

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Mathematics Lab Assessment No. 5

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Division: A

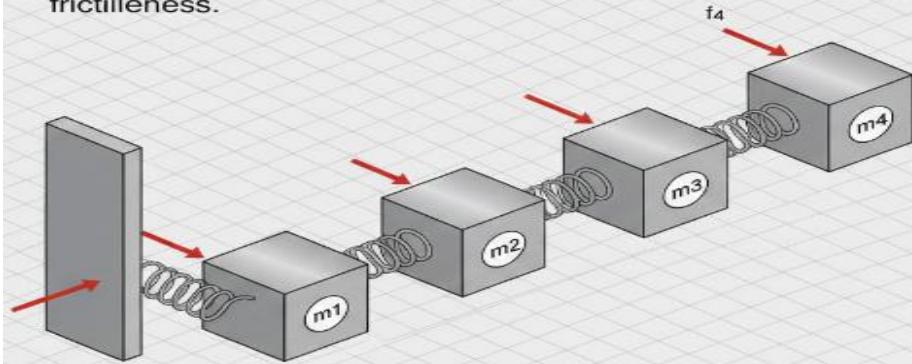
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Question

Static Equilibrium Question

Refer the diagram below showing a 4-mass, system. All surfaces are frictionless.



- Given the following values:
- Spring Stiffnesses: $k_1 = 20 \text{ Nm}$, $k_2 = 20 \text{ Nm}$, $k_3 = 30 \text{ Nm}$,
- External Forces: $f_1 = 15 \text{ N}$ $f_2 = 0 \text{ N}$ $f_4 = 20 \text{ N}$

1. Construct the 4x4 Stiffness Matrix K for this system.

2. Calculate the displacement of each mass from its equilibrium position.

- Spring stiffnesses:

$$k_1 = 20 \text{ N/m}, k_2 = 20 \text{ N/m}, k_3 = 30 \text{ N/m}, k_4 = 30 \text{ N/m}$$

- External forces:

$$f_1 = 15 \text{ N}, f_2 = 0, f_3 = 0, f_4 = 20 \text{ N}$$

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Solution	<p>i) Identify the parameters and mathematical concept</p> <p>System Parameters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of masses: 4 (m_1, m_2, m_3, m_4) • Springs: Linear elastic springs • Motion: One-dimensional (horizontal) • Surface: Frictionless • Unknown displacements: $\{u\} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ u_4 \end{bmatrix}$ <p>External Force Vector</p> $\{F\} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} \text{ N}$ <p>Mathematical Concept</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Static equilibrium of spring–mass systems • Linear algebra and matrix formulation • Governing equation: $[K]\{u\} = \{F\}$ <p>Where $[K]$ is the global stiffness matrix.</p>

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ii) Solve analytically

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Given

$k_1 = 20 \text{ N/m}$	$F_1 = 15 \text{ N}$
$k_2 = 20 \text{ N/m}$	$F_2 = 0 \text{ N}$
$k_3 = 30 \text{ N/m}$	$F_3 = 0 \text{ N}$
$k_4 = 30 \text{ N/m}$	$F_4 = 20 \text{ N}$

unknown displacements u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4

force equilibrium eqn.

mass m_1

$$F_1 = k_1 u_1 + k_2 (u_1 - u_2) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

mass m_2

$$F_2 = k_2 (u_2 - u_1) + k_3 (u_2 - u_3) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

mass m_3

$$F_3 = k_3 (u_3 - u_2) + k_4 (u_3 - u_4) \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

mass m_4 (free end)

$$F_4 = k_4 (u_4 - u_3) \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Stiffness matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} k_1+k_2 & -k_2 & 0 & 0 \\ -k_2 & k_2+k_3 & -k_3 & 0 \\ 0 & -k_3 & k_3+k_4 & -k_4 \\ 0 & 0 & -k_4 & k_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ u_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \\ F_3 \\ F_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

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<i>Method of Crayon Path</i>		
$\left[\begin{array}{cccc c} 40 & -20 & 0 & 0 & 15 \\ -20 & 50 & -30 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -30 & 60 & -30 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -30 & 30 & 20 \end{array} \right]$		
Solve eqn.		
eqn ④ $30(u_4 - u_3) = 20$ $u_4 = u_3 + 0.667$		
eqn ③ $-30u_2 + 60u_3 - 30(u_3 + 0.667) = 0$ $-30u_2 + 30u_3 = 20$ $u_3 = u_2 + 0.667$		
eqn ② $-20u_1 + 50u_2 - 30(u_2 + 0.667) = 0$ $-20u_1 + 20u_2 = 20 \Rightarrow u_2 = u_1 + 1$		
eqn ① $40u_1 - 20(u_1 + 1) = 15$ $20u_1 = 35 \Rightarrow u_1 = 1.75$		
$\left[\begin{array}{c c} u_1 & 1.75 \\ u_2 & 2.75 \\ u_3 & 3.42 \\ u_4 & 4.08 \end{array} \right]$		

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	iii) GeoGebra Screenshot / Program Execution

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import numpy as np

Spring stiffness (N/m).

$k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4 = 20, 20, 30, 30$.

1

Global stiffness matrix.

```
k = np.array([
    [k1+k2, -k2, 0, 0],
    [-k2, k2+k3, -k3, 0],
    [0, -k3, k3+k4, -k4],
    [0, 0, -k4, k4]
], dtype=float)
```

force vector (N)

```
f = np.array([15, 0, 0, 20], dtype=float).
```

solve for displacements

```
x = np.linalg.solve(k, f).
```

```
Print("Stiffness matrix K:\n", k)
```

```
Print("\nForce vector f:\n", f)
```

```
Print("\nDisplacement x(m):\n", x)
```

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OUTPUT

Stiffness matrix k :

$$[[40, -20, 0, 0], \\ [-20, 50, -30, 0], \\ [0, -30, 60, -30], \\ [0, 0, -30, 30]]$$

Force vector f :

$$[15, 0, 0, 20]$$

Displacement \mathbf{u} (m):

$$[1.75, 2.75, 3.416, 4.083]$$

iv) Results and analysis from the graph

- Displacement increases progressively from m_1 to m_4
- Maximum displacement occurs at the free end due to applied force f_4
- The system exhibits linear elastic behavior
- Static equilibrium condition is satisfied
- Results validate the stiffness matrix formulation

Final Answer

$$\{\mathbf{u}\} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.750 \\ 2.750 \\ 3.420 \\ 4.083 \end{bmatrix} \text{ m}$$