

When $\omega = 0$, this becomes

4

$$\frac{F_0}{m \sqrt{(\omega_0^2)^2}} = \frac{F_0}{m \left(\frac{k}{m}\right)} = F_0/k.$$

Why is this reasonable in physical terms? (Exercise)

When ω gets really large, the maximum amplitude gets really small. Again, why is this reasonable?

Think about these points:

When ω is small (but not 0), ϕ is close to 0: the driving force is almost "in phase" with the amplitude.

When ω is large, the driving force is almost "180°" out of phase with the amplitude.

Why are these, too, physically reasonable?

For these, you need to compute the actual

$$\text{imaginary part} = \frac{F_0}{m} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 2\gamma\omega\omega_0}} \sin \omega t - 2\gamma\omega\omega_0 \cos \omega t$$

$$\text{etc. so } \sin(\omega t + \phi) = -\frac{2\gamma\omega\omega_0}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 2\gamma\omega\omega_0}} \cos \omega t + \frac{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 2\gamma\omega\omega_0}} \sin \omega t$$

$$\text{so } \cos \phi = \frac{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 2\gamma\omega\omega_0}}, \quad \sin \phi = \frac{-2\gamma\omega\omega_0}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 2\gamma\omega\omega_0}} \quad \text{etc.}$$

Interesting question: What driving frequency ω gives the largest (maximum) amplitude for $x(t)$?

Answer: The ω that maximizes

$m\omega^2 z_m$ or equivalently minimizes

$$(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + (2\omega_0 \gamma)^2 \omega^2$$

$$= \omega_0^4 - 2\omega_0^2 \omega^2 + \omega^4 + 4\omega_0^2 \gamma^2 \omega^2$$

$$= \omega^4 + (4\omega_0^2 \gamma^2 - 2\omega_0^2) \omega^2 + \omega_0^4$$

Think of this as a quadratic polynomial in ω^2 . It is minimal when

$$\omega_{\text{res}}^2 = -\frac{1}{2} (\text{middle coefficient})$$

$$= \omega_0^2 (1 - 2\gamma^2)$$

$$\text{or } \omega = \omega_0 \sqrt{1 - 2\gamma^2} \quad (\text{provided } \gamma < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$$

Note that this is less than the undamped resonance ω_0 . A (seriously) underdamped system has a "resonance frequency" in this sense which is always less than the resonance frequency of the corresponding undamped frequency =