

# Mass & Mass Distribution

## Particle

Point that has mass. Mass is the resistance to linear acceleration.

## Rigid Body



Continuous distribution of mass bounded by a volume, surface, or a curve.

total mass  $\rightarrow m = \int dm$        $m = \int \rho(\vec{r}) dV$

Distribution of mass resists angular acceleration.

Why important?

Equations of motion of single particle & rigid body:

$$\sum \bar{F} = \frac{d\bar{p}}{dt}$$

Euler's second law

$$\sum \bar{M} = \frac{d\bar{H}}{dt}$$

Newton's second law

$\bar{p} \triangleq$  linear momentum

$$\bar{p} = m \bar{v}$$

↑  
mass

$\bar{H} \triangleq$  angular momentum

$$\bar{H} = \bar{I} \cdot \bar{\omega}$$

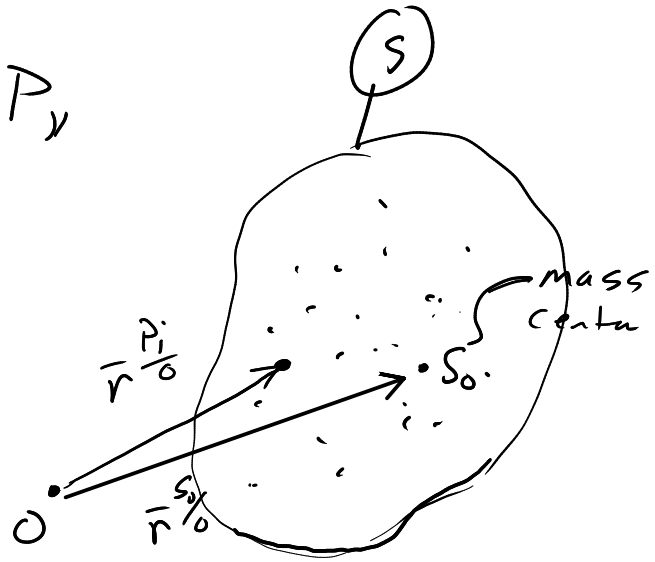
↑  
inertia (not scalar!)

# Mass Center

For set  $S$  of  $\nu$  particles  $P_1, \dots, P_\nu$

$$m = \sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i \quad \text{"zeroth moment of mass"}$$

↑  
total mass



$$\sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i \vec{r}_{P_i/O} \quad \text{"first moment of mass"}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i \vec{r}_{P_i/S_0} = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i (\vec{r}_{P_i/O} - \vec{r}_{S_0/O}) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i \vec{r}_{P_i/O} = \sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i \vec{r}_{S_0/O}$$

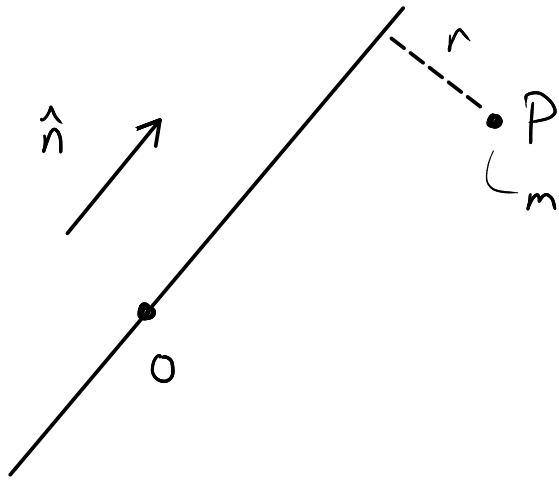
$$\vec{r}_{S_0/O} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i \vec{r}_{P_i/O}}{\sum_{i=1}^{\nu} m_i}$$

equation for the mass center

# Mass Distribution

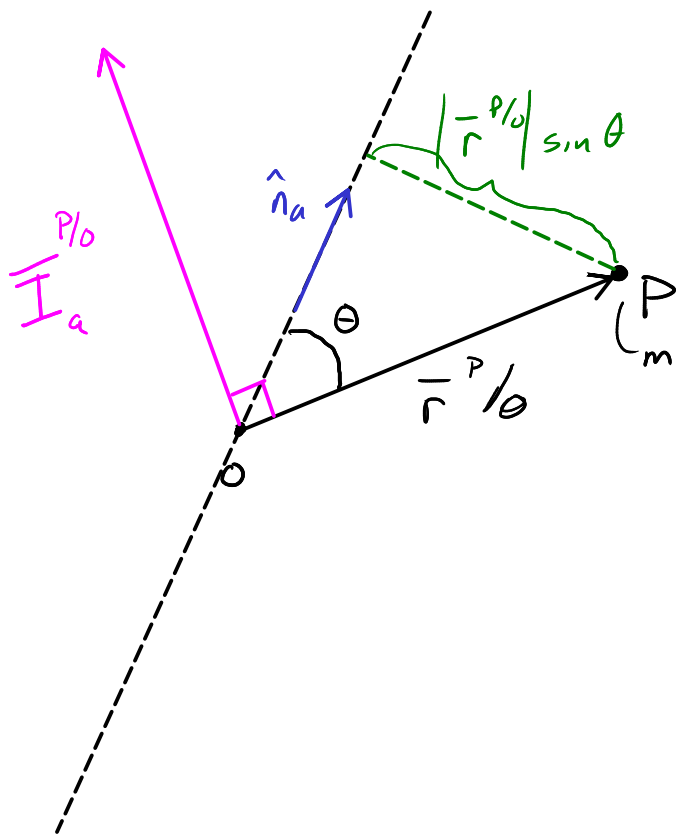
second moment of mass

$$mr^2$$



more generally, an inertia vector for a set of particles  $S$  with respect to point  $O$  about  $\hat{n}_a$

$$\underline{I}_a^{S/O} \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \bar{r}^{P_i/O} \times (\hat{n}_a \times \bar{r}^{P_i/O})$$



$$|\hat{n}_a \times \vec{r}^{P/O}| = |\vec{r}^{P/O}| \sin \theta$$

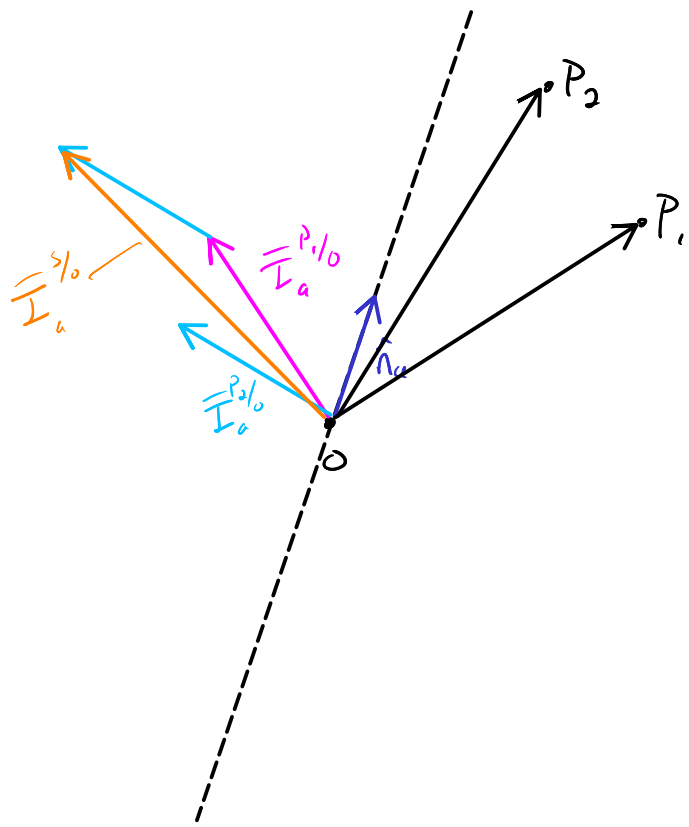
$$|\vec{I}_a^{P/O}| = m|\vec{r}^{P/O}|^2 \sin \theta$$

if  $\theta = 0$

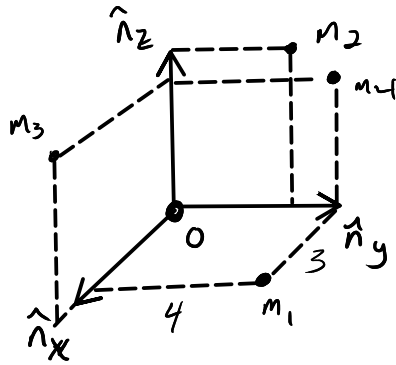
$$|\vec{I}_a^{P/O}| = 0$$

if  $\theta = 90^\circ$

$$|\vec{I}_a^{P/O}| = m|\vec{r}^{P/O}|^2$$



Inertia vector  
contains the full  
information about  
the mass distribution  
of the set of  
particles



$M$	$x$	$y$	$z$
$m_1$	3	4	0
$m_2$	0	3	4
$m_3$	4	0	3
$m_4$	0	4	3

$$\overline{I}_x^{s/o} = (16m_1 + 25m_2 + 9m_3 + 25m_4) \hat{n}_x - 12m_1 \hat{n}_y - 12m_3 \hat{n}_z$$

Inertia Scalars

$$I_{ab}^{s/o} \triangleq \overline{I}_a^{s/o} \cdot \hat{n}_b$$

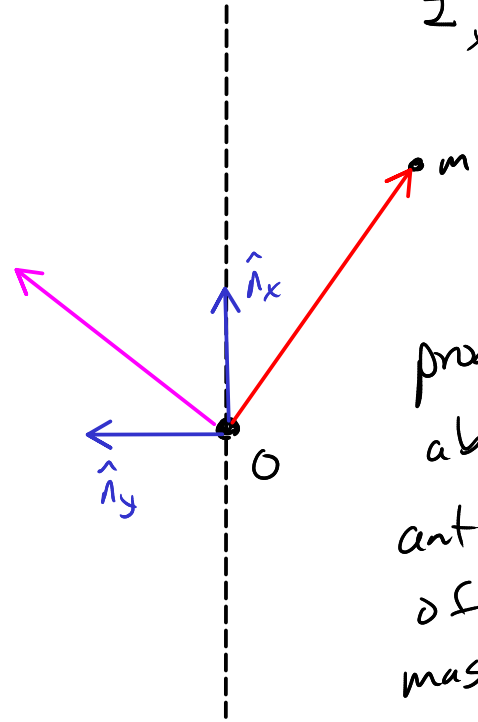
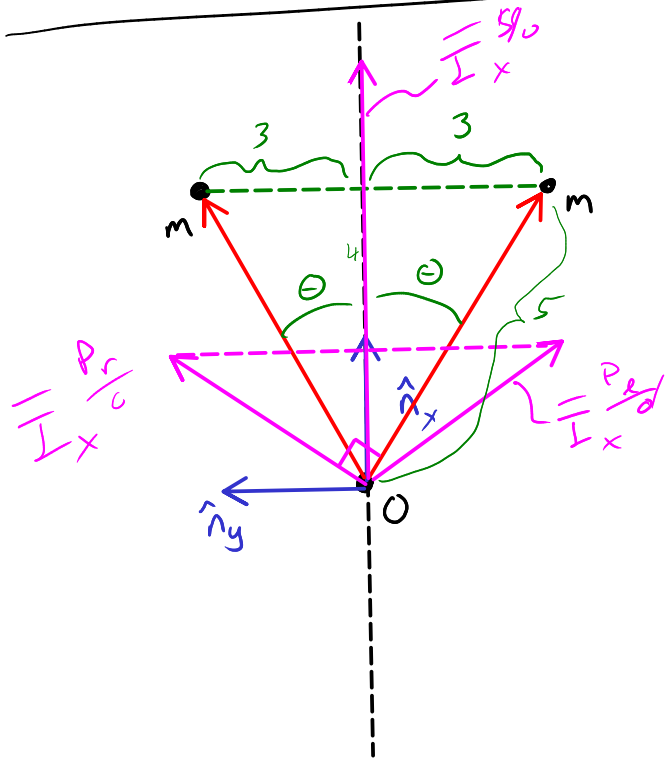
if  $\hat{n}_b = \hat{n}_a \Rightarrow$  moment inertia scalar

if  $\hat{n}_b \neq \hat{n}_a \Rightarrow$  product inertia scalar

$$\overline{I}_x^{s/o} \cdot \hat{n}_x = 16m_1 + 25m_2 + 9m_3 + 25m_4 \rightarrow \text{moment of inertia about } \hat{n}_x \text{ wrt } O$$

$$\overline{I}_x^{s/o} \cdot \hat{n}_y = -12m_1 \quad \text{xy product of inertia wrt } O$$

# Moment of inertia and product of inertia



$$\mathbb{I}_x^{Pr/O} = 9m\hat{n}_x + 12m\hat{n}_y$$

$$\mathbb{I}_x^{Pr/O} \cdot \hat{n}_y = 12m$$

product of inertia

product tells about the antisymmetry of the mass distribution!