

# Coordinates

## Engineering Mechanics: Dynamics

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Dynamics describes the changing configuration of a system



The configuration is defined in terms of position vectors

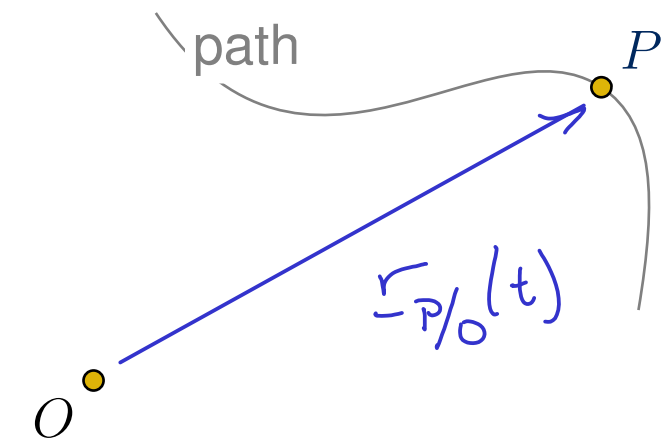
WHAT IS NECESSARY TO DESCRIBE POSITION

BASIS - REFERENCE DIRECTIONS

COORDINATES - MEASURABLE QUANTITIES  
(DISTANCE, ANGLE) THAT SPECIFY THE  
CONFIGURATION OF THE SYSTEM

- COMPONENTS IN SPECIFIED DIRECTIONS
- DIRECTION WITH RESPECT TO A REFERENCE

BASIS



Cartesian Coordinates (René Descartes, 1596–1650)

POSITION VECTORS IN TERMS OF DIRECTIONS

FIXED IN THE GROUND

$$\underline{r}_{P/O} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$$

$$\underline{v}_P = \frac{d}{dt}(\underline{r}_{P/O}) = \dot{x}\hat{i} + \dot{y}\hat{j}$$

$$\underline{a}_P = \frac{d}{dt}(\underline{v}_P) = \ddot{x}\hat{i} + \ddot{y}\hat{j}$$

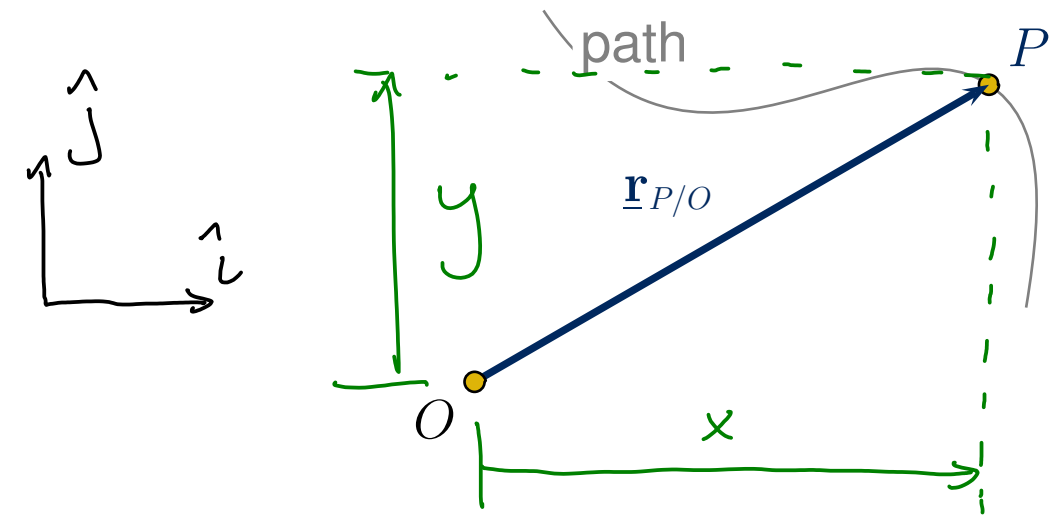
$$\text{If } \ddot{x} = f(t) \quad (y \equiv 0)$$

$$\int_0^t \left\{ \ddot{x}(\zeta) = f(\zeta) \right\} d\zeta \longrightarrow$$

$$\int_0^t \left\{ \dot{x}(\tau) = \dot{x}(0) + \int_0^\tau f(\zeta) d\zeta \right\} d\tau \longrightarrow$$

$$\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}(0) = \int_0^t f(\zeta) d\zeta$$

$$x(t) - x(0) = \dot{x}(0)t + \int_0^t \int_0^\tau f(\zeta) d\zeta d\tau$$



# Polar Coordinates

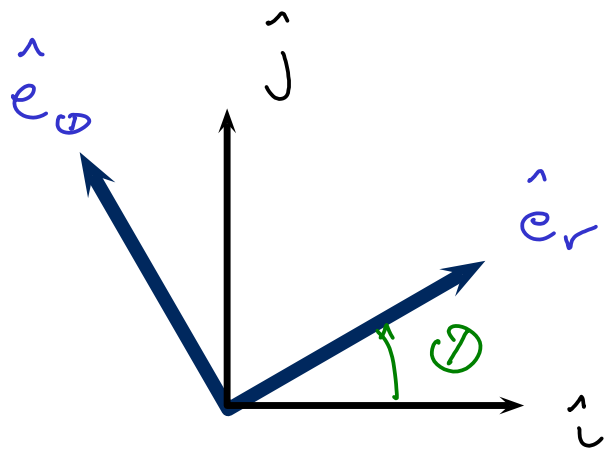
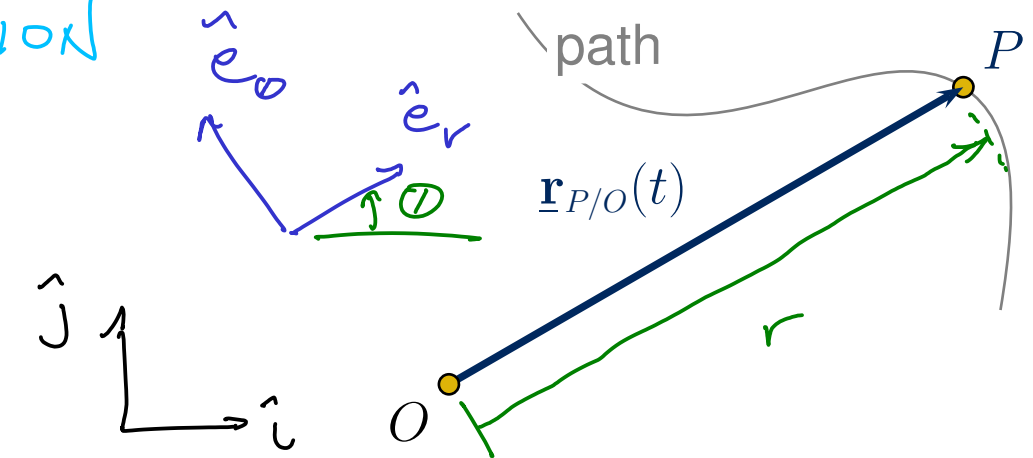
POSITION VECTOR IS DESCRIBED IN TERMS OF DIRECTIONS THAT MOVE WITH THE POSITION

$$\underline{r}_{P/O} = r \hat{e}_r$$

THE DIRECTIONS  $(\hat{e}_r, \hat{e}_\theta)$  SPIN WITH ANGULAR VELOCITY  $\underline{\omega} = \dot{\theta} \hat{k}$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_r) = \underline{\omega} \times \hat{e}_r = \dot{\theta} \hat{k} \times \hat{e}_r = \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_\theta) = \underline{\omega} \times \hat{e}_\theta = \dot{\theta} \hat{k} \times \hat{e}_\theta = -\dot{\theta} \hat{e}_r$$



$$\hat{e}_r = C_\theta \hat{i} + S_\theta \hat{j}$$

$$\hat{e}_\theta = -S_\theta \hat{i} + C_\theta \hat{j}$$

$$\hat{i} = C_\theta \hat{e}_r - S_\theta \hat{e}_\theta$$

$$\hat{j} = S_\theta \hat{e}_r + C_\theta \hat{e}_\theta$$

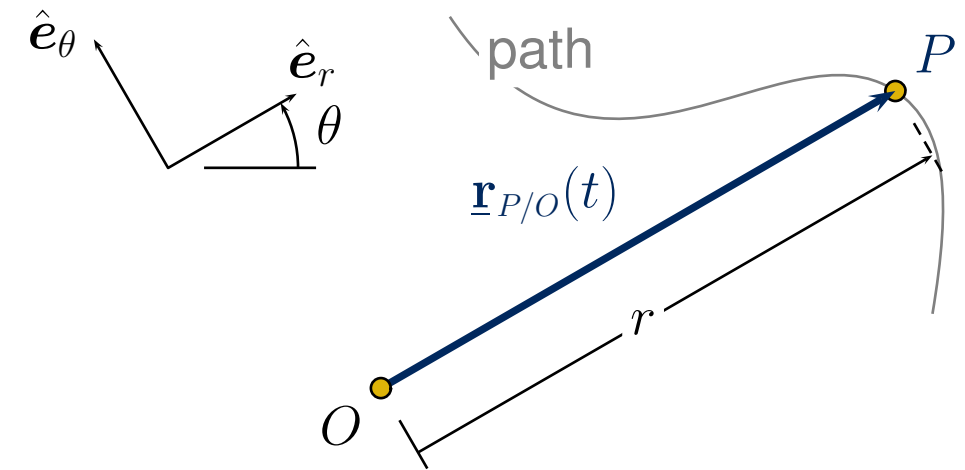
$$\underline{r}_{-P/O} = r \hat{e}_r$$

VELOCITY

$$\underline{v}_P = \frac{d}{dt}(\underline{r}_{-P/O}) = \frac{dr}{dt} \hat{e}_r + r \frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_r)$$

$$= \underbrace{\dot{r} \hat{e}_r}_{\text{RADIAL}} + \underbrace{r \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta}_{\text{TRANSVERSE}}$$

RADIAL TRANSVERSE



ACCELERATION

$$\underline{a}_P = \frac{d}{dt}(\underline{v}_P) = \frac{d}{dt}(\dot{r}) \hat{e}_r + \dot{r} \frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_r) + \frac{d}{dt}(r\dot{\theta}) \hat{e}_\theta + r\dot{\theta} \frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_\theta)$$

$\dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta$  (above  $\frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_r)$ )  
 $-\dot{\theta} \hat{e}_r$  (below  $\frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_\theta)$ )

$$= \underbrace{(\ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2)}_{\text{RADIAL}} \hat{e}_r + \underbrace{(r\ddot{\theta} + 2\dot{r}\dot{\theta})}_{\text{TRANSVERSE}} \hat{e}_\theta$$

RADIAL TRANSVERSE

$$\frac{d}{dt}(r\dot{\theta}) = \dot{r}\dot{\theta} + r\ddot{\theta}$$

SPEED

$$v = \|\underline{v}_P\| = \sqrt{\underline{v}_P \cdot \underline{v}_P} = \sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2} = \sqrt{(\dot{r})^2 + (r\dot{\theta})^2}$$

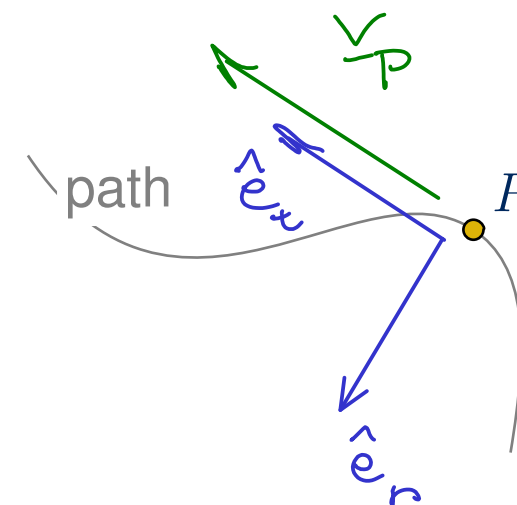
# Normal and Tangential Coordinates

VELOCITY CAN BE DEFINED AS

$$\underline{v}_P = v \hat{e}_t$$

DIRECTIONS  $(\hat{e}_t, \hat{e}_n)$  MOVE WITH THE VELOCITY  
 † THE ACCELERATION IS

$$\underline{a}_P = \dot{v} \hat{e}_t + \frac{v^2}{\rho} \hat{e}_n$$



$\rho$ : RADIUS OF CURVATURE

FOR A CIRCULAR PATH  $\rho \equiv r$  (RADIUS)

IF  $y(x) = f(x)$

$$\rho = \frac{\left(1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2\right)^{3/2}}{\left|\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right|}$$

