## Moments and Product of Inertia

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## Introduction

- Previously considered distributed forces which were proportional to the area or volume over which they act.
- The resultant was obtained by summing or integrating over the areas or volumes.
- The moment of the resultant about any axis was determined by computing the first moments of the areas or volumes about that axis.
- Will now consider forces which are proportional to the area or volume over which they act but also vary linearly with distance from a given axis.
- It will be shown that the magnitude of the resultant depends on the first moments of the force distribution with respect to the axis.
- The point of application of the resultant depends on the second moments of the distribution with respect to the axis.
- Current chapter will present methods for computing the moments and products of inertia for areas.


## Moments of Inertia of an Area



- Consider distributed forces $\Delta \vec{F}$ whose magnitudes are proportional to the elemental areas $\Delta A$ on which they act and also vary linearly with the distance of $\Delta A$ from a given axis.
- Example: Consider a beam subjected to pure bending. Internal forces vary linearly with distance from the neutral axis which passes through the section centroid.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\Delta \vec{F}=k y \Delta A \\
R=k \int y d A=0 & \int y d A=S_{x}=\text { first moment } \\
M=k \int y^{2} d A & \int y^{2} d A=\text { second moment }
\end{array}
$$

- Example: Consider the net hydrostatic force on a submerged circular gate.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Delta F=p \Delta A=\rho g y \Delta A \\
& R=\rho g \int y d A \\
& M_{x}=\rho g \int y^{2} d A
\end{aligned}
$$

## Moments of Inertia of an Area by Integration



- Second moments or moments of inertia of an area with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes,

$$
I_{x}=\int y^{2} d A \quad I_{y}=\int x^{2} d A
$$




- Evaluation of the integrals is simplified by choosing $d A$ to be a thin strip parallel to one of the coordinate axes.
- For a rectangular area,

$$
I_{x}=\int y^{2} d A=\int_{0}^{h} y^{2} b d y=\frac{1}{3} b h^{3}
$$

- The formula for rectangular areas may also be applied to strips parallel to the axes,

$$
d I_{x}=\frac{1}{3} y^{3} d x \quad d I_{y}=x^{2} d A=x^{2} y d x
$$

## Polar Moments of Inertia



- The polar moments of inertia is an important parameter in problems involving torsion of cylindrical shafts and rotations of slabs.

$$
I_{p}=\int r^{2} d A
$$

- The polar moments of inertia is related to the rectangular moments of inertia,

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{p} & =\int r^{2} d A=\int\left(x^{2}+y^{2}\right) d A=\int x^{2} d A+\int y^{2} d A \\
& =I_{y}+I_{x}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Radius of Gyration of an Area






- Consider area $A$ with moments of inertia $I_{x}$. Imagine that the area is concentrated in a thin strip parallel to the $x$ axis with equivalent $I_{x}$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& I_{x}=i_{x}^{2} A \quad i_{x}=\sqrt{\frac{I_{x}}{A}} \\
& i_{x}= \text { radius of gyration } \text { with respect } \\
& \text { to the } x \text { axis }
\end{aligned}
$$

- Similarly,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& I_{y}=i_{y}^{2} A \quad i_{y}=\sqrt{\frac{I_{y}}{A}} \\
& I_{p}=i_{p}^{2} A \quad i_{p}=\sqrt{\frac{I_{p}}{A}} \\
& i_{p}^{2}=i_{x}^{2}+i_{y}^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Sample Problem



Determine the moments of inertia of a triangle with respect to its base.

## SOLUTION:

- A differential strip parallel to the $x$ axis is chosen for $d A$.

$$
d I_{x}=y^{2} d A \quad d A=l d y
$$

- For similar triangles,

$$
\frac{l}{b}=\frac{h-y}{h} \quad l=b \frac{h-y}{h} \quad d A=b \frac{h-y}{h} d y
$$

- Integrating $d I_{x}$ from $y=0$ to $y=h$,

$$
\begin{array}{rlr}
I_{x} & =\int y^{2} d A=\int_{0}^{h} y^{2} b \frac{h-y}{h} d y=\frac{b}{h} \int_{0}^{h}\left(h y^{2}-y^{3}\right) d y \\
& \left.=\frac{b}{h} h \frac{y^{3}}{3}-\frac{y^{4}}{4}\right]_{0}^{h} & I_{x}=\frac{b h^{3}}{12}
\end{array}
$$

## Sample Problem


a) Determine the centroidal polar moments of inertia of a circular area by direct integration.
b) Using the result of part $a$, determine the moments of inertia of a circular area with respect to a diameter.

## SOLUTION:

- An annular differential area element is chosen,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \quad d I_{p}=u^{2} d A \quad d A=2 \pi u d u \\
& \quad I_{p}=\int d I_{p}=\int_{0}^{r} u^{2}(2 \pi u d u)=2 \pi \int_{0}^{r} u^{3} d u \\
& \Rightarrow \\
& I_{p}=\frac{\pi}{2} r^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

- From symmetry, $I_{x}=I_{y}$,

$$
I_{p}=I_{x}+I_{y}=2 I_{x} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} r^{4}=2 I_{x}
$$

$$
\Rightarrow I_{x}=\frac{\pi}{4} r^{4}=I_{\text {diameter }}
$$

## Parallel Axis Theorem



- Consider moments of inertia $I$ of an area $A$ with respect to the axis $A A^{\prime}$

$$
I_{A A^{\prime}}=\int y^{2} d A
$$

- The axis $B B^{\prime}$ passes through the area centroid and is called a centroidal axis.

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{A A^{\prime}} & =\int y^{2} d A=\int\left(y^{\prime}+d\right)^{2} d A \\
& =\int y^{\prime 2} d A+2 d \int y^{\prime} d A+d^{2} \int d A \\
\Rightarrow I_{A A^{\prime}} & =I_{B B^{\prime}}+A d^{2}=\bar{I}+A d^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

- For a group of parallel axes, the moment of inertia reaches the minimum value when the reference axis is the centroid axis.


## Parallel Axis Theorem



- Moments of inertia $I_{T}$ of a circular area with respect to a tangent to the circle,

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{T} & =\bar{I}+A d^{2}=\frac{1}{4} \pi r^{4}+\left(\pi r^{2}\right) r^{2} \\
& =\frac{5}{4} \pi r^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Moments of inertia of a triangle with respect to a centroidal axis,

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{A A^{\prime}} & =\bar{I}_{B B^{\prime}}+A d^{2} \\
I_{B B^{\prime}} & =I_{A A^{\prime}}-A d^{2}=\frac{1}{12} b h^{3}-\frac{1}{2} b h\left(\frac{1}{3} h\right)^{2} \\
& =\frac{1}{36} b h^{3}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Moments of Inertia of Common Shapes of Areas

- The moments of inertia of a composite area $A$ about a given axis is obtained by adding the moments of inertia of the component areas $A_{1}, A_{2}, A_{3}, \ldots$, with respect to the same axis.
Rectangle


## Sample Problem



Determine the moments of inertia of the shaded area with respect to the $x$ axis.

## SOLUTION:

- Compute the moments of inertia of the bounding rectangle and half-circle with respect to the $x$ axis.
- The moments of inertia of the shaded area is obtained by subtracting the moments of inertia of the half-circle from the moments of inertia of the rectangle.



## SOLUTION:

- Compute the moments of inertia of the bounding rectangle and half-circle with respect to the $x$ axis.

Rectangle:

$$
I_{x}=\frac{1}{3} b h^{3}=\frac{1}{3}(240)(120)=138.2 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
$$

Half-circle:
moments of inertia with respect to $A A^{\prime}$,

$$
I_{A A^{\prime}}=\frac{1}{8} \pi r^{4}=\frac{1}{8} \pi(90)^{4}=25.76 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
$$

moments of inertia with respect to $x$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\bar{I}_{x^{\prime}} & =I_{A A^{\prime}}-A a^{2}=25.76 \times 10^{6}-12.72 \times 10^{3} \times 38.2^{2} \\
& =7.20 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

moments of inertia with respect to $x$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{x} & =\bar{I}_{x^{\prime}}+A b^{2}=7.20 \times 10^{6}+\left(12.72 \times 10^{3}\right)(81.8)^{2} \\
& =92.3 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

- The moments of inertia of the shaded area is obtained by subtracting the moments of inertia of the half-circle from the moments of inertia of the rectangle.



## Product of Inertia



- Product of Inertia:

$$
I_{x y}=\int x y d A
$$

- When the $x$ axis, the $y$ axis, or both are an axis of symmetry, the product of inertia is zero.


- Parallel axis theorem for products of inertia:

$$
I_{x y}=\bar{I}_{x y}+\bar{x} \bar{y} A
$$

## Sample Problem



Determine the product of inertia of the right triangle (a) with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes and (b) with respect to centroidal axes parallel to the $x$ and $y$ axes.

## SOLUTION:

- Determine the product of inertia using direct integration with the parallel axis theorem on vertical differential area strips
- Apply the parallel axis theorem to evaluate the product of inertia with respect to the centroidal axes.


## SOLUTION:



- Determine the product of inertia using direct integration with the parallel axis theorem on vertical differential area strips

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
y=h\left(1-\frac{x}{b}\right) & d A=y d x=h\left(1-\frac{x}{b}\right) d x \\
\bar{x}_{e l}=x & \bar{y}_{e l}=\frac{1}{2} y=\frac{1}{2} h\left(1-\frac{x}{b}\right)
\end{array}
$$

Integrating $d I_{x y}$ from $x=0$ to $x=b$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{x y} & =\int d I_{x y}=\int \bar{x}_{e l} \bar{y}_{e l} d A=\int_{0}^{b} x\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) h^{2}\left(1-\frac{x}{b}\right)^{2} d x \\
& =h^{2} \int_{0}^{b}\left(\frac{x}{2}-\frac{x^{2}}{b}+\frac{x^{3}}{2 b^{2}}\right) d x=h\left[\frac{x^{2}}{4}-\frac{x^{3}}{3 b}+\frac{x^{4}}{8 b^{2}}\right]_{0}^{b}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
I_{x y}=\frac{1}{24} b^{2} h^{2}
$$



- Apply the parallel axis theorem to evaluate the product of inertia with respect to the centroidal axes.

$$
\bar{x}=\frac{1}{3} b \quad \bar{y}=\frac{1}{3} h
$$

With the results from part $a$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{x y} & =\bar{I}_{x^{\prime \prime} y^{\prime \prime}}+\bar{x} \bar{y} A \\
\bar{I}_{x^{\prime \prime} y^{\prime \prime}} & =\frac{1}{24} b^{2} h^{2}-\left(\frac{1}{3} b\right)\left(\frac{1}{3} h\right)\left(\frac{1}{2} b h\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\bar{I}_{x^{\prime \prime} y^{\prime \prime}}=-\frac{1}{72} b^{2} h^{2}
$$

## Principal Axes and Principal Moments of Inertia



Given $I_{x}=\int y^{2} d A \quad I_{y}=\int x^{2} d A$

$$
I_{x y}=\int x y d A
$$

We wish to determine moments and product of inertia with respect to new axes $x$ ' and $y^{\prime}$.

Note: $\quad x^{\prime}=x \cos \theta+y \sin \theta$

$$
y^{\prime}=y \cos \theta-x \sin \theta
$$

- The change of axes yields

$$
\begin{aligned}
& I_{x^{\prime}}=\frac{I_{x}+I_{y}}{2}+\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2} \cos 2 \theta-I_{x y} \sin 2 \theta \\
& I_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}=\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2} \sin 2 \theta+I_{x y} \cos 2 \theta \\
& I_{y^{\prime}}=\frac{I_{x}+I_{y}}{2}-\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2} \cos 2 \theta+I_{x y} \sin 2 \theta
\end{aligned}
$$

- The equations for $I_{x^{\prime}}$ and $I_{x^{\prime} y}$, are the parametric equations for a circle,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(I_{x^{\prime}}-I_{\text {ave }}\right)^{2}+I_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}^{2}=R^{2} \\
& I_{\text {ave }}=\frac{I_{x}+I_{y}}{2} \quad R=\sqrt{\left(\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2}\right)^{2}+I_{x y}^{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- The equations for $I_{y^{\prime}}$, and $I_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}$, lead to the same circle.


## Principal Axes and Principal Moments of Inertia



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(I_{x^{\prime}}-I_{a v e}\right)^{2}+I_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}^{2}=R^{2} \\
& I_{a v e}=\frac{I_{x}+I_{y}}{2} \quad R=\sqrt{\left(\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2}\right)^{2}+I_{x y}^{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- At the points $A$ and $B, I_{x^{\prime}, y^{\prime}}=0$ and $I_{x^{\prime}}$ is a maximum and minimum, respectively. $\tan 2 \theta_{m}=-2 I_{x y} /\left(I_{x}-I_{y}\right)$
- The equation for $\theta_{m}$ defines two angles, $90^{\circ}$ apart which correspond to the principal axes of the area about $O$.
- One method to determine the principal moments of inertia of the area about O is to substitute these $\theta_{m}$ back into the equation for $I_{x^{\prime}}$.
- The advantage is that we know which of the two principal angles corresponds to each principal moment of inertia.
- Alternatively, the principal moments of inertia may be determined by

$$
I_{\max , \min }=I_{a v e} \pm R
$$

## Sample Problem



## SOLUTION:

- Compute the product of inertia with respect to the $x y$ axes by dividing the section into three rectangles and applying the parallel axis theorem to each.
- Determine the orientation of the
principal axes and the principal
- Determine the orientation of the
principal axes and the principal moments of inertia.

For the section shown, the moments of inertia with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes are $I_{x}=10.38 \mathrm{in}^{4}$ and $I_{y}=6.97 \mathrm{in}^{4}$.
Determine (a) the orientation of the principal axes of the section about $O$, and (b) the values of the principal moments of inertia about $O$.


## SOLUTION:

- Compute the product of inertia with respect to the $x y$ axes by dividing the section into three rectangles.

Apply the parallel axis theorem to each rectangle,

$$
I_{x y}=\sum\left(\bar{I}_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}+\bar{x} \bar{y} A\right)
$$

Note that the product of inertia with respect to centroidal axes parallel to the $x y$ axes is zero for each rectangle.

| Rectangle | Area, in ${ }^{2}$ | $\bar{x}$, in. | $\bar{y}$, in. | $\bar{x} \bar{y} A, \mathrm{in}^{4}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I | 1.5 | -1.25 | +1.75 | -3.28 |
| II | 1.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| III | 1.5 | +1.25 | -1.75 | -3.28 |
|  |  |  |  | $\sum \bar{x} \bar{y} A=-6.56$ |
|  |  |  | $I_{x y}=\sum \bar{x} y$ A $=-6.56 \mathrm{in}^{4}$ |  |



- Determine the orientation of the principal axes and the principal moments of inertia.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \tan 2 \theta_{m}=-\frac{2 I_{x y}}{I_{x}-I_{y}}=-\frac{2(-6.56)}{10.38-6.97}=+3.85 \\
& 2 \theta_{m}=75.4^{\circ} \text { and } 255.4^{\circ}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\theta_{m}=37.7^{\circ} \text { and } \theta_{m}=127.7^{\circ}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{x} & =10.38 \mathrm{in}^{4} \\
I_{y} & =6.97 \mathrm{in}^{4} \\
I_{x y} & =-6.56 \mathrm{in}^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& I_{\max , \min }= \frac{I_{x}+I_{y}}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2}\right)^{2}+I_{x y}^{2}} \\
&= \frac{10.38+6.97}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{10.38-6.97}{2}\right)^{2}+(-6.56)^{2}} \\
& \\
& I_{a}=I_{\max }=15.45 \mathrm{in}^{4} \\
& I_{b}=I_{\min }=1.897 \mathrm{in}^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Mohr's Circle for Moments of Inertia



- The moments and product of inertia for an area are plotted as shown and used to construct Mohr's circle,

$$
I_{a v e}=\frac{I_{x}+I_{y}}{2} \quad R=\sqrt{\left(\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2}\right)^{2}+I_{x y}^{2}}
$$

- Mohr's circle may be used to graphically or analytically determine the moments and product of inertia for any other rectangular axes including the principal axes.


## Sample Problem



The moments and product of inertia with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes are $I_{x}=$ $7.24 \times 106 \mathrm{~mm}^{4}, I_{y}=2.61 \times 106 \mathrm{~mm}^{4}$, and $I_{x y}=-2.54 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}$.
Using Mohr's circle, determine (a) the principal axes about $O$, (b) the values of the principal moments about $O$, and (c) the values of the moments and product of inertia about the $x$ ' and $y$ ' axes

## SOLUTION:

- Plot the points $\left(I_{x}, I_{x y}\right)$ and $\left(I_{y},-I_{x y}\right)$. Construct Mohr's circle based on the circle diameter between the points.
- Based on the circle, determine the orientation of the principal axes and the principal moments of inertia.
- Based on the circle, evaluate the moments and product of inertia with respect to the $x^{\prime} y^{\prime}$ axes.



## SOLUTION:

- Plot the points $\left(I_{x}, I_{x y}\right)$ and $\left(I_{y},-I_{x y}\right)$. Construct Mohr's circle based on the circle diameter between the points.

$$
\begin{aligned}
O C & =I_{\text {ave }}=\frac{1}{2}\left(I_{x}+I_{y}\right)=4.925 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4} \\
C D & =\frac{1}{2}\left(I_{x}-I_{y}\right)=2.315 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4} \\
R & =\sqrt{(C D)^{2}+(D X)^{2}}=3.437 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Based on the circle, determine the orientation of the principal axes and the principal moments of inertia.

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
\tan 2 \theta_{m}=\frac{D X}{C D}=1.097 & 2 \theta_{m}=47.6^{\circ} & \theta_{m}=23.8^{\circ} \\
I_{\max }=O A=I_{\text {ave }}+R & I_{\max }=8.36 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4} \\
I_{\min }=O B=I_{\text {ave }}-R & I_{\min }=1.49 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
\end{array}
$$




$$
O C=I_{\text {ave }}=4.925 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
$$

$$
R=3.437 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
$$

- Based on the circle, evaluate the moments and product of inertia with respect to the $x$ ' $y$ ' axes.

The points $X^{\prime}$ and $Y^{\prime}$ corresponding to the $x^{\prime}$ and $y^{\prime}$ axes are obtained by rotating $C X$ and $C Y$ counterclockwise through an angle $\theta=2\left(60^{\circ}\right)=120^{\circ}$. The angle that $C X^{\prime}$ forms with the $x$ ' axes is $\phi=120^{\circ}-47.6^{\circ}=72.4^{\circ}$.

$$
\begin{gathered}
I_{x^{\prime}}=O F=O C+C X^{\prime} \cos \phi=I_{\text {ave }}+R \cos 72.4^{o} \\
I_{x^{\prime}}=5.96 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4} \\
I_{y^{\prime}}=O G=O C-C Y^{\prime} \cos \phi=I_{a v e}-R \cos 72.4^{o} \\
I_{y^{\prime}}=3.89 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4} \\
I_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}=F X^{\prime}=C Y^{\prime} \sin \phi=R \sin 72.4^{o} \\
I_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}=3.28 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{~mm}^{4}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Principal Points

- Consider a pair of principal axes with origin at a given point $O$.
- If there exists a different pair of principal axes through that same point, then every pair of axes through that point is a set of principal axes and all moments of inertia are the same.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& I_{x^{\prime}}=\frac{I_{x}+I_{y}}{2}+\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2} \cos 2 \theta-I_{x y} \sin 2 \theta \\
& I_{x^{\prime} y^{\prime}}=\frac{I_{x}-I_{y}}{2} \sin 2 \theta+I_{x y} \cos 2 \theta
\end{aligned}
$$

- A point so located that every axis through the point is a principal axis, and hence the moments of inertia are the same for all axes through the point, is called a principal point.
- In general, every plane area has two principal points. These points lie equidistant from the centroid on the principal centroidal axis having the larger principal moment of inertia.


## Principal Points

- Apply the concepts described above to axes through the centroid of an area.
- If an area has three or more axes of symmetry, the centroid is a principal point and every axis through the centroid is a principal axis and has the same moment of inertia.
- These conditions are fulfilled for a circle, for all regular polygons (equilateral triangle, square, regular pentagon, regular hexagon, and so on), and for many other symmetric shapes.

- When the two principal centroidal moments of inertia are equal; then the two principal points merge at the centroid, which becomes the sole principal point.

