

Problem Set : Differential Equations

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CHAPTER 1

Chapter

1. Section

PROBLEM 1.1. Let m , b , k , A , and ω be positive real constants. Consider an underdamped oscillator with sinusoidal driving force, which is described by the following second order ordinary differential equation.

$$m\ddot{x} + b\dot{x} + kx = A \sin \omega t, \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad \dot{x}(0) = 0.$$

For convenience, define $\omega_0 := \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$.

- (1) The solution of this equation when given the free oscillation condition $A = 0$ has the form

$$x_c(t) = x_0 e^{-\beta t} \cos \omega_1 t.$$

Compute the constants β and ω_1 . This solution is called the *complementary solution*.

- (2) Show that the contemporary solution is asymptotically stable, i.e.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_c(t) = 0.$$

- (3) Show that the solution decays most fastly at $\beta = \omega_0$.
 (4) Find the value of ω such that the amplitude of particular solution is maximized.

SOLUTION.

- (1) $\beta = \frac{b}{2m}$, $\omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - \beta^2}$.
 (2)

□

PROBLEM 1.2. Let Ω be a bounded Lipschitz domain. Consider an eigenvalue problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = \lambda u, & \text{in } x \in \Omega, \\ u = 0, & \text{on } x \in \partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$