

3-9) We know the initial conditions here:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{at } t=0 \quad x &= x_0 \\ \dot{x} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The equation is $m\ddot{x} = -k(x-x_0) + F(t)$

where $F(t) = F(u(t) - u(t_0))$.

This problem has initial conditions and a transient force that lasts for a finite time after $t=0$, and thus lends itself to a Laplace Transform solution. Let the Laplace transform of $\begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ -x_0 \end{pmatrix}$ be $X(s)$.

Transforming the equation we get

$$s^2 X(s) - sx(0) - \dot{x}(0) = \frac{F}{ms} [1 - e^{-st_0}] - \frac{k}{m} X(s)$$

Thus, we get

$$\begin{aligned} (s^2 + \frac{k}{m}) X(s) &= sx_0 + \frac{F}{sm} (1 - e^{-st_0}) \\ X(s) &= \frac{F(1 - e^{-st_0})}{ms(s^2 + \omega^2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Using } \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}\right) &= \cos \omega t, \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + \omega^2}\right) = \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^t \sin \omega t \, dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{\omega^2} [\cos \omega t - 1] \end{aligned}$$

we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ -x_0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{F}{m\omega^2} (1 - \cos \omega t) - \frac{F}{m\omega^2} (1 - \cos \omega(t-t_0)) u(t_0)$$

$$\Rightarrow x(t) = x_0 + \frac{F}{k} [\cos \omega(t-t_0) - \cos \omega t] \quad \text{if } t > t_0.$$