

§9.1 Driven Damped Oscillations

Oscillations typically die. But, we can stimulate them into staying alive by supplying an external force to drive them:

(1) Divide this by m , and bring in our old friends $\omega_0 = \sqrt{k/m}$, and $2\beta = b/m$:

1

Let's introduce an "operator" D , where

$$D = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} + 2\beta \frac{d}{dt} + \omega_0^2.$$

What this means is that

$$Dx = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\beta \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2x.$$

Then the equation for driven damped oscillations is simply $Dx(t) = f(t)$.

2

(2) Drawing on your vast prev. calc. knowledge,

1. $(f_1 + f_2)' = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

2. $(af)' = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

3. Etc.

It follows that

$$D(a_1x_1 + a_2x_2) = a_1Dx_1 + a_2Dx_2.$$

3

Suppose we have a particular solution of the de for a driven damped oscillator that we call x_p . In other words

$$Dx_p = f.$$

Suppose we have a solution, x_h , of the homogenous equation, $Dx_h = 0$.

(3) What is $D(x_p + x_h)$?

$$D(x_p + x_h) =$$

4

So, to find the general solution of $Dx = f$, we need to find a particular solution, x_p , and a general homogenous solution that obeys $Dx_h = 0$.

Then $x_p + x_h$ will be the general solution of the de of interest.

The general solution will have two constants of integration.

5

We already know that

$$x_h(t) = C_1e^{r_1t} + C_2e^{r_2t}$$

is the general solution of the homogenous eqn.

But we need to know something further to get a (particular) solution of

$$Dx = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\beta \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2x = f.$$

6

ADDITIONAL NOTES

(4) What's that? _____
 Without knowing what $f(t)$, the driving force, is we can go no further.
 If we're interested in driving oscillations let's examine an oscillatory ("sinusoidal") driving force:

$$f(t) = f_0 \cos(\omega t).$$
 (The ω here is not the "natural frequency," ω_0 .)

7

Then

$$\ddot{x} + 2\beta\dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = f_0 \cos(\omega t).$$
 But, \cos and \sin differ only by phase, so we have

$$\ddot{y} + 2\beta\dot{y} + \omega_0^2 y = f_0 \sin(\omega t).$$
 So, if $z = x + iy$, we get,

$$\ddot{z} + 2\beta\dot{z} + \omega_0^2 z = f_0 e^{i\omega t}.$$

8

So, we hunt for a function, $z(t)$, that has the property that z , \dot{z} and \ddot{z} are all proportional to z .
 (5) What *might* z be (or proportional to)?
 If that's true, we have

$$z =$$

9

(6) So, what's C ?

$$C = \text{_____}$$
 C is itself complex. If we write it as

$$C =$$
 it follows after significant algebra, that

10

$$A =$$

 and

$$\delta =$$

11

The full solution is

$$x(t) =$$

(a) driving force
 (b) resulting motion

12

ADDITIONAL NOTES
