

Using the center of mass as the origin for a system of objects:

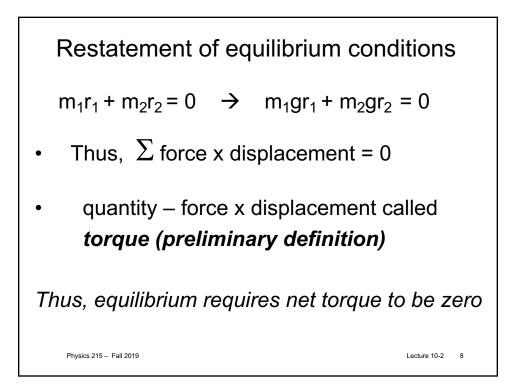
$$0 = \vec{r}_{\rm CM} = \frac{(m_1 \vec{r}_1 + m_2 \vec{r}_2 + ...)}{(m_1 + m_2 + ...)}$$

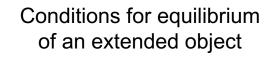
Therefore, the center of mass is the point which, if taken as the origin, makes:

$$(m_1 \vec{r_1} + m_2 \vec{r_2} + \ldots) = 0$$

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For an extended object that remains at rest and does not rotate:

• The net force on the object has to be zero.

$$\vec{F}_{\rm net} = \sum \vec{F}_{\rm ext} = 0$$

• The net torque on the object has to be zero.

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$$\vec{\tau}_{\rm net} = \sum \vec{\tau} = 0$$

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