

Three-Blade System

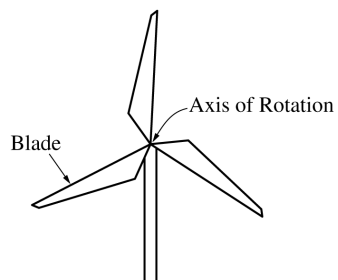


Figure 1

Single Blade

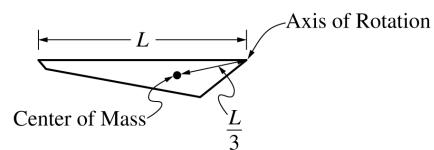


Figure 2

A wind turbine includes a three-blade system that rotates about an axis through the end of each blade, as shown in Figure 1. Each blade has a length  $L$  and mass  $M$ , with a center of mass located at a distance  $\frac{L}{3}$  from the axis of rotation, as shown in Figure 2.

- (a) Derive an expression for the rotational inertia of the three-blade system. Express your answer in terms of  $M$ ,  $L$ , and physical constants, as appropriate. The rotational inertia of each blade about an axis through its center of mass is given by the equation  $I_{\text{cm}} = \frac{1}{18} ML^2$ .

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- (b) While the wind blows, the three-blade system operates at a constant angular speed  $\omega_0 = 2.6$  rad/s. The length of one blade is  $L = 36$  m. The numerical value of the rotational inertia of the system is  $I_{\text{sys}} = 6.7 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}^2$ . Calculate the time  $T$  it takes the outer edge of a single blade to complete one revolution.

- (c) When the wind stops blowing, the angular speed of the system decreases. The angular speed  $\omega$  of the system while slowing down is given as a function of time  $t$  by the equation  $\omega = \omega_0 e^{-\beta_0 t}$ , where  $\beta_0$  is a constant with appropriate units, as shown on the graph in Figure 3.

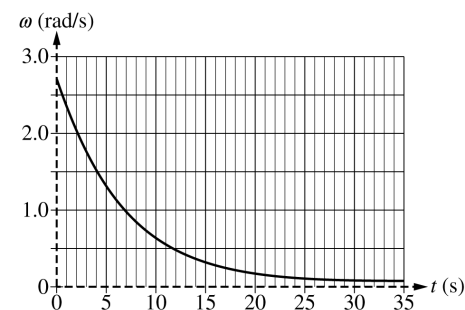


Figure 3

- i. Calculate the amount of energy dissipated from  $t = 0$ , when the wind stops blowing, until the system comes to rest.

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- ii. Derive an expression for the net torque exerted on the system as a function of  $t$  as the system slows down. Express your answers in terms of  $\beta_0$ ,  $\omega_0$ ,  $M$ ,  $L$ ,  $I_{\text{sys}}$ , and physical constants, as appropriate.

- iii. Derive an expression for the angular displacement of the system  $\Delta\theta$  as a function of  $t$ . Express your answer in terms of  $\beta_0$ ,  $\omega_0$ ,  $M$ ,  $L$ ,  $I_{\text{sys}}$ , and physical constants, as appropriate.

The three-blade system is now replaced with a second three-blade system identical to the first, except that the second three-blade system slows down according to the equation  $\omega = \omega_0 e^{-\beta t}$ , where  $\omega_0 = 2.6 \text{ rad/s}$  and  $\beta > \beta_0$ . The original angular speed function is shown as a dashed line in Figure 4.

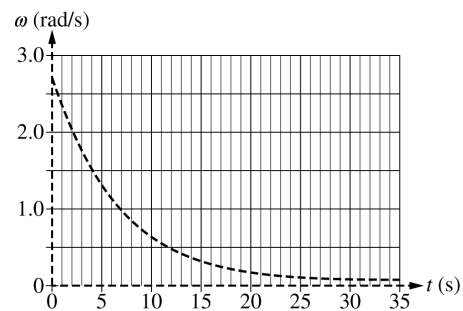
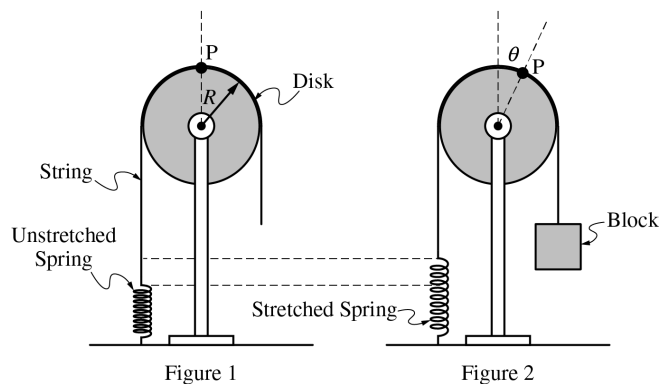


Figure 4

- (d) On the graph in Figure 4, sketch the angular speed of the second three-blade system as a function of time  $t$ .

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Note: Figures not drawn to scale.

A solid uniform disk is supported by a vertical stand. The disk is able to rotate with negligible friction about an axle that passes through the center of the disk. The mass and radius of the disk are given by  $M_d$  and  $R$ , respectively. The rotational inertia of the disk is  $I_d = \frac{1}{2} M_d R^2$ . A string of negligible mass is draped over the disk and attached to the top of the disk at point P. One end of the string is connected to an unstretched ideal spring of spring constant  $k$ , which is fixed to the ground as shown in Figure 1.

A block of mass  $m_B$  is then attached to the string on the right side of the disk. The block is slowly lowered until the spring-disk-block system reaches equilibrium, as shown in Figure 2. In this equilibrium position, the disk has rotated clockwise through a small angle  $\theta$ .

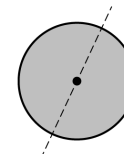
Give all algebraic answers in terms of  $M_d$ ,  $R$ ,  $k$ ,  $\theta$ , and physical constants, as appropriate.

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(a) Derive an expression for the mass  $m_B$  of the block.

(b) At time  $t = 0$ , the string on the right side of the disk is cut and the block falls to the ground. On the circle below, which represents the disk, draw and label the forces (not components) that act on the disk immediately after the string is cut and the block is falling to the ground. Each force should be represented by an arrow that starts on and is directed away from the point of application.

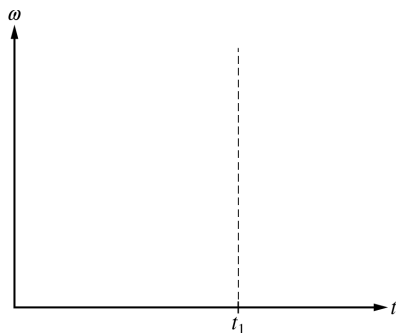


(c) Derive an expression for the angular acceleration  $\alpha$  of the disk immediately after the string is cut.

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- (d) At  $t = t_1$ , the disk has rotated and point P is again directly above the axle. Sketch a graph of the magnitude of the angular velocity  $\omega$  of the disk as a function of time  $t$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = t_1$ .



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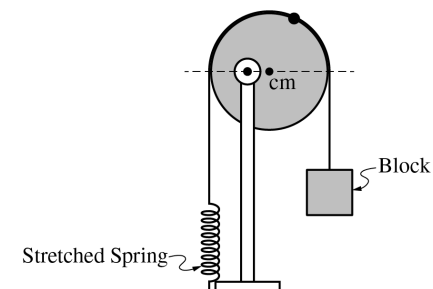
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Figure 3

Note: Figure not drawn to scale.

- (e) The disk is adjusted on the support so that the axle does not pass through the center of mass of the disk. The block is again hung on the right side of the disk and the spring-disk-block system comes to equilibrium, as shown in Figure 3. The axle does not exert a torque on the disk. For each force on the disk, indicate whether the magnitude of the torque about the axle caused by that force increases, decreases, or stays the same relative to part (b).

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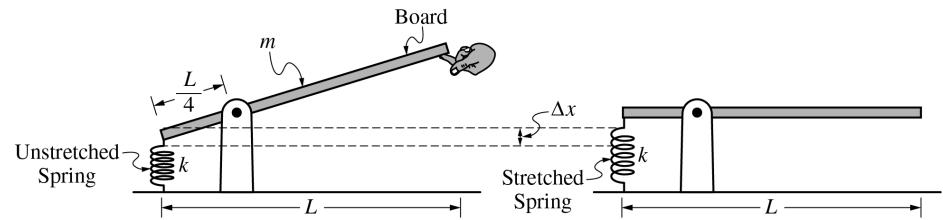


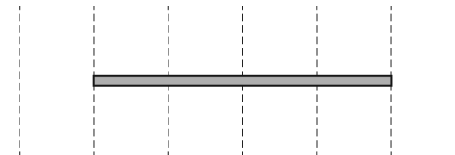
Figure 1

Figure 2

Note: Figures not drawn to scale.

A uniform board of length  $L$  and mass  $m$  is attached to a pivot  $\frac{L}{4}$  from the left end of the board. The left end of the board is attached to an ideal spring of spring constant  $k$  that is attached to the ground. The right end of the board is initially held by a student so that the spring is unstretched, as shown in Figure 1. The student slowly lowers and then releases the board. The board remains at rest in the horizontal position, with the spring stretched, as shown in Figure 2. The rotational inertia of the board about the pivot is  $I$ .

- (a) On the rectangle below, which represents the board, draw and label the forces (not components) that act on the board while the board-spring system is in equilibrium. Each force should be represented by an arrow that starts on, and points away from, the board, and should represent the location at which that force acts.

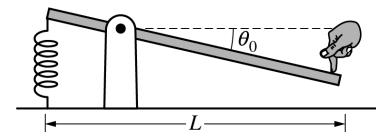


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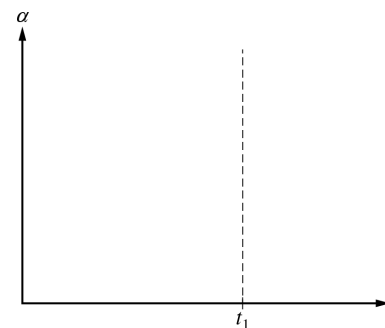
- (b) Derive an expression for the distance the spring stretches,  $\Delta x$ , when the board is in equilibrium. Express your answer in terms of  $k$ ,  $L$ ,  $m$ , and physical constants, as appropriate.

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Note: Figure not drawn to scale.

- (c) A student pushes the board down on the right side, stretching the spring a new distance  $\Delta x_2$  from the unstretched position. The board is held at a small angle  $\theta_0$  with the horizontal, as shown. The student then releases the board from rest.
- i. At time  $t = 0$ , the board is released. At  $t = t_1$ , the board first crosses the horizontal. Sketch a graph of the magnitude of the angular acceleration  $\alpha$  of the board as a function of time  $t$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = t_1$ .



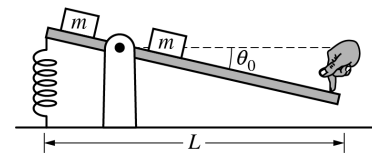
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- ii. Derive an expression for the angular acceleration  $\alpha_0$  of the board immediately after the board is released. Express your answer in terms of  $k$ ,  $L$ ,  $m$ ,  $I$ ,  $\Delta x_2$ ,  $\theta_0$ , and physical constants, as appropriate.

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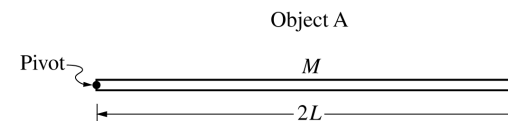
Note: Figure not drawn to scale.

- (d) Two blocks of equal mass  $m$  are attached to the board equal distances from the pivot point, as shown. The board is again pushed down on the right side so that the spring stretches the same distance  $\Delta x_2$  as in part (c). The board is then released. How does the new angular acceleration  $\alpha'$  when the blocks are attached compare to the angular acceleration  $\alpha_0$  from part (c) ?

\_\_\_  $\alpha' > \alpha_0$     \_\_\_  $\alpha' < \alpha_0$     \_\_\_  $\alpha' = \alpha_0$

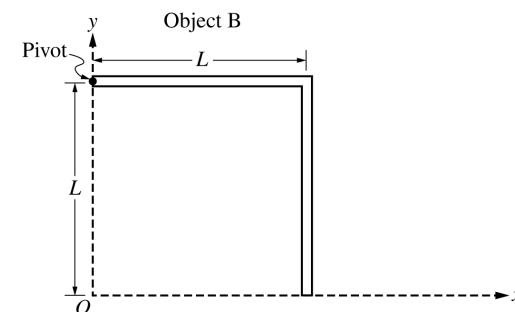
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2. Object A is a long, thin, uniform rod of mass  $M$  and length  $2L$  that is free to rotate about a pivot of negligible friction at its left end, as shown above.

(a) Using integral calculus, derive an expression to show that the rotational inertia  $I_A$  of object A about the pivot is given by  $\frac{4}{3}ML^2$ .



Object B of total mass  $M$  is formed by attaching two thin, uniform, identical rods of length  $L$  at a right angle to each other. Object B is held in place, as shown above. Express your answers in part (b) in terms of  $L$ .

(b) Determine the following for the given coordinate system shown in the figure.

i. The  $x$ -coordinate of the center of mass of object B

ii. The  $y$ -coordinate of the center of mass of object B

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Object B has a rotational inertia of  $I_B$  about its pivot.

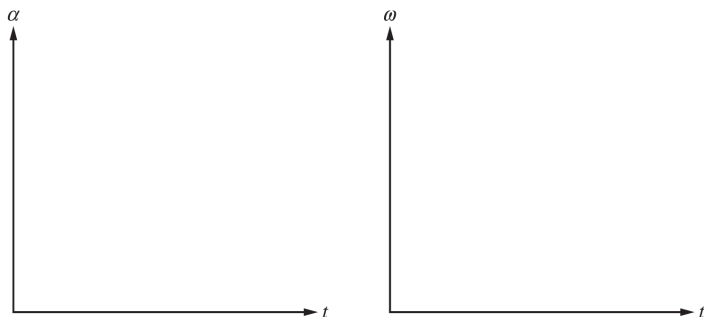
(c) Is the value of  $I_B$  greater than, less than, or equal to  $I_A$ ?

\_\_\_\_\_ Greater than      \_\_\_\_\_ Less than      \_\_\_\_\_ Equal to

Justify your answer.

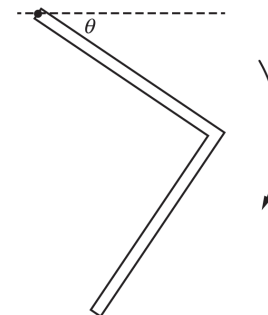
Object B is released from rest and begins to rotate about its pivot.

(d) On the axes below, sketch graphs of the magnitude of the angular acceleration  $\alpha$  and the angular speed  $\omega$  of object B as functions of time  $t$  from the time it is released to the time its center of mass reaches its lowest point.



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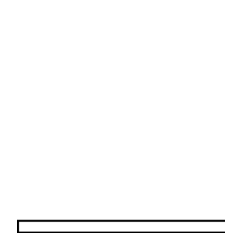
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(e) While object B rotates from the horizontal position down through the angle  $\theta$  shown above, is the magnitude of its angular acceleration increasing, decreasing, or not changing?

\_\_\_\_\_ Increasing      \_\_\_\_\_ Decreasing      \_\_\_\_\_ Not changing

Justify your answer.



Object B rotates through the position shown above.

(f) Derive an expression for the angular speed of object B when it is in the position shown above. Express your answer in terms of  $M$ ,  $L$ ,  $I_B$ , and physical constants, as appropriate.

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