

## 11 L18: Free Undamped Vibrations

### Readings

### 11.1 Objective

Introduce Single Degree of Freedom Vibration of a rigid body.

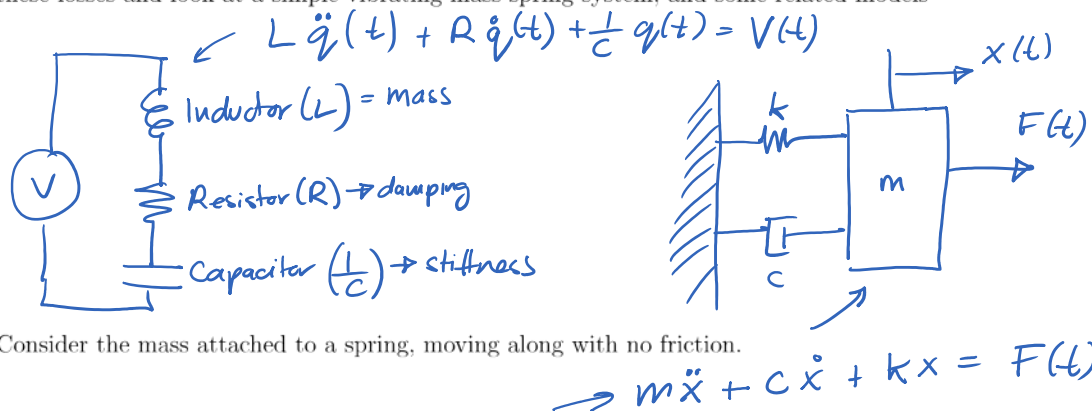
- Define terminology
- Establish model of single degree of freedom vibrations using Newton's Second Law
- Show examples in mechanical systems

### 11.2 Free Vibration

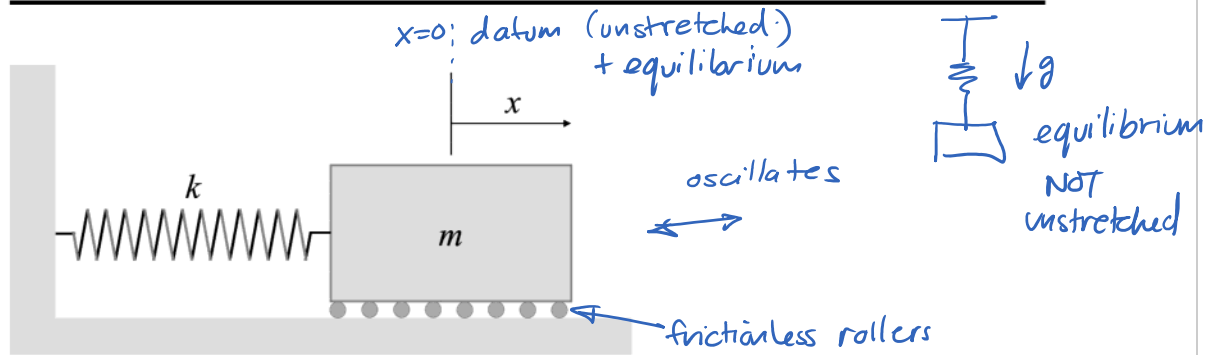
A vibrating mechanical system is a system that exchanges kinetic and potential energy. Therefore it must have:

1. Potential field (i.e., an element that can store and release potential energy)
2. Inertia (mass, or moment of inertia) – an element that can have kinetic energy

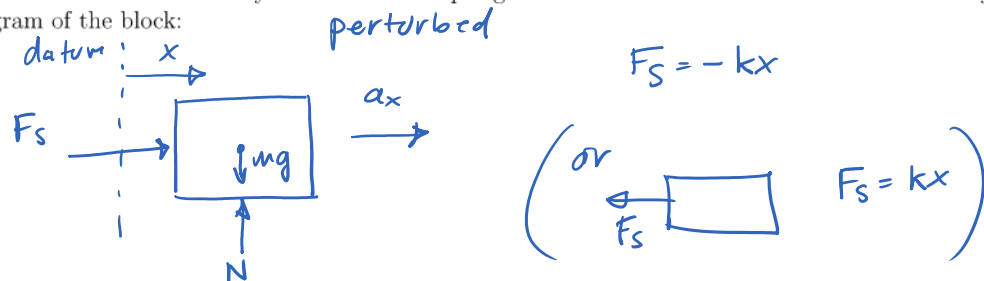
In the real world, mechanical systems also have energy losses – through friction and often (intentionally) through energy absorbing devices or materials called “dampers”. To start we will ignore these losses and look at a simple vibrating mass-spring system, and some related models



Consider the mass attached to a spring, moving along with no friction.



We set our datum for the system where the spring is unstretched. Then we draw the free body diagram of the block:



And write the equations of motion

$$\sum F_x: F_s = m a_x \quad (1)$$

$$\sum F_y: N - mg = 0$$

We can express the spring force, using Hooke's Law:

$$F_s = -kx \quad \text{force opposite displacement}$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow -kx = m a_x \quad a_x = \ddot{x} \\ -kx = m \ddot{x} \Rightarrow m \ddot{x} + kx = 0$$

EQN OF MOTION  
all terms on LHS  
must have same  
sign

So the equation of motion for the free motion – free vibration – of the system is a Homogeneous, second order, differential equation.

$$m \ddot{x}(t) + kx(t) = 0$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} kx \\ \leftarrow \\ \square \\ \rightarrow \\ c\dot{x} \end{array} \right] \Rightarrow m \ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$$

The solution for this type of motion – simple harmonic motion – is of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= A \sin(\omega t) + B \cos(\omega t) \\ \dot{x}(t) &= A\omega \cos(\omega t) - B\omega \sin(\omega t) \\ \ddot{x}(t) &= -A\omega^2 \sin(\omega t) - B\omega^2 \cos(\omega t) = -\omega^2 x(t) \\ &= -\omega^2 (A \sin \omega t + B \cos \omega t) \\ &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{x(t)} \end{aligned}$$

FREE  
VIBRATION

Substituting back into the differential equation we get:

$$m(-\omega^2 x(t)) + kx(t) = 0$$

cancel out  $x(t)$

$$-m\omega^2 + k = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \omega_n^2 = \frac{k}{m}$$

$\omega$  that satisfies this equation is:  $\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

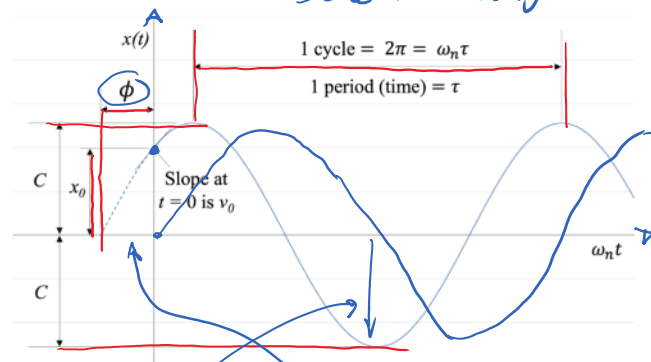
$\omega_n$  is the **angular natural frequency** of the system, measured in *radians/second*. For example,  $\omega_n = 2\pi$  implies that the system repeats itself every second.

$f = \frac{\omega_n}{2\pi}$  is the frequency of the system in Hertz = *cycles/second* =  $s^{-1}$ .

$T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_n}$  is the time to complete one vibration cycle.

Period

= one wavelength



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Another form of the solution:  $x = C \sin(\omega_n t + \phi)$

**Natural frequency** of a system depends only on its physical properties – for spring type vibration it depends on the system inertia (mass) and stiffness.

$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$	Increasing stiffness increases frequency of vibration
	Increasing mass decreases frequency of vibration

### 11.3 Initial Conditions

$$x(t) = A \sin(\omega_n t) + B \cos(\omega_n t)$$

Assume at  $t = 0$ ,  $x(0) = x_0$  and  $\dot{x}(0) = v_0$ :

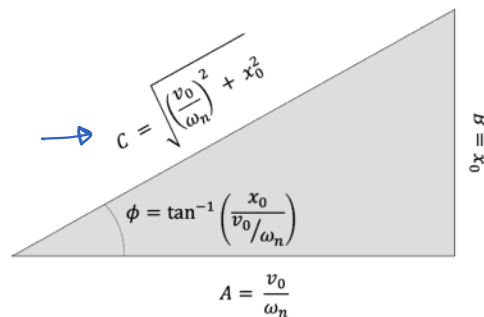
$$x(t): \quad x_0 = A \sin(0) + B \cos(0) \Rightarrow B = x_0$$

$$\dot{x}(t): \quad v_0 = \omega(A \cos(0) - B \sin(0)) \Rightarrow A = \frac{v_0}{\omega_n}$$

Thus:

$$x(t) = \frac{v_0}{\omega_n} \sin(\omega_n t) + x_0 \cos(\omega_n t)$$

To see the relationship between these constants we can construct a right triangle:



$C = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$  is the **amplitude** of the system.  $\phi$  is the **phase angle**. These values are related to the initial conditions and also to the natural frequency (for non-zero  $v_0$ ).

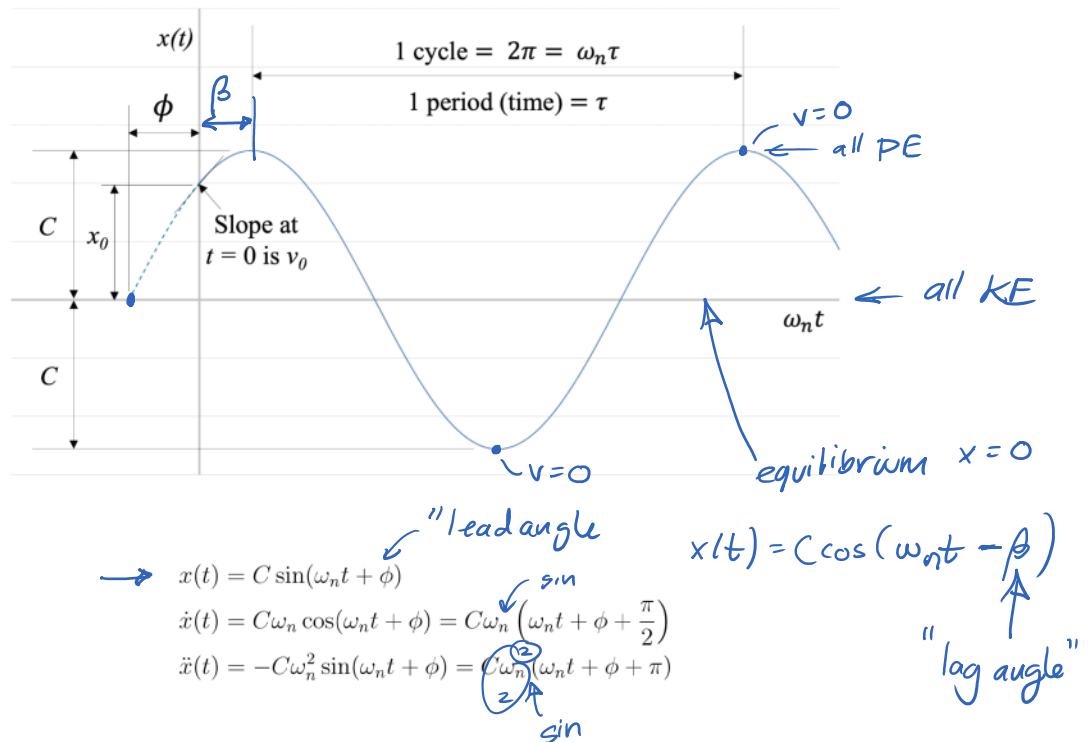
$$A = C \cos(\phi)$$

$$B = C \sin(\phi)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$x(t) = C \cos(\phi) \sin(\omega_n t) + C \sin(\phi) \cos(\omega_n t)$$

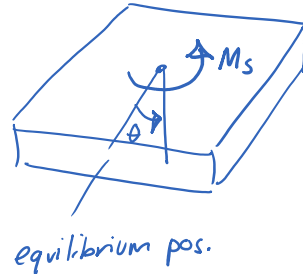
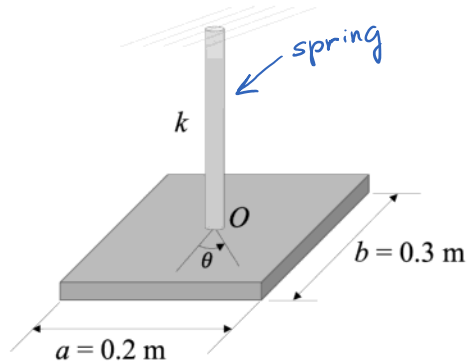
$$x(t) = C \sin(\omega_n t + \phi)$$



Process:

1. Draw our system at a small displacement from equilibrium (assume  $x, \dot{x}, \ddot{x}$  or  $\theta, \dot{\theta}, \ddot{\theta}$  are all in the same direction)  
+ve
2. Find a coordinate relating equilibrium position to displaced position ( $x$  or  $\theta$ )
3. Equation(s) of motion ( $\sum F_x, \sum M$ )
4. Put in standard form ( $\ddot{x} + \omega_n^2 x = 0$ )

## 11.3.1 Example 1 - Torsional Shaft Vibration

Find  $\omega_n$ 

$$M_s = -k\theta$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of plate with } M_s \text{ and } \theta \\ M_s = k\theta \end{array} \right)$$

$$(\sum M_o = I_o \alpha)$$

$$\sum M_o = \sum M_o : -k\theta = I_o \alpha = I_o \ddot{\theta} \quad \uparrow +ve$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{\theta}(t) + \underbrace{\frac{k}{I_o}}_{\omega_n^2} \theta(t) = 0 \quad (\text{standard form})$$

$$\theta(t) = C \sin(\omega_n t + \phi)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{char eqn: } -I_o \omega_n^2 + k = 0 \\ & \text{Solve} \end{aligned}$$

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k}{I_o}}$$

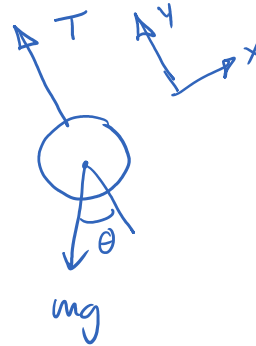
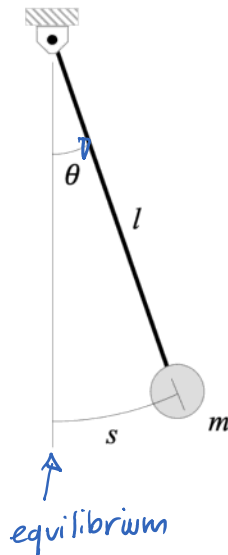
thin plate:

$$I_o = \frac{1}{12} m (a^2 + b^2) \Rightarrow \omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{12k}{m(a^2 + b^2)}}$$

$$\omega_n = 3.72 \text{ rad/s}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} m = 10 \text{ kg} \\ k = 1.5 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m/rad} \end{array} \right)$$

diff unit  
from linear  
spring

11.3.2 Example 2 - Swinging Pendulum (small  $\theta$ )Find  $\omega_n$ 

$$\Sigma F_x: -mg \sin \theta = ma_x \quad (1)$$

$$\Sigma F_y: T - mg \cos \theta = may$$

$$a_y = -\omega^2 l \quad (= -\omega^2 r)$$

$$a_x = \alpha l \quad (= \alpha r) = \ddot{\theta} l$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow -mg \sin \theta = m \ddot{\theta} l$$

for small angles (say  $< 5^\circ$ , pretty good up to  $\sim 30^\circ$ )

$$\sin \theta \approx \theta$$

$$\cos \theta \approx 1$$

$$\Rightarrow -mg \theta = m \ddot{\theta} l$$

$$(+)\cancel{m}l\ddot{\theta} + \cancel{m}g\theta = 0 \Rightarrow \ddot{\theta} + \frac{g}{l}\theta = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\quad}_{\omega_n^2}$$

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}}$$



### 11.4 SHM Solution using Euler's Formula

Equation of motion:

$$m\ddot{x}(t) + kx(t) = 0 \quad (11.1)$$

Propose solution of the form:  $x = ae^{rt}$

Substitute back into (11.1) and cancel out  $e^{rt}$  terms.

$$mr^2 + k = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm \sqrt{-\frac{k}{m}} = \pm \omega_n i$$

where  $i$  is the imaginary number,  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ .

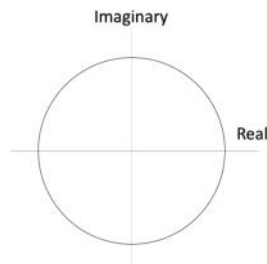
So our solution is of the form

$$x(t) = a_1 e^{i\omega_n t} + a_2 e^{-i\omega_n t} \quad \text{another form}$$

Euler's formulae:

$$e^{i\omega_n t} = \cos(\omega_n t) + i \sin(\omega_n t)$$

$$e^{-i\omega_n t} = \cos(\omega_n t) - i \sin(\omega_n t)$$



Since  $x(t)$  is REAL,  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  must be complex conjugate numbers.

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= (a_1 + a_2) \cos(\omega_n t) + (a_1 - a_2) i \sin(\omega_n t) \\ &= B \cos(\omega_n t) + A \sin(\omega_n t) \\ &= C \sin(\omega_n t + \phi) \end{aligned}$$

Where:

$$a_1 = \frac{B - Ai}{2}, \quad a_2 = \frac{B + Ai}{2}$$



## 11.5 Summary

For undamped, single degree of freedom vibration, the form of the equation of motion is:

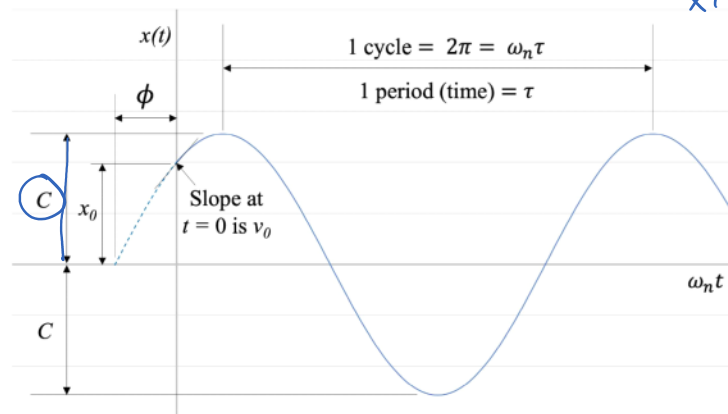
$$m\ddot{x}(t) + kx(t) = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{check all +ve (or all -ve)}$$

standard form  $\ddot{x}(t) + \underbrace{\frac{k}{m}}_{\omega_n^2} x(t) = 0$

$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$  is the (angular) natural frequency of the system. Natural frequency depends on physical system parameters and is independent of initial conditions.

$$x(t) = C \sin(\omega_n t + \phi) = A \sin \omega_n t + B \cos \omega_n t$$

$\frac{C}{m}$   
 $2\omega_n$  {  
lead phase angle



Initial conditions specify the amplitude of vibration,  $C$ , and the phase angle,  $\phi$ .

For  $x(0) = x_0$  and  $\dot{x}(0) = v_0$ :

$$C = \sqrt{\left(\frac{v_0}{\omega_n}\right)^2 + x_0^2}, \quad \tan \phi = \frac{\omega_n x_0}{v_0}$$

