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cylindroid

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At the most general level, a *cylindroid* is simply a cylinder that has been deformed in an intentional and well-defined way. The barrel die used in certain board role-playing games are sometimes described as being cylindroids in shape.

Most mathematical dictionaries that define the term at all say nothing more than “a cylinder with an elliptical cross-section.” (see for example the *Harper-Collins Dictionary of Mathematics* and the *Oxford Concise Dictionary of Mathematics*.) The term is also used for certain conoids, such as Plücker’s conoid.

The term is usually not included in general pocket dictionaries. The *Random House Unabridged Dictionary* defines cylindroid the noun as “a solid having the form of a cylinder, esp[ecially] one with an elliptical, as opposed to a circular, cross section,” and the adjective as “resembling a cylinder.”

References

- [1] S. P. Radzevich, “A Possibility of Application of Pliicker’s Conoid for Mathematical Modeling of Contact of Two Smooth Regular Surfaces in the First Order of Tangency”, *Mathematical and Computer Modelling* **42** (2005): 999 - 1022