

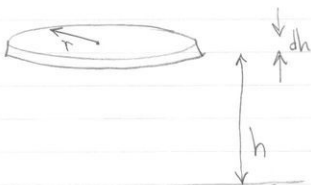
Cone of height H , radius R .

If it has uniform density ρ ,
where is center of mass?

- Must be along the central vertical axis of the cone, by symmetry. But how far above the base?

Break cone into slices.

Consider a slice



h above ground
 dh thickness

If has a radius

$$r = R \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)$$

So this slice has

volume $dV = \pi r^2 dh = \pi R^2 \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)^2 dh$

mass $dm = \rho dV = \rho \pi R^2 \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)^2 dh$

Add up all slices to calculate mass of cone:

$$M = \int dm = \int_{h=0}^{h=H} \rho \pi R^2 \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)^2 dh$$

$$= \rho \pi R^2 \int_{h=0}^{h=H} \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)^2 dh$$

$$= \rho \pi R^2 \int_{h=0}^{h=H} \left(1 - 2\frac{h}{H} + \frac{h^2}{H^2}\right) dh$$

$$= \rho \pi R^2 \left[h - \frac{h^2}{H} + \frac{1}{3} \frac{h^3}{H^2} \right]_{h=0}^{h=H}$$

$$\underline{M = \frac{1}{3} \rho \pi R^2 H} \quad \text{total mass of cone.}$$

To calculate center of mass, we need to calculate

$$\text{height of center of mass} = \frac{\int h dm}{\text{total mass}}$$

$$= \frac{\int \rho \pi R^2 \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)^2 h dh}{\frac{1}{3} \rho \pi R^2 H}$$

$$\text{height of center of mass} = \frac{\rho \pi R^2 \int_{h=0}^{h=H} \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)^2 h \, dh}{\frac{1}{3} \rho \pi R^2 H}$$

$$= \frac{\rho \pi R^2 \int \left(h - 2\frac{h^2}{H} + \frac{h^3}{H^2}\right) dh}{\frac{1}{3} \rho \pi R^2 H}$$

$$= \frac{\rho \pi R^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} h^2 - \frac{2}{3} \frac{h^3}{H} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{h^4}{H^2} \right]_{h=0}^{h=H}}{\frac{1}{3} \rho \pi R^2 H}$$

$$= \frac{\rho \pi R^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} H^2 - \frac{2}{3} H^2 + \frac{1}{4} H^2 \right]}{\frac{1}{3} \rho \pi R^2 H}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{12} \rho \pi R^2 H^2}{\frac{1}{3} \rho \pi R^2 H} = \boxed{\frac{1}{4} H}$$

center of mass of uniform cone.

Now, suppose the cone is denser at the top than the bottom, so that

$$\rho(h) = \rho_0 \left(1 + \frac{h}{H}\right)$$

In other words,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{at bottom} & h=0 & \rho = \rho_0 \\ \text{at top} & h=H & \rho = 2\rho_0 \end{array}$$

First, we need to calculate the mass of this cone.

$$M = \int dm = \int_{h=0}^{h=H} \rho_0 \left(1 + \frac{h}{H}\right) \pi R^2 \left(1 - \frac{h}{H}\right)^2 dh$$

$$= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \int_{h=0}^{h=H} \left(1 + \frac{h}{H}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2h}{H} + \frac{h^2}{H^2}\right) dh$$

$$= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \int_{h=0}^{h=H} \left(1 - \frac{h}{H} - \frac{h^2}{H^2} + \frac{h^3}{H^3}\right) dh$$

$$= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \left[h - \frac{1}{2} \frac{h^2}{H} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{h^3}{H^2} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{h^4}{H^3} \right]_{h=0}^{h=H}$$

$$= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \left[H - \frac{1}{2} H - \frac{1}{3} H + \frac{1}{4} H \right]$$

$$= \underline{\underline{\frac{5}{12} \rho_0 \pi R^2 H}}$$

which is larger than mass of uniform cone.

Next, we need to calculate the integral

$$\begin{aligned}\int h dm &= \int_{h=0}^{h=H} h (\pi R^2 \rho_0 [1 + \frac{h}{H}] [1 - \frac{h}{H}]^2) dh \\ &= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \int h \left(1 - \frac{h}{H} - \frac{h^2}{H^2} + \frac{h^3}{H^3}\right) dh \\ &= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \int \left(h - \frac{h^2}{H} - \frac{h^3}{H^2} + \frac{h^4}{H^3}\right) dh \\ &= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} h^2 - \frac{1}{3} \frac{h^3}{H} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{h^4}{H^2} + \frac{1}{5} \frac{h^5}{H^3} \right]_{h=0}^{h=H} \\ &= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} H^2 - \frac{1}{3} H^2 - \frac{1}{4} H^2 + \frac{1}{5} H^2 \right] \\ &= \rho_0 \pi R^2 \left[\frac{7}{60} H^2 \right]\end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}\text{height of center of mass} &= \frac{\int h dm}{\int dm} = \frac{\frac{7}{60} \rho_0 \pi R^2 H^2}{\frac{5}{12} \rho_0 \pi R^2 H} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{7}{25} H}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{vs. } \frac{1}{4} H = \frac{6}{24} H$$

for a uniform cone.

So center of mass is a little higher, as it should be.