

# Phys 238: Driven Oscillations

## Resonance

```
In[79]:= Clear["Global`*"]; DateString[]
```

```
Out[79]=  
Fri 27 Feb 2026 11:50:36
```

```
In[80]:= SetDirectory[NotebookDirectory[]];  
(* Find and save files alongside this notebook. *)
```

### Differential Equation and Basic Parameters

The governing differential equation is:

$$\theta''[t] = -\omega_0^2 \theta(t) - \gamma \theta'(t) + \alpha_0 \sin[\omega_d t]$$

where  $\kappa$  is the restoring torque,  $I$  is the moment of inertia,  $\omega_0 = \text{Sqrt}[\kappa / I]$ ,  $\gamma$  = drag, and  $\alpha_0 = \tau_0 / I$ , where  $\tau_0$  is the amplitude of the driving torque,  $\omega_d$  is the frequency of the driving. Related quantities are  $Q = \omega_0 / \gamma$  and linear frequency  $f_0 = \omega_0 / 2\pi$  and  $f_d = \omega_d / 2\pi$

$$\theta''[t] = -\omega_0^2 \theta(t) - (\omega_0 / Q) \theta'(t) + \alpha_0 \sin[\omega_d t]$$

### Physical constants

```
In[81]:=  $\omega_0 = 4.4$  (* rad/s, typical for torsional oscillator with 2 brass quadrants. *);  
 $f_0 = \omega_0 / (2\pi)$  (* Natural frequency in Hz. *)  
 $t_{max1} = 60$  (* Run first simulation this long *);
```

```
Out[82]=  
0.700282
```

### Do the numerical integration

```
In[84]:= damped = ParametricNDSolveValue[  
  { $\theta''[t] == -(2\pi f_0)^2 \theta[t] - (2\pi f_0 / Q) \theta'[t]$ ,  $\theta[0] == 1$ ,  $\theta'[0] == 0$ },  
   $\theta$ ,  
  {t, 0, tmax1}, {Q}]
```

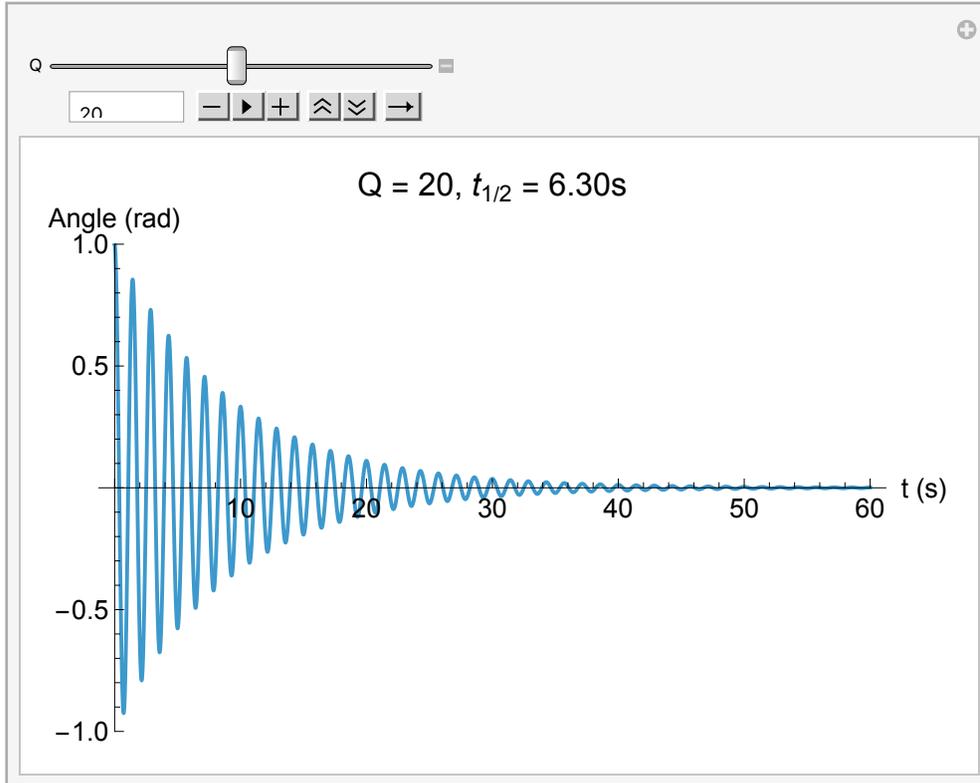
```
Out[84]=
```

ParametricFunction [  Expression:  $\theta$   
Parameters: {Q} ]

## Damped Oscillations -- the effect of Q

```
In[85]:= Manipulate[Plot[damped[Q][t], {t, 0, tmax1},
  PlotRange → {-1, 1}, PlotPoints → 300, PlotLabel →
  StringForm["Q = ``, t1/2 = ``s", Q, NumberForm[2 Log[2] Q / ω0, {4, 2}]],
  LabelStyle → Larger, AxesLabel → {"t (s)", "Angle (rad)"},
  ImageSize → Scaled[0.8]],
  {{Q, 20}, 1, 40, 1, Appearance → "Open"}]
```

Out[85]=



## Driven Oscillations -- initial transients

Set initial position to 0. Set a longer integration time to see transients.

```
In[86]:= tmax2 = 90;
```

```
In[87]:= driven = ParametricNDSolveValue[
  {θ'[t] == -(2 π f0)^2 θ[t] - (2 π f0 / Q) θ'[t] + α0 Sin[2 π fd t],
  θ[0] == 0, θ'[0] == 0},
  θ,
  {t, 0, tmax2}, {Q, α0, fd}]
```

Out[87]=

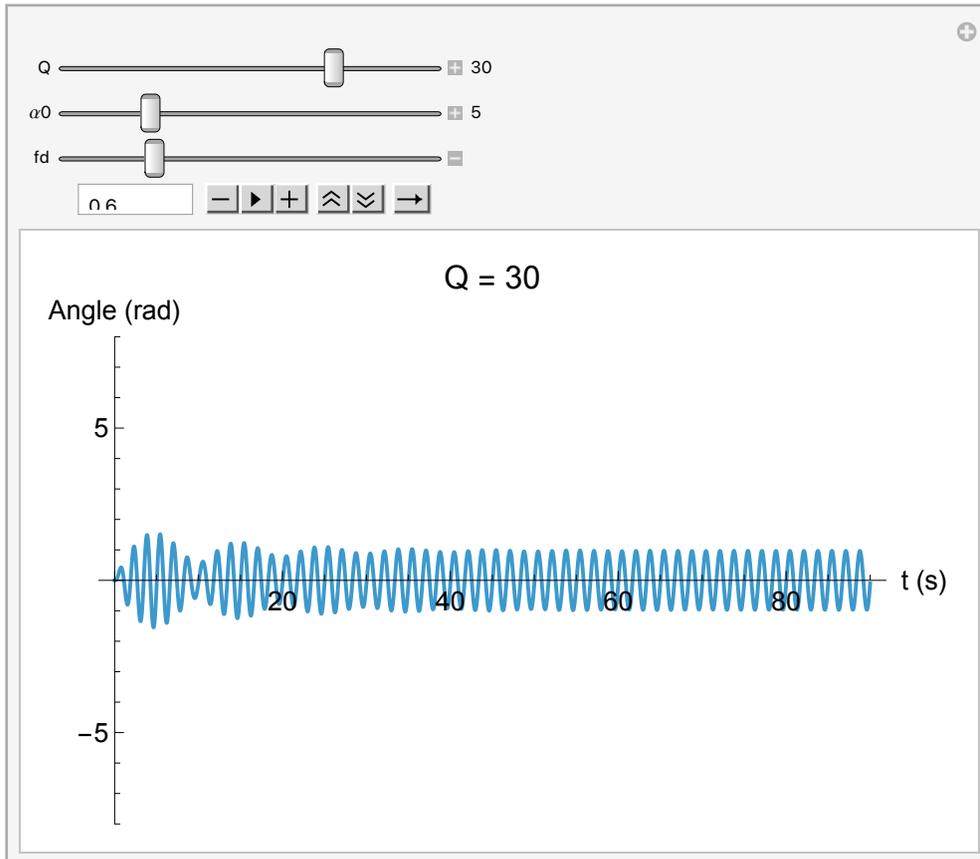
ParametricFunction [  Expression:  $\theta$   
Parameters: {Q,  $\alpha 0$ , fd} ]

```

In[88]:= Manipulate[Plot[driven[Q,  $\alpha_0$ , fd][t], {t, 0, tmax2}, PlotPoints  $\rightarrow$  300,
  PlotRange  $\rightarrow$  {-8, 8}, PlotLabel  $\rightarrow$  StringForm["Q = `", Q], LabelStyle  $\rightarrow$  Larger,
  AxesLabel  $\rightarrow$  {"t (s)", "Angle (rad)"}, ImageSize  $\rightarrow$  Scaled[0.8]],
  {{Q, 30}, 1, 40, 1, Appearance  $\rightarrow$  "Labeled"},
  {{ $\alpha_0$ , 5}, 1, 20, 1, Appearance  $\rightarrow$  "Labeled"},
  {{fd, 0.6}, 0.2, 2, 0.02, Appearance  $\rightarrow$  "Open"}}

```

Out[88]=



## Steady State Response -- Resonance

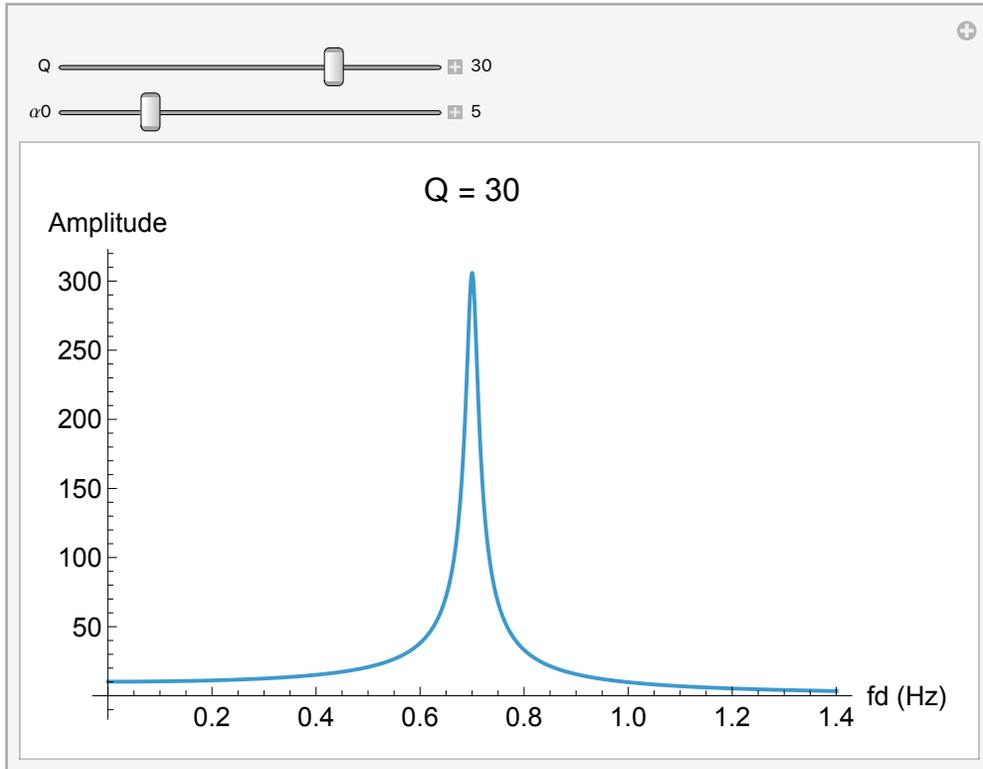
```

In[89]:= resonance[ $\alpha_0$ _, f0_, f_, Q_] := 
$$\frac{\alpha_0}{\text{Sqrt}[(f_0^2 - f^2)^2 + \left(\frac{f_0 f}{Q}\right)^2]}$$


```

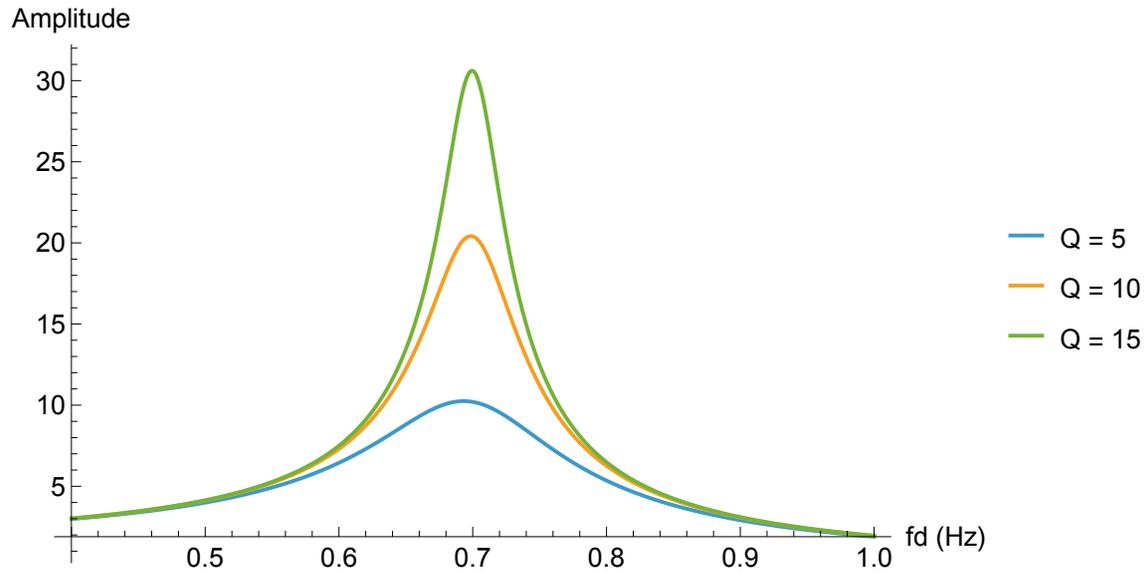
```
In[90]:= Manipulate[Plot[resonance[ $\alpha_0$ , f0, fd, Q], {fd, 0, 2 f0}, PlotPoints  $\rightarrow$  300,  
  PlotRange  $\rightarrow$  All, PlotLabel  $\rightarrow$  StringForm["Q = ``", Q], LabelStyle  $\rightarrow$  Larger,  
  AxesLabel  $\rightarrow$  {"fd (Hz)", "Amplitude"}, ImageSize  $\rightarrow$  Scaled[0.8]],  
  {{Q, 30}, 1, 40, 1, Appearance  $\rightarrow$  "Labeled"},  
  {{ $\alpha_0$ , 5}, 1, 20, 1, Appearance  $\rightarrow$  "Labeled"}]
```

Out[90]=



```
In[91]:= Plot[{resonance[1, f0, fd, 5],
  resonance[1, f0, fd, 10],
  resonance[1, f0, fd, 15]}, {fd, 0.4, 1.0}, PlotPoints -> 300, PlotRange -> All,
  PlotLegends -> {"Q = 5", "Q = 10", "Q = 15"}, LabelStyle -> Larger,
  AxesLabel -> {"fd (Hz)", "Amplitude"}, ImageSize -> Scaled[0.8]]
```

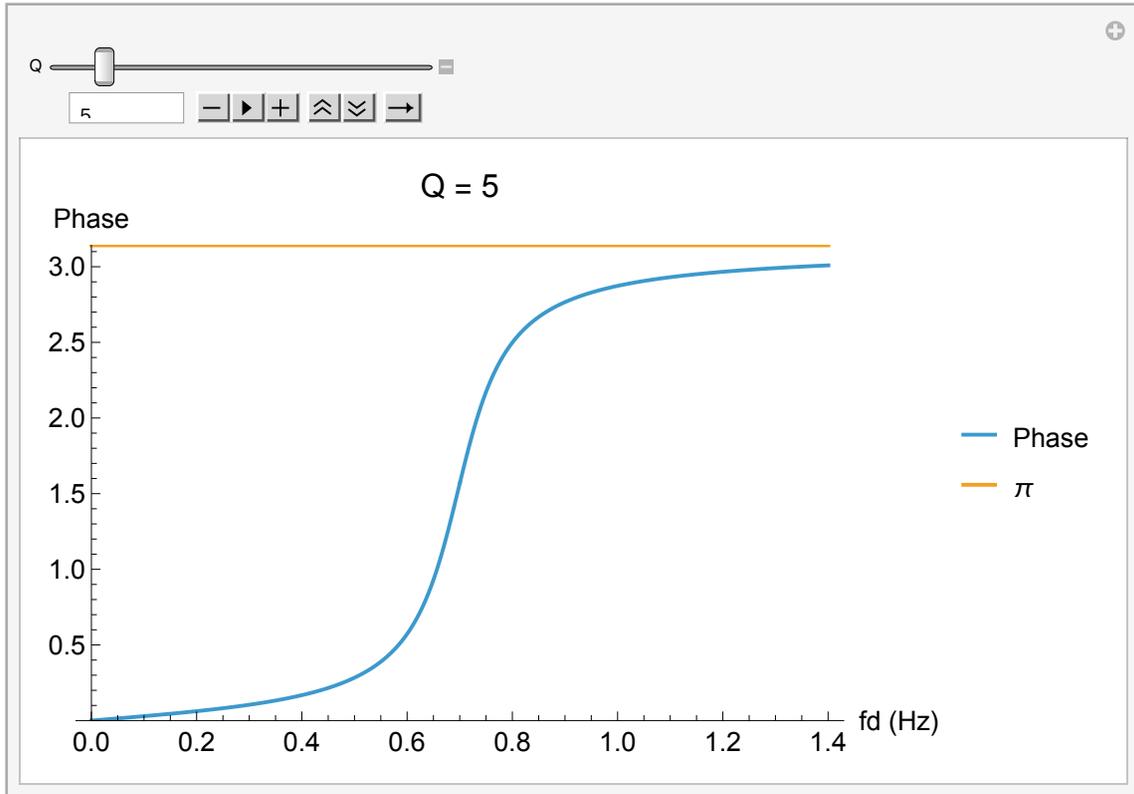
Out[91]=



```
In[92]:= phase[f0_, f_, Q_] := ArcTan[ f0^2 - f^2, f0 f / Q]
```

```
In[93]:= Manipulate[Plot[{phase[f0, fd, Q],  $\pi$ }, {fd, 0, 2 f0}, PlotPoints  $\rightarrow$  300,  
  PlotRange  $\rightarrow$  {0,  $\pi$ }, PlotLabel  $\rightarrow$  StringForm["Q = ``", Q],  
  PlotLegends  $\rightarrow$  {"Phase", " $\pi$ "}, LabelStyle  $\rightarrow$  Larger,  
  AxesLabel  $\rightarrow$  {"fd (Hz)", "Phase"}, ImageSize  $\rightarrow$  Scaled[0.8]],  
  {{Q, 5}, 1, 40, 1, Appearance  $\rightarrow$  "Open"}]
```

Out[93]=



```
In[94]:= Plot[{phase[f0, fd, 5],  
  phase[f0, fd, 10],  
  phase[f0, fd, 15]}, {fd, 0.4, 1.0}, PlotPoints -> 300, PlotRange -> All,  
  PlotLegends -> {"Q = 5", "Q = 10", "Q = 15"}, LabelStyle -> Larger,  
  AxesLabel -> {"fd (Hz)", "Phase (radians)"}, ImageSize -> Scaled[0.8]]
```

Out[94]=

