

Lecture 30.
Damped oscillators.
Resonance (if time permits).

Damping

very low
damping

Q: Assume that a mass oscillates on a spring, and there is a friction force between the mass and the table. Which of these graphs can represent the coordinate of the mass as function of time?



overdamped

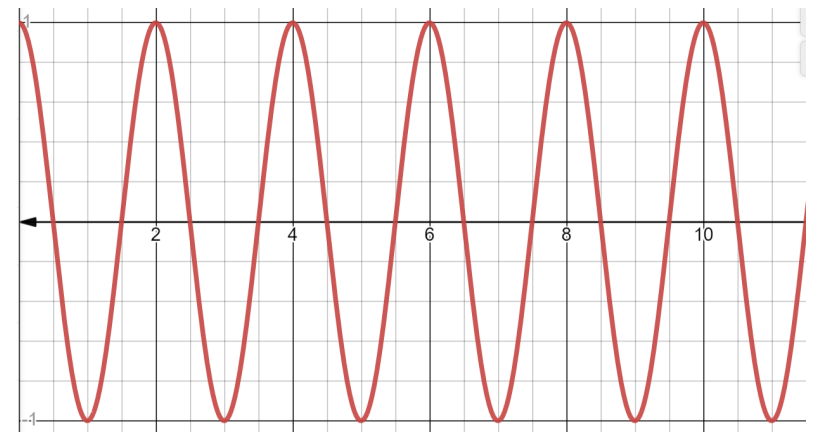
A. (1)

B. (2)

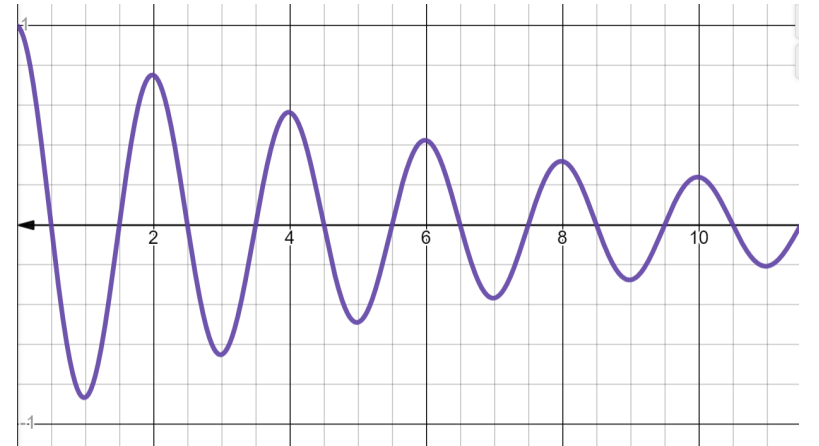
C. (3)

☒ D. All of them

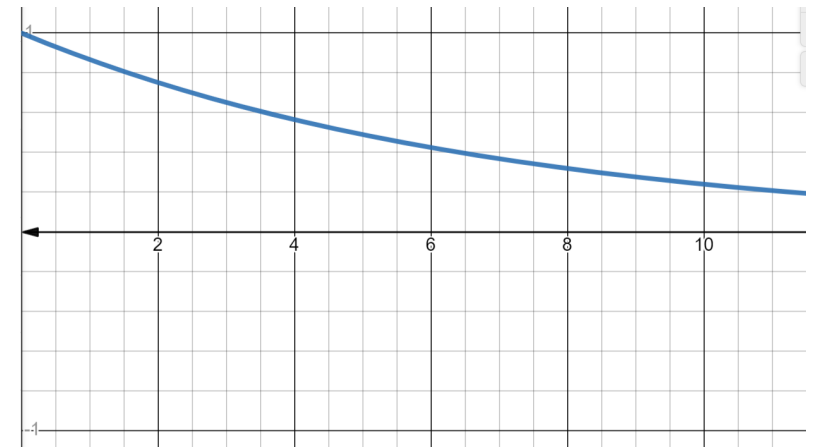
E. None of them



(1)



(2)



(3)

Demo: Mass on spring with
position sensor,
with and without damping

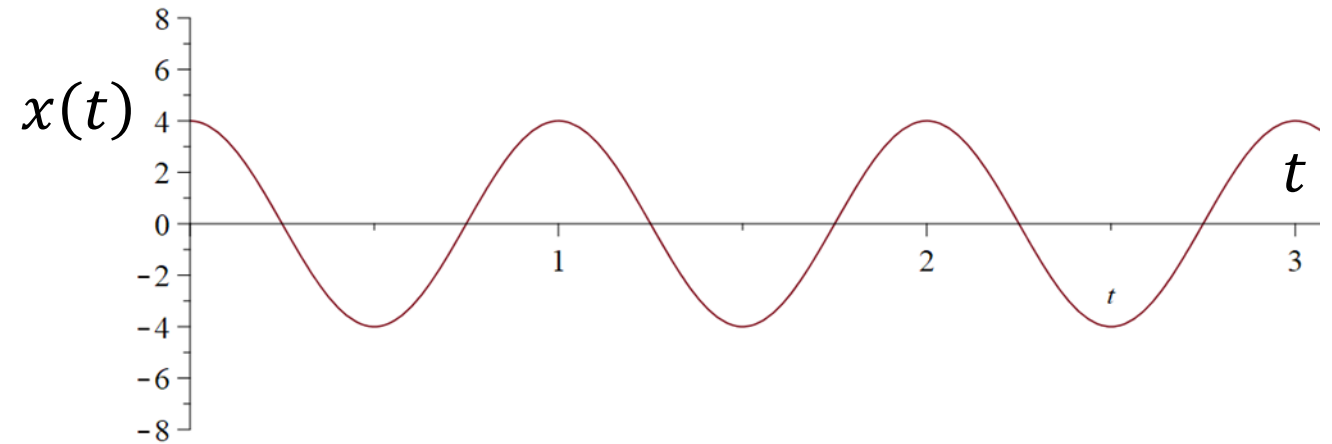
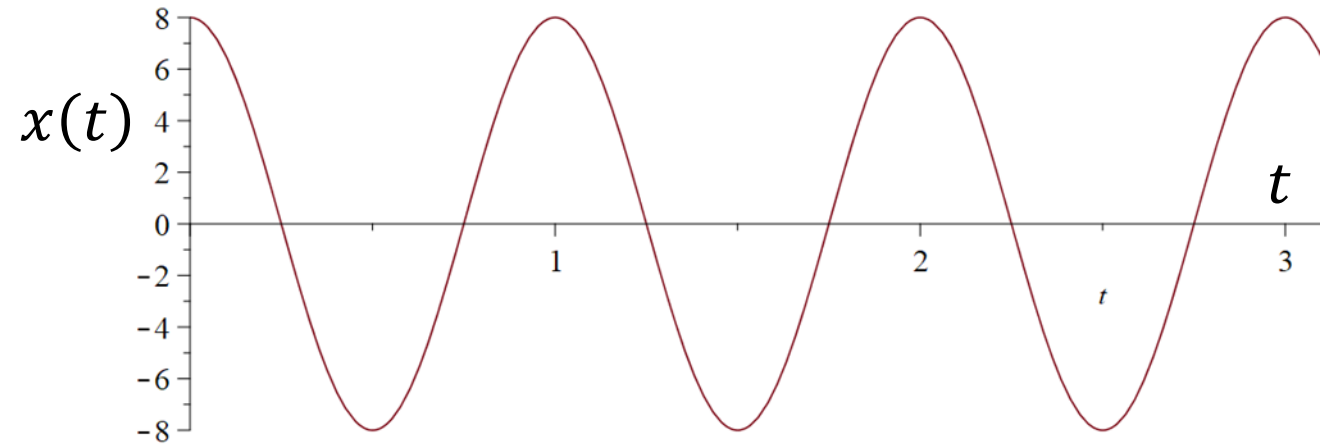




Q: The two graphs show different oscillations for the same system. Compared with the first case, the total potential plus kinetic energy in the second case is

$$E_{\text{tot}} = KE + PE = \frac{kA^2}{2}$$

$$E_{\text{tot}} \propto A^2$$



- A. The same
- B. Twice as big
- C. Half as big
- D. One quarter as big
- E. One 16th as big

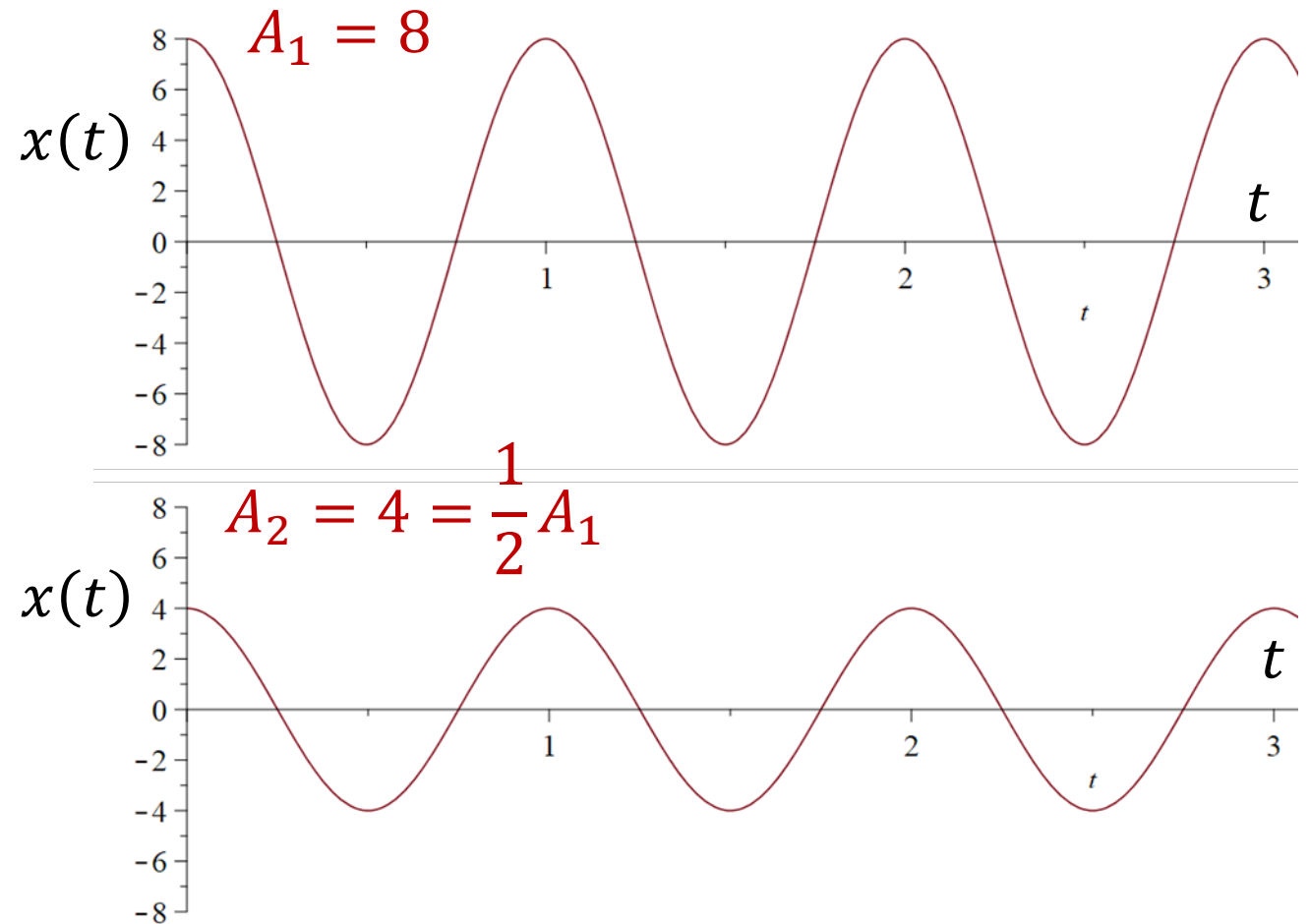


Q: The two graphs show different oscillations for the same system. Compared with the first case, the total potential plus kinetic energy in the second case is

- Energy is same at all times
- $E_{tot} = \frac{1}{2}kA^2$
- So:

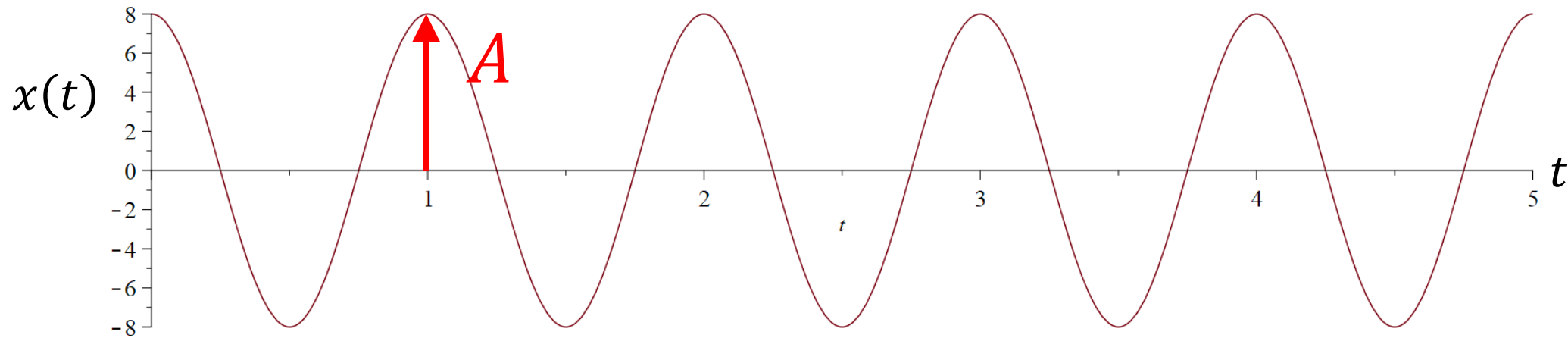
$$\frac{E_{2,tot}}{E_{1,tot}} = \frac{A_2^2}{A_1^2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

- A. The same
- B. Twice as big
- C. Half as big
- D. One quarter as big ✓
- E. One 16th as big



- Key fact about oscillating systems:

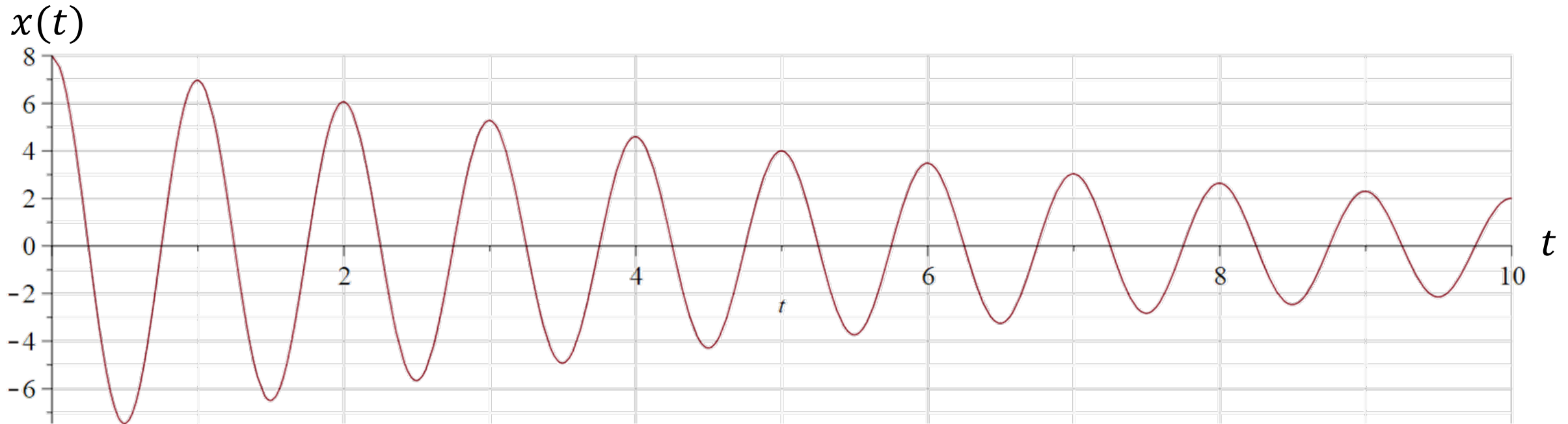
➤ Their energy is proportional to amplitude squared



$$E \propto A^2$$

Real oscillators:

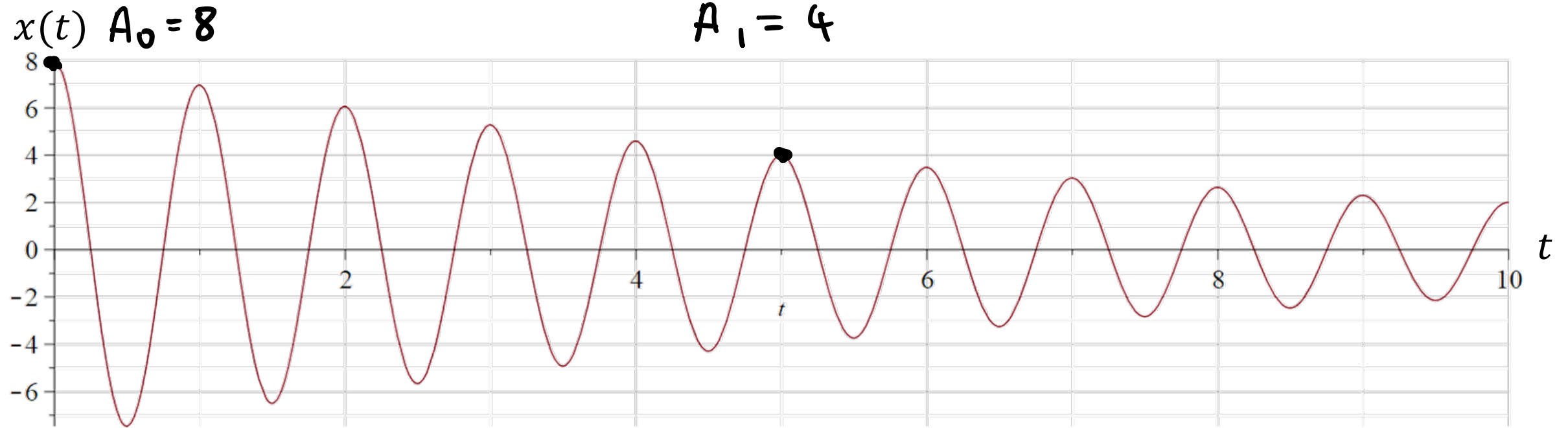
- Energy is lost (friction, air/fluid drag, heating of system...)



- Amplitude decreases with time
- Energy decreases as square of the amplitude



Q1: What fraction of the original kinetic + potential energy remains in the oscillator at $t = 5 \text{ s}$?

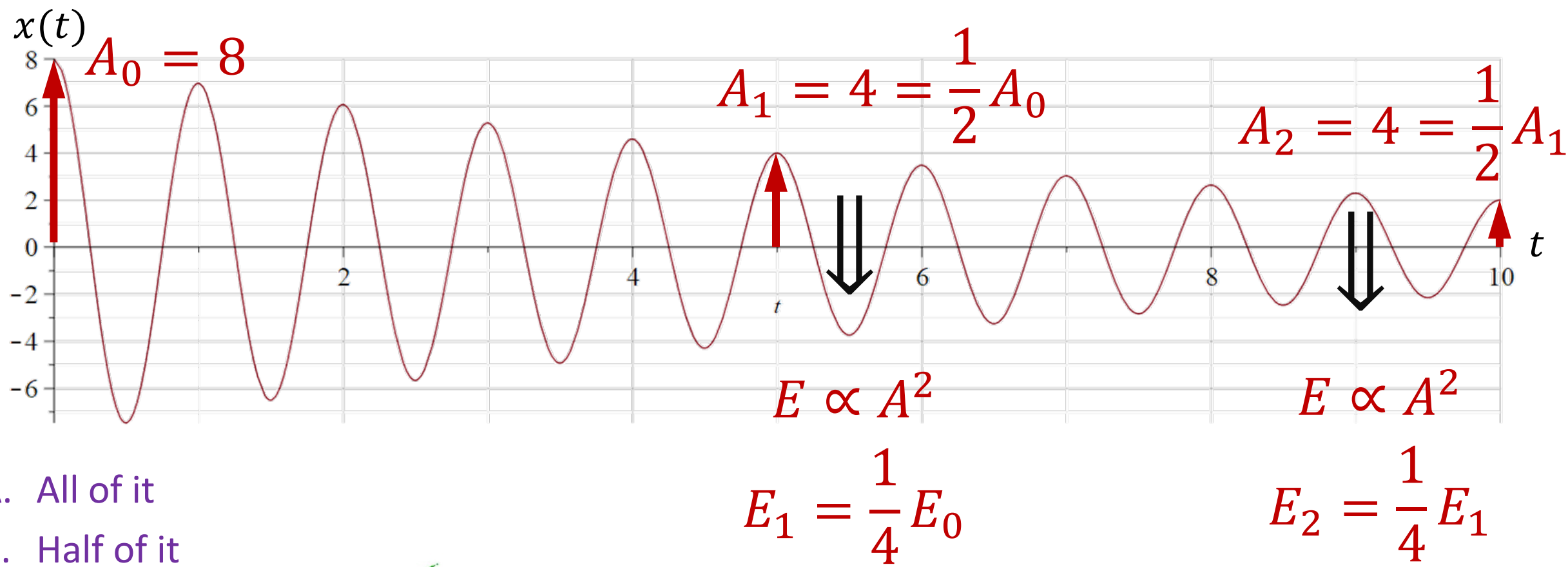


- A. All of it
- B. Half of it
- C. One quarter of it
- D. $1/\sqrt{2}$ of it

Q2: What fraction of the energy at $t = 5 \text{ s}$ remains at $t = 10 \text{ s}$?



Q1: What fraction of the original kinetic + potential energy remains in the oscillator at $t = 5 \text{ s}$?



- A. All of it
- B. Half of it
- C. One quarter of it
- D. $1/\sqrt{2}$ of it



→ Q2: What fraction of the energy at $t = 5 \text{ s}$ remains at $t = 10 \text{ s}$ $1/4$

Common situation: amplitude decreases by same fraction each full oscillation

Example:

$$t = 0 \rightarrow A = A_0$$

$$t = T \rightarrow A = A_0 \cdot r$$

$$t = 2T \rightarrow A = A_0 \cdot r^2$$


$$t = 3T \rightarrow A = A_0 \cdot r^3$$

 fraction

➤ We assume that $r < 1$,
so A is decreasing at
each iteration

General:

$$t \rightarrow A = A_0 \cdot r^{t/T}$$

 t/T = number
of periods
(integer)

Exponential decay

- Show that: $A(t) = A_0 \cdot r^{t/T}$ is equivalent to $A(t) = A_0 e^{-t/t_0}$ with $t_0 = -\frac{T}{\ln(r)}$

$$\begin{aligned} A(t) &= A_0 e^{+\frac{t}{T} \ln r} = A_0 e^{\ln r \cdot \frac{t}{T}} = \\ &= A_0 (e^{\ln r})^{t/T} = A_0 r^{t/T} \end{aligned}$$

$$t_0 = -\frac{T}{\ln(r)}$$

➤ Time constant

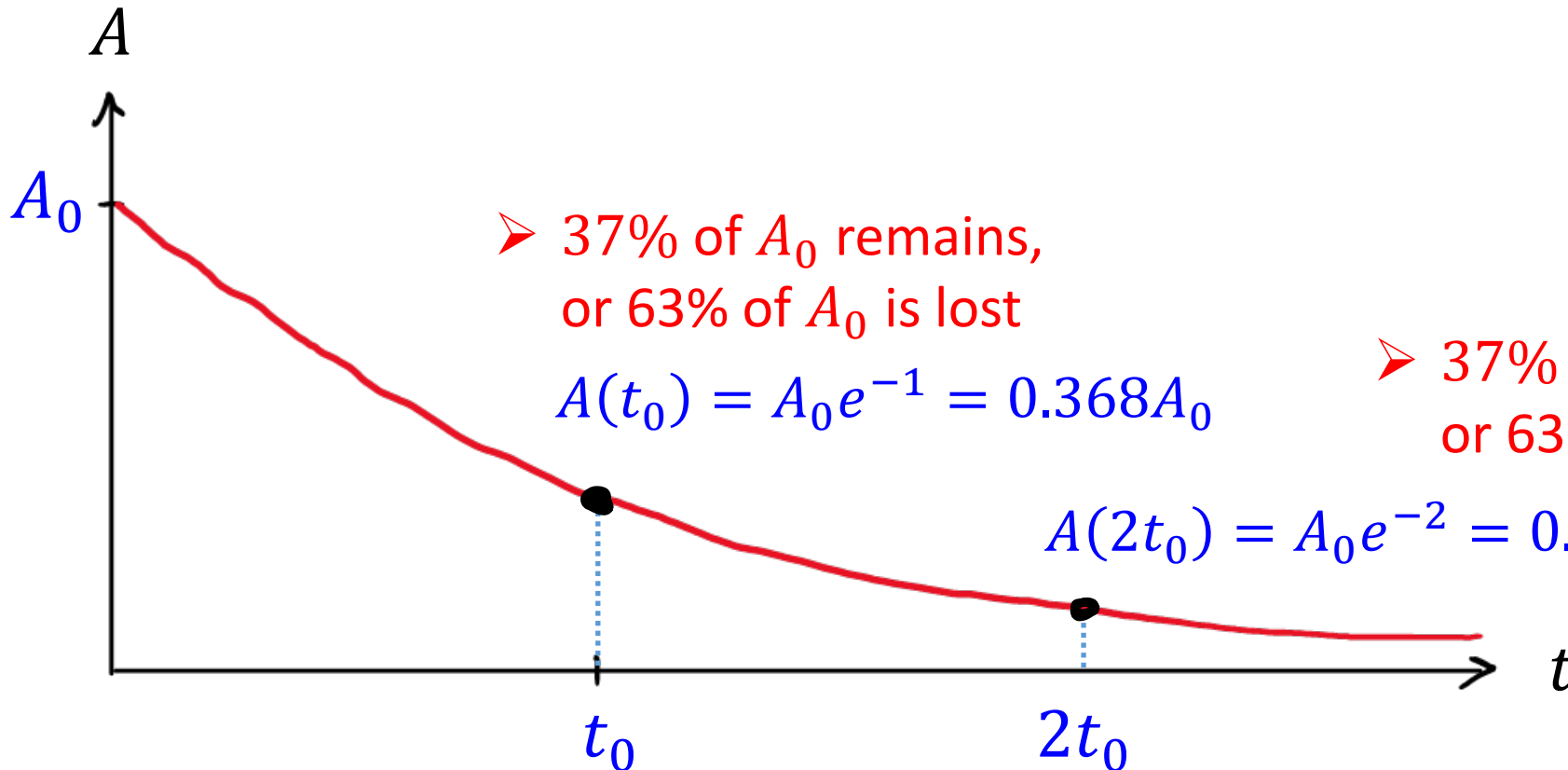
Exponential decay

- Show that: $A(t) = A_0 \cdot r^{t/T}$ is equivalent to $A(t) = A_0 e^{-t/t_0}$ with $t_0 = -\frac{T}{\ln(r)}$

$$A(t) = A_0 e^{-t/t_0} = A_0 e^{\ln(r) \cdot t/T} = A_0 (e^{\ln(r)})^{t/T} = A_0 r^{t/T}$$

$$t_0 = -\frac{T}{\ln(r)}$$

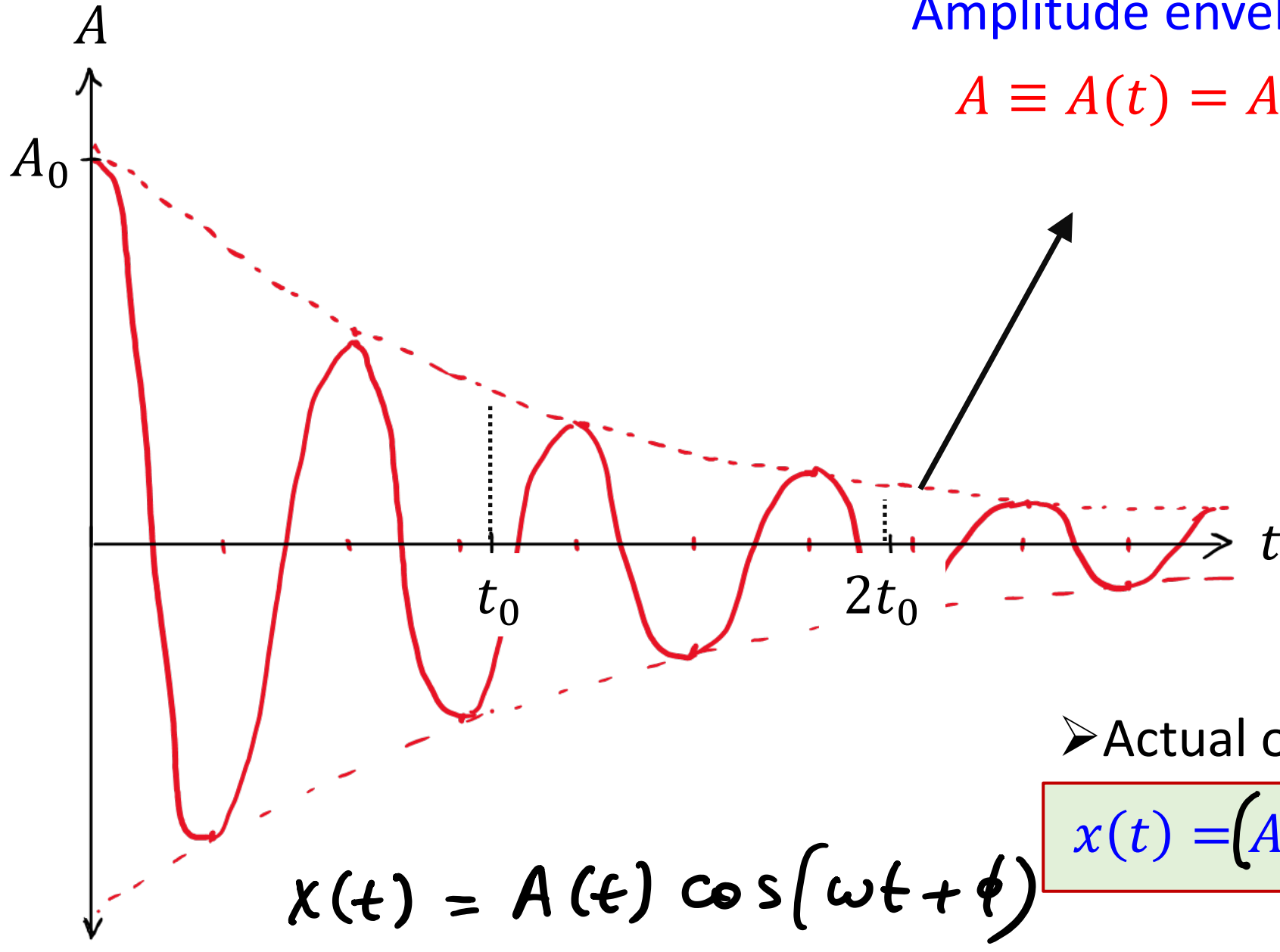
➤ Time constant



Damped Oscillations

Amplitude envelope:

$$A \equiv A(t) = A_0 e^{-t/t_0}$$

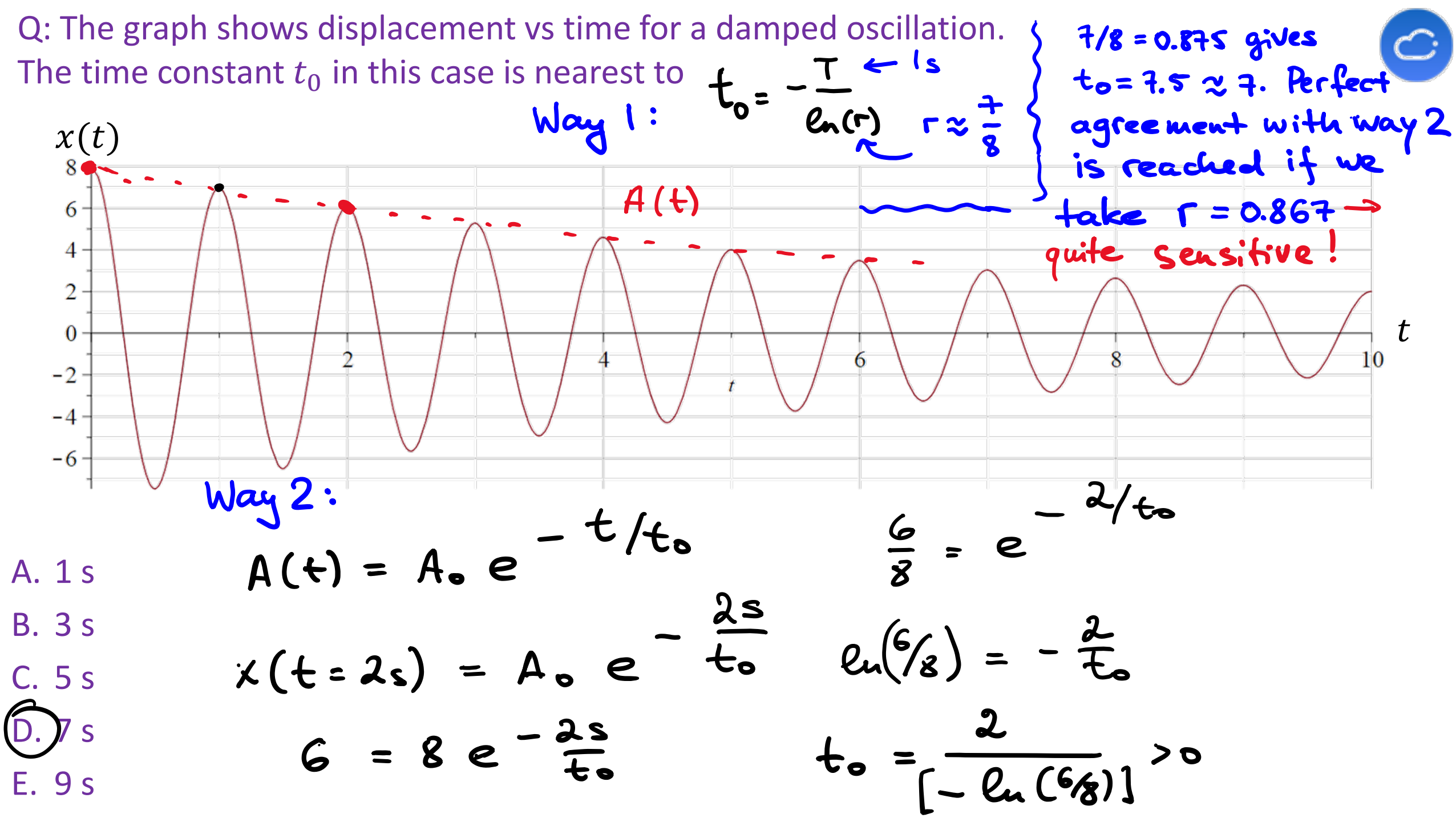


multiplies
cosine!

➤ Actual oscillation

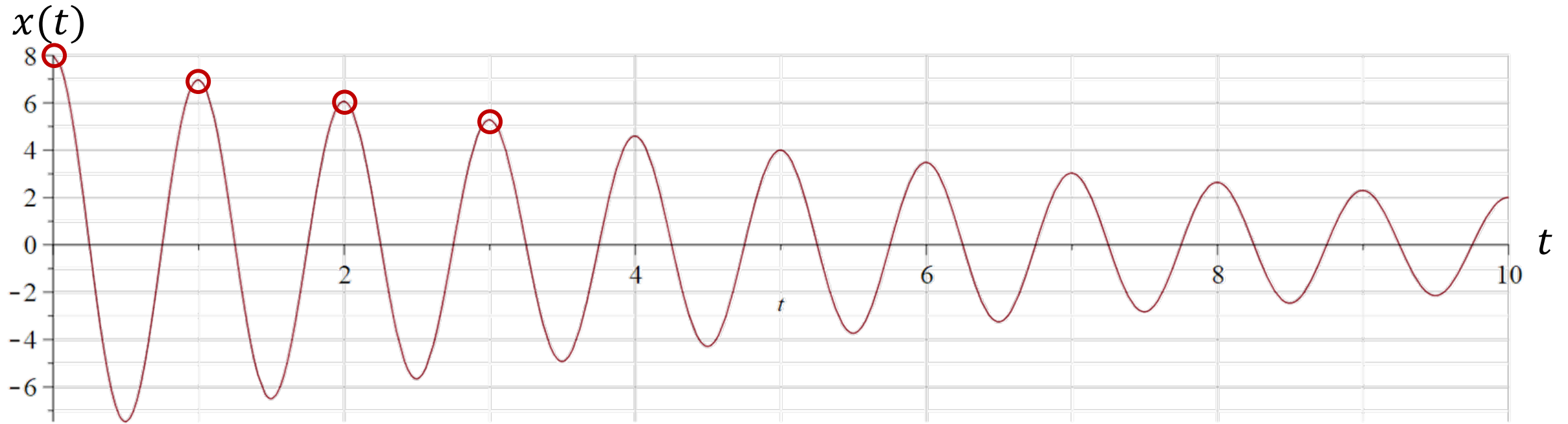
$$x(t) = \underbrace{(A_0 e^{-t/t_0})}_{A(t)} \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

$$x(t) = A(t) \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$





Q: The graph shows displacement vs time for a damped oscillation.
The time constant t_0 in this case is nearest to

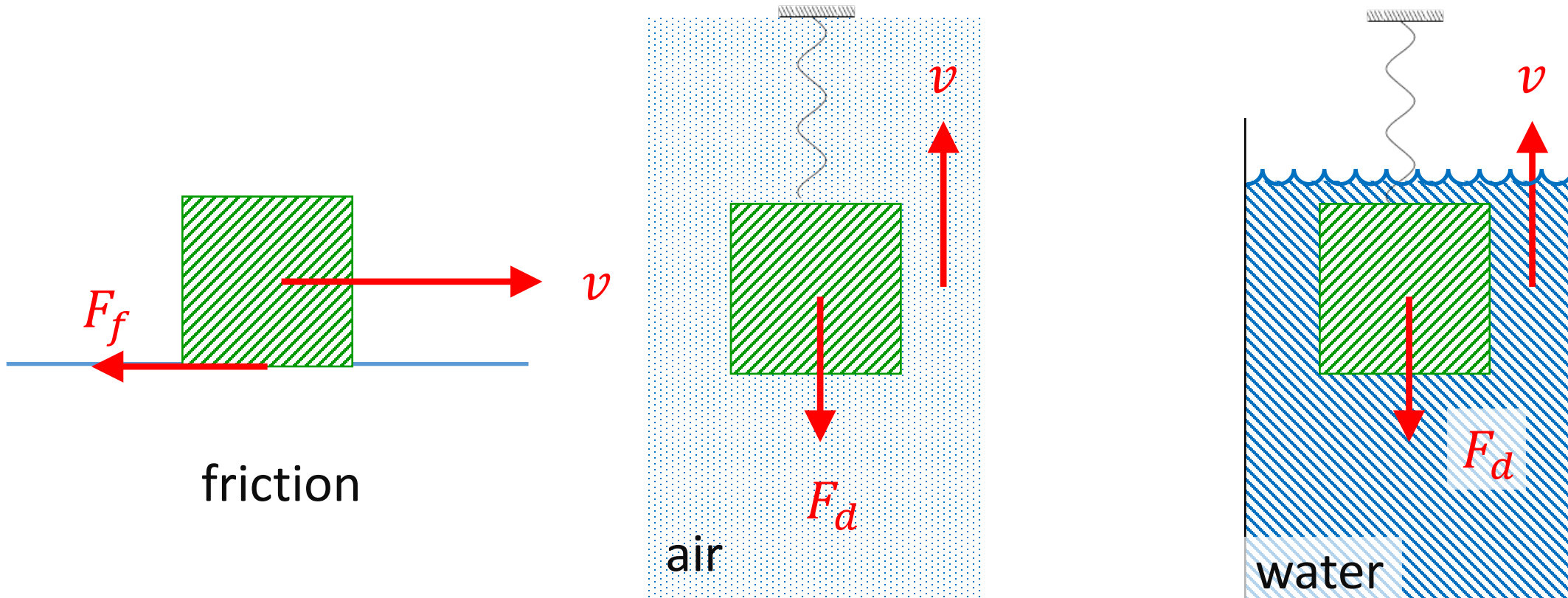


- A. 1 s
- B. 3 s
- C. 5 s
- D. 7 s
- E. 9 s



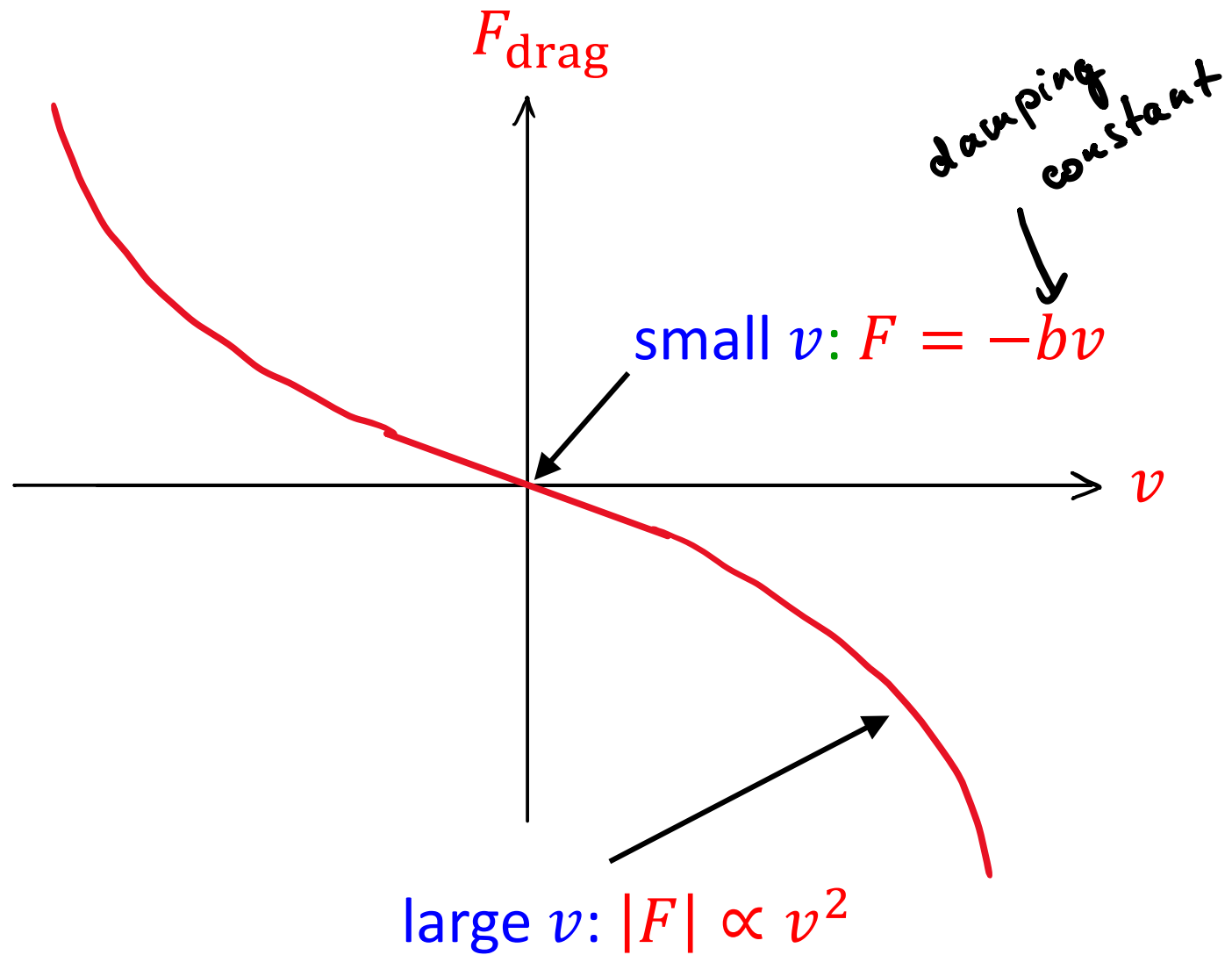
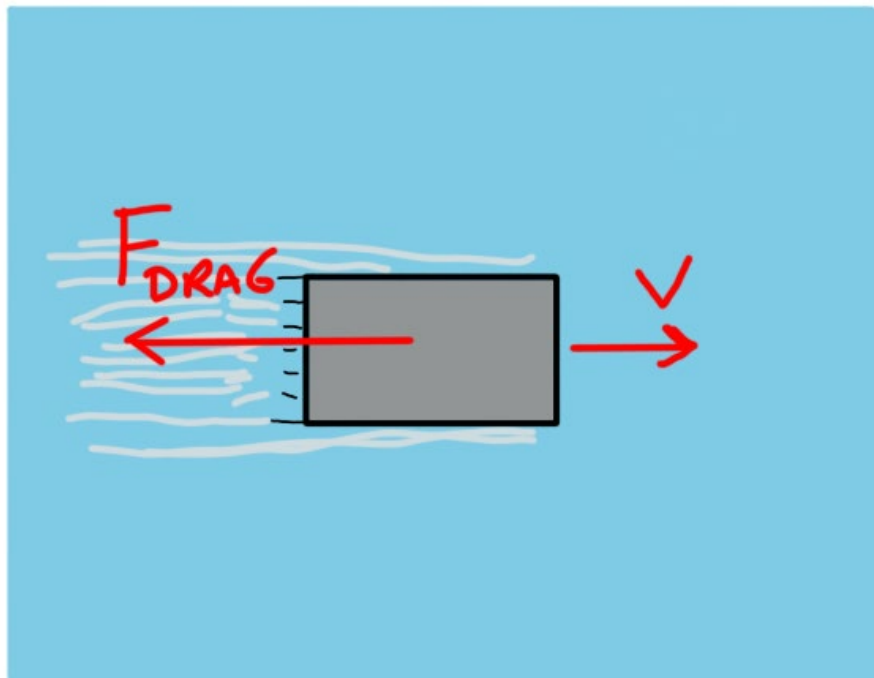
- At circled points, $\cos = 1$ so $x(t) = A_0 e^{-t/t_0}$
- At $t = 0$, $x = 8 \text{ cm}$. At $t = 2 \text{ s}$, $x = 6 \text{ cm}$.
- $6 \text{ cm} = 8 \text{ cm} \cdot e^{-2/t_0} \Rightarrow e^{-2/t_0} = 0.75$
 $\Rightarrow -2/t_0 = \ln(0.75) \Rightarrow t_0 = 7 \text{ s}$

Forces that lead to damping are velocity-dependent
& opposite in direction to velocity

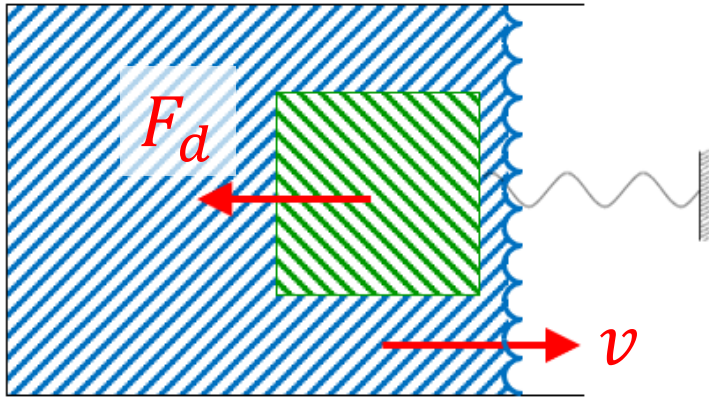


drag forces in fluids (air or liquid)

Example: drag forces from air/liquid



Example: viscous fluid drag



- Forces:

- $F_d = -bv$

- $F_{net} = -kx - bv$

↑
SHM

damping constant

with damping

- Equations of motion:

- $\frac{dx}{dt} = v$

- $\frac{dv}{dt} = a = \frac{F_{net}}{m} = -\frac{k}{m}x - \frac{b}{m}v$

- Use these to predict how x and v change with time

Example: viscous fluid drag

- Equations of motion:

- $\frac{dx}{dt} = v$

- $\frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{k}{m}x - \frac{b}{m}v$

- The solution is:

- $x(t) = A_0 e^{-t/t_0} \cos(\omega t + \phi)$

with $t_0 = \frac{2m}{b}$ and $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m} - \frac{b^2}{4m^2}}$

- Valid for $b < 2\sqrt{km}$

Check it: calculate $v = \frac{dx}{dt}$, and then verify 2nd equation

$$0 = \sin(\omega t) \underbrace{(\dots)}_{''0''} + \cos(\omega t) \underbrace{(\dots)}_{''0''}$$

Classifying damping

$$x(t) = A_0 e^{-t/t_0} \cos(\omega t + \phi) \quad \text{with} \quad t_0 = \frac{2m}{b} \quad \text{and} \quad \omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m} - \frac{b^2}{4m^2}}$$

Accurate to just use

$$\omega = \sqrt{k/m}$$

unless very highly
damped

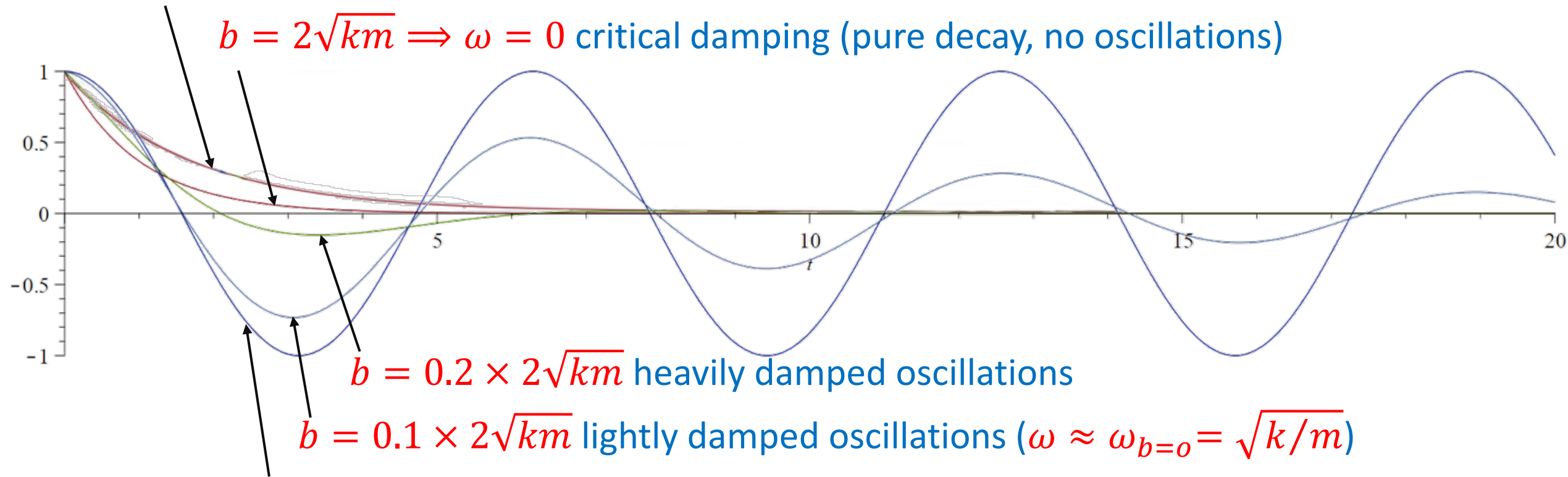
$b > 2\sqrt{km}$ overdamped, even slower to reach equilibrium

$b = 2\sqrt{km} \Rightarrow \omega = 0$ critical damping (pure decay, no oscillations)

$b = 0.2 \times 2\sqrt{km}$ heavily damped oscillations

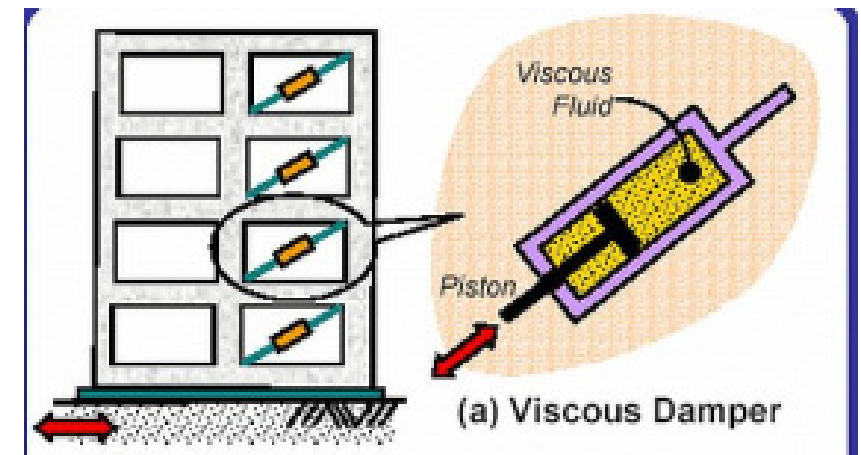
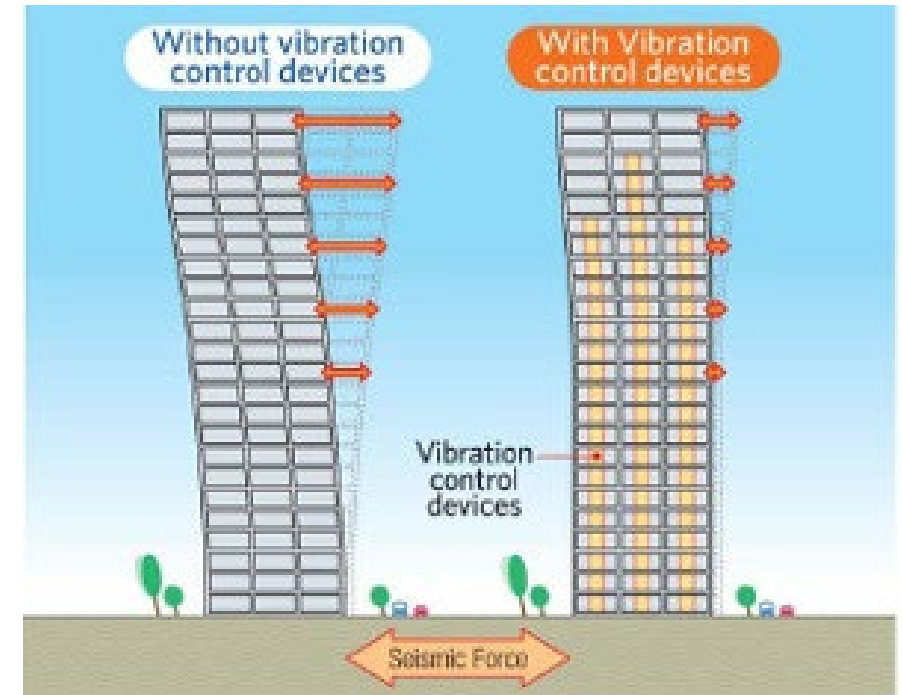
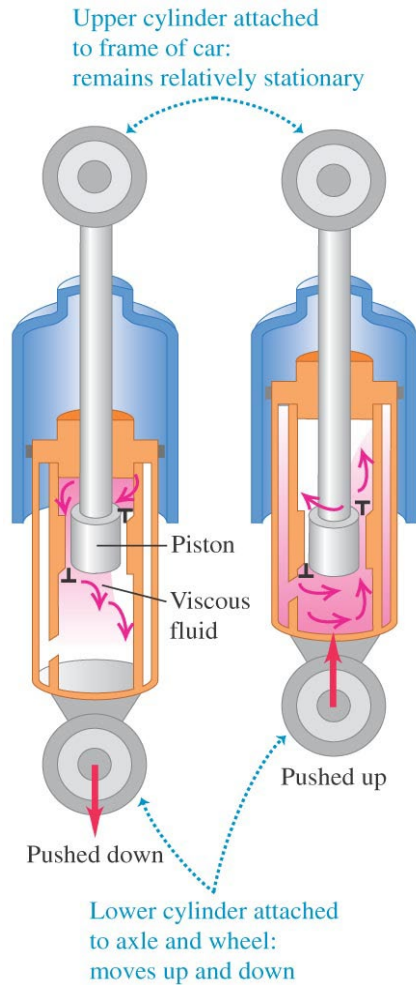
$b = 0.1 \times 2\sqrt{km}$ lightly damped oscillations ($\omega \approx \omega_{b=0} = \sqrt{k/m}$)

$b = 0$ no damping (no decay, pure oscillations)



Damped oscillations – applications

- Shock absorbers: cars, bikes, doors, buildings...

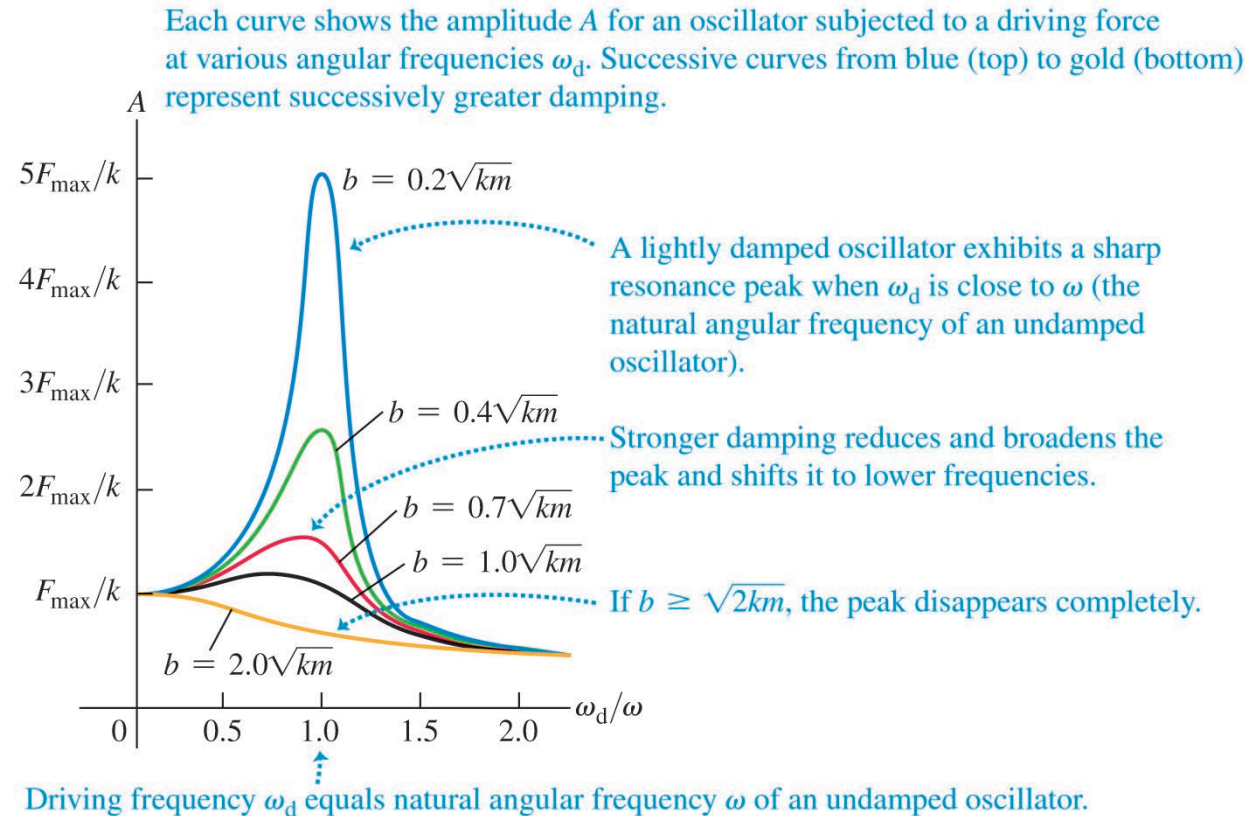


Forced Oscillations and Resonance

(extra – you are not responsible for this material)

- A damped oscillator left to itself will eventually stop moving
- But we can maintain a constant-amplitude oscillation by applying a periodic **driving force**
- Applying a driving force F with angular frequency ω_d to a damped harmonic oscillator results in a **forced oscillation**
- The forced oscillation amplitude is:

$$A = \frac{F_{max}}{\sqrt{(k - m\omega_d^2)^2 + b^2\omega_d^2}}$$



Q: What happens if ω_d is close to the natural angular frequency of the oscillator, $\omega = \sqrt{k/m}$?

Breaking a wine glass: High-speed video

