2 blocks of masses $m_1 = 10$ kg and $m_2 = 5$ kg connected to each other by a massless in extensible string of length L = 0.3m and placed along the diameter of a turn table coefficient of friction $\mu_1 = 0.5$ between surface of table and m_1 and there is no friction between table and m_2 . The table is rotating with $\omega = 10 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}$ about the vertical axis. The mass m_1 is at a distance of $l_1 = 0.124$ m from centre.

1) If the masses are at rest, calculate the frictional force on m_1 .

2) What should be the angular speed of table if the masses just start to slip?

Solution:

1) The centrifugal force acting on m_1 is

$$F_1 = m_1 \omega^2 l$$

The centrifugal force acting on m_2 is

$$F_2 = m_2 \omega^2 (L - l)$$

The frictional force on m_1 is equal to the difference of the above forces:

$$F_f = |F_2 - F_1| = \omega^2 |m_2(L - l) - m_1 l| =$$
$$= \left(10 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}\right)^2 |5\text{kg} \cdot (0.3\text{m} - 0.124\text{m}) - 10\text{kg} \cdot 0.124\text{m}| = 36\text{N}$$

2) If masses start to slip, the force F_f must be equal to the force of kinetic friction $F_f^k = m_1 g \mu_1$ acting on the mass m_1 :

$$F_f^k = F_f$$

$$m_1 g \mu_1 = \omega^2 |m_2 (L-l) - m_1 l|$$

Thus,

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{m_1 g \mu_1}{|m_2(L-l) - m_1 l|}} = \sqrt{\frac{10 \text{kg} \cdot 9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \cdot 0.5}{|5 \text{kg} \cdot (0.3 \text{m} - 0.124 \text{m}) - 10 \text{kg} \cdot 0.124 \text{m}|}} = 11.7 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}$$

Answer:

36N
11.7 rad/s