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Problem 36.38 (RHK)

A wire whose cross-sectional area is 1.2 mm^2 and whose resistivity is $1.7 \times 10^{-8} \Omega$ m is bent into a circular arc of radius r = 24 cmas shown in the figure. An additional straight length of this wire, OP, is free to pivot about O and makes sliding contact with the arc at P. Finally, another straight length of this wire, OQ, completes the circuit. The entire arrangement is located in a magnetic field B = 0.15 T directed out of the plane of the figure. The straight wire OF starts from rest with $\theta = 0$ and has a constant angular acceleration of 12 rad s^{-2} . (a) We have to find the resistance of the loop OPQO as a function of θ . (b) We have to find the magnetic flux through the loop as a function of θ . (c) We have to find the value of the angle θ for which induced current in the loop is a maximum. (d) We have to find the maximum value of the induced current in the loop.



Solution:

(a) and (b)

As the wire *OP* is moving with constant acceleration,

 $\alpha = 12 \text{ rad s}^{-2}$,

and OP starts from rest with $\theta = 0$, the change with time of angle θ will be given by the function

$$\theta(t) = \frac{1}{2}\alpha t^2.$$

The flux enclosed by the loop OQPO will, therefore, be

$$\Phi(t) = \frac{1}{2}r^2\theta(t)B = \frac{1}{4}\alpha r^2Bt^2.$$

By the Faraday's law of induction with the change in flux in the loop emf will get developed, which is given by

$$\left|\mathbf{E}(t)\right| = \frac{d\Phi(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{2}\alpha r^{2}Bt = \frac{1}{2}\alpha r^{2}\left(\frac{2\theta}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}B.$$

The resistance of the loop will change with time. The length of the arc PQ is changing because P is sliding along the circumference of the semicircle. The resistance of the arc will be given by the function

$$R(\theta) = (2r + r\theta)\frac{\rho}{a},$$

where ρ is the resistivity and *a* is the cross-sectional area of the wire.

(c) and (d)



Induced current in the loop as a function of θ will be

given by the expression

$$i(\theta) = \frac{\mathrm{E}(\theta)}{R(\theta)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}r^2\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}}2^{\frac{1}{2}}\theta^{\frac{1}{2}}B}{r(2+\theta)\rho/a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\frac{r\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}}\theta^{\frac{1}{2}}B}{(2+\theta)\rho/a}.$$

For finding the maximum value of $i(\theta)$ we will calculate the extremum of the function $i(\theta)$.

$$\frac{di(\theta)}{d\theta} = 0,$$

or

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{\theta^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{(2+\theta)} + \frac{\theta^{\frac{1}{2}}(-1)}{(2+\theta)^{2}} = 0,$$

or

$$\frac{1}{2}(2+\theta)-\theta=0,$$

or

i will be maximum for $\theta = 2$ rad.

The maximum value of the induced current will therefore

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be

$$i(\theta = 2 \text{ rad}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{r \alpha^2 \theta^2 \beta}{(2 + \theta) \rho/a}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{0.24 \times (12)^{\frac{1}{2}} \times \sqrt{2} \times 0.15 \times 1.2 \times 10^{-6}}{(2 + 2) \times 1.7 \times 10^{-8}} \text{ A}$$
$$= 2.2 \text{ A}.$$