

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_x(t) &= m a_x(t) = 0.25 \text{ Kg} \left[ -\left(2.00 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right) \cos\left[\left(2.0 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}\right)t + \frac{\pi}{6}\right] \right] \\
 &= -0.50 \text{ N} \cos\left[\left(2.0 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}\right)t + \frac{\pi}{6}\right]
 \end{aligned}$$

To determine the force as a function of  $x$  we can use

$$F_x(x) = -K(x - x_{\text{eq}})$$

but we would need to calculate the value of  $K$ .

However, notice that this problem allows us to calculate

$x = x(t)$ , which can be rearranged to give

$$\cos\left[\left(2.0 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}\right)t + \frac{\pi}{6}\right] = \frac{x - 0.25 \text{ m}}{0.50 \text{ m}} \quad \Rightarrow$$

Thus

$$F_x(x) = (-0.50 \text{ N}) \left( \frac{x - 0.25 \text{ m}}{0.50 \text{ m}} \right) = -\left(1.00 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}}\right)(x - 0.25 \text{ m})$$

We see that  $K = 1.00 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}}$  in this situation.