

PHY293: Tutorial Problems

Tutorial 2 Solutions

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1. We want critical damping, so $\omega = 2\gamma$ where $\omega = \sqrt{k/m}$ and $\gamma = b/m$. This gives

$$\frac{k}{m} = 4 \frac{b^2}{m^2} \implies b = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{mk} \quad (1)$$

We can determine the spring constant k by looking at the equilibrium location, which occurs at $mg = k\Delta l \implies k = \frac{mg}{\Delta l}$. This gives

$$b = \frac{1}{2} m \sqrt{\frac{g}{\Delta l}} = \boxed{18 \text{ kg/s}} \quad (2)$$

2. Since the spring is damped lightly, we will assume that $\omega \approx \omega_0$. We will check this at the end. Therefore, the period is $T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = 1.4 \text{ s}$. The amplitude (envelope function) is given by $A(t) = A_0 e^{-\gamma t/2}$. We want this to be 0.9 of the initial value at $t = T$:

$$0.9 = e^{-\gamma T/2} \implies \gamma = -\frac{2}{T} \ln(0.9) = 0.151 \text{ s}^{-1}. \quad (3)$$

We have $b = m\gamma = 0.075 \text{ kg/s}$, $k = m\omega^2 = m \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{T^2} \right) = 10.1 \text{ N/m}$, and $Q = \frac{\omega_0}{\gamma} = 29.7$, which is sufficiently large.

3. In the first period, the amplitude is $4.6/5 = 92\%$ of the initial, so the energy decreases to 84.64% . Therefore, we have

$$Q = \frac{E_0}{E_0(1 - 0.8464)/2\pi} \approx 41. \quad (4)$$

4. (a) Every 20 cycles, it reduces by a factor of 3. So if we have five 20 cycles (i.e. 100 cycles,) then it reduces by a factor of 3^5 .

(b) Every 20 cycles, it reduces the amplitude by a factor of $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$. Therefore, after 40 cycles, it would reduce the amplitude by $\frac{1}{3}$.

5. (a) We have

$$\frac{1}{Q} = 2\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)^2} \quad (5)$$

Substituting in the numbers, we get $Q = 500$.

- (b) We have $\omega_0^2 = \frac{k}{m}$. Solving for k gives $k = 100 \text{ N/m}$. We have

$$\gamma = \frac{\omega_0}{Q} = 2000 \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad (6)$$

but this is also equal to $\gamma = \frac{b}{m}$. solving for b gives $b = 2 \times 10^{-7} \text{ kg/s}$.

- (c) The initial energy is $\frac{1}{2} m A_0^2 = 5 \times 10^{-15} \text{ J}$.

- (d) The lifetime is defined by $\tau = \frac{1}{\gamma} = 0.5 \text{ ms}$.

6. (a) We have

$$V_C = \frac{q}{C} = \frac{q_0(\omega)}{C} \cos(\omega t - \delta) \quad (7)$$

$$V_R = R \frac{dq}{dt} = -R\omega q_0(\omega) \sin(\omega t - \delta) \quad (8)$$

$$V_L = L \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = -L\omega^2 q_0(\omega) \cos(\omega t - \delta) \quad (9)$$

(b) When $\omega = \omega_0$, we have $\delta = \frac{\pi}{2}$. Therefore, $\frac{dq}{dt} = -\omega q_0(\omega) \sin(\omega t - \delta)$. Since $\sin(x - \pi/2) = -\cos(x)$, we can substitute this in to get

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \omega q_0(\omega) \cos(\omega t) \quad (10)$$

which has no phase shift. $\varepsilon(t)$ also doesn't have a phase shift, so the source voltage and the current are in phase when $\omega = \omega_0$.