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GATE NM-54 2022

EE23BTECH11011- Batchu Ishitha*

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).

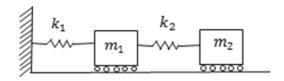


Fig. 0.

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Solution:

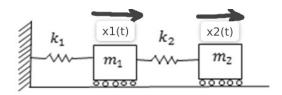


Fig. 0.

$$m_2\ddot{x}_2(t) + k_2(x_2(t) - x_1(t)) = 0$$
 (1)

$$m_1\ddot{x}_1(t) - k_2(x_2(t) - x_1(t)) + k_1x_1(t) = 0$$
 (2)

$$\ddot{x}_2(t) + 2(x_2(t) - x_1(t)) = 0 \tag{3}$$

$$\ddot{x_1}(t) + 2x_1(t) - x_2(t) = 0 \tag{4}$$

Substituting (3) in (4)

$$\ddot{x}_2(t) + 4\ddot{x}_2(t) + 2x_2(t) = 0 \tag{5}$$

Applying Laplace transform on both sides of (5)

$$\mathcal{L}(\ddot{x}_2(t) + 4\ddot{x}_2(t) + 2x_2(t)) = 0$$

(6)

$$X_2(s)\left(s^4 - s^3x_2(0) - s^2\dot{x_2}(0) - s\ddot{x_2}(0) - \ddot{x_2}(0)\right) +$$

$$4X_2(s)\left(s^2 - sx_2(0) - \dot{x}_2(0)\right) + 2X_2(s) = 0 \quad (7)$$

$$X_{2}(s)\left(s^{4} - s^{3}x_{2}(0) - s^{2}\dot{x_{2}}(0)\right) +$$

$$4X_{2}(s)\left(s^{2} - sx_{1}(0)\right) + 2X_{2}(s) = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$X_{2}(s)\left(s^{4} - \left(s^{3} + 4s\right)x_{2}(0) - s^{2}\left(\dot{x_{2}}(0) - 4\right) + 2\right) = 0 \quad (9)$$

let $x_2(t)$ be constant at t=0

$$\implies X_2(s)(s^4 + 2) = 0$$
 (10)