



Find the z coordinate, \bar{z} , of the centroid of a truncated cone with uniform density.

Find the volume of the cone.

Using similar triangles,

$$\frac{r_1 - r_2}{h} = \frac{r_1 - r(z)}{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow r(z) = \frac{r_1 h - zR}{h}$$

where $R = r_1 - r_2$

Since the area of a flat disc parallel to the xy plane is πr^2 :

$$r(z)^2 = \frac{r_1^2 h^2 - 2r_1 h z R + z^2 R^2}{h^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V &= \int_V dV = \int_{z=0}^{z=h} \pi r(z)^2 dz = \frac{\pi}{h^2} \int_{z=0}^{z=h} (r_1^2 h^2 - 2r_1 h z R + z^2 R^2) dz = \frac{\pi}{h^2} \left[r_1^2 h^2 z - r_1 h R z^2 + \frac{z^3 R^2}{3} \right]_0^h \\
&\rightarrow V = \frac{\pi}{h^2} \cdot h^3 \left(r_1^2 - r_1 R + \frac{R^2}{3} \right) = \pi h \left(r_1^2 - r_1^2 + r_1 r_2 + \frac{r_1^2 - 2r_1 r_2 + r_2^2}{3} \right) \\
&\Rightarrow V = \frac{\pi h}{3} (r_1^2 + r_1 r_2 + r_2^2)
\end{aligned}$$

Find \bar{z} .

$$\bar{z} = \frac{\int_V z dV}{\int_V dV} = \frac{M_z}{V}$$

*Note: M_z is not actually the moment about the z axis, but rather is just a placeholder for the integral.

$$\begin{aligned}
M_z &= \int_{z=0}^{z=h} z \pi r(z)^2 dz = \frac{\pi}{h^2} \int_{z=0}^{z=h} (r_1^2 h^2 z - 2r_1 h z^2 R + z^3 R^2) dz = \frac{\pi}{h^2} \left[r_1^2 h^2 \frac{z^2}{2} - 2r_1 h R \frac{z^3}{3} + R^2 \frac{z^4}{4} \right]_0^h \\
&\rightarrow M_z = \frac{\pi}{h^2} \cdot h^4 \left(\frac{r_1^2}{2} - \frac{2}{3} r_1 R + \frac{R^2}{4} \right) = \frac{\pi h^2}{12} (6r_1^2 - 8r_1^2 + 8r_1 r_2 + 3r_1^2 - 6r_1 r_2 + 3r_2^2) \\
&\Rightarrow M_z = \frac{\pi h^2}{12} (r_1^2 + 2r_1 r_2 + 3r_2^2)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{z} = \frac{h}{4} \cdot \frac{r_1^2 + 2r_1 r_2 + 3r_2^2}{r_1^2 + r_1 r_2 + r_2^2}$$