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**The solution structure of the Duffing oscillator's transient response and general solution.**

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Summary: A modification of homotopy analysis method (HAM) is developed in this paper. The solution structure of the Duffing oscillator's free vibration at different damping levels is put forward based on this new modified HAM. Explicit expressions for the fundamental decaying rate and the fundamental frequency are derived. Numerical examples with different initial conditions are calculated to verify the proposed solution structures. The number of terms required to be considered in the modified HAM for yielding satisfactorily accurate solutions is analyzed. The structure of forced and damped Duffing oscillator's general solution is also put forward and verified.

**MSC:**

[34C15](#) Nonlinear oscillations and coupled oscillators for ordinary differential equations

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[34D05](#) Asymptotic properties of solutions to ordinary differential equations

**Keywords:**

Duffing oscillator; transient response; analytical approximation

**Software:**

BVPh

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