

MATCHED ASYMPTOTIC EXPANSIONS AND BOUNDARY LAYER THEORY.

SINGULAR PERTURBATION:

- e.g.  $\varepsilon y'' + y' + y = 0$  for  $0 < x < 1$ , with  $y(0) = a$ ,  $y(1) = b$ .

When  $\varepsilon = 0$ ,  $y' + y = 0 \Rightarrow y = Ae^{-x}$  ( $A \in \mathbb{R}$ ), which cannot satisfy both BCs in general.

- This is a singular perturbation problem
- Suppose  $D_\varepsilon$  is a differential operator that depends on a small parameter, e.g.  $D_\varepsilon = \varepsilon \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{d}{dx} + 1$

- Then the problem " $D_\varepsilon y = 0 + \text{BCs}$ " is a singular perturbation problem if the order of  $D_0 y = 0$  is less than that of  $D_\varepsilon y = 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , because the solution of  $D_0 y = 0$  cannot in general satisfy all of the BCs.

- Suppose  $D_\varepsilon = \varepsilon \frac{d^R}{dx^R} + \text{lower order derivatives}$ .

- Then usually,

- over most of range  $\varepsilon \frac{d^R y}{dx^R}$  is small and  $y$  satisfies  $D_0 y = 0$  at leading order;

- in certain regions (often near boundaries),  $\varepsilon \frac{d^R y}{dx^R}$  is not small and  $y$  adjusts itself to satisfy BCs.

- Regions in which  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  is large are known as boundary, edge and skin layers in fluid dynamics, solid mechanics and electrodynamics.
- The usual procedure for finding a solution to a singular ODE problem is as follows:
  - (1) determine the scaling of the boundary layers (e.g.  $x = \text{ord}(\epsilon)$ ,  $x = \text{ord}(\epsilon^{1/2})$  etc);
  - (2) rescale the dependent variable in the boundary layer (e.g.  $x = \epsilon \hat{x}$ ,  $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$  etc);
  - (3) find the asymptotic expansions of the solutions in the boundary layers and outside them (i.e. the "inner" and "outer" solutions);
  - (4) fix the constants of integration in these solutions by
    - (a) demanding the inner solutions obey the BCs;
    - (b) making the asymptotic expansions of the outer and inner solutions agree in an overlap or transition region between them - i.e. "matching".
- This is called the method of matched asymptotic expansions.
- Main e.g.  $\epsilon y'' + y' + y = 0$  for  $0 < x < 1$ , with  $y(0) = a$ ,  $y(1) = b$ .

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**LECTURE 6**

LH boundary layer scaling

- $x = \varepsilon^\alpha x_L$ ,  $y(x) = y_L(x_L)$ , where  $\alpha > 0$   
 $\Rightarrow y' = \frac{dy_L}{dx_L} \frac{dx_L}{dx} = \varepsilon^{-\alpha} \frac{dy_L}{dx_L}$   
 $\Rightarrow \varepsilon^{1-2\alpha} \frac{d^2 y_L}{dx_L^2} + \varepsilon^{-\alpha} \frac{dy_L}{dx_L} + y_L = 0$
- To satisfy BC at  $x=0$  and match with outer solution, need the  $\frac{d^2 y_L}{dx_L^2}$  term to be in the dominant balance  
 $\Rightarrow$  need to balance this term with the largest of the others  
 $\Rightarrow \alpha = 1$ , i.e. the BL has width of  $\text{ord}(\varepsilon)$ .
- Similar argument  $\Rightarrow$  RH BL near  $x=1$  has width of  $\text{ord}(\varepsilon)$ .

Develop asymptotic solution as follows:

(1) away from ends of interval (the "middle") expand

$$y(x) = y_M(x) \sim y_{M0}(x) + \varepsilon y_{M1}(x) + \dots \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+, \text{ with } x, 1-x = \text{ord}(1);$$

(2) near LH end scale  $x = \varepsilon x_L$  and expand

$$y(x) = y_L(x_L) \sim y_{L0}(x_L) + \varepsilon y_{L1}(x_L) + \dots \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+, \text{ with } 0 < x_L = \text{ord}(1);$$

(3) near RH end scale  $x = 1 + \varepsilon x_R$  and expand

$$y(x) = y_R(x_R) \sim y_{R0}(x_R) + \varepsilon y_{R1}(x_R) + \dots \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+, \text{ with } 0 < -x_R = \text{ord}(1).$$

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LH BL

$$\text{ODE} \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y_L}{dx_L^2} + \frac{dy_L}{dx_L} + \varepsilon y_L = 0 \quad \text{for } x_L > 0.$$

$$\text{Expansion} \Rightarrow O(\varepsilon^0): \quad \frac{d^2 y_{L0}}{dx_L^2} + \frac{dy_{L0}}{dx_L} = 0 \quad \text{for } x_L > 0$$

$$O(\varepsilon^1): \quad \frac{d^2 y_{L1}}{dx_L^2} + \frac{dy_{L1}}{dx_L} = -y_{L0} \quad \text{for } x_L > 0 \text{ etc}$$

$$\text{Solve} \Rightarrow y_{L0}(x_L) = A_{L0} + B_{L0} e^{-x_L} \quad (A_{L0}, B_{L0} \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$y_{L1}(x_L) = A_{L1} + B_{L1} e^{-x_L} - A_{L0} x_L + B_{L0} x_L e^{-x_L} \quad (A_{L1}, B_{L1} \in \mathbb{R}) \text{ etc}$$

$$\text{BC } y(0) = a \Rightarrow y_{L0}(0) = a, \quad y_{L1}(0) = 0 \text{ etc}$$

$$\Rightarrow A_{L0} + B_{L0} = a, \quad A_{L1} + B_{L1} = 0 \text{ etc}$$

Middle

$$\text{ODE} \Rightarrow \varepsilon \frac{d^2 y_M}{dx^2} + \frac{dy_M}{dx} + y_M = 0 \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1$$

$$\text{Expansion} \Rightarrow O(\varepsilon^0): \quad \frac{dy_{M0}}{dx} + y_{M0} = 0 \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1$$

$$O(\varepsilon^1): \quad \frac{dy_{M1}}{dx} + y_{M1} = -\frac{d^2 y_{M0}}{dx^2} \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1 \text{ etc}$$

$$\text{Solve} \Rightarrow y_{M0}(x) = A_{M0} e^{-x} \quad (A_{M0} \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$y_{M1}(x) = A_{M1} e^{-x} - A_{M0} x e^{-x} \quad (A_{M1} \in \mathbb{R}) \text{ etc}$$

Instead of applying BCs at  $x = 0, 1$ , need to match with expansion in LH BL and in RH BL.

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RH BL

$$\text{ODE} \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y_R}{dx_R^2} + \frac{dy_R}{dx_R} + \varepsilon y_R = 0 \quad \text{for } x_R < 0$$

$$\text{Expansion} \Rightarrow O(\varepsilon^0) : \frac{d^2 y_{R0}}{dx_R^2} + \frac{dy_{R0}}{dx_R} = 0 \quad \text{for } x_R < 0$$

$$O(\varepsilon^1) : \frac{d^2 y_{R1}}{dx_R^2} + \frac{dy_{R1}}{dx_R} = -y_{R0} \quad \text{for } x_R < 0 \quad \text{etc}$$

$$\text{Solve} \Rightarrow y_{R0}(x_R) = A_{R0} + B_{R0} e^{-x_R} \quad (A_{R0}, B_{R0} \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$y_{R1}(x_R) = A_{R1} + B_{R1} e^{-x_R} - A_{R0} x_R + B_{R0} x_R e^{-x_R} \\ (A_{R1}, B_{R1} \in \mathbb{R}) \quad \text{etc}$$

$$\text{BC } y(1) = b \Rightarrow y_{R0}(0) = b, \quad y_{R1}(0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A_{R0} + B_{R0} = b, \quad A_{R1} + B_{R1} = 0 \quad \text{etc}$$

Leading-order matching

- The leading-order solutions  $y_{L0}(x_L)$ ,  $y_{M0}(x)$  and  $y_{R0}(x_R)$  contain 5 arbitrary constants ( $A_{L0}, B_{L0}, A_{M0}, A_{R0}, B_{R0}$ ) and BCs give 2 equations relating them: the other 3 equations come from matching.
- Idea is that between adjacent regions there is an "overlap" or "intermediate" region in which both expansions should hold.
- To match  $y_L$  and  $y_M$  introduce an intermediate scaling  $x = \varepsilon^\alpha \hat{x}$ , with  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , then as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$  with  $\hat{x} > 0$  and  $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$ ,  $x = \varepsilon^\alpha \hat{x} \rightarrow 0^+$  and  $x_L = \varepsilon^{\alpha-1} \hat{x} \rightarrow +\infty$ .
- Matching requires expansions to be equal as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$  with  $\hat{x} > 0$  and  $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$ , i.e.  $y_L(\varepsilon^{\alpha-1} \hat{x}) \sim y_M(\varepsilon^\alpha \hat{x})$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$  with  $\hat{x} > 0$  and  $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$ .

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- As  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$  with  $\hat{x} > 0$  and  $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} y_L(\varepsilon^{\alpha-1}\hat{x}) &= y_{L0}(\varepsilon^{\alpha-1}\hat{x}) + O(\varepsilon) \\ &= A_{L0} + \underbrace{B_{L0} e^{-\varepsilon^{\alpha-1}\hat{x}}}_{\text{E. S. T.}} + O(\varepsilon) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} y_M(\varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x}) &= y_{M0}(\varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x}) + O(\varepsilon) \\ &= A_{M0} e^{-\varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x}} + O(\varepsilon) \\ &= A_{M0}(1 - \varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x} + O(\varepsilon^{2\alpha})) + O(\varepsilon) \end{aligned}$$

- Same expansions  $\Rightarrow A_{L0} = A_{M0}$ , i.e.  $y_{L0}(+\infty) = y_{M0}(0^+)$  and the outer limit of the inner solution matches with the inner limit of the outer solution.

- On RHS let  $x = 1 + \varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x}$ , where  $0 < \hat{x} < 1$ .

- As  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$  with  $\hat{x} < 0$  and  $\hat{x} = \text{ord}(1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} y_R(x_R = \varepsilon^{\alpha-1}\hat{x}) &= y_{R0}(\varepsilon^{\alpha-1}\hat{x}) + O(\varepsilon) \\ &= A_{R0} + \underbrace{B_{R0} e^{-\varepsilon^{\alpha-1}\hat{x}}}_{\text{E. L. T.}} + O(\varepsilon) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} y_M(x = 1 + \varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x}) &= y_{M0}(1 + \varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x}) + O(\varepsilon) \\ &= A_{M0} e^{-(1 + \varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x})} + O(\varepsilon) \\ &= \frac{A_{M0}}{e} (1 - \varepsilon^{\alpha}\hat{x} + O(\varepsilon^{2\alpha})) + O(\varepsilon) \end{aligned}$$

- Same expansions  $\Rightarrow B_{R0} = 0$  and  $A_{R0} = \frac{A_{M0}}{e}$

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Leading-order solution

- BCs  $\Rightarrow A_{L0} + B_{L0} = a, A_{R0} + B_{R0} = b$
- Matching  $\Rightarrow A_{L0} = A_{M0}, A_{R0} = \frac{A_{M0}}{e}, B_{R0} = 0$
- Hence,  $A_{L0} = eb, B_{L0} = a - eb, A_{M0} = eb, A_{R0} = b$ , giving

$$y_{L0}(x_L) = eb + (a - eb)e^{-x_L},$$

$$y_{M0}(x) = ebe^{-x},$$

$$y_{R0}(x_R) = b.$$

- No rapid variation in  $y$  in RHBL  $\Rightarrow$  not needed, at least at leading order.

Agreement with exact solution

- Exact solution is

$$y(x) = A_+ e^{\lambda_- x} - A_- e^{\lambda_+ x} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1,$$

where  $A_{\pm} = \frac{ae^{\lambda_{\pm}} - b}{e^{\lambda_+} - e^{\lambda_-}}, \lambda_{\pm} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4\epsilon}}{2\epsilon}.$

- Using expansions  $\lambda_- = -\frac{1}{\epsilon} + 1 + O(\epsilon)$  and  $\lambda_+ = -1 + O(\epsilon)$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ , can show

$$y(\epsilon x_L) = y_{L0}(x_L) + O(\epsilon) \quad \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ with } x_L > 0, x_L = O(1);$$

$$y(x) = y_{M0}(x) + O(\epsilon) \quad \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ with } 0 < x < 1; x, 1-x = O(1);$$

$$y(1 + \epsilon x_R) = y_{R0}(x_R) + O(\epsilon) \quad \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ with } x_R < 0, x_R = O(1).$$