

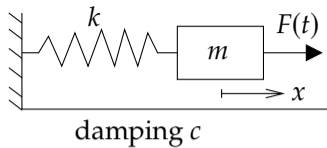
18. Mechanical vibrations, part 2: free damped motion (Notes on Diffy Qs, 2.4)

Jiří Lebl

Oklahoma State University

The textbook: <https://www.jirka.org/diffyqs/>

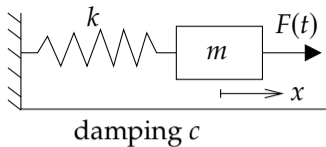
Consider $mx'' + cx' + kx = 0$ with $c > 0$.
(damping is present)



Consider $mx'' + cx' + kx = 0$ with $c > 0$.
(damping is present)

Rewrite the equation as

$$x'' + 2px' + \omega_0^2 x = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}, \quad p = \frac{c}{2m}.$$

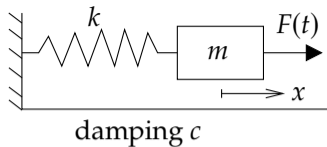


Consider $mx'' + cx' + kx = 0$ with $c > 0$.
(damping is present)

Rewrite the equation as

$$x'' + 2px' + \omega_0^2 x = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}, \quad p = \frac{c}{2m}.$$

Characteristic equation: $r^2 + 2pr + \omega_0^2 = 0$.



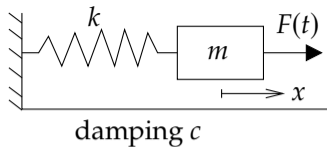
Consider $mx'' + cx' + kx = 0$ with $c > 0$.
(damping is present)

Rewrite the equation as

$$x'' + 2px' + \omega_0^2 x = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}, \quad p = \frac{c}{2m}.$$

Characteristic equation: $r^2 + 2pr + \omega_0^2 = 0$.

Roots: $r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.



Consider $mx'' + cx' + kx = 0$ with $c > 0$.
(damping is present)

Rewrite the equation as

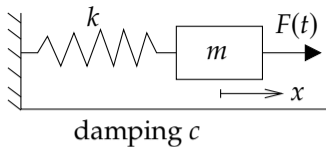
$$x'' + 2px' + \omega_0^2 x = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}, \quad p = \frac{c}{2m}.$$

Characteristic equation: $r^2 + 2pr + \omega_0^2 = 0$.

Roots: $r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Solution depends on roots being real or complex, that is, if

$$p^2 - \omega_0^2 = \left(\frac{c}{2m}\right)^2 - \frac{k}{m} = \frac{c^2 - 4km}{4m^2} \quad \text{is positive or negative.}$$



Consider $mx'' + cx' + kx = 0$ with $c > 0$.
(damping is present)

Rewrite the equation as

$$x'' + 2px' + \omega_0^2 x = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}, \quad p = \frac{c}{2m}.$$

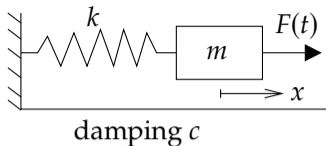
Characteristic equation: $r^2 + 2pr + \omega_0^2 = 0$.

Roots: $r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Solution depends on roots being real or complex, that is, if

$$p^2 - \omega_0^2 = \left(\frac{c}{2m}\right)^2 - \frac{k}{m} = \frac{c^2 - 4km}{4m^2} \quad \text{is positive or negative.}$$

Real roots if $c^2 - 4km \geq 0$ or $c \geq 2\sqrt{km}$ (overdamped / critically damped)



Consider $mx'' + cx' + kx = 0$ with $c > 0$.
(damping is present)

Rewrite the equation as

$$x'' + 2px' + \omega_0^2 x = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}, \quad p = \frac{c}{2m}.$$

Characteristic equation: $r^2 + 2pr + \omega_0^2 = 0$.

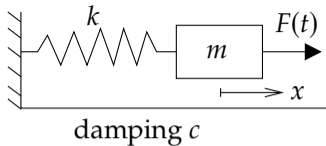
Roots: $r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Solution depends on roots being real or complex, that is, if

$$p^2 - \omega_0^2 = \left(\frac{c}{2m}\right)^2 - \frac{k}{m} = \frac{c^2 - 4km}{4m^2} \quad \text{is positive or negative.}$$

Real roots if $c^2 - 4km \geq 0$ or $c \geq 2\sqrt{km}$ (overdamped / critically damped)

Complex roots if $c^2 - 4km < 0$ or $c < 2\sqrt{km}$ (underdamped)



Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

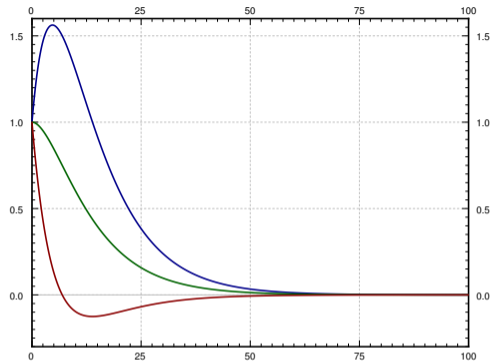
Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

Solution: $x(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$.



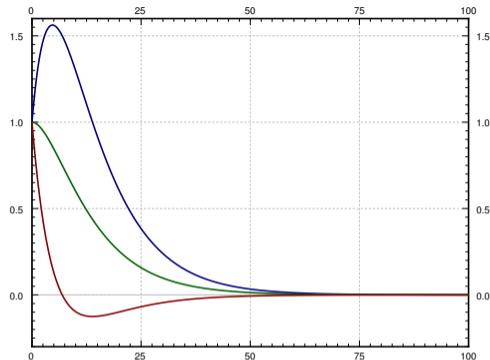
Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

Solution: $x(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$.

As r_1, r_2 are negative, $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.



Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

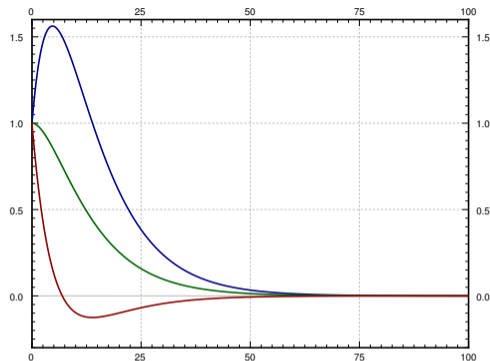
Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

Solution: $x(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$.

As r_1, r_2 are negative, $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

No oscillation:

The graph crosses the t -axis at most once.



Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

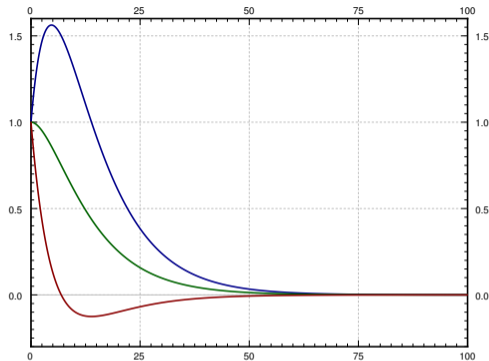
Solution: $x(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$.

As r_1, r_2 are negative, $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

No oscillation:

The graph crosses the t -axis at most once.

Why? Solve $0 = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$,



Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

Solution: $x(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$.

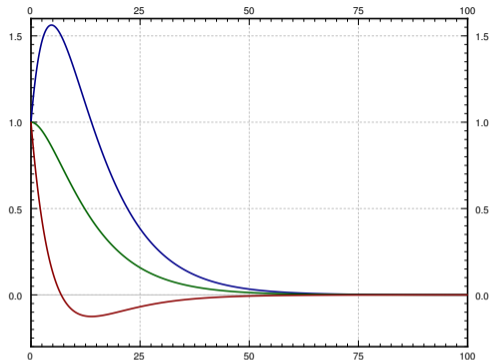
As r_1, r_2 are negative, $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

No oscillation:

The graph crosses the t -axis at most once.

Why? Solve $0 = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$,

$\Rightarrow C_1 e^{r_1 t} = -C_2 e^{r_2 t}$



Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

Solution: $x(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$.

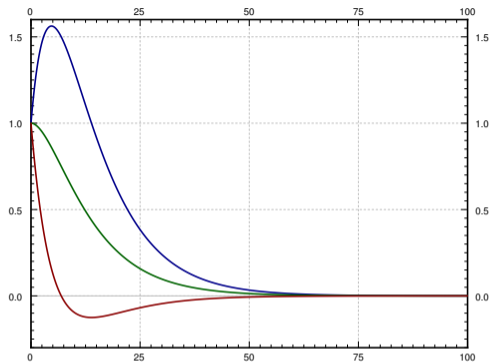
As r_1, r_2 are negative, $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

No oscillation:

The graph crosses the t -axis at most once.

Why? Solve $0 = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$,

$\Rightarrow C_1 e^{r_1 t} = -C_2 e^{r_2 t} \Rightarrow \frac{-C_1}{C_2} = e^{(r_2 - r_1)t} \Rightarrow$ at most one solution! (or no solution)



Case 1: Overdamped, $c^2 - 4km > 0$.

Two real roots: $r_1, r_2 = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$.

Both roots negative as $\sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} < p$.

Solution: $x(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$.

As r_1, r_2 are negative, $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

No oscillation:

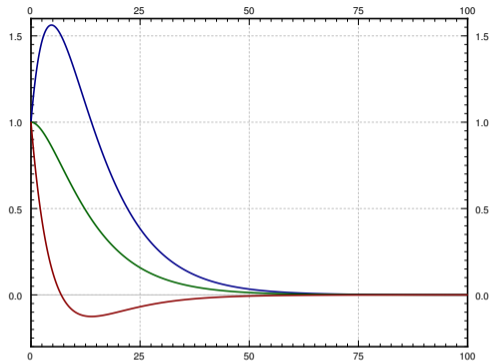
The graph crosses the t -axis at most once.

Why? Solve $0 = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$,

$\Rightarrow C_1 e^{r_1 t} = -C_2 e^{r_2 t} \Rightarrow \frac{-C_1}{C_2} = e^{(r_2 - r_1)t} \Rightarrow$ at most one solution! (or no solution)

Example: The mass is released from rest at position x_0 : $x(0) = x_0$ and $x'(0) = 0$.

$$x(t) = \frac{x_0}{r_1 - r_2} (r_1 e^{r_2 t} - r_2 e^{r_1 t}).$$



Case 2: Critically damped, $c^2 - 4km = 0$.

Case 2: Critically damped, $c^2 - 4km = 0$.

Only one root: $-p$.

Case 2: Critically damped, $c^2 - 4km = 0$.

Only one root: $-p$.

Solution

$$x(t) = C_1 e^{-pt} + C_2 t e^{-pt}.$$

Case 2: Critically damped, $c^2 - 4km = 0$.

Only one root: $-p$.

Solution

$$x(t) = C_1 e^{-pt} + C_2 t e^{-pt}.$$

Behavior very similar to overdamped: After all, infinitely close to overdamped.

Case 2: Critically damped, $c^2 - 4km = 0$.

Only one root: $-p$.

Solution

$$x(t) = C_1 e^{-pt} + C_2 t e^{-pt}.$$

Behavior very similar to overdamped: After all, infinitely close to overdamped.

Everything is an approximation of reality, so best not to dwell on this edge case.

Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2}$$

Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}$$

Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2} \\ &= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

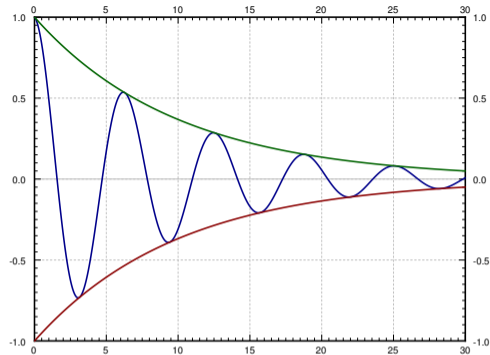
Roots are complex:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2} \\ &= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(t) = C e^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$



Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}$$

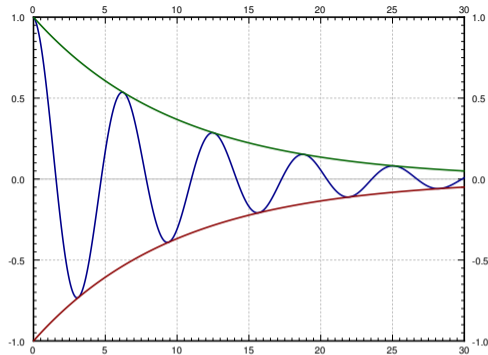
$$= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}.$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(t) = Ce^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$

Figure shows *envelope curves* Ce^{-pt} and $-Ce^{-pt}$.



Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

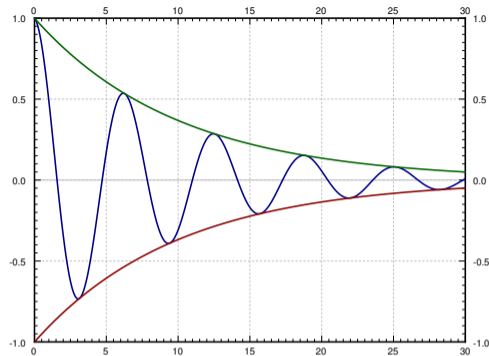
$$\begin{aligned} r &= -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2} \\ &= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(t) = Ce^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$

Figure shows *envelope curves* Ce^{-pt} and $-Ce^{-pt}$.
Still $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.



Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2} \\ &= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

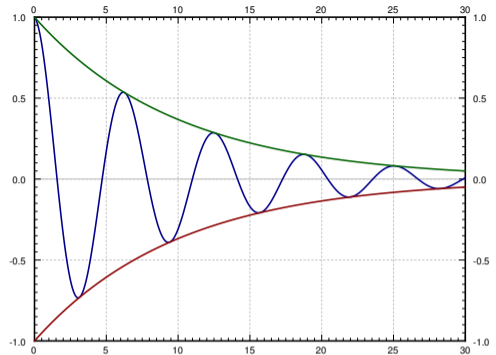
$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(t) = Ce^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$

Figure shows *envelope curves* Ce^{-pt} and $-Ce^{-pt}$.

Still $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

ω_1 is the angular *pseudo-frequency* and is always smaller than ω_0 .



Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$r = -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}$$

$$= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}.$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

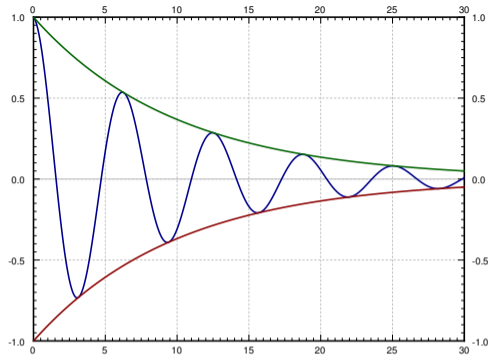
$$x(t) = Ce^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$

Figure shows *envelope curves* Ce^{-pt} and $-Ce^{-pt}$.

Still $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

ω_1 is the angular *pseudo-frequency* and is always smaller than ω_0 .

ω_1 gets smaller and smaller as c (and hence p) grows.



Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2} \\ &= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(t) = Ce^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$

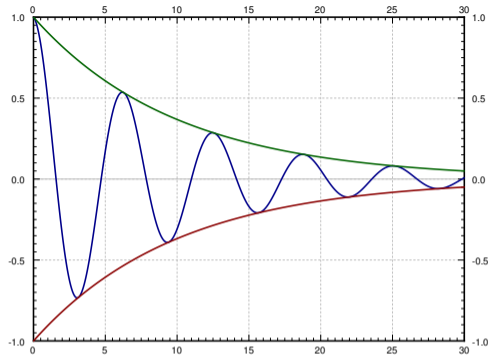
Figure shows *envelope curves* Ce^{-pt} and $-Ce^{-pt}$.

Still $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

ω_1 is the angular *pseudo-frequency* and is always smaller than ω_0 .

ω_1 gets smaller and smaller as c (and hence p) grows.

As c^2 gets close to $4km$, ω_1 approaches 0.



Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2} \\ &= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(t) = Ce^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$

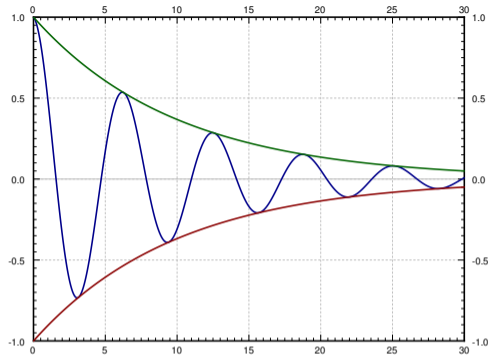
Figure shows *envelope curves* Ce^{-pt} and $-Ce^{-pt}$.

Still $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

ω_1 is the angular *pseudo-frequency* and is always smaller than ω_0 .

ω_1 gets smaller and smaller as c (and hence p) grows.

As c^2 gets close to $4km$, ω_1 approaches 0. As c gets close to 0, ω_1 approaches ω_0 .



Case 3: Underdamped, $c^2 - 4km < 0$.

Roots are complex:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - \omega_0^2} = -p \pm \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2} \\ &= -p \pm i\omega_1, \quad \text{where } \omega_1 = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{-pt} (A \cos(\omega_1 t) + B \sin(\omega_1 t)), \quad \text{or}$$

$$x(t) = Ce^{-pt} \cos(\omega_1 t - \gamma).$$

Figure shows *envelope curves* Ce^{-pt} and $-Ce^{-pt}$.

Still $x(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

ω_1 is the angular *pseudo-frequency* and is always smaller than ω_0 .

ω_1 gets smaller and smaller as c (and hence p) grows.

As c^2 gets close to $4km$, ω_1 approaches 0. As c gets close to 0, ω_1 approaches ω_0 .

The envelope curves become flatter and flatter as c (and hence p) goes to 0.

