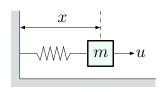
Example 1: Mass-Spring System



Newton's second law (translational motion):

$$F$$
 = ma = spring force + friction + external force

spring force
$$= -kx$$
 (Hooke's law)
friction force $= -\rho \dot{x}$ (Stokes' law — linear drag, only an approximation!!)
 $m\ddot{x} = -kx - \rho \dot{x} + u$

Move x, \dot{x}, \ddot{x} to the LHS, u to the RHS:

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{\rho}{m}\dot{x} + \frac{k}{m}x = \frac{u}{m}$$
 2nd-order linear ODE