

The cooperative functioning of the eardrum and ossicular chain attenuation in this figure can be regarded as the amplifier  $R_s$ . The perilymph fluid column equals the mass  $m$ . The combined elastic behavior of the eardrum, oval window and round window are represented by the spring constant  $k$ , while the damping is indicated as  $\xi$ . The perilymph velocity as a function of frequency can be calculated by means of a standard solution in physics: the second order differential equation. Depending on practical data for  $m$ ,  $\xi$  and  $k$  in the cochlea, the results of this calculation will show a resonance frequency  $f_r$  of 1000 – 2000 Hz and a 3 dB per octave increase in perilymph velocity  $v$  for frequencies lower than  $f_r$ , and a 3 dB per octave decrease for frequencies higher than  $f_r$ .