

### 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<br>$t$ time<br>$\gamma$ damping factor (per unit mass)<br>$\omega_0$ undamped angular frequency |
| Underdamped solution ( $\gamma < \omega_0$ )       | $x = Ae^{-\gamma t} \cos(\omega t + \phi)$                                                  | (3.197) | $A$ amplitude constant<br>$\phi$ phase constant<br>$\omega$ 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 <sup>a</sup>                 | $\Delta = \ln \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} = \frac{2\pi\gamma}{\omega}$                              | (3.202) | $\Delta$ logarithmic decrement<br>$a_n$ $n$ 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                                                                                                       |

<sup>a</sup>The *decrement* is usually the ratio of successive displacement *maxima* but is sometimes taken as the ratio of successive displacement *extrema*, reducing  $\Delta$  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<br>$t$ time<br>$\gamma$ damping factor (per unit mass) |
| Steady-state solution <sup>a</sup> | $x = Ae^{i(\omega_f t - \phi)}$ , where                                                                 | (3.205) | $\omega_0$ undamped angular frequency<br>$F_0$ force amplitude (per unit mass)  |
|                                    | $A = F_0 [(\omega_0^2 - \omega_f^2)^2 + (2\gamma\omega_f)^2]^{-1/2}$                                    | (3.206) | $\omega_f$ forcing angular frequency<br>$A$ amplitude                           |
|                                    | $\simeq \frac{F_0/(2\omega_0)}{[(\omega_0 - \omega_f)^2 + \gamma^2]^{1/2}} \quad (\gamma \ll \omega_f)$ | (3.207) | $\phi$ phase lag of response behind driving force                               |
|                                    | $\tan \phi = \frac{2\gamma\omega_f}{\omega_0^2 - \omega_f^2}$                                           | (3.208) |                                                                                 |
| Amplitude resonance <sup>b</sup>   | $\omega_{ar}^2 = \omega_0^2 - 2\gamma^2$                                                                | (3.209) | $\omega_{ar}$ amplitude resonant forcing angular frequency                      |
| Velocity resonance <sup>c</sup>    | $\omega_{vr} = \omega_0$                                                                                | (3.210) | $\omega_{vr}$ 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)                                                   |

<sup>a</sup>Excluding the free oscillation terms.

<sup>b</sup>Forcing frequency for maximum displacement.

<sup>c</sup>Forcing frequency for maximum velocity. Note  $\phi = \pi/2$  at this frequency.