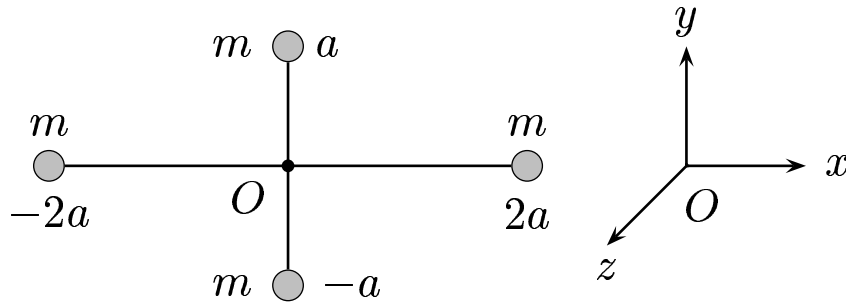


Given: Four identical masses in the xy plane and z is coming out of the paper.



Find I_x .

A) $I_x = m a^2$.

B) $I_x = 2 m a^2$.

C) $I_x = 8 m a^2$.

The masses on the x -axis do not contribute since $z = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} I_x &= m a^2 + m a^2 \\ &= 2 m a^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Answer **B**.