

62. (a) The angular speed  $\omega$  associated with Earth's spin is  $\omega = 2\pi/T$ , where  $T = 86400$  s (one day). Thus

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{86400 \text{ s}} = 7.27 \times 10^{-5} \text{ rad/s}$$

and the angular acceleration  $\alpha$  required to accelerate the Earth from rest to  $\omega$  in one day is  $\alpha = \omega/T$ . The torque needed is then

$$\tau = I\alpha = \frac{I\omega}{T} = \frac{(9.71 \times 10^{27}) (7.27 \times 10^{-5})}{86400} = 8.17 \times 10^{28} \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$

where we used

$$I = \frac{2}{5}MR^2 = \frac{2}{5} (5.98 \times 10^{24}) (6.37 \times 10^6)^2$$

for Earth's rotational inertia.

- (b) Using the values from part (a), the kinetic energy of the Earth associated with its rotation about its own axis is  $K = \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2 = 2.57 \times 10^{29} \text{ J}$ . This is how much energy would need to be supplied to bring it (starting from rest) to the current angular speed.
- (c) The associated power is

$$P = \frac{K}{T} = \frac{2.57 \times 10^{29} \text{ J}}{86400 \text{ s}} = 2.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ W} .$$