

**SIAM ED18 Minisymposium  
Portland OR USA  
9-11 July 2018**

**Modeling in Differential Equations Courses –  
SIMIODE Resources and Community**

Brian Winkel, Director SIMIODE, Cornwall NY USA

[www.simiode.org](http://www.simiode.org)

[Director@simiode.org](mailto:Director@simiode.org)

## Four 25 Minute Sessions in this Minisymposium

Brian Winkel, SIMIODE Cornwall NY

Title: **SIMIODE Community and Purpose –  
Supporting Modeling in Teaching Differential Equations**

Corban Harwood, George Fox University, Newberg OR

Title: **Engaging in Pedagogical Development, Applied Scholarship, and  
Professional Service with SIMIODE**

Barbara Edwards, Oregon State University, Corvallis OR and  
Jennifer Czoher, Texas State University, San Marcos TX

Title: **Assessment/Evaluation Plans and Results on SIMIODE Programs –  
Workshops and SCUDEM - Student Competition**

Corban Harwood, George Fox University, Newberg OR with Alexandra Hanson,  
Laura Nosler, and Philip Nosler, Clackamas Community, Oregon City OR

Title: **SCUDEM 2018 - Student Competition Using Differential Equations Modeling  
Organization, Activities, Participation**



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SIMIODE

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NEWSLETTER

SCUDEM

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SYSTEMIC  
INITIATIVE FOR  
MODELING  
INVESTIGATIONS &  
WITH OPPORTUNITIES  
DIFFERENTIAL  
EQUATIONS

**SIMIODE**

SIMIODE is an open  
community of teachers  
and learners using  
modeling first differential  
equations in an original  
way.

**SIMIODE has been using the HUBzero platform developed by Purdue University since 2013.**



**We welcome a new member to the HUBzero platform family today!**





A systemic initiative for modeling investigations & opportunities with differential equations.

All is FREE at SIMIODE!

# Starter Kit SIMIODE

An example rich and quick introduction to teaching modeling based differential equations.

CLICK FOR MORE 



Starter Kit

# Quick Start

## MATERIALS FOR TEACHING MODELING WITH DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

**SIMIODE** offers class materials and support for faculty who want to use modeling to motivate and teach differential equations. Everything in **SIMIODE** is FREE and all materials are offered according to a Creative Commons license.

An example of a first day project [M&M Simulation of Death and Immigration](#) will give you a good idea what to expect from a modeling scenario. This scenario has been used by thousands of students over many years as a first day activity introducing differential equation. After you have looked it over you might take a look at these other choices.

# First Day Activities

Ant Tunnel Building, a simple approach to create differential equation model

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Modeling Spread of Oil Slick, poor data for a differential equation model

# Modeling Scenarios for Early Topics

Falling Column of Water illustrates Torricelli's Law

---

Chemical Kinetics based on students' chemistry texts

---

Spread of the word JUMBO in literature exploring exponential growth

---

Dissipation of retinal gas bubbles following surgery using clinical data

---

Adsorption simulation on a wall with first-order differential equation

---

Others scenario samples include Potato cooling; Finance of savings and loans; student simulation of spread of common cold.



# SCUDEM

CLICK FOR MORE →

**A Student Competition  
Using Differential  
Equations Modeling**

SCUDEM



SCUDEM II 2018, 21 April 2018 - 400+ students, 130 teams and coaches, 40 sites

2018-03-23 SCUDEM 2018 Sites



SCUDEM III 2018, 27 October 2018  
Sign up to be host site, registration opens 1 August 2018

## Articles and Publications

These are materials for which you have permission to reproduce.

[Browse >](#)

## General Resources

These are broad sets of resources for teaching and include pointers to on-line class notes, presentations, videos, blogs, good questions, etc.

[Browse >](#)

## Presentations

These are singular materials (usually one set of notes or one PowerPoint, video, outline, etc.) which you believe SIMIODE members will value for which you have permission to reproduce.

[Browse >](#)

## Competitions-SCUDEM

Everything about SIMIODE's Student Competition Using Differential Equations Modeling.

[Browse >](#)

## Modeling Scenarios

These are key pedagogical components of SIMIODE in which a modeling situation, rich in detail, motivates the study of differential equations. These are peer reviewed.

[Browse >](#)

## Sample Syllabi and Course Reflections

Syllabi and course experiences and narratives which illustrate SIMIODE approaches. Please examine and reproduce for your own classes.

[Browse >](#)

## Free Online Texts

Find annotated descriptions and links to Free Online Texts.

[Browse >](#)

## Potential Scenario Ideas

These are materials, thoughts, pointers, summaries, etc. about your modeling scenario ideas. As much detail as possible should be offered. These are not complete and may be a solicitation for collaborators.

[Browse >](#)

## Technique Narratives

These provide techniques and strategies for solving differential equations and must be clear, with examples and activities or exercises for students. These are peer reviewed.

[Browse >](#)

# Resources: Modeling Scenarios

Type:

## Tag

Resources

[ All ]	>	^	1-001-S-MandMDeathAndImmigration	>
absorption (2)	>		1-001-T-MandMDeathAndImmigration	>
acceleration (1)	>		1-001A-S-MandMDeathImmigration	>
Acorns (2)	>		1-001A-T-MandMDeathImmigration	>
administer (2)	>		1-001B-S-MAndM-DeathImmigrationMystery	>
administration (2)	>		1-001B-T-MAndM-DeathImmigrationMystery	>
air conditioning (2)	>		1-001pgf-S-BirthDeathImmigration	>
air friction (1)	>		1-001pgf-T-BirthDeathImmigration	>
air management (1)	>		1-002-S-Tossing	>
air resistance (2)	>		1-002-T-Tossing	>
airshed (2)	>		1-003-S-CollegeSavings	>
Akaike Information Criterion (4)	>		1-003-T-CollegeSavings	>
algae (2)	>		1-004-S-MicroorganismImmigration	>
amplitude (2)	>	v	1-004-T-MicroorganismImmigration	>

# Search

logistic

Search

## RESULTS (PAGE 1 OF 4)

logistic   logistic growth   logistic equation   logistic function   logistic model  
logistic differential equation   logistic population growth   logistic differential equations   show more...

### Logistic Differential Equation

*Potential Scenario Ideas 10 Sep 2017 Contributor(s): Brian Winkel*

Logistic Differential Equation.... 7 pp. There is rich development of the logistic model with several extended activities and the author(s) use Maple to illustrate many points.... Keywords: differential equation, model, logistic, Maple

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/4033>

### 1997Shulman Using Original Sources to Teach the Logistic Equation

*Potential Scenario Ideas 20 Jun 2015*

## FILTER RESULTS

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resources:modeling\_scenarios:logistic

## RESULTS (PAGE 1 OF 1)

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logistic logistic growth logistic equation logistic function logistic model logistic differential equation  
logistic population growth logistic differential equations show more...

### 1-066-T-USCensusModeling

*Modeling Scenarios 16 Sep 2017 Contributor(s): Jean Marie Linhart*

The United States Census, conducted every 10 years, gives data on the United States population, that can be modeled with the exponential, logistic, or Gompertz functions.... Parameters in the exponential and logistic models can be estimated from per-unit population growth calculated from the data.

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/4211>

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### 1-038-T-Ebola

*Modeling Scenarios 28 Aug 2016 Contributor(s): Lisa Driskell*

Students will use data published by the World Health Organization to model the 2014 outbreak of the Ebola virus in West Africa. We begin with a simple exponential growth model and move through the modeling process to the logistic growth model.... Students will investigate properties of the logistic growth model and will compare...

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/2722>

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# Potential Scenarios

## 2001-Tsoularis-Analysis of logistic growth models

*Potential Scenario Ideas 21 Jun 2015*

Article Review and Annotation Tsoularis, A. 2001. Analysis of logistic growth models, Research Letters in the Information and Mathematical Sciences.... Full article available at <http://mro.massey.ac.nz/handle/10179/4341> .  
Article Abstract: A variety of growth curves have been ...

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/934>

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## 2014Danielsen Sørensen Using authentic sources in teaching logistic growth: A narrative design perspective.

*Potential Scenario Ideas 22 Jun 2015*

Danielsen, Kristian and Henrik Kragh Sørensen. 2014. Using authentic sources in teaching logistic growth: A narrative design perspective.... [henrikkragh.dk/logistisk-vaekst/ESU-handouts](http://henrikkragh.dk/logistisk-vaekst/ESU-handouts).... Accessed on 31 May 2015. This 12 page offering develops issues and questions about using historical materials...

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/907>

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## 1986-CookeWitten- One-dimensional linear and logistic harvest models

*Potential Scenario Ideas 12 Sep 2017 Contributor(s): Brian Winkel*

Cooke, Kenneth L. and Matthew Witten. 1986. One-dimensional linear and logistic harvest models.... 7: 301-340.  
Abstract: Some of the results in the literature on simple one-dimensional, density dependent, discrete and continuous models-with and without harvesting-are reviewed. Both deterministic and stochastic models are...

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/4176>

# 2001-Tsoularis-Analysis of logistic growth models

By A. Tsoularis

 Edit

About

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Category

Potential Scenario Ideas

Published on

20 Jun 2015

Abstract

## Article Review and Annotation

Tsoularis, A. 2001. Analysis of logistic growth models, *Research Letters in the Information and Mathematical Sciences*. 2:23-46. Full article available at <http://mro.massey.ac.nz/handle/10179/4341> .

Article Abstract: A variety of growth curves have been developed to model both unpredated, intraspecific population dynamics and more general biological growth. Most successful predictive models are shown to be based on extended forms of the classical Verhulst logistic growth equation. We further review and compare several such models and calculate and investigate properties of interest for these. We also identify and detail several previously unreported associated limitations and restrictions.

The paper presents an historical development of the logistic equation in its various forms, including Verhulst, Pearl and Reed, Gompertz, Bertalanffy, Richards, and others. For each type of equation there is a section on analysis to include broad general behaviors and qualitative discussions. The issues usually are around the variations and justifications as well as resulting analyses for different functional response terms,  $f(N)$ , in the general logistic equation:

$$N'(t) = r N(t) f(N(t)).$$



# Technique Narrative

## 3-090-T-Text-ChebyshevPolynomialSolution

By Gabriel Costa

*Mathematical Sciences, United States Military Academy, West Point NY USA*

 Edit

About

Supporting Docs

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Category

Technique Narratives

Published on

03 Jun 2015

Abstract


The Chebyshev equation,  $(1 - x^2) y'' + A x y' + B y = 0$ , presented as a vehicle to view series solutions techniques for linear, second order homogeneous differential equations with non-constant coefficients. This project requires the student to investigate properties enjoyed by special solutions to this equation known as Chebyshev Polynomials, while also learning something about the person for whom the equation is named.

# Technique Narrative

## 7-006-S-Text-LaplaceTransformBirth

By Sania Qureshi

*Basic Sciences and Related Studies, Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, Jamshoro, Sindh PAKISTAN*

 Edit

About

Supporting Docs

Citations

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Comments

Category

Technique Narratives

Published on

24 Feb 2016

Abstract

We present a way of introducing the Laplace Transform as the continuous analogue of a power series expression of a function.

**TEACHER VERSION**

**Integrating Factor**

oops

Brian Winkel, Director  
 SIMIODE  
 Cornwall NY 12518 USA  
 BrianWinkel@simiode.org

**Abstract:** We develop a strategy to solve first order differential equations by transforming one side of the equation to the derivative of a product of two functions, thereby making it easy to antidifferentiate that side. We then have to face the other side of our modified differential equation and this still could be difficult or impossible to antidifferentiate. Despite this, the method works for a number of differential equations which are reasonable models of phenomena.

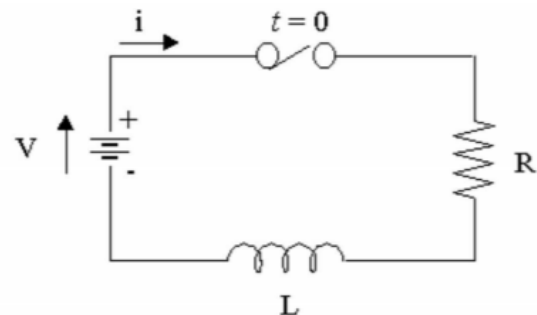
**Keywords:** First order, differential equation, integrating factor, technique, models

**Tags:** method, solution strategy, tank, RL circuit,

**INTRODUCTION**

We develop and discuss a strategy to solve first order, ordinary differential equations using a technique based on the product rule for differentiation. It is called *integrating factor*. Basically we build a function (called an *integrating factor*) with which we multiply both sides of our differential equation we wish to solve so that one side looks just like the derivative of a product of two functions. This makes one side of the differential equation easy to anti-differentiate, but we have to address the other side of the differential equation which we just multiplied by the integrating factor. There are modeling situations which lead to such equations and we use one involving electrical circuits to motivate the method.

In Figure 1 we show a RL circuit:



**Figure 1.** Electric circuit in which the current  $i = I(t)$  is flowing across a resistor  $R$  measured in Ohms and an inductor  $L$  measured in Henrys. The current is a flow of negative electrons. A switch is at the top and the indication is that at time  $t = 0$  we through the switch on, thus enabling the current to flow through the circuit.

Here is the differential equation which we will show later models the current  $I(t)$  going through the circuit containing a resistor,  $R$ , and an inductor,  $L$ :

$$L \frac{dI}{dt} + R \cdot I(t) = E(t). \tag{1}$$

Just the visualization of (1) hints (or begs, depending upon how well you remember your differentiation formulae) to be seen as the derivative of a product. Look see in (2).

$$\underbrace{L \frac{dI}{dt} + R \cdot I(t)}_{\text{looks like } u \cdot \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{du}{dt} \cdot v} = E(t). \tag{2}$$

# Search

resources:modeling\_scenarios:Toricelli

Search

RESULTS (PAGE 1 OF 2)

Toricelli's Law Toricelli

## 6-030-T-SaltToricelli

*Modeling Scenarios 5 Jun 2015 Contributor(s): Brian Winkel*

We build on a model (Toricelli's Law ) for the height of a falling column of water with a small hole in the container at the bottom of the column of water.

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/815>

## 1-058-T-WaterClocks

*Modeling Scenarios 27 Nov 2016 Contributor(s): Sania Qureshi, Brian Winkel*

We apply Torricelli's Law to the task of building a water clock in which the height of the water in a container falls at a constant rate when the container has a hole in the bottom to let the water flow out.

<https://www.simiode.org/resources/3144>

## 1-058-S-WaterClocks

*Modeling Scenarios 27 Nov 2016 Contributor(s): Sania Qureshi, Brian Winkel*

We apply Torricelli's Law to the task of building a water clock in which the height of the water in a container falls at a constant rate when the container has a hole in the bottom to let the water flow out.

### FILTER RESULTS

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## TEACHER VERSION BUILDING WATER CLOCKS

Sania Qureshi

Basic Sciences and Related Studies

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Jamshoro, Sindh PAKISTAN

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[BrianWinke@SIMIODE.org](mailto:BrianWinke@SIMIODE.org)



oops

**Abstract:** We apply Torricelli's Law to the task of building a water clock in which the height of the water in a container falls at a constant rate when the container has a hole in the bottom to let the water flow out. First, we review the principles and derivation in Appendix from [2] of the applicable physics in Torricelli's Law. Second, we determine the shape of the container, given a constant spigot size for the exit hole, so that the water height falls at a constant rate.

**Keywords:** water clock, flow, spigot, Torricelli's Law

**Tags:** first order, differential equation, nonlinear



## TEACHER VERSION

### MODELING THE SMOKING PROCESS OF SOUTHERN BARBECUE

Troy Henderson  
 Department of Mathematics  
 University of Mobile  
 Eight Mile AL 36613 USA  
 thenderson@umobile.edu

**Abstract:** We offer raw data collected from two thermometers used in the smoking process of Southern barbecue. One thermometer measures the temperature inside of the smoke chamber and the other measures the internal temperature of the meat. This data can be used to model and predict the amount of time required to smoke meats for barbecue, but it can also be used to justify the existence of and quantify the temperatures that constitute a “stall” when smoking large cuts of meat.

**Keywords:** Barbecue, Newton’s law of cooling/warming, modeling, logistic function

**Tags:** first order, ordinary differential equations, non-linear regression

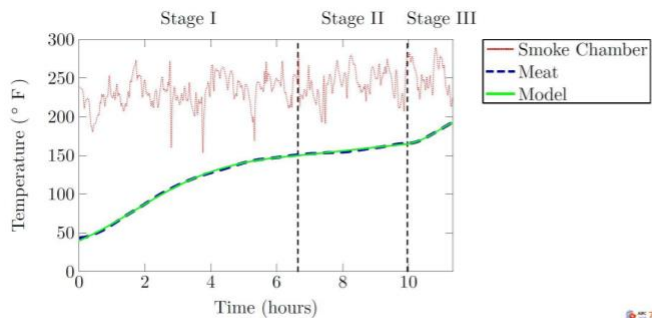


Figure 9. Temperature model fit in each stage

4

#### Modeling the Smoking Process of Southern Barbecue



Figure 2. Untrimmed Brisket.



Figure 3. Trimmed/Separated Brisket.



Figure 4. Brisket and Shoulder.



Figure 5. Sliced Brisket.



Figure 6. Finished Brisket.

## A bit of history

- SIMIODE founded in Spring 2013 with private funding
- SIMIODE became 501(c)3 nonprofit educational organization in Summer 2016 - support from corporations and individuals
- SIMIODE received National Science Foundation Division of Undergraduate Education Grant in Spring 2018 for three year support



A screenshot of the SIMIODE website. The header is dark blue with white text for 'SIMIODE' and navigation links: 'RESOURCES', 'ABOUT', 'SUPPORT', 'COMMUNITY', 'BLOG', 'NEWSLETTER', and 'SCUDEM'. A 'DONATE' button is also visible. The main content area is a lighter blue with white text that reads: 'SYSTEMIC INITIATIVE FOR MODELING INVESTIGATIONS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES WITH DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS' and 'SIMIODE'. To the right, a white text box contains the message: 'SIMIODE is an open community of teachers and learners using modeling first differential equations in an original way.'



Consider the question

“What can you learn from doing modeling in a differential equations course?”

Short, but essentially complete answer, “Lots!”

The **key** is that you are always reaching out for applications, seeking models and data, and bringing them back to your class as lessons or projects.

In fact, I wrote a paper about this key activity in a distinguished journal . . . . .



*PRIMUS*, 23(3): 274–290, 2013

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DOI: 10.1080/10511970.2012.753966



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## Browsing Your Way to Better Teaching

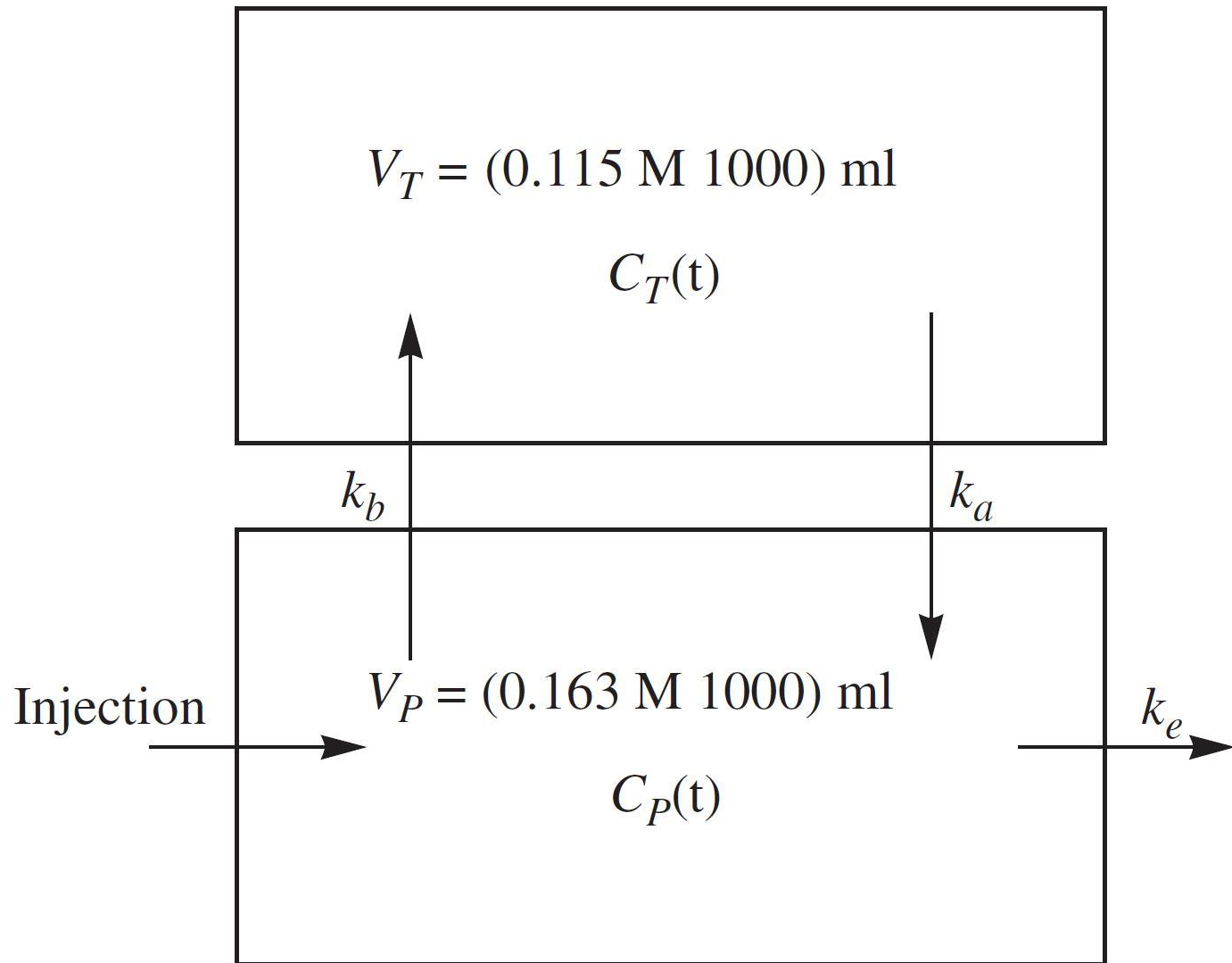
**Brian Winkel**

**Abstract:** We describe the use of browsing and searching (in libraries, online, inside sources, at meetings, in abstracts, etc.) as a way to stimulate the teacher of undergraduate mathematics, specifically in differential equations. The approach works in all other areas of mathematics. Browsing can help build new and refreshing teaching materials based on how mathematics is used and explored in places other than mathematics. These “other” places are where almost all of our students will be going after they study with us and we should: (i) know about their journey and arrival points; and (ii) understand the disciplinary approaches for those areas which sent these students to us in the first place for their mathematics studies. We describe a personal browsing experience that spanned almost 40 years and proved to be very worthwhile in finding applications of differential equations to modeling **Lysergic Acid Diethylamide** in the human body.

**Keywords:** Browsing and searching, sources, mathematical modeling, differential equations, compartment model, pharmacokinetics, Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD).

	Time (hr)	0.833	0.25	0.5	1.0	2.0	4.0	8.0
Subject 1	Plasma Conc (ng/ml)	11.1	7.4	6.3	6.9	5.	3.1	0.8
	Perform Score (%)	73	60	35	50	48	73	97
Subject 2	Plasma Conc (ng/ml)	10.6	7.6	7.	4.8	2.8	2.5	2.
	Perform Score (%)	72	55	74	81	79	89	106
Subject 3	Plasma Conc (ng/ml)	8.7	6.7	5.9	4.3	4.4	—	0.3
	Perform Score (%)	60	23	6	0	27	69	81
Subject 4	Plasma Conc (ng/ml)	10.9	8.2	7.9	6.6	5.3	3.8	1.2
	Perform Score (%)	60	20	3	5	3	20	62
Subject 5	Plasma Conc (ng/ml)	6.4	6.3	5.1	4.3	3.4	1.9	0.7
	Perform Score (%)	78	65	27	30	35	43	51

**Table 1.** Summary of data collected [1, 14] on 5 male volunteers who were administered LSD and then tested on performance (Perform Score (%)) on simple addition questions. Both performance Score and Plasma Concentrations of LSD were recorded at 5, 15, 30, 60, 120, 240, and 480 minutes after the initial infusion of LSD.

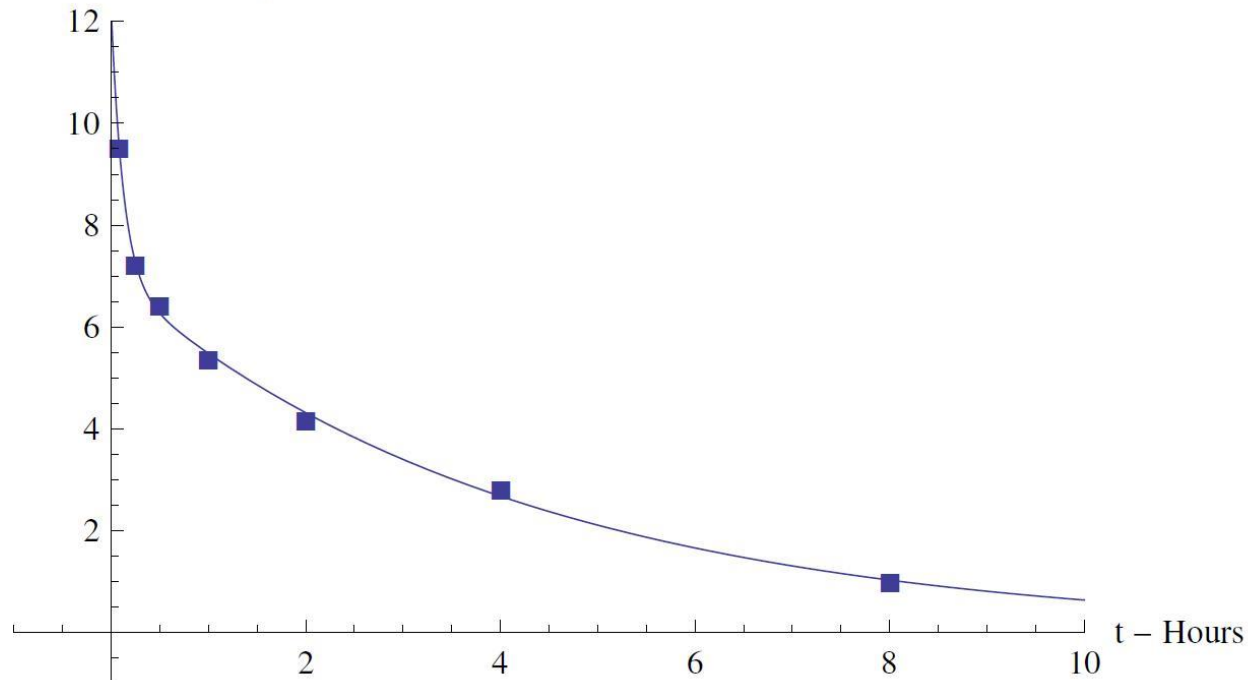


$$V_P C'_P(t) = k_a V_T C_T(t) - k_b V_P C_P(t) - k_e V_P C_P(t)$$

$$V_T C'_T(t) = k_b V_P C_P(t) - k_a V_T C_T(t) .$$

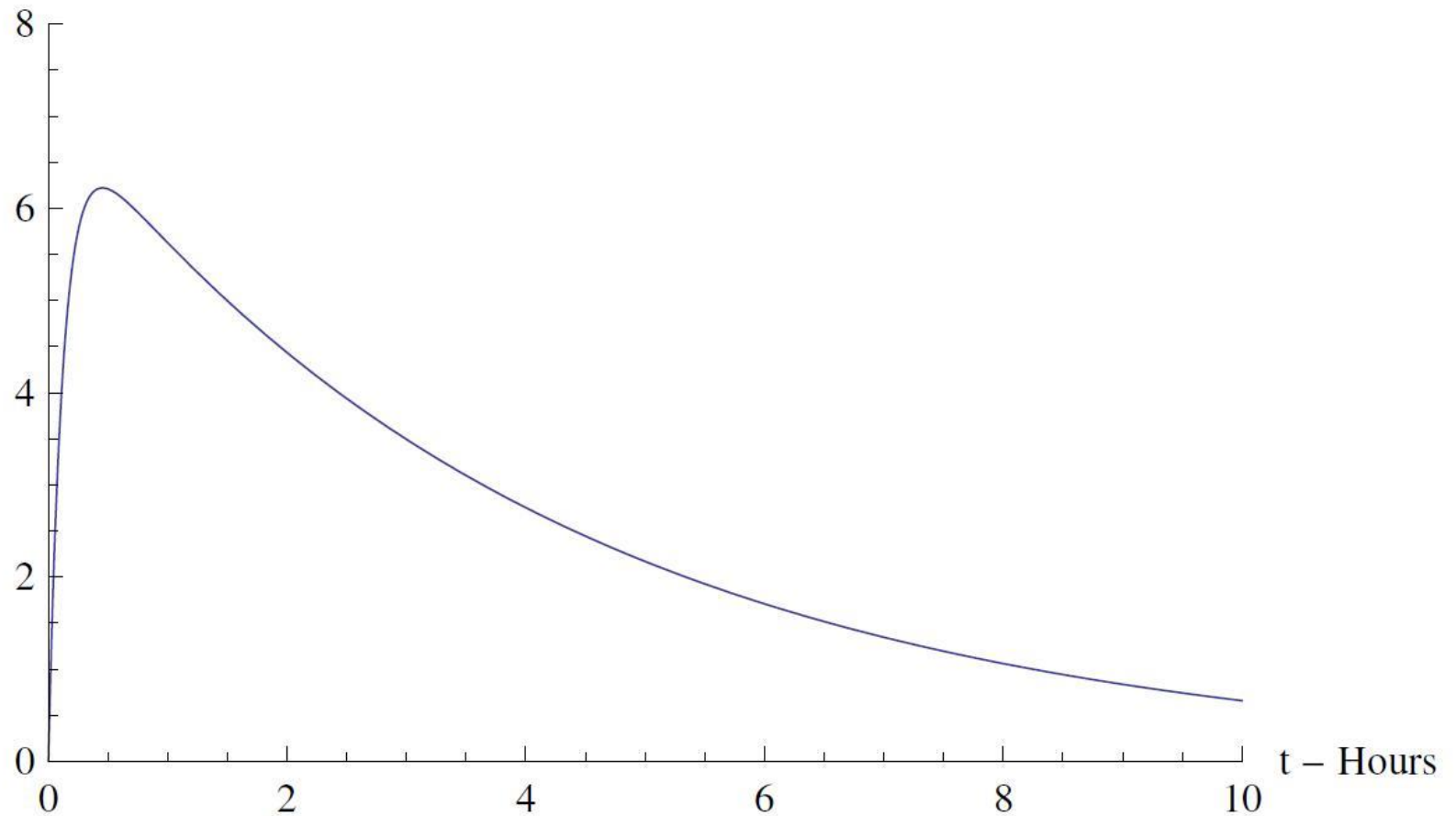
$$SSE(k_a, k_b, k_e) = \sum_{i=1}^7 (C_P(t_i) - O_i)^2$$

Plasma Conc. LSD 25 – ng/ml

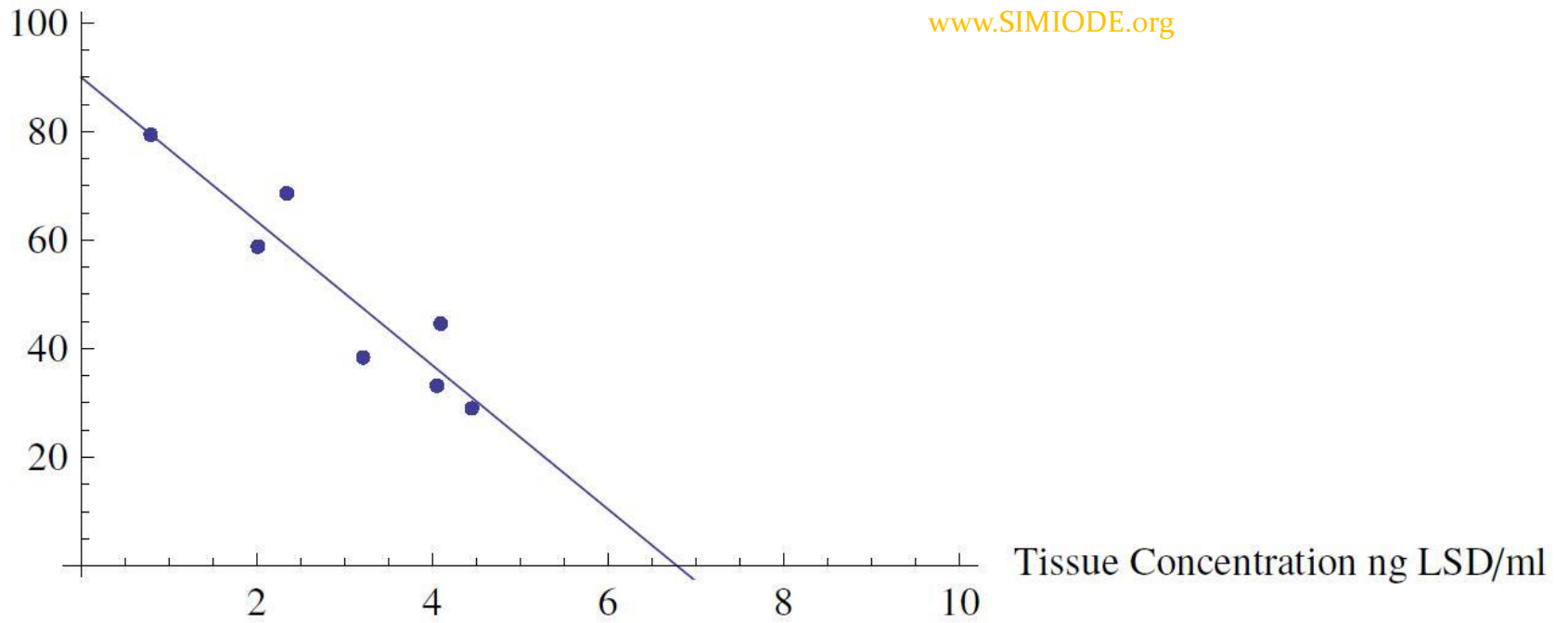


$$C_T(t) = 0.128905 (55.419e^{-0.238492t} - 55.419e^{-7.99617t}) .$$

Tissue Conc. LSD 25 – ng/ml



MathTestScore %



www.SIMIODE.org

Reaching out to local industry colleagues . . . .

. . . led to three hour workshop by chemist and mathematician from The Upjohn Company on pharmacokinetics.

Brought STEM faculty AND students together for active learning, working session on modeling and parameter estimation

Metzler, C. M. 1969. A mathematical model for the pharmacokinetics of LSD effect. *Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. 10(5): 737–740.

Metzler, C. M. and G. L. Elfring. 1978. Letter to the Editor: Curve fitting and modeling in pharmacokinetics: a response. *Journal of Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics*. 6(5): 443–446.



Other interactions can occur

While at the United States Military Academy at West Point NY

Director of MA364 – Engineering Mathematics

Team of mathematics AND engineering faculty in teaching team.

LTC Keith Landry, fresh from his PhD in Civil Engineering at RPI,  
joined the team.

Keith introduced Tuned Mass Dampers to the course



# Examples of Tuned Mass Dampers

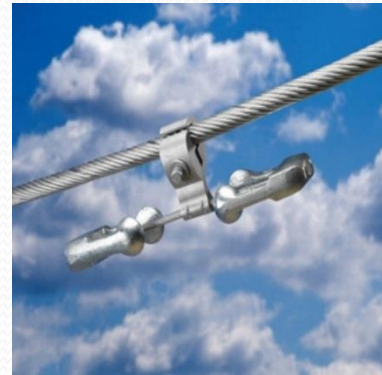
TMD: Schwedter Strasse, Berlin



TMD: Skywalk @ Grand Canyon



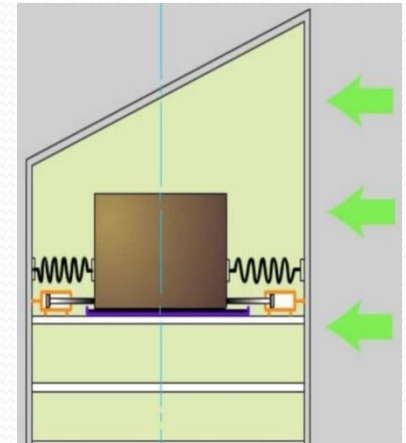
TMD: Stockbridge Damper

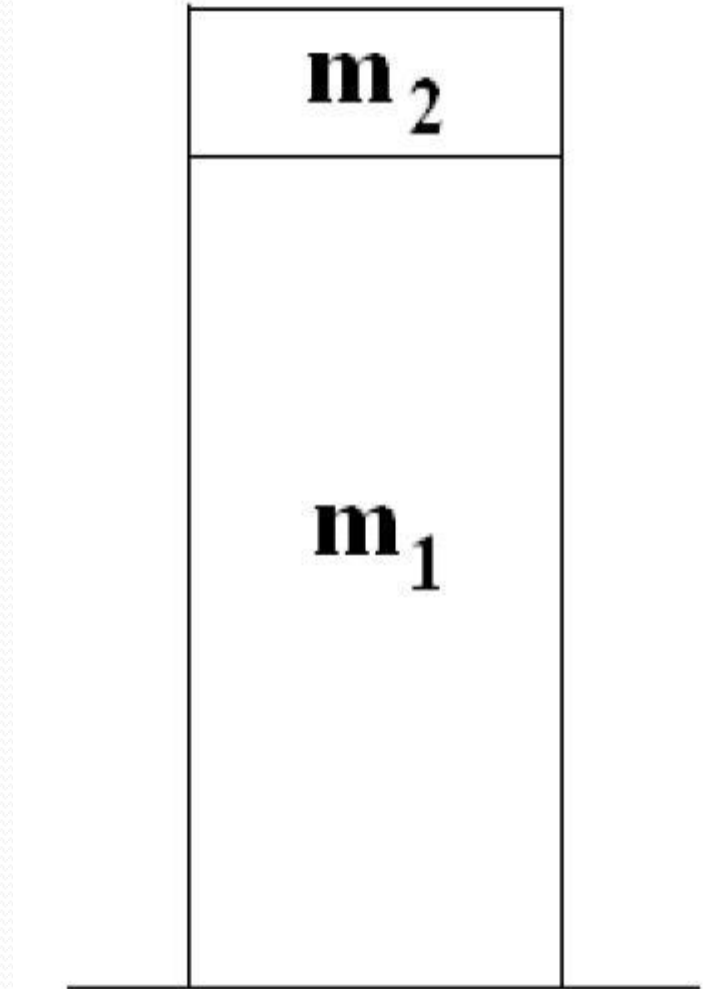
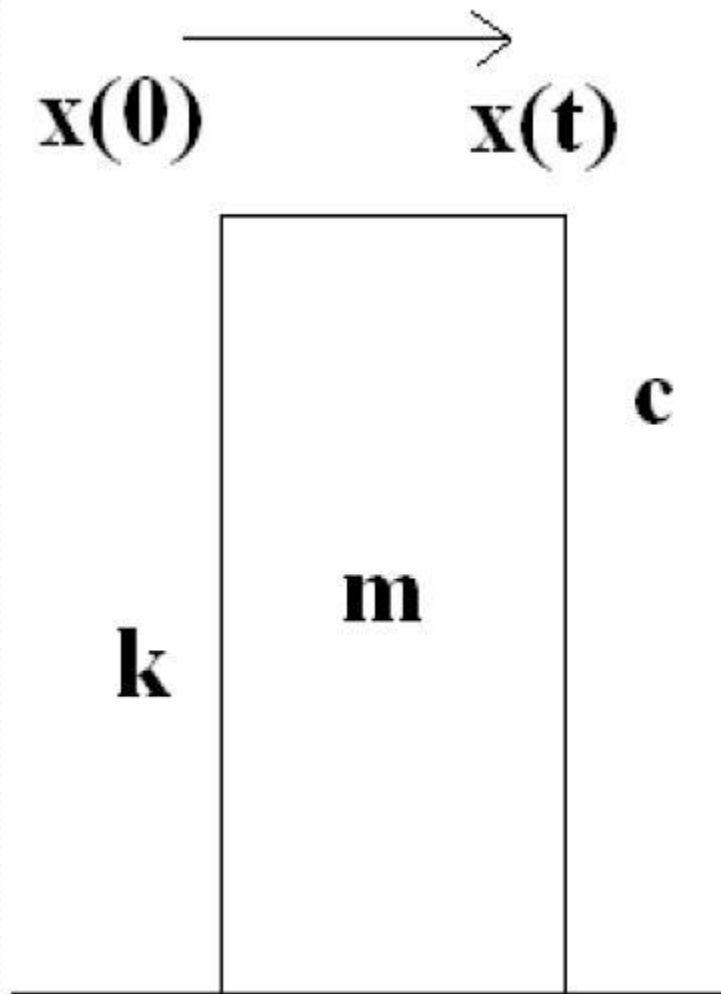


TMD: Taipei 101

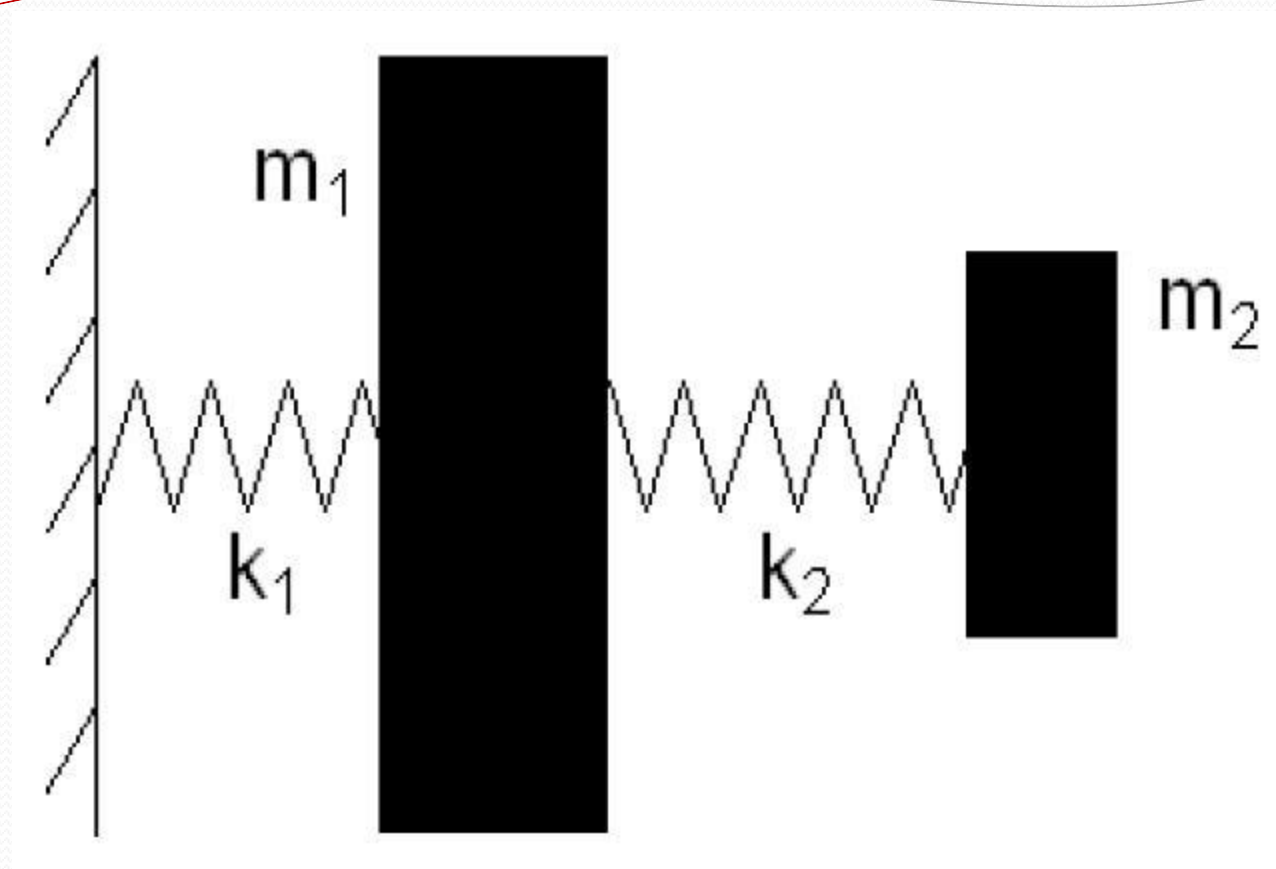


TMD: Citicorp Building





**Structure sways? Introduce second mass, but tune it.**



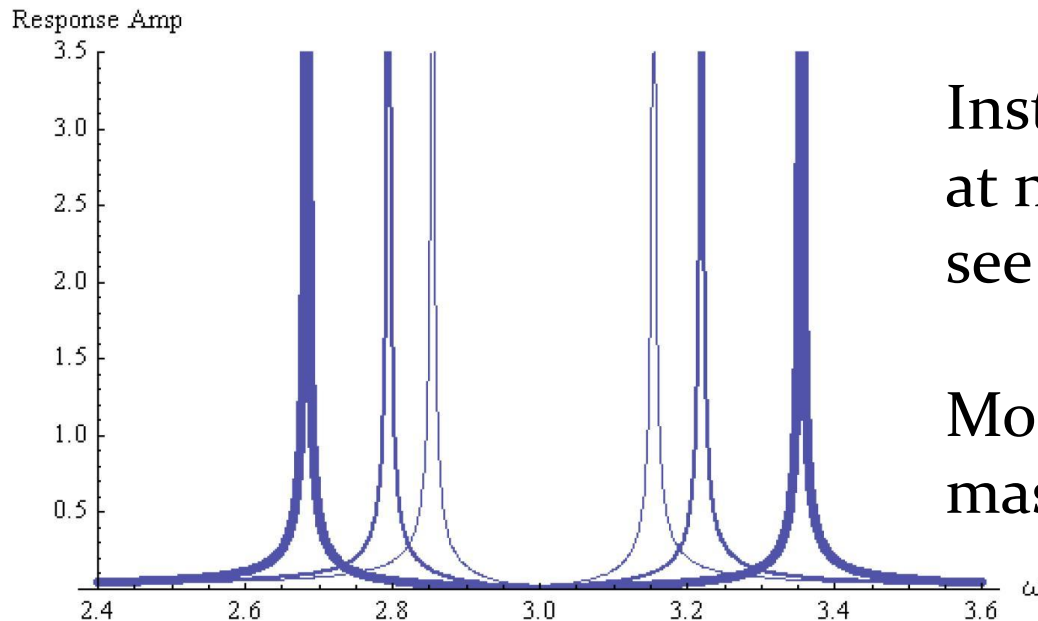
Ideal Tuned Mass Damper in which there is no resistance.

Make natural frequency of added mass  $m_2$   
the same as that of original mass  $m_1$  .

We build a system of differential equations using FBD for displacement of each mass.

$$m_1 x_1''(t) + k_1 x_1(t) + k_2 x_1(t) - k_2 x_2(t) = F_0 \cos(\omega t),$$

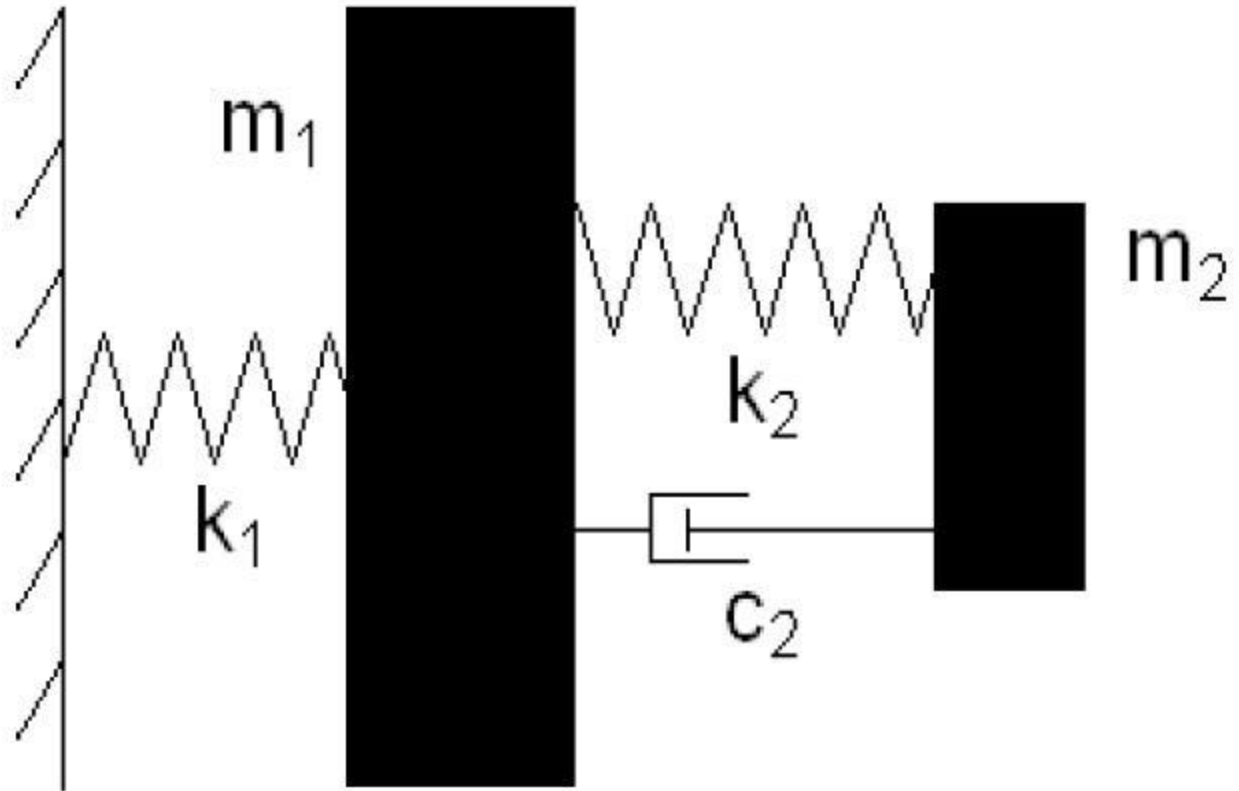
$$m_2 x_2''(t) - k_2 x_1(t) + k_2 x_2(t) = 0.$$



Instead of possible resonance at natural frequency  $\omega = 3$  we see total damping.

Moreover, the bigger second mass is the wider the coverage.

We could analyze more realistic models with resistance to one or both masses.



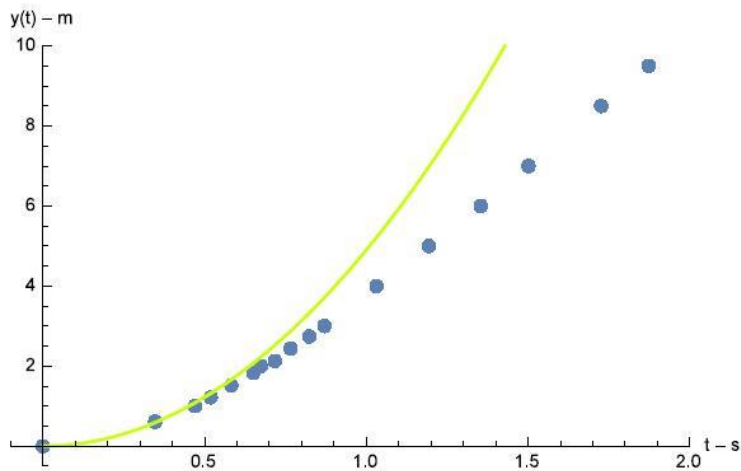


Time (s)	0	0.347	0.47	0.519	0.582	0.65	0.674	0.717	0.766	0.823	0.87	1.031	1.193	1.354	1.501	1.726	1.873
Distance (m)	0	0.61	1.00	1.22	1.52	1.83	2.00	2.13	2.44	2.74	3.00	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	8.50	9.50

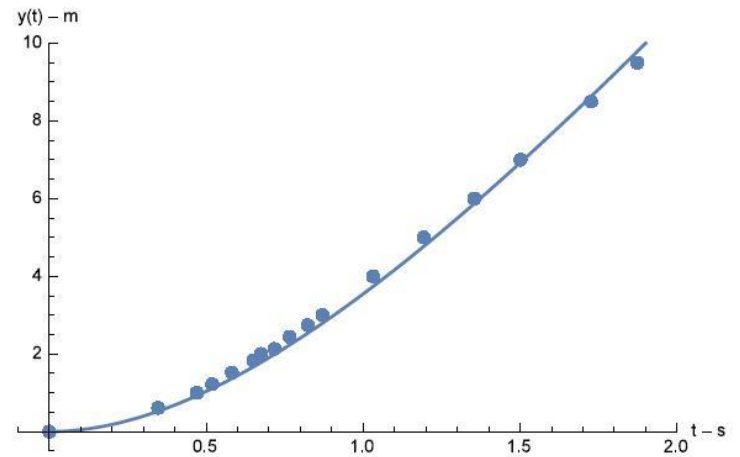
**Table 1.** Time and distance traveled data on a free falling shuttlecock which is dropped from a height of 2 m at rest.

**Source:** Peastrel, M., R.Lynch, and A. Armenti, Jr. 1980. Terminal velocity of a shuttlecock in vertical fall. *American Journal of Physics*. 48(7): 511-513.

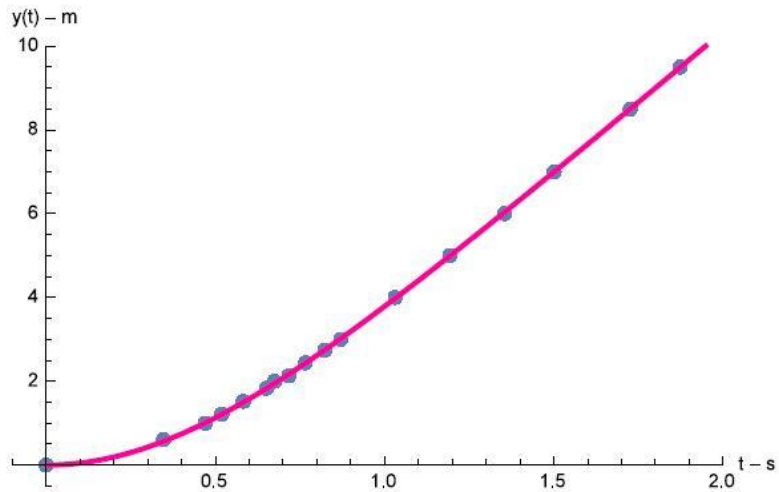
**Many sources on falling body with resistance. Use some with real data or generate the real data with students.**



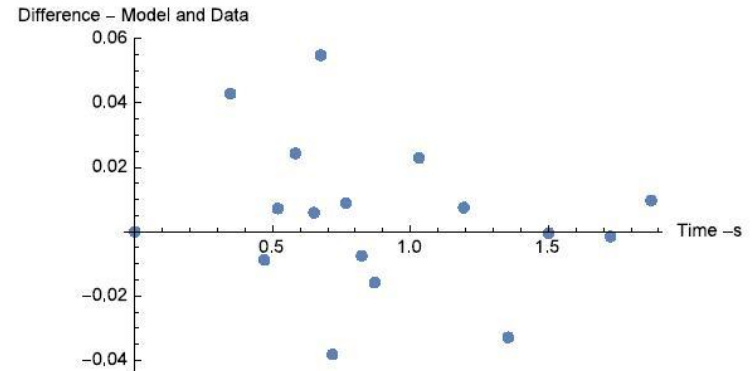
**Figure 3.** Plot of the model with no resistance,  $m * v'(t) = m * g$ , and the original data.



**Figure 4.** Plot of the model with resistance using  $r = 1$ ,  $v'(t) = -k * v(t)^1 + g$ , and the original data.



**Figure 6.** Plot of the model with resistance using  $r = 2$ ,  $v'(t) = -k * v(t)^2 + g$ , and the original data.



**Figure 7.** Plot of the residuals (differences between model and data) from the model with resistance using  $r = 2$ ,  $v'(t) = -k * v(t)^2 + g$ , and the original data.

Model	$r$	$k = a$	SSE	AIC	
Source	2		0.00920356	<b>-123.811</b>	
No Resistance		0	128.369	128.369	
Case	$r = 1$	1	1.06174	0.523775	-55.1584
Case	$r = 2$	2	0.211834	0.00920356	<b>-123.863</b>
General $r$	2.019	.0205	0.00919924	<b>-121.871</b>	

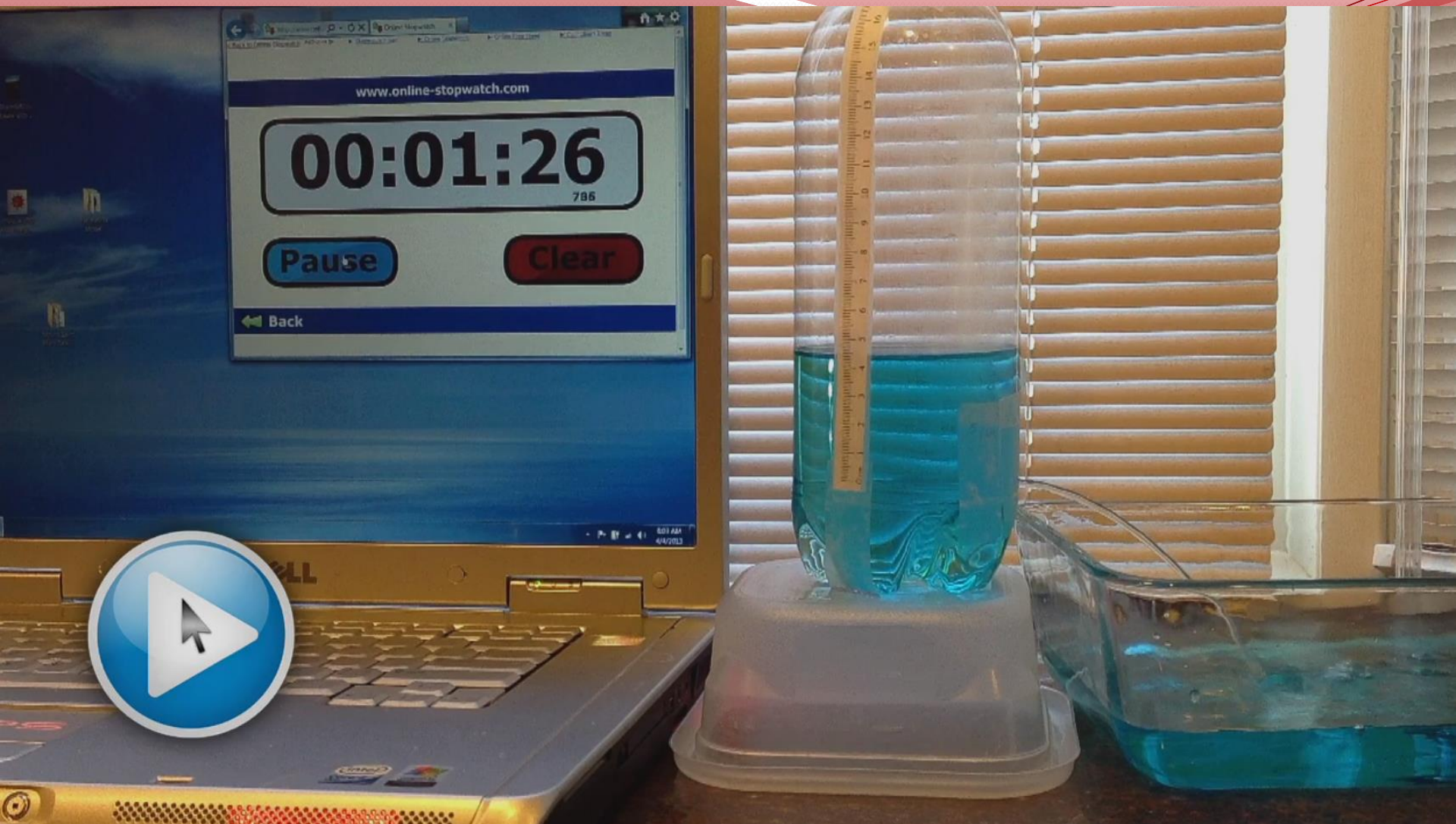
**Table 2.** Information we need about our models to decide which model is best is presented.

$$AIC = 2(1 + k) + n \log \left( \frac{RSS}{n} \right) .$$

$k$  is # parameters and  
 $n$  is # data points

Akaike information criterion (AIC)





**SIMIODE channel on YouTube videos for collecting Data for Torricelli's Law of Falling Column of Liquid**

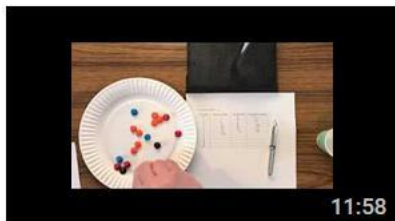


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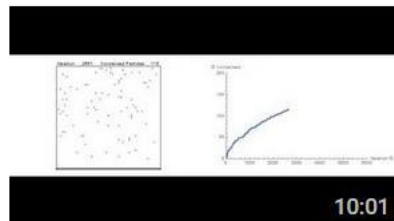
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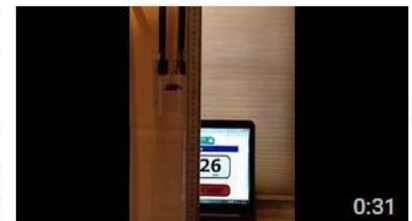
mANDmDeathImmigrationSimula



Condensation Simulation



CanisterFallInWater



Canister Falling in Water

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**SIMIODE** Systemic Initiative for Modeling  
Investigations and Opportunities with Differential Equations

## TEACHER VERSION CIRCUIT TUNER

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**Abstract:** We present essential definitions and laws for the study of simple RLC electrical circuits and build a differential equation model using these notions. We describe how such a circuit can be used to tune a radio to a certain input frequency.

**Keywords:** circuit, tuner, nonhomogeneous, second order, Kirchhof's Voltage Law

**Tags:** gain, resistance, inductance, capacitor, amplitude, differential equation, model, driver, voltage, current, frequency response, maximum

Kirchhoff's Voltage Law says that the sum of the voltages in a circuit is equal to that of the induced voltage,  $Emf(t)$ . Here  $Q(t)$  is charge and  $I(t) = Q'(t)$  is current.

(C) The voltage (in volts) drop,  $E_C$ , across a capacitor rated at  $C$  farads is

$$E_C = \frac{1}{C} \cdot Q(t).$$

(R) The voltage (in volts) drop,  $E_R$ , across a resistor rated at  $R$  ohms is

$$E_R = R \cdot \frac{dQ(t)}{dt} = R \cdot I(t).$$

(L) The voltage (in henry) drop,  $E_L$ , across an inductor rated at  $L$  henrys is

$$E_L = L \cdot \frac{dI(t)}{dt}.$$

$$E_C + E_R + E_L = \frac{1}{C} \cdot Q(t) + R \cdot \frac{dQ(t)}{dt} + L \cdot \frac{dI(t)}{dt} = \text{Emf}(t)$$

Differentiate both sides. . .

$$\frac{1}{C} \cdot \frac{dQ(t)}{dt} + R \cdot \frac{dQ^2(t)}{dt^2} + L \cdot \frac{dI^2(t)}{dt^2} = \text{Emf}'(t)$$

. . . and rearrange.

$$L \cdot \frac{dI^2(t)}{dt^2} + R \cdot \frac{dI(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} \cdot I(t) = \text{Emf}'(t)$$

$$\text{Emf}(t) = \sin(\omega t)$$

Input voltage  $\text{Emf}(t)$  yields

circuit differential equation  
with  $y(t) = I(t)$ .

$$L \cdot y''(t) + R \cdot y'(t) + \frac{1}{C} \cdot y(t) = \text{Emf}'(t) = \omega \cos(\omega t)$$

As with spring mass systems we can study amplitude response of current to frequency of input voltage.

Further one can then compute Gain, i.e., ratio of the amplitude of the steady state output voltage to the amplitude of the input voltage.

We note amplitude of input voltage  $\text{Emf}(t) = \sin(\omega t)$  is 1. Thus gain IS the amplitude of the steady state solution.

$$\text{Amplitude}(y_{\text{steady state}}(t)) = R \sqrt{\frac{C^2 \omega^2}{C^2 \omega^2 (L^2 \omega^2 + R^2) - 2CL\omega^2 + 1}}$$

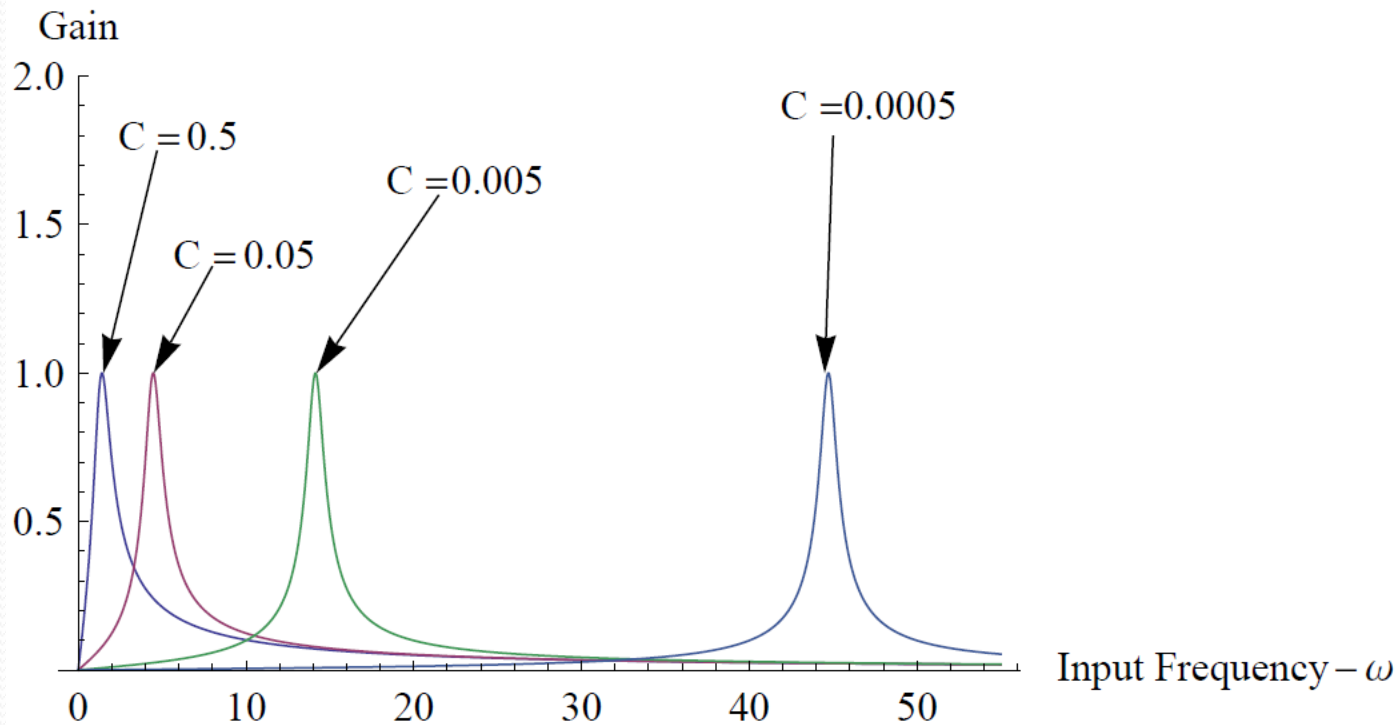
Suppose L and R are fixed and we can vary capacitance C.

Then for given input frequency (presumably from the “ether” as a radio broadcast signal) we can find C which maximizes gain.

That is exactly what we do in radio tuner.  
We tune by finding C which maximizes gain.

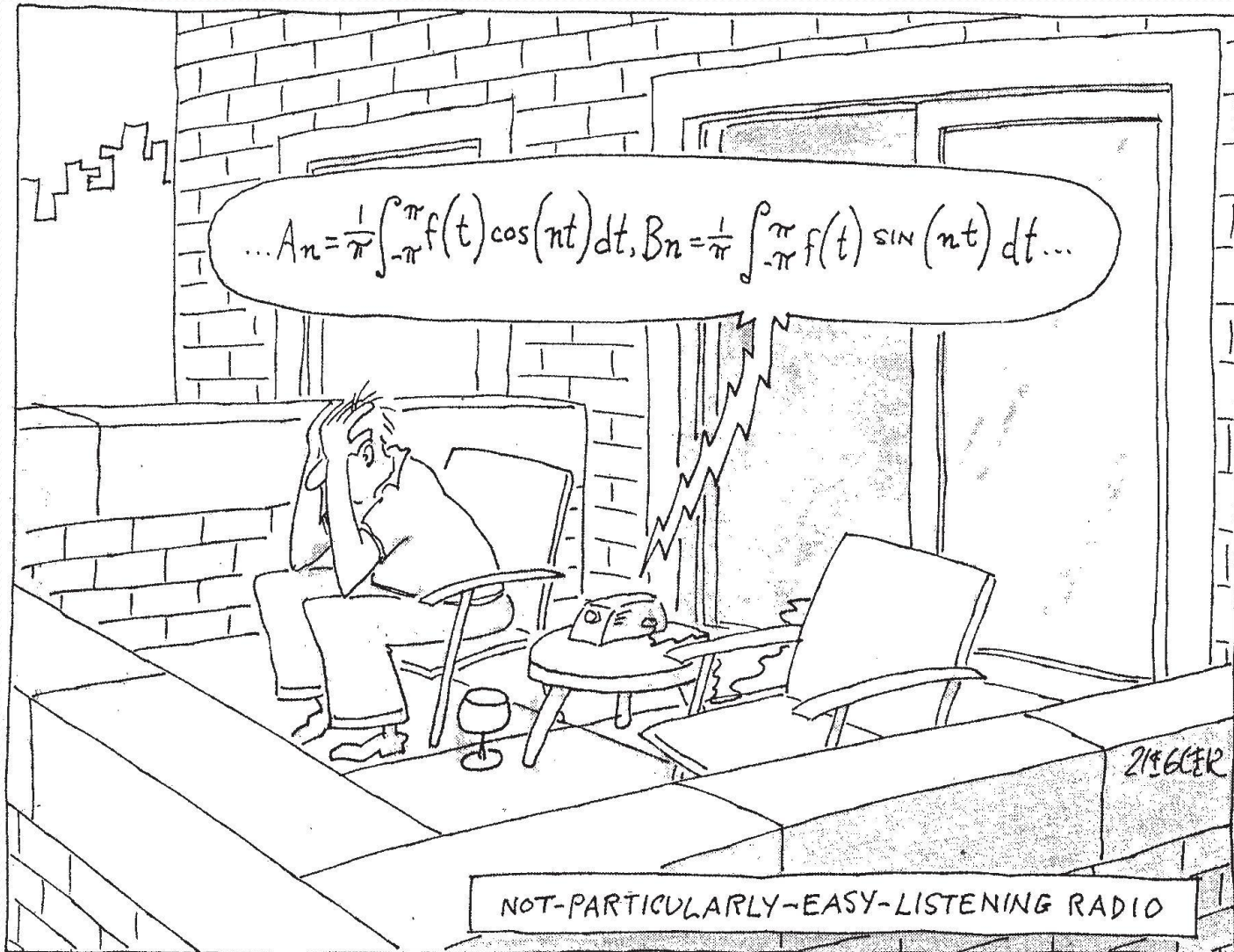
$$\text{gain} = R \sqrt{\frac{C^2 \omega^2}{C^2 \omega^2 (L^2 \omega^2 + R^2) - 2CL\omega^2 + 1}}$$





**Figure 5.** Plot of gain as a function of input frequency,  $\omega$ , for various values of capacitance,  $C = 0.5, 0.05, 0.005, 0.0005$  farads in (10) with  $R$  at 1 ohm and  $L$  at 1 henry.

Not all work. . . not all fun. . . building for modeling-first differential equations



**These images  
are related!**

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n$$



Finally, in answer to the question

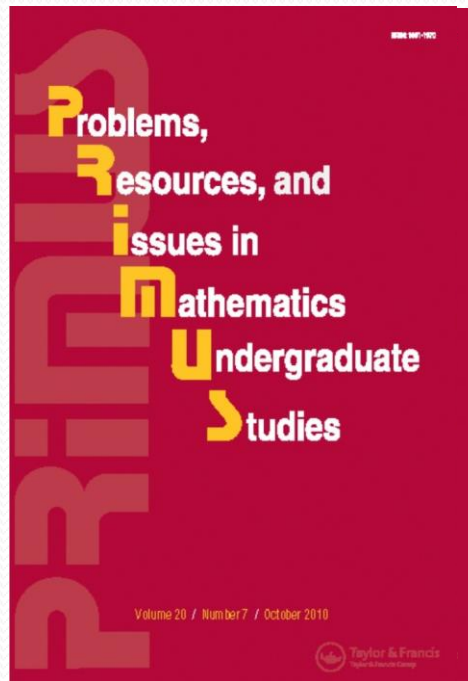
“What can you learn from doing modeling  
in a differential equations course?”

we say, “lots” and “you never know.”

# Coming Soon

## Two Volume Special Issue of *PRIMUS*

“A Modeling First Approach to  
Teaching Differential Equations”



Edited by  
Chris McCarthy, Borough of Manhattan Community College,  
New York NY

Ellen Swanson, Centre College, Danville KY

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**Coming REAL SOON!!!**

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**2021 –**

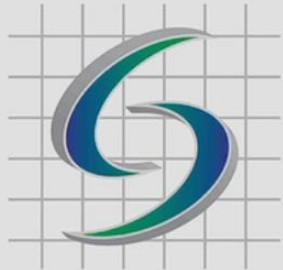
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