

A flat plate of mass m falling freely in air with velocity v is subject to a downward gravitational force and an upward frictional drag force due to air. If the drag force, F_D is given by Equation (1),

$$F_D = \frac{0.3v^2}{500 + (\ln v)^3} - 0.02v \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

and the terminal velocity is reached when the drag force equals the gravitational force, that is, $F_D = mg$.

Taking the values of m to be 3.5 kg and g to be 9.8 m/s². Using a guess value of $v_0 = 0.5$ m/s, and employing fixed point iteration method, develop a MATLAB program, without using "function" command, to estimate the terminal velocity. Take the absolute percentage relative error tolerance to be less than or equal to $1E-11$.

SOLUTION.

Command window

```
clear
```

```
clc
```

```
format short
```

```
v = 0.5
```

```
m = 3.5
```

```
g = 9.8
```

```
F = m * g
```

```
v = sqrt(((F + (0.02 * v)) * (log(v)^3)) + (10 * v) + 17150) / 0.3;
```

```
for i = 1: Inf
```

```
    iter(i+1) = i
```

```
    v(i+1) = sqrt(((F + (0.02 * v(i))) * (log(v(i))^3)) + (10 * v(i)) + 17150) / 0.3;
```

```
    fa(i+1) = abs((v(i+1) - v(i)) / v(i+1)) * 100;
```

```
    if fa(i+1) <= 1E-11
```

```
        break
```

```
    end
```

```
end
```

```
table = table(iter', v', fa')
```


OUTPUT

iter	$\sqrt{\quad}$	ϵ_a
0	0.5	
1	239.05	99.791
2	294.17	18.736
3	302.61	2.7894
4	303.85	0.40992
5	304.04	0.060144
6	304.06	0.0088222
7	304.07	0.0012941
8	304.07	0.00018981
9	304.07	2.7842×10^{-5}
10	304.07	4.0838×10^{-6}
11	304.07	8.7865×10^{-8}
12	304.07	1.2888×10^{-8}
13	304.07	1.8904×10^{-9}
14	304.07	2.7727×10^{-10}
15	304.07	4.0679×10^{-11}

Converging at iter = 7 ; $\sqrt{\quad} = 304.07$

$$F_D = \frac{0.3V^2}{500 + (\ln V)^3} - 0.02V$$

$$F_D = 9.5 \times 3.5 = 34.30 \text{ (just for reference)}$$

substituting $\sqrt{\quad}$ in F_D

$$F_D = \frac{0.3 \times (304.07)^2}{500 + (\ln 304.07)^3} - 0.02(304.07)$$

$$F_D = 40.38195731 - 6.0814$$

$$F_D = 34.3$$

Proven correct.