



## Moment Of Inertia – M.I Of Solid Sphere

### M.I of a solid sphere

(A) About a diameter of the sphere

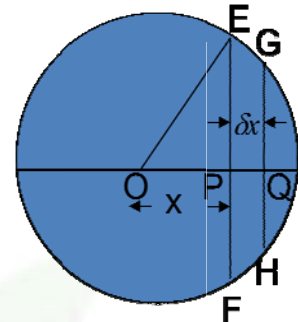
Let the diameter XX' be the chosen axis. Given:

M = mass of the sphere

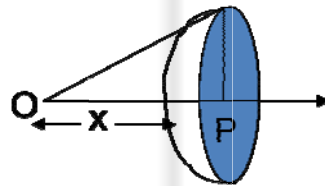
R = Radius of the sphere

$$\text{Volume} = \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3$$

$$\text{Mass per unit volume} = \frac{M}{\frac{4}{3} \pi R^3} = \frac{3M}{4\pi R^3}$$



Let us cut the sphere by drawing two imaginary planes EF and GH perpendicular to the diameter XX' at a distance x and x +  $\delta x$  from the center O. The elementary slice cut in this way appears like a thin disc as shown below



The radius of the elementary disc = EF

Thickness = PQ =  $\delta x$

$$\text{From } \Delta EOP: EP^2 = (R^2 - x^2)$$

$$\text{Volume of this elementary disc} = \pi \cdot EP^2 \cdot PQ = \pi (R^2 - x^2) \delta x$$

$$\text{Mass of this elementary circular disc} = \frac{3M}{4\pi R^3} \pi (R^2 - x^2) \delta x$$

Since the given axis passes through the center of the elementary disc & perpendicular to the plane of elementary disc hence M.I of this elementary disc about the given axis

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{3M}{4\pi R^3} \pi (R^2 - x^2) \delta x \frac{EP^2}{2} \\ &= \frac{3M}{4\pi R^3} \pi (R^2 - x^2) \delta x \frac{(R^2 - x^2)}{2} \\ &= \frac{3M}{4\pi R^3} \frac{\pi (R^2 - x^2)^2}{2} \delta x \\ &= \frac{3M}{8R^3} [R^4 + x^4 - 2R^2 x^2] \delta x \end{aligned}$$



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Since the given sphere can be assumed to be made up of many such elementary disc, M.I of the sphere can be obtained by integrating equation (1) between the limits  $x=0$  to  $x=R$  and multiplying by 2

$$\begin{aligned} I &= 2 \int_0^R \frac{3M}{8R^3} [R^4 + x^4 - 2R^2 x^2] \delta x \\ &= \frac{6M}{8R^3} \left[ \int_0^R R^4 \delta x + \int_0^R x^4 \delta x + \int_0^R 2R^2 x^2 \delta x \right] \\ &= \frac{3M}{4R^3} \left[ R^4 \{x\}_0^R + \left\{ \frac{x^5}{5} \right\}_0^R - \frac{2R^2}{1} \left\{ \frac{x^3}{3} \right\}_0^R \right] \\ &= \frac{3M}{4R^3} \left[ R^5 + \frac{R^5}{5} - \frac{2}{3} R^5 \right] \\ &= \frac{2MR^2}{5} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{M.I of a hollow shell about its diameter} = \frac{2MR^2}{3}$$