

Solution (#1722) Consider the DE

$$f''(x) + \omega^2 f(x) = k(x) \quad \text{where} \quad f(0) = f'(0) = 0.$$

Applying the Laplace transform we obtain

$$s^2 \bar{f}(s) + \omega^2 \bar{f}(s) = \bar{k}(s),$$

so

$$\bar{f}(s) = \frac{\bar{k}(s)}{s^2 + \omega^2}.$$

As $\bar{k}(s)$ is the transform of $k(x)$, and $(s^2 + \omega^2)^{-1}$ is the transform of $\omega^{-1} \sin \omega x$, then by the convolution theorem

$$f(x) = \frac{k(x) * \sin(\omega x)}{\omega}.$$

If $k(x) = \delta(x - a)$ where $a > 0$ we have by the sifting property that

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^x \delta(t - a) \sin \omega(x - t) dt = \begin{cases} 0 & a > x \\ \omega^{-1} \sin \omega(x - a) & a \leq x \end{cases}.$$