

Frame indifference: objectivity

Problem: a SDOF mass-spring system with a mass  $m$  and a spring constant  $k$  in equilibrium.

A half mass drops out suddenly, Please describe the vibration phenomenon.

Reference 1:  $x_1(t)$  positive downward from original length of spring

$$\text{governing equation } \frac{m}{2}\ddot{x}_1(t) + kx_1(t) = \frac{mg}{2}$$

$$\text{initial conditions } x_1(0) = mg/k, \dot{x}_1(0) = 0$$

$$\text{solution } x_1(t) = \frac{mg}{2k}\cos(\omega_1 t) + \frac{mg}{2k} > 0, \text{ for any } t$$

where  $\omega_1^2 = 2k/m$ .

Reference 2:  $x_2(t)$  positive downward from equilibrium point

$$\text{governing equation } \frac{m}{2}\ddot{x}_2(t) + k(x_2(t) + mg/k) = \frac{mg}{2}$$

$$\text{initial conditions } x_2(0) = mg/k, \dot{x}_2(0) = 0$$

$$\text{solution } x_2(t) = \frac{mg}{2k}\cos(\omega_1 t) - \frac{mg}{2k}$$

Reference 3:  $x_3(t)$  positive downward from the lowestest point

$$\text{governing equation } \frac{m}{2}\ddot{x}_3(t) + k(x_3(t) + 2mg/k) = \frac{mg}{2}$$

$$\text{initial conditions } x_3(0) = -mg/k, \dot{x}_3(0) = 0$$

$$\text{solution } x_3(t) = \frac{mg}{2k}\cos(\omega_1 t) - \frac{3mg}{2k}$$

Discussions:

$$x_1(t) = x_2(t) + \frac{mg}{k} = x_3(t) + \frac{2mg}{k}$$

All the three solutions are the same in the physical sense.

All the three solutions obeys the objectivity, i.e. frame indifference

Please plot the three solutions by mathematica.