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Examples

Moments of Inertia

Composite Areas Method

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Example 1:

Given:

The T-section shown

Req'd.:

 \bar{I}_x and \bar{I}_y

Sol'n.:

First, \bar{y} is needed. \Rightarrow

$$(300 \times 50 + 250 \times 50) \bar{y} = 300(50)(275) + 250(50)(125)$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{y} = 206.8 \text{ mm}$$

$$\bar{I}_{x\textcircled{1}} = \frac{1}{12} bh^3 + Ad^2 = \frac{1}{12} (300)(50)^3 + 300(50)(275 - 206.8)^2 = 7.289 (10)^7 \text{ mm}^4$$

$$\bar{I}_{x\textcircled{2}} = \frac{1}{12} (50)(250)^3 + 50(250)(125 - 206.8)^2 = 1.487 (10)^8 \text{ mm}^4$$

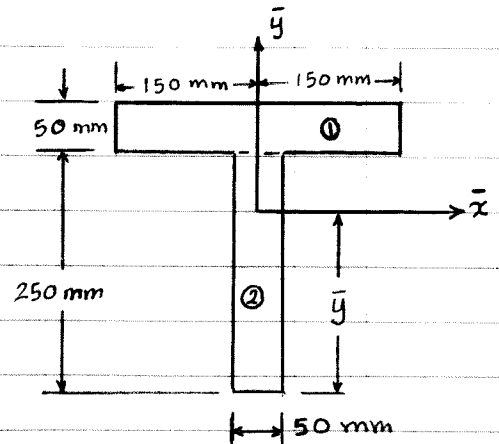
$$\bar{I}_x = \bar{I}_{x\textcircled{1}} + \bar{I}_{x\textcircled{2}}$$

$$= 7.289 (10)^7 + 1.487 (10)^8 \Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{I}_x = 2.22 (10)^8 \text{ mm}^4}$$

$$\bar{I}_y = \bar{I}_{y\textcircled{1}} + \bar{I}_{y\textcircled{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} (50)(300)^3 + \frac{1}{12} (250)(50)^3 \Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{I}_y = 1.15 (10)^8 \text{ mm}^4}$$

no (Ad^2) ; why?!

Example 2:

Given:

The shaded area shown

Req'd.:

 I_x and I_y

Sol'n.:

Method ① = $\frac{1}{12} (10)(16)^3 - \frac{1}{12} (6)(12)^3$

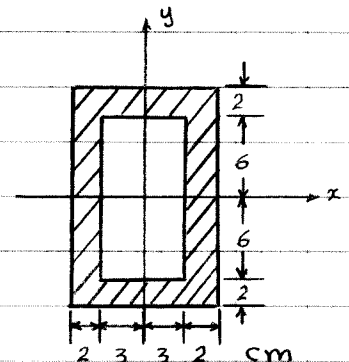
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{I_x = 2550 \text{ cm}^4}$$

$$I_y = \frac{1}{12} (16)(10)^3 - \frac{1}{12} (12)(6)^3 \Rightarrow \boxed{I_y = 1120 \text{ cm}^4}$$

Method ② = $2 \left[\frac{1}{12} (2)(12)^3 \right] + 2 \left[\frac{1}{12} (10)(2)^3 + 2(10)(7)^2 \right]$

$$I_x = 2 \left[\frac{1}{12} (2)(12)^3 \right] + 2 \left[\frac{1}{12} (10)(2)^3 + 2(10)(7)^2 \right] = 2550 \text{ cm}^4 \text{ as above}$$

$$I_y = 2 \left[\frac{1}{12} (12)(2)^3 + 2(12)(4)^2 \right] + 2 \left[\frac{1}{12} (2)(10)^3 \right] = 1120 \text{ cm}^4 \text{ as above}$$



Note that x and y
are centroidal axes
(double symmetry)

Example 3:

Given:

The shaded area shown

Req'd.:

 \bar{I}_y

Soln.:

First, the centroid is needed.

Using the method discussed earlier, the centroid can

be found. $\Rightarrow \bar{x} = 0.84 \text{ cm}, \bar{y} = 0$

Since the area is composed of several segments, it is easier to use a table for the solution as shown below.

Note that $\bar{I}_y = \bar{I}_{y_i} + A_i d_{x_i}^2$ for each segment*important: d is the distance between the centroidal axis of the segment and the axis of interest (which might be the centroidal axis of the composite area).

Component	$\bar{I}_{y_i} \text{ (cm}^4\text{)}$	A_i	$ d_{x_i} $	$A_i d_{x_i}^2$
①	$\frac{1}{12}(8)(10)^3 = 667$	80	1.84	271
②	$\frac{1}{36}(8)(6)^3 = 48$	24	5.16	639
③	$-\frac{1}{4}\pi(3)^4 = -63.6$	-9π	0.84	-20
Σ	651.4			890

$$\bar{I}_y = \sum_{i=1}^n [\bar{I}_{y_i} + (A d^2)_i] = 651.4 + 890 \Rightarrow$$

$$\bar{I}_y = 1541 \text{ cm}^4$$

Note that area ③ is negative

Recall that for a

rectangle: $\bar{I} = \frac{1}{12} b h^3$

triangle: $\bar{I} = \frac{1}{36} b h^3$

circle: $\bar{I} = \frac{\pi}{4} r^4$

Imp. note: If I is needed for any axis other than the centroidal axis, then no need to locate the centroid for the composite area. Try I_{x_1} and I_{y_1} above.

These formulas are for the moments of inertia of each about their centroidal axes (for each).

