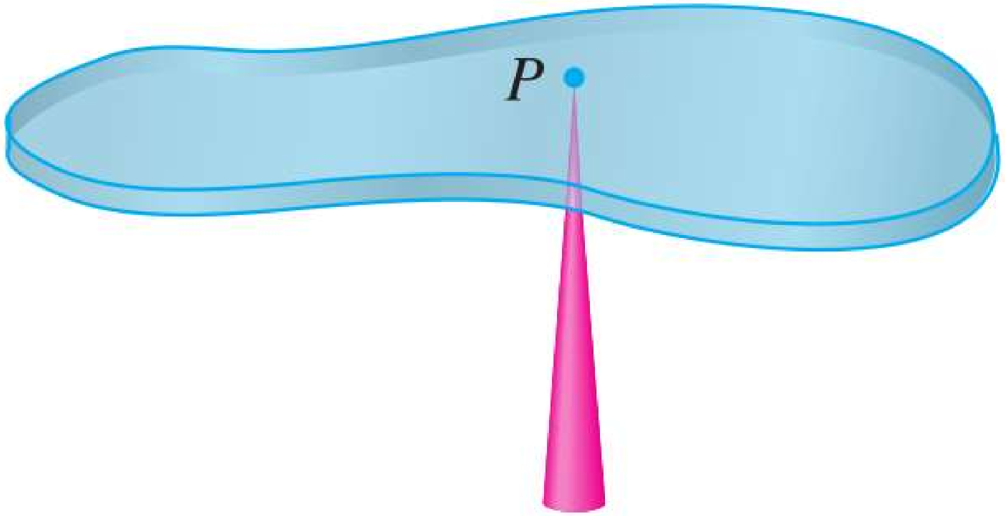
Daily Quiz

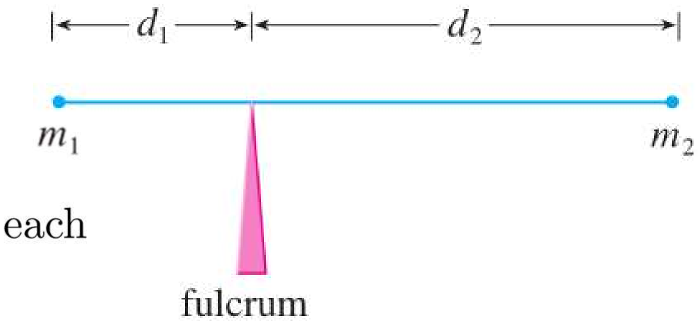
- Go to Socrative.com and complete the quiz.
- Room Name: HONG5824
- Use your full name.

6.6 Moment and Center of Mass

- Have you tried balancing a frisbee on your fingertips?
- Where would you put your finger?
- The center of mass is where the object would be balanced horizontally.
- It is also where the net torque from gravity would be 0.



6.6 Moment and Center of Mass



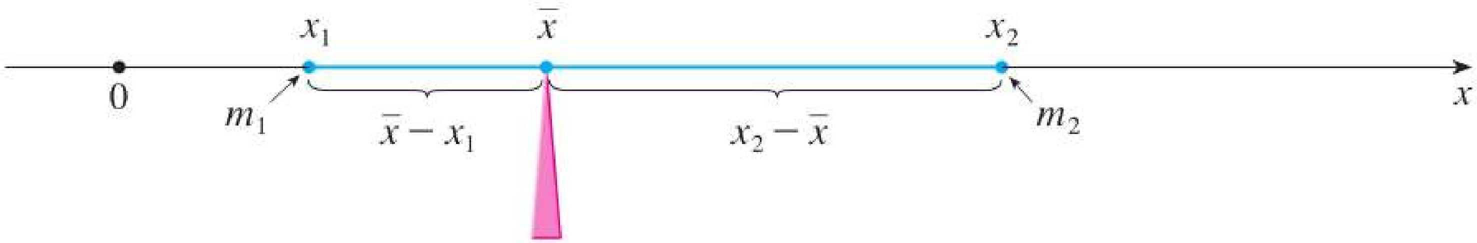
- Consider a seesaw as pictured.
- If two people are sitting on the opposite ends of the **balanced** seesaw each with mass m_1 and m_2 respectively, who has more mass?
- Archimedes discovered that in order for the seesaw to be balanced, the moment needs to be the same in magnitude:

$$M_1 = M_2$$
$$m_1 d_1 = m_2 d_2.$$

6.6 Moments and Centers of Mass

- Now suppose the two ends of the seesaw have x-coordinates x_1 and x_2.
- Let's compute the x-coordinate of the fulcrum, the center of mass $\bar{x}$.

6.6 Moment and Center of Mass



- The numbers m_1x_1 and m_2x_2 are called the **moments** of the masses m_1 and m_2 with respect to a coordinate system.
- Note that x_1 and x_2 can be negative. This means that moments can be positive or negative depending on your choice of coordinate system.

https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/balancing-act

6.6 Moment and Center of Mass

If we have a system of many particles with masses $m_1, m_2, \cdots, m_n$ located at the points $x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n$ on the x-axis, then it can be shown similarly that the center of mass is located at

$$\overline{x} = \frac{m_1 x_1 + m_2 x_2 + \cdots + m_n x_n}{m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_n} = \frac{\text{Sum of the moments}}{\text{Sum of the masses}}$$

6.6 Moment and Center of Mass (2-dim)

The center of mass is located at $(\overline{x}, \overline{y})$. Let m be the total mass, $m = m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_n$.

moment of the system about the *y*-axis

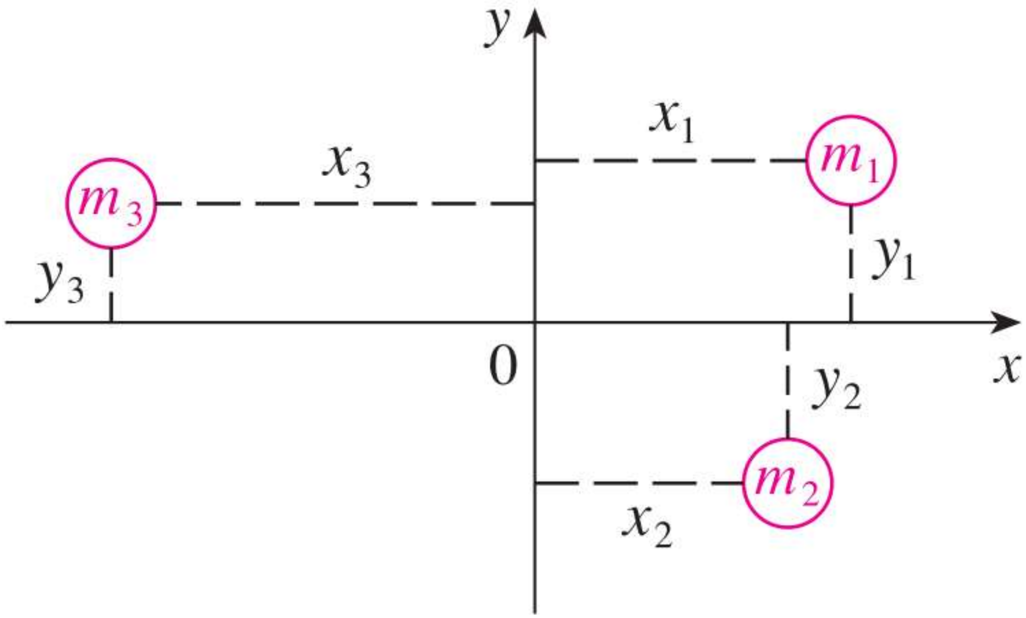
$$M_y = m_1x_1 + m_2x_2 + \cdots + m_nx_n$$

$$\overline{x} = \frac{M_y}{m} = \frac{m_1x_1 + m_2x_2 + \cdots + m_nx_n}{m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_n}$$

moment of the system about the *x*-axis

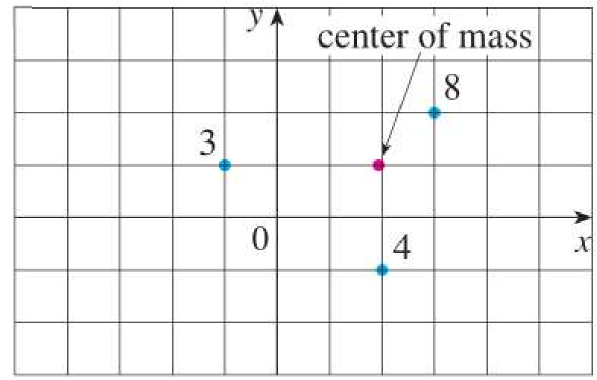
$$M_x = m_1y_1 + m_2y_2 + \cdots + m_ny_n$$

$$\overline{y} = \frac{M_x}{m} = \frac{m_1y_1 + m_2y_2 + \cdots + m_ny_n}{m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_n}$$



6.6 Moment and Center of Mass (2-dim)

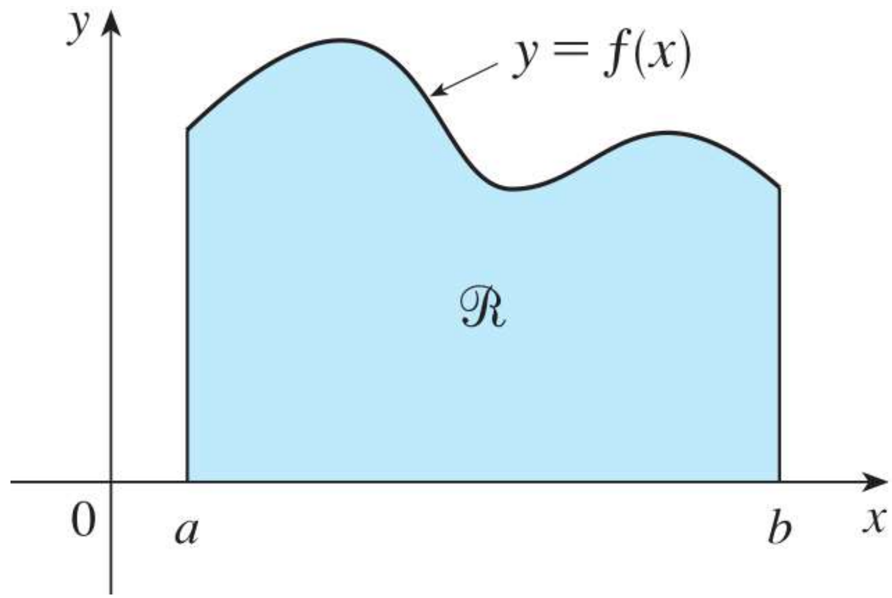
Find the moments and center of mass of the system of objects that have masses 3,4, and 8 at the points $(-1,1), (2,-1)$, and $(3,2)$.



Suppose that a region of uniform density ρ is bounded by a function $y = f(x)$. How can we compute the center of mass of this region?

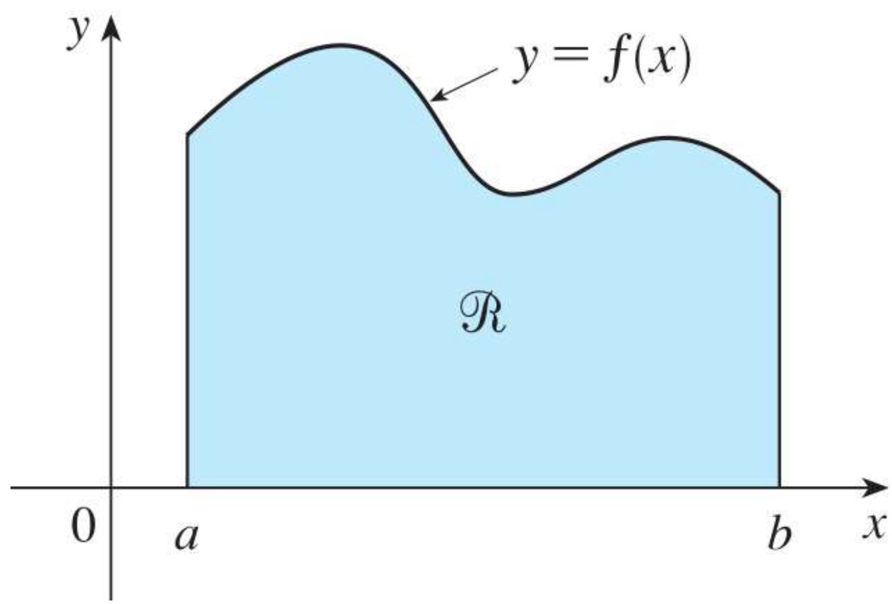
Suppose we take a rectangle of small width on the region $\mathscr{R}$. Intuitively, the center of mass of a rectangle is in the middle of the rectangle with coordinates $(x, f(x)/2)$. Now we can pretend that the entire mass of the rectangle is located at $(x, f(x)/2)$ and compute our moments with respect to the y and the x axis.

Firstly, the area of the rectangle is $f(x)dx$ and so the mass of the rectangle is $\rho f(x)dx$.

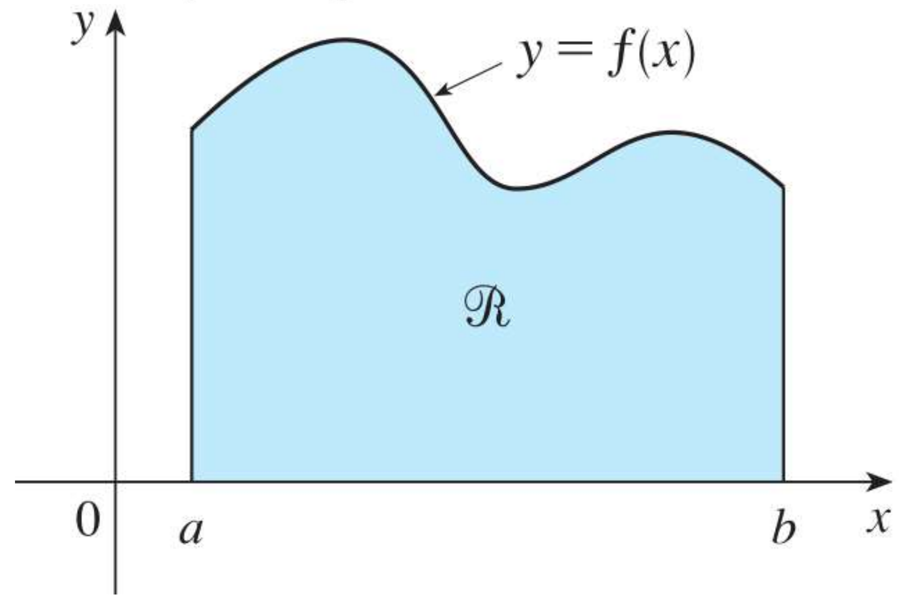


Let $\mathcal{M}_y$ denote the moment of the small rectangle about the y-axis and $\mathcal{M}_x$ denote the moment of the small rectangle about the x-axis. Then

$$\mathcal{M}_y = \text{mass} \cdot \text{distance to the y-axis} = \rho f(x)dx \cdot x$$
$$\mathcal{M}_x = \text{mass} \cdot \text{distance to the x-axis} = \rho f(x)dx \cdot f(x)/2$$



We have computed the moments of an arbitrary slice of rectangle on the region $\mathscr{R}$. Then the total moment of $\mathscr{R}$ about the y-axis is obtained by adding up slices' moments.



$$M_y = \int \mathcal{M}_y = \rho \int_a^b x f(x)\, dx$$

Similarly, the moment of $\mathscr{R}$ about the x-axis is

$$M_x = \int \mathcal{M}_x = \rho \int_a^b \frac{1}{2}[f(x)]^2\, dx$$

Now let's compute the mass of the region $\mathscr{R}$. Since the region has a uniform density, the mass of $\mathscr{R}$ is equal to the area of $\mathscr{R}$ times the density ρ.

$$m = \rho A = \rho \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

Formulas

Moment about the y-axis:

$$M_y = \rho \int_a^b x f(x) dx$$

Moment about the x-axis:

$$M_x = \rho \int_a^b \frac{1}{2}[f(x)]^2 dx$$

The center of mass of a region $\mathscr{R}$ is located at $(\overline{x}, \overline{y})$ and

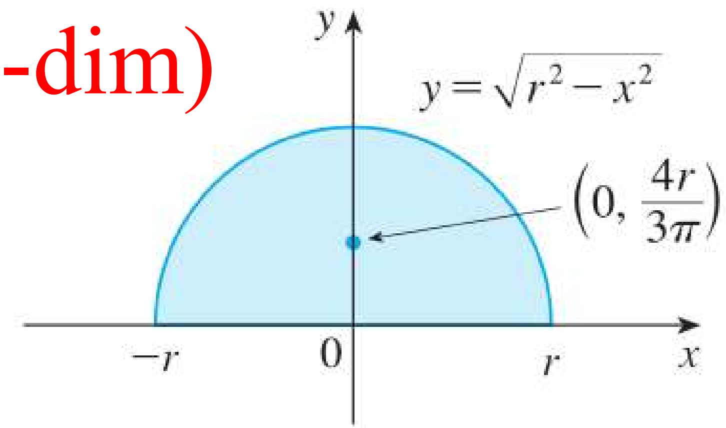
$$\overline{x} = \frac{M_y}{m} = \frac{\rho \int_a^b x f(x) dx}{\rho \int_a^b f(x) dx} = \frac{\int_a^b x f(x) dx}{\int_a^b f(x) dx} = \frac{1}{A} \int_a^b x f(x) dx$$

$$\overline{y} = \frac{M_x}{m} = \frac{\rho \int_a^b \frac{1}{2}[f(x) dx]^2}{\rho \int_a^b f(x) dx} = \frac{\int_a^b \frac{1}{2}[f(x)]^2 dx}{\int_a^b f(x) dx} = \frac{1}{A} \int_a^b \frac{1}{2}[f(x)]^2 dx$$

where $A = \displaystyle\int_a^b f(x) dx$.

6.6 Moment and Center of Mass (2-dim)

EXAMPLE 7 Find the center of mass of a semicircular plate of radius r.



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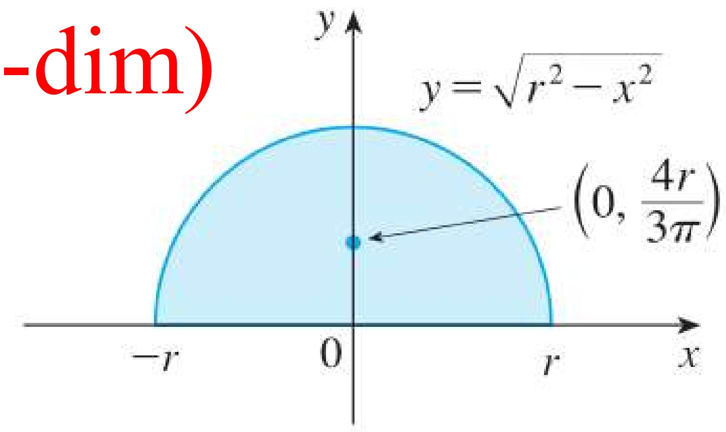

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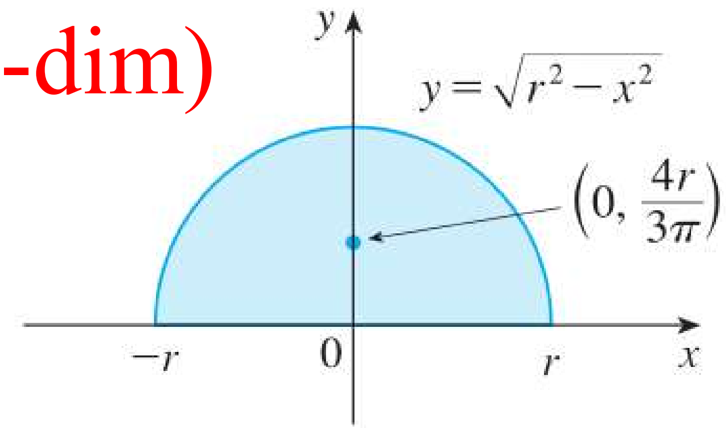
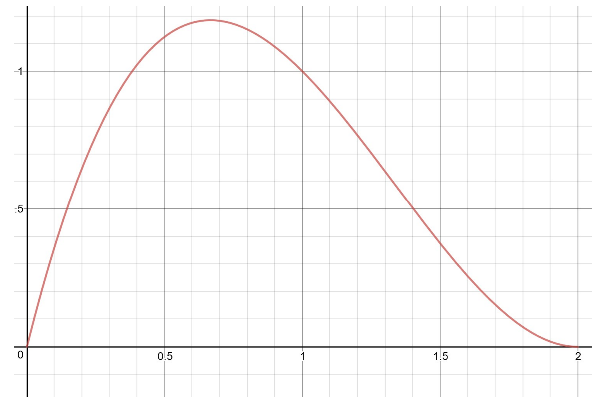


6.6 Moment and Center of Mass (2-dim)

Find the center of mass of a region bounded by $y = x(x-2)^2$ and the x-axis.



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