



Moment Of Inertia – Rotational Kinetic Energy

Rotational K.E of a lamina

We can imagine a lamina is made up of large number of point masses say m_1, m_2, m_3, \dots

ω = angular velocity of rotation

$r_1, r_2, r_3 \dots$ distances of point masses m_1, m_2, m_3 , about the axis of rotation respectively.

Let v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots linear velocity of point masses respectively

$$v_1 = r_1 \omega, v_2 = r_2 \omega, v_3 = r_3 \omega, \dots$$

\therefore K.E of the point masses $\frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1^2, \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2^2, \frac{1}{2} m_3 v_3^2 \dots$

Since K.E is a scalar quantity their sum would give the total K.E of rotation of the lamina about the given axis

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_3 v_3^2 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m_1 (r_1 \omega)^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 (r_2 \omega)^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_3 (r_3 \omega)^2 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 [m_1 r_1^2 + m_2 r_2^2 + m_3 r_3^2 + \dots]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \sum m r^2 = \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 I$$

$$\text{Rotational K.E} = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$$