

Damped Harmonic Motion

- ❑ Simple harmonic motion in which the amplitude is steadily decreased due to the action of some non-conservative force(s), i.e. friction or air resistance ($\mathbf{F} = -b\mathbf{v}$, where b (or C) is the damping coefficient)
- ❑ 3 classifications of damped harmonic motion:
 1. Underdamped – oscillation, but amplitude decreases with each cycle (shocks)
 2. Critically damped – no oscillation, with smallest amount of damping
 3. Overdamped – no oscillation, but more damping than needed for critical

◆ Apply Newton's 2nd Law

$$\sum F_x = -kx - b\mathbf{v} = m\mathbf{a}_x$$

$$-kx - b \frac{dx}{dt} = m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \frac{b}{m} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{k}{m} x = 0$$

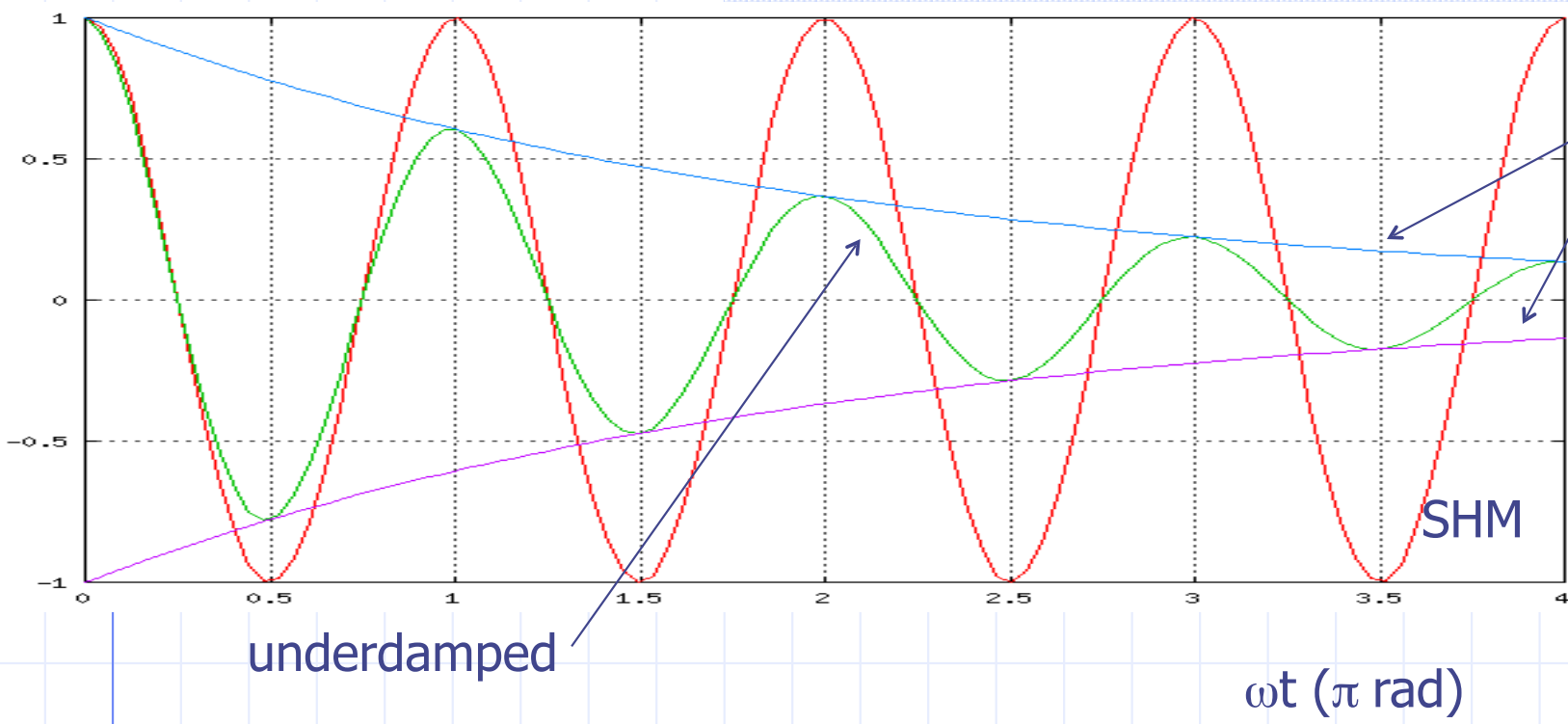
◆ Another 2nd-order ordinary differential equation, but with a 1st-order term

◆ The solution is $x = A_0 e^{-\frac{b}{2m}t} \cos(\omega t + \phi_0)$

◆ Where $\omega = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - (b/2m)^2}$ $\omega_0 = \sqrt{k/m}$

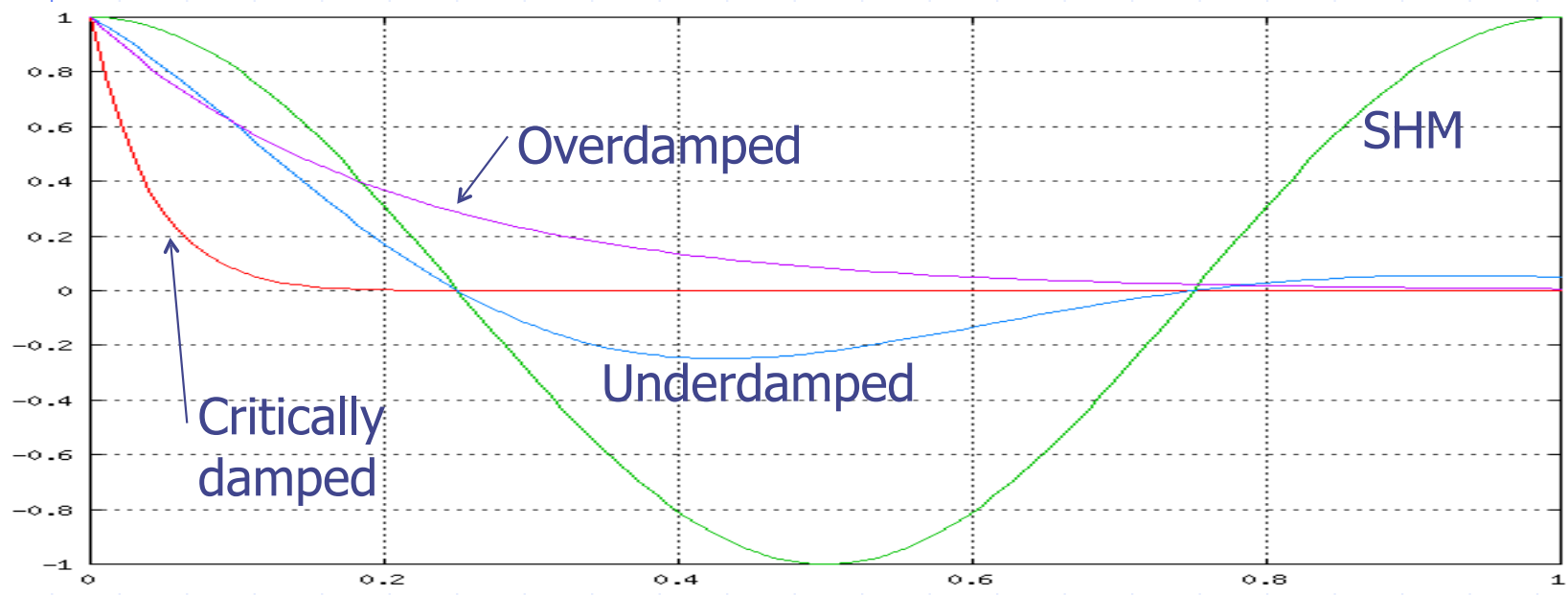
◆ Type of damping determined by comparing

$$\omega_0 \quad \text{and} \quad b/2m$$



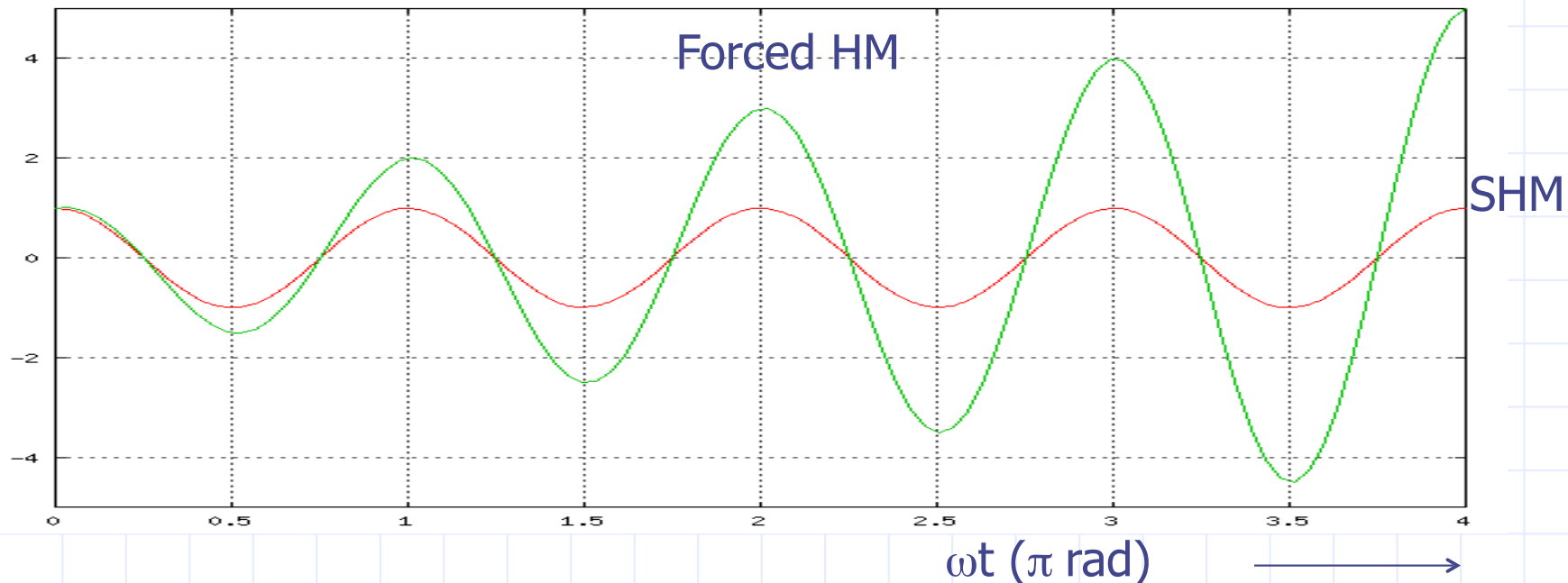
Envelope of
damped motion

$$A=A_0e^{-bt/2m}$$



Forced Harmonic Motion

- ❑ Unlike damped harmonic motion, the amplitude may increase with time
- ❑ Consider a swing (or a pendulum) and apply a force that increases with time; the amplitude will increase with time



❑ Consider the spring-mass system, it has a frequency

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{k / m} = f_0$$

❑ We call this the natural frequency f_0 of the system. All systems (car, bridge, pendulum, etc.) have an f_0

❑ We can apply a time-dependent external driving force with frequency f_d ($f_d \neq f_0$) to the spring-mass system

$$F(t) = F_{\text{ext}} \cos(2\pi f_d t)$$

❑ This is forced harmonic motion, the amplitude increases

❑ But if $f_d = f_0$, the amplitude can increase dramatically – this is a condition called resonance

❑ Examples: a) out-of-balance tire shakes violently at certain speeds,

b) Tacoma-Narrows bridge's f_0 matches frequency of wind

