

Unit - 2 (4th Sem)

Centre of Gravity (C.G.) \rightarrow

The centre of gravity of a body or a system of body connected together is that point through which the line of action of the body always passes.

Note: 1. The C.G. of the body does not necessarily lie in the body itself.
2. If a body is symmetrical about a line, the C.G. of the body always lies on the line of symmetry.

3. The centre of mass of a body practically coincide with its centre of gravity. Sometimes the word centroid or centre of inertia are use, in place of C.G.

Determination of C.G. by Integration :-

If a number of particle of masses m_1, m_2, \dots be placed at the point whose co-ordinates are $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots$ referred to two rectangular axes and (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) be the coordinate of C.G. of the body consisting by the particles.
Then the C.G. of the body is given by,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum m_i x_i}{\sum m} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\sum m_i y_i}{\sum m}.$$

In case of continuous distribution, the \sum can be replaced by definite integrals.

Then the C.G. of the body is given by,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\int x \, dm}{\int dm} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\int y \, dm}{\int dm}.$$

where, (x, y) be the c.g. of an elementary mass dm of the given matter. The limit being chosen so as to include all the portion considered.

In case of an arc, the c.g. is given by,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\int \rho x ds}{\int \rho ds} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\int \rho y ds}{\int \rho ds}$$

where, (x, y) is any point on the elementary arc ds . The limit of integration being considered from one in two the other of the arc considered. ρ is the density any point on the arc.

Note: In the application of the above integrals, the following results are follows:

(i) If, $y = f(x)$ then, $ds = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} \cdot dx$

(ii) If, $x = f(y)$ then, $ds = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dx}{dy}\right)^2} \cdot dy$

(iii) If, $x = \phi(t)$, $y = \psi(t)$ then $ds = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} \cdot dt$.

(iv) If, $f(r, \theta) = 0$ then $ds = \sqrt{r^2 + \left(\frac{dr}{d\theta}\right)^2} \cdot d\theta$

or $ds = \sqrt{1 + r^2 \left(\frac{d\theta}{dr}\right)^2} \cdot dr$.

where, $x = r \cos \theta$, $y = r \sin \theta$.

c.g. of a plane area: Let, (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) be the co-ordinate of the c.g. of an area A . Then,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\int x dm}{\int dm} = \frac{\int x \rho dA}{\int \rho dA} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\bar{y} = \frac{\int y dm}{\int dm} = \frac{\int y \rho dA}{\int \rho dA}$$

Where, ρ is the density of the area and dA be an elementary mass.

Here, two cases arise;

Case I: To find the c.g. of a plane area bounded by the curve $y = f(x)$, the x axis and the ordinates $x = a$ and $x = b$.

Suppose, we have to find the c.g. of the area ABCD for this, we consider an elementary strip at $P(x, y)$ of thickness δx .

Then its c.g. will lie at its midpoint $(x, y/2)$. Therefore the c.g. of the area ABCD will be given by,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\int \rho x dA}{\int \rho dA} = \frac{\int_a^b x \cdot y dx}{\int_a^b y dx} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\bar{y} = \frac{\int \rho \frac{y}{2} dA}{\int \rho dA} = \frac{\int_a^b \frac{y}{2} \cdot y dx}{\int_a^b y dx} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\int_a^b y^2 dx}{\int_a^b y dx}$$

where, ρ is considered as const. and $dA =$ elementary area $= y \delta x$.

Case II: The c.g. of a plane area bounded by the curve $x = f(y)$, the y axis and the abscissae $y = c$ and $y = d$ are given by,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\int_c^d x^2 dy}{\int_c^d x dy} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\int_c^d xy dy}{\int_c^d x dy}$$

