

You must always justify your answers. This means: show your work, show it neatly, and when in doubt, use words (and pictures!) to explain your reasoning. No justification = no points.

- (10 pts) A bob of mass $m = 1$ kg is on the end of a spring with spring constant $k = 3$ kg/s², and placed in a viscous fluid providing a frictional damping constant $c = 4$ kg/s. The spring is driven by a force $F(t) = \sin(t/s)$ kg m/s², where t is the time. When $t = 0$, the spring is at rest in its neutral position. Find a formula describing the position of the spring as a function of time.

We let $y(t)$ be the position at time t . Then $y(t)$ satisfies the following initial value problem:

$$(1 \text{ kg})y'' + (4 \text{ kg/s})y' + (3 \text{ kg/s}^2)y = \sin(t/s) \text{ kg m/s}^2, \quad y(0) = 0 \text{ m}, \quad y'(0) = 0 \text{ m/s}$$

We begin by solving the homogeneous equation $(1 \text{ kg})y'' + (4 \text{ kg/s})y' + (3 \text{ kg/s}^2)y = 0$. The auxiliary equation is $(1 \text{ kg})r^2 + (4 \text{ kg/s})r + (3 \text{ kg/s}^2) = 0$, with solutions $r = -1/s$ and $r = -3/s$. Thus, the homogeneous solutions are:

$$y_c = C_1 e^{-t/s} + C_2 e^{-3t/s}$$

We now use the method of undetermined coefficients to find a particular solution. Since the driving force is proportional to $\sin(t/s)$, we guess a particular solution of the form

$$y_p = A \cos(t/s) + B \sin(t/s)$$

Then $y_p' = -(A/s) \sin(t/s) + (B/s) \cos(t/s)$, and $y_p'' = -(A/s^2) \cos(t/s) - (B/s^2) \sin(t/s)$. Thus, the left-hand-side of the equation we are trying to solve is:

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 \text{ kg}) \left(-(A/s^2) \cos(t/s) - (B/s^2) \sin(t/s) \right) + \\ & + (4 \text{ kg/s}) \left(-(A/s) \sin(t/s) + (B/s) \cos(t/s) \right) + \\ & + (3 \text{ kg/s}^2) (A \cos(t/s) + B \sin(t/s)) = (\text{kg/s}^2) (-A + 4B + 3A) \cos(t/s) + \\ & + (\text{kg/s}^2) (-B - 4A + 3B) \sin(t/s) \end{aligned}$$

where on the right-hand-side we have combined like terms in \sin and \cos . This should equal $(\text{kg m/s}^2) \sin(t/s)$, and so we see that:

$$2A + 4B = 0 \qquad -4A + 2B = 1 \text{ m}$$

We can solve this system of equations. The answer is:

$$A = -\frac{1}{5} \text{ m} \qquad B = \frac{1}{10} \text{ m}$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} y_p &= -\frac{1}{5} \text{ m} \cos(t/s) + \frac{1}{10} \text{ m} \sin(t/s) \\ y_g &= y_p + y_c \\ &= C_1 e^{-t/s} + C_2 e^{-3t/s} - \frac{1}{5} \text{ m} \cos(t/s) + \frac{1}{10} \text{ m} \sin(t/s) \end{aligned}$$

where y_g is the general solution.

Lastly, we solve the initial-value problem. We want $y(0) = 0$, and so

$$C_1 + C_2 - \frac{1}{5} \text{ m} = 0$$

We also want $y'(0) = 0$, and so:

$$-s^{-1}C_1 - 3s^{-1}C_2 + \frac{1}{10} \text{ m/s} = 0$$

We solve this system of equations:

$$C_1 = \frac{1}{4} \text{ m} \qquad C_2 = -\frac{1}{20} \text{ m}$$

Therefore the final answer is:

$$y = \frac{1}{4} \text{ m} e^{-t/s} - \frac{1}{20} \text{ m} e^{-3t/s} - \frac{1}{5} \text{ m} \cos(t/s) + \frac{1}{10} \text{ m} \sin(t/s)$$