
Problem Set 9

▪ Big Ben

Big Ben, the nickname for the clock in Elizabeth Tower (named after the Queen in 2012) in London, has an hour hand 2.70 m long with a mass of 60.0 kg and a minute hand 4.50 m long with a mass of 100 kg. You may model the hands as long, thin rods rotated about one end. Assume the hour and minute hands are rotating at a constant rate of one revolution per 12 hours and 60 minutes, respectively.

- Calculate the total rotational kinetic energy of the two hands about the axis of rotation.
- Calculate the total angular momentum of the two hands about the center point.

▪ American Flagpole

Patriotic Duffy just installed an American flagpole to his house. Duffy now sits in his front porch licking a bone and watching the flag flying in the breeze. Unfortunately, the ball with mass m fastened at the end of the flagpole becomes loose and starts to fall with acceleration $-g\hat{j}$ (probably because Duffy mounted the flagpole by himself to save \$\$\$.) Assuming the length of the flagpole is l , and it makes an angle θ with the x axis.

- Determine the angular momentum of the ball about the mounting bracket as a function of time.
- For what physical reason does the angular momentum change?
- What is the rate of change of the angular momentum of the ball about mounting bracket point?



Figure 9.1



Figure 9.2

▪ Curious George

George loves bananas

A light rope passes over a light, frictionless pulley. One end is fastened to a bunch of bananas of mass m , and Monkey George with the same mass m clings to the other end (Fig. 9.3). George climbs the rope in an attempt to reach the bananas.

- Find the net torque on the system (George, bananas, rope and pulley) about the pulley axis.
- What's the total angular momentum about the pulley axis and describe the motion of the system.
- Will George reach the bananas?

George climbs a log

George (10.0 kg) climbs a uniform log with weight $1.20 \times 10^2 \text{ N}$ and length $L = 3.00 \text{ m}$ as shown in Fig 9.4. The log rests against a big rock and makes an angle of $\phi = 60.0^\circ$ with the ground. The upper and lower ends of the log rest on frictionless rock surfaces. The lower end is connected to the wall by a horizontal rope that is frayed and can support a maximum tension of only 80.0 N.

- Draw a force diagram for the log.
- Find the normal force exerted on the bottom of the ladder.
- Find the tension in the rope when George is two-thirds of the way up the ladder.
- Find the maximum distance d that George can climb up the ladder before the rope breaks.
- If the horizontal surface were rough and the rope were removed, how would you need to answer parts c) and d)?



Figure 9.3



Figure 9.4