

Math 485-002 MATLAB Exercise

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If we move the fulcrum of a pendulum up and down in a rhythmic way, for example by attaching it to a motor, the resulting system is called a *periodically driven pendulum*. The periodically driven pendulum obeys the equations

$$\frac{d\Theta}{d\tau} = \Lambda \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{d\Lambda}{d\tau} = -\sin(\Theta(\tau)) - \alpha\Lambda - \beta \cos(\omega\tau) \sin(\Theta(\tau)) . \quad (2)$$

There are now two more dimensionless parameters, β and ω , describing the amplitude and frequency of the fulcrum's movement.

Exercise 1. Modify the program 'pend.m' we wrote earlier to solve the equations above.

Exercise 2. Try $\alpha = 0$, $\beta = 20.4020$, $\omega = 10.1$, and solve the equations over the time interval $[0, 40]$ with initial conditions $[\pi, 0.1]$. Plot the first component, Θ , as a function of time, τ . What do you see? What is the physical meaning of that solution? Can you explain why the pendulum is doing this?