

8. (a) Prove that the moment of inertia of a uniform rod of mass m and length 2ℓ about an axis through its centre perpendicular to the rod is $\frac{1}{3}m\ell^2$.

Let M = mass per unit length

$$\text{mass of element} = M\{dx\}$$

$$\text{moment of inertia of the element} = M\{dx\}x^2$$

$$\text{moment of inertia of the rod} = M \int_{-\ell}^{\ell} x^2 dx$$

$$= M \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\ell}^{\ell}$$

$$= \frac{2}{3} M \ell^3$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} m \ell^2$$

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