

1 General Solution of the Harmonic Oscillator Equation

Give the general solution of the differential equation:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + Ay = 0$$

Make sure that you can give the solution of this equation regardless of the geometric names of the dependent and independent variables and for either sign for the constant A .

It is NOT necessary to show any work. You may NOT, however, give a solution that has a negative number inside a square root. I am testing whether you can recognize this equation and remember its solution. This equation comes up over and over again in physics, but disguised by different symbols. I am also testing whether you recognize that the geometric character of the equation changes depending on the sign of A .