

Moment of inertia stuff

Here are the definitions of the various moments of inertia. The function ρ is the density and R is a region in three-space.

$$I_{xx} = \iiint_R (y^2 + z^2) \rho(x, y, z) dV$$

$$I_{yy} = \iiint_R (x^2 + z^2) \rho(x, y, z) dV$$

$$I_{zz} = \iiint_R (x^2 + y^2) \rho(x, y, z) dV$$

$$I_{xy} = - \iiint_R xy \rho(x, y, z) dV$$

$$I_{xz} = - \iiint_R xz \rho(x, y, z) dV$$

$$I_{yz} = - \iiint_R yz \rho(x, y, z) dV$$

The first one, I_{xx} , is the moment of inertia of R around the x -axis when R is rotated about the x -axis. I_{yy} and I_{zz} can be interpreted similarly. I_{xy} is the moment of inertia around the y -axis when R is rotated about the x -axis. Again, there are similar interpretations for I_{xz} and I_{yz} . The book probably neglects to define the mixed moments because one can always choose coordinates so that all of the mixed moments of inertia are zero.