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Question:
Two pulley, one 450 mm diameter and the other 200 mm diameter are on
parallel shafts 1.95 m apart and are connected by a crossed belt. Find the
length of the belt required and the angle of contact between the belt and each
pulley.
What power can be transmitted by the belt when the larger pulley rotates at
200 rpm, if the maximum permissible tension in the belt is 1 kN and the
co-efficient of friction between the belt and pulley is 0.25 ?

Answer:

Solution. Given : $d_1 = 450$ mm $= 0.45$ m or $r_1 = 0.225$ m ; $d_2 = 200$ mm $= 0.2$ m or $r_2 = 0.1$ m ; $x = 1.95$ m ; $N_1 = 200$ r.p.m. ; $T_1 = 1$ kN $= 1000$ N ; $\mu = 0.25$

We know that speed of the belt,

$$v = \frac{\pi d_1 . N_1}{60} = \frac{\pi \times 0.45 \times 200}{60} = 4.714 \text{ m/s}$$

Length of the belt

We know that length of the crossed belt,

$$L = \pi (r_1 + r_2) + 2x + \frac{(r_1 + r_2)^2}{x}$$

$$= \pi (0.225 + 0.1) + 2 \times 1.95 + \frac{(0.225 + 0.1)^2}{1.95} = 4.975 \text{m} \quad \textbf{Ans.}$$

Angle of contact between the belt and each pulley

Let θ = Angle of contact between the belt and each pulley.

We know that for a crossed belt drive,

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{r_1 + r_2}{x} = \frac{0.225 + 0.1}{1.95} = 0.1667 \quad \text{or} \quad \alpha = 9.6°$$

$$\therefore \quad \theta = 180° + 2\,\alpha = 180° + 2 \times 9.6° = 199.2°$$

$$= 199.2 \times \frac{\pi}{180} = 3.477 \text{ rad} \quad \textbf{Ans.}$$

Power transmitted

Let T_2 = Tension in the slack side of the belt.

We know that

$$2.3 \log \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2} \right) = \mu . \theta = 0.25 \times 3.477 = 0.8692$$

$$\log \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2} \right) = \frac{0.8692}{2.3} = 0.378 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{T_1}{T_2} = 2.387 \qquad \text{...(Taking antilog of 0.378)}$$

$$\therefore \quad T_2 = \frac{T_1}{2.387} = \frac{1000}{2.387} = 419 \text{ N}$$

We know that power transmitted,

$$P = (T_1 - T_2)\, v = (1000 - 419)\, 4.714 = 2740 \text{ W} = 2.74 \text{ kW} \quad \textbf{Ans.}$$