

## Momentum.

## Center of Mass.

This chapter mostly deals with Centre of Mass calculation. When it is calculated for a solid extended object you need to use integration. It is important. The body may be circular, spherical, rectangular or triangular. You need to learn how to calculate  $dm$  for different geometries. Try to practise diff examples given here.

- Mostly taken from Kleppner
- Please let me know if there are/b any mistake.
- Add to more examples & problems.

Aug.  
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# Momentum.

## 1.) Particle.

As you know momentum  $\vec{P}$  for a particle is defined as,

$$\vec{P} = m\vec{v}$$

Using Newton's Second Law of motion, for Const Mass.

$$\frac{d\vec{P}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(m\vec{v}) = m\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = m\vec{a}$$

OR.  $F_{\cancel{\text{net}}} = \frac{d\vec{P}}{dt} = m\vec{a}$  (if mass is const)

## 2.) System of Particles or extended body.

For a system of particles the total momentum is the vector sum of the momenta of individual particles

$$\vec{P}_{\text{sys}} = \sum_i m_i \vec{v}_i = \sum_i \vec{P}_i$$

Now this can be written in terms of Centre of Mass.

✓  $\vec{P}_{\text{sys}} = \sum m_i \vec{v}_i = M \underline{\vec{v}_{\text{cm}}}$

$\vec{v}_{\text{cm}}$  is the velocity of Centre of Mass.

Then  $\frac{d\vec{P}_{\text{sys}}}{dt} = M \frac{d\vec{v}_{\text{cm}}}{dt} = M \vec{a}_{\text{cm}}$

According to Newton's Second Law of Motion.

$$\sum \vec{F}_{\text{ext}} = \cancel{\sum \vec{F}_{\text{net-ext}}} = \frac{d\vec{P}_{\text{sys}}}{dt}$$

external because internal forces cancel each other according to third's Law of motion.

$$\text{If } F_{\text{ext}} = 0 \text{ Then } \bar{P}_{\text{sys}} = \sum_i m_i \bar{v}_i = M V_{\text{cm}} = \text{const}$$

This is known as Conservation of Momentum.

### Center of Mass

What is Centre of Mass.

There are few things that we need to remember

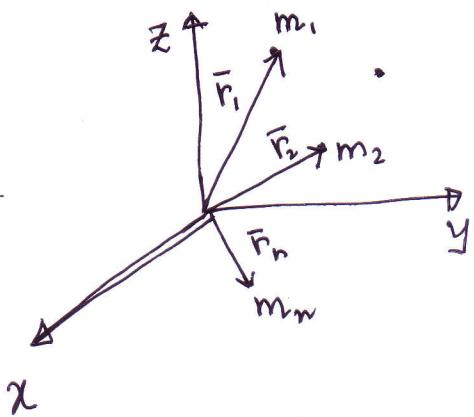
- (1) We speak of Center of Mass when we don't talk about a particle but we talk about an extended solid object or a system of particles.
- (2) Centre of Mass is a point, a coordinate.
- (3) If we have to consider an extended solid object or a system of particles as a point where the whole mass is concentrated then that point is the Centre of mass for that solid body or system of particles.
- (4) Finally Center of Mass is defined as a mass-weighted average position of particles.

What is the difference between Center of Mass & Center of Gravity?

## Center of Gravity.

- (1) Center of Gravity is the point in a body around which the resultant torque due to gravity force vanishes.
- (2) Center of mass is a fixed property for a given rigid body whereas Center of Gravity may, in addition depend upon its Orientation in a non uniform gravitational field. Centre of Gravity may change with Orientation.
- (3) When Gravity gradient effects are negligible C.g and C.m are same and are used interchangeably. In solid objects it is the Centroid.
- (4) Center of mass may be located outside the physical body as the case for hollow or open shaped objects such as horse shoe.

## Mathematical Expressions



$$\bar{R}_{CM} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n m_i \bar{r}_i}{\sum_i m_i}$$

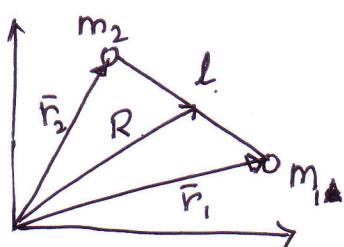
Similarly Velocity of Centre of Mass

$$\bar{v}_{CM} = \frac{m_1 \bar{v}_1 + m_2 \bar{v}_2 + \dots}{m_1 + m_2 + \dots} = \frac{\sum m_i v_i}{\sum m_i}$$

OR  $M \bar{v}_{CM} = \bar{P}$

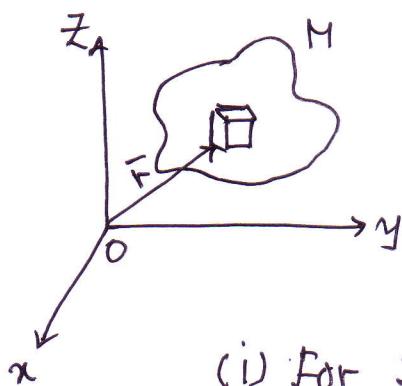
Similarly  $a_{CM} = \dots$

Ex 3.2 Find the Centre of mass of two bodies connected by a massless rod.



$$\bar{R} = \frac{m_1 \bar{r}_1 + m_2 \bar{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

- A solid extended object can be considered as large number of bodies with  $N \rightarrow \infty$



$$\bar{R} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N m_i \bar{r}_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N m_i} \Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{R} = \frac{1}{M} \int \bar{r} dm}$$

(i) For 3d object  $\Rightarrow dm = \rho dV$ .

$\rho$  = ~~total~~ mass per unit vol.  
~~not~~  
known as mass density

$$\boxed{\bar{R} = \frac{1}{M} \int \bar{r} \rho dV}$$

(ii) For 2d Object  $\Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{R} = \frac{1}{M} \int \bar{r} \sigma dA}$

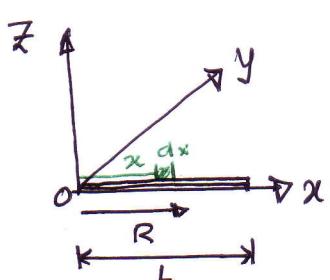
Applicable for thin plates &  
not for plates whose thickness  
is finite

$\sigma$  = mass per unit area  
Area mass density

(iii) For 1d object  $\Rightarrow \boxed{R = \frac{1}{M} \int \bar{r} \lambda dl}$

$\lambda$  = mass per unit length  
length mass density

# A rod of length  $L$  has a non-uniform density.  $\lambda$ , the mass per unit length of the rod, varies as  $\lambda = \lambda_0 (s/L)$ , where  $\lambda_0$  is a constant and  $s$  is the distance from the end marked 0. Find the center of mass.



$$\bar{R} = \frac{1}{M} \int \vec{r} \lambda \frac{dm}{dx} dx$$

$$M = \int dm = \int_0^L \lambda dx = \int_0^L \frac{\lambda_0 x}{L} dx$$

Here  $s$  is taken along  $x$  axis.

$$= \frac{\lambda_0}{L} \int_0^L x dx = \frac{\lambda_0}{L} \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_0^L = \frac{\lambda_0 L}{2}$$

The Centre of Mass is

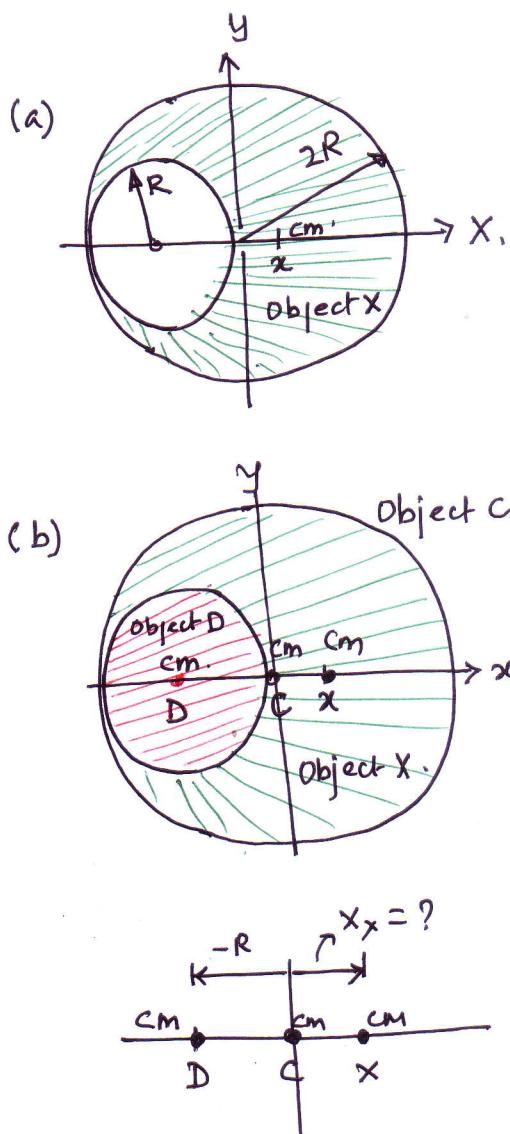
$$R = \frac{1}{M} \int \vec{r} \lambda \frac{dm}{dx} dx = \frac{2}{\lambda_0 L} \int_0^L (x\hat{i} + 0\hat{j} + 0\hat{k}) \frac{\lambda_0 x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{L^2} \frac{\hat{i}}{3} x^3 \Big|_0^L = \frac{2}{3} L \hat{i}$$

# The density of a thin rod of length  $l$  varies with the distance  $x$  from one end as  $\rho = \rho_0 x^2/l^2$ . Find the position of the center of mass. [Ans.  $x = 3l/4$ ]

The value of center of mass does not depend upon the choice of origin. You can try shift your origin  $k$  dist away & Recheck the answer.

# The figure below shows a circular metal plate of radius  $2R$  which a disk of radius  $R$  has been removed. Let us call it object X. Its centre of mass is shown as a dot on the x-axis. Find the location of this point.



⇒ By symmetry object X should have its CM along x axis.  
Let us solve the following way.

- (a) The first fig (a) is object X is a metal disk of radius  $2R$  with a hole of radius  $R$  cut in it.
- (b) Let us fill the hole with another disk of the same material of radius  $R$  which we call object D.
- (c) Let us label as object C the large uniform composite disk so formed. By symmetry its CM is at the center-origin.
- (d) Let us represent the object X and object D as pt masses. The object C can be treated as equivalent to two particles.

The position of centre of mass of object C is given by.

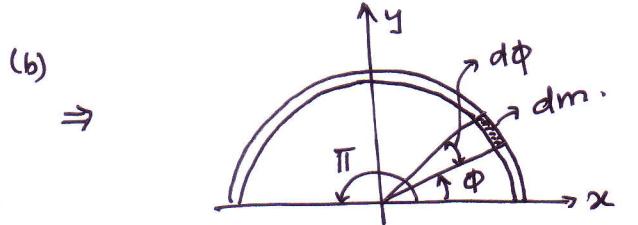
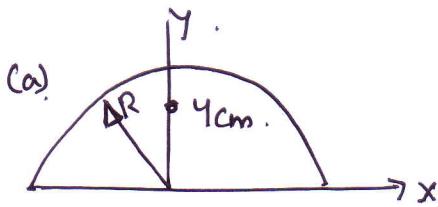
$$x_C = \frac{m_D x_D + m_X x_X}{m_D + m_X} \quad \text{Now } x_C = 0 \text{ at the centre}$$

$$\text{So } x_X = -\left(\frac{m_D}{m_X}\right)x_D \quad \Rightarrow \frac{m_D}{m_X} = \frac{\text{area of D}}{\text{area of X}} = \frac{\text{area of D}}{\text{area of C} - \text{area of D}}$$

$$= \pi R^2 / (\pi (2R)^2 - \pi R^2) = 1/3$$

with  $x_D = -R$        $x_X = R/3$

# A thin strip of material is bent into the shape of a semi-circle of Radius R. Find its centre of mass.



By Symmetry one can say That  $x_{cm} = 0$ . The centre of mass must lie on the y axis.

Consider the small element of mass  $dm$  which Subtends an angle  $d\phi$  at the Center. Now.

$$Y_{cm} = \frac{1}{M} \int y \, dm$$

Now it can be solved two ways -

(1).  $dm$  can be calculated from the ratio of angles because the strip is of uniform mass density.

$$\frac{dm}{M} = \frac{d\phi}{\pi} \quad [ \text{ratio of } dm \text{ by } M \text{ should be equal to the angles subtended by them} ]$$

$$\Rightarrow dm = M \frac{d\phi}{\pi}$$

The element  $dm$  is located at coord.  $y = R \sin \phi$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } Y_{cm} &= \frac{1}{M} \int y \, dm = \frac{1}{M} \int_0^{\pi} (R \sin \phi) \frac{M}{\pi} d\phi \\ &= \frac{R}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin \phi \, d\phi = \frac{2R}{\pi} = \underline{0.637R}. \quad (\text{Ans}) \end{aligned}$$

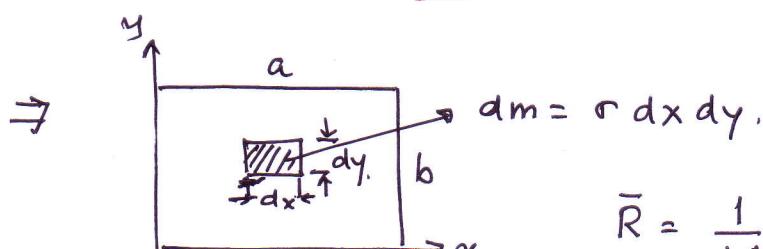
(2) Second Way - Assume mass per Unit length as  $\lambda_0$

$$dm = \underline{\lambda_0 R d\phi}, \quad M = \underline{\pi R \lambda_0}$$

You get back the same equation as above.

~~V.Imp word.~~

# Find the center of mass of a thin rectangular plate with sides of length  $a$  and  $b$ , whose mass per unit area  $\sigma$  varies in the following fashion  $\sigma = \sigma_0 (xy/ab)$



$$\bar{R} = \frac{1}{M} \iint (x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}) \sigma dx dy.$$

First let us find out the mass of the plate

$$M = \int_0^b \int_0^a \sigma dx dy = \int_0^b \int_0^a \sigma_0 \frac{xy}{ab} dx dy.$$

This is a double integral. First integrate over x, treating  $y$  as a constant. Then integrate y.

$$\begin{aligned} M &= \int_0^b \left( \int_0^a \sigma_0 \frac{x}{a} \frac{y}{b} dx \right) dy = \int_0^b \left( \sigma_0 \frac{y}{b} \frac{x^2}{2a} \Big|_{x=0}^{x=a} \right) dy \\ &= \int_0^b \sigma_0 \frac{y}{b} \cdot \frac{a}{2} dy = \frac{\sigma_0 a}{2} \frac{y^2}{2b} \Big|_{y=0}^{y=b} = \frac{1}{4} \sigma_0 ab. \end{aligned}$$

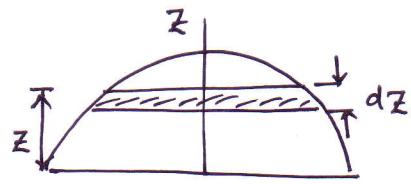
The X Component of R is

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{1}{M} \iint x \sigma dx dy = \frac{1}{M} \int_0^b \left( \int_0^a x \sigma_0 \frac{xy}{ab} dx \right) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \int_0^b \left( \frac{\sigma_0 y}{ab} \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_0^a \right) dy = \frac{1}{M} \frac{\sigma_0}{ab} \int_0^b \frac{ya^3}{3} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \frac{\sigma_0}{ab} \frac{a^3}{3} \frac{b^2}{2} = \frac{4}{\sigma_0 ab} \frac{\sigma_0 a^2 b}{6} = \frac{2}{3} a. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $y = \frac{2}{3} b$

Differentiate this with earlier triangular sheet which was of finite thickness. In finite thickness  $\sigma$  cannot be used.

# Find the Center of mass of a uniform solid hemisphere of radius  $R$  and mass  $M$ .



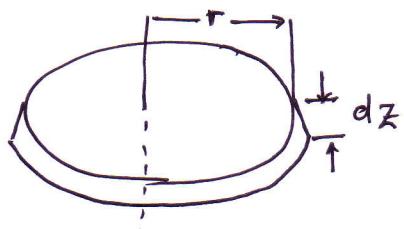
$$\bar{z} = \frac{1}{M} \int z \, dM$$

dist from dm

From Symmetry it is apparent that the Center of mass lies on the  $z$  axis. Its height above the equatorial plane is

The problem is a 3d problem but its symmetry helps to become a one dimensional problem.

Let us divide the hemisphere into a pile of thin disks.



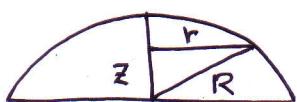
Consider the Circular disk of rad =  $r$   
Thickness =  $dz$

$$dV = \pi r^2 dz$$

$$dM = \rho dV = \left(\frac{M}{V}\right) (dr)$$

$$\bar{z} = \frac{1}{M} \int z \, dM = \frac{1}{M} \int \left(\frac{M}{V}\right) z \, dV = \frac{1}{V} \int_{z=0}^R \pi r^2 z \, dz$$

We need to find a relation between  $r$  &  $z$ .



$$r^2 = R^2 - z^2$$

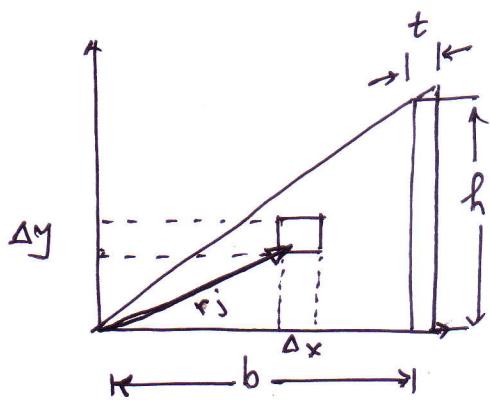
$$z = \frac{\pi}{V} \int_0^R z (R^2 - z^2) dz = \frac{\pi}{V} \left( \frac{1}{2} z^2 R^2 - \frac{z^4}{4} \right) \Big|_0^R$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{V} \left( \frac{1}{2} R^4 - \frac{1}{4} R^4 \right) = \frac{\frac{1}{4} \pi R^4}{\frac{2}{3} \pi R^3} = \underline{\underline{\frac{\frac{3}{8} R}{}}}$$

$$[V = \text{vol of hemisphere} = \frac{2}{3} \pi R^3]$$

# Find out the center of mass of a triangular sheet of mass  $M$ , base  $b$ , height  $h$  and small thickness  $t$ . (V.Imp. This is not a thin plate)

⇒ Now here it becomes little tedious problem because it has a finite thickness. It is a 3d problem but it can easily be changed into 2d problem because the 't' can be cancelled from both numerator and denominator. But if it is done within  $\int$  then it will be 3d. So it is better to take small discrete mass objects, change the problem to 2d and then apply integration.



$$\bar{R} \approx \frac{\sum m_j r_j}{M}$$

$$= \frac{\sum \rho_j t \Delta x \Delta y r_j}{M}$$

$$\text{Sheet is Uniform } \rho_j = \text{Const} = \frac{M}{V} = \frac{M}{Ab}$$

We can carry out the sum by summing first over the  $\Delta x$  and then over the  $\Delta y$ .

$$\bar{R} = \lim_{\substack{\Delta x \rightarrow 0 \\ \Delta y \rightarrow 0}} \left( \frac{M}{At} \right) \left( \frac{t}{M} \right) \sum \sum \bar{r}_j \Delta x \Delta y = \frac{1}{A} \iint \bar{r} dx dy$$

$$\bar{R} = (X \hat{i} + Y \hat{j}) = \frac{1}{A} \iint (x \hat{i} + y \hat{j}) dx dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{A} (\iint x dx dy) \hat{i} + \frac{1}{A} (\iint y dx dy) \hat{j}$$

$\hat{x}$

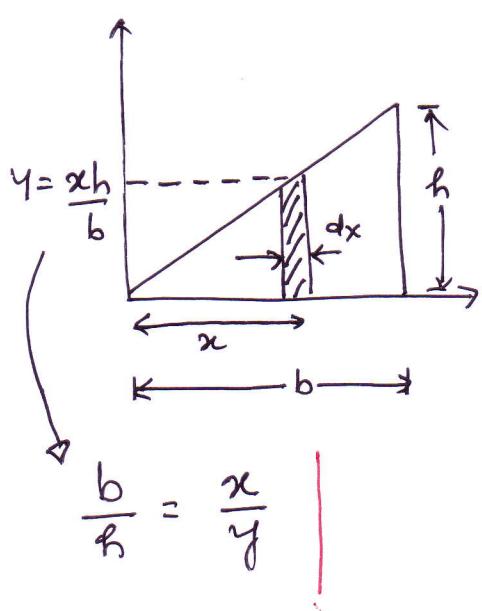
$\hat{y}$

Now to find the  $x$  coordinate of CM.

$$\underline{X = \frac{1}{A} \iint x dx dy.}$$

Now this integral means, take each element, multiply its area by its  $x$  coordinate and sum the results.

How to do it - Since it is a triangle.



First consider the element in a strip parallel to  $y$  axis. The strip runs from  $y=0$  to  $y=xh/b$ . Let us integrate  $y$  first keeping  $x$  const. & Then integrate  $x$ .

$$X = \frac{1}{A} \iint x dx dy = \frac{1}{A} x dx \int_0^{xh/b} dy \\ = \frac{h}{bA} x^2 dx.$$

Finally sum the contributions of all such strips  $x=0$  to  $x=b$ .

$$X = \frac{h}{bA} \int_0^b x^2 dx = \frac{h}{bA} \cdot \frac{b^3}{3} = \frac{hb^2}{3A}$$

$$\text{Since } A = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2}{3} bh \Rightarrow X = \frac{2}{3} b.$$

Similarly.

$$Y = \frac{1}{A} \int_0^b \left( \int_0^{xh/b} y dy \right) dx = \frac{h^2}{2Ab^2} \int_0^b x^2 dx = \frac{hb^3}{6A} = \frac{h}{3}.$$

Hence

$$\underline{R = \frac{2}{3} b \hat{i} + \frac{1}{3} h \hat{j}}.$$