

1 | Notes from Within the Lecture

$$CM = \frac{\sum m_i \vec{r}_i}{\sum m_i} = \frac{1}{M} \sum m_i \vec{r}_i \quad (1)$$

i.e.: the centre of mass is the weighted average of the centers. "First moment."

$$I = M \frac{\sum m_i r_i^2}{M} = \sum m_i r_i^2 \quad (2)$$

i.e.: the rotational inertia is M times the weighted average, squared. "Second moment."

- 1st moment: Mean
- 2nd moment: Standard Deviation
- 3rd moment: Skew
- 4th moment: Kurtosis

If I take an axis, and shift the direction of the axis, we can compute the rotational inertia about the center of mass and then move it

- Disk: $I = \frac{1}{2}MR$.
- Ring: $I = MR^2$
- Strip: $I = \frac{1}{12}Mx^2$
- Rectangle: $I = \frac{1}{12}Mx^2$, yes, x along the axis of rotation. And yes, y does not matter.

2 | Perpendicular Axis Theorem

$$I_z = I_x + I_y \quad (3)$$

for a laminar object—infinitesimally thin, in the X-Y plane (perpendicular to the z axis).

Why?

$$I_z = \sum_i m_i l_i^2 \quad (4)$$

$$= \sum_i m_i x_i^2 + \sum_i m_i y_i^2 \quad (5)$$

$$= l_i^2 = x_i^2 + y_i^2 \quad (6)$$

3 | Proving the Parallel Axis Theorem

We will begin with the definition of rotational inertia about an origin:

$$I = \sum_i m_i l_i^2 \quad (7)$$

As per defined by the problem $l'_i = x'_i \hat{i} + y'_i \hat{j}$, the displacement vector from l_i to the CM .

We also understand that $\vec{R}_{CM} = X_{CM} \hat{i} + Y_{CM} \hat{j}$, the components to the location of the center of mass.

Therefore, the actual position \vec{l}_i of the axis of rotation can be expressed as:

$$l_i = \vec{R}_{CM} + \vec{l}'_i \quad (8)$$

Substituting this expression into that for I :

$$I = \sum_i m_i l_i^2 \quad (9)$$

$$= \sum_i m_i (\vec{R}_{CM} + \vec{l}'_i)^2 \quad (10)$$

$$= \sum_i m_i ((\vec{R}_{CM})^2 + 2(\vec{R}_{CM})(\vec{l}'_i) + (\vec{l}'_i)^2) \quad (11)$$

We can see that the first and last terms will result in the expression we need, and therefore we are bound to figure why the following expression would result in 0:

$$\sum_i 2(\vec{R}_{CM}) m_i \vec{l}'_i \quad (12)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(\vec{R}_{CM}) \sum_i m_i \vec{l}'_i \quad (13)$$

Recall that \vec{l}'_i is the location of the distance from a given point mass in the body to the center of mass. Of course, this makes $\sum_i m_i \vec{l}'_i$ the expression for the center of mass *in the center of mass reference frame*.

We know that the coordinate of the center of mass in the center of mass reference frame is 0, making this whole expression 0.

Therefore:

$$I = \sum_i m_i l_i^2 \quad (14)$$

$$= \sum_i m_i ((\vec{R}_{CM})^2 + 2(\vec{R}_{CM})(\vec{l}'_i) + (\vec{l}'_i)^2) \quad (15)$$

$$= (\vec{R}_{CM})^2 \sum_i m_i + \sum_i m_i (\vec{l}'_i)^2 \quad (16)$$

$$= (\vec{R}_{CM})^2 M + \sum_i m_i (\vec{l}'_i)^2 \quad (17)$$

$$= D^2 M + I_{CM} \blacksquare \quad (18)$$

4 | 5-Ring Object

We will leverage the parallel axis theorem to figure the inertia at the center point.

We can see the distance from the center of mass of each side-sphere to the axis of rotation is $2R$. Furthermore, we can see the mass of the ring is $\frac{1}{5}M$.

As been demonstrated before, the rotational inertia of a ring is:

$$I = MR^2 \quad (19)$$

For the ring with $\frac{1}{5}$ mass then:

$$I_{CM} = \frac{1}{5}MR^2 \quad (20)$$

Applying the parallel axis theorem, then, to each of the four side-objects:

$$I = I_{CM} + \frac{1}{5}MD^2 \quad (21)$$

$$= \frac{1}{5}MR^2 + \frac{4}{5}MR^2 \quad (22)$$

$$= MR^2 \quad (23)$$

We repeat this procedure four times, to result in the outer rings' rotational inertia of:

$$4MR^2 \quad (24)$$

The last ("middle") ring has simply the rotational inertia about its center of origin:

$$\frac{1}{5}MR^2 \quad (25)$$

And therefore, the total rotational inertia is:

$$I = \frac{21}{5}MR^2 \quad (26)$$

5 | Spinning Top

5.1 | Torque

We are asked to find the magnitude and direction of torque $\vec{\tau}_0$ applied by the string. This is easily achieved with the expression for torque $\vec{\tau} \times \vec{F}_0$.

We will do this in components. Observing the point at which the string is attached, we noticed that it has two components: one towards the positive y direction, and one towards the positive z direction. That:

$$\vec{r} = R\hat{j} + H\hat{k} \quad (27)$$

Furthermore, we can see from the graph that $\vec{F}_0 = F_0\hat{i}$. Their dot products, therefore, are:

$$\vec{\tau}_0 = (R\hat{j} + H\hat{k}) \times (F_0\hat{i}) \quad (28)$$

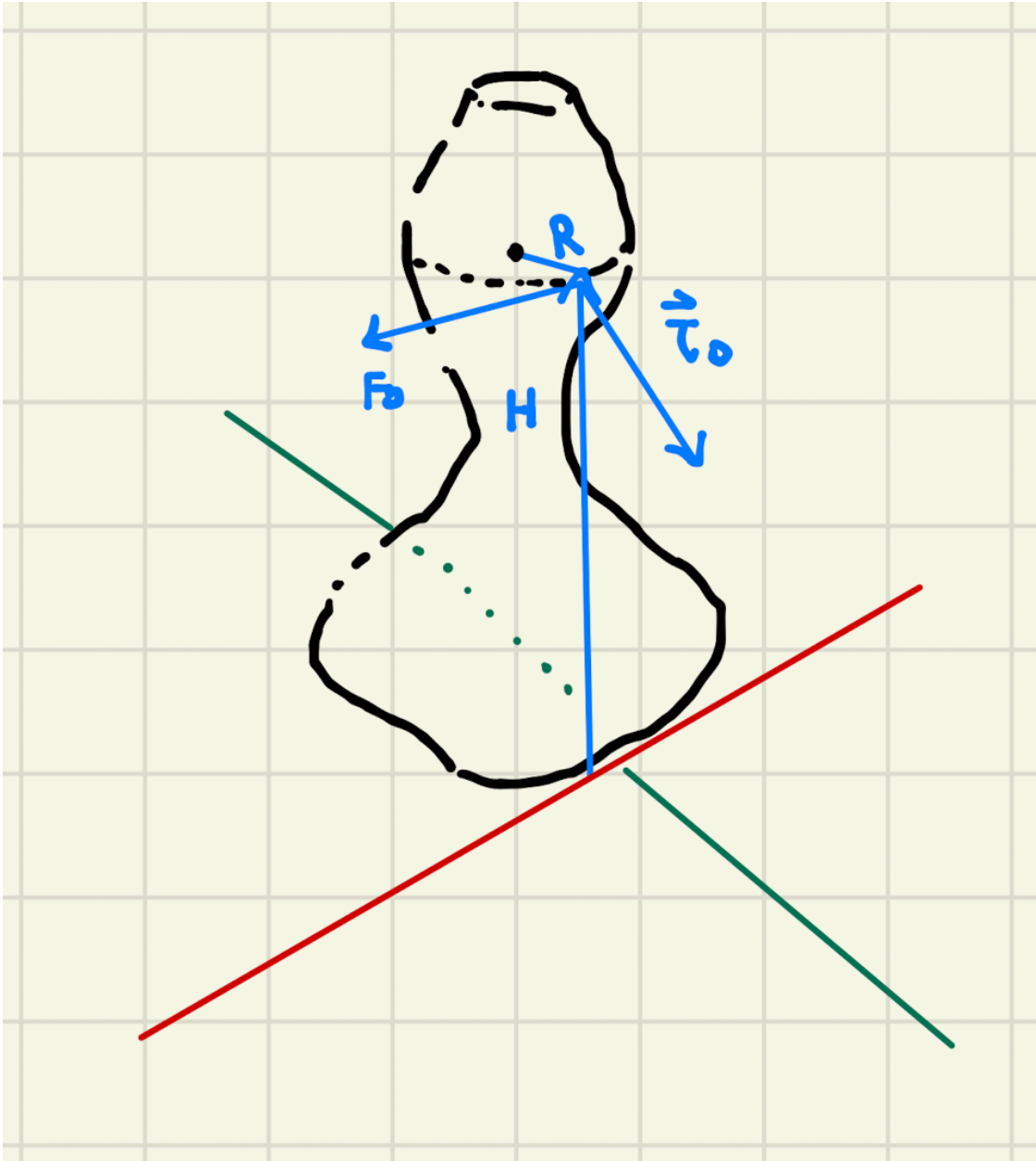
$$= RF_0(\hat{j} \times \hat{i}) + HF_0(\hat{k} \times \hat{i}) \quad (29)$$

$$= -RF_0\hat{k} + HF_0\hat{j} \quad (30)$$

$$= HF_0\hat{j} - RF_0\hat{k} \quad (31)$$

And therefore:

$$\begin{cases} \tau_{0x} = 0 \\ \tau_{0y} = HF_0 \\ \tau_{0z} = -RF_0 \end{cases} \quad (32)$$

5.2 | Diagram of $\vec{\tau}_0$ 

5.3 | Balancing Forces

To figure the net torque on the system, we will need to add the torques contributing to the net torque in the system.

We have already deducted above $\vec{\tau}_0 = HF_0\hat{j} - RF_0\hat{k}$. Given \vec{F}_1 is attached to the origin of the system, it contributes no torque. Therefore, to figure out the net torque we only need to deduct that for \vec{F}_2 .

$$\vec{\tau}_2 = \vec{r}_2 \times \vec{F}_2 \quad (33)$$

$$= -\frac{H}{2} \hat{k} \times F_2 \hat{i} \quad (34)$$

$$= -\frac{HF_2}{2} \hat{j} \quad (35)$$

As we know, the object simply rotates about the \hat{k} axis. Therefore, the net torque along \hat{j} would have to be zero.

Therefore:

$$-\frac{HF_2}{2} + HF_0 = 0 \quad (36)$$

We further understand that the object does not move. This means that it has a net force of 0 as well. That is:

$$F_0 + F_2 - F_1 = 0 \quad (37)$$

We are given F_0 . We therefore have two equations for two variables, rendering it suitable for solving.

$$-\frac{HF_2}{2} + HF_0 = 0 \quad (38)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2HF_0 - HF_2 = 0 \quad (39)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2F_0 - F_2 = 0 \quad (40)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_2 = 2F_0 \quad (41)$$

$$F_0 + F_2 - F_1 = 0 \quad (42)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_0 + 2F_0 - F_1 = 0 \quad (43)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_1 = 3F_0 \quad (44)$$

Per the setup of the problem, \vec{F}_1 is in the $-\hat{i}$ direction, and \vec{F}_2 in the \hat{i} direction. Hence:

$$\begin{cases} \vec{F}_1 = -3F_0 \hat{i} \\ \vec{F}_2 = 2F_0 \hat{i} \end{cases} \quad (45)$$

5.4 | Rotational Inertia

We have already determined the net torque of the system.

$$\vec{\tau}_2 = -\frac{HF_2}{2} \hat{j} \quad (46)$$

$$\vec{\tau}_0 = HF_0 \hat{j} - RF_0 \hat{k} \quad (47)$$

$$\vec{\tau}_{net} = (HF_0 - \frac{HF_2}{2}) \hat{j} - RF_0 \hat{k} \quad (48)$$

We also know from the setup of the problem that the left term works out such that, given the values of F_0 and F_2 , it is zero in this scenario. Hence:

$$\vec{\tau}_{net} = -RF_0\hat{k} \quad (49)$$

Based on Newton's Second Law, we understand that:

$$\vec{\tau}_{net} = I\vec{\alpha} \quad (50)$$

If the top has rotational inertia I_0 , therefore:

$$I_0\vec{\alpha} = -RF_0\vec{k} \quad (51)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\alpha} = \frac{-RF_0}{I_0}\vec{k} \quad (52)$$

5.5 | Kinematics Equations

Our system is angularly accelerating at a constant angular acceleration of $\vec{\alpha}$. As such, we integrate twice to figure the kinematics equations.

First, as derived above:

$$\vec{\alpha}(t) = \frac{-RF_0}{I_0}\vec{k} \quad (53)$$

Taking the first integral of this expression, we get that:

$$\vec{\omega}(t) = \int \vec{\alpha}(t)dt = \frac{-RF_0}{I_0}t\vec{k} + C \quad (54)$$

where, as $\omega = 0$ at $t = 0$:

$$\vec{\omega}(t) = \frac{-RF_0}{I_0}t\vec{k} \quad (55)$$

Performing the integral yet again, we have that:

$$\vec{\theta}(t) = \int \vec{\omega}(t)dt = \frac{-RF_0}{2I_0}t^2\vec{k} + C \quad (56)$$

where again, as $\theta = 0$ at $t = 0$:

$$\vec{\theta}(t) = \frac{-RF_0}{2I_0}t^2\vec{k} \quad (57)$$

6 | Rectangular Rod

To find the rotational inertia of a rectangular rod, we need to perform three integrations: building up strips, slices, and finally the inertia of the actual rod.

6.1 | Strip

We begin by recalling that the expression for rotational inertia is:

$$I = \sum_i m_i l_i^2 \quad (58)$$

Furthermore, we understand the mass of our entire volume is M . Therefore, the mass density along the object would be $\frac{M}{HWL}$.

To figure the inertia of an infinitesimal strip of point masses, we perform a simple integration along the w axis:

$$I_{strip} = \int_{-W/2}^{W/2} l^2 dm \quad (59)$$

$$= \int_{-W/2}^{W/2} l^2 \frac{dm}{dl} dl \quad (60)$$

$$= \int_{-W/2}^{W/2} l^2 \frac{M}{HWL} dl \quad (61)$$

$$= \frac{M}{HWL} \left(\frac{(W/2)^3}{3} - \frac{(-W/2)^3}{3} \right) \quad (62)$$

$$= \frac{M}{HWL} \left(\frac{W^3}{24} - \frac{-W^3}{24} \right) \quad (63)$$

$$= \frac{M}{HWL} \left(\frac{W^3}{12} \right) \quad (64)$$

$$= \frac{M}{HL} \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) \quad (65)$$

6.2 | Slice

We will now find the inertia of a slice. The procedure is essentially the same, but that there is no longer any non-constant components. Therefore, the inertias, as we are rotating about the same axis of a rigid body together, simply stack ("add"). That is: the rotational inertia of a slice is simply H times that of a strip.

$$I_{slice} = H I_{strip} \quad (66)$$

$$= H \frac{M}{HL} \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) \quad (67)$$

$$= \frac{M}{L} \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) \quad (68)$$

6.3 | Final Rotational Inertia

Finally, we will leverage the parallel axis theorem to deduct rotational inertia of the entire rod.

At every plate i , we note that it will be l_i away from the axis of rotation \hat{k} . By the parallel axis theorem:

$$I = I_{cm} + mD^2 \quad (69)$$

where, $l_i = D$ and $m = \frac{M}{L}$ — the mass of each slice.

That is, then:

$$I_{\text{slice about } \hat{k}} = \frac{M}{L} \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) + m_i (l_i)^2 \quad (70)$$

We aim to find the sum of all such rotational inertia slices about \vec{k} along L , meaning we will figure:

$$I = \sum_L \left(\frac{M}{L} \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) + m_i (l_i)^2 \right) \quad (71)$$

Splitting this summation into two parts:

$$I = \sum_L \frac{M}{L} \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) + \sum_L m_i (l_i)^2 \quad (72)$$

We can see that, because the lack of differentials on the left side, the left expression can simply be simplified to route multiplication:

$$I = \sum_L \frac{M}{L} \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) + \sum_L m_i (l_i)^2 \quad (73)$$

$$= M \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) + \sum_L m_i (l_i)^2 \quad (74)$$

The right side, however, requires integration. The actual integral is, fortunately, almost the same procedure as before—summing up differential l_i along L via differential masses m_i . We will leverage the mass density of a slice again: $\frac{M}{L}$ ("total mass divided by all slices").

$$\sum_L m_i (l_i)^2 = \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} l^2 dm \quad (75)$$

$$= \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} l^2 \frac{dm}{dl} dl \quad (76)$$

$$= \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} l^2 \frac{M}{L} dl \quad (77)$$

$$= \frac{M}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} l^2 dl \quad (78)$$

$$= \frac{M}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} l^2 dl \quad (79)$$

$$= \frac{M}{L} \left(\frac{l^3}{3} \Big|_{-L/2}^{L/2} \right) \quad (80)$$

$$= \frac{M}{L} \left(\frac{L^3}{12} \right) \quad (81)$$

$$= M \left(\frac{L^2}{12} \right) \quad (82)$$

Substituting this back into our above expression for I again:

$$I = M \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) + \sum_L m_i (l_i)^2 \quad (83)$$

$$= M \left(\frac{W^2}{12} \right) + M \left(\frac{L^2}{12} \right) \quad (84)$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} M (W^2 + L^2) \blacksquare \quad (85)$$