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GNG 1106
Fundamentals of Engineering Computation

Lab 6 – Winter 2016

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Lab 6 Review of Functions and Arrays

Programming aspects to get familiarized with:

- Working with Functions.
- Review the use of arrays.

Complete the exercises and show your working program to the TA for extra marks to be used to adjust your midterm exam.

A. Exercise : Simple Functions – Calculating Velocity and Displacement (2 marks)

Statement of the problem

Develop a program that requests from the user the initial velocity at time 0, v_0 , and the acceleration, a , of an object travelling in a straight line and a time t (greater than 0). From these values, the program shall calculate the displacement, x , and the velocity, v , of the object after time t .

Background:

The following equations are well known relationships between the constant acceleration a , velocity v , and displacement x of an object that travels in a single direction (x).

$$v = v_0 + at \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

$$x = v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2 \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

where a is a constant acceleration in m/s^2 ,

v is the velocity in m/s ,

x is the displacement in m ,

v_0 is the initial velocity at time t_0 .

Design:

- The program should be developed with 3 functions, `main`, `calculateVelocity`, and `calculateDisplacement`.
- In the main function, prompt the user to obtain the initial velocity, acceleration, and time t . Call the other functions to compute displacement and velocity, and print the results. (Hint: start with the program from **assignment 1** posted with this lab and modify it to add the two functions as described in the next points).
- Create two functions, `calculateVelocity` which calculates the velocity at a given time, and the other `calculateDisplacement` which calculates velocity.
- Both functions have the same three parameters: the initial velocity, the acceleration, and time.
- `calculateVelocity` returns the velocity, v , of the object at time t .
- `calculateDisplacement` returns the displacement, x , of the object at time t .

Test Cases

Velocity (m/s) and displacement (meters) after a time t (seconds) can be calculated given an initial velocity v_0 (m/s) and constant acceleration (m/s^2) with the equations given in Step 2.

The following table provides test cases that can be used for testing the software.

Time t (seconds)	Initial Velocity v_0 (m/s)	Acceleration (m/s)	Velocity (m/s)	Displacement x (m)
10	1	0	1.00	10.00
0.5	0	250	125.00	31.25
120	60	1.2	204.00	15,840.00
0	60	1.2	60.00	0.00

Develop your program and show your TA your working program with one of the above test cases.

B. Exercise: Functions with arrays – Calculating Velocity and Displacement (3 marks)

Modify the program from Exercise A to have the function `calculateVelocity` and `calculateDisplacement` fill in an array of 100 points according to the following design:

- Define the symbolic constant `N` as 100 (number of points to compute).
- In main
 - Prompt the user to obtain the initial velocity, acceleration, and final time `tfinal`.
 - Create three arrays, `tArr`, `xArr`, and `vArr` of size `N`.
 - Call the `calculateTime` function to fill in `tArr`.
 - Call `calculateDisplacement` function to fill in `xArr`.
 - Call `calculateVelocity` function to fill in `vArr`.
 - Open the file “Results.txt” and save the results (i.e. time, velocity and displacement) in a table form.
- Create another function, `calculateTime`, to fill in the time array as follows:
 - Parameters: final time (`tfinal`), reference to a time array (`tarr`), number of elements in the array (`n`)
 - Define an increment, `inc`, that is set to `tfinal/n`.
 - Traverse the array to fill in time values starting at 0 and incrementing by `inc` for each element in the array.
- Modify the `calculateVelocity` function as follows:
 - Parameters: initial velocity (`v0`), acceleration (`a`), reference to a time array (`tarr`), reference to a velocity array (`varr`), number of elements in the array (`n`, note that the symbolic constant `N` is not used in by this function).
 - For each time element in the time array, calculate the velocity and store it in the velocity array at the same index position (use a loop to traverse the arrays).
- Modify the `calculateDisplacement` function as follows:
 - Parameters: initial velocity (`v0`), acceleration (`a`), reference to a time array (`tarr`), reference to a velocity array (`varr`), reference to a displacement array (`xarr`), number of elements in the array (`n`, note that the symbolic constant `N` is not used in by this function).
 - For each time element in the time array, calculate the displacement and store it in the displacement array at the same index position (use a loop to traverse the arrays).

Develop your program and show your TA your working program with one of the test cases from Exercise A.

C. Exercise: Functions with arrays – Calculating Velocity and Displacement

If you have time, modify the program from Exercise B to plot the change in velocity and displacement using the `plplot` libraries. This exercise is optional.

Program Memory

Working Memory

