

Lecture 17. Mechanical Vibrations Part 2

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Forced Oscillations

In this Lecture, we will talk about the systems with forced oscillations.

We have the differential equation

$$mx'' + cx' + kx = F(t)$$

with

$$F(t) = F_0 \cos \omega t \quad \text{or} \quad F(t) = F_0 \sin \omega t$$

where the constant F_0 is the amplitude of the periodic force and ω is its circular frequency.

Undamped Forced Oscillations

We set $c = 0$ and consider

$$mx'' + kx = F_0 \cos \omega t \tag{1}$$

Discussion:

- By the previous lectures, the complementary function is

$$x_c = c_1 \cos \omega_0 t + c_2 \sin \omega_0 t,$$

where $\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \Rightarrow k = \omega_0^2 m$.

- Assume $\omega_0 \neq \omega$. we want to find a particular solution x_p of Eq(1).
- Assume $x_p = A \cos \omega t$, $x_p'' = -A\omega^2 \cos \omega t$ then

$$\begin{aligned} mx_p'' + kx_p &= -Am\omega^2 \cos \omega t + kA \cos \omega t = F_0 \cos \omega t \\ \Rightarrow A(k - m\omega^2) &= F_0 \Rightarrow A = \frac{F_0}{k - m\omega^2} = \frac{F_0/m}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}, \end{aligned}$$

the last equation is from the fact that $k = \omega_0^2 m$.

- Thus

$$x_p = \frac{F_0/m}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2} \cos \omega t$$

- Therefore the general solution

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= x_c(t) + x_p(t) = c_1 \cos \omega_0 t + c_2 \sin \omega_0 t + \frac{F_0/m}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2} \cos \omega t \\ \Rightarrow x(t) &= C \cos (\omega_0 t - \alpha) + \frac{F_0/m}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2} \cos \omega t \end{aligned}$$

- So $x(t)$ is a superposition of two oscillations.

Resonance

Recall on previous page, we have the particular solution of $mx'' + kx = F_0 \cos \omega t$ is given by

- $x_p(t) = \frac{F_0/m}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2} \cos \omega t$, where $\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$
- Resonance occurs when $\omega_0^2 = \omega^2$.
 - Roughly speaking, mechanical resonance is the phenomenon where a mechanical system vibrates with increased amplitude when the frequency of its oscillations matches the system's natural frequency.

Reading material on resonance:

- [Mechanical resonance](#)
- [Tacoma Narrows Bridge](#)

Example 1 Express the solution of the given initial value problem as a sum of two oscillations. Graph the solution function $x(t)$ in such a way that you can identify and label its period.

$$x'' + 25x = 9 \cos 2t; \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0$$

ANS: Find x_c . $r^2 + 25 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm 5i$

$$x_c = C_1 \cos 5t + C_2 \sin 5t$$

Find x_p . Assume $x_p = A \cos 2t$, then $x_p'' = -4A \cos 2t$.

$$x_p'' + 25x_p = 9 \cos 2t \Rightarrow (-4A + 25A) \cos 2t = 9 \cos 2t$$

$$\Rightarrow 21A = 9 \Rightarrow A = \frac{3}{7}$$

The general solution for nonhomogeneous eqn is

$$x(t) = x_c + x_p = C_1 \cos 5t + C_2 \sin 5t + \frac{3}{7} \cos 2t$$

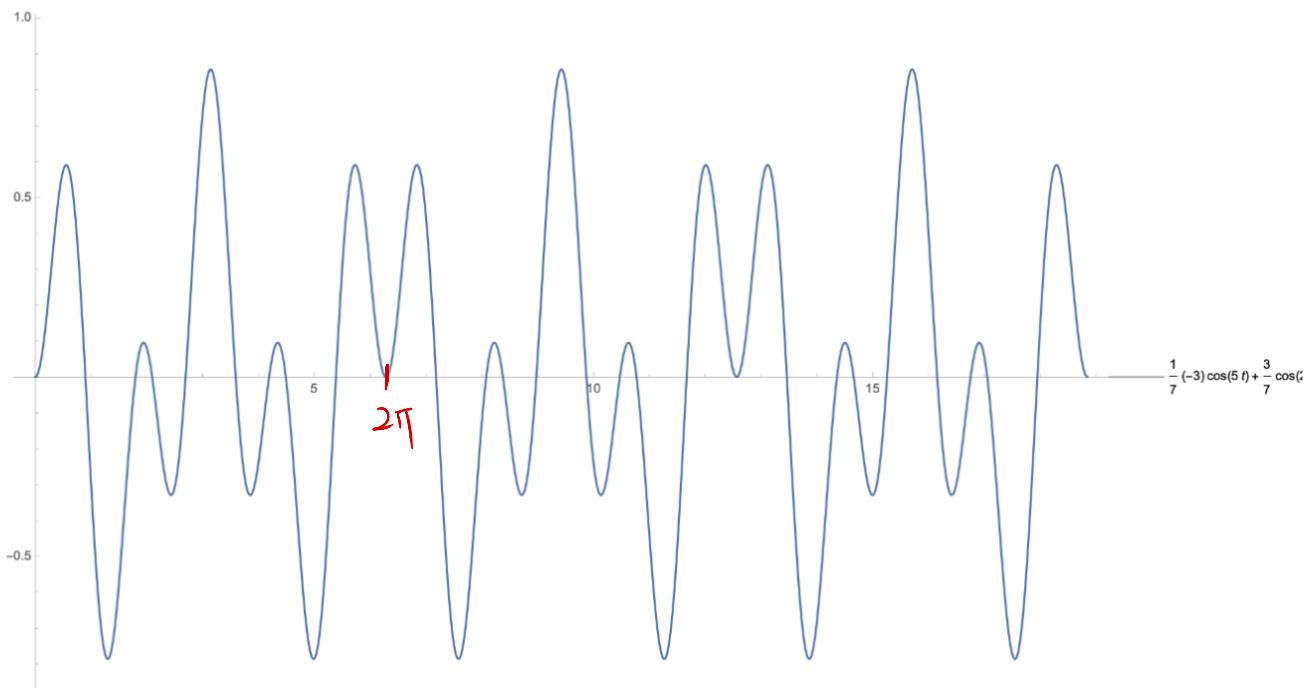
$$\text{As } x(0) = 0, \quad x(0) = C_1 + \frac{3}{7} = 0 \Rightarrow C_1 = -\frac{3}{7}$$

$$\text{As } x'(0) = 0, \quad x'(t) = -5C_1 \sin 5t + 5C_2 \cos 5t - \frac{6}{7} \sin 2t$$

$$x'(0) = 5C_2 = 0 \Rightarrow C_2 = 0$$

Thus. $x(t) = -\frac{3}{7} \cos 5t + \frac{3}{7} \cos 2t$, which is a sum of two oscillations.

The period of $x(t)$ is the least common multiple of the periods of the two oscillations $\frac{2\pi}{5}$ and $\frac{2\pi}{2}$, which is 2π .



Damped Forced Oscillations

$$mx'' + cx' + kx = F_0 \cos \omega t$$

- **transient solution** $x_{\text{tr}}(t) = x_c(t)$, $x_c(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.
- **steady periodic solution** $x_{\text{sp}}(t) = x_p(t)$

Example 2. Consider the initial value problem

$$mx'' + cx' + kx = F(t), \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0$$

modeling the motion of a spring-mass-dashpot system initially at rest and subjected to an applied force $F(t)$, where the unit of force is the Newton (N).

Assume that $m = 2$ kilograms, $c = 8$ kilograms per second, $k = 80$ Newtons per meter, and $F(t) = 20 \sin(6t)$ Newtons.

(1) Solve the initial value problem.

(2) Determine the long-term behavior of the system. Is $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0$?

ANS: (1) We have

$$2x'' + 8x' + 80x = 20 \sin 6t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0.$$

The corresponding homogenous eqn is

$$2x'' + 8x' + 80x = 0 \Rightarrow x'' + 4x' + 40x = 0$$

The char. eqn is

$$r^2 + 4r + 40 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r_{1,2} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4 \times 40}}{2} = -2 \pm 6i$$

Thus $x_c = e^{-2t} (C_1 \cos 6t + C_2 \sin 6t)$

Next, we want to find x_p .

Assume $x_p(t) = A \cos bt + B \sin bt$.

$$\text{Then } x'_p(t) = -6A\sin 6t + 6B\cos 6t$$

$$x''_p(t) = -36A\cos 6t - 36B\sin 6t$$

Plug them into the given eqn, we have

$$\cancel{2x''_p}^4 + \cancel{8x'_p}^{40} + \cancel{80x_p}^{10} = \cancel{20}\sin 6t,$$

$$\Rightarrow -36A\cos 6t - 36B\sin 6t - 24A\sin 6t + 24B\cos 6t \\ + 40A\cos 6t + 40B\sin 6t = 10\sin 6t$$

$$\Rightarrow (4A + 24B)\cos 6t + (4B - 24A)\sin 6t = 10\sin 6t$$

Comparing coefficients, we have.

$$\begin{cases} 4A + 24B = 0 \\ 4B - 24A = 10 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A + 6B = 0 \\ 2B - 12A = 5 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A = -\frac{15}{37} \\ B = \frac{5}{74} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Thus } x_p = -\frac{15}{37}\cos 6t + \frac{5}{74}\sin 6t$$

So the general solution to the given eqn is

$$x(t) = x_c + x_p = C_1 e^{-2t} \cos 6t + C_2 e^{-2t} \sin 6t - \frac{15}{37} \cos 6t + \frac{5}{74} \sin 6t$$

$$\text{As } x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = C_1 - \frac{15}{37} = 0 \Rightarrow C_1 = \frac{15}{37}$$

$$x'(t) = \frac{15}{37} \cdot (-2) e^{-2t} \cos 6t - 6 \cdot \frac{15}{37} e^{-2t} \sin 6t - 2C_2 e^{-2t} \sin 6t \\ + 6C_2 e^{-2t} \cos 6t + \frac{15}{37} \cdot 6 \sin 6t + \frac{5}{74} \cdot 6 \cos 6t$$

$$x'(0) = \frac{15}{37} \cdot (-2) + 6C_2 + \frac{5}{74} \cdot 6 = 0 \Rightarrow C_2 = \left(\frac{30}{37} - \frac{15}{37} \right) / 6$$

$$\Rightarrow C_2 = \frac{15}{37} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = -\frac{5}{74}$$

Thus we have the solution to the initial value problem

$$x(t) = -\frac{15}{37} \cos 6t + \frac{5}{74} \sin 6t + \frac{15}{37} e^{-2t} \cos 6t + \frac{5}{74} e^{-2t} \sin 6t$$

Remark: In your WebWork, you might need to convert the fractions to digits if you keep getting an error. For example, the above solution can be typed as

$$x(t) = e^{-2t}[*0.405405*\cos(6*t)+0.0675674*\sin(6*t)]+-0.405405*\cos(6*t)+0.0675676*\sin(6*t)$$

(2) As $e^{-2t} \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$, we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = x_p = -\frac{15}{37} \cos 6t + \frac{5}{74} \sin 6t$$

or

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = -0.405405*\cos(6*t)+0.0675676*\sin(6*t)$$

Exercises Related to WebWork

Exercise 3 and 4 are related to the mass-spring-dashpot system. Exercise 5 and 6 are related to acceleration-velocity models.

Exercise 3.

A spring with a 5-kg mass and a damping constant 1 can be held stretched 1 meters beyond its natural length by a force of 3 newtons. Suppose the spring is stretched 2 meters beyond its natural length and then released with zero velocity.

(1) In the notation of the text, what is the value $c^2 - 4mk$?

(2) Find the position of the mass, in meters, after t seconds.

$$\text{ANS: (1)} \quad F_s = -kx \Rightarrow -3 = -k \cdot 1 \Rightarrow k = 3$$

$$c^2 - 4mk = 1^2 - 4 \times 5 \times 3 = 1 - 60 = -59 \quad \text{m}^2 \text{kg}^2/\text{sec}^2$$

(2) We have

$$mx'' + cx' + kx = 0, \quad x(0) = 2, \quad x'(0) = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow 5x'' + x' + 3x = 0, \quad x(0) = 2, \quad x'(0) = 0$$

$$\text{Solving } 5r^2 + r + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow r_{1,2} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4 \times 5 \times 3}}{2 \times 5} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{-59}}{10}$$

$$\text{Thus } r_{1,2} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{59}i}{10}$$

So the general solution is

$$x(t) = e^{-\frac{1}{10}t} \cdot (C_1 \cos \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t + C_2 \sin \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t)$$

$$\text{As } x(0) = 2 \Rightarrow x(0) = C_1 = 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= -\frac{1}{10} e^{-\frac{1}{10}t} (C_1 \cos \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t + C_2 \sin \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t) \\ &\quad + e^{-\frac{1}{10}t} \left(-\frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} C_1 \sin \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t + \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} C_2 \cos \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{As } x'(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = -\frac{1}{10} C_1^2 + \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} C_2 = 0 \Rightarrow C_2 = \frac{10}{\sqrt{59}} \cdot \frac{1}{5} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{59}}$$

$$\text{Thus } x(t) = e^{-\frac{1}{10}t} \left(2 \cos \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t + \frac{2}{\sqrt{59}} \sin \frac{\sqrt{59}}{10} t \right)$$

Exercise 4.

Suppose a spring with spring constant 4 N/m is horizontal and has one end attached to a wall and the other end attached to a 3 kg mass. Suppose that the friction of the mass with the floor (i.e., the damping constant) is $1 \text{ N} \cdot \text{s/m}$.

- (1) Set up a differential equation that describes this system.
- (2) Find the general solution to your differential equation from the previous part.
- (3) Is this system under damped, over damped, or critically damped?
- (4) What is the value of the damping constant that would make the system critically damped?

(1) $3x'' + x' + 4x = 0$

(2) We have char. eqn

$$3r^2 + r + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow r_{1,2} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 48}}{6} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{47}i}{6}$$

Thus $x(t) = e^{-\frac{1}{6}} \left(C_1 \cos \left(\frac{\sqrt{47}}{6} t \right) + C_2 \sin \left(\frac{\sqrt{47}}{6} t \right) \right)$

(3). As we have two complex solutions to the char. eqn, we know the system is under damped

(4) Assume for $c > 0$ the system

$$3x'' + cx' + 4x = 0$$

is critically damped. We need $\Delta = c^2 - 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow c = 4\sqrt{3}$$

Exercise 5.

A car traveling at 40ft/sec decelerates at a constant 2 feet per second squared. How many feet does the car travel before coming to a complete stop?

Solution. Let $s(t)$ be the distance covered by the car t seconds after stepping on the brakes. Suppose the car decelerates at g feet per second squared. Then

$$s''(t) = -g$$

and

$$s'(t) = -gt + v_0$$

where v_0 is the speed of the car at time 0. Integrating again gives

$$s(t) = -\frac{gt^2}{2} + v_0 t.$$

The integration constant in this case is 0 since at time $t = 0$ the car has covered a distance of 0 feet. We are asking how far the car travels until it comes to a stop. At that time the speed is 0, which gives

$$t = \frac{v_0}{g}.$$

Substituting this time into the distance formula gives

$$s = -\frac{gv_0^2}{2g^2} + \frac{v_0^2}{g} = -\frac{v_0^2}{2g} + \frac{v_0^2}{g} = \frac{v_0^2}{2g}.$$

Substituting

$$v_0 = 40\text{ft/sec}, \quad g = 2\text{ft/sec}^2$$

gives the answer:

$$s \approx 400.00 \text{ feet}.$$

Exercise 6.

A ball is shot straight up into the air with initial velocity of 50ft/sec. Assuming that the air resistance can be ignored, how high does it go? (Assume that the acceleration due to gravity is 32ft per second squared.)

Solution.

We have

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -g$$

where g is the acceleration due to gravity (32ft/s², downward).

So we have

$$v(t) = -gt + C$$

We know that the initial velocity of the ball $v(0)$ is 50ft/s (upwards), so we can use this to solve for the constant of integration C :

$$50 = -0 + C \Rightarrow C = 50$$

Thus, the velocity of the ball as a function of time is:

$$v(t) = -32t + 50$$

The ball reaches its highest point when its velocity is 0 (it momentarily stops moving up before starting to fall down). We set $v(t) = 0$ and solve for t :

$$-32t + 50 = 0$$

Solving this we know the ball reaches its highest point at $t = 25/16$ seconds after it is shot.

To find the maximum height reached by the ball, we integrate the velocity function to get the position function $s(t)$:

$$s(t) = \int v(t) dt = \int (-32t + 50) dt = -16t^2 + 50t + C$$

We know that at $t = 0$, the ball is at the initial position $s(0) = 0$ (assuming it is shot from ground level), which allows us to solve for C :

$$0 = -16(0)^2 + 50(0) + C \Rightarrow C = 0$$

So, the position function is:

$$s(t) = -16t^2 + 50t$$

We have $s(25/16) \approx 39.0625$.