

## Construction of Point Transformation for the Simple Harmonic Oscillator Equation Using Differential Forms

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### Abstract

*In this paper, we obtain the point transformation for the simple harmonic oscillator equation of second order ordinary differential equation using the method of differential forms, and hence its solution.*

**Key words:** Point transformation, Differential forms, Simple harmonic oscillator equation, second order differential equations

### 1.0 Introduction

While the introductory problems involving the motion of a particle are often concerned with moving a particle from one place to another, there is an important class of problems where a particle goes through a motion, but at some point in the trajectory the particle returns to the initial position.

While periodic motion is often complex in nature, many problems can be reduced by approximation to a more simple form known as Simple Harmonic Motion (SHM). An example of such an approximation is a simple pendulum where for small oscillations the motion can be approximated to simple harmonic motion. Simple harmonic motion is an oscillation of a particle in a straight line.

Point transformation preserves the integrability of the equation and its Lie symmetry structure [1], and hence the reason for the use of point transformation. The linearizability problem for second order ordinary differential equations using differential forms has been investigated in [2].

In this paper, we construct the point transformation for the simple harmonic oscillator equation and present its solution using the method of differential forms derived in [2].

### 2.0 The Method

Our starting point is a second order ordinary differential equation

$$y'' = f(x, y, y'). \tag{2.1}$$

We assume a point transformation given by the variables

$$X = F(x, y), \quad Y = G(x, y), \tag{2.2}$$

with a requirement that,

$$\frac{d^2Y}{dX^2} = 0. \tag{2.3}$$

We first construct, using equation (2.2)

$$\frac{dY}{dX} = \frac{G_x + G_y y'}{F_x + F_y y'} \tag{2.4}$$

where  $F_x + F_y y' \neq 0$  and the subscripts  $x$  and  $y$  denote partial differentiation. The second derivative equation may be written simply in terms of a differential  $d\left(\frac{dY}{dX}\right) = 0$  which becomes

$$(F_x + F_y y')(dG_x + y'dG_y + G_y dy') - (G_x + G_y y')(dF_x + y'dF_y + F_y dy') = 0. \tag{2.5}$$

We can expand (2.5) and write it as

$$T dy' + \rho y'^2 + (\lambda + \delta)y' + \sigma = 0, \tag{2.6}$$

where

$$T = F_x G_y - F_y G_x, \tag{2.7}$$

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and we have the 1-forms

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= F_y dG_y - G_y dF_y, \lambda = F_y dG_x - G_y dF_x, \\ \sigma &= F_x dG_x - G_x dF_x, \delta = F_x dG_y - G_x dF_y. \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

We can rewrite equation (2.6) as

$$dy' = \alpha + \beta y' + \gamma y^2, \tag{2.9}$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{-\sigma}{T}, \beta = \frac{-(\lambda+\delta)}{T}, \gamma = \frac{-\rho}{T}. \tag{2.10}$$

For integrability of equation (2.9) we set  $ddy' = 0$ , that is

$$0 = d\alpha + dy' \wedge \beta + y' d\beta + 2y' dy' \wedge \gamma + y^2 d\gamma. \tag{2.11}$$

Substituting (2.9) into equation (2.11), we have:

$$0 = d\alpha + (\alpha + \beta y' + \gamma y^2) \wedge \beta + y' d\beta + 2y' (\alpha + \beta y' + \gamma y^2) \wedge \gamma + y^2 d\gamma. \tag{2.12}$$

The  $y^3$  term in equation (2.12) vanishes because  $\gamma \wedge \gamma = 0$ , we expand equation (2.12) and equate the coefficients of the other powers of  $y'$  to zero to have:

$$d\alpha = \beta \wedge \alpha, d\beta = 2\gamma \wedge \alpha, d\gamma = \gamma \wedge \beta. \tag{2.13}$$

Now, we go back to equations (2.8) and expand the differentials, to have:

$$\rho = F_y(G_{xy}dx + G_{yy}dy) - G_y(F_{xy}dx + F_{yy}dy),$$

$$\lambda = F_y(G_{xx}dx + G_{xy}dy) - G_y(F_{xx}dx + F_{xy}dy),$$

$$\sigma = F_x(G_{xx}dx + G_{xy}dy) - G_x(F_{xx}dx + F_{xy}dy),$$

$$\delta = F_x(G_{xy}dx + G_{yy}dy) - G_x(F_{xy}dx + F_{yy}dy),$$

which can simply be written as

$$\rho = A dx + B dy, \lambda = C dx + A dy, \sigma = D dx + E dy, \delta = E dx + H dy, \tag{2.14}$$

where

$$A = F_y G_{xy} - G_y F_{xy}, B = F_y G_{yy} - G_y F_{yy}$$

$$C = F_y G_{xx} - G_y F_{xx}, D = F_x G_{xx} - G_x F_{xx}$$

$$E = F_x G_{xy} - G_x F_{xy}, H = F_x G_{yy} - G_x F_{yy}.$$

Thus,

$$\alpha = \frac{-(Ddx+Edy)}{T}, \beta = \frac{-(Cdx+Edx+Ady+Hdy)}{T}, \gamma = \frac{-(A dx+B dy)}{T}. \tag{2.15}$$

Substituting  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  into equation (2.9) and dividing by  $dx$  to convert the differential forms to functions, we have:

$$y'' + f_0 + f_1 y' + f_2 y^2 + f_3 y^3 = 0, \tag{2.16}$$

where the  $f_k$  are given by

$$f_0 = \frac{D}{T}, f_1 = \frac{(C+2E)}{T}, f_2 = \frac{(H+2A)}{T}, f_3 = \frac{B}{T}. \tag{2.17}$$

We define  $K$  and  $L$  as

$$K = \frac{E}{T}, L = \frac{A}{T}, \tag{2.18}$$

and replace  $D, C, H$  and  $B$  in the 1-forms in equation (2.15) in favour of the  $f_k, K$  and  $L$ , obtaining

$$\alpha = -f_0 dx - K dy, \beta = (K - f_1) dx + (L - f_2) dy, \gamma = -L dx - f_3 dy. \tag{2.19}$$

We also note that

$$\frac{dT}{T} = (3K - f_1) dx + (f_2 - 3L) dy. \tag{2.20}$$

We see that the 1-forms  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  in (2.19) and  $\frac{dT}{T}$  in equation (2.20) are now expressed in terms of these four known functions  $K$  and  $L$ . The first three of these 1-forms can now be substituted into equation (2.13) on the various functions. If we do that, the first equation for  $d\alpha$ , gives the equation

$$f_{0y} - K_x = -K(K - f_1) + f_0(L - f_2) \tag{2.21}$$

which is nonlinear in  $K$ . The other equations give the results:

$$-K_y + f_{1y} + L_x - f_{2x} = 2KL - f_0 f_3 \tag{2.22}$$

and

$$L_y - f_{3x} = -L(L - f_2) + f_3(K - f_1) \tag{2.23}$$

which are also nonlinear. However, we can simplify the situation by defining new variables:

$$T = \frac{1}{W^3}, E = \frac{U}{W^4}, A = \frac{V}{W^4}, \tag{2.24}$$

so that from (2.18)

$$K = \frac{U}{W}, L = \frac{V}{W}, \tag{2.25}$$

and from (2.20)

$$3 \frac{dW}{W} = (f_1 - 3K)dx + (3L - f_2)dy. \tag{2.26}$$

We now have this situation. The  $dW$  equation (2.26) gives expressions for  $W_x$  and  $W_y$ . The equation (2.21) gives, after substitution for  $W_x$ , an expression

$$U_x = Wf_{0y} - \frac{2}{3}Uf_1 - Vf_0 + Wf_0f_2 \tag{2.27}$$

which is linear in  $U$ ,  $V$  and  $W$ . The equation (2.23) gives an expression

$$V_y = Wf_{3x} + \frac{2}{3}Vf_2 + Uf_3 - Wf_1f_3 \tag{2.28}$$

which is also linear. The equation (2.22) gives a linear expression.

$$V_x - U_y = \frac{U}{3}f_2 + \frac{V}{3}f_1 - Wf_{1y} + Wf_{2x} - 2f_0f_3W. \tag{2.29}$$

The integrability condition on (2.26) gives a linear expression

$$V_x + U_y = \frac{U}{3}f_2 + \frac{V}{3}f_1 + \frac{W}{3}f_{2x} + \frac{W}{3}f_{1y}. \tag{2.30}$$

Equations (2.29) and (2.30) can be solved for  $V_x$  and  $U_y$ . Thus we have expressions for all derivatives of  $U$ ,  $V$  and  $W$ , all of which are linear and homogeneous in the same variables. That is

$$dU = \frac{1}{3}(-2Uf_1 - 3Vf_0 + W(3f_{0y} + 3f_0f_2))dx + \frac{1}{3}(-Uf_2 + W(2f_{1y} - f_{2x} + 3f_0f_3))dy, \tag{2.31}$$

$$dV = \frac{1}{3}(Vf_1 + W(2f_{2x} - f_{1y} - 3f_0f_3))dx + \frac{1}{3}(3Uf_3 + 2Vf_2 + W(3f_{3x} - 3f_1f_3))dy, \tag{2.32}$$

$$dW = \frac{1}{3}(-3U + Wf_1)dx + \frac{1}{3}(3V - Wf_2)dy. \tag{2.33}$$

We summarize all these relations in a nice matrix equation

$$dr = Mr, \tag{2.34}$$

where

$$r = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \\ W \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } M = Pdx + Qdy,$$

$$P = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \begin{pmatrix} -2f_1 & -3f_0 & 3f_{0y} + 3f_0f_2 \\ 0 & f_1 & 2f_{2x} - f_{1y} - 3f_0f_3 \\ -3 & 0 & f_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Q = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \begin{pmatrix} -f_2 & 0 & 2f_{1y} - f_{2x} + 3f_0f_3 \\ 3f_3 & 2f_2 & 3f_{3x} - 3f_1f_3 \\ 0 & 3 & -f_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For integrability of (2.34),  $ddr = 0$  giving

$$dM = M \wedge M \tag{2.35}$$

which is not zero since  $M$  is a matrix. Substitution for  $M$  in terms of  $P$  and  $Q$  gives the condition

$$Q_x - P_y + QP - PQ = 0. \tag{2.36}$$

This matrix condition in (2.36) reduces to two equations:

$$f_{0yy} + f_0(f_{2y} - 2f_{3x}) + f_2f_{0y} - f_3f_{0x} + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)(f_{2xx} - 2f_{xy} + f_1f_{2x} - 2f_1f_{1y}) \tag{2.37}$$

and

$$f_{3xx} + f_3(2f_{0y} - f_{1x}) + f_0f_{3y} - f_1f_{3x} + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)(f_{1yy} - 2f_{2xy} + 2f_2f_{2x} - f_2f_{1y}) = 0. \tag{2.38}$$

To summarize, we note that the original differential equation is cubic in  $y'$ , with the coefficients satisfying equations (2.37) and (2.38).

Now, we shall construct the point transformations proper. We will need  $U$ ,  $V$  and  $W$  therefore we need to solve equations (2.34). Once the equations are solved, we construct  $K$  and  $L$  from equation (2.25).

In order to find the  $F(x, y)$  and  $G(x, y)$  for which we are seeking, we revert to equations (2.8) and solve for  $dF_x$ ,  $dF_y$ ,  $dG_x$  and  $dG_y$ . Solution for  $dF_x$  and  $dF_y$  gives

$$dF_x = \frac{(F_y\sigma - F_x\lambda)}{T}, \quad dF_y = \frac{(F_y\delta - F_x\rho)}{T}.$$

Solution for  $dG_x$  and  $dG_y$ , shows that they satisfy the same equation, so we will write only equations for the derivatives of  $F$ . We note that

$$\delta + \lambda = -T\beta \text{ and } \delta - \lambda = dT,$$

So we can solve these equations for  $\delta$  and  $\lambda$ . We can also substitute for  $\sigma$  and  $\rho$  in terms of  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$ . We get finally

$$dF_x = -F_y\alpha + F_x \frac{\left(\beta + \frac{dT}{T}\right)}{2}, \quad dF_y = F_x\gamma + F_y \frac{\left(-\beta + \frac{dT}{T}\right)}{2}.$$

We substitute for  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\frac{dT}{T}$  from equations (2.19) and (2.20) respectively in terms of the expressions obtained above, with the  $f_k, K$  and  $L$ .

We now have two equations which can be expressed in matrix form as follows;

$$dR = ZR, \quad dS = ZS \tag{2.39}$$

where

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} (2K - f_1)dx - Ldy & f_0dx + Kdy \\ -Ldx - f_3dy & Kdx + (f_2 - 2L)dy \end{pmatrix},$$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} F_x \\ F_y \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad S = \begin{pmatrix} G_x \\ G_y \end{pmatrix}.$$

This linear equation set can be solved for  $R$ . There will be two independent solutions, which can be taken as  $R$  and  $S$  as seen in equation (2.39). Integrability is guaranteed by setting  $ddR = 0$ . Finally, one can solve

$$dF = (dx \ dy)R, \quad dG = (dx \ dy)S \tag{2.40}$$

for  $F$  and  $G$ .

We can summarize the procedure as follows:

1. Make sure that the original differential equation is a cubic in  $y'$  as in equation (2.16)
2. Test the coefficients  $f_k$  to see whether they satisfy equations (2.37) and (2.38).
3. Construct the  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $M$  and solve equation (2.34) (linear) for the three components of  $r$  – a special solution is usually sufficient and construct  $K$  and  $L$ .
4. Construct the  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $Z$  and solve equation (2.39) (linear) for  $R$  or  $S$ .
5. Solve equation (2.40); the two independent solutions may be taken as  $F$  and  $G$ .

### 3.0 Construction of the Point Transformation

The simple harmonic oscillator equation is given as:

$$y'' + y = 0 \tag{3.1}$$

Comparing equation (3.1) with equation (2.16), we see that:  $f_0 = y, f_1 = f_2 = f_3 = 0$ , and the coefficients satisfy the conditions stated in equations (2.37) and (2.38).

We now construct a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $M$  given as

$$M = Pdx + Qdy$$

where

$$Pdx = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -ydx & dx \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -dx & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Qdy = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & dy & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

so that

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -ydx & dx \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -dx & dy & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now, we solve equation (2.34) to have:

$$dr = \begin{pmatrix} -yVdx + Wdx \\ 0 \\ -Udx + Vdy \end{pmatrix}.$$

The equation for  $V$  is  $dV = 0$ , so that we may take  $V = 0$ . If we do that, we then have

$$dU = Wdx \text{ and } dW = -Udx \text{ or we simply write } \frac{dU}{dx} = W \text{ and } \frac{dW}{dx} = -U.$$

This yields the special solution  $U = \sin x$  and  $W = \cos x$ .

Defining  $K = \frac{U}{W}$  and  $L = \frac{V}{W}$ , we see that  $K = \tan x$  and  $L = 0$ .

We now construct the  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $Z$  to be

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \tan x dx & ydx + \tan x dy \\ 0 & \tan y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Setting

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} F_x \\ F_y \end{pmatrix}, \quad dR = ZR$$

From equation (2.39) becomes

$$dR = \begin{pmatrix} 2b \tan x \, dx + c(y \, dx + \tan x \, dy) \\ c \tan x \, dx \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see from the above that,

$$dc = c \tan x \, dx. \tag{3.2}$$

We integrate equation (3.2) to obtain

$$c = k \sec x \tag{3.3}$$

where  $k$  is a constant.

We also note from the matrix  $dR$  that

$$db = 2b \tan x \, dx + c(y \, dx + \tan x \, dy). \tag{3.4}$$

Substituting equation (3.3) into equation (3.4) and simplifying, we have

$$db = (2b \tan x + ky \sec x) \, dx + k \sec x \tan x \, dy,$$

so that

$$b_x = 2b \tan x + ky \sec x \tag{3.5}$$

and

$$b_y = k \sec x \tan x. \tag{3.6}$$

Differentiating equation (3.3) with respect to  $x$ , we obtain

$$c_x = k \sec x \tan x$$

which implies that  $c_x = b_y$ .

Integrating equation (3.6) we have

$$b = ky \sec x \tan x + g(x). \tag{3.7}$$

Differentiating equation (3.7) with respect to  $x$ , we have

$$b_x = ky \sec x + 2ky \tan^2 x \sec x + g'(x). \tag{3.8}$$

Equating equations (3.5) and (3.8) and simplifying, we have:

$$g' - 2 \tan x \, g = 0. \tag{3.9}$$

Using the integrating factor to solve for  $g$  in the above, we have

$$g = m \sec^2 x. \tag{3.10}$$

Substituting equation (3.10) into equation (3.7), we have

$$b = ky \sec x \tan x + m \sec^2 x, \tag{3.11}$$

where  $m$  is another constant.

In summary,  $b = F_x$  is as obtained in equation (3.11) and  $c = F_y$  is obtained in equation (3.3).

Considering  $F_y = k \sec x$ , on integration, we obtain

$$F = ky \sec x + h(x). \tag{3.12}$$

Next, we differentiate the above with respect to  $x$  to have

$$F_x = ky \tan x \sec x + h'(x). \tag{3.13}$$

Equating (3.11) and (3.13) and simplifying, we obtain

$$h'(x) = m \sec^2 x. \tag{3.14}$$

Integrating the above, we have

$$h(x) = m \tan x. \tag{3.15}$$

Substituting equation (3.15) into equation (3.12), we have

$$F = ky \sec x + m \tan x. \tag{3.16}$$

From equation (3.16), we take the coefficients of the constants  $k$  and  $m$  as the point transformation and have that,

$$X = F(x, y) = \tan x, \quad Y = G(x, y) = y \sec x$$

as state in [3].

Considering a transformation  $Y = aX + b$ , stated in [2], where  $a$  and  $b$  are known constants; the solution of the simple harmonic oscillator equation can be readily obtained as

$$y \sec x = a \tan x + b \text{ or } y = a \sin x + b \cos x.$$

#### 4.0 References

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