

13. ||| To throw a discus, the thrower holds it with a fully outstretched arm. Starting from rest, he begins to turn with a constant angular acceleration, releasing the discus after making one complete revolution. The diameter of the circle in which the discus moves is about 1.8 m. If the thrower takes 1.0 s to complete one revolution, starting from rest, what will be the speed of the discus at release?

$$R = 0.9\text{ m} \quad \omega_i = 0 \quad \Delta t = 1.0\text{ s} \quad \omega_f = ?$$

1 complete revolution = 2π radians, or a distance of $2\pi R$.

what is ω_f ?

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Wrong guess: $v = \frac{2\pi R}{\Delta t} = 5.65 \text{ m/s}$.

why is it wrong? It assumed constant velocity.

Recall

$$\Delta x = \underbrace{v_i t}_{\text{this is actually zero}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} a t^2}_{\text{oops - ignored this?}}$$

In angular terms

$$\Delta \theta = \omega_i t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha t^2$$

$$\Delta \theta = 2\pi = 1 \text{ revolution}$$

$$\Delta t = 1.0 \text{ s}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{2 \Delta \theta}{t^2} = \frac{2(2\pi)}{(1.0 \text{ s})^2} = 4\pi \text{ rad/s}^2$$

Then

$$\omega_f = \omega_i + \alpha \Delta t$$

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$$\alpha = \frac{2\Delta\theta}{t^2}$$

$$\omega_f = \underbrace{\omega_i}_0 + \left(\frac{2\Delta\theta}{t^2} \right) t$$

$$\omega_f = 2 \frac{\Delta\theta}{t} = \frac{2(2\pi)}{1.0\text{s}} = \frac{4\pi \text{ rad}}{\text{s}}$$

$$\text{Then } v_f = \omega_f r = \frac{2(2\pi r)}{\Delta t} = \boxed{11.3 \text{ m/s}}$$

Our wrong guess above was missing that factor of 2.