

## ME 2580 Dynamics

### Angular Momentum of a Rigid Body (2D)

The figure depicts a rigid body moving in two dimensions. The  $X$ - $Y$  axes are fixed, the  $x$ - $y$  axes are fixed in (and move with) the body, and  $G$  is the mass center of the body. The **angular momentum** of the body about its mass center  $G$  is defined as

$$\underline{H}_G = \int_B (\underline{r} \times \underline{v}_P) dm$$

Using the **relative velocity equation**, the angular momentum can be written as

$$\underline{H}_G = \int_B \underline{r} \times (\underline{v}_G + \underline{v}_{P/G}) dm = \int_B (\underline{r} \times \underline{v}_G) dm + \int_B (\underline{r} \times \underline{v}_{P/G}) dm = \left( \int_B \underline{r} dm \right) \times \underline{v}_G + \int_B \underline{r} \times (\underline{\omega} \times \underline{r}) dm$$

or

$$\boxed{\underline{H}_G = \int_B \underline{r} \times (\underline{\omega} \times \underline{r}) dm}$$

where

$$\underline{\omega} \times \underline{r} = \omega \underline{k} \times (x' \underline{i} + y' \underline{j}) = \omega (-y' \underline{i} + x' \underline{j})$$

$$\underline{r} \times (\underline{\omega} \times \underline{r}) = \omega \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & \underline{j} & \underline{k} \\ x' & y' & 0 \\ -y' & x' & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \omega (x'^2 + y'^2) \underline{k}$$

Substituting into the boxed equation above gives

$$\underline{H}_G = \int_B \omega (x'^2 + y'^2) \underline{k} dm = \left( \int_B (x'^2 + y'^2) dm \right) \omega \underline{k} = I_G \underline{\omega}$$

So, the **angular momentum** of a rigid body about its **mass center** is

$$\boxed{\underline{H}_G = I_G \underline{\omega}}$$

Recall that the **linear momentum** of a rigid body is  $\underline{L} = m \underline{v}_G$ .

