

## Resolution of the forced oscillator equation

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**Solution:** Inserting the ansatz  $x(t) = A \cos(\omega t - \delta)$  into the differential equation we get,

$$-\omega^2 mA \cos(\omega t - \delta) - \omega b A \sin(\omega t - \delta) + m\omega_0^2 A \cos(\omega t - \delta) = F_0 \cos \omega t .$$

Using the trigonometric rules,

$$\cos(\omega t - \delta) = \cos \omega t \cos \delta + \sin \omega t \sin \delta$$

$$\sin(\omega t - \delta) = \sin \omega t \cos \delta - \cos \omega t \sin \delta$$

we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} & -\omega^2 mA [\cos \omega t \cos \delta + \sin \omega t \sin \delta] - \omega b A [\sin \omega t \cos \delta - \cos \omega t \sin \delta] \\ & + m\omega_0^2 A [\cos \omega t \cos \delta + \sin \omega t \sin \delta] = F_0 \cos \omega t . \end{aligned}$$

This equation must be valid for  $t = \omega\pi/2$  and for  $t = 0$ . That is, we get two equations,

$$\begin{aligned} -\omega b A \cos \delta + m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2) A \sin \delta &= 0 \\ \omega b A \sin \delta + m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2) A \cos \delta &= F_0 \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \delta &= \frac{b\omega}{m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)} \\ A &= \frac{F_0}{\omega b \sin \delta + m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2) \cos \delta} . \end{aligned}$$

To solve the second equation we derive the following trigonometric rules

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \delta = \frac{\sin \delta}{\cos \delta} = \frac{\sin \delta}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \delta}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{\sin^2 \delta} - 1}} &\implies \sin \delta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{\tan^2 \delta}}} \\ \tan \delta = \frac{\sin \delta}{\cos \delta} = \frac{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \delta}}{\cos \delta} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\cos^2 \delta} - 1} &\implies \cos \delta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \delta}} . \end{aligned}$$

With this we can calculate:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{F_0}{\omega b \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{\tan^2 \delta}} + m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2) \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \delta}}} \\ &= \frac{F_0}{\omega b \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{b\omega}{m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}\right)^2}} + m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2) \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{b\omega}{m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}\right)^2}}} = \frac{F_0}{\sqrt{m^2(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + b^2\omega^2}} . \end{aligned}$$