

Q- A torque of 50 N.m accelerates a wheel from rest to 100 rev/min in 5 seconds.

- (a) What is the angular displacement of the wheel?
- (b) What is the angular acceleration of the wheel?
- (c) What is the moment of inertia of the wheel?

Corresponding to the second law of motion $F = ma$ the equation of rotational motion is given by

$$\tau = I\alpha$$

Here τ is the torque and I is the moment of inertia of the body.

Here $\tau = 50 \text{ N.m}$

$t = 5 \text{ s}$

$\omega = 100 \text{ rev/min} = 100 \cdot 2\pi/60 \text{ rad/s} = 10\pi/3 \text{ rad/s}$

(a)

As the angular acceleration of the wheel is constant

Angular displacement = average angular velocity * time

Or
$$\theta = \left(\frac{\omega_0 + \omega}{2} \right) * t$$

Or
$$\theta = \left(\frac{0 + 10\pi/3}{2} \right) * 5$$

Or
$$\theta = \left(\frac{5\pi}{3} \right) * 5 = \frac{25\pi}{3} \text{ rad} = 26.18 \text{ rad}$$

(b)

Using first equation of rotational motion we have

$$\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t$$

Or $10\pi/3 = 0 + \alpha * 5$

Gives $\alpha = 2\pi/3 \text{ rad/s}^2 = 2.09 \text{ rad/s}^2$

(c)

The moment of inertia of the wheel is given by

$$I = \frac{\tau}{\alpha} = \frac{50}{2.09} = 23.87 \text{ kg.m}^2$$