

Advanced Calculus

MA1132

Tutorial Exercises 9

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Moment of inertia: The tendency of a solid to resist a change in rotational motion about an axis is measured by its *moment of inertia* about that axis. If the solid occupies a region G in an xyz -coordinate system, and if its density function $\delta(x, y, z)$ is continuous on G , then the moments of inertia about the x -axis, the y -axis, and the z -axis are denoted by I_x , I_y , and I_z , respectively, and are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} I_x &= \iiint_G (y^2 + z^2) \delta(x, y, z) dV, \\ I_y &= \iiint_G (x^2 + z^2) \delta(x, y, z) dV, \\ I_z &= \iiint_G (x^2 + y^2) \delta(x, y, z) dV. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Newton's law of gravitation: Let a solid occupy a region G in an xyz -coordinate system, and let its density function $\delta(x, y, z)$ be continuous on G . Then the gravitational force $\mathbf{F} = F_x \mathbf{i} + F_y \mathbf{j} + F_z \mathbf{k}$ exerted by the solid on a point particle of mass m located at (ξ, η, ζ) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} F_x(\xi, \eta, \zeta) &= gm \iiint_G \frac{x - \xi}{r^3} \delta(x, y, z) dV, \\ F_y(\xi, \eta, \zeta) &= gm \iiint_G \frac{y - \eta}{r^3} \delta(x, y, z) dV, \\ F_z(\xi, \eta, \zeta) &= gm \iiint_G \frac{z - \zeta}{r^3} \delta(x, y, z) dV, \\ r &= \sqrt{(x - \xi)^2 + (y - \eta)^2 + (z - \zeta)^2}, \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where G is the gravitational constant.

The force can be obtained from the gravitational potential field $U(\xi, \eta, \zeta)$ as follows

$$\begin{aligned} U(\xi, \eta, \zeta) &= -g \iiint_G \frac{1}{r} \delta(x, y, z) dV, \\ F_x(\xi, \eta, \zeta) &= -m \frac{\partial U(\xi, \eta, \zeta)}{\partial \xi}, \quad F_y(\xi, \eta, \zeta) = -m \frac{\partial U(\xi, \eta, \zeta)}{\partial \eta}, \quad F_z(\xi, \eta, \zeta) = -m \frac{\partial U(\xi, \eta, \zeta)}{\partial \zeta}. \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

In what follows we set $m = 1$, $g = 1$, and consider homogeneous solids with $\delta(x, y, z) = 1$.

1. Consider the solid G bounded by the surface $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2$.
 - (a) What is the surface $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2$?
 - (b) Find the volume V of the solid G .
 - (c) Find the moments of inertia of the solid G .
 - (d) Find the gravitational force $\mathbf{F}(\xi, \eta, \zeta)$ exerted on a point particle located at (ξ, η, ζ) by the solid G .
 - (e) Find the gravitational potential field $U(\xi, \eta, \zeta)$ of the solid G .

2. Use spherical coordinates $x = r \cos \theta \sin \phi$, $y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$, $z = r \cos \phi$. Consider the solid G bounded above by the surface $r = a$ and below by the surface $\phi = \gamma$.
 - (a) What is the surface $r = a$?
 - (b) What is the surface $\phi = \gamma$?
 - (c) Sketch the solid G .
 - (d) Sketch the projection of the solid G onto the xy -plane.
 - (e) Find the volume V of the solid G . Specify your answer for $\gamma = \pi/2$ and $\gamma = \pi$ and explain the result.
 - (f) Find the centroid of the solid G . Specify your answer for $\gamma = \pi/2$ and $\gamma = \pi$.
 - (g) Find the moments of inertia of the solid G . Specify your answer for $\gamma = \pi/2$ and $\gamma = \pi$.
 - (h) Set $\gamma = \pi/2$, and find the gravitational force exerted on a point particle by the solid G if the point particle is located at $(0, 0, \zeta)$.
 - (i) Set $\gamma = \pi/2$, and find the gravitational potential field $U(0, 0, \zeta)$ of the solid G .