

**Problem 1:**

This problem considers the rotational mechanical system shown in Figure 1.

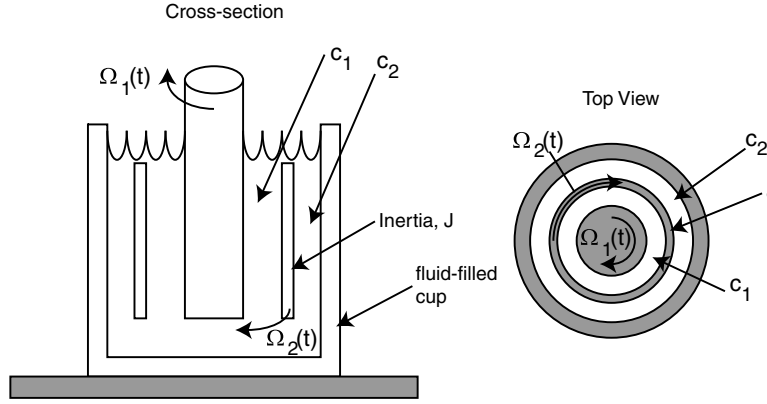


Figure 1: Cross-section and Top view

The setup is similar to the one used in Lab 2. The central shaft rotates at an arbitrary velocity  $\Omega_1(t)$  in a fluid filled cup, which is fixed. Unlike Lab 2, there is an intermediate ring, of inertia  $J$ . This ring is supported on bearings which are not shown in the figure. The ring rotates with angular velocity  $\Omega_2(t)$  as shown.

The fluid-filled annuli create a damper  $c_1$  between the shaft and the ring, and a damper  $c_2$  between the ring and the cup. Assume that any other damping is negligible.

- Draw a free-body diagram for the ring showing the torques acting on the ring.
- Use this free-body diagram to derive a differential equation in terms of  $\Omega_1(t)$  and  $\Omega_2(t)$  which describes this system. Note that  $\Omega_1(t)$  is an arbitrary velocity which is externally specified.
- Assume that  $\Omega_1(t)$  is a step, i.e.,  $\Omega_1(t) = u_s(t)$ , and that  $\Omega_2(0) = 0$ . solve for the resulting motion  $\Omega_2(t)$  for  $t \geq 0$ .
- In steady-state, what torque must be exerted on the input shaft? Why?

**Solutions**

a.) The free body diagram for the inertia is shown in Figure 2 along with a schematic of the dynamic elements in this problem. As can be seen, the inertia has two torques acting on it:  $T_1$  generated by the damper  $c_1$  between the input and the inertia and  $T_2$  generated by the damper  $c_2$  between the inertia and ground. The schematic drawing is helpful but not required in the solution.

b.) Using the FBD from part a, we can write the following relationship:

$$\Sigma T = J\dot{\Omega}_2 = T_1 + T_2$$

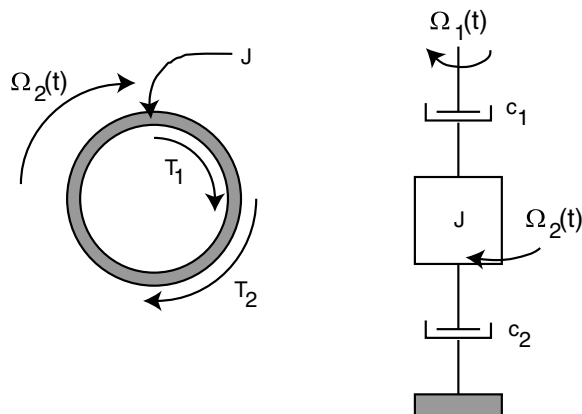


Figure 2: Freebody diagram of Inertia and Schematic of system.

This is where the schematic becomes helpful. By inspection, we can work out the following relationships

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= c_1(\Omega_1 - \Omega_2) \\ T_2 &= -c_2\Omega_2 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting for  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  yields the following

$$J\dot{\Omega}_2 = c_1(\Omega_1 - \Omega_2) - c_2\Omega_2 \Rightarrow \boxed{J\dot{\Omega}_2 + (c_1 + c_2)\Omega_2 = c_1\Omega_1}$$

c.) The input to the system has been defined as  $\Omega_1(t) = u_s(t)$  thus the differential equation for this system become

$$J\dot{\Omega}_2 + (c_1 + c_2)\Omega_2 = c_1u_s(t)$$

This differential equation (DE) matches that for a first order forced response. We know the solution to this DE is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_2(t) &= \Omega_h(t) + \Omega_p(t) \text{ where} \\ \Omega_p(t) &= \Omega_{ss} = \frac{c_1}{c_1 + c_2} \text{ (Particular solution)} \\ \Omega_h(t) &= Ae^{-st} \text{ (Homogeneous solution)} \\ s &= -\frac{c_1 + c_2}{J} \end{aligned}$$

Using initial conditions

$$\Omega_2(0) = 0 = A + \frac{c_1}{c_1 + c_2} \Rightarrow A = -\frac{c_1}{c_1 + c_2}$$

$$\Omega_2(t) = \frac{c_1}{c_1 + c_2} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{c_1 + c_2}{J}t} \right)$$

d.) We determined earlier that

$$\Omega_{ss} = \frac{c_1}{c_1 + c_2}$$

Looking carefully at our schematic of the system, we know that the torque from the shaft acting on the inertia is  $T_1$ . Since, the torques on either side of the damper need to be equal, we know the torque acting on the shaft is equal and opposite to  $T_1$ . Since the system is in steady state, we know that the velocity of the shaft is constant which means that the sum of torques acting on the shaft equal 0.

$$\Sigma T_{shaft} = 0 = T_{in} - T_1 \Rightarrow T_{in} = T_1$$

We know that

$$T_1 = c_1(\Omega_1 - \Omega_2)$$

$$\Omega_1 = u_s(t) = 1$$

$$\Omega_2 = \Omega_{ss} = \frac{c_1}{c_1 + c_2}$$

$$\text{Thus } T_1 = c_1 \left( 1 - \frac{c_1}{c_1 + c_2} \right) = \frac{c_1 c_2}{c_1 + c_2}$$

$$\text{More generally } T_1 = \frac{c_1 c_2}{c_1 + c_2} \Omega_1$$

**Problem 2 - Toy Flywheel:**

A toy consists of a rotating flywheel supported on a pair of bearings as shown in Figure 3. The flywheel is connected to a pulley, around which is wrapped a flexible but inextensible cable connected to a spring. In operation, the flywheel is initially at rest, the string made taut, and at  $t = 0$ , the input  $x_s(t)$  undergoes a step change in position of magnitude  $x_0$ .

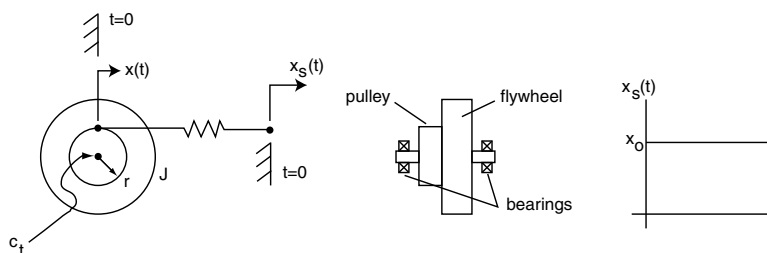


Figure 3:

Assume that the flywheel-shaft-pulley unit has rotational inertia,  $J$ . The bearings can be modelled as a viscous rotational damper of coefficient,  $c_t$ . The pulley is of radius,  $r$ . The spring is an ideal linear spring with spring constant,  $k$ .

1. Write the system equation as a differential equation in  $x(t)$ , the length of cable unwound from the pulley, as well as system parameters,  $J$ ,  $r$ , and  $k$ . [Note that  $x(0) = 0$ ]
2. For what range of values of  $c_t$  (expressed in terms of system parameters  $J$ ,  $r$ , and  $k$ ) will the cable never go slack?
3. Assuming that  $c_t$  has some non-zero value such that the cable **does** go slack, write an expression (in terms of system parameters  $J$ ,  $r$ , and  $k$ ) for the response  $x(t)$ , i.e. the length of cable unwound from the pulley. Sketch the response,  $x(t)$ . Carefully indicate the time over which the expression and the sketch are valid.
4. Assume that  $c_t$  is zero. Write an expression (in terms of system parameters  $J$ ,  $r$ , and  $k$ ) for  $t$ , the time at which the cable first goes slack.

**Solutions**

1.) Figure 4 shows the free body diagram for this system. Summing the torques

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma T &= J\ddot{\theta} = T_k - T_c \\ T_k &= rF_k \\ F_k &= k(x_s - x) \\ T_c &= c_t\dot{\theta} \\ \text{so } J\ddot{\theta} + c_t\dot{\theta} &= rk(x_s - x) \end{aligned}$$

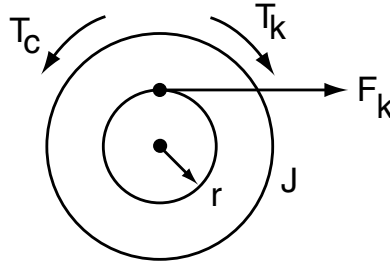


Figure 4:

$$J\ddot{\theta} + c_f\dot{\theta} + r k x = r k x_s$$

$$\text{Recall that } r\theta = x \Rightarrow \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

$$\text{so } \boxed{\frac{J}{r}\ddot{x} + \frac{c_t}{r}\dot{x} + r k x = r k x_s(t)}$$

This may be rewritten as

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{c_t}{J}\dot{x} + \frac{r^2 k}{J}x = \frac{r^2 k}{J}x_s(t)$$

b.) For this part we note the following relationships

$$2\zeta\omega_n \equiv \frac{c_t}{J}$$

$$\omega_n^2 \equiv \frac{r^2 k}{J}$$

For the string not to go slack the system must not overshoot  $x_0$ , this means that  $\zeta \geq 1$ . For  $\zeta \geq 1$  to be true

$$c_t \geq 2\sqrt{r^2 k J}$$

3.) For the string to go slack the system must be allowed to overshoot or  $\zeta < 1$ . In the case of  $\zeta < 1$

$$x(t) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}} e^{\zeta\omega_n t} \cos(\omega_d t - \psi)$$

$$\omega_d = \omega_n \sqrt{1-\zeta^2}$$

$$\psi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\zeta}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}}\right)$$

This equation can be expressed in terms of the system variables by substituting for  $\omega_n$  and  $\zeta$  from 3. Figure 5 shows the time response for this system where  $t^*$  indicates the time after which the response is not valid. 4.) When  $c_t = 0$ , the

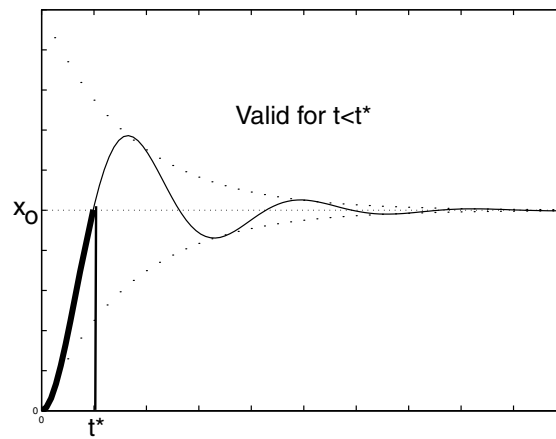


Figure 5:

expression for  $x(t)$  becomes

$$x(t) = x_0(1 - \cos \omega_n t)$$

As we saw in part 3,  $t^*$  is the time at which the response passes  $x_0$ . In this case, it takes a quarter cycle to get to  $x_0$ , thus

$$t^* = \frac{1}{4} \frac{2\pi}{\omega_n}$$

Figure 6 shows the response for this system.

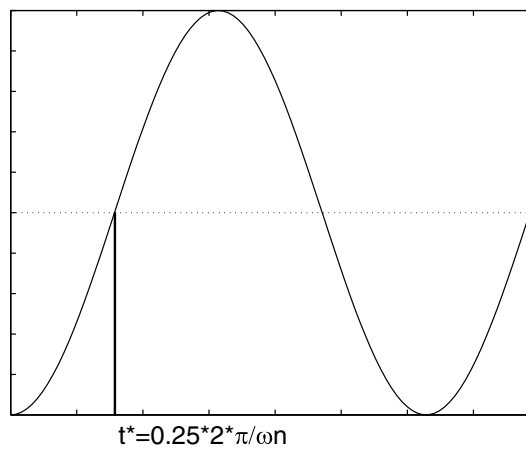


Figure 6: