

5. Let M be the mass of the car (presumably including the mass of the wheels) and v be its speed. Let I be the rotational inertia of one wheel and ω be the angular speed of each wheel. The kinetic energy of rotation is

$$K_{\text{rot}} = 4 \left(\frac{1}{2} I \omega^2 \right)$$

where the factor 4 appears because there are four wheels. The total kinetic energy is given by $K = \frac{1}{2} M v^2 + 4 \left(\frac{1}{2} I \omega^2 \right)$. The fraction of the total energy that is due to rotation is

$$\text{fraction} = \frac{K_{\text{rot}}}{K} = \frac{4I\omega^2}{Mv^2 + 4I\omega^2} .$$

For a uniform disk (relative to its center of mass) $I = \frac{1}{2} m R^2$ (Table 11-2(c)). Since the wheels roll without sliding $\omega = v/R$ (Eq. 12-2). Thus the numerator of our fraction is

$$4I\omega^2 = 4 \left(\frac{1}{2} m R^2 \right) \left(\frac{v}{R} \right)^2 = 2m v^2$$

and the fraction itself becomes

$$\text{fraction} = \frac{2m v^2}{M v^2 + 2m v^2} = \frac{2m}{M + 2m} = \frac{2(10)}{1000} = \frac{1}{50} .$$

The wheel radius cancels from the equations and is not needed in the computation.