

## The Torsional Oscillator -- Comparing Linear and Air Drag fits

In[176]:=

```
Clear["Global`*"]; DateString[]  
SetDirectory[NotebookDirectory[]];
```

Out[176]=

```
Wed 26 Mar 2025 12:07:07
```

In[178]:=

```
model[V0_,  $\gamma$ _,  $\omega$ _,  $\phi$ _, Voff_, t_] := V0 Exp[- $\gamma$  t / 2] Sin[ $\omega$  t +  $\phi$ ] + Voff
```

In[179]:=

```
(* Handy function to get CSV files output by LoggerPro,  
stripping off the title headers *)  
getfile[filename_] := Select[Import[filename, "CSV"],  
Length[#] == 2 && VectorQ[#, NumberQ] &]
```

In[180]:=

```
damped = getfile["T0-20250220-damped-1.csv"];  
airdrag = getfile["T0-20250221-airdrag-1.csv"];
```

## Damped Oscillations

```
In[182]:=
dfit = NonlinearModelFit[damped,
  model[V0,  $\gamma$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\phi$ , Voff, t], {V0,  $\gamma$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\phi$ , Voff}, t]
dfit["ParameterConfidenceIntervalTable"] // Quiet
{ $\omega$ v,  $\delta\omega$ v} = dfit["ParameterConfidenceIntervalTableEntries"][[3, {1, 2}]] // Quiet
Show[{ListPlot[damped, PlotStyle  $\rightarrow$  Red],
  Plot[dfit[t], {t, 0, 30}, PlotRange  $\rightarrow$  All]},
  ImageSize  $\rightarrow$  Scaled[0.8], LabelStyle  $\rightarrow$  Larger, Frame  $\rightarrow$  True,
  FrameLabel  $\rightarrow$  {"t (s)", "V(t)"}, PlotRange  $\rightarrow$  All, PlotLabel  $\rightarrow$  "Damped"]
```

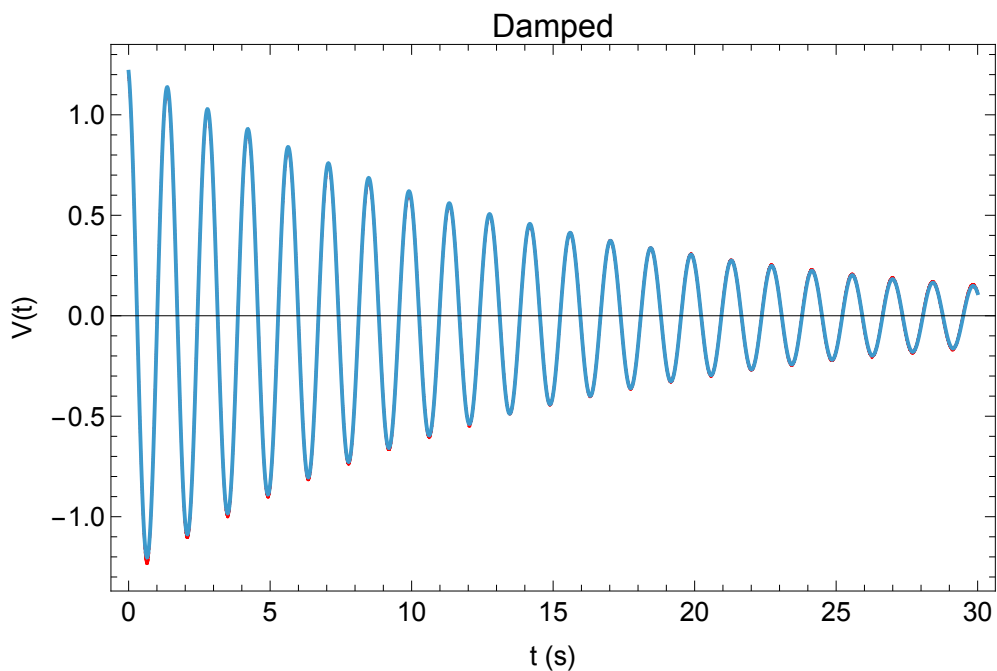
```
Out[182]=
FittedModel [ -0.00317 + 1.26 <<1>> Sin[1.32 - <<1>> ] ]
```

```
Out[183]=
```

	Estimate	Standard Error	Confidence Interval
V0	-1.25665	0.000246297	{-1.25713, -1.25616 }
$\gamma$	0.141641	0.0000434628	{0.141556, 0.141727 }
$\omega$	4.41284	0.0000216336	{4.41279, 4.41288 }
$\phi$	-1.32032	0.000193248	{-1.3207, -1.31994 }
Voff	-0.00316856	0.0000561695	{-0.00327866, -0.00305846 }

```
Out[184]=
{4.41284, 0.0000216336}
```

```
Out[185]=
```

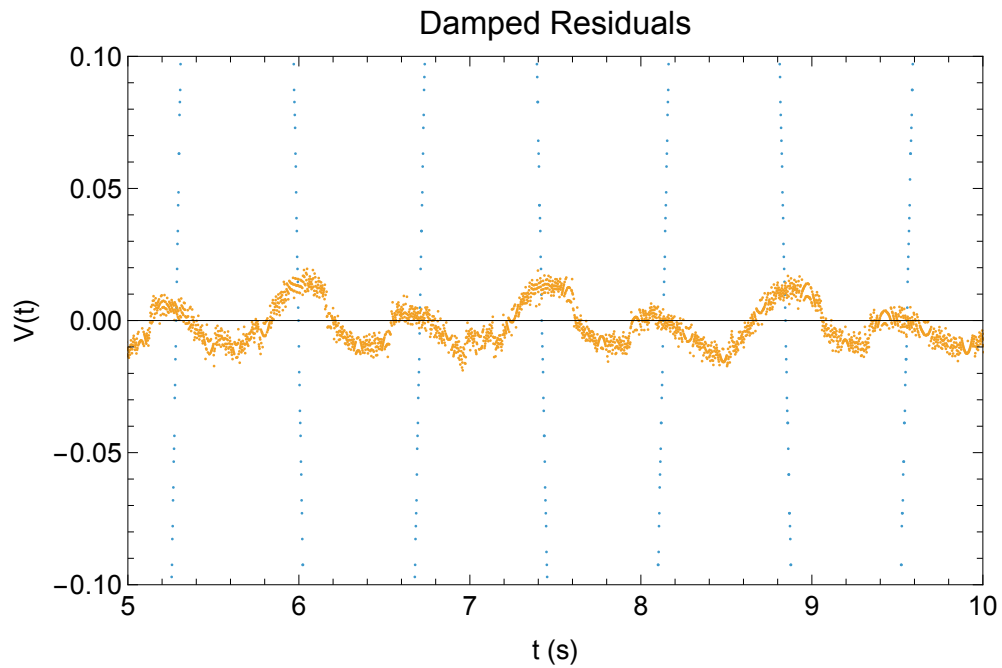


```
In[186]:=
dresiduals =
  Table[{damped[[i, 1]], damped[[i, 2]] - dfit[damped[[i, 1]]]}, {i, 1, Length[damped]}];
```

In[187]:=

```
ListPlot[{damped, dresiduals}, PlotRange → {{5, 10}, {-0.1, 0.1}},  
ImageSize → Scaled[0.8], LabelStyle → Larger, Frame → True,  
FrameLabel → {"t (s)", "V(t)"}, PlotLabel → "Damped Residuals"]
```

Out[187]=



In[188]:=

```
dampedRMSE = Sqrt[dffit["EstimatedVariance"]]
```

Out[188]=

```
0.00687428
```

## Air drag

In[189]:=

```

afit = NonlinearModelFit[airdrag,
  model[V0,  $\gamma$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\phi$ , Voff, t], {V0,  $\gamma$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\phi$ , Voff}, t]
afit["ParameterConfidenceIntervalTable"] // Quiet
{ $\omega$ a,  $\delta\omega$ a} = afit["ParameterConfidenceIntervalTableEntries"][[3, {1, 2}]] // Quiet
Show[{ListPlot[airdrag, PlotStyle  $\rightarrow$  Red, PlotLegends  $\rightarrow$  {"Data"}],
  Plot[afit[t], {t, 0, 30}, PlotRange  $\rightarrow$  All, PlotLegends  $\rightarrow$  {"Fit"}]},
  ImageSize  $\rightarrow$  Scaled[0.8], LabelStyle  $\rightarrow$  Larger, Frame  $\rightarrow$  True,
  FrameLabel  $\rightarrow$  {"t (s)", "V(t)"}, PlotRange  $\rightarrow$  All, PlotLabel  $\rightarrow$  "Air Drag"]

```

Out[189]=

```
FittedModel [ -0.0138 + 0.777 <<1>> Sin[0.011 + <<1>> ] ]
```

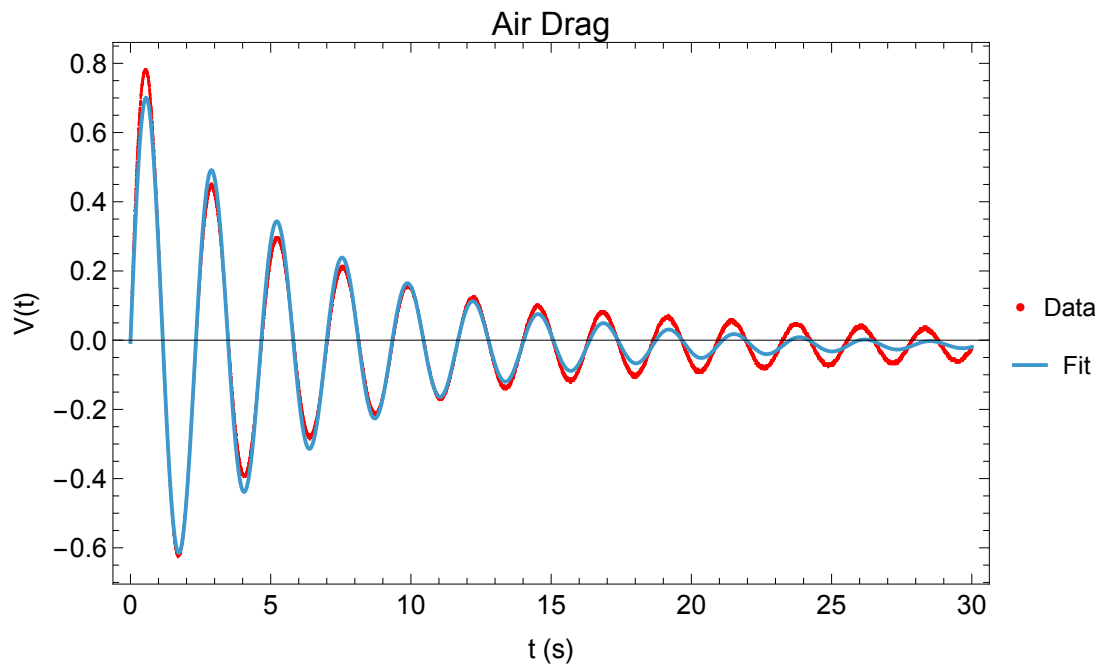
Out[190]=

	Estimate	Standard Error	Confidence Interval
V0	0.777428	0.0013233	{0.774834, 0.780022 }
$\gamma$	0.29767	0.000715016	{0.296269, 0.299072 }
$\omega$	2.6973	0.000354199	{2.6966, 2.69799 }
$\phi$	0.0109863	0.00168016	{0.00769298, 0.0142796 }
Voff	-0.0138128	0.000218558	{-0.0142412, -0.0133844 }

Out[191]=

```
{2.6973, 0.000354199}
```

Out[192]=



The fit decays too rapidly, especially at late times. This is because for small velocity, the  $v^2$  damping of air drag is small compared to the  $v^1$  linear damping of the fit.



## Comparing models

```
In[193]:= Sqrt[dfit["EstimatedVariance"]]
```

```
Out[193]= 0.00687428
```

```
In[194]:= Sqrt[afit["EstimatedVariance"]]
```

```
Out[194]= 0.0266907
```

The larger typical error for the air drag is clear -- another sign that it's just the wrong model.

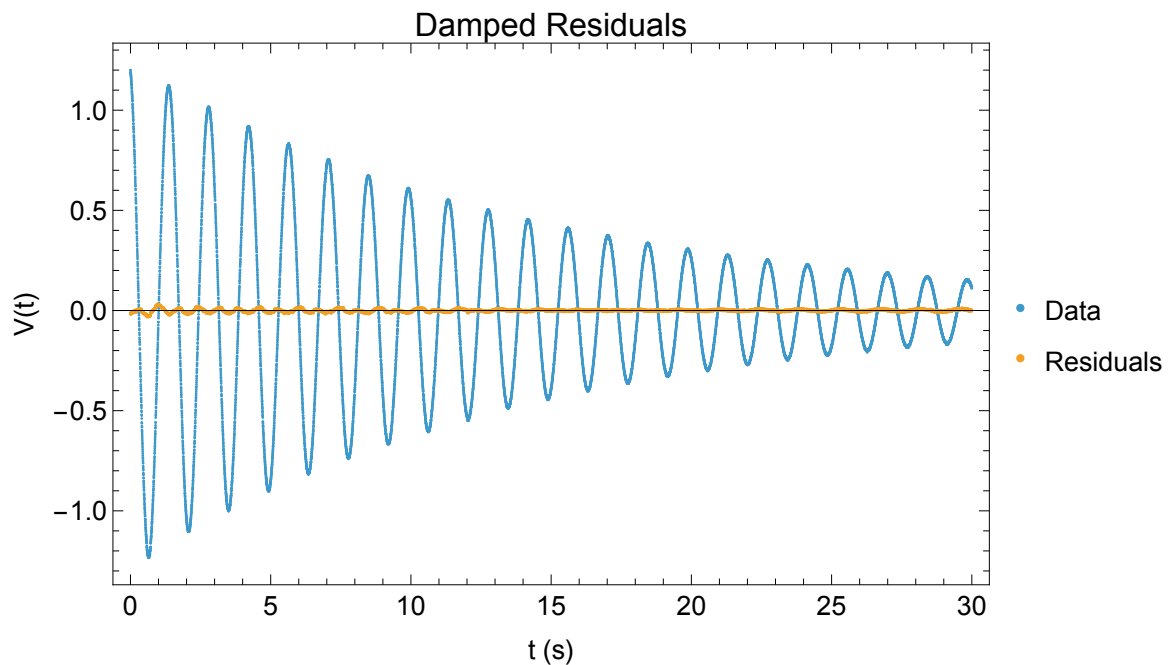
## Compare Residuals

### Damped Residuals

```
In[195]:= dresiduals =
  Table[{damped[[i, 1]], damped[[i, 2]] - dfit[damped[[i, 1]]]}, {i, 1, Length[damped]}];
```

```
In[196]:= ListPlot[{damped, dresiduals},
  PlotRange → All, PlotLegends → {"Data", "Residuals"},
  ImageSize → Scaled[0.8], LabelStyle → Larger, Frame → True,
  FrameLabel → {"t (s)", "V(t)"}, PlotLabel → "Damped Residuals"]
```

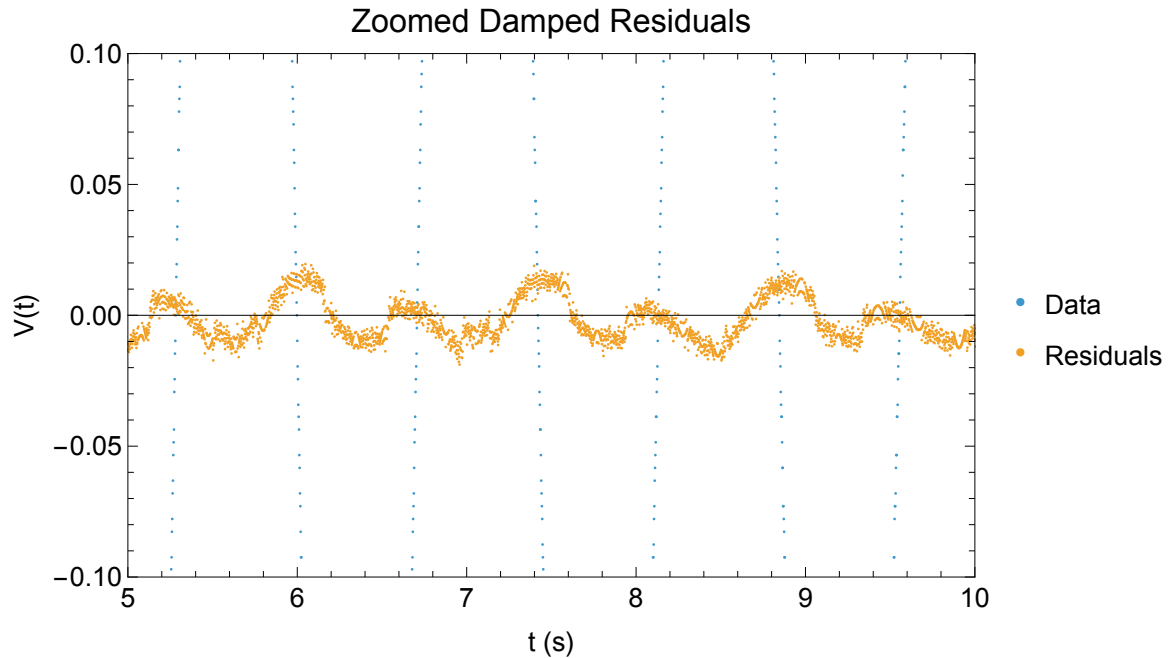
```
Out[196]=
```



In[197]:=

```
ListPlot[{damped, dresiduals},
  PlotRange → {{5, 10}, {-0.1, 0.1}}, PlotLegends → {"Data", "Residuals"},
  ImageSize → Scaled[0.8], LabelStyle → Larger, Frame → True,
  FrameLabel → {"t (s)", "V(t)"}, PlotLabel → "Zoomed Damped Residuals"]
```

Out[197]=



The residuals are all quite small. There is a slight trend for larger residuals when the velocity is high (as the oscillator moves through the origin).

## Air Drag Residuals

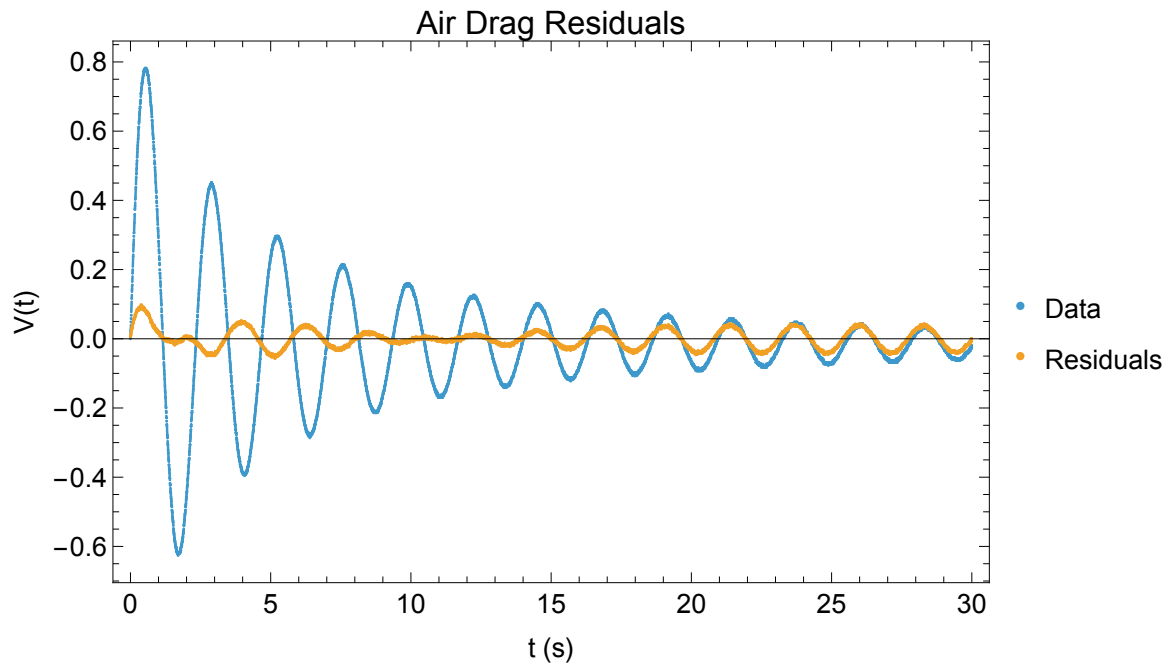
In[198]:=

```
aresiduals = Table[
  {airdrag[[i, 1]], airdrag[[i, 2]] - afit[airdrag[[i, 1]]]}, {i, 1, Length[airdrag]}];
```

In[199]:=

```
ListPlot[{airdrag, aresiduals},  
PlotRange → All, PlotLegends → {"Data", "Residuals"},  
ImageSize → Scaled[0.8], LabelStyle → Larger, Frame → True,  
FrameLabel → {"t (s)", "V(t)"}, PlotLabel → "Air Drag Residuals"]
```

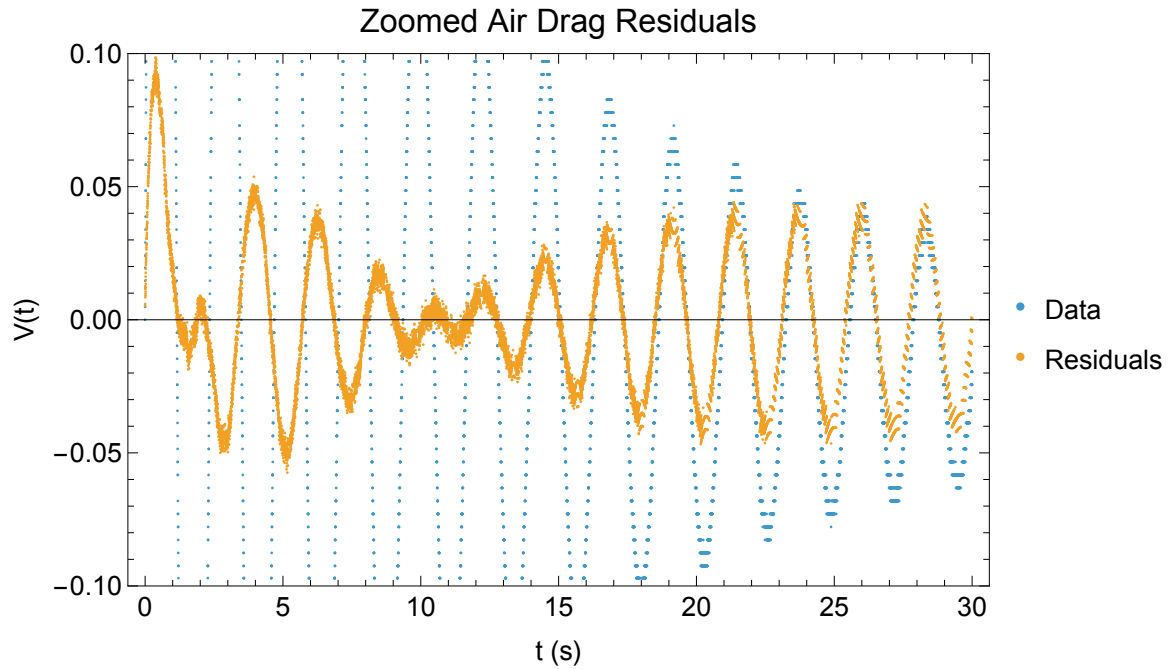
Out[199]=



In[200]:=

```
ListPlot[{airdrag, aresiduals}, PlotRange → {All, {-0.1, 0.1}},  
PlotLegends → {"Data", "Residuals"}, ImageSize → Scaled[0.8],  
LabelStyle → Larger, Frame → True, FrameLabel → {"t (s)", "V(t)"},  
PlotLabel → "Zoomed Air Drag Residuals"]
```

Out[200]=



A systematic pattern is clear here, and it is generally worse at the peaks, meaning the linear fit systematically gets the peak heights wrong.