$$

REMARK: IF  $x$  IS GIVEN IN CM AND  $\bar{x}$  IN M THEN  $\lambda_1 = 1/100$

IF  $t$  IS GIVEN IN SECONDS AND  $\bar{t}$  IN MIN. THEN  $\lambda_2 = 1/60$ .

IN THIS SITUATION  $\bar{g}$  IS GIVEN IN M / s<sup>2</sup>.

## 5. THE PI THEOREM

(8)

THEOREM: LET

$$(*) \quad f(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m) = 0$$

BE A UNIT FREE PHYSICAL LAW THAT RELATES THE DIMENSIONAL QUANTITIES  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m$ . LET

$L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n$  ( $n < m$ ) BE THE

FUNDAMENTAL DIMENSIONS WITH

$$[q_i] = L_1^{a_{1i}} L_2^{a_{2i}} \dots L_n^{a_{ni}}, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, m$$

AND LET  $r = \text{rank } A$ , WHERE  $A$

IS THE DIMENSION MATRIX. THEN

THERE EXISTS  $m-r$  INDEPENDENT

DIMENSIONLESS QUANTITIES  $\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots,$

$\dots, \pi_{m-r}$  WHICH CAN BE FORMED

FROM  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m$  AND  $(*)$  IS

EQUIVALENT TO AN EQUATION

$$(**) \quad F(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_{m-r}) = 0$$

EXPRESSED ONLY IN TERMS OF DIMENSIONLESS QUANTITIES.



EX

\*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

HAS RANK 3

\*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

HAS RANK 2.

\*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

HAS RANK 2

P1

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 7 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 7 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

but  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \neq 0$

P2  $r_3 = r_1 + 2r_2$  but  $r_2 \neq r_1$

P3 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_3 - r_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \sim$$

$$\xrightarrow{r_3 - 2r_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

\* 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

HAS RANK 1.

\* 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

HAS RANK 3

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

HAS RANK 2

EXAMPLE: IN OUR INTRODUCTORY EXAM  
WE HAD

$$q_1 = t$$

$$q_2 = r$$

$$q_3 = \theta$$

$$q_4 = s$$

$$\boxed{m=4}$$

FUNDAMENTAL DIMENSIONS: T, L, M  $\boxed{n=3}$

$$[q_1] = T = T^1 L^0 M^0$$

$$[q_2] = L = T^0 L^1 M^0$$

$$[q_3] = \frac{ML^2}{T^2} = T^{-2} L^2 M^1$$

$$[q_4] = \frac{M}{L^3} = T^0 L^{-3} M^1$$

DIMENSION MATRIX

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{RANK } A = 3$$

$$\boxed{n=3}$$

WE HAVE  $m - n = 4 - 3 = 1$  DIMENSIONAL  
VARIABLE.

## Part of the Proof the $\pi$ -theorem:

(10)

Let  $\pi$  be the dimensionless quantity.

$$\pi = q_1^{\alpha_1} q_2^{\alpha_2} \dots q_m^{\alpha_m}$$

Fundamental dimensions:  $L_1, \dots, L_r$

$$\pi = (L_1^{a_{11}} \dots L_n^{a_{n1}})^{\alpha_1} (L_1^{a_{12}} \dots L_n^{a_{n2}})^{\alpha_2} \dots (L_1^{a_{1m}} \dots L_n^{a_{nm}})^{\alpha_m}$$

$$[\pi] = 1 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{cases} a_{11}\alpha_1 + a_{12}\alpha_2 + \dots + a_{1m}\alpha_m = 0 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1}\alpha_1 + a_{n2}\alpha_2 + \dots + a_{nm}\alpha_m = 0 \end{cases}$$

$m$  unknown,  $r$  equations  $m > n$  rank =

From Linear Algebra we know that there are  $m-r$  independent solutions and each solution gives rise of a dimensionless variable.

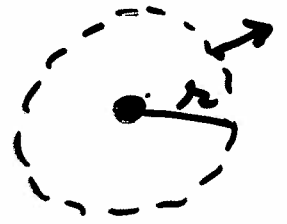
# 6. ANOTHER MODEL EXAMPLE

(11)

HEAT CONDUCTION:

$$u = u(r, t)$$

$$\zeta(t, r, u, e, k, c) = 0$$



$t$  TIME  $[t] = T$

$r$  LENGTH  $[r] = L$

$u$  TEMPERATURE  $[u] = \Theta$

$e$  ENERGY  $[e] = E$

$k$  THERMAL DIFFUSIVITY  $[k] = L^2/T$

$c$  HEAT CAPACITY  $[c] = E/\Theta L^3$   $m=6$

THE DIMENSION MATRIX IS  $n=4$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$r=4$

WE HAVE  $m - r = 6 - 4 = 2$  DIMENSIONLESS QUANTITIES.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \\ \alpha_4 \\ \alpha_5 \\ \alpha_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

PUT  $\alpha_6 = u$ ,  $\alpha_5 = v$ . THEN

$$\alpha_4 = -u, \alpha_3 = u, \alpha_2 = -2v + 3u, \alpha_1 = v$$

i.e.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \\ \alpha_4 \\ \alpha_5 \\ \alpha_6 \end{pmatrix} = u \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + v \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

IN THE BOOK THEY CHOOSE THE LINEARLY INDEPENDENT SOLUTIONS

1)  $\alpha_1 = -1/2, \alpha_2 = 1, \alpha_3 = \alpha_4 = \alpha_6 = 0, \alpha_5 = -1/2$   
( $u = 0, v = -1/2$ )

and

2)  $\alpha_1 = 3/2, \alpha_2 = 0, \alpha_3 = 1, \alpha_4 = -1, \alpha_5 = 3/2, \alpha_6 = 1$   
( $u = 1, v = 3/2$ )

WE GET THE TWO DIMENSIONLESS VARIABLES

$$\pi_1 = t^{-1/2} \rho^1 u^0 e^{-1} k^{-1/2} c^0 = \rho / \sqrt{k t}$$

AND

$$\pi_2 = t^{3/2} \rho^0 u^1 e^{-1} k^{3/2} c^1 = \frac{4c}{e} (t k)^{3/2}$$

ANOTHER POSSIBILITY:

$$\pi_1 = \rho^3 u e^{-1} c = \rho^3 u c / e$$

$$\pi_2 = t \rho^{-2} k = t k / \rho^2$$

WE CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS AN EQUIVALENT RELATION

$$F(\pi_1, \pi_2) = 0 \text{ i.e. } \pi_2 = g(\pi_1)$$

BY THE  $\pi_i$ -THEOREM, THIS MEANS THAT

$$U = \frac{e}{c} \cdot \frac{1}{(tk)^{3/2}} g\left(\frac{r}{\sqrt{tk}}\right)$$

WITH THE OTHER POSSIBILITY WE GET

$$\frac{r^3 \cdot uc}{e} = g_0\left(\frac{tk}{r^2}\right)$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$U = \frac{e}{c} \cdot \frac{1}{r^3} g_0\left(\frac{tk}{r^2}\right) = [g_0(x) = g\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^{3/2}] \\ = \frac{e}{c} \frac{1}{(tk)^{3/2}} \cdot g\left(\frac{r}{\sqrt{tk}}\right)$$

## 7. CHARACTERISTIC SCALES

(14)

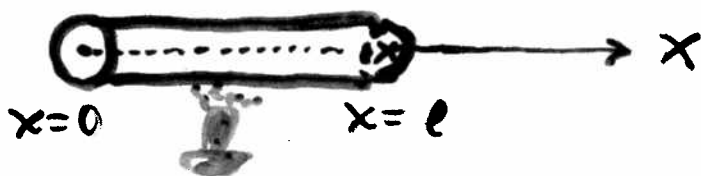
EXAMPLE:  $t = \text{TIME}$

$t_c = \text{"CHARACTERISTIC TIME"}$

$\bar{t} = \frac{t}{t_c} = \text{DIMENSIONLESS TIME}$

REMARK: IN DIFFERENT PROBLEMS WE HAVE VERY DIFFERENT  $t_c$ . E.G. IN THE GLACIER MOTION  $t_c$  CAN BE OF THE ORDER YEAR AND IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR OF THE ORDER OF MICROSECONDS.

EXAMPLE (HEAT CONDUCTION, FOR THE MODEL SEE THE NEXT SECTION):



$U \equiv U(x, t) = \text{TEMPERATURE AT } x \text{ AND TIME}$

(1)  $U'_t(x, t) - k U''_{xx}(x, t) = 0, 0 \leq x \leq l, t \geq 0$

(2)  $U(x, 0) \equiv 0$  for  $0 < x < l$  (IC)

(3)  $U(0, t) = U(l, t) = T_0$  for  $t \geq 0$  (BC)

CHARACTERISTIC LENGTH:  $l_c = l$ .

CHARACTERISTIC TEMPERATURE:  $U_c = T_0$

CHARACTERISTIC TIME:  $t_c = l^2/k$

$l$  HAS DIMENSION  $L$

$T_0$  HAS DIMENSION  $T$

$k$  HAS DIMENSION  $L^2$



THEREFORE

(15)

$$\bullet \quad \bar{x} = \frac{x}{l}, \quad \bar{t} = \frac{t}{l^2/k} \quad \text{AND} \quad \bar{u} = u/T_0.$$

$$u'_x = \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{du}{d\bar{x}} \cdot \frac{d\bar{x}}{dx} = T_0 \frac{d\bar{u}}{d\bar{x}} \cdot \frac{1}{l} = \frac{T_0}{l} \frac{d\bar{u}}{d\bar{x}} = \frac{T_0}{l} \bar{u}'_{\bar{x}}$$

$$u''_{xx} = \frac{T_0}{l} \cdot \frac{d^2 \bar{u}}{d\bar{x}^2} \cdot \frac{d\bar{x}}{dx} = \frac{T_0}{l^2} \cdot \bar{u}''_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$$

$$u'_t = \frac{du}{dt} = \frac{du}{d\bar{t}} \cdot \frac{d\bar{t}}{dt} = T_0 \frac{d\bar{u}}{d\bar{t}} \cdot \frac{1}{l^2/k} = \frac{T_0 k}{l^2} \frac{d\bar{u}}{d\bar{t}} = \frac{T_0 k}{l^2} \bar{u}'_{\bar{t}}$$

REFORMULATION OF (1)-(3):

$$(1)' \quad \bar{u}'_{\bar{t}}(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) - \bar{u}''_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) = 0, \quad \bar{t} \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq \bar{x} \leq 1$$

$$(2)' \quad \bar{u}(\bar{x}, 0) = 0 \quad , \quad 0 < \bar{x} \leq 1$$

$$(3)' \quad \bar{u}(0, \bar{t}) = \bar{u}(1, \bar{t}) = 1 \quad .$$

THIS IS THE BVP (1)-(3) ON  
DIMENSIONLESS FORM.

REMARK: IF WE CHANGE (2) TO

$$(2)^* \quad u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

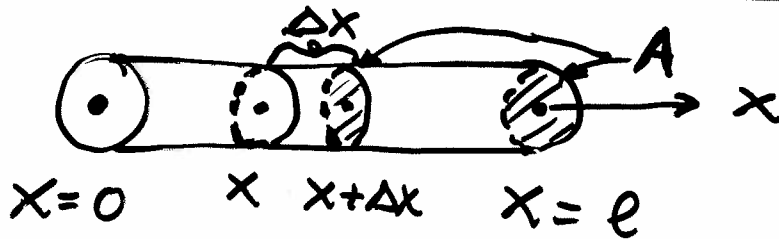
THEN ONE NATURAL CHOICE OF  $\bar{u}$  COULD  
BE THE MEAN VALUE

$$u_c = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^l f(x) dx$$

BUT IN PRACTISE IT IS MORE COMMON  
AND EASY TO USE

$$u_c = \max_{0 \leq x \leq l} |f(x)|.$$

## 8. ON A HEAT CONDUCTION PROBLEM



$C_v$  SPECIFIC HEAT (UNIT C.G. CAL/GRAM·DEGREE)

$U(x,t)$  = TEMPERATURE AT  $x$  AT TIME  $t$ .

AMOUNT OF HEAT FROM  $x$  TO  $x+\Delta x$ :

$$C_v \int_x^{x+\Delta x} U(\xi, t) A d\xi \quad (x \leq \xi \leq x+\Delta x)$$

$\Phi(x,t)$  = HEAT FLUX = THE AMOUNT OF HEAT ENERGY PER UNIT TIME FLOWING THROUGH THE FACE AT  $x$ .

### a) ENERGY BALANCE EQUATION

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (C_v \int_x^{x+\Delta x} U(\xi, t) A d\xi) = \Phi(x,t) - \Phi(x+\Delta x, t)$$

OR (BY DIVIDING BY  $\Delta x$  AND LETTING  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ )

$$C_v \int A U'_t(x,t) = -\Phi'_x(x,t).$$

### b) CONSTITUTIVE RELATION:

FLUX IS PROPORTIONAL TO BOTH  $A$  AND THE TEMPERATURE GRADIENT  $U'_x$  i.e.

$$\Phi(x,t) = -K A U'_x(x,t)$$

$K$  = THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY ( $\frac{\text{CAL}}{\text{CM} \cdot \text{SEC} \cdot \text{DEGREE}}$ )

a) and b) GIVES

$$C_v \int A U'_t(x,t) = K A U''_{xx}(x,t)$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$U'_t(x,t) - k U''_{xx}(x,t) = 0 \quad k = \frac{K}{C_v \rho} \left( \frac{L^2}{\text{SEC}} \right)$$

## 9 Some population models

(17)

$P_0$  is the population at time  $t=0$ .  
 $P = P(t)$  denotes the population at time  $t$  ( $P(0) = P_0$ ).

Malthus model:  $\frac{dP}{dt} = rP$  (\*)

$r$  = Constant growth rate

$$P(0) = P_0$$

(\*) has the solution

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{rt}$$

Is this possible in the long run?

(Compare with stock market and the predictions in economy etc.)

the logistics model:

$$(*) \quad \frac{dP}{dt} = rP \left(1 - \frac{P}{K}\right), \quad P(0) = P_0$$

$K$  = carrying capacity

Scaling:

Dimensionless time:  $\tau = rt$

Dimensionless population:  $P = \frac{P}{K}$

(or  $P = \frac{P}{P_0}$ )

By using these dimensionless variables (\*\*\*) can be written

$$(**)_s \quad \frac{K dP}{\frac{1}{r} dz} = r K P (1-P), P(0) = \frac{P_0}{K}$$

, i.e.,

$$\frac{dP}{dz} = P(1-P), P(0) = \alpha$$

where  $\alpha = P_0/K$  is dimensionless.

(\*\*)<sub>s</sub> can be solved as usual by separating variables and we obtain that

$$P(z) = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + (1-\alpha)e^{-z}}$$

Clearly  $P(z) \rightarrow 1$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$

, i.e.,

$$P(t) \rightarrow K \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

$P = K$  is called an attractor which has the remarkable property that independent of the initial population  $P(t) \rightarrow K$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Problems - Lecture 1

- 1.\* Present and discuss the Malthus and logistics models e.g. for population growths. Introduce dimensionless variables and make the suitable scaling. Solve the scaled equation and decide the attractor of the original logistics equation. What is the interpretation of this?
2. A physical system is described by the law  $f(E, P, A)$ , where  $E, P$  and  $A$  are energy, pressure and area, respectively. Find the equivalent physical law in terms of dimensionless variables  
Answer:  $PA^{3/2}E = \text{const.}$

- 3.\* A physical phenomenon is described by the quantities  $P, l, m, t$  and  $\rho$ , representing pressure, length, mass, time and density, respectively. If there is a physical law  
$$f(P, l, m, t, \rho) = 0$$
relating these quantities, then show that there is an equivalent physical law of the form  
$$G(l^3/m, t^6 P^3/m^2 \rho) = 0.$$

7. Make a suitable modelling and derive the heat (or diffusion) equation

$$\begin{cases} U_t'(x,t) - k U_{xx}'' = 0, & 0 \leq x \leq l, \\ U(x,0) = 0, & 0 < x < l, \\ U(0,t) = U(l,t) = 100, & t > 0. \end{cases}$$

Make a suitable scaling of this equation and explain why this is so important and useful for many practical problems.

5. Let  $U = U(t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq b$ , be a continuous function. If  $M = \max |U(t)|$ , then  $U$  can be scaled by  $M$  to obtain the dimensionless dependent variable  $U = U/M$ . A time scale can be taken as  $t_c = M / \max |U'(t)|$ , the ratio of the maximum value of the function to the maximum slope. Find  $M$  and  $t_c$  for the following functions:

a)  $U(t) = A \sin \omega t$ ,  $t > 0$ ,

b)  $U(t) = A e^{-\lambda t}$ ,  $t > 0$ ,

c)  $U(t) = A t e^{-\lambda t}$ ,  $0 < t \leq 2/\lambda$ .