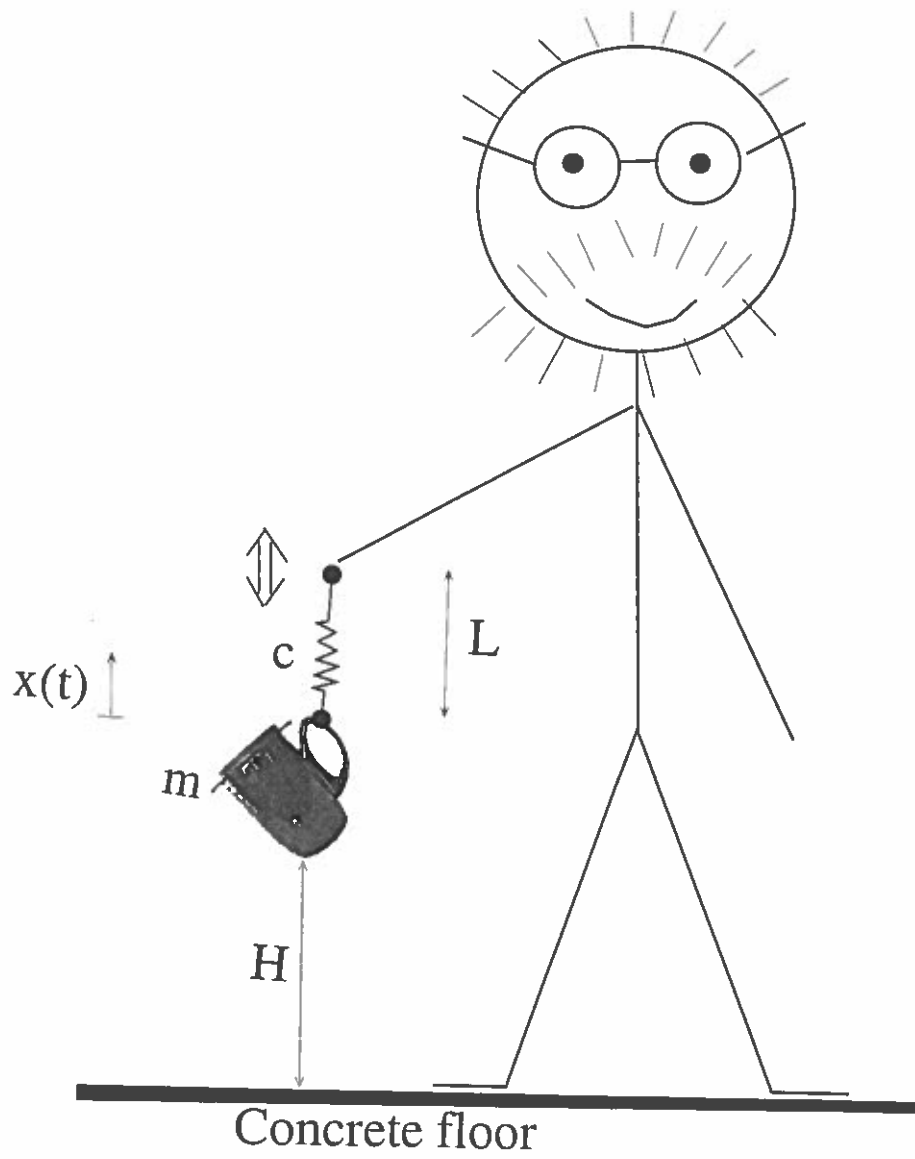
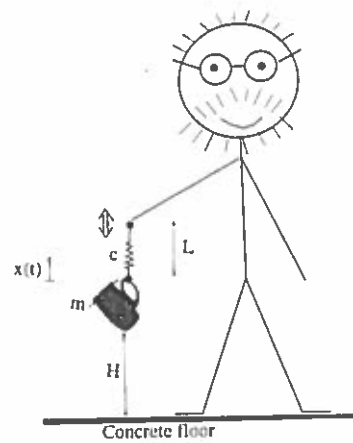


# The experiment

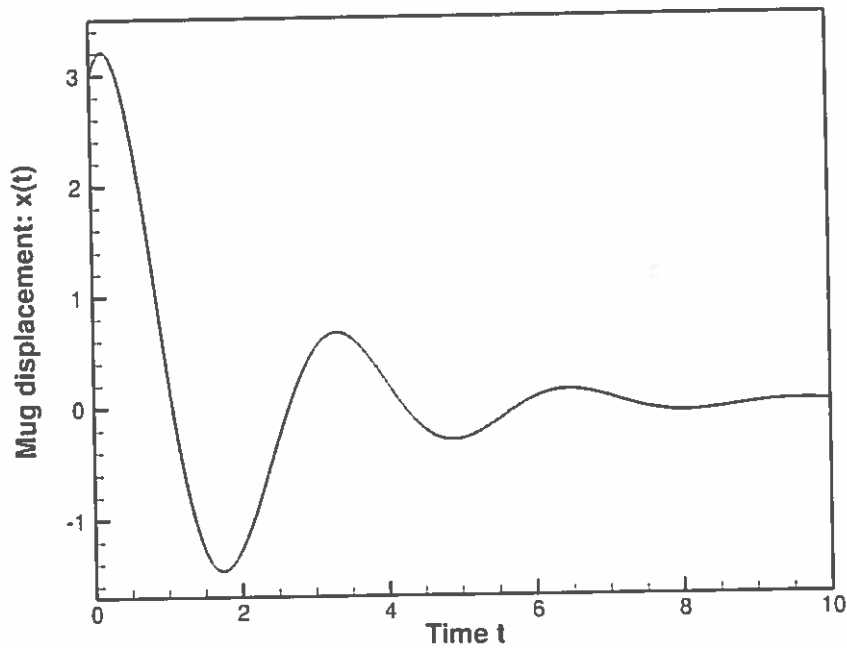


# Experiment 1: Free oscillations



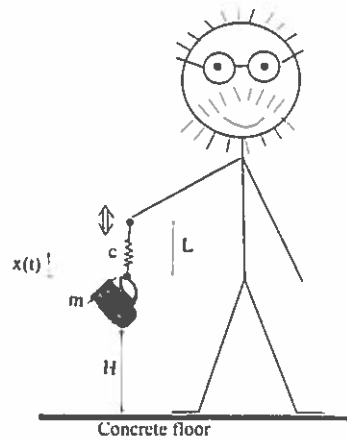
## Procedure:

- Deflect mug from its rest position.
- “Let go” and observe the mug’s time-dependent motion while keeping hand still.



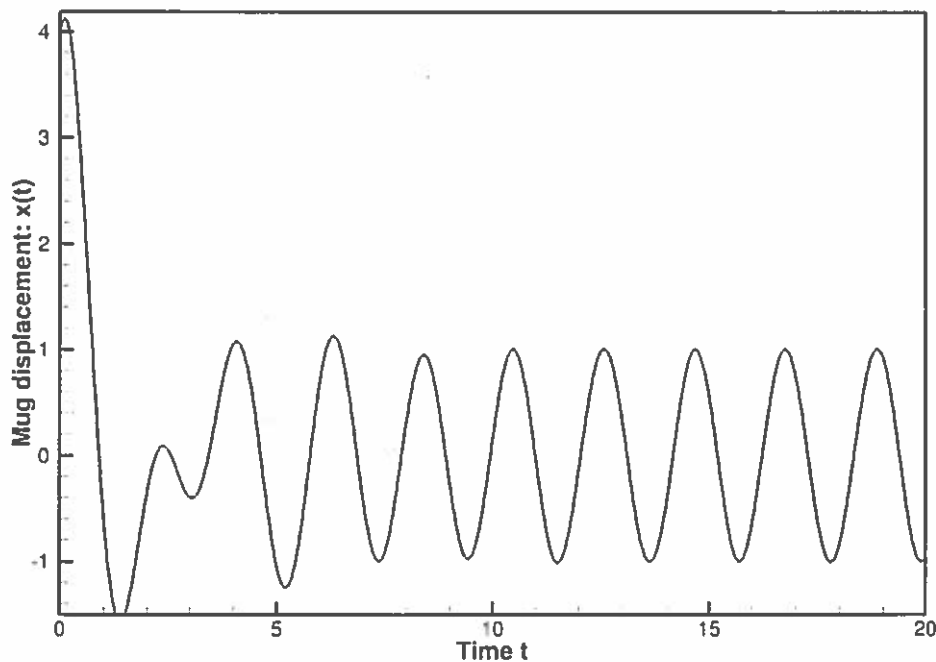
- Damped oscillation with certain characteristic frequency – the system’s “eigen” frequency.

## Experiment 2: Forced oscillations



### Procedure:

- Start from rest.
- Perform time-harmonic oscillations with hand and observe the mug's time-dependent motion.



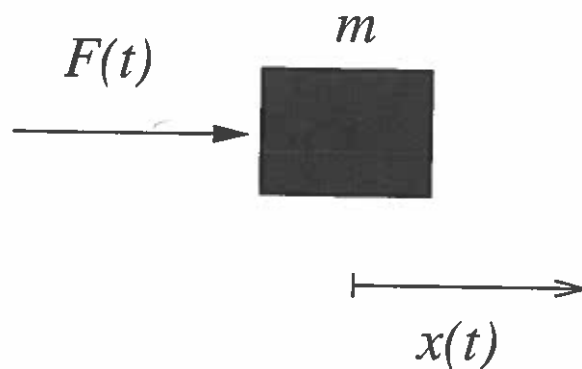
- "Initial transients", followed by time-harmonic "response" with same frequency as "forcing".
- Note: Amplitude of "response" depends on forcing frequency:
  - tiny for high frequencies,
  - same as forcing amplitude for very low frequencies,
  - very large for frequencies near the system's "eigen" frequency.

# Everything you always wanted to know about mechanical oscillators but were afraid to ask

- The first half of MATH10222 is not directly concerned with mechanics.
- However, mechanical systems provide nice illustrations of many of the phenomena that we have discussed (or will discuss) in a more abstract mathematical setting.

## I. Newton's law for one-dimensional motion

- In words: "*The sum of all forces acting on a particle of mass  $m$  is equal to its mass times its acceleration*"

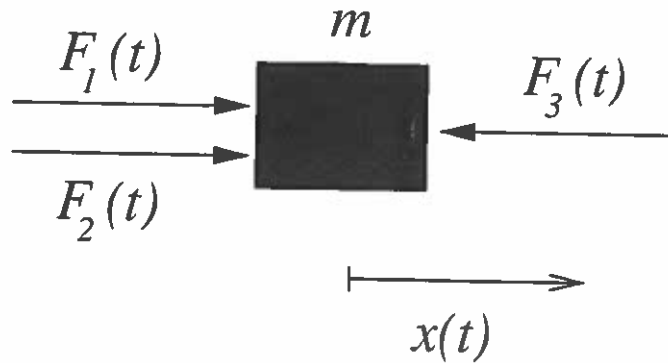


- Or, written as an equation:

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F(t)$$

## I. Newton's law for one-dimensional motion (cont.)

- Here's an example with multiple forces



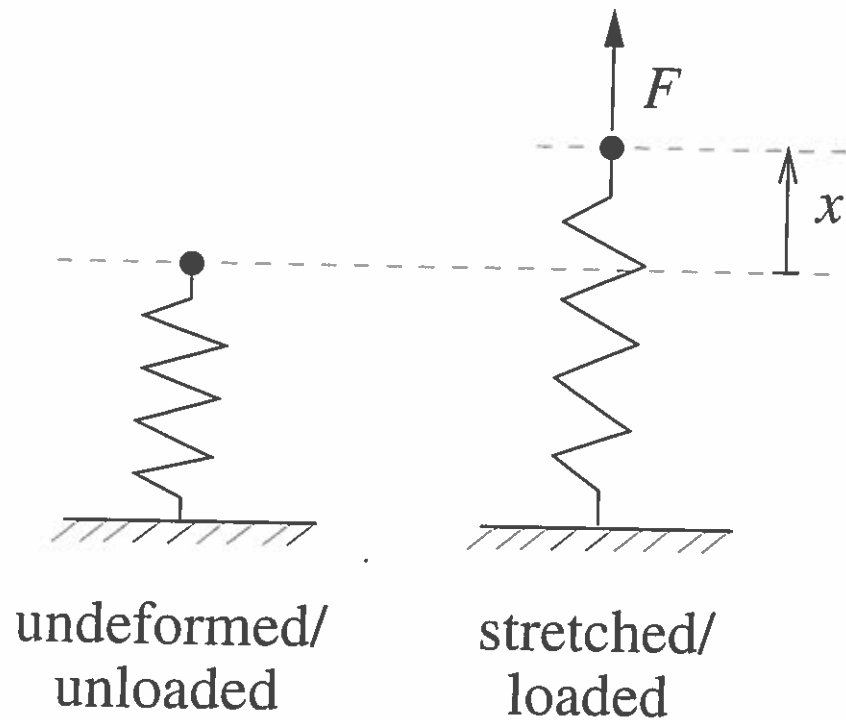
- In this case Newton's law becomes:

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F_1(t) + F_2(t) - F_3(t)$$

- Note the direction of the forces!

## II. (Linearly) elastic springs

- Observation: When a spring is loaded by a force,  $F$ , its length increases by a certain amount,  $x$ , say.



- For a linearly elastic spring we have

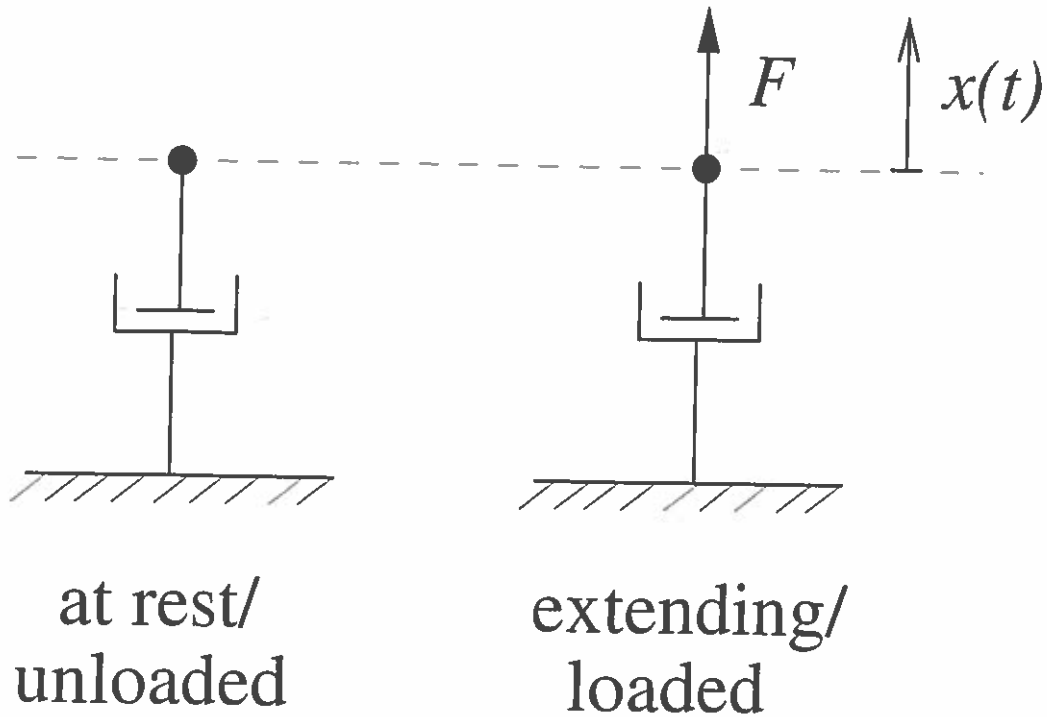
$$F = c x$$

where  $c$  is the “spring constant”, a measure of its stiffness.

- Thus  $c$  indicates how strongly the spring resists its *static* extension.

### III. (Linear) dampers

- Observation: When a damper is loaded by a force  $F$  its length increases at a rate  $dx/dt$ :



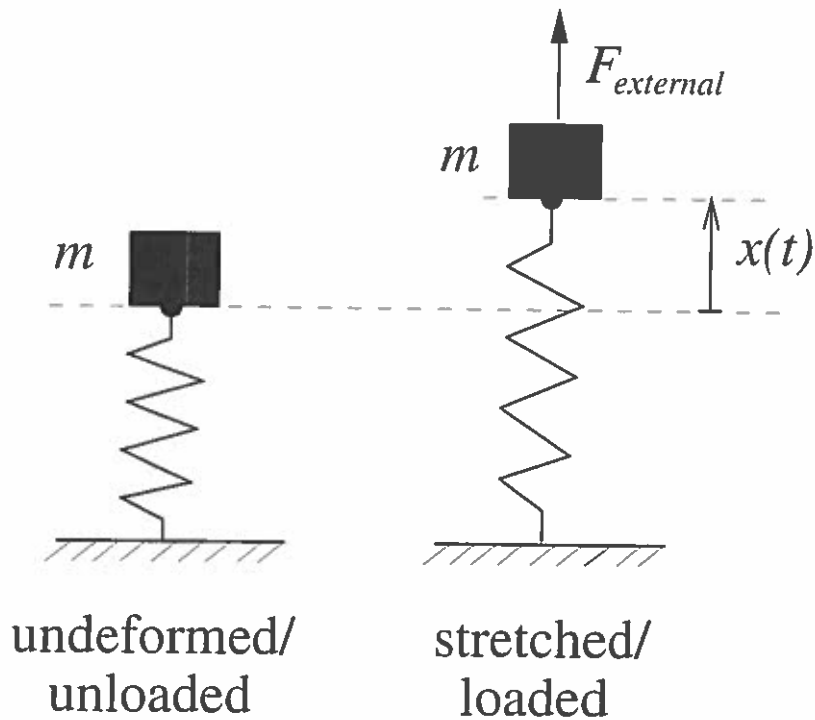
- For a linear damper we have

$$F = k \frac{dx}{dt}$$

where  $k$  is the “damping constant”, a measure of how strongly the damper resists its *dynamic* extension.

#### IV. Putting it all together: “Action = Reaction”

- Here is a mass  $m$ , attached to a spring of stiffness  $c$ , and loaded by a force,  $F_{external}$ .

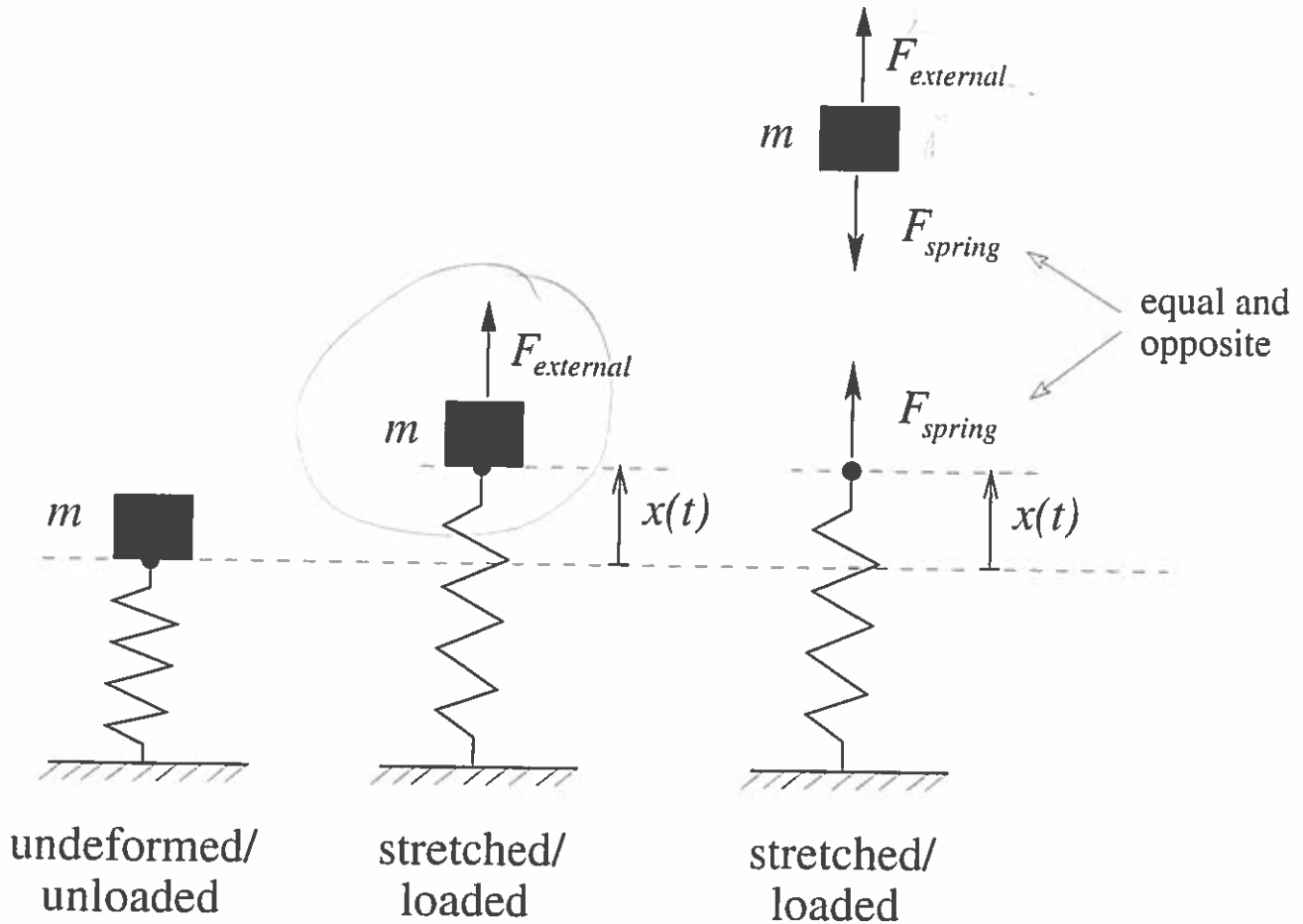


- What is the equation of motion for the mass?
- Write down Newton's law for the mass.
- $\implies$  What forces act on the mass?



## IV. Putting it all together (cont.)

- “Action = Reaction”: The spring pulls the mass and mass pulls the spring (in the opposite direction, obviously!):



- Thus Newton's law states

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F_{external} - F_{spring}, \quad \checkmark$$

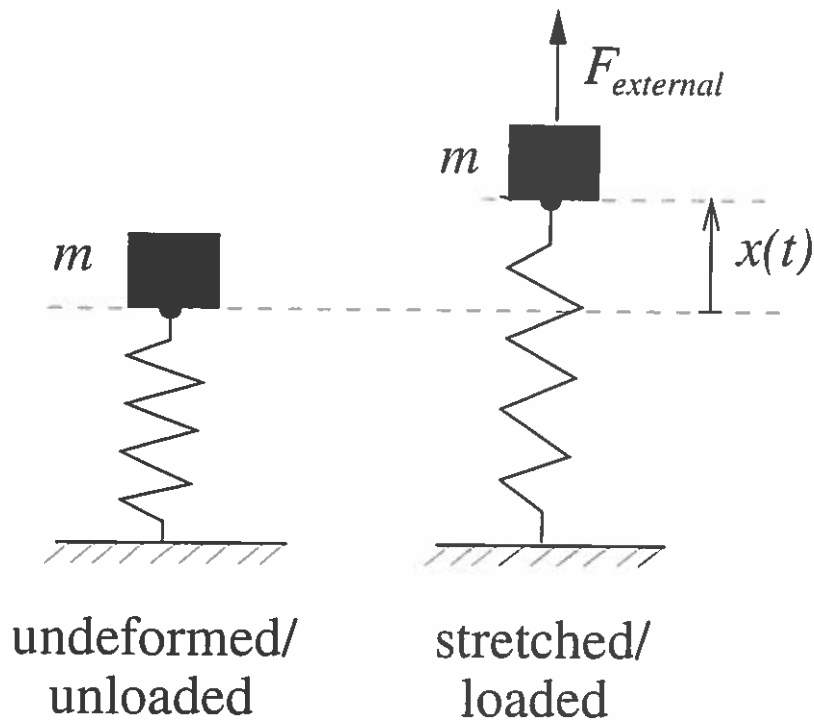
or, using what we've just learned about linear springs:

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F_{external} - cx. \quad \checkmark$$

## IV. Putting it all together (cont.)

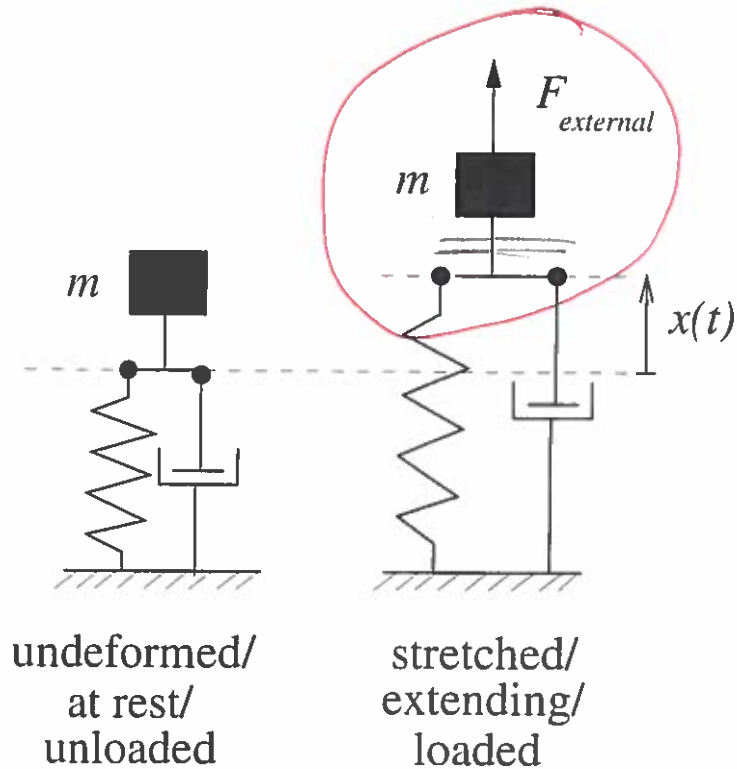
- Rewrite to the standard form of a second-order ODE for  $x(t)$ :

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + cx = F_{external}.$$



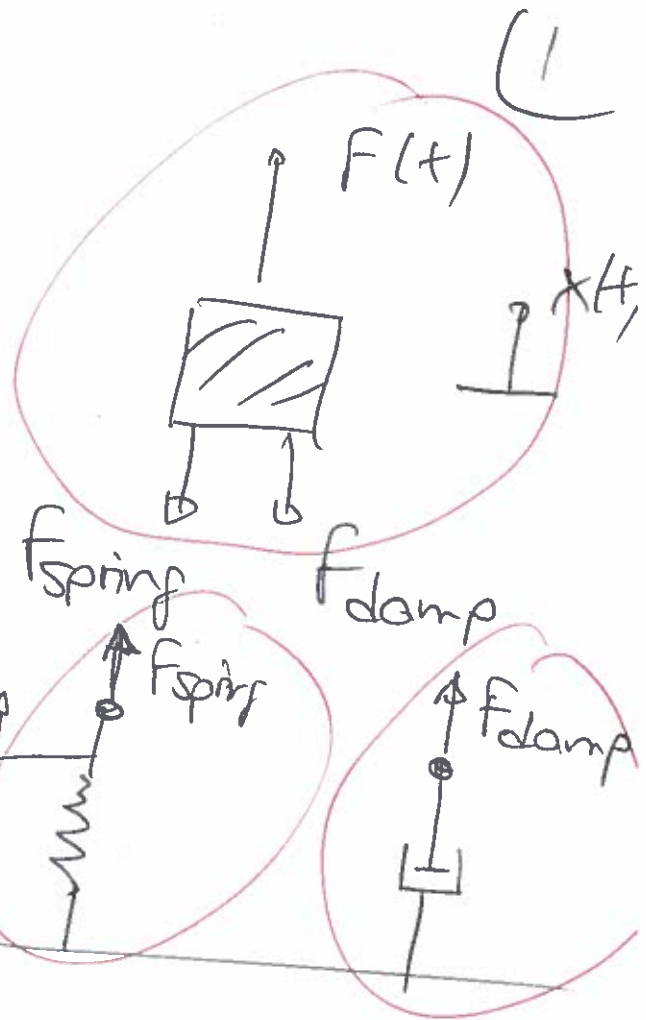
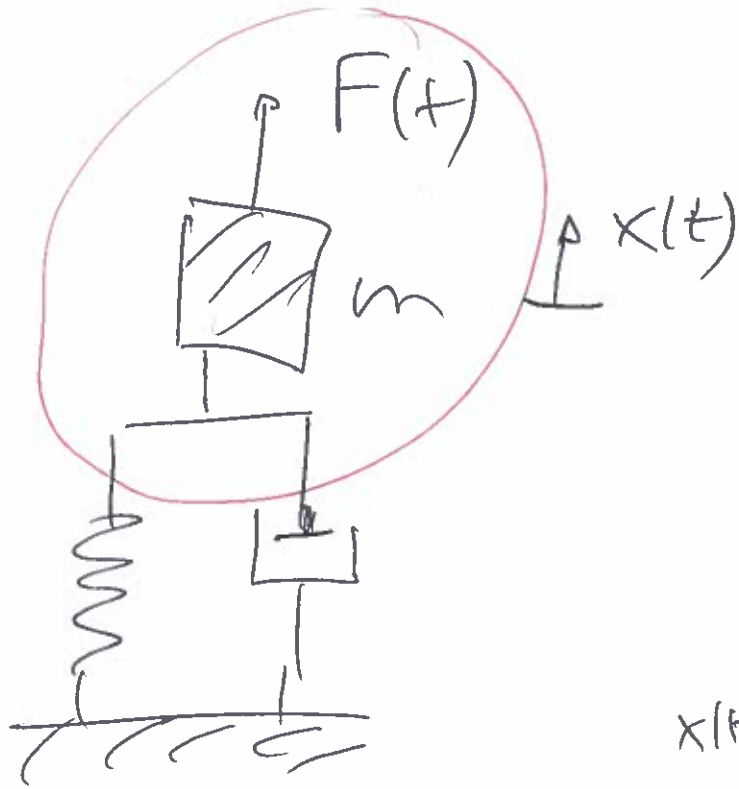
## Exercise: Try it for yourself

- Here is a mass  $m$ , attached to a spring of stiffness  $c$ , and a damper (damping constant  $k$ ), loaded by a force  $F_{external}$ .



- Show that the equation of motion for the mass is

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + k \frac{dx}{dt} + cx = F_{external}$$



Newton's Law:

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F(t) - \underbrace{f_{\text{spring}}} - \underbrace{f_{\text{damp}}}$$

$$f_{\text{spring}} = cx \quad f_{\text{damp}} = b \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F(t) - cx(t) - b \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + cx = F(t)$$

2<sup>nd</sup> order constant coeffn. ODE.  
for  $x(t)$

rewrite in standard form: ②

$$\ddot{x} + 2\delta \dot{x} + \omega^2 x = f(t)$$

where

$$\delta = \frac{k}{2m} > 0$$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{c}{m} > 0$$

$$f(t) = \frac{F(t)}{m}$$

IC:  $x(t=0) = \bar{x}_0$  initial posn.  
 $\frac{dx}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} = V_0$  initial veloc.

① Soln. of the homog. ODE:

$$\ddot{x} + 2\delta \dot{x} + \omega^2 x = 0$$

Physically this is the case of free oscillations

char. poly:  $x(t) \sim e^{\lambda t}$  (3)

$$\lambda^2 + 2\delta\lambda + \omega^2 = 0$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = -\delta \pm \sqrt{\delta^2 - \omega^2}$$

Four cases:

① Purely damped motion:  $\delta > \omega$

$$x(t) = A e^{\underbrace{(-\delta + \sqrt{\delta^2 - \omega^2})t}_{\text{neg. root}}} + B e^{\underbrace{(-\delta - \sqrt{\delta^2 - \omega^2})t}_{\text{neg. root}}}$$

both exponentials have a negative exponent

$\rightarrow x(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$   
without changing sign.

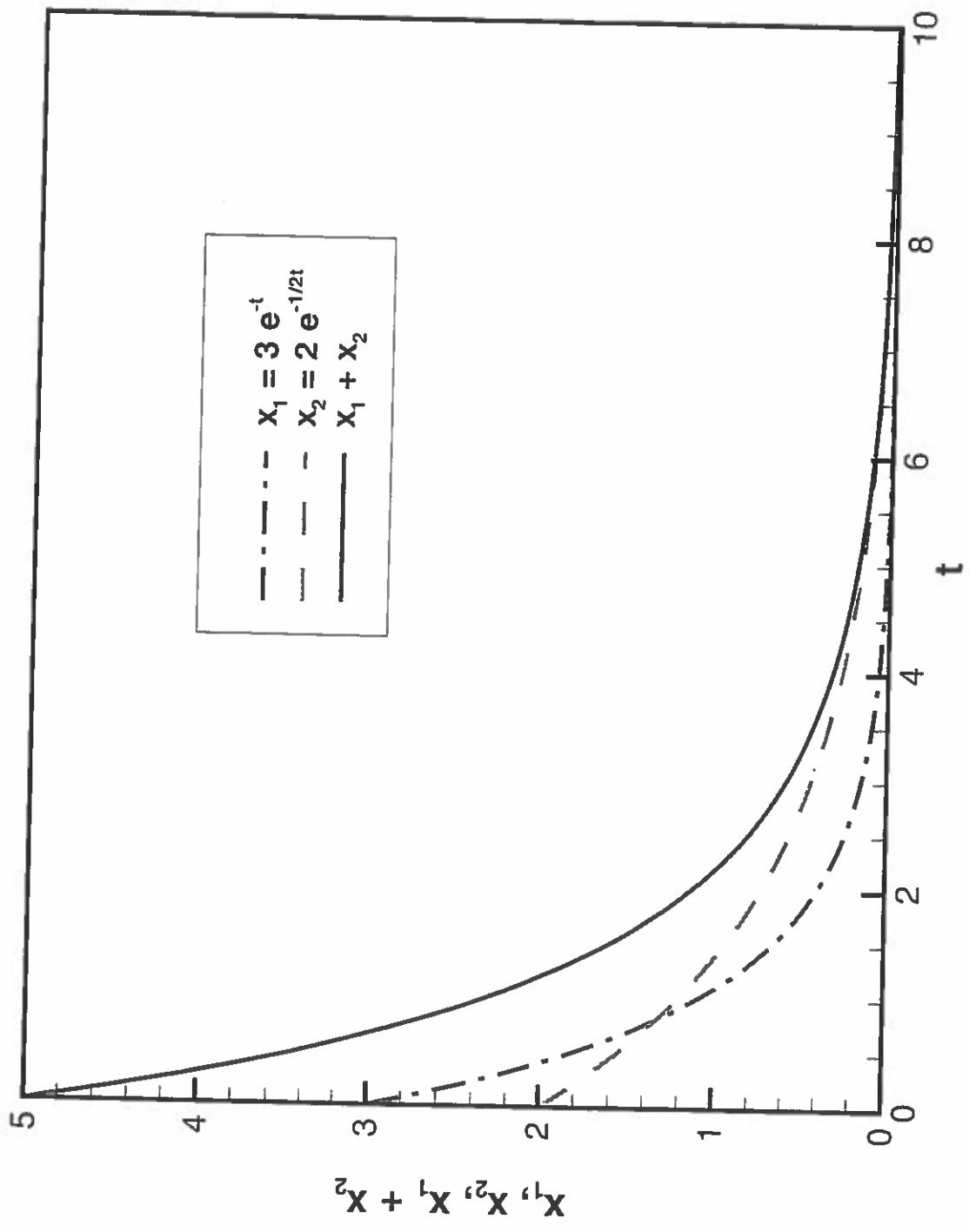


Figure 1: Illustration of a purely damped motion. The mass approaches its equilibrium position  $x = 0$  monotonically.

② Critical damping:  $\delta = \omega$

(4)

repeated root:  $\lambda_{12} = -\delta$

$$x(t) = A e^{-\delta t} + B t e^{-\delta t}$$

$$x(t) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

with at most one overshoot across  $x=0$ , depending on I.C.

③ Damped oscillations:  $\delta < \omega$

$$\lambda_{12} = -\delta \pm i \sqrt{\omega^2 - \delta^2}$$

$$x(t) = e^{-\delta t} \left( A \cos(\sqrt{\omega^2 - \delta^2} t) + B \sin(\sqrt{\omega^2 - \delta^2} t) \right)$$

Damped oscillation with frequency  $\sqrt{\omega^2 - \delta^2}$  & decay rate  $\delta$ .



Oscillations decay like  $e^{-\delta t}$  (5)  
 $1/\delta$  is the timescale  
over which the oscillation  
decays.

④ Undamped oscillations:  $\delta = 0$

$$x(t) = A \cos(\omega t) + B \sin(\omega t)$$

Harmonic oscillation with  
frequency  $\omega$ .

$\omega$  is the eigen frequency  
of the system, i.e. the  
frequency it oscillates with  
naturally (without damping)

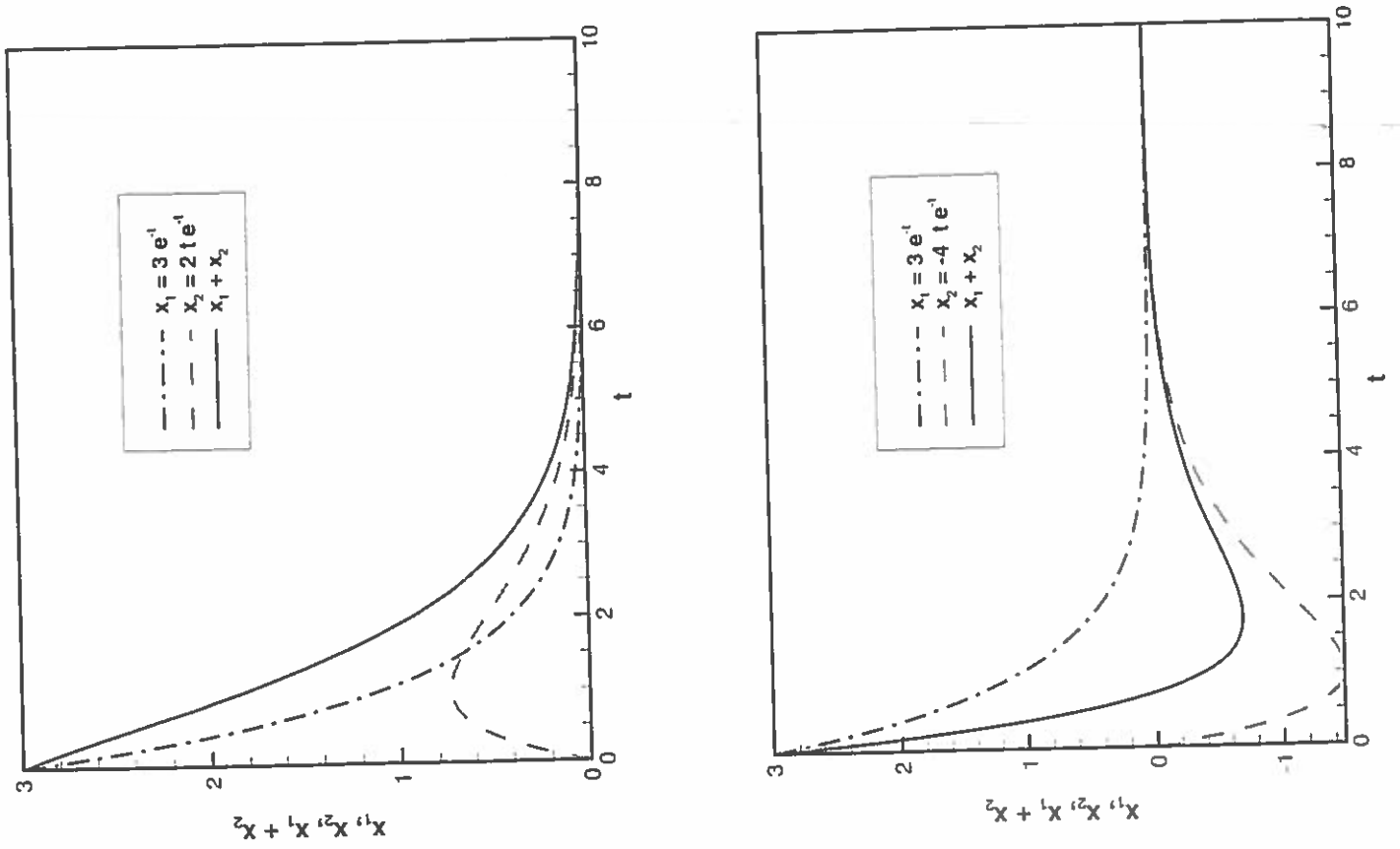


Figure 2: Illustration of critically damped motions. The mass approaches its equilibrium position,  $x = 0$ , with at most one “overshoot”.

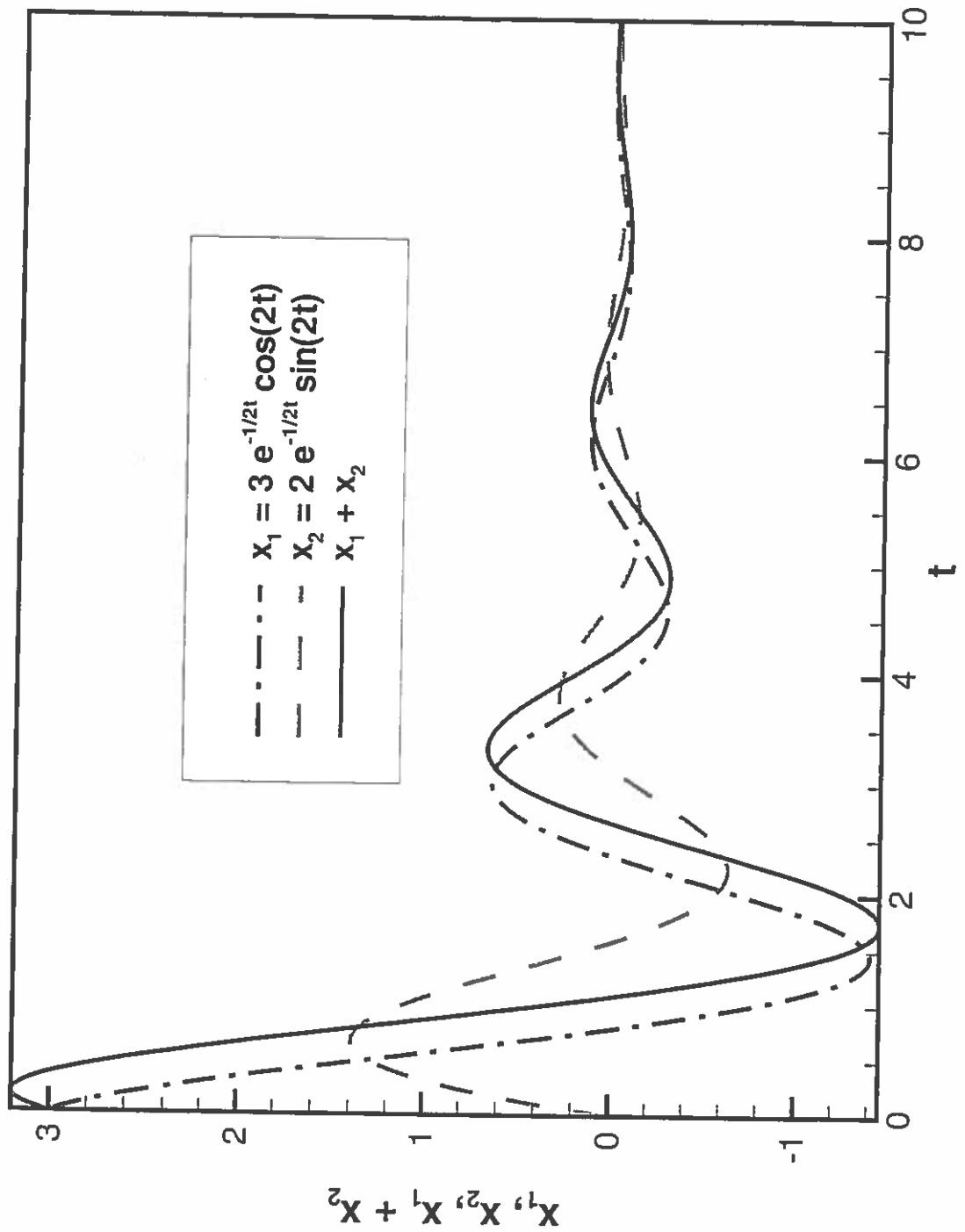


Figure 3: Illustration of a damped oscillation. The mass oscillates about its equilibrium position  $x = 0$  and the amplitude of the oscillations decays exponentially.

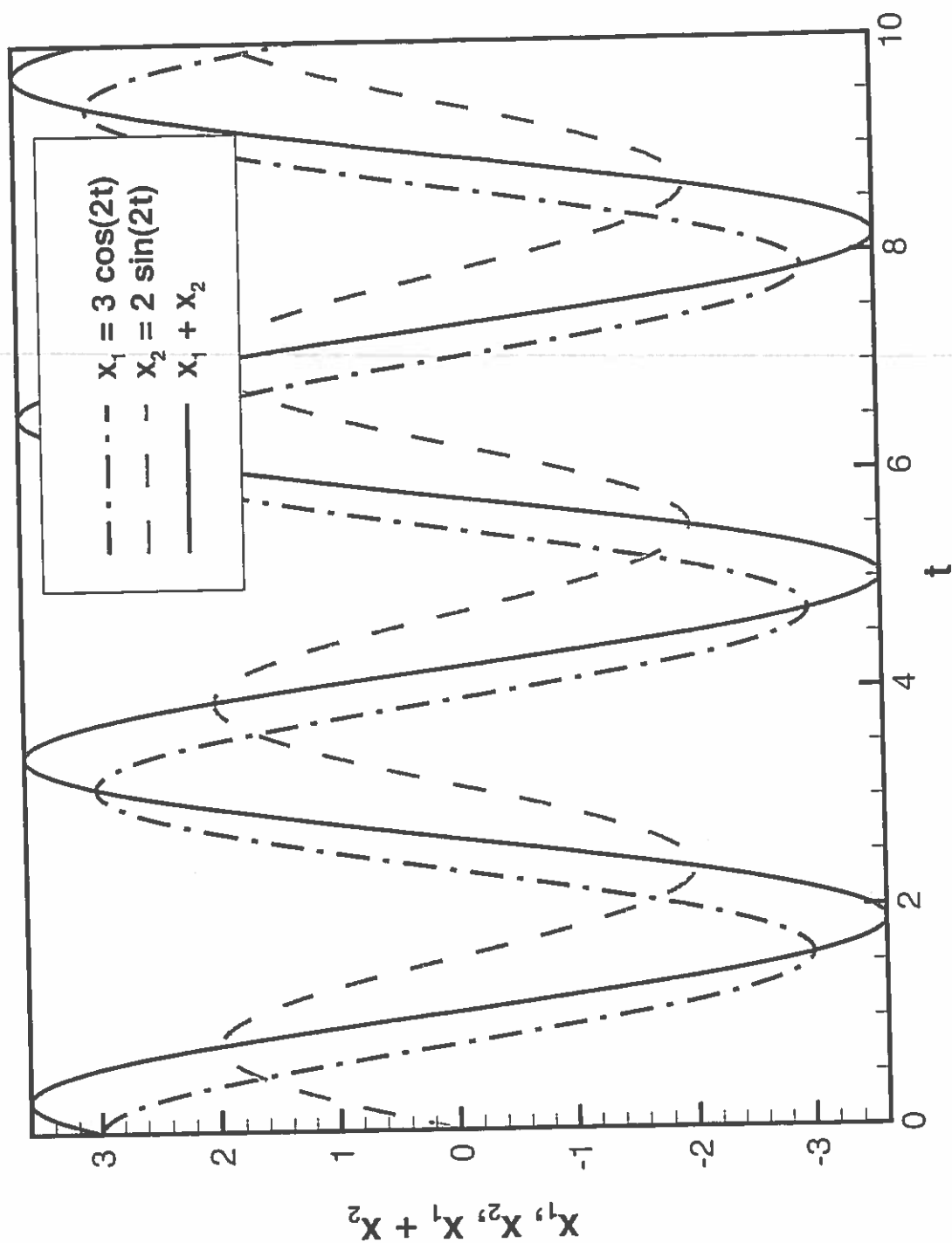


Figure 4: Illustration of an undamped oscillation. The mass performs harmonic oscillations about its equilibrium position  $x = 0$ .

# Ⓘ Soln. of the inhomog. $\mathbb{C}$ ODE

Consider periodic forcing  
 $\Rightarrow$  resonance.

$$\ddot{x} + 2\gamma \dot{x} + \omega^2 x = f(t)$$

$$f(t) = \hat{f} \sin(\Omega t)$$

↑  
forcing frequency

or

$$f(t) = \hat{f} \cos(\Omega t)$$

Can do both at the same time by considering exponential forcing

$$f(t) = \hat{f} e^{i\Omega t}$$

Extract real or imag. part of soln. for cos or sin forcing respectively.

for  $f(t) = \hat{f} e^{i\Omega t}$  (7)

Ansatz:  $x_p = X e^{i\Omega t}$

$$\dot{x}_p = +i\Omega X e^{i\Omega t}$$

$$\ddot{x}_p = -\Omega^2 X e^{i\Omega t}$$

inb ODE

$$\cancel{X e^{i\Omega t}} \left( \underbrace{-\Omega^2}_{\ddot{x}} + 2\underbrace{\delta}_{\dot{x}} i\Omega + \omega^2 \right) =$$

$$\cancel{\hat{f} e^{i\Omega t}}$$

$$X = \frac{\hat{f}}{(\omega^2 - \Omega^2) + i(2\delta\Omega)}$$

is complex

$$X = X_{\text{real}} + i X_{\text{imag}}$$

$$= \underline{\underline{|X|}} e^{i\varphi}$$

$$\tan \varphi = \frac{X_{\text{img}}}{X_{\text{real}}}$$

$|X|$  represents the amplitude of oscillation: (8)

$$|X| = \frac{f}{\sqrt{(\omega^2 - \Omega^2)^2 + (2\delta\Omega)^2}}$$

$$|X| = \frac{f/\omega^2}{\sqrt{\left(1 - \left(\frac{\Omega}{\omega}\right)^2\right)^2 + \left(2\left(\frac{\delta}{\omega}\right)\left(\frac{\Omega}{\omega}\right)\right)^2}}$$

ratio of forcing frequency to eigenfreq.  $\omega$

ratio of damping to spring stiffness or ratio of timescale of free oscillation  $1/\omega$  to its decay rate  $1/\delta$

What is

$$\frac{F}{\omega^2} = \frac{\frac{F}{\cancel{A}}}{\frac{c}{\cancel{A}}}$$

[9]

$$= \frac{F}{c}$$

extension  
~~length~~ of the  
spring when  
subjected to  
a steady force  
F.