GATE NM-54 2022

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Q: A system with two degrees of freedom, as shown in the figure, has masses $m_1 = 200kg$ and $m_2 = 100kg$ and stiffness coefficients $k_1 = k_2 = 200N/m$. Then the lowest natural frequency of the system is ____________ rad/s (rounded off to one decimal place).

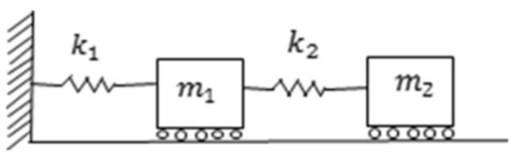

Fig. 0.

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Solution:

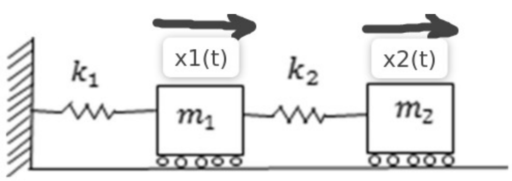

Fig. 0.

Variable	Description	Value
m_1	Mass of block 1	$200kg$
m_2	Mass of block 2	$100kg$
k_1	Stiffness coefficient of spring1	$200N/m$
k_2	Stiffness coefficient of spring2	$200N/m$
$x_i(t)$	Displacement of i^{th} block	$x_i(t) = \cos(\omega t + \phi_i), x_i \geq 0$

TABLE 0
INPUT PARAMETERS

$$m_1\ddot{x}_1(t) - k_2\left(x_2(t) - x_1(t)\right) + k_1x_1(t) = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$m_2\ddot{x}_2(t) + k_2\left(x_2(t) - x_1(t)\right) = 0 \quad (2)$$

Writing (1) and (2) in matrix form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} \ddot{x}_1(t) \\ \ddot{x}_2(t) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} k_1 + k_2 & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & k_2 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$x(t) \overset{\mathcal{L}}{\longleftrightarrow} X(s) \quad (4)$$

$$x^{''}(t) \overset{\mathcal{L}}{\longleftrightarrow} s^2X(s) - sx(0) - x^{'}(0) \quad (5)$$

Applying Laplace transform for (1) and (2) assuming they are at their repective maximum displacement at t=0

$$m_1\left(s^2X_1(s) - sx_1(0) - 0\right) - k_2\left(X_2(s) - X_1(s)\right) + k_1X_1(s) = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$m_2\left(s^2X_2(s) - sx_2(0) - 0\right) + k_2\left(X_2(s) - X_1(s)\right) = 0 \quad (7)$$

Writing (6) and (7) in matrix form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_1s^2 + (k_1 + k_2) & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & m_2s^2 + k_2 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} X_1(s) \\ X_2(s) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} m_1sx_1(0) \\ m_2sx_2(0) \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1(s) \\ X_2(s) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{m_1m_2s^4 + (k_1 + k_2)m_2s^2 + k_2m_1s^2 + k_1k_2} \begin{pmatrix} m_2s^2 + k_2 & k_2 \\ k_2 & m_1s^2 + (k_1 + k_2) \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} m_1sx_1(0) \\ m_2sx_2(0) \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

$$\implies X_1(s) = \frac{m_1m_2s^3x_1(0) + k_2m_1sx_1(0) + m_2k_2sx_2(0)}{m_1m_2s^4 + (k_1 + k_2)m_2s^2 + k_2m_1s^2 + k_1k_2} \quad (10)$$

$$\implies X_2(s) = \frac{m_1k_2sx_1(0) + m_1m_2s^3x_2(0) + (k_1 + k_2)m_2sx_2(0)}{m_1m_2s^4 + (k_1 + k_2)m_2s^2 + k_2m_1s^2 + k_1k_2} \quad (11)$$

Considering denominator of $X_i(s)$ for $i = 1, 2$(ie: characteristic equation of the system):

$$m_1 m_2 s^4 + (k_1 + k_2) m_2 s^2 + k_2 m_1 s^2 + k_1 k_2 = 0 \tag{12}$$

$$s^4 + 4s^2 + 2 = 0 \tag{13}$$

$$\implies s^2 = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 8}}{2} \tag{14}$$

$$= -2 \pm \sqrt{2} \tag{15}$$

$$\omega = \pm \sqrt{2 \mp \sqrt{2}} \tag{16}$$

$$\implies \omega_{least} = 0.765 rad/s \tag{17}$$