

3.6 Oscillating systems

Free oscillations

Differential equation	$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = 0$	(3.196)	x oscillating variable t time γ damping factor (per unit mass) ω_0 undamped angular frequency
Underdamped solution ($\gamma < \omega_0$)	$x = Ae^{-\gamma t} \cos(\omega t + \phi)$	(3.197)	A amplitude constant ϕ phase constant ω angular eigenfrequency
	where $\omega = (\omega_0^2 - \gamma^2)^{1/2}$	(3.198)	
Critically damped solution ($\gamma = \omega_0$)	$x = e^{-\gamma t} (A_1 + A_2 t)$	(3.199)	A_i amplitude constants
Overdamped solution ($\gamma > \omega_0$)	$x = e^{-\gamma t} (A_1 e^{qt} + A_2 e^{-qt})$	(3.200)	
	where $q = (\gamma^2 - \omega_0^2)^{1/2}$	(3.201)	
Logarithmic decrement ^a	$\Delta = \ln \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} = \frac{2\pi\gamma}{\omega}$	(3.202)	Δ logarithmic decrement a_n n th displacement maximum
Quality factor	$Q = \frac{\omega_0}{2\gamma} \left[\simeq \frac{\pi}{\Delta} \text{ if } Q \gg 1 \right]$	(3.203)	Q quality factor

^aThe *decrement* is usually the ratio of successive displacement *maxima* but is sometimes taken as the ratio of successive displacement *extrema*, reducing Δ by a factor of 2. Logarithms are sometimes taken to base 10, introducing a further factor of $\log_{10} e$.

Forced oscillations

Differential equation	$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = F_0 e^{i\omega_f t}$	(3.204)	x oscillating variable t time γ damping factor (per unit mass)
Steady-state solution ^a	$x = Ae^{i(\omega_f t - \phi)}$, where	(3.205)	ω_0 undamped angular frequency
	$A = F_0 [(\omega_0^2 - \omega_f^2)^2 + (2\gamma\omega_f)^2]^{-1/2}$	(3.206)	F_0 force amplitude (per unit mass)
	$\simeq \frac{F_0/(2\omega_0)}{[(\omega_0 - \omega_f)^2 + \gamma^2]^{1/2}} \quad (\gamma \ll \omega_f)$	(3.207)	ω_f forcing angular frequency
	$\tan \phi = \frac{2\gamma\omega_f}{\omega_0^2 - \omega_f^2}$	(3.208)	A amplitude ϕ phase lag of response behind driving force
Amplitude resonance ^b	$\omega_{ar}^2 = \omega_0^2 - 2\gamma^2$	(3.209)	ω_{ar} amplitude resonant forcing angular frequency
Velocity resonance ^c	$\omega_{vr} = \omega_0$	(3.210)	ω_{vr} velocity resonant forcing angular frequency
Quality factor	$Q = \frac{\omega_0}{2\gamma}$	(3.211)	Q quality factor
Impedance	$Z = 2\gamma + i \frac{\omega_f^2 - \omega_0^2}{\omega_f}$	(3.212)	Z impedance (per unit mass)

^aExcluding the free oscillation terms.

^bForcing frequency for maximum displacement.

^cForcing frequency for maximum velocity. Note $\phi = \pi/2$ at this frequency.