

2.3) Energy loss in a damped harmonic oscillator (DHO)

In the DHO, mechanical energy is dissipated as heat
 Energy is not conserved (if ignore heat).

How does energy change in time?

$$E(t) = K(t) + U(t) = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + \frac{1}{2} k x^2$$

For light damping ($\gamma^2/4 \ll \omega_0^2$) $\omega \approx \omega_0$

$$\rightarrow x = A_0 e^{-\gamma t/2} \cos \omega_0 t$$

$$v = \frac{dx}{dt} = -A_0 \omega_0 e^{-\gamma t/2} \left[\sin \omega_0 t + \underbrace{\left(\frac{\gamma}{2\omega_0} \right) \cos \omega_0 t}_{\text{is small}} \right]$$

Since light damping, $\gamma/2 \ll \omega_0$, so $\frac{\gamma}{2\omega_0}$ is small

$$\rightarrow v \approx -A_0 \omega_0 e^{-\gamma t/2} \sin \omega_0 t$$

$$\text{Then: } E = \frac{1}{2} A_0^2 e^{-\gamma t} \left(m \omega_0^2 \sin^2 \omega_0 t + k \cos^2 \omega_0 t \right)$$

$$\omega_0^2 = \frac{k}{m} \rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2} k A_0^2 e^{-\gamma t}$$

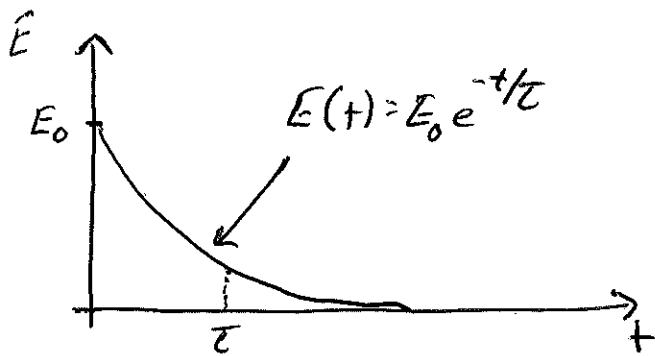
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E(t) = E_0 e^{-\gamma t}}$$

γ : decay rate

\uparrow total initial energy at $t=0$

• Can also define $\boxed{\tau = \frac{1}{\gamma}}$ $\rightarrow E(t) = E_0 e^{-t/\tau}$ 5-2

\rightarrow "decay time" or "time constant" or "lifetime"



• Energy of oscillator dissipates
b/c it does work against the
damping force at rate $\frac{dE}{dt} =$
(damping force) \times (velocity)

• We can see this by $\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{2}mv^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx^2 \right)$

$$\rightarrow = mv \frac{dv}{dt} + kx \frac{dx}{dt} = \underbrace{(ma + kx)}_{F_d} v = \underbrace{(-bv)}_{F_d} v$$

$\neq 0$ b/c of damping
($= 0$ for SHO)

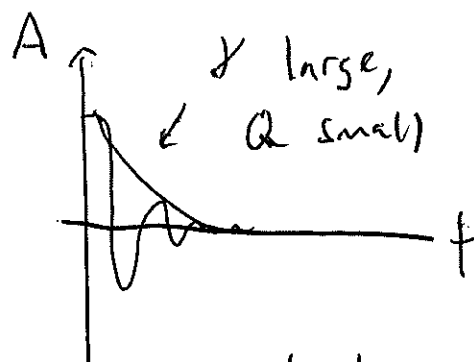
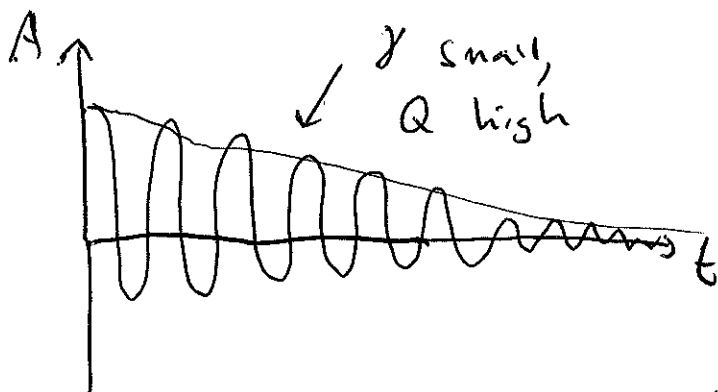
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Quality factor (Q)

\hookrightarrow Figure of merit to quantify, "how good"
an oscillator is;

$$\boxed{Q = \frac{\omega_0}{\gamma}}$$

limit $\gamma \rightarrow 0$

$$Q \rightarrow \infty$$



• Q is dimensionless and can be applied to any oscillator
(classical or quantum)

Alternative interpretation using energy:

Consider the energy of a lightly damped oscillator one period apart:

$$E_1 = E_0 e^{-\gamma t} ; \quad E_2 = E_0 e^{-\gamma(t+T)}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{E_2}{E_1} = e^{-\gamma T} \quad \text{For light damping, } \gamma T \ll 1$$

Expand this: $e^x \approx \underbrace{1 + x}_{\text{keep these}} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} \dots$

$$\rightarrow \frac{E_2}{E_1} = e^{-\gamma T} \approx 1 - \gamma T$$

Take $\frac{E_1 - E_2}{E_1} \approx \gamma T \approx \frac{2\pi\gamma}{\omega_0} = \frac{2\pi}{Q} = \text{Fractional energy change per cycle}$

$$\rightarrow Q = \frac{\text{energy stored in oscillator}}{\text{energy dissipated per cycle per radian}} \left[\frac{E_1}{(E_1 - E_2)/2\pi} \right]$$

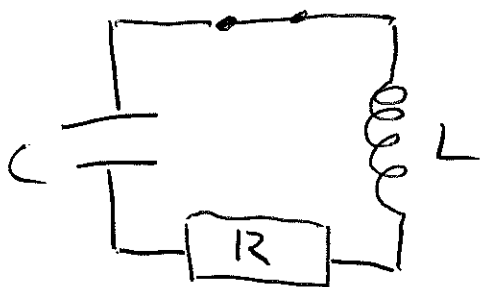
Can rewrite eq. of motion as: $\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \frac{\omega_0}{Q} \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = 0$

$\omega = \omega_0 \left(1 - \frac{1}{4Q^2} \right)^{1/2}$ For $Q \sim 5$, $\frac{\omega_0 - \omega}{\omega} \approx 0.5\%$

Typical Q values: 1) Clock pendulum $Q \sim 75$
2) violin string $Q \sim 10^3$ 3) Quartz crystal: $Q \sim 10^6$

2.4 Damped electrical oscillations

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In circuits, resistance impedes flow of current. From Kirchhoff's law:

$$V_C + V_R + V_L = 0$$

$$\rightarrow L \frac{d^2 q}{dt^2} + R \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{q}{C} = 0$$

Similar form to mechanical oscillator:

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = 0$$

Using correspondence: $q \leftrightarrow x$, $L \leftrightarrow m$, $\frac{1}{C} \leftrightarrow k$

$$\frac{R}{L} \leftrightarrow \gamma$$

Can transfer solution from mechanical case:

$$q(t) = q_0 e^{-Rt/2L} \cos \left[\left(\frac{1}{LC} - \frac{R^2}{4L^2} \right)^{1/2} t \right] \quad \left(\frac{R^2}{4L^2} < \frac{1}{LC} \text{ for light damping} \right)$$

Since $V_C = \frac{q}{C}$

$$\rightarrow V_C = V_0 e^{-Rt/2L} \cos \left[\left(\frac{1}{LC} - \frac{R^2}{4L^2} \right)^{1/2} t \right]$$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{1}{LC} - \frac{R^2}{4L^2}$$

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$$\frac{R^2}{4L^2} \gg \frac{1}{LC} \quad \text{heavy damping}$$

$$\frac{R^2}{4L^2} = \frac{1}{LC} \quad \text{critical damping}$$

$$\frac{R^2}{4L^2} \ll \frac{1}{LC} \quad \text{light damping}$$

We find that Quality factor $Q = \frac{1}{R} \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}}$

→ Resistance R clearly negatively impacts Q ,
but so does ration $\frac{L}{C}$

ex: $L = 10 \text{ mH}$, $C = 2.5 \text{ nF}$, $R = 10 \Omega \Rightarrow Q = 200$