

Answer on Question #48058, Physics, Mechanics | Kinematics | Dynamics

A beam 5m long is supported at its ends A and B point load W_1 & W_2 were placed at C and D, 1m and 3m respectively from A. If the reaction at A is twice the reaction at B, find the ratio of the loads W_1 & W_2 ...

Solution:



Let N_A and N_B be the reaction forces at the left and right supports.

Taking moments of all forces about the point of contact of the left support,

$$\begin{aligned} W_1 * AC + W_2 * AD - N_B * AB &= 0 \\ W_1 + 3W_2 - 5N_B &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$N_B = \frac{W_1 + 3W_2}{5}$$

Taking moments of forces about the point of contact of the right support,

$$\begin{aligned} N_A * AB - W_1 * CB - W_2 * DB &= 0 \\ 5N_A - 4W_1 - 2W_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$N_A = \frac{4W_1 + 2W_2}{5}$$

From given

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{N_A}{N_B} &= 2 \\ \frac{N_A}{N_B} &= \frac{4W_1 + 2W_2}{W_1 + 3W_2} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$4W_1 + 2W_2 = 2(W_1 + 3W_2)$$

$$4W_1 + 2W_2 = 2W_1 + 6W_2$$

$$2W_1 = 4W_2$$

Thus,

$$\frac{W_1}{W_2} = 2$$

Answer: $\frac{W_1}{W_2} = 2$