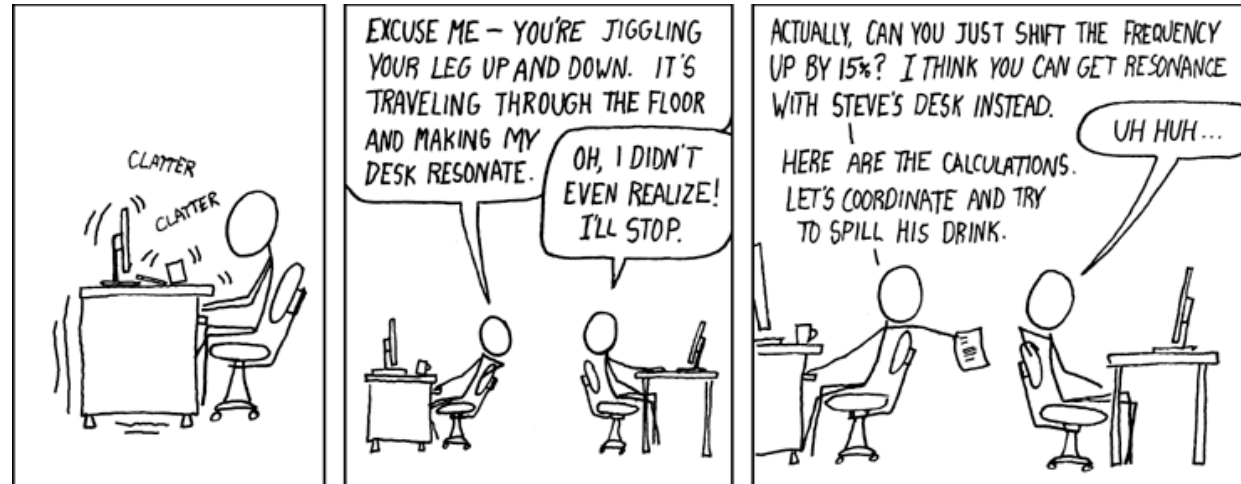


Torsional Oscillator

Episode II: Driven Response



Prof. Jeff Filippini
Physics 401
Spring 2020



[XKCD #228](#)

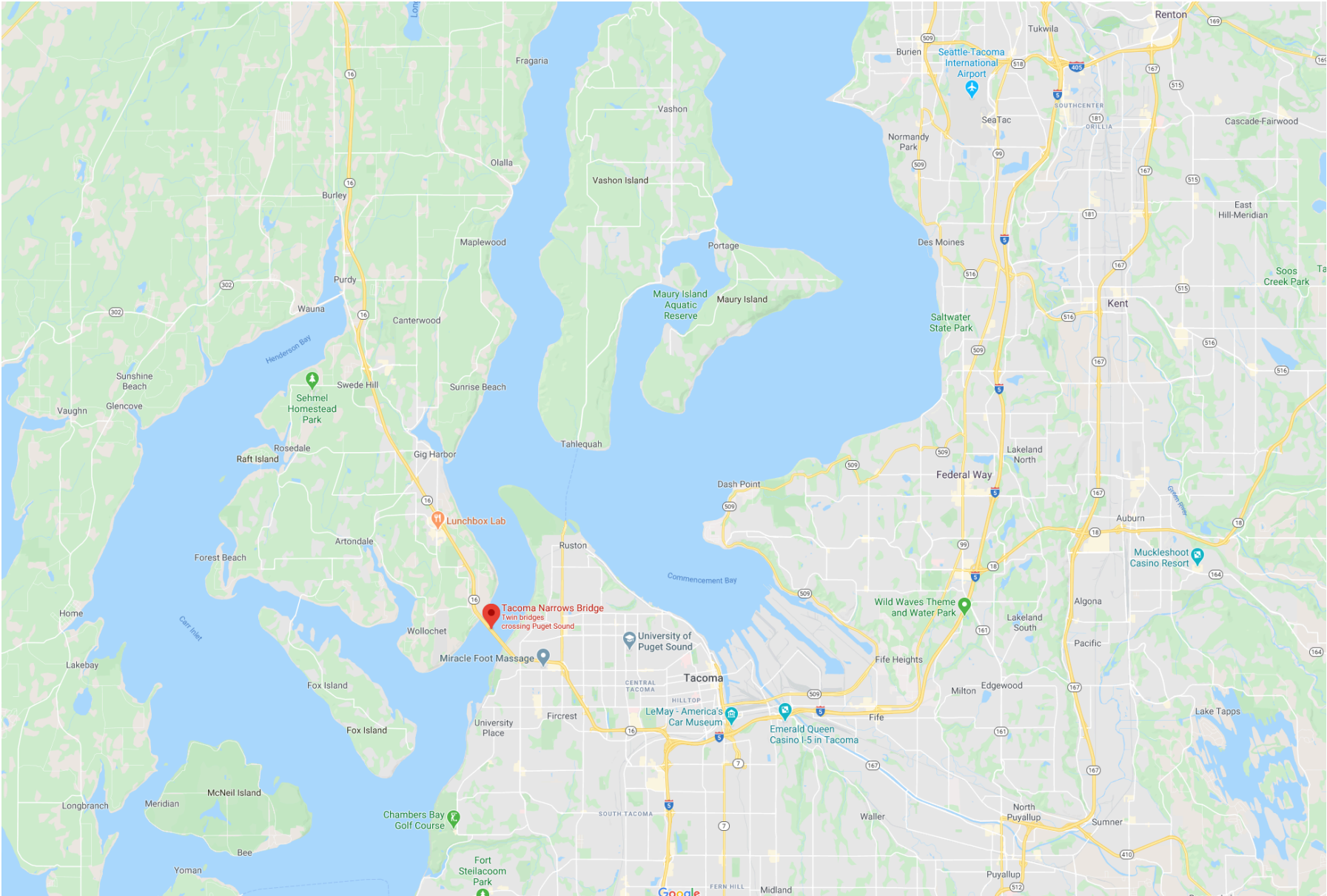
The Driven Torsional Oscillator

1. Driven torsional oscillator: Theory
2. Experimental setup and kinematics
3. Resonance
4. Beats
5. Nonlinear effects
6. Comments

Some Historical Examples



Tacoma Narrows (WA) Bridge



Tacoma Narrows (WA) Bridge - 1940



Tacoma Narrows (WA) Bridge - 1940

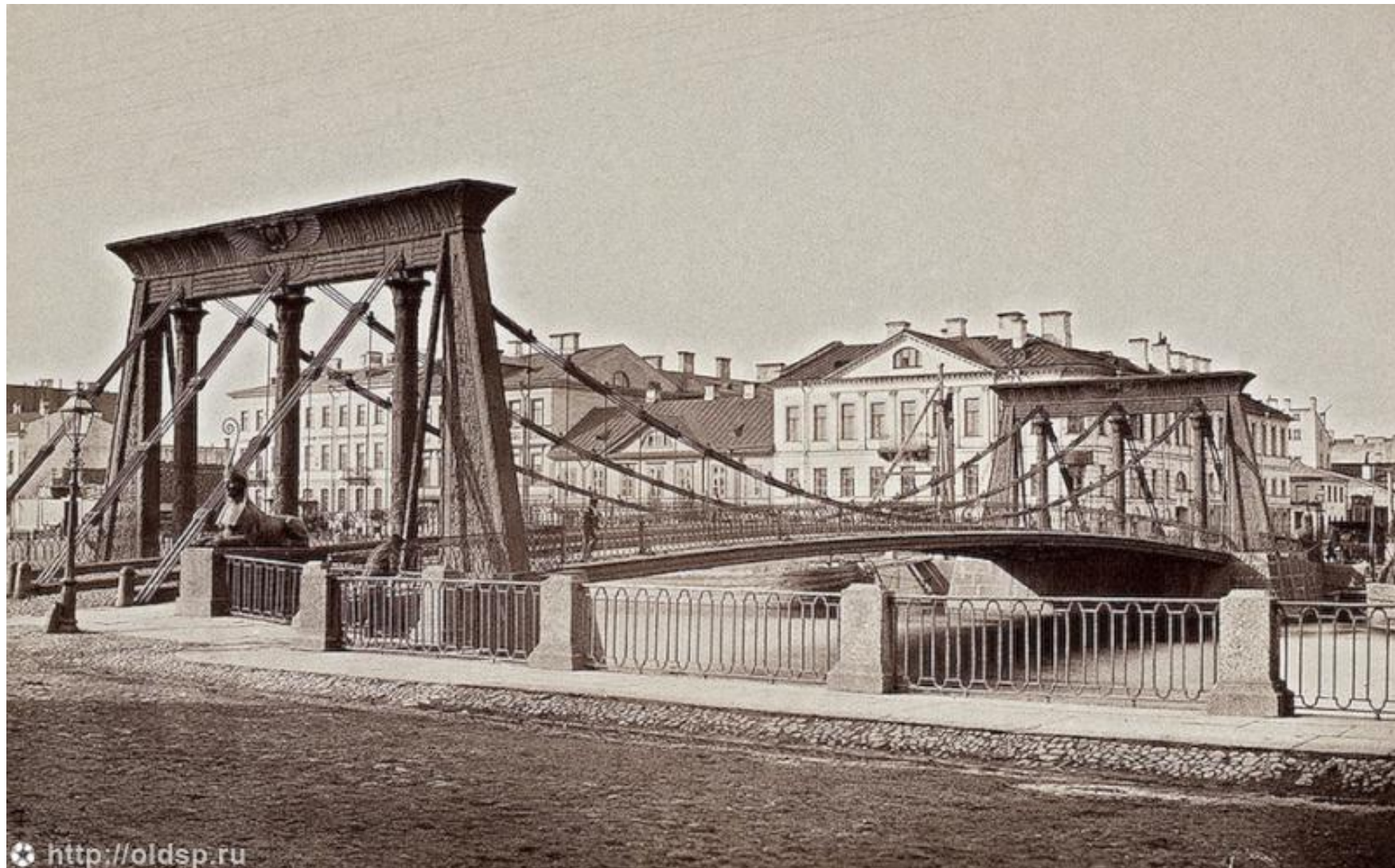


Tacoma Narrows (WA) Bridge



Note: 1940 failure is *not* best understood as elementary forced resonance (as often described!), but instead a process called **aerodynamic flutter**. See [Billah & Scanlan \(1990\)](#).

Egyptian Bridge, St. Petersburg (1905)



Egyptian Bridge, St. Petersburg (1905)



Millennium Footbridge, London (2000)



[Video #1](#)

[Video #2](#)

Millennium Footbridge, London (2000)

Mitigations (2002)



Tuned mass inertial dampers



Viscous dampers

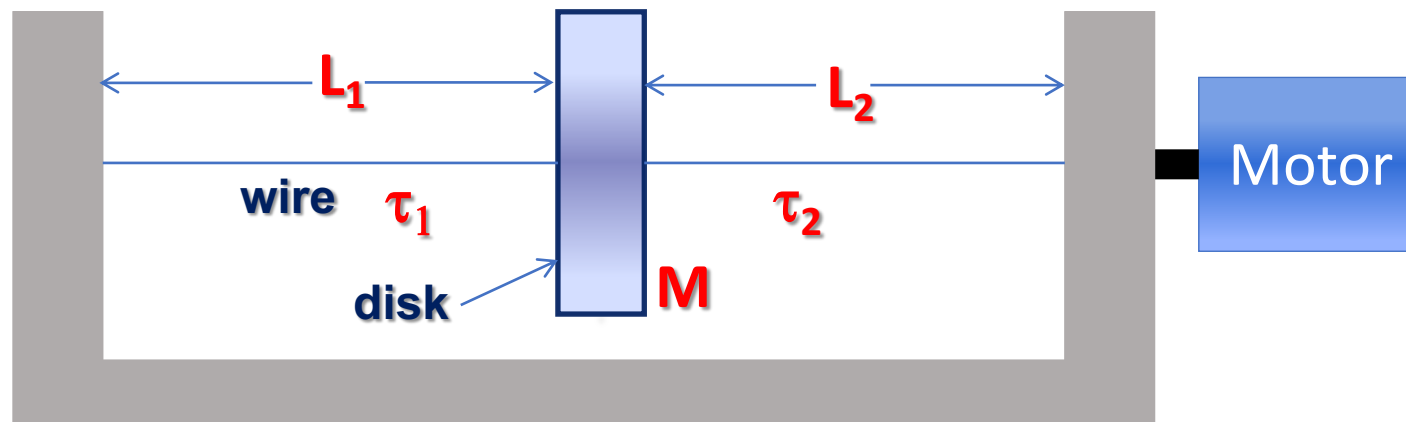


Flutter in Aviation



Introducing the Driven Torsional Oscillator

Goals: For a damped, driven torsion oscillator, analyze the response to a sinusoidal drive, the transient response, and the steady state solution



Angular displacement:

$$\theta_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

Torque:

$$K\lambda\theta_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{L_1}{L_1 + L_2}$$

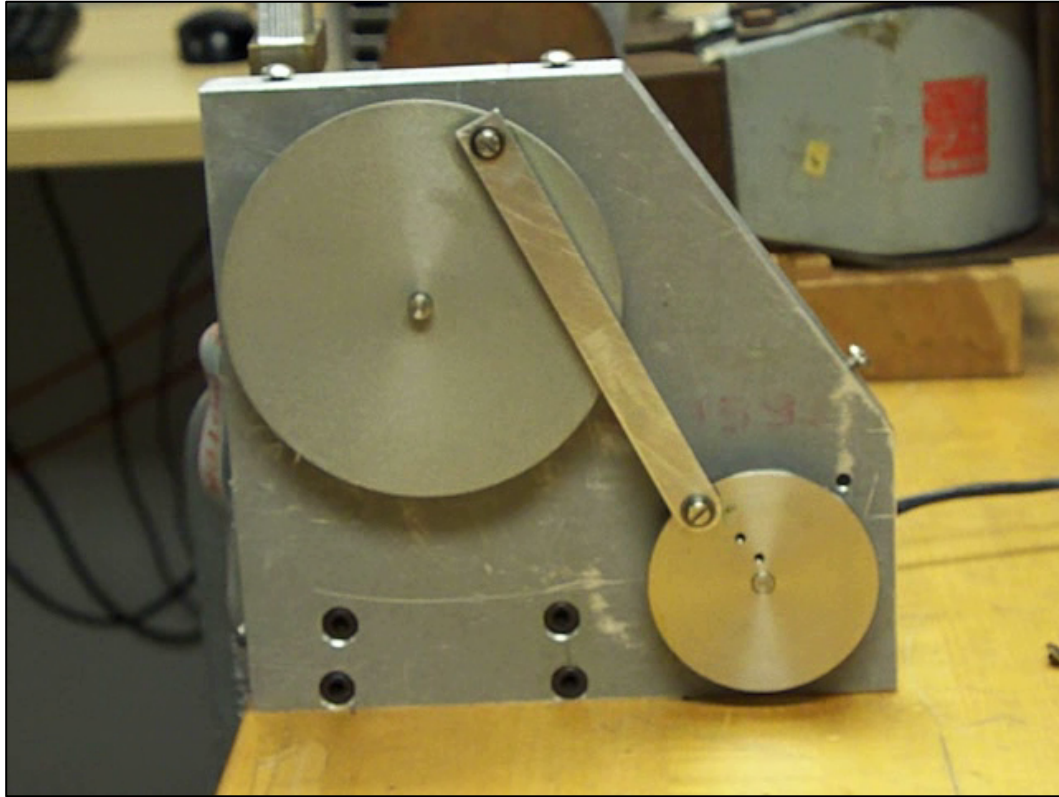
$$I\ddot{\theta} + K\theta + R\dot{\theta} = \tau_m = K\lambda\theta_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

Viscous damping

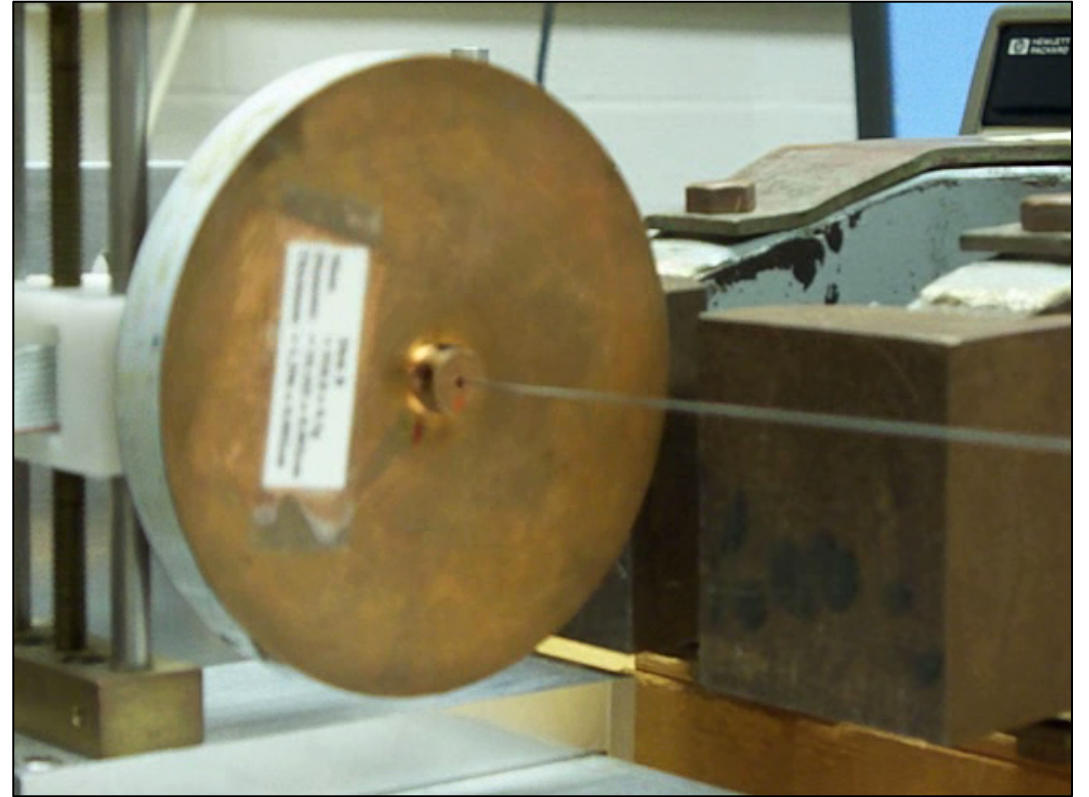
Torque by motor

θ : angular deflection of the disk
 I : moment of inertia [kg-m²]
 R : damping constant [N-m-s]
 K : torsional spring constant [N-m]

Experimental Setup



Motor



Pendulum

Anatomy of a Solution

$$I\ddot{\theta} + K\theta + R\dot{\theta} = \tau_m = K\lambda\theta_0\cos(\omega t)$$

Solutions are the sum of two components:

Homogeneous

1. **Transient** solution (*last week!*)

Temporary, to match *initial conditions*.

Particular

2. **Steady-state** solution

Persistent, due to *driving torque* τ_m .

Last week

$$I\ddot{\theta} + R\dot{\theta} + K\theta = 0$$

The homogeneous equation of motion

$$\theta(t) = A e^{-at} \cos(\omega_1 t - \phi)$$

Transient solution

$$a = R/2I$$

Attenuation constant

$$\omega_o = \sqrt{K/I}$$

Natural (angular) frequency

$$\omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_o^2 - a^2}$$

Damped (angular) frequency

Steady-State Solution

1. Transient Solution

Initially the system responds at its characteristic frequency ω_1

$$\theta_t(t) = |A| e^{-at} \cos(\omega_1 t + \phi) \rightarrow \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - a^2}$$

Once this response dies away, the system responds only at the driving frequency ω

So the steady-state solution must have the same time dependence as the drive

2. Steady-State Solution

$$\theta_{ss}(t) = \text{Re}(\theta(\omega)e^{i\omega t})$$

$$I\ddot{\theta} + K\theta + R\dot{\theta} = \tau_m = K\lambda\theta_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

Substituting $\theta_{ss}(t)$ in equation of motion we will find the equations for $\theta(\omega)$

$$\theta(\omega) = \frac{\lambda\omega_0^2\theta_0}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\omega^2 a^2}} e^{-i\beta(\omega)}$$

and

$$\beta(\omega) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2\omega a}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}\right)$$

Steady-State Solution

$$I\ddot{\theta} + K\theta + R\dot{\theta} = \tau_m = K\lambda\theta_0\cos(\omega t)$$

$$\theta_s(t) = B(\omega)\cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega))$$

Steady state solution

$$B(\omega) = \frac{\lambda\theta_0\omega_0^2}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \omega^2\gamma^2}}$$

Amplitude function

$$\tan\beta(\omega) = \frac{\omega\gamma}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}$$

Phase function

$$\gamma = \frac{R}{I} = 2\frac{R}{2I} = 2a$$

Damping constant

Putting It All Together

So the time-domain form for the steady-state solution is:

$$\theta_{ss}(t) = \frac{\lambda \omega_0^2 \theta_0}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\omega^2 a^2}} \cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega))$$

Amplitude $B(\omega)$

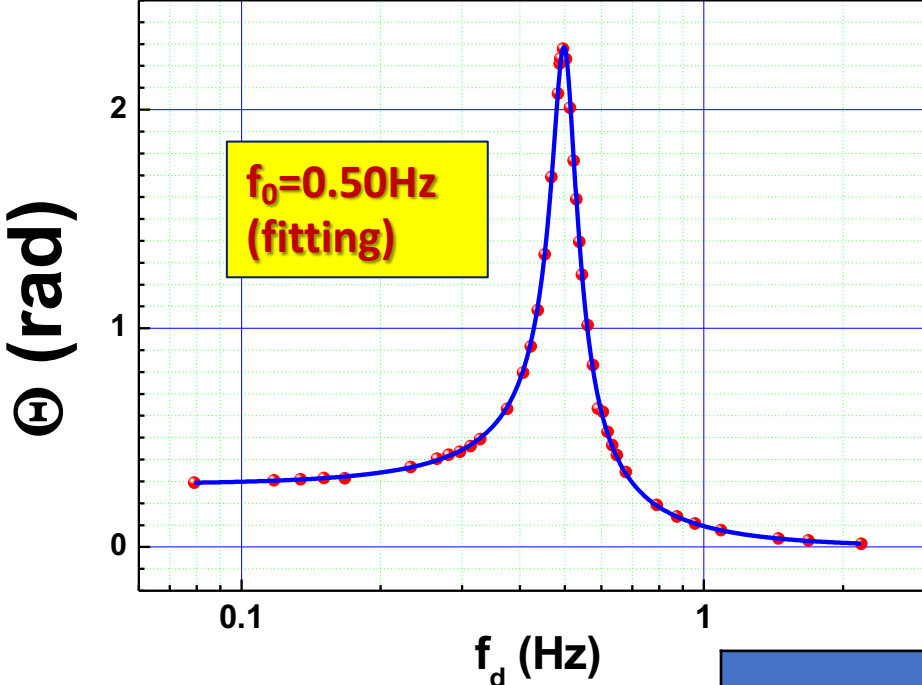
Phase

With homogeneous and particular solutions now in hand, the general solution to the equation of motion is a sum of these components:

$$\theta(t) = \theta_t(t) + \theta_{ss}(t) = A e^{-at} \cos(\omega_1 t - \phi) + B \cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega))$$

Coefficients A and ϕ are determined by initial conditions

Resonance: Amplitude

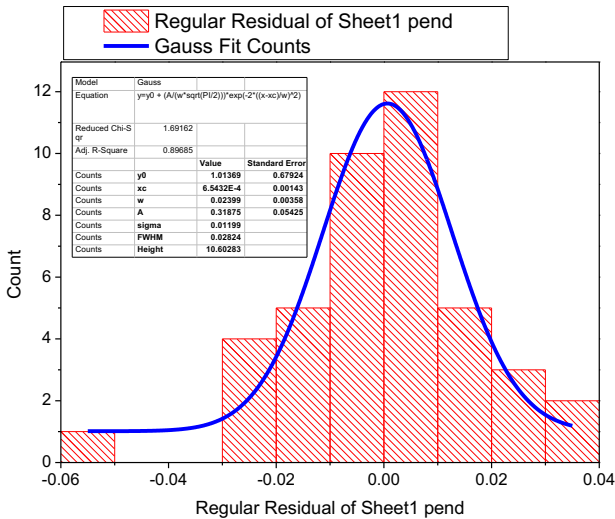


Fitting function:
$$\theta(f) = \frac{A \cdot f_0^2}{\sqrt{(f_0^2 - f^2)^2 + \gamma^2 f^2}}$$

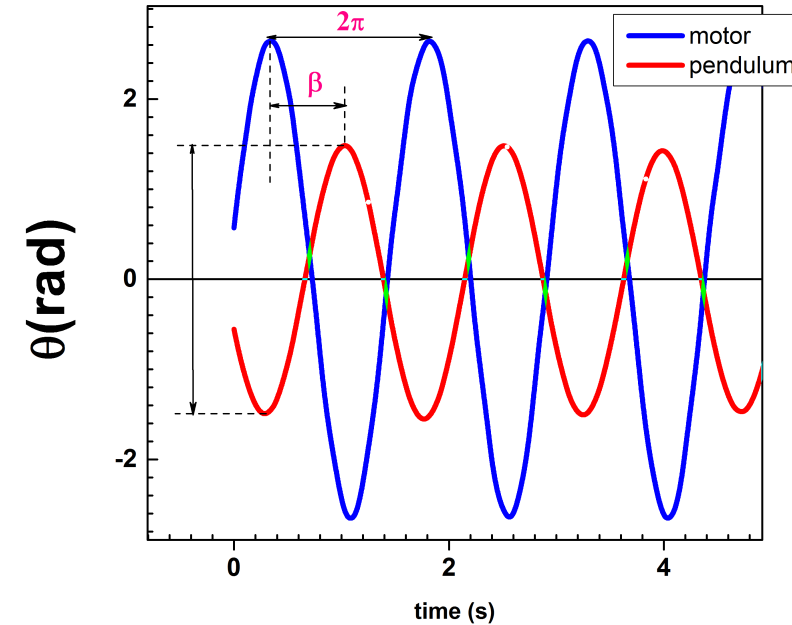
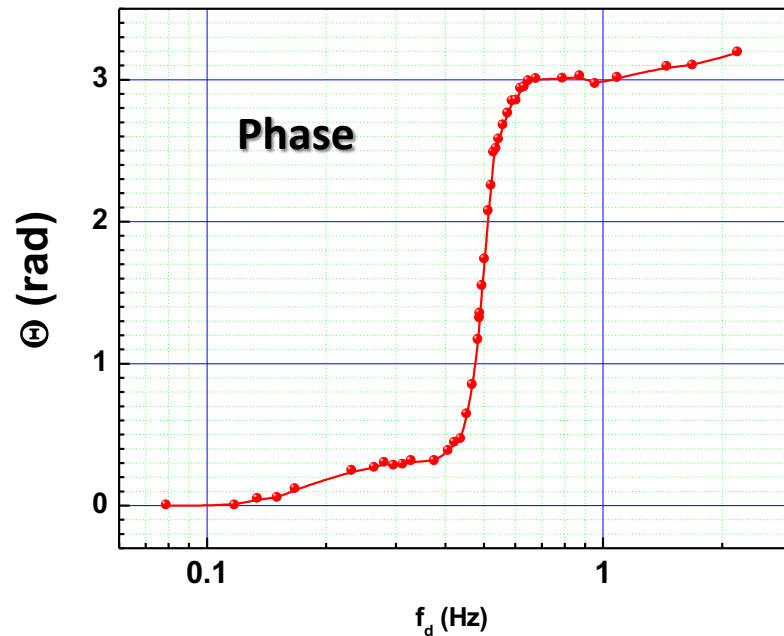
$\omega = 2\pi f; \gamma = 2a$

To create a new fitting function go
“Tools” → **“Fitting Function Builder”** or
 press **F8**

Model		Resonance1 (User)	
Equation	$y = A \cdot f_0^2 / \sqrt{(f_0^2 - x^2)^2 + x^2 \cdot \gamma^2}$		
Reduced Chi-Sqr	3.00E-04		
Adj. R-Square	0.999411988		
		Value	Standard Error
pend	A	0.286662	0.001663551
pend	f0	0.500271	2.14E-04
pend	gamma	0.062856	4.98E-04



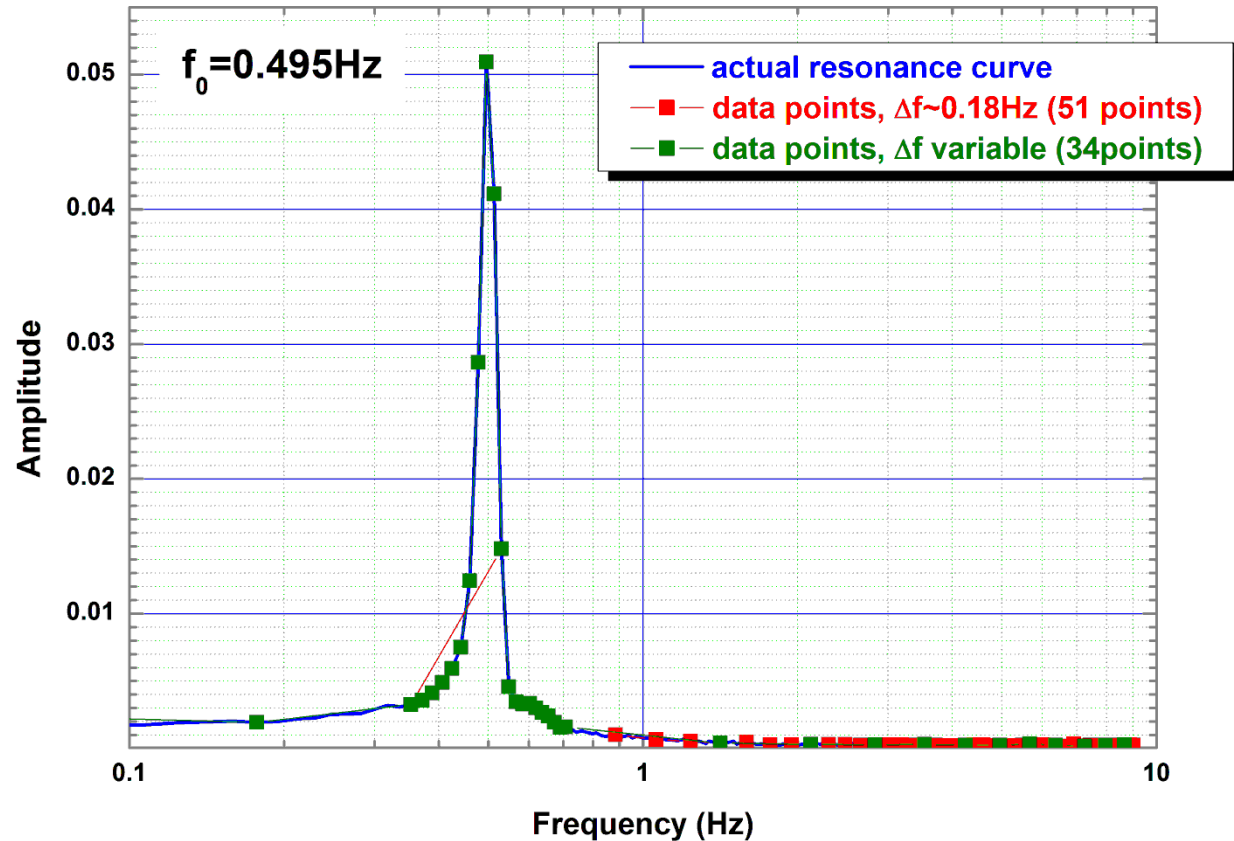
Resonance: Phase



By scanning the **driving frequency f_d** , we can measure the **amplitude** and **phase shift** of the oscillating pendulum as a function of frequency (*i.e.* the **transfer function**).

Both parameters (amplitude and phase) can be extracted by the DAQ program, or by Origin

Resonance: Taking Data

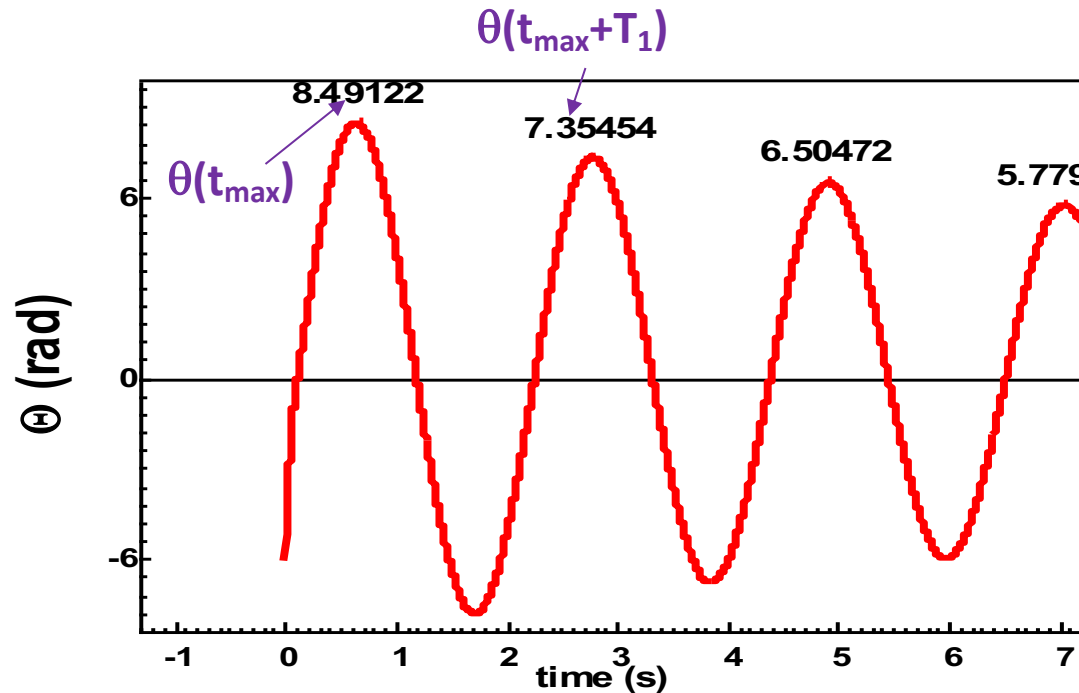


Take care in your choice of **step size in frequency** in order to capture the resonance's shape

Quality Factor & Log Decrement

We have discussed two ways of characterizing the rate at which oscillations are damped out:

- **Logarithmic decrement, δ** : Log of the **amplitude ratio** between consecutive oscillations
- **Quality factor, Q** : Ratio of **stored energy** to **energy lost per *radian*** of oscillation (*cycle*/ 2π)



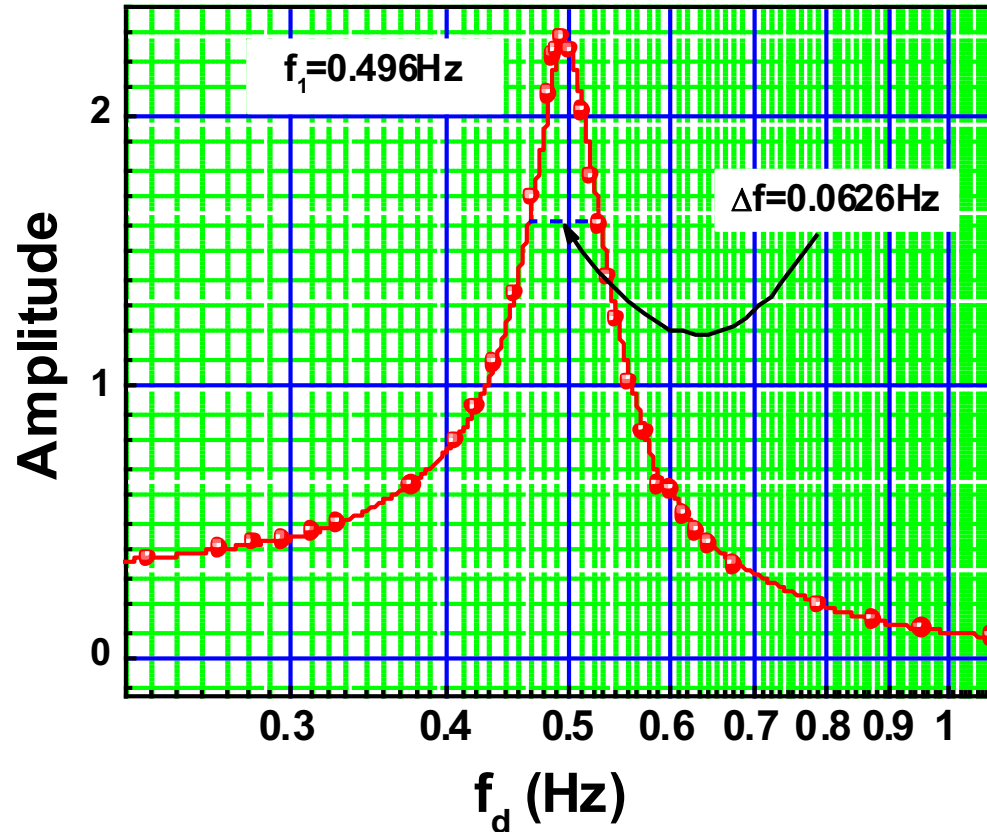
$$\delta \equiv \ln \left(\frac{\theta(t_{max})}{\theta(t_{max} + T_1)} \right) = \ln \left(\frac{e^{-at_{max}}}{e^{-a(t_{max} + T_1)}} \right) = aT_1$$

$$\delta \equiv \ln \left(\frac{8.49}{7.35} \right) \approx \mathbf{0.144}$$

$$Q = \frac{\omega_1}{R/I} = \frac{\omega_1}{2a} = \frac{\pi \omega_1}{a 2\pi} = \frac{\pi}{a T_1} = \frac{\pi}{\delta}$$

$$Q \approx \mathbf{21.8}$$

Quality Factor & Log Decrement



In addition to the **time-domain** formulation above, there is a (*nearly*) equivalent formulation in the **frequency domain**.

We can compute $Q = \omega_1 / \Delta\omega$ (or $f_1 / \Delta f$), where $\Delta\omega$ is the **bandwidth** of the resonance curve.

$\Delta\omega$ is the width of the resonance curve when it falls to half of its peak **power** level (*not amplitude!*), *i.e.* the **full-width at half-maximum (FWHM)** of power.

Here $Q \approx 7.9$.

Resonance: Angular Displacement Amplitude

Solve for the **amplitude**



$$|\theta_{ss}(t)| = \frac{\lambda \omega_0^2 \theta_0}{\sqrt{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\omega^2 a^2}}$$

... and on **resonance** ($\omega = \omega_0$), we have:

$$|\theta_{ss}(t)| = \frac{\lambda \omega_0 \theta_0}{2a} = \lambda \theta_0 \cdot Q$$

If we combine...

- high driving amplitude θ_0
- high quality Q
(equivalently, low damping factor a)



... in a mechanical system, then it will accumulate a lot of oscillation energy, which could result in its **destruction!**





Beats: Theory (Symmetric)

Suppose that we measure the sum of two harmonic signals of frequencies ω_1 and ω_2

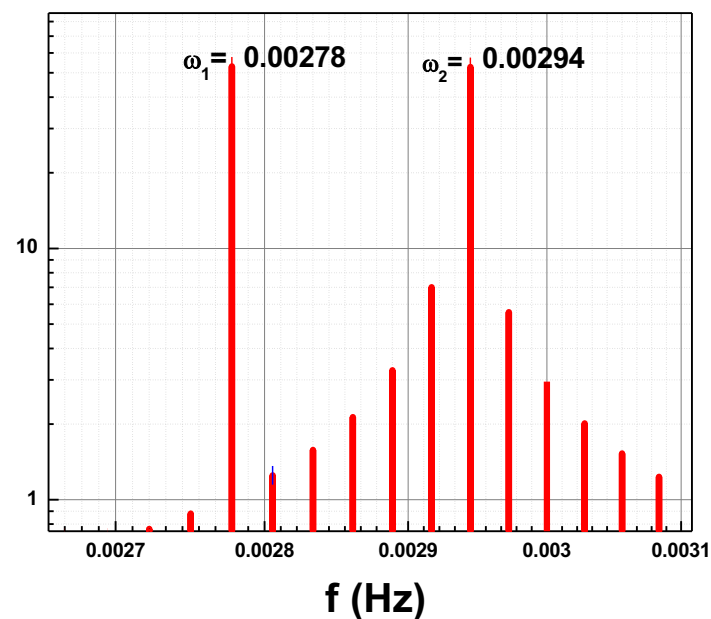
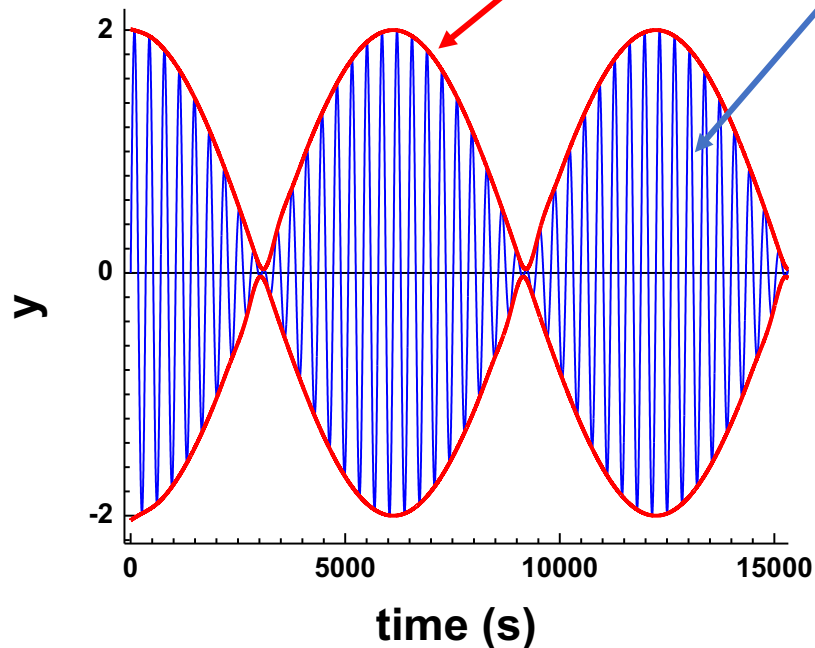
$$y_1 = A \sin(\omega_1 t + \varphi_1); \quad y_2 = B \sin(\omega_2 t + \varphi_2)$$

Consider first the case that $A=B$ (*equal amplitudes*):

$$y = y_1 + y_2 = 2A \sin\left(\frac{\omega_1 + \omega_2}{2}t + \beta_1\right) \cos\left(\frac{\omega_1 - \omega_2}{2}t + \beta_2\right) \quad \beta_{1,2} \equiv \frac{\varphi_1 \pm \varphi_2}{2}$$

If $\omega_1 \approx \omega_2$ (close frequencies), then take $\omega \equiv \frac{\omega_1 + \omega_2}{2} \approx \omega_{1,2}$ and $\Omega \equiv \frac{\omega_1 - \omega_2}{2}$

$$y = 2A \cos(\Omega t + \beta_2) \sin(\omega t + \beta_1)$$



Beats: Theory (General)

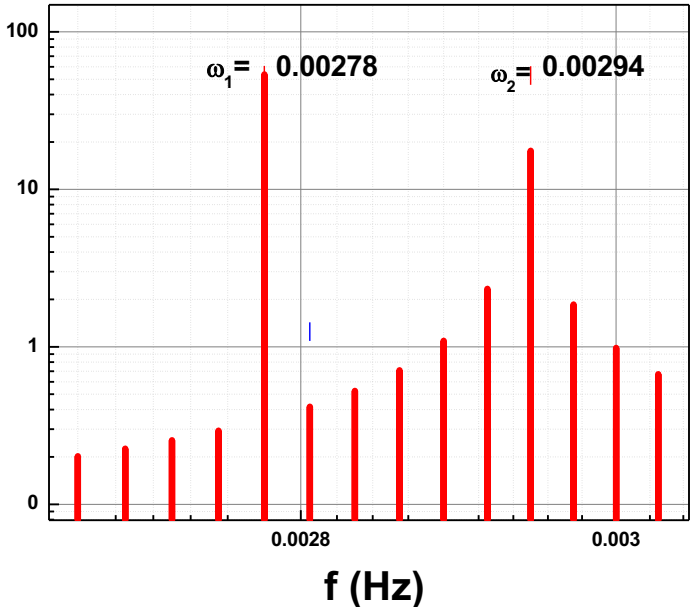
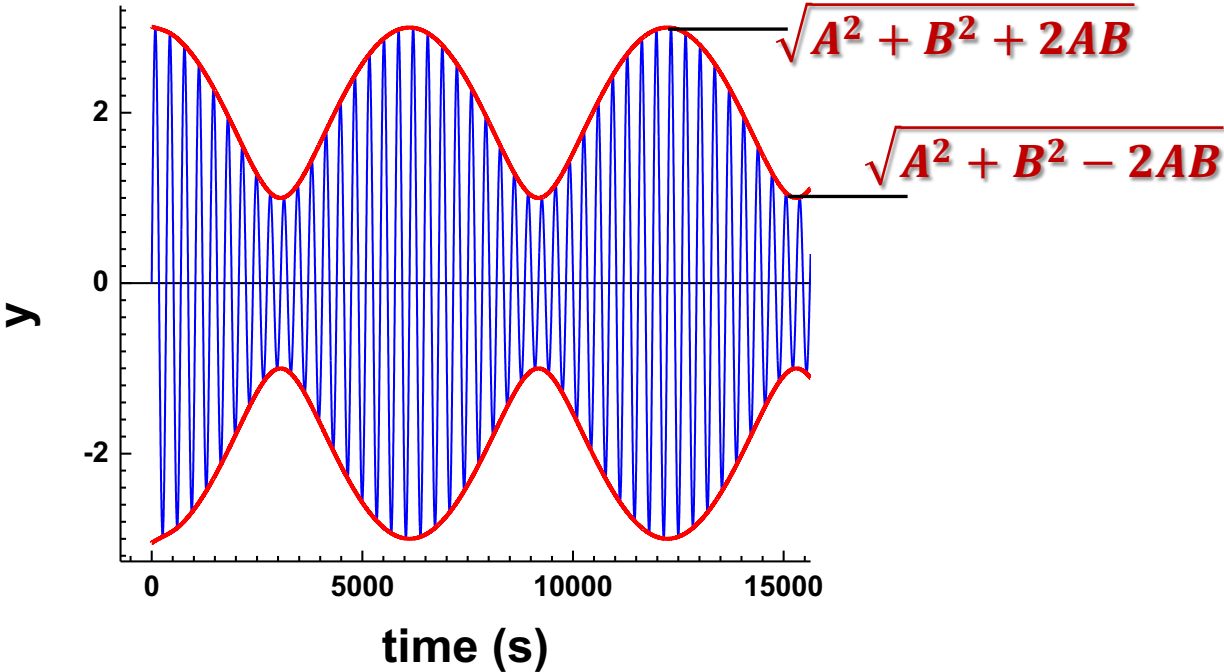
Now consider the more general case where $A \neq B$, and ignore relative phases for simplicity

$$y_1 = A \sin(\omega_1 t); \quad y_2 = B \sin((\omega_1 + \Omega)t)$$

Then we have: $y = y_1 + y_2 = C(t) \sin((\omega_1 + \beta)t)$, where:

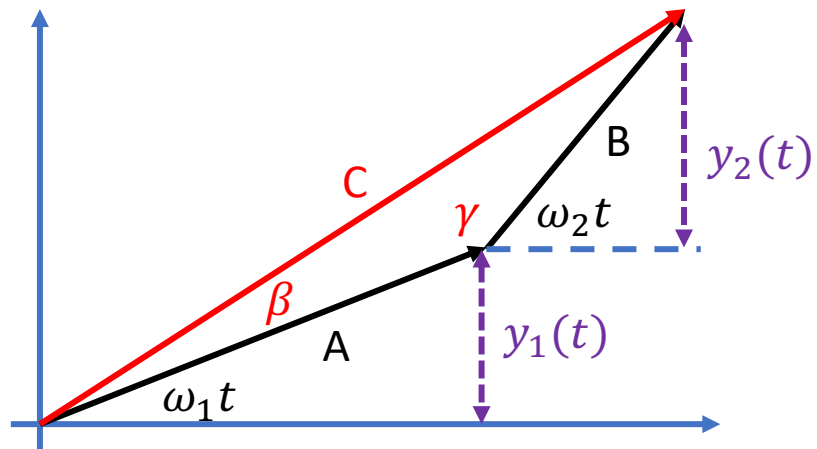
$$C(t) = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + 2AB \cos(\Omega t)}$$

$$\beta(t) = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{B \sin(\Omega t)}{A + B \cos(\Omega t)} \right) + \begin{cases} 0, & A + B \cos(\Omega t) \geq 0 \\ \pi, & A + B \cos(\Omega t) < 0 \end{cases}$$



Aside: Deriving the General Beat Formula

Consider the phasor construction below. The two beating sinusoidal signals appear as the heights (y -values) of the phasors of lengths A and B . We seek an expression for the height of the phasor of length C .



$$y(t) = y_1(t) + y_2(t) = C(t) \sin(\omega_1 t + \beta(t))$$

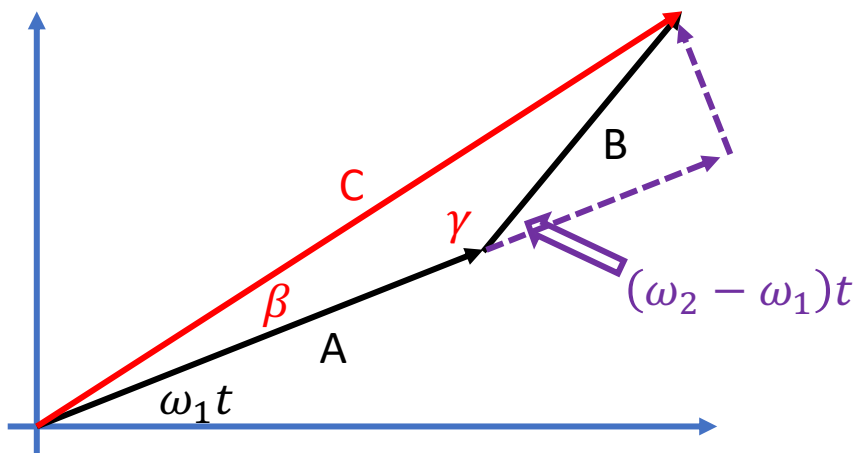
The **amplitude $C(t)$** may be found using the Law of Cosines:

$$C^2 = A^2 + B^2 - 2AB \cos \gamma$$

$$\gamma = 2\pi - \omega_2 t - (\pi - \omega_1 t) = \pi - (\omega_1 - \omega_2)t$$

$$C^2 = A^2 + B^2 + 2AB \cos((\omega_2 - \omega_1)t)$$

This is the **envelope**, modulated at the beat frequency

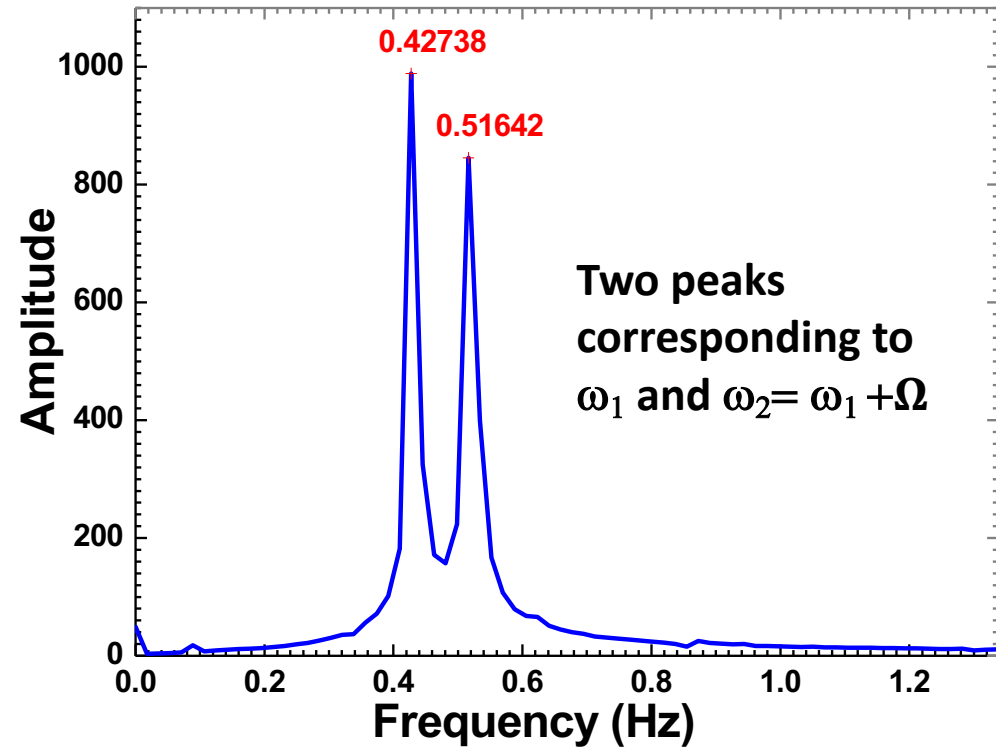
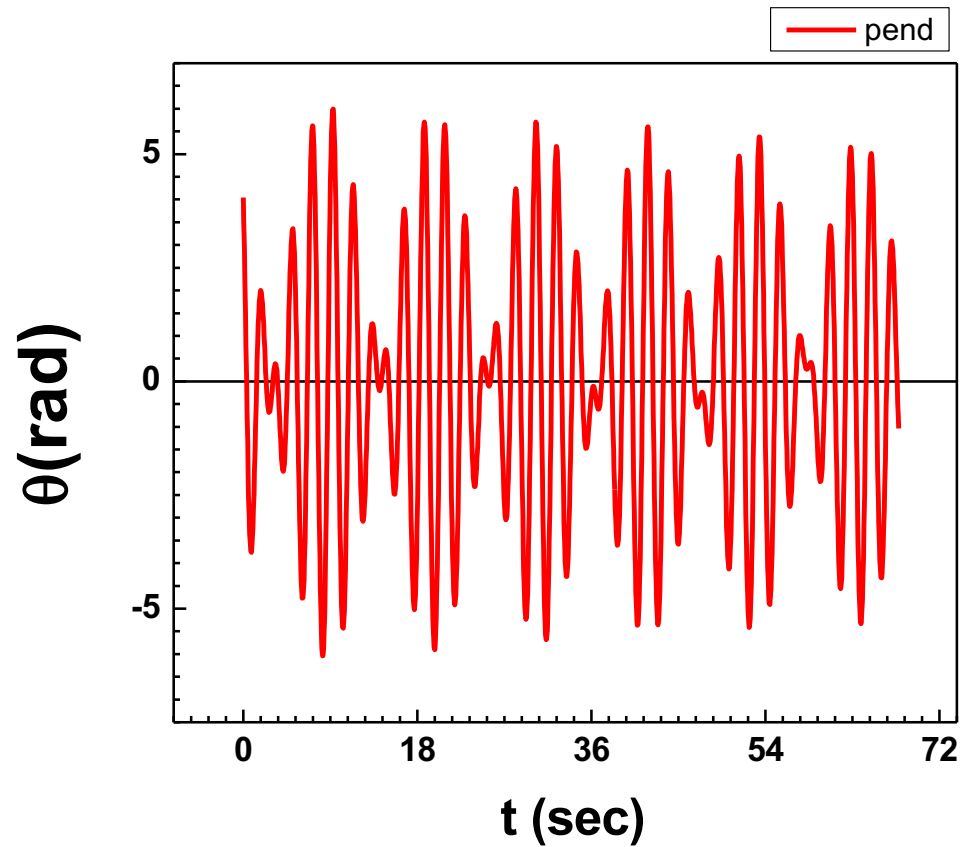


The **phase angle $\beta(t)$** may be found by extending a right triangle with hypotenuse C . Then we can observe that:

$$\tan \beta = \frac{B \sin((\omega_2 - \omega_1)t)}{A + B \cos((\omega_2 - \omega_1)t)}$$

This is a shift in the oscillation phase relative to $y_1(t)$.

Beats: Experiment



Beats in our Driven Torsional Oscillator

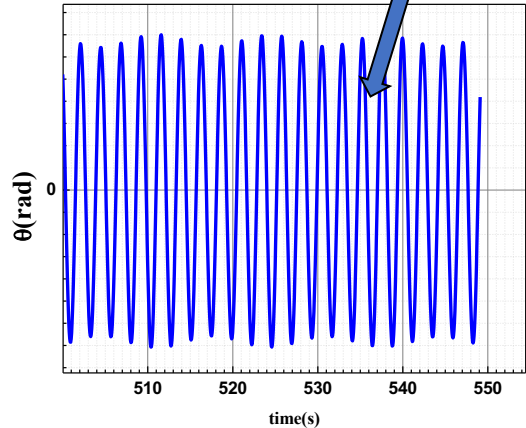
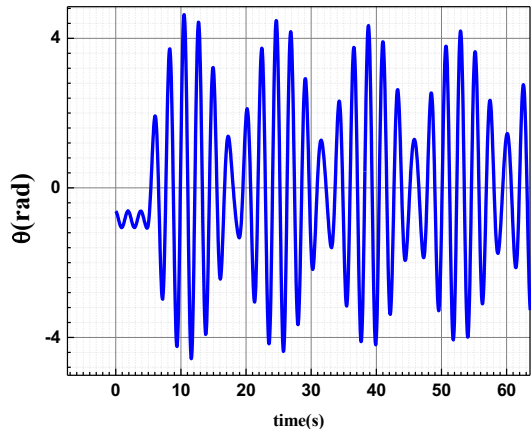
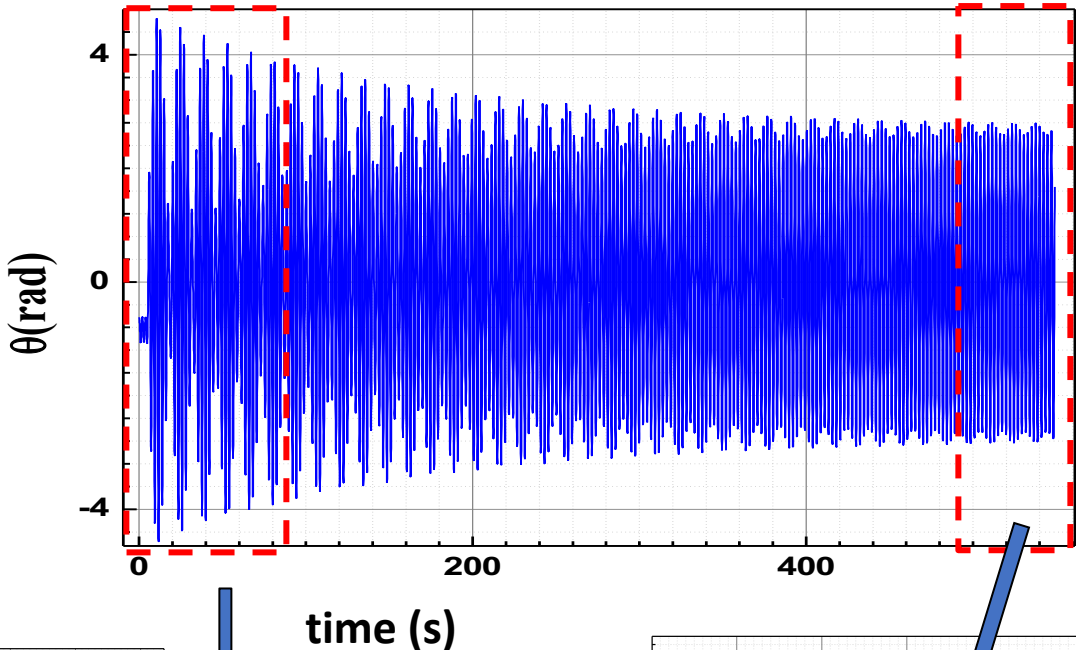
$$\theta(t) = \theta_t(t) + \theta_{ss}(t) = Ae^{-\alpha t} \cos(\omega_1 t - \phi) + B \cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega))$$

$\theta_t(t) \rightarrow 0$

When we change the drive, we introduce a new, second frequency

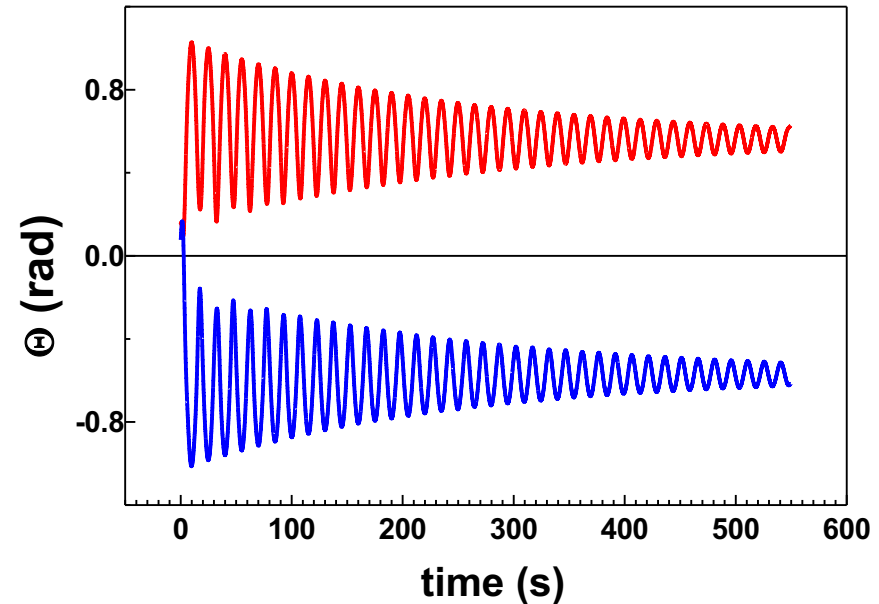
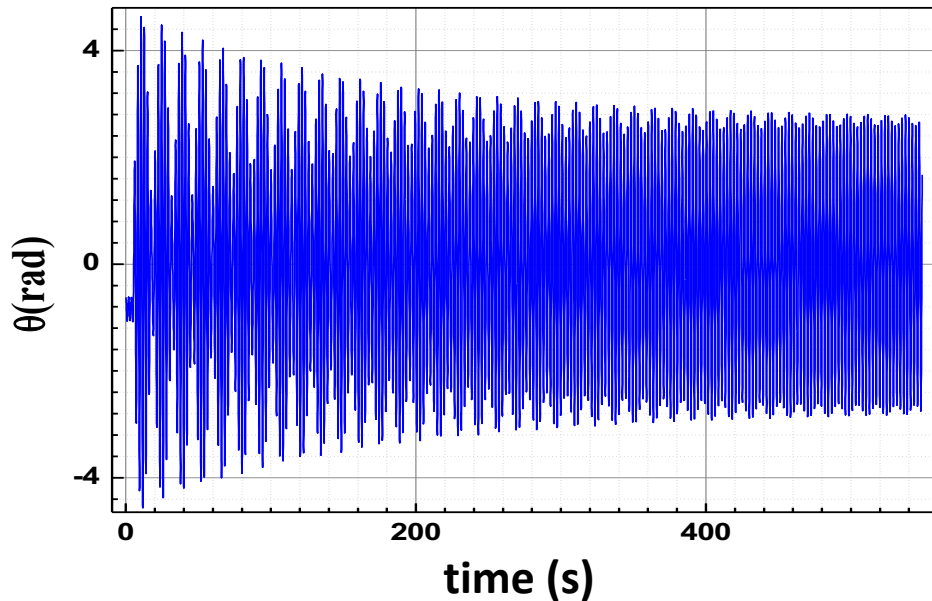
The beats we see decay over time (*i.e.* they're part of the **transient** solution). How fast depends upon damping.

When you work on resonance data, **wait** until you see the **steady-state** oscillations!



Beat Envelope

$$\theta(t) = \theta_t(t) + \theta_{ss}(t) = Ae^{-at} \cos(\omega_1 t - \phi) + B \cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega))$$



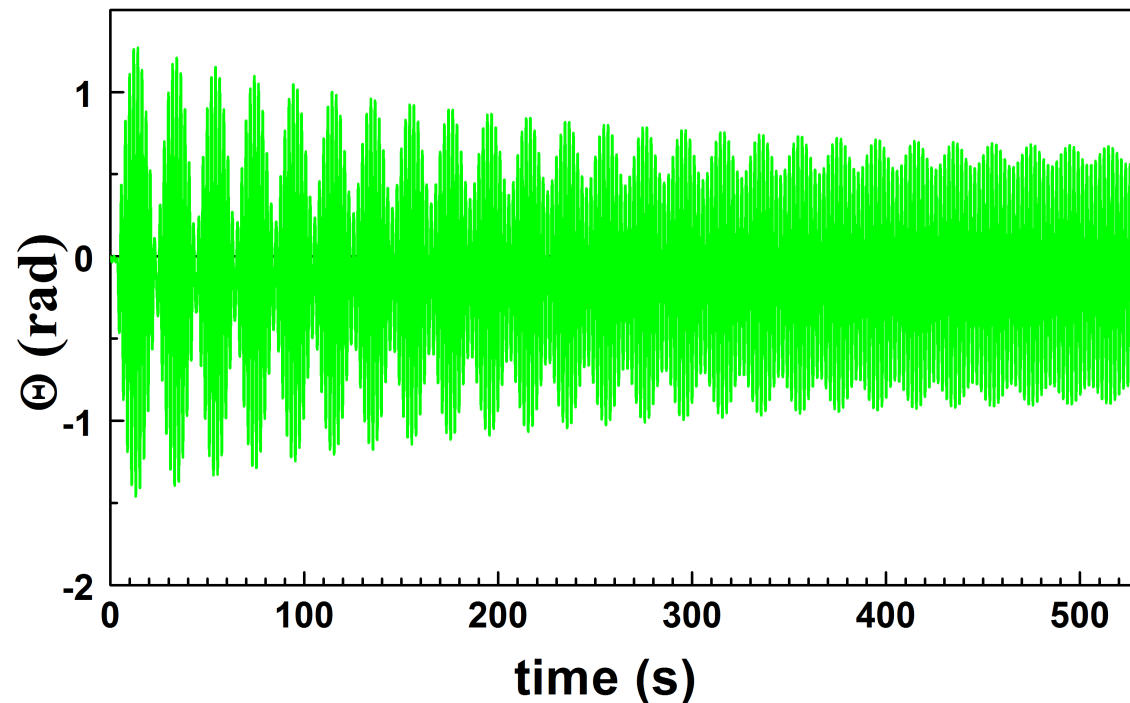
$$\theta_t(t) \rightarrow 0$$

These decaying beats can be seen clearly in an “envelope” plot

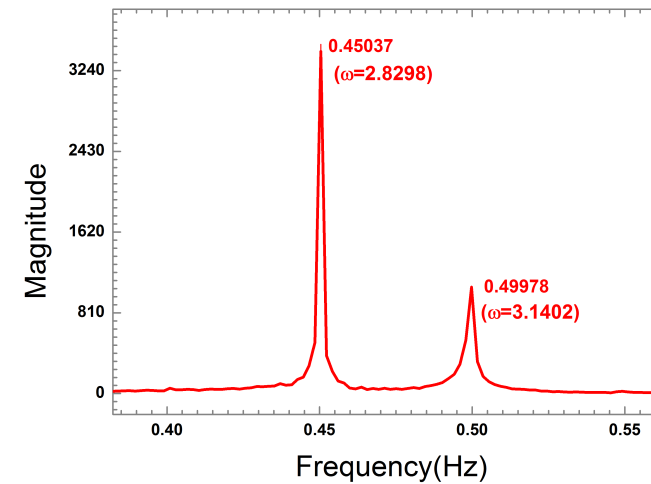
Origin 8.6: Analysis \rightarrow Signal Processing \rightarrow Envelope

Beats: Fitting

$$\theta(t) = \theta_i(t) + \theta_{ss}(t) = Ae^{-at} \cos(\omega_1 t - \phi) + B \cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega)) + C$$



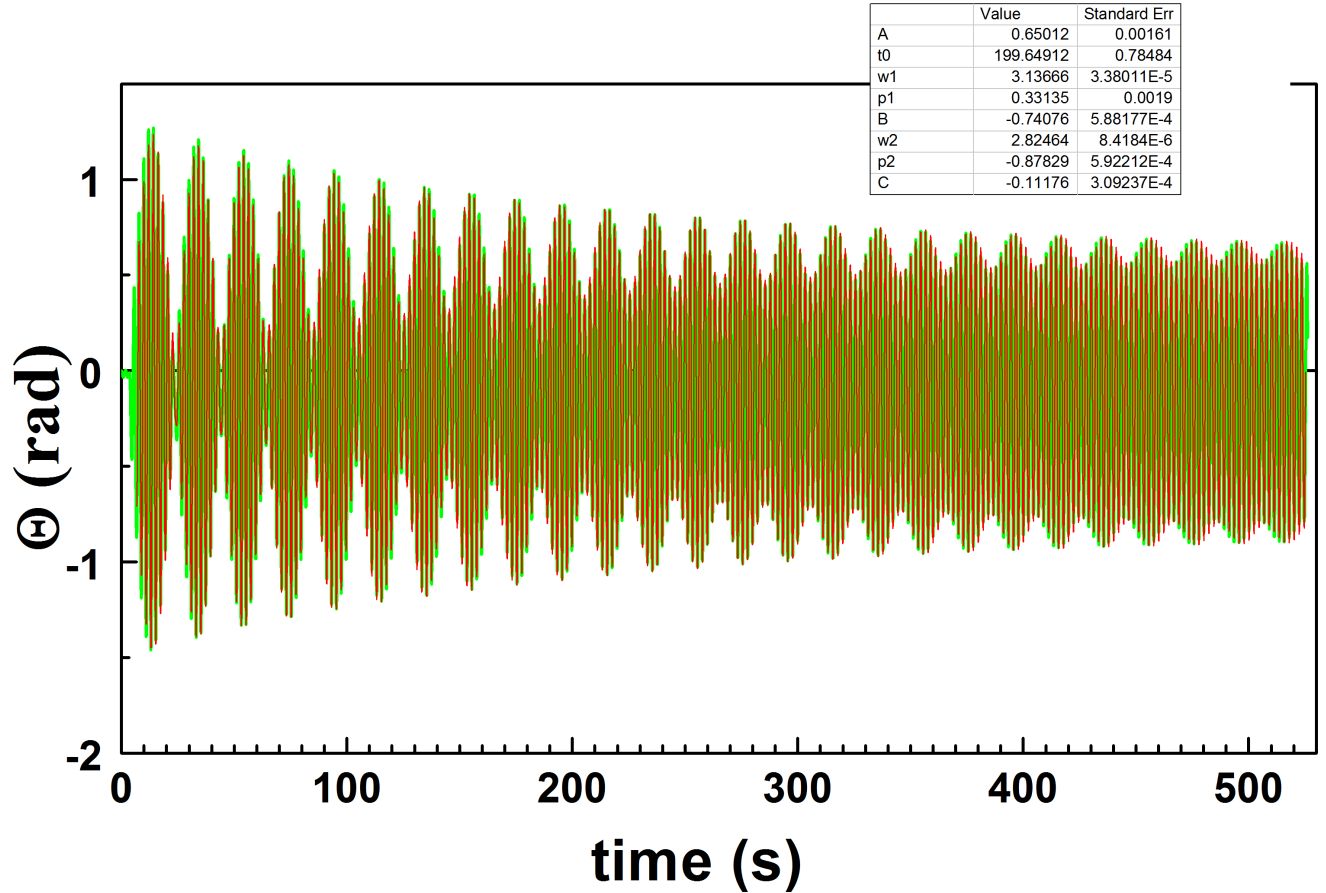
First, we apply an FFT to find ω_1 and ω



Result: $\omega_1=3.1402 \text{ rad}^{-1}$ and $\omega=2.8298 \text{ rad}^{-1}$

Beats: Fitting

$$\theta(t) = \theta_t(t) + \theta_{ss}(t) = A e^{-\frac{t}{t_0}} \cos(\omega_1 t - \phi) + B \cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega)) + C$$



8 fitting parameters

From fit

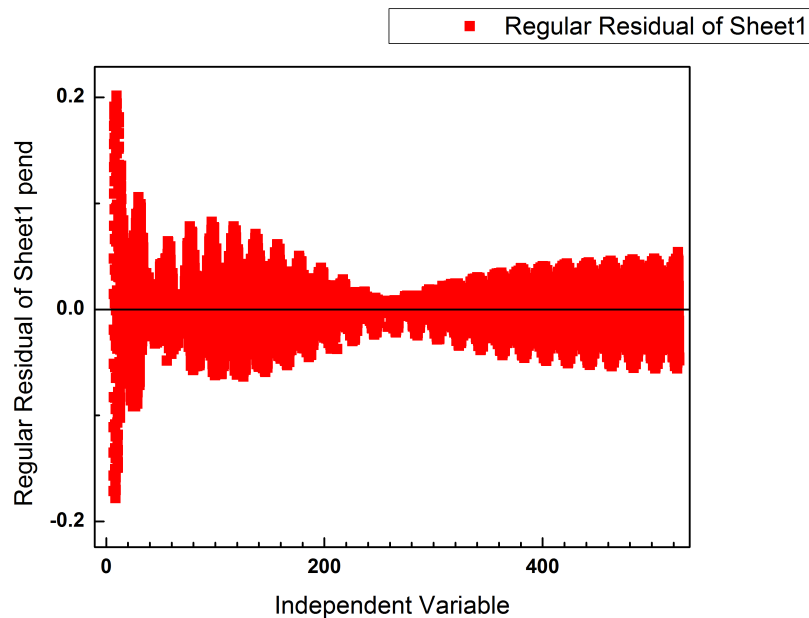


- A 0.65012
- t₀ 199.64912
- ω₁ **3.13666**
- φ 0.33135
- B -0.74076
- ω **2.82464**
- β -0.87829
- C -0.11176

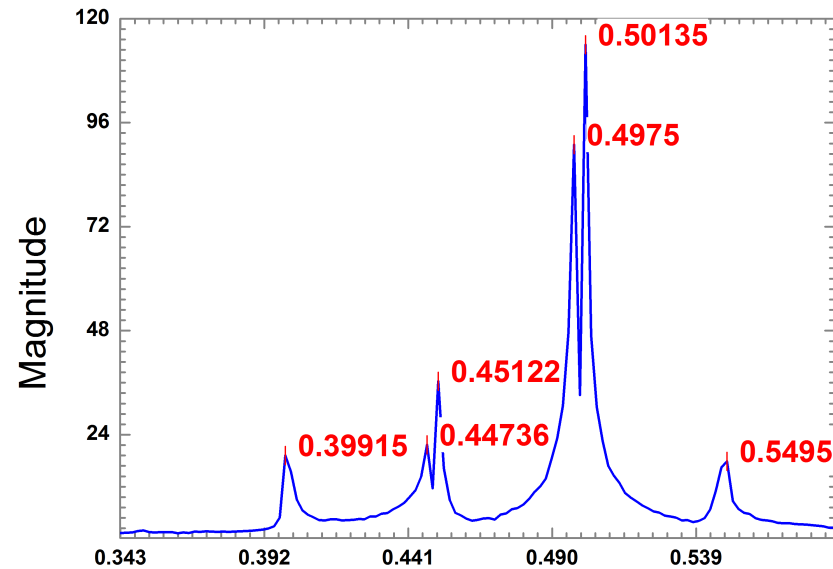
Result from FFT:
 $\omega_1 = 3.1402 \text{ rad}^{-1}$ and $\omega = 2.8298 \text{ rad}^{-1}$



Beats: Fitting - Residuals



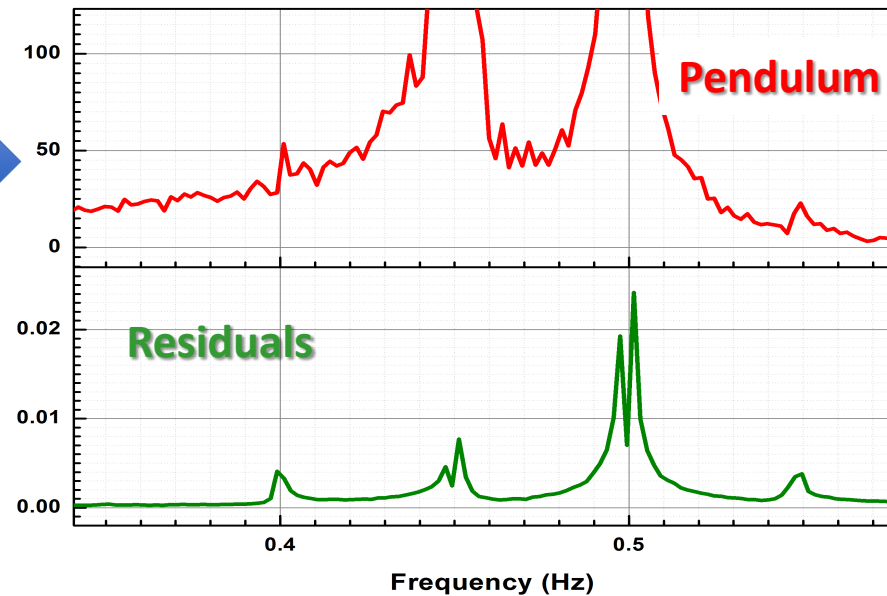
FFT



Compare residuals to original pendulum spectrum

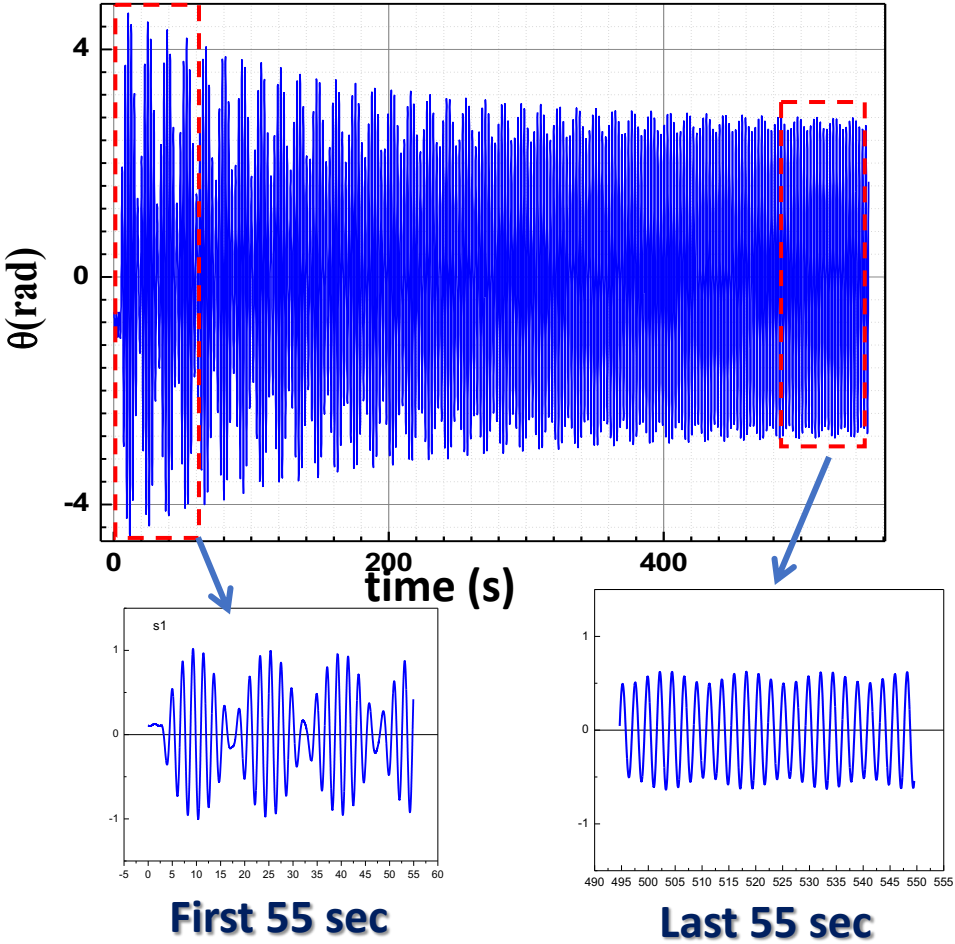
Possible origins for “extra” peaks?

1. Nonlinear behavior of pendulum
2. Motor driving force not perfectly single-frequency
3. Fitting function is not ideal



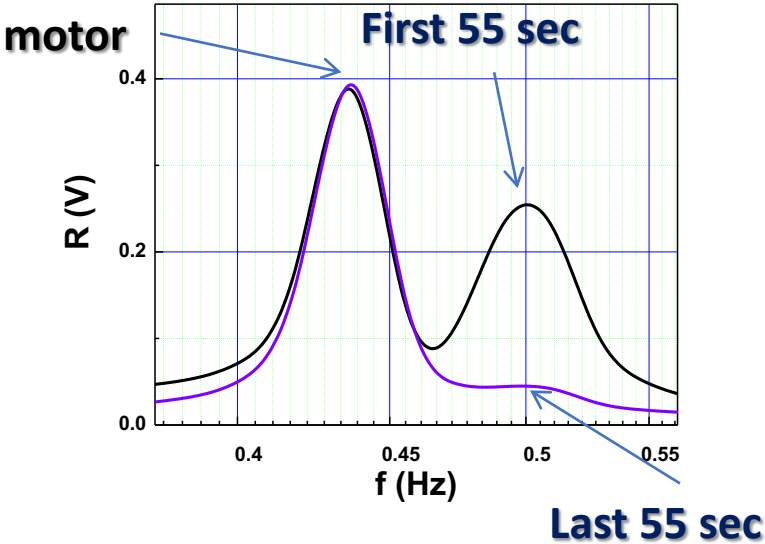
Beats: Another View

$$\theta(t) = \theta_t(t) + \theta_{ss}(t) = Ae^{-at} \cos(\omega_1 t - \phi) + B \cos(\omega t - \beta(\omega))$$



$$\theta_t(t) \rightarrow 0$$

We also can analyze the decrease of the amplitude of the ω_1 component by analyzing the spectrum as a function of time



Origin 9.0: Analysis → Signal Processing → FFT

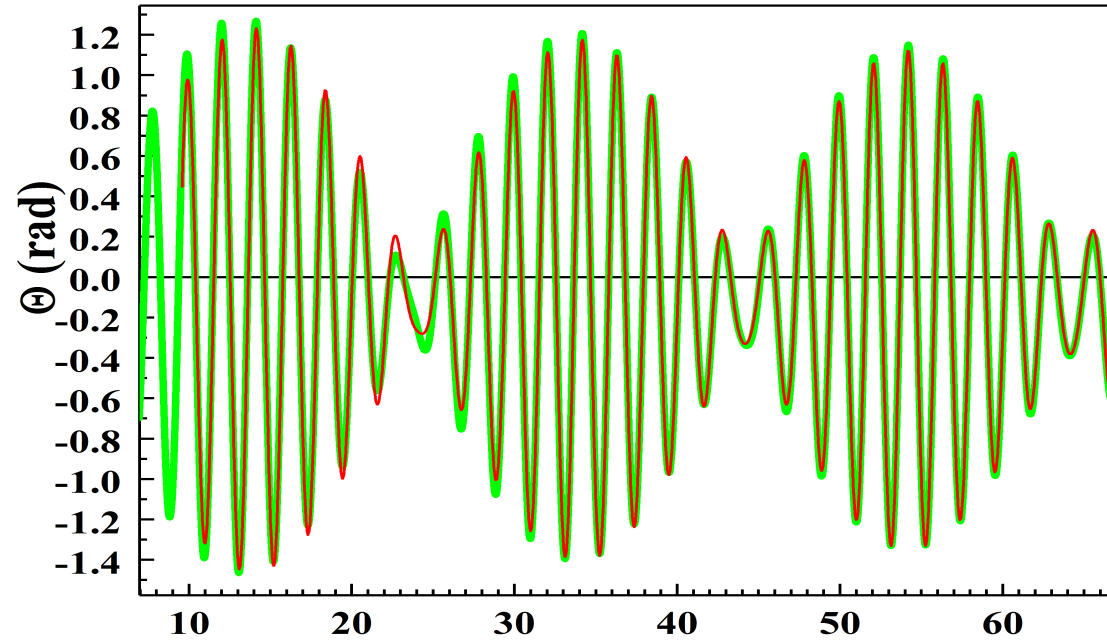


Beats: Fitting

From fitting

ω_1 **3.13666**
f1 **0.4992 Hz**

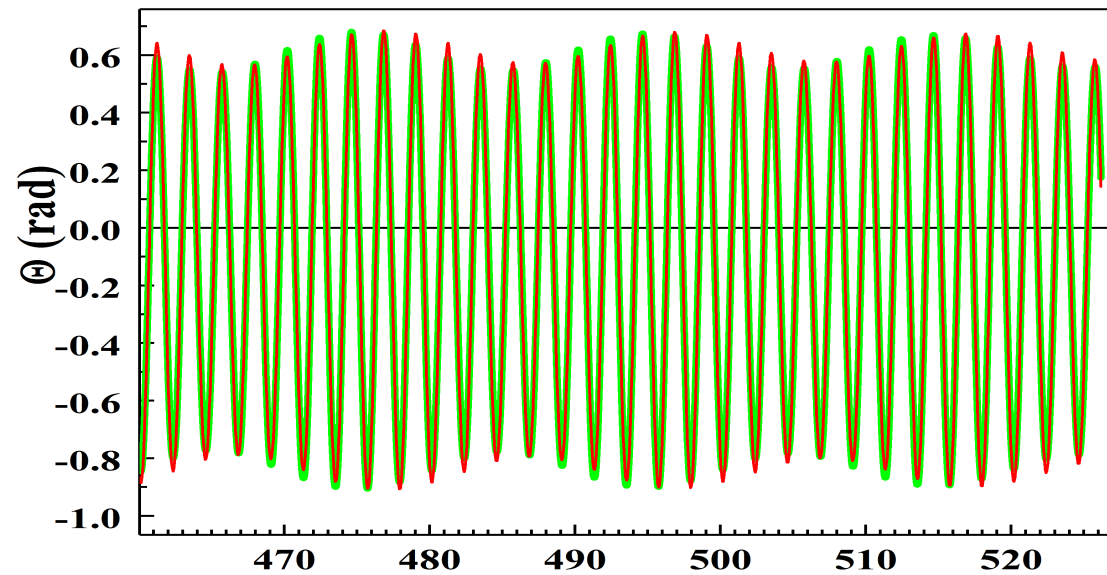
ω **2.82464**
f2 **0.4496 Hz**



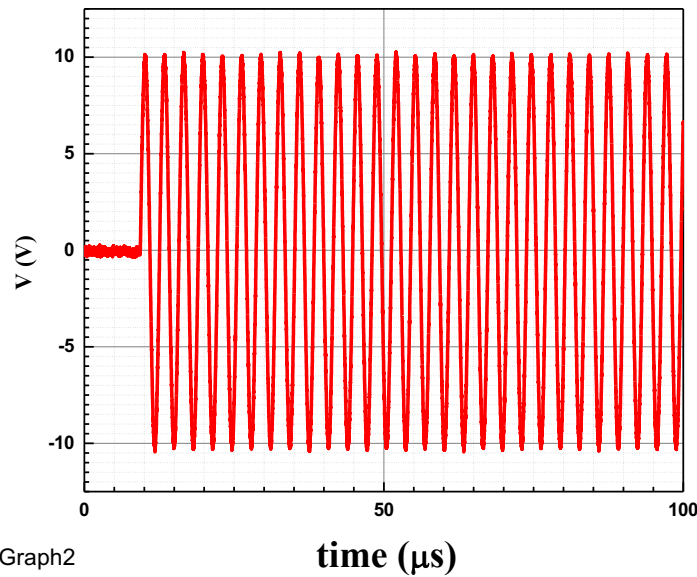
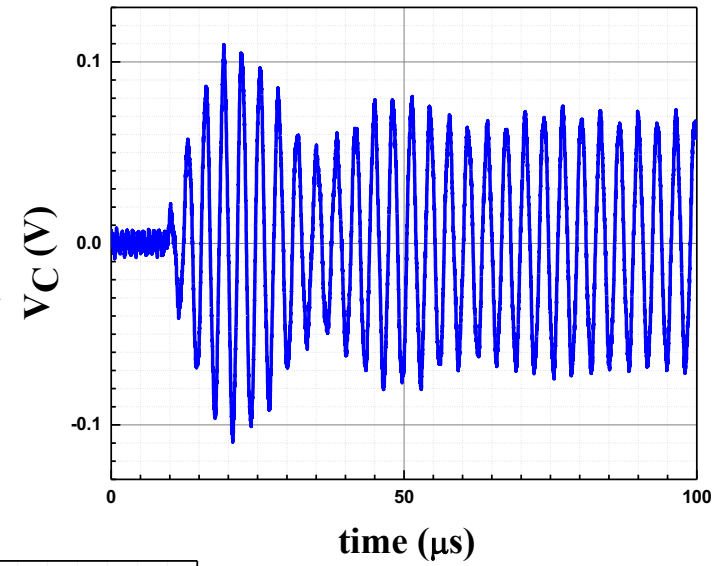
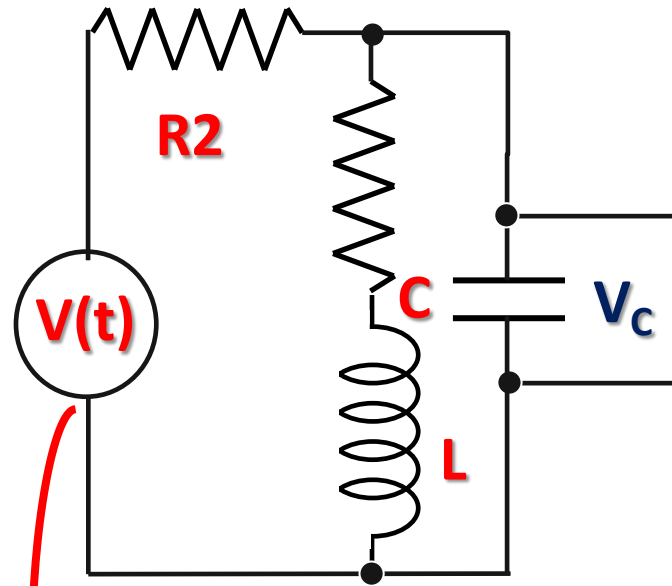
From FFT

f1 **0.499 Hz**

f2 **0.451 Hz**

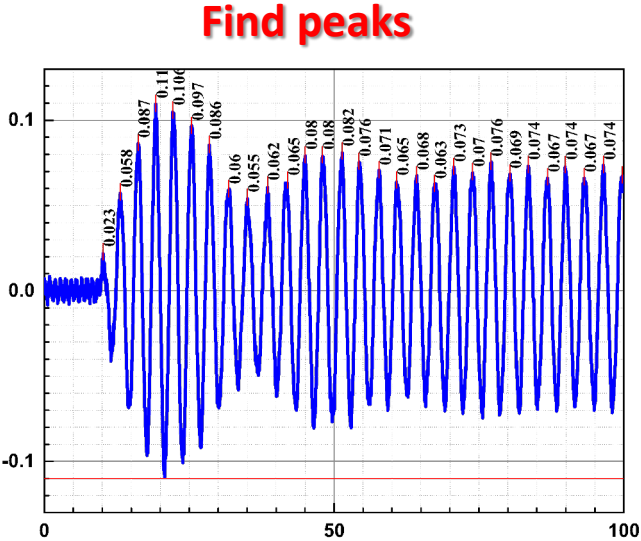
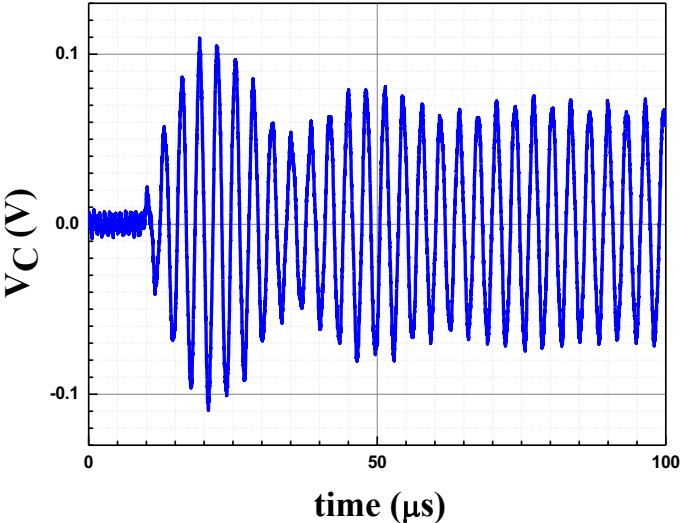
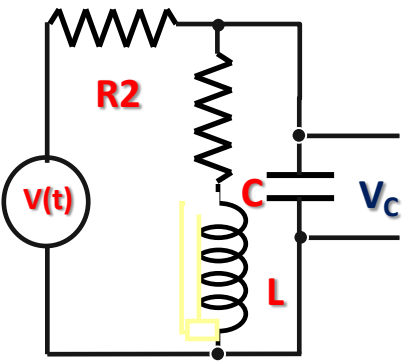


Beats: RLC Circuit

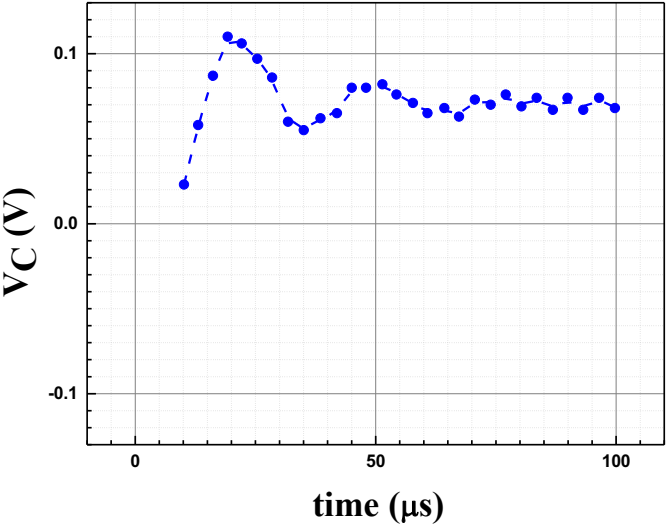


: Graph2

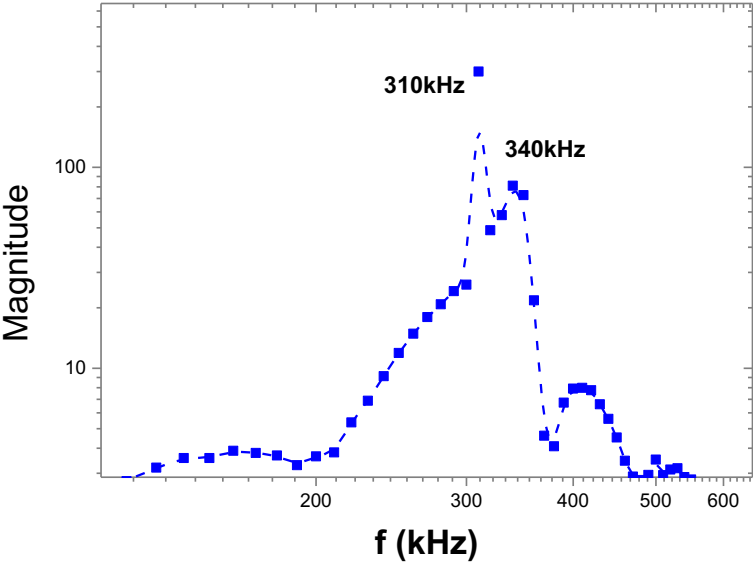
Beats: RLC Circuit



Envelope

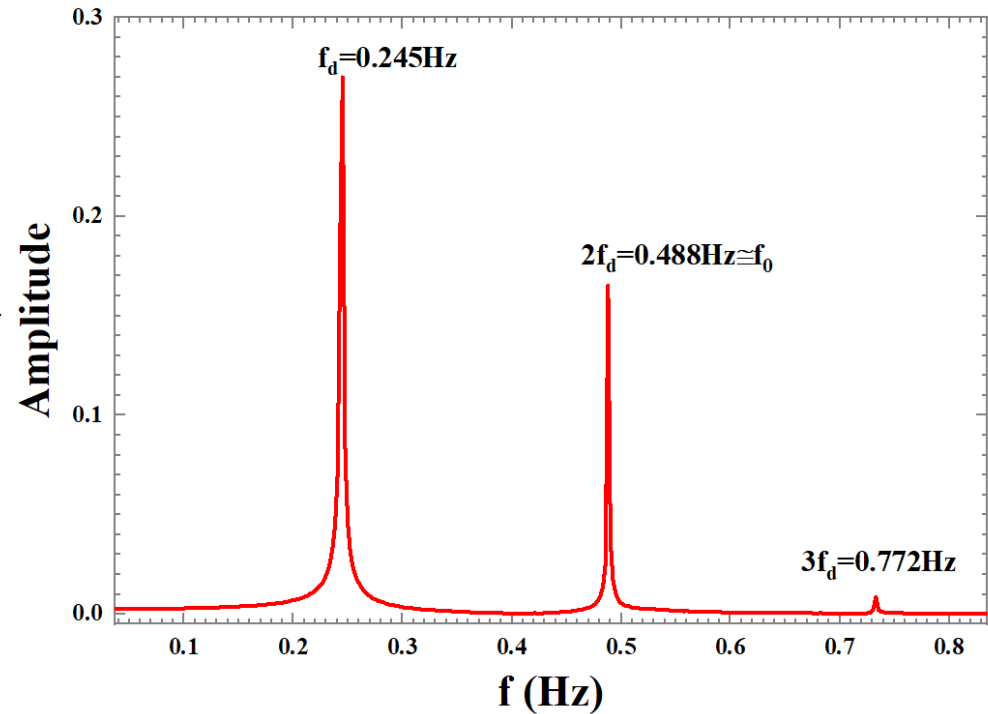
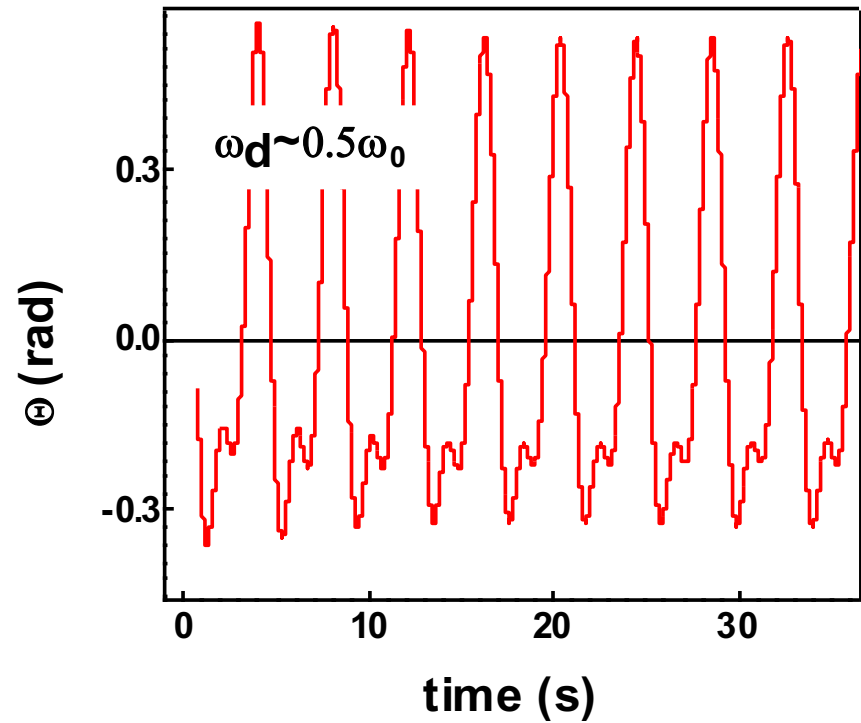


FFT



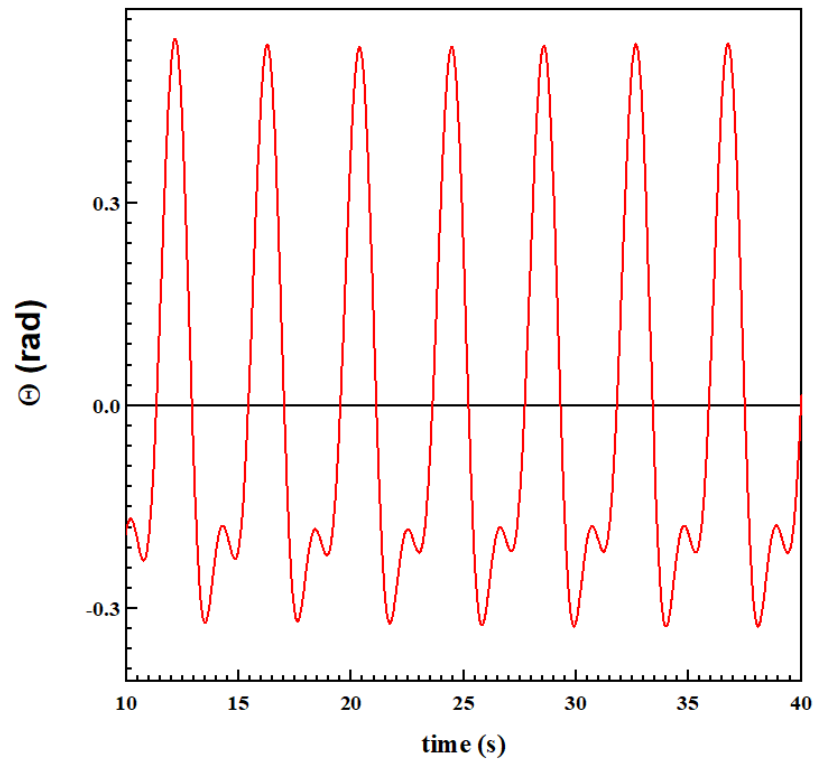
Harmonics: Experiment

If we drive the oscillator at $f_d = f_0/2$ or $f_d = f_0/3$ (a **sub-harmonic** of the resonant frequency), we observe more complex motion of the pendulum



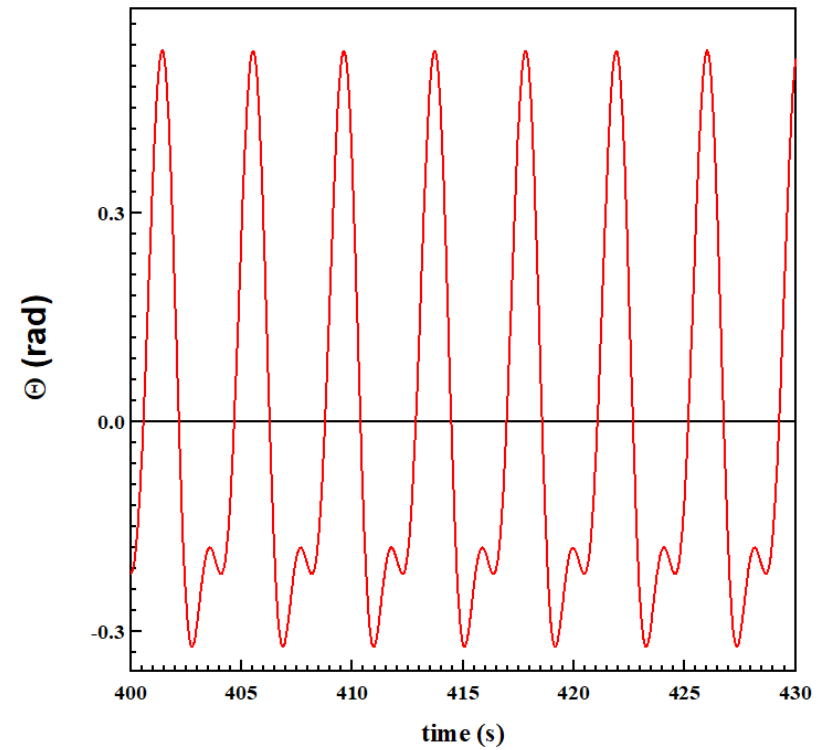
Harmonics: Experiment

This is a **steady-state** response – it does *not* disappear over time!
Couplings between different frequencies suggest **non-linearity** somewhere in the system...



Beginning of time record

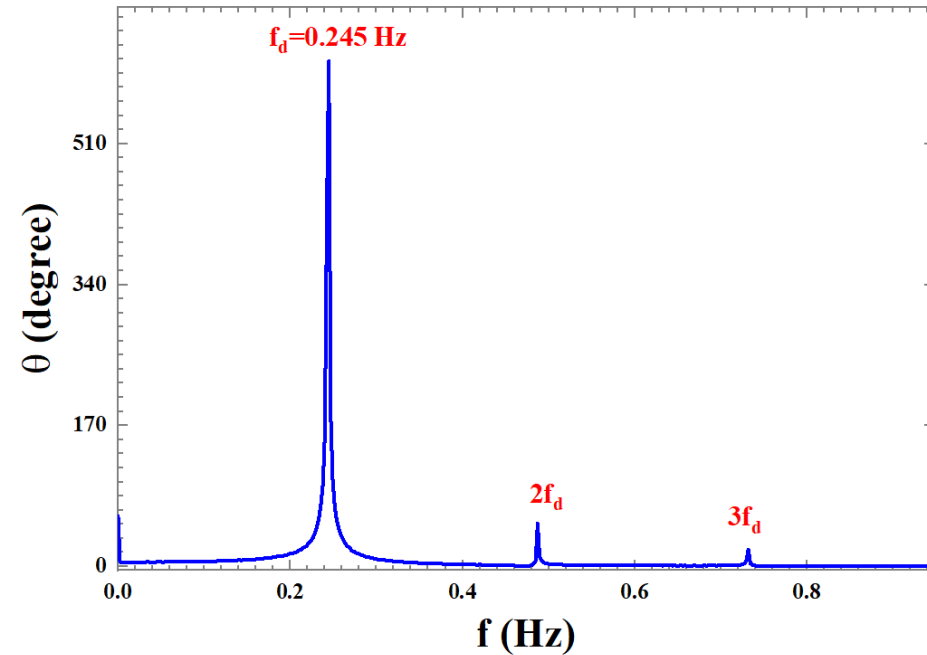
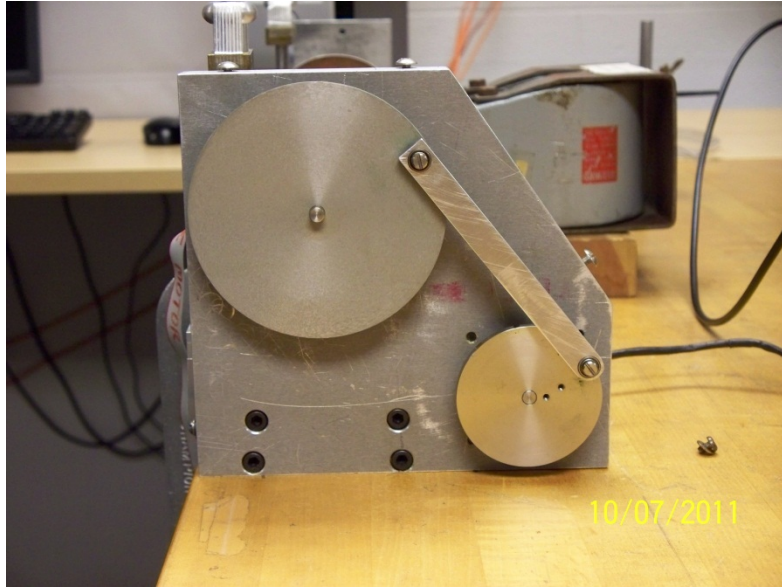
$$\omega_d \sim 0.5\omega_0$$



End of time record



Origin of Harmonics



Drive includes tiny components at **harmonics** (*multiples*) of the nominal drive frequency. If close to resonance, these can excite the resonator and be amplified.

A detailed analysis by P. Debevec (UIUC Physics) has shown that even if $\phi = \phi_0 \sin(\omega_d t)$ exactly, our drive torque will still contain several harmonics of ω_d .

