

MA2341 - Advanced Mechanics 1
Michelmas Term - 2015-2016
Homework 8 - Due Dec. 8th, 2015

1. Determine the principal moments of inertia of a homogeneous cone with height h and mass M for rotations about
 - (a) the origin at the point of the cone.
 - (b) the origin at the center of mass of the cone.

2. Prove the identity:

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \lambda_{jj'} \lambda_{kk'} = \lambda_{ii'} \epsilon_{i'j'k'}$$

where λ_{ij} is a rotation matrix. Hint: you may need the identity

$$\epsilon_{ijk} A_{ii'} A_{jj'} A_{kk'} = (\det A) \epsilon_{i'j'k'}$$

where A is a 3×3 matrix. Use this result to demonstrate that the angular momentum transforms like an axial vector, i.e. like a vector under rotations but invariant under the parity transformation.

3. Prove the following by explicitly demonstrating transformation properties under rotations and parity:
 - (a) $\det I$ is a scalar.
 - (b) $\text{Tr } I$ is a scalar.
 - (c) $s = (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{C}$, where \vec{A} , \vec{B} , and \vec{C} are vectors, is a pseudoscalar.