115.

Problem 16.67E (HRW)

A pendulum consists of a uniform disk with radius 10.0 cm and mass 500 g attached to a uniform rod with length 500 mm and mass 270 g. We have to calculate (a) the rotational inertia of the pendulum about the pivot; (b) the distance between the pivot and the centre of mass of the pendulum; (c) the period of oscillation.



Solution:

(a)

Distance of the centre of the disk from the pivot,

d = 60.0 cm. Mass of the disk M = 500 g and its radius R = 10.0 cm. Therefore the rotational inertia of the disk about the pivot will be

$$I_{disk} = \frac{1}{2}MR^2 + Md^2 = 500(0.5 \times 100 + 3600) \text{ g cm}^2,$$
$$= 0.1825 \text{ kg m}^2.$$

Rotational inertia of a rod of length L = 50 cm and mass m = 270 g about one of its ends is

$$I_{rod} = \frac{1}{3}mL^2 = \frac{1}{3} \times 270 \times 50^2 \text{ g cm}^2 ,$$
$$= 0.0225 \text{ kg m}^2 .$$

Therefore, the rotational inertia of the physical pendulum

about the pivot

$$I = I_{disk} + I_{rod} = (0.1825 + 0.0225) \text{ kg m}^2 = 0.205 \text{ kg m}^2.$$
(b)

Using the definition of the CM and measuring distances from the pivot, the distance of the CM of the pendulum from the pivot is

$$x_{cm} = \frac{500 \times 60 + 270 \times 25}{500 + 270} \text{ cm} = 47.7 \text{ cm}.$$

(c)

Period of oscillation of the pendulum

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{I}{(M+m)gx_{cm}}} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{0.205}{0.77 \times 9.8 \times 0.477}} = 1.5 \text{ s.}$$

