## GATE ME 30

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## **Question GATE ME 30:**

The figure shows a block of mass m = 20 kgattached to a pair of identical linear springs, each having a spring constant k = 1000N/m. The block oscillates on a frictionless horizontal surface. Assuming free vibrations, the time taken by the block to complete ten oscillations is \_\_\_\_\_ seconds . (Rounded off to two decimal places) Take  $\pi = 3.14$ . (GATE ME 2023)



## **Solution:**

Parameter	Description	Value
$k_i$	spring constant	1000 N/m
m	mass of block	20Kg
k	Equivalent spring constant	$k_1 + k_2$ (parallel)
$\omega_n$	Natural frequency	$\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$
Т	Time period of an oscillation	$\frac{2\pi}{\omega_n}$
X	Displacement of block	
a	Acceleration of block	$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$
F	Force on block	
A	Amplitude of oscillation	x(0)

$$F = ma \tag{1}$$

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$$F = -kx \tag{2}$$

$$\implies ma + kx = 0 \tag{3}$$

$$\therefore m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + kx = 0 (4)$$

The Laplace transform of the terms is,

$$x \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{\longleftrightarrow} X(s) \tag{5}$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{\longleftrightarrow} s^2X(s) - sx(0) - \dot{x}(0) \quad (6)$$

Using equation (5) and (6) in equation (4),

$$m(s^2X(s) - sx(0) - \dot{x}(0)) + kX(s) = 0$$
 (7)

$$ms^2X(s) - msA + kX(s) = 0$$
 (8)

$$X(s) = \frac{msA}{ms^2 + k} \tag{9}$$

$$=\frac{sA}{s^2 + \frac{k}{m}}\tag{10}$$

The inverse Laplace transform of such terms is given by,

$$\frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \stackrel{\mathcal{L}^-}{\longleftrightarrow} \cos(at) u(t) \tag{11}$$

:. the inverse Laplace of (10) is,

$$x(t) = A\cos\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}t\right) \tag{12}$$

From equation (12) and Table 0, the time to complete one oscillation is,

$$T_n = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{5} \tag{14}$$

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 $\mathrel{\dot{.}\!\!\!.}$  the time required for 10 oscillations is ,

$$10T_n = 2\pi \tag{15}$$

$$= 6.28s$$
 (16)

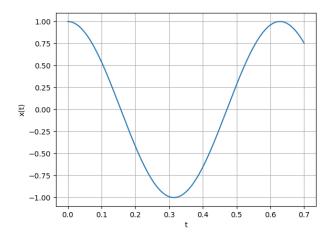


Fig. 0. Plot of x(t)