

Thus, since the \hat{f}_b^* with $b=0, \pm$ are all eigenvectors of the moment of inertia tensor with the same eigenvalue, so is any linear combination of the \hat{f}_b^* , and hence any axis through the CM in the \hat{e}_1^*, \hat{e}_2^* plane is a principal axis. In particular, $I_{11} = I_{22}$. Let us compute I_{11} :

$$I_{11} = \int d^3r \rho(\vec{r}) \{ r^2 - x^2 \} = m A^{-1} \int dx dy y^2. \quad \text{Let } \xi = x - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{3}}.$$

Then $I_{11} = m A^{-1} 2 \int_0^{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a} \int_{-\xi}^{\xi} dy y^2 dy = \frac{2 m A^{-1}}{3} \int_0^{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a} (1 - \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{3}{a})^3 d\xi$

$$= \frac{2 m A^{-1}}{3} \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^3 \int_0^1 (1-\eta)^3 \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} a d\eta = \frac{m A^{-1} a^4}{8\sqrt{3}} \int_0^1 d\eta \{ 1 - 3\eta + 3\eta^2 - \eta^3 \}$$

Let $\xi = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} a \eta$

$$= m \frac{a^4}{8\sqrt{3}} \left[\frac{a}{2} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} a \right]^{-1} \left[\eta - \frac{3\eta^2}{2} + \frac{3\eta^3}{3} - \frac{\eta^4}{4} \right]_0^1$$

$$= \frac{m a^2}{24} \left[1 - \frac{3}{2} + 1 - \frac{1}{4} \right] = \frac{m a^2}{24} = I_{11} = I_{22}$$