

### 3.6 | Forced Harmonic Motion: Resonance

Let us exert an external periodic force upon a damped harmonic oscillator. When the driving frequency is close to the natural frequency  $\omega_0$  of the oscillator, a remarkable phenomenon, called **resonance**, occurs.

Suppose that the applied force has the form of  $F_0 e^{i\omega t}$ . Thus, the equation of motion is

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = F_0 e^{i\omega t}$$

solution of the complex exponential type;

$$x(t) = A e^{i(\omega t - \phi)}$$

where the amplitude  $A$  and phase difference  $\phi$  are constants to be determined. If this “guess” is correct, we must have

$$m \frac{d^2}{dt^2} A e^{i(\omega t - \phi)} + c \frac{d}{dt} A e^{i(\omega t - \phi)} + k A e^{i(\omega t - \phi)} = F_0 e^{i\omega t}$$

and canceling the common factor  $e^{i\omega t}$ , we find

$$-m\omega^2 A + i\omega c A + kA = F_0 e^{i\phi} = F_0 (\cos \phi + i \sin \phi)$$

Equating the real and imaginary parts yields the two equations

$$\begin{aligned} A(k - m\omega^2) &= F_0 \cos \phi \\ c\omega A &= F_0 \sin \phi \end{aligned}$$

Upon dividing the second by the first and using the identity  $\tan \phi = \sin \phi / \cos \phi$ , we obtain the following relation for the phase angle:

$$\tan \phi = \frac{c\omega}{k - m\omega^2}$$

By squaring both sides of Equations

$$\begin{aligned} A^2(k - m\omega^2)^2 &= F_0^2 \cos^2 \phi \\ A^2\omega^2 c^2 &= F_0^2 \sin^2 \phi \end{aligned}$$

and adding,

$$A^2(k - m\omega^2)^2 + A^2\omega^2 c^2 = F_0^2 \cos^2 \phi + F_0^2 \sin^2 \phi$$

Using the identity,  $\sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi = 1$ , we find

$$A^2(k - m\omega^2)^2 + c^2\omega^2 A^2 = F_0^2$$

We can then solve for  $A$ , the amplitude of the steady-state oscillation, as a function of the driving frequency:

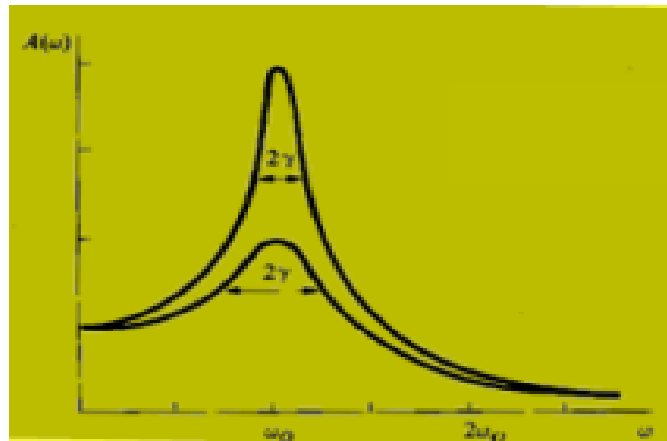
$$A(\omega) = \frac{F_0}{[(k - m\omega^2)^2 + c^2\omega^2]^{1/2}}$$

In another form by using  $\omega_0^2 = k/m$  and  $\gamma = c/2m$ ,

$$\tan \phi = \frac{2\gamma\omega}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}$$

$$A(\omega) = \frac{F_0/m}{\left[ (\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\gamma^2\omega^2 \right]^{1/2}}$$

A plot of  $A(\omega)$  versus  $\omega$  shows that the amplitude presumes a maximum value at a certain applied frequency  $\omega_r$  called the amplitude resonant frequency, or **resonant frequency**.



To find  $\omega_r$  we calculate  $\frac{dA(\omega)}{d\omega} = 0$ . Thus;

$$\frac{dA(\omega)}{d\omega} = \frac{2F_0\omega}{m} \frac{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - 2\gamma^2)}{((\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\gamma^2\omega^2)^{3/2}} = 0$$

we obtain

$$\omega_r^2 = \omega_0^2 - 2\gamma^2$$

$\omega_r$  approaches  $\omega_0$  as  $\gamma$ , the damping term, goes to zero. Because the angular frequency of the freely running damped oscillator is given by  $\omega_d = (\omega_0^2 - \gamma^2)^{1/2}$ , we have

$$\omega_r^2 = \omega_d^2 - \gamma^2$$

## Amplitude of Oscillation at the Resonance Peak

The steady-state amplitude at the resonant frequency, which we call  $A_{max}$ , is obtained from

$$A_{max} = A(\omega_r) = \frac{F_0/m}{2\gamma\sqrt{\omega_0^2 - \gamma^2}}$$

In the case of weak damping, we can neglect  $\gamma^2$  and write

$$A_{max} \approx \frac{F_0}{2\gamma m \omega_0}$$

**When the damping is weak:**

$$\text{From } \omega_r^2 = \omega_0^2 - 2\gamma^2 \quad \omega_d^2 = \omega_0^2 - \gamma^2$$

If  $\gamma \ll \omega_0$ , the resonant frequency  $\omega_r$ , the freely running damped oscillator frequency  $\omega_d$ , and the natural frequency  $\omega_0$  of the oscillator are essentially identical.

$$\text{I.e.;} \quad \omega_r \approx \omega_d \approx \omega_0$$

## Problems

- 3.1** A guitar string vibrates harmonically with a frequency of 512 Hz (one octave above middle C on the musical scale). If the amplitude of oscillation of the centerpoint of the string is 0.002 m (2 mm), what are the maximum speed and the maximum acceleration at that point?

$$x = 0.002 \sin \left[ 2\pi (512 \text{ s}^{-1}) t \right] \text{ [m]}$$

$$\dot{x}_{\max} = (0.002)(2\pi)(512) \left[ \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right] = 6.43 \left[ \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \right]$$

$$\ddot{x}_{\max} = (0.002)(2\pi)^2 (512)^2 \left[ \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \right] = 2.07 \times 10^4 \left[ \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \right]$$

- 3.9** Show that the ratio of two successive maxima in the displacement of a damped harmonic oscillator is constant.

$$x = e^{-\gamma t} A \cos(\omega_d t - \phi)$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -e^{-\gamma t} A \omega_d \sin(\omega_d t - \phi) - \gamma e^{-\gamma t} A \cos(\omega_d t - \phi)$$

$$\text{maxima at } \frac{dx}{dt} = 0 = \omega_d \sin(\omega_d t - \phi) + \gamma \cos(\omega_d t - \phi)$$

$$\tan(\omega_d t - \phi) = -\frac{\gamma}{\omega_d}$$

thus the condition of relative maximum occurs every time that  $t$  increases by  $\frac{2\pi}{\omega_d}$ :

$$t_{i+1} = t_i + \frac{2\pi}{\omega_d}$$

$$\text{For the } i \text{ th maximum: } x_i = e^{-\gamma t_i} A \cos(\omega_d t_i - \phi)$$

$$x_{i+1} = e^{-\gamma t_{i+1}} A \cos(\omega_d t_{i+1} - \phi) = e^{-\gamma \frac{2\pi}{\omega_d}} x_i$$

$$\frac{x_i}{x_{i+1}} = e^{\gamma T_d}$$

**3.10** A damped harmonic oscillator with  $m = 10$  kg,  $k = 250$  N/m, and  $c = 60$  kg/s is subject to a driving force given by  $F_0 \cos \omega t$ , where  $F_0 = 48$  N.

- (a) What value of  $\omega$  results in steady-state oscillations with maximum amplitude? Under this condition:  
 (b) What is the maximum amplitude?  
 (c) What is the phase shift?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \gamma &= \frac{c}{2m} = 3 \text{ s}^{-1} & \omega_o^2 &= \frac{k}{m} = 25 \text{ s}^{-2} \\ \omega_d^2 &= \omega_o^2 - \gamma^2 = 16 \text{ s}^{-2} & \omega_r^2 &= \omega_d^2 - \gamma^2 = 7 \text{ s}^{-2} \\ \therefore \omega_r &= \sqrt{7} \text{ s}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad A_{\max} = \frac{F_o}{C\omega_d} = \frac{48}{60.4} \text{ m} = 0.2 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{(c)} \quad \tan \phi = \frac{2\gamma\omega_r}{(\omega_o^2 - \omega_r^2)} = \frac{2\gamma\omega_r}{2\gamma^2} = \frac{\omega_r}{\gamma} = \frac{\sqrt{7}}{3} \quad \therefore \phi \approx 41.4^\circ$$

**3.12** The frequency  $f_d$  of a damped harmonic oscillator is 100 Hz, and the ratio of the amplitude of two successive maxima is one half.

- (a) What is the undamped frequency  $f_o$  of this oscillator?  
 (b) What is the resonant frequency  $f_r$ ?

$$e^{-\gamma T_d} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{T_d} \ln 2 = f_d \ln 2$$

$$\text{(a)} \quad \omega_d = (\omega_o^2 - \gamma^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{So, } \omega_o = (\omega_d^2 + \gamma^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$f_o = \left[ f_d^2 + \left( \frac{\gamma}{2\pi} \right)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = f_d \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\ln 2}{2\pi} \right)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$f_o = 100.6 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad \omega_r = (\omega_d^2 - \gamma^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$f_r = \left[ f_d^2 - \left( \frac{\gamma}{2\pi} \right)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = f_d \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{\ln 2}{2\pi} \right)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$f_r = 99.4 \text{ Hz}$$