Chapter 11 Problem 38[†]

Given

$$\begin{split} m &= 0.880 \; kg \\ l &= 0.74 \; m \\ h &= 0.43 \; m \\ I_{cm} &= 0.048 \; kg \cdot m^2 \\ v &= 50 \; m/s \end{split}$$

Solution

a) Find the angular momentum about the pivot point.

First find the moment of inertia about the pivot point. Using the parallel-axis theorem

 $I = I_{cm} + mh^2 = 0.048 \ kg \cdot m^2 + (0.88 \ kg)(0.43 \ m)^2$ $I = 0.211 \ kg \cdot m^2$

The angular velocity about the pivot point is

$$\omega = \frac{v}{r} = \frac{50 \ m/s}{0.74 \ m} = 67.6 \ rad/s$$

The angular momentum is then

$$L = I \cdot \omega = (0.211 \ kg \cdot m^2)(67.6 \ rad/s) = 14.3 \ kg \cdot m^2/s$$

b) Find the torque applied if this angular momentum is reached in $0.25 \ s.$

Torque is the rate of change of angular momentum. Therefore, the average torque is

$$\tau = \frac{\Delta L}{\Delta t} = \frac{14.3 \ kg \cdot m^2/s}{0.25 \ s} = 57 \ N \cdot m$$

[†]Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson