

## Inertia matrix for RBs with symmetry planes in mass distribution

Recall the moment of inertia integrals about an axis  $n$  passing through point  $A$

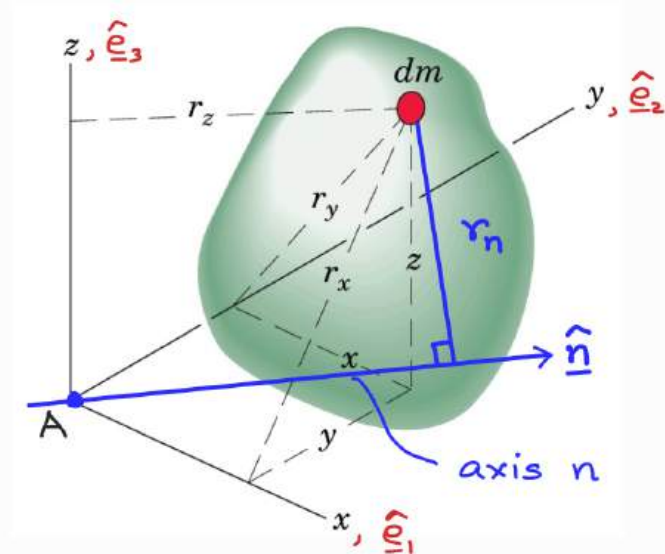
$$I_{nn}^A = \int r_n^2 dm$$

Set

$$\hat{n} = \hat{e}_1 \rightarrow I_{11}^A = \int r_x^2 dm$$

$$\hat{n} = \hat{e}_2 \rightarrow I_{22}^A = \int r_y^2 dm$$

$$\hat{n} = \hat{e}_3 \rightarrow I_{33}^A = \int r_z^2 dm$$

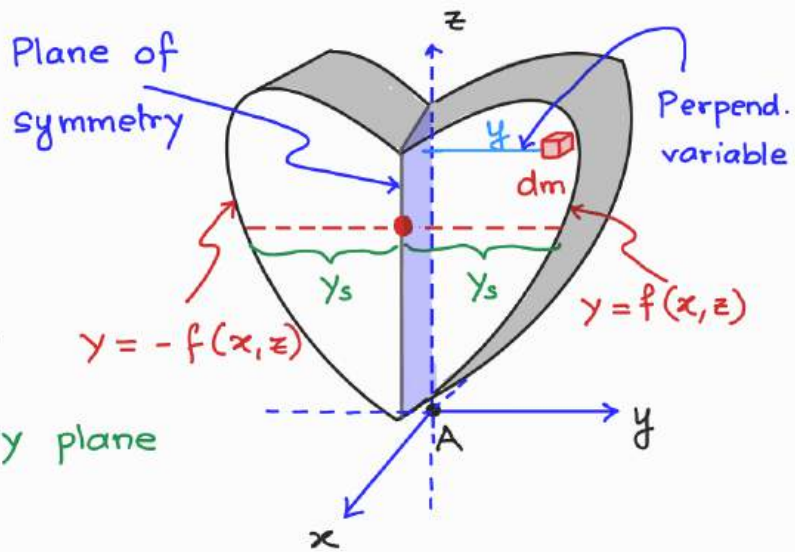


These integrals are always positive, whereas the products of inertia  $I_{12}^A = \int xy dm$ ,  $I_{13}^A = \int xz dm$ , and  $I_{23}^A = \int yz dm$  may be positive, negative, or zero.

For a homogeneous body having a plane of symmetry, if one of the coordinate planes contains the body plane symmetry, the products of inertia involving the coordinate variable perpendicular to this plane will vanish.

Ex: A homogeneous body for which the  $xz$ -plane is a body symmetry plane.

point 'A' lies on the symmetry plane



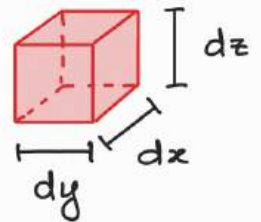
$$I_{12}^A = - \int x y \, dm$$

$dm = \rho \, dx \, dz \, dy$

$$I_{12}^A = - \int x y \, \rho \, dx \, dz \, dy$$

$$= - \rho \int_z \int_x \left[ \int_{-f(x,z)}^{f(x,z)} y \, dy \right] x \, dx \, dz = 0$$

0



Similarly,  $I_{23}^A = \int y z \, dm$

$$= - \int y z \, \rho \, dx \, dz \, dy$$

$$= - \rho \int_x \int_z \left[ \int_{-f(x,z)}^{f(x,z)} y \, dy \right] z \, dz \, dx = 0$$

0

With a  $xz$ -plane of symmetry,  $y$  is the coordinate variable  $\perp$  to plane of symmetry  $\Rightarrow I_{12}^A = 0$  and  $I_{23}^A = 0$

Thus, the inertia matrix at point A in the chosen coordinate system :

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^A] = \begin{bmatrix} I_{11}^A & 0 & I_{13}^A \\ 0 & I_{22}^A & 0 \\ I_{31}^A & 0 & I_{33}^A \end{bmatrix}$$

## Inertia tensor for some special homogeneous RBs

We focus on three specific homogeneous (meaning uniform mass distribution) bodies  $\rightarrow$  1) Rectangular body

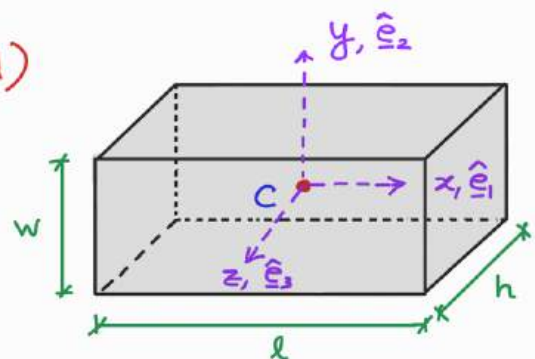
2) Circular body

3) Spherical body

### 1) Inertia tensor for a rectangular (cuboidal) RB

$C \rightarrow$  Center of mass (also centroid)

$\rho \rightarrow$  density (uniform)



Find inertia matrix of RB

at C w.r.t. csys  $\hat{e}_1 - \hat{e}_2 - \hat{e}_3$

(parallel to the edges of cuboid)

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^C] \begin{pmatrix} \hat{e}_1 \\ \hat{e}_2 \\ \hat{e}_3 \end{pmatrix} = ?$$

Notice the planes of symmetry at pt C !!

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{11}^c &= \int (y^2 + z^2) \underbrace{dm}_{\rho dv} = \rho \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} \int_{-w/2}^{w/2} \int_{-l/2}^{l/2} (y^2 + z^2) dx dy dz \\
 &= \rho l \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} \int_{-w/2}^{w/2} (y^2 + z^2) dy dz \\
 &\quad \text{mass of block 'm'} \rightarrow \rho \frac{lwh}{12} (w^2 + h^2) \\
 &= \frac{m(w^2 + h^2)}{12}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note the correspondence  $(x, y, z) \sim (l, w, h)$

We can permute the symbols and get  $I_{22}^c$ ,  $I_{33}^c$

$$I_{22}^c = \frac{m(l^2 + h^2)}{12}, \quad I_{33}^c = \frac{m(l^2 + w^2)}{12}$$

**Note:** All products of inertia terms are ZERO

$$I_{12}^c = I_{13}^c = I_{23}^c = 0 \quad (\text{due to plane symmetry of cuboid about } x\text{-}y, y\text{-}z, x\text{-}z \text{ planes through } c)$$

Thus,

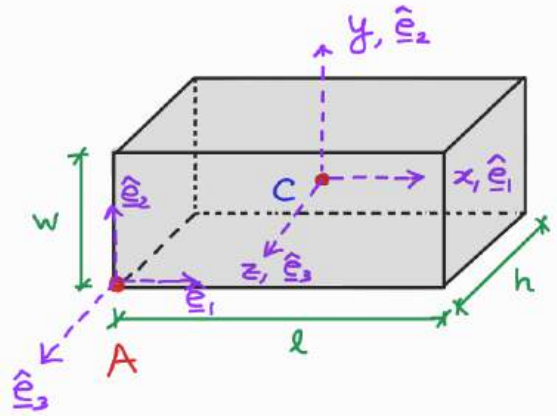
$$[\underline{I}^c] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m(w^2 + h^2)}{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m(l^2 + h^2)}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m(l^2 + w^2)}{12} \end{bmatrix}$$



How do you find  $[\underline{I}^A]$  about point A (at corner)?

The csys bases at COM C  
and at corner A are //

∴ Use parallel axes theorem



$$I_{11}^A = I_{11}^C + m \underbrace{(x_{C2}^2 + x_{C3}^2)}_{d_1^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow I_{12}^A = I_{12}^C - m x_{C1} x_{C2}$$

Similarly,

$$I_{22}^A = I_{22}^C + m \underbrace{(x_{C1}^2 + x_{C3}^2)}_{d_2^2}$$

$$\text{and, } I_{23}^A = I_{23}^C - m x_{C2} x_{C3}$$

$$I_{33}^A = I_{33}^C + m \underbrace{(x_{C1}^2 + x_{C2}^2)}_{d_3^2}$$

$$\text{and, } I_{13}^A = I_{13}^C - m x_{C1} x_{C3}$$

↑  
from Lec 11

$$I_{11}^A = \frac{m(w^2 + h^2)}{12} + m \left[ \left( \frac{w}{2} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{h}{2} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$I_{22}^A = \frac{m(l^2 + h^2)}{12} + m \left[ \left( \frac{l}{2} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{h}{2} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$I_{33}^A = \frac{m(l^2 + w^2)}{12} + m \left[ \left( \frac{l}{2} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{w}{2} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$I_{12}^A = 0 - m \left( \frac{l}{2} \right) \left( \frac{w}{2} \right)$$

$$\hat{e}_1 \rightarrow \textcircled{1} \rightarrow l$$

$$\hat{e}_2 \rightarrow \textcircled{2} \rightarrow w$$

$$\hat{e}_3 \rightarrow \textcircled{3} \rightarrow h$$

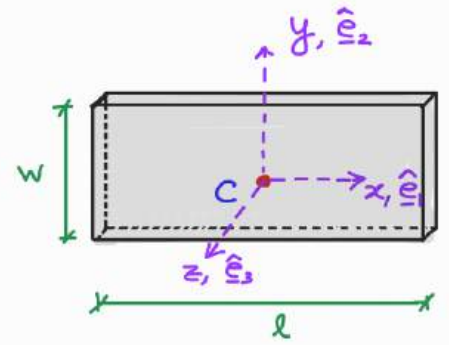
$$I_{23}^A = 0 - m \left( \frac{w}{2} \right) \left( \frac{h}{2} \right)$$

$$I_{13}^A = 0 - m \left( \frac{l}{2} \right) \left( \frac{h}{2} \right)$$

# Inertia tensor for thin rectangular plate

$$h \approx 0$$

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^c] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m(w^2 + h^2)}{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m(l^2 + h^2)}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m(l^2 + w^2)}{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

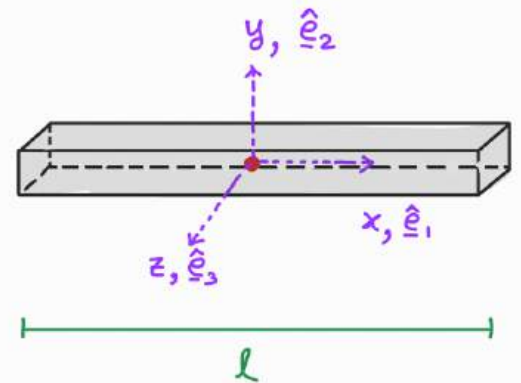


$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^c] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m w^2}{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m l^2}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m(l^2 + w^2)}{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Inertia matrix of a thin rod

$$h \approx 0, w \approx 0$$

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^c] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m w^2}{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m l^2}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m(l^2 + w^2)}{12} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^c] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m l^2}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m l^2}{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

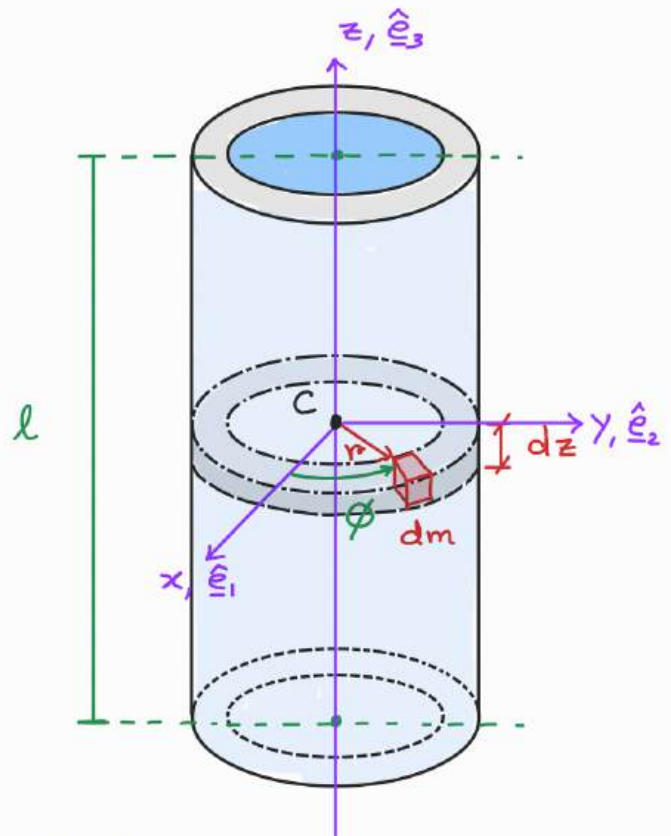
## 2) Inertia tensor for a circular cylindrical RB

Inner radius :  $r_i$

Outer radius :  $r_o$

Length :  $l$

Here, the  $z$ -axis is the central axis about which this body can be generated by revolution.



Symmetry planes:  $\begin{cases} x-y \text{ plane} \\ y-z \text{ plane} \\ x-z \text{ plane} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} I_{12} \\ I_{23} \\ I_{13} \end{cases} = 0$

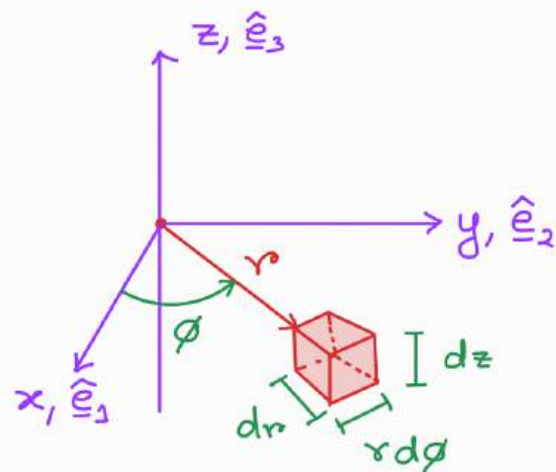
Any infinitesimally small mass 'dm' can be written as:

$$dm = \rho \, dr \, d\phi \, dz$$

$$I_{33}^C = \int r^2 \, dm$$

$$= \int_{-l/2}^{l/2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{r_i}^{r_o} r^2 \rho \, dr \, r \, d\phi \, dz$$

$$= \rho \, 2\pi l \int_{r_i}^{r_o} r^3 \, dr = \rho \, 2\pi l \left( \frac{r_o^4 - r_i^4}{4} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2} \rho l (r_o^4 - r_i^4)$$



With cross-sectional area  $A = \pi(r_o^2 - r_i^2)$  and  $m = \rho A l$

$$I_{33}^C = \frac{m}{2} (r_o^2 + r_i^2)$$

Note that the general form of  $I_{11}^C$ ,  $I_{22}^C$ ,  $I_{33}^C$  are:

$$I_{11}^C = \int (y^2 + z^2) dm$$

$$I_{22}^C = \int (x^2 + z^2) dm$$

$$I_{33}^C = \int (x^2 + y^2) dm$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore I_{11}^C + I_{22}^C &= \int (x^2 + y^2) dm + 2 \int z^2 dm \\ &= I_{33}^C + 2 \int z^2 dm \quad \text{--- (Eq)} \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, for the cylinder, since z-axis is the central axis about which the RB is symmetric (also called AXISYMMETRY)

$$I_{11}^C = I_{22}^C$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int z^2 dm &= \int_{-\frac{l}{2}}^{\frac{l}{2}} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{r_i}^{r_o} z^2 \rho dr d\phi dz = \rho \cancel{2\pi} \left( \frac{r_o^2 - r_i^2}{\cancel{2}} \right) \int_{-\frac{l}{2}}^{\frac{l}{2}} z^2 dz \\ &= \rho \underbrace{\pi(r_o^2 - r_i^2)}_{\text{C/s area } A} \left[ \frac{z^3}{3} \right]_{-\frac{l}{2}}^{\frac{l}{2}} \end{aligned}$$



$$= \rho A \frac{l^3}{12} = \underbrace{(\rho A l)}_m \frac{l^2}{12} = \frac{ml^2}{12}$$

Using (EQ), we get:

$$\underbrace{I_{11}^c + I_{22}^c}_{2 I_{11}^c} = I_{33}^c + 2 \left( \frac{ml^2}{12} \right)$$

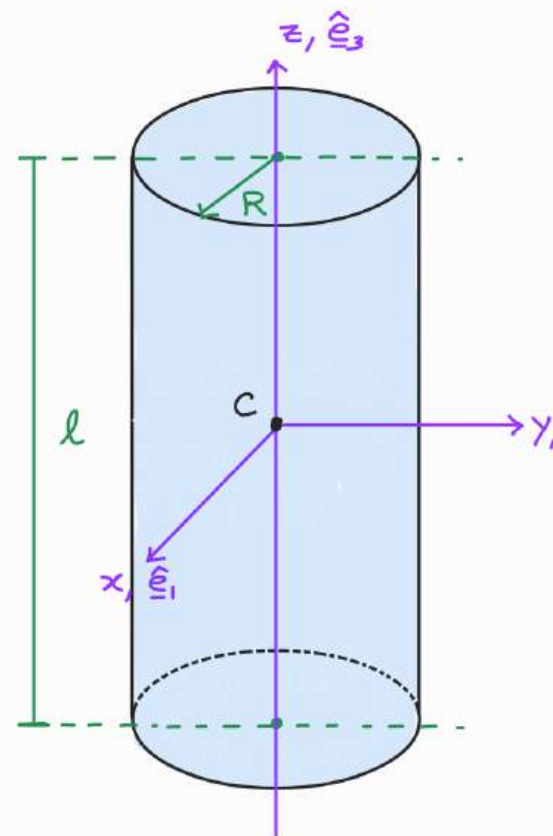
$$\Rightarrow I_{11}^c = I_{22}^c = \frac{m}{4} (r_o^2 + r_i^2) + \frac{ml^2}{12}$$

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^c] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m}{4} (r_o^2 + r_i^2) + \frac{ml^2}{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m}{4} (r_o^2 + r_i^2) + \frac{ml^2}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m}{2} (r_o^2 + r_i^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

Inertia tensor for a solid circular cylinder

Put  $r_o = R$  ,  $m = \rho \pi r^2 l$   
 $r_i = 0$

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^c] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{mR^2}{4} + \frac{ml^2}{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{mR^2}{4} + \frac{ml^2}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{mR^2}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

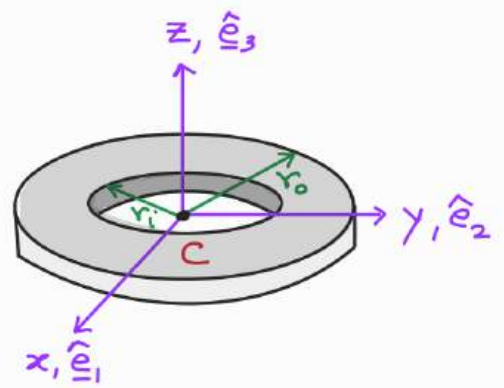


## Inertia Tensor for Annular Plate

$z \approx 0$  (negligible thickness)

Area,  $A = \pi(r_o^2 - r_i^2)$

Mass density,  $m = \eta A$   
mass per unit area



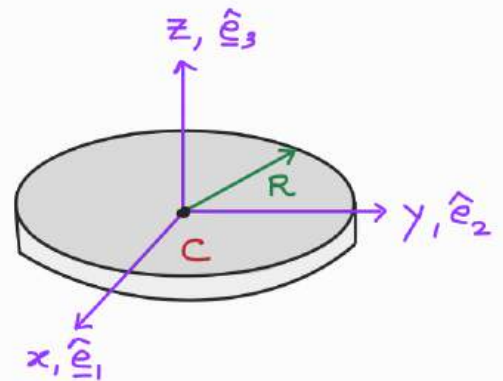
$$[\underline{I}^C] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m(r_o^2 + r_i^2)}{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m(r_o^2 + r_i^2)}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m(r_o^2 + r_i^2)}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Inertia Tensor for a Thin Circular Disk

$z \approx 0$  (negligible thickness)

Area,  $A = \pi R^2$

Mass density,  $m = \eta A$   
mass per unit area



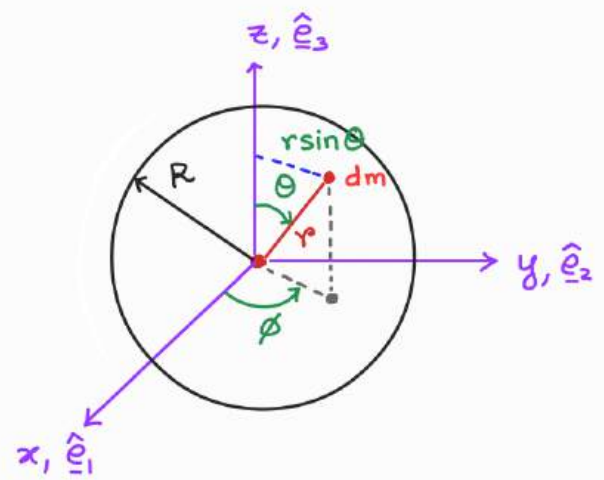
$$[\underline{I}^C] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m R^2}{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m R^2}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m R^2}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

### 3) Inertia Tensor for a Sphere

Observe that every plane through COM  $C$  is a plane of symmetry,

so all products of inertia vanish

and  $I_{11}^C = I_{22}^C = I_{33}^C$  (since the sphere is symmetric about any axis passing through  $C$ )

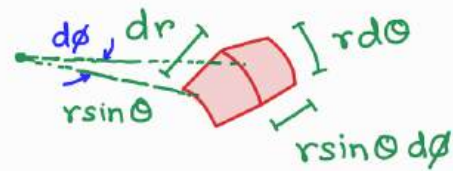


$$dm = \rho \, r \, d\theta \, r \sin \theta \, d\phi$$

$$I_{33}^C = \int (x^2 + y^2) \, dm$$

$$I_{33}^C = \int (x^2 + y^2) \, dm$$

$$= \int \underbrace{(r \sin \theta)^2}_{\substack{\perp \text{ dist from } z\text{-axis}}} \rho \, r \, d\theta \, r \sin \theta \, d\phi$$



$$\Rightarrow I_{33}^C = \rho \int_0^R \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} r^4 \sin^3 \theta \, d\phi \, d\theta \, dr$$

$$= \rho \int_0^R r^4 \, dr \left( \int_0^\pi \sin^3 \theta \, d\theta \right) \left( \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \right)$$

$$= \frac{8\pi\rho}{3} \left( \frac{R^5}{5} \right) = \underbrace{\left( \rho \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 \right)}_{\substack{\text{Volume} \\ m}} \frac{2}{5} R^2 = \frac{2}{5} m R^2$$

$$\therefore [\underline{I}^C] = \frac{2}{5} m R^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

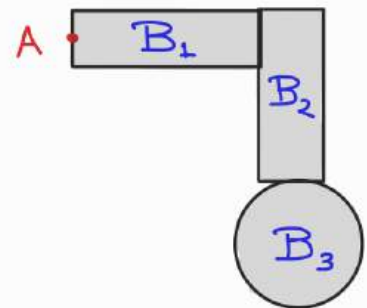
# Inertia Tensor of a Composite RB

A composite RB is obtained by composition of several geometrically simple bodies whose inertia tensors are known or maybe easily determined.

If there are 'n' RBs  $B_k$ , then the inertial tensor for the composite RB  $B = \bigcup_{k=1}^n B_k$ , maybe be written at a point A as:

$$\overset{\text{composite body}}{\mathbb{I}^A(B)} = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}^A(B_k)$$

inertia tensor of ith RB at pt A

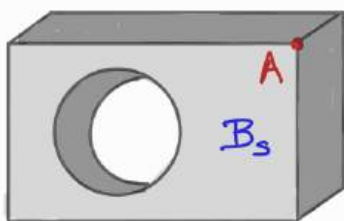


If  $B$  has 'p' cavities/holes  $\mathcal{E}_k$ , we may imagine the each cavity as an RB with negative mass, and the inertia tensor of the composite RB with holes/cavity is:

$$\mathbb{I}^A(B_s) = \mathbb{I}^A(B) - \sum_{k=1}^P \mathbb{I}^A(\mathcal{E}_k)$$

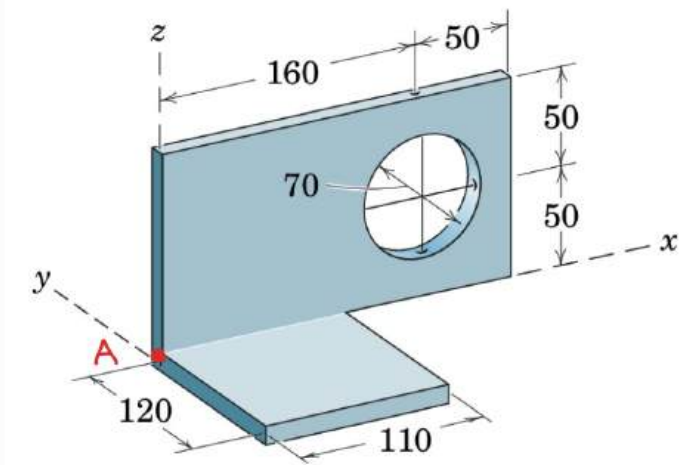
RB with holes/cavity
RB with no cavity/hole
inertia tensor of ith RB at pt A

e.g.

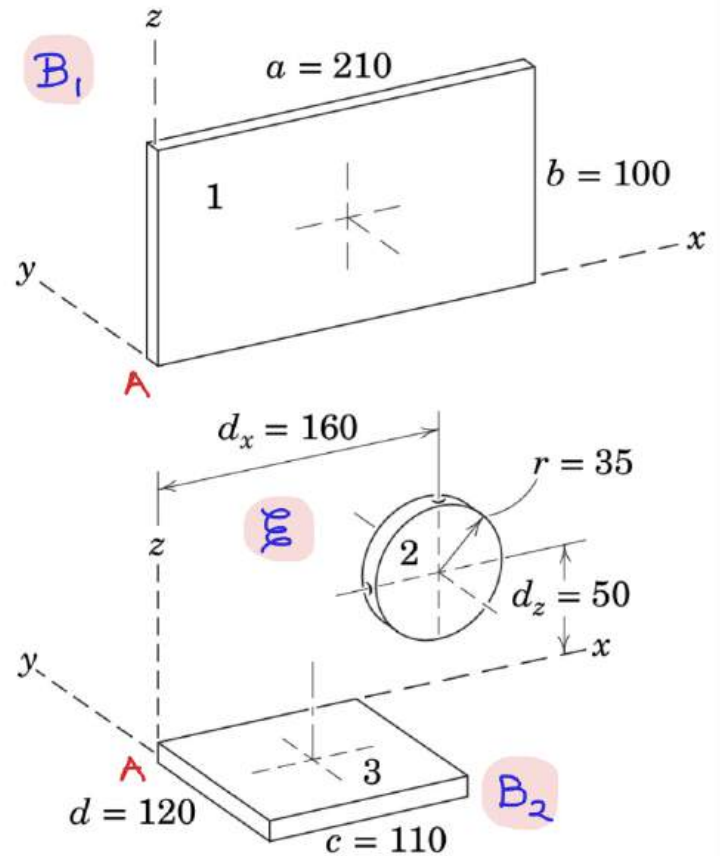




Example:



$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^A](B_s) = [\underline{\underline{I}}^A](B_1) + [\underline{\underline{I}}^A](B_2) - [\underline{\underline{I}}^A](\mathcal{E})$$



$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^A](B_1) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3}mb^2 & 0 & -\frac{mab}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3}m(a^2+b^2) & 0 \\ -\frac{mab}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{3}ma^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

why?

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^A](B_2) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3}md^2 & -m\frac{c}{2}\left(-\frac{d}{2}\right) & 0 \\ -m\frac{c}{2}\left(-\frac{d}{2}\right) & \frac{1}{3}mc^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3}m(c^2+d^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

directed opp. to y-axis why?

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^A](\mathcal{E}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4}mr^2 + md_z^2 & 0 & -md_x d_y \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2}mr^2 + m(d_x^2 + d_z^2) & 0 \\ -md_x d_y & 0 & \frac{1}{4}mr^2 + md_x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

why?

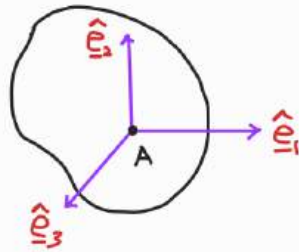
# Transformation Rule of Inertia Matrix of RB

We know that the inertia tensor  $\underline{\underline{I}}^A$  does not depend on the orientation of the coordinate system. Infact, the same is true for all tensor quantities. However, the second-order inertia tensor, when expressed in a matrix form using an orthonormal csys, the matrix components depend on the orientation of the csys lines.

for csys with axes  $\hat{e}_1 - \hat{e}_2 - \hat{e}_3$

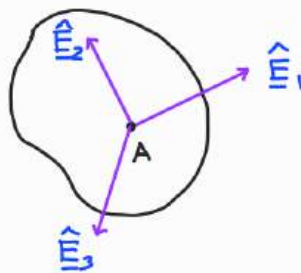
$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^A]_{\hat{e}_1, \hat{e}_2, \hat{e}_3} = \begin{bmatrix} I_{11}^A & I_{12}^A & I_{13}^A \\ I_{21}^A & I_{22}^A & I_{23}^A \\ I_{31}^A & I_{32}^A & I_{33}^A \end{bmatrix}$$

⇒



for csys with axes  $\hat{E}_1 - \hat{E}_2 - \hat{E}_3$

$$[\underline{\underline{I}}^A]_{\hat{E}_1, \hat{E}_2, \hat{E}_3} = \begin{bmatrix} I_{11}^{A'} & I_{12}^{A'} & I_{13}^{A'} \\ I_{21}^{A'} & I_{22}^{A'} & I_{23}^{A'} \\ I_{31}^{A'} & I_{32}^{A'} & I_{33}^{A'} \end{bmatrix}$$

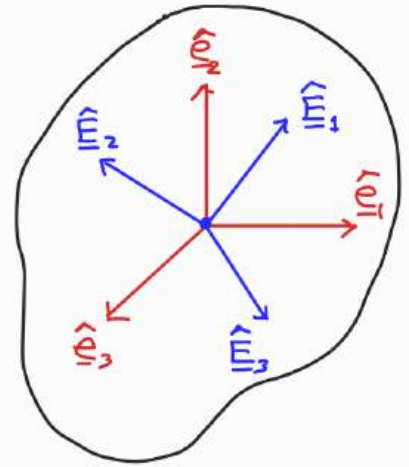


We ask the question: How are the inertia matrix components related?

$$I_{ij}^A \longleftrightarrow I_{ij}^{A'}$$

# Relating inertia matrix in two different coordinate systems

Two sets of orthonormal triads can be related through a unique rotation tensor



$$\hat{\underline{E}}_i = \underline{\underline{R}} \hat{\underline{e}}_i \quad \forall i = 1, 2, 3$$

Orthonormal tensor

↓ in a csys

Orthonormal matrix  $[\underline{\underline{R}}]$

Property of orthonormal matrix

$$[\underline{\underline{R}}][\underline{\underline{R}}]^T = [\underline{\underline{I}}] \quad \text{and} \quad [\underline{\underline{R}}]^T[\underline{\underline{R}}] = [\underline{\underline{I}}]$$

$$[\hat{\underline{E}}_i]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1, \hat{\underline{e}}_2, \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} = [\underline{\underline{R}}]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1, \hat{\underline{e}}_2, \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} [\hat{\underline{e}}_i]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1, \hat{\underline{e}}_2, \hat{\underline{e}}_3)}$$

Lets consider the position vector  $\underline{r}_{PA}$  in two csys

$$[\underline{r}_{PA}]_{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \hat{\underline{e}}_1 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_2 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_3 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad [\underline{r}_{PA}]_{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \hat{\underline{E}}_1 \\ \hat{\underline{E}}_2 \\ \hat{\underline{E}}_3 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{r}_{PA} &= x_1 \hat{\underline{e}}_1 + x_2 \hat{\underline{e}}_2 + x_3 \hat{\underline{e}}_3 = x'_1 \hat{\underline{E}}_1 + x'_2 \hat{\underline{E}}_2 + x'_3 \hat{\underline{E}}_3 \\ &= x'_1 \underline{\underline{R}} \hat{\underline{e}}_1 + x'_2 \underline{\underline{R}} \hat{\underline{e}}_2 + x'_3 \underline{\underline{R}} \hat{\underline{e}}_3 \\ &= \underline{\underline{R}} (x'_1 \hat{\underline{e}}_1 + x'_2 \hat{\underline{e}}_2 + x'_3 \hat{\underline{e}}_3) \end{aligned}$$

In other words, writing  $[\underline{r}_{PA}]$  w.r.t  $\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = [\underline{R}] \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\underline{e}}_1 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_2 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let's now use this transformation in the definition of inertia matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} [\underline{I}^A]_{\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\underline{e}}_1 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_2 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_3 \end{pmatrix}} &= \int \left\{ \left( \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \right) [\underline{I}] - \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \right\} dm \\ &= \int \left\{ \left( \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \underbrace{[\underline{R}]^T [\underline{R}]}_{[\underline{I}]} \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix} \right) [\underline{I}] - \left( [\underline{R}] \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix} \right) \left( [\underline{R}] \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix} \right)^T \right\} dm \\ &= \int \left\{ \left( \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \right) [\underline{R}] [\underline{I}] [\underline{R}]^T - [\underline{R}] \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix}^T [\underline{R}]^T \right\} dm \\ &= [\underline{R}] \left[ \int \left\{ \left( [\underline{r}_{PA}]^T [\underline{r}_{PA}] \right) [\underline{I}] - [\underline{r}_{PA}] [\underline{r}_{PA}]^T \right\} dm \right] [\underline{R}]^T_{\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\underline{e}}_1 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_2 \\ \hat{\underline{e}}_3 \end{pmatrix}} \\ [\underline{I}^A]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} &= [\underline{R}]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} [\underline{I}^A]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} [\underline{R}]^T_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} \end{aligned}$$



$$\Rightarrow [\underline{I}^A]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} = [\underline{R}]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)}^T [\underline{I}^A]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)} [\underline{R}]_{(\hat{\underline{e}}_1 - \hat{\underline{e}}_2 - \hat{\underline{e}}_3)}$$

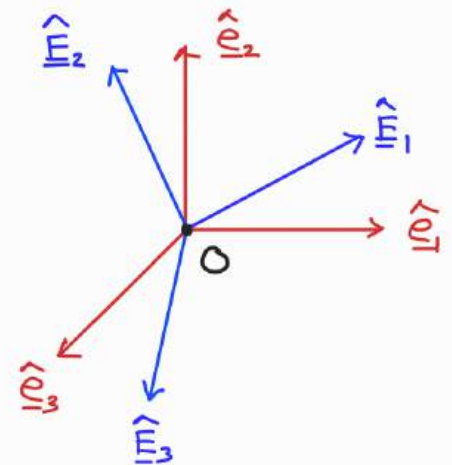
Using index notation, we can write the components of orthonormal matrix as:

$$\hat{\underline{e}}_i \cdot \hat{\underline{e}}_j = \cos \left( \underbrace{\angle(\hat{\underline{e}}_i, \hat{\underline{e}}_j)}_{\text{angle between } \hat{\underline{e}}_i \text{ and } \hat{\underline{e}}_j} \right)$$

$$= (\underline{R} \hat{\underline{e}}_i) \cdot \hat{\underline{e}}_j$$

$$= [\hat{\underline{e}}_j]^T [\underline{R}] [\hat{\underline{e}}_i]$$

$$= R_{ji} \equiv A_{ij}$$



(Note  $\hat{\underline{E}}_j \cdot \hat{\underline{e}}_i \neq \hat{\underline{e}}_i \cdot \hat{\underline{e}}_j$ )

Therefore,

$$I_{ij}^{A'} = A_{ip} I_{pq}^A A_{jq}$$

## Principal Axes of Inertia of RB at point A

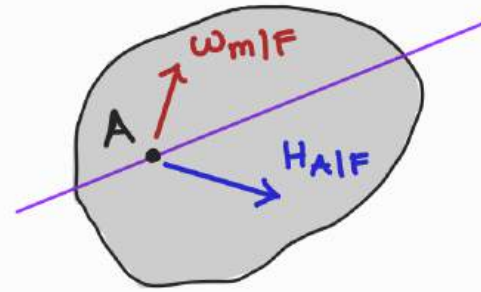
We now ask the question that is there a set of bases using which if we express the inertia matrix, it will be DIAGONAL?

(i.e. the products of inertia terms will vanish)

In a rigid body, the two vectors  $\underline{\omega}_{m|F}$  (angular velocity) and  $\underline{H}_{A|F}$  (angular momentum), related through the inertia tensor  $\underline{I}^A$ , are not parallel in general.

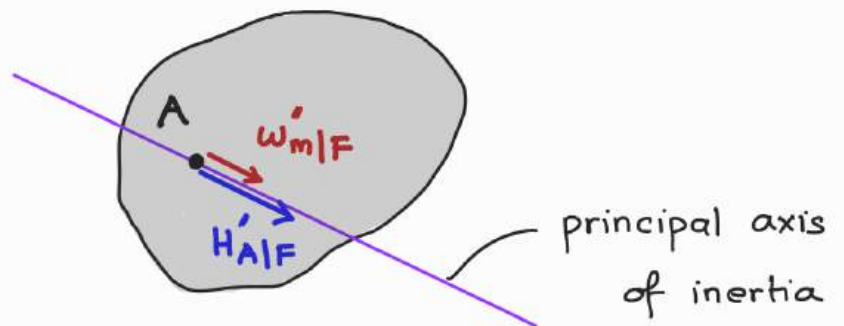
$$\underline{H}_{A|F} = \underline{I}^A \underline{\omega}_{m|F}$$

not //  
in general



However, for each point A, there are some directions/axes for which the two vectors  $\underline{\omega}_{m|F}$  and  $\underline{H}_A$  are parallel.

These directions are called principal directions and the axes along these directions are called principal axes of inertia at that point.



Along principal axis of inertia

$$\underline{H}_{A|F} = \underline{I}^A \underline{\omega}'_{m|F} = \lambda \underline{\omega}'_{m|F}$$

↑  
scalar

$\lambda$  values are called the eigenvalues of the inertia matrix and they are the roots of the characteristic equation:

$$\det \left( \underbrace{[\underline{I}^A]}_{3 \times 3} - \underbrace{\lambda [\underline{I}]}_{\substack{3 \times 3 \\ \text{identity} \\ \text{matrix}}} \right) = 0$$

As  $[\underline{I}^A]$  is a symmetric and **positive definite** matrix, there are always three **real positive** eigenvalues.

There is an eigenvector  $\underline{n}$  associated with each eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

They can be determined through the equation:

$$\left( [\underline{I}^A] - \lambda [\underline{I}] \right) \underline{n} = \underline{0}$$

These eigenvectors  $\underline{n}^{(1)}$ ,  $\underline{n}^{(2)}$ ,  $\underline{n}^{(3)}$  give the principal axes of the RB at point A.

When we express the inertia matrix using a csys whose bases are  $\underline{n}^{(1)}$ ,  $\underline{n}^{(2)}$ ,  $\underline{n}^{(3)}$ , the inertia matrix becomes diagonal:

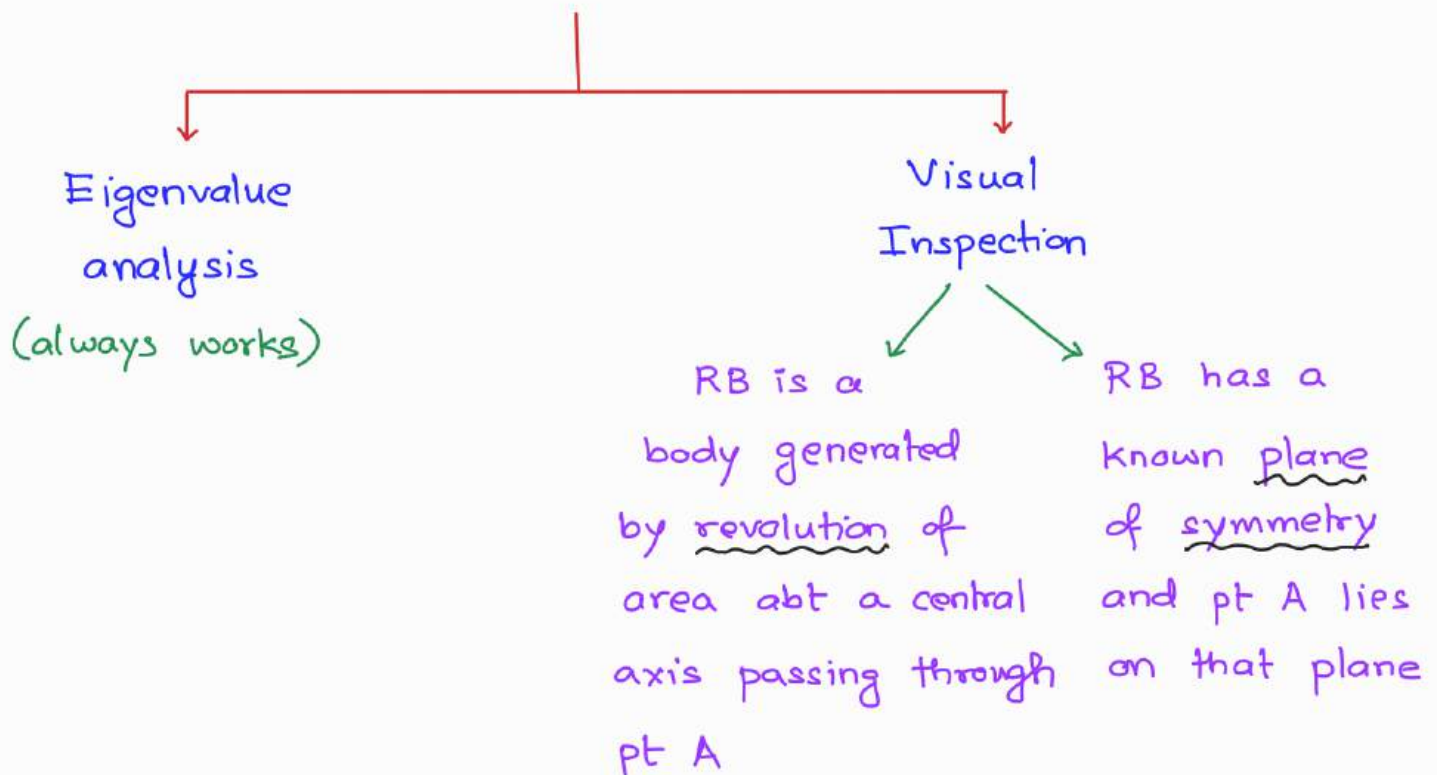
$$[\underline{I}^A] \begin{pmatrix} \underline{n}^{(1)} \\ \underline{n}^{(2)} \\ \underline{n}^{(3)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I'_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I'_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I'_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Thus, } H'_{A_1} = I'_{11} \omega'_{1|F} \quad H'_{A_2} = I'_{22} \omega'_{2|F} \quad H'_{A_3} = I'_{33} \omega'_{3|F}$$

Cross-coupling is removed, and algebra is simpler!

Note that at least one mutually perpendicular set of three principal axes **ALWAYS EXISTS** at every point A of the RB

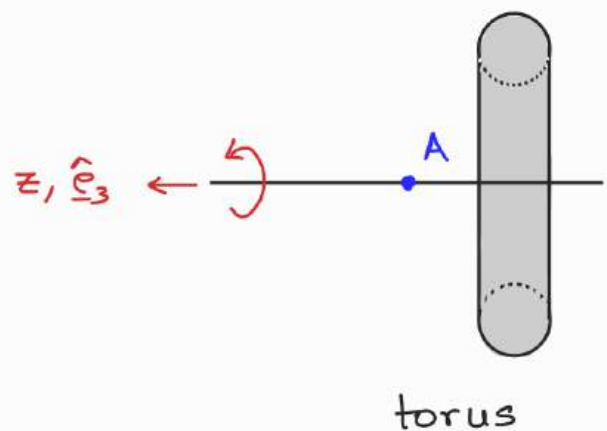
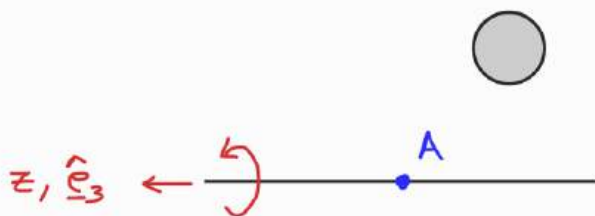
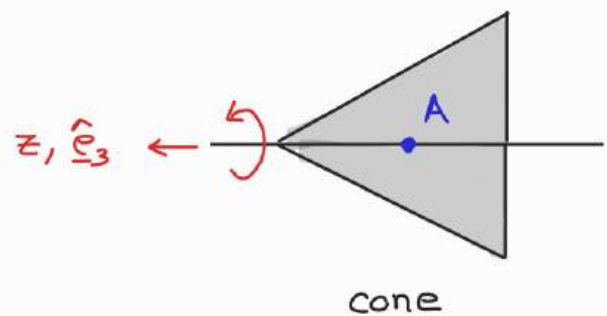
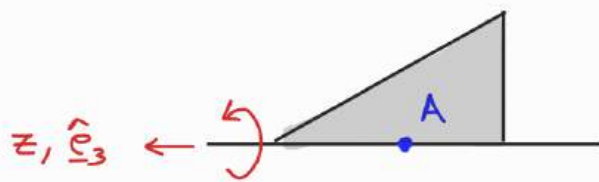
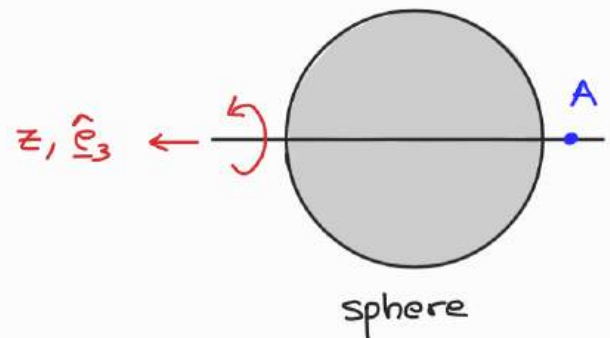
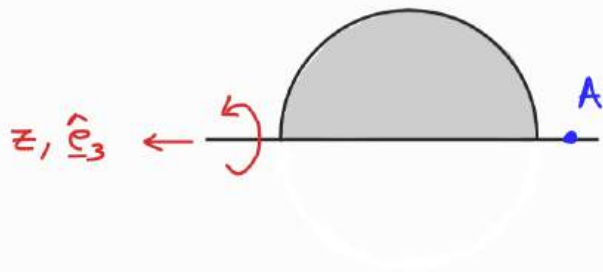
Two ways of finding  
principal axes of inertia of  
RB at pt A





## Bodies of revolution

A body generated by rotating a planar area through  $360^\circ$  about an axis (say  $z, \hat{e}_3$ )



- The central axis of revolution is one principal axis
- Any other two mutually perpendicular axes passing through pt  $A$  and lying in the plane perpendicular to central axis of revolution will result in two other principal axes

Therefore, for bodies of revolution, the inertia matrix at pt A lying on the central axis of revolution (say  $z, \hat{e}_3$ ) will have the form

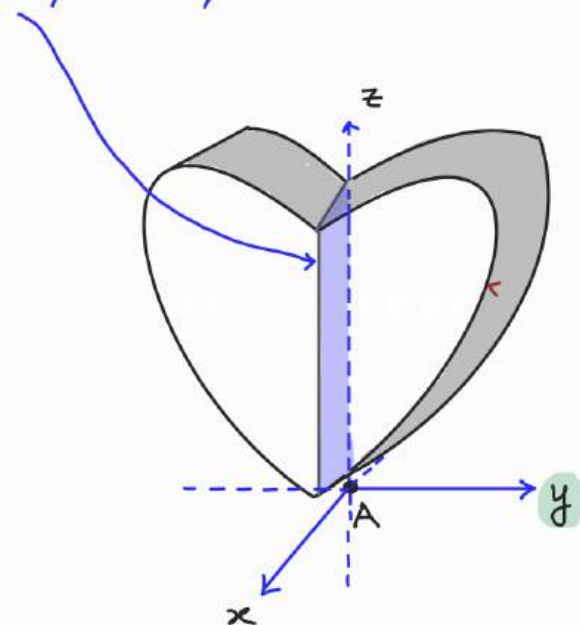
$$[\underline{I}^A] = \begin{bmatrix} I_{11}^A & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_{22}^A = I_{11}^A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{33}^A \end{bmatrix}$$

### Bodies with plane of symmetry

For an RB with point A lying on a plane of symmetry, any axis perpendicular to this plane of symmetry is a principal axis of inertia

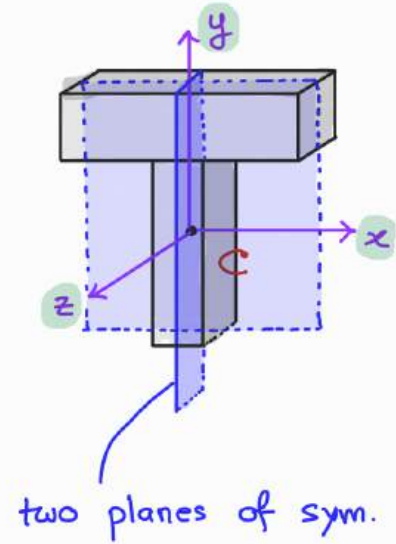
#### Case 1 : RB with one plane of symmetry

- Suppose an RB has a symmetry plane (say  $x-z$  plane) passing point A
- Then, the  $y$ -axis (perpendicular to the plane) is a principal axis



### Case 2: RB with two planes of symmetry

— If the RB has two symmetry planes (say  $xy$ -plane and  $yz$ -plane), then their intersection ( $y$ -axis) is also a principal axis



— The axes perpendicular to each sym. plane (i.e.  $z$ -axis and  $x$ -axis) also become principal axes.

— In this case, all the three coordinate axes themselves are the principal axes.

### Case 3: RB with three mutually $\perp$ planes of symmetry

Bodies like sphere have three mutually  $\perp$  symmetry planes  
Hence, the coordinate axes aligned with these planes are the principal axes.

