

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF UKRAINE  
NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY  
«DNIPRO POLYTECHNIC»**

# **PROBLEMS OF KINEMATICS**

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**P r o b l e m.** A train travelling at a velocity  $v_0 = 54$  km/h stops in  $t_1 = 2$  min after braking starts. Assuming the motion of the train during braking to be uniformly retarded, determine the distance covered during the braking time.

**S o l u t i o n.** The problem states that the motion is uniformly retarded:

$$x = v_0 t + a \frac{t^2}{2},$$

where  $x$  is measured from the place where braking began (therefore  $x_0 = 0$ ).

The velocity is

$$v = v_0 + at.$$

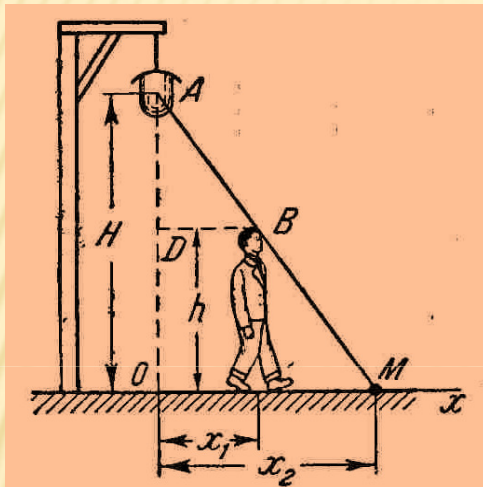
As the train stops at  $t = t_1$ , its velocity at that instant is  $v_1 = 0$ . Substituting these values in second equation, we obtain  $0 = v_0 + at_1$ , whence we find the acceleration:

$$a = -\frac{v_0}{t_1}.$$

Substituting the value of  $a$  into first equation and assuming  $t = t_1$ , we obtain the required distance:

$$x_1 = \frac{v_0 t_1}{2} = 900 \text{ m}.$$

**P r o b l e m.** A man of height  $h$  walks away from a lamp hanging at a height  $H$  with a velocity  $u$ . Determine the velocity of the tip of the man's shadow.



**S o l u t i o n.** First let us establish the law of motion of the tip of the shadow.

Depicting the man at an arbitrary distance  $x_1$  from  $O$ , we find that the tip of his shadow is at  $x_2$ .

By virtue of the similarity of triangle  $OAM$  and  $DAB$ , we have:  $x_2 = \frac{H}{H-h} x_1$ .

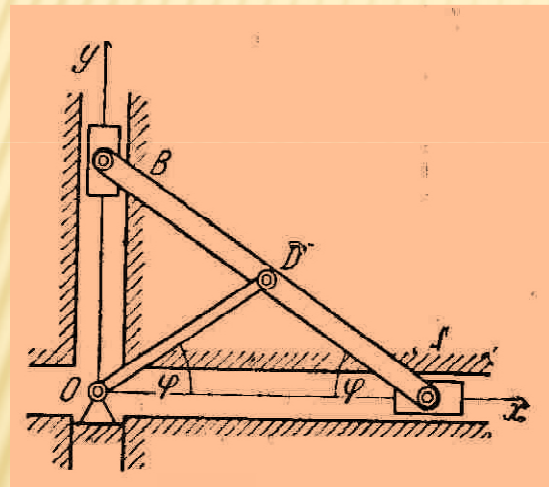
This is the equation of motion for the tip of the shadow  $M$ , provided the equation of motion for the man, i.e.,  $x_1 = f(t)$ , is known.

Differentiating both parts of the equation with respect to time and noting that  $\frac{dx_1}{dt} = u$  and  $\frac{dx_2}{dt} = v$ , where  $v$  is the required velocity, we obtain:

$$v = \frac{H}{H-h} u.$$

If the man moves with uniform velocity ( $u = \text{const}$ ), the velocity of the shadow  $v$  is also uniform, but it is  $\frac{H}{H-h}$  times faster than that of the man.

**P r o b l e m.** Blocks  $A$  and  $B$  of the mechanism are connected by a rod  $AB$  of length  $l = 30$  cm and move in mutually perpendicular directions when the crank rotates. The crank  $OD$  of length  $\frac{l}{2}$  is hinged to the middle of the rod  $AB$  to  $D$ . Develop the equations of motion for the sliding blocks  $A$  and  $B$  if angle  $\varphi$  increases in proportion to time (such rotation is called uniform) and the speed of rotation of the crank is 2 rpm. Determine the velocity and acceleration of the blocks at the instant when angle  $\varphi = 30^\circ$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** According to the conditions of the problem,  $\varphi = kt$ , where  $k$  is a constant factor. We also know that, at  $t = 60$  sec, angle  $\varphi = 4\pi$  (two revolutions). Hence,  $4\pi = 60k$ , and  $k = \pi/15$ .

As  $OD = AD$ ,  $\angle OAB = \varphi$ . Hence,  $x_A = l \cos \varphi$ , and  $y_B = l \sin \varphi$ , or  $x_A = l \cos kt$ ;  $y_B = l \sin kt$ .

Differentiating  $x_A$  and  $y_B$  with respect to time, we obtain the velocity and acceleration of the blocks:

$$v_A = -kl \sin kt, \quad a_A = -k^2 l \cos kt; \quad v_B = kl \cos kt,$$

$$a_B = -k^2 l \sin kt.$$

When angle  $\varphi = 30^\circ$ ,  $kt = \frac{\pi}{6}$ .

At that instant  $v_A = -\frac{kl}{2} = -3.14 \text{ cm/sec}$ ,  $a_A = -\frac{k^2 l \sqrt{3}}{2} = -1.14 \text{ cm/sec}^2$ ,

$$v_B = \frac{kl\sqrt{3}}{2} = 5.44 \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{sec}}, \quad a_B = -\frac{k^2 l}{2} = -0.66 \text{ cm/sec}^2.$$

**P r o b l e m.** The motion of a particle is described by the equations

$$x = 8t - 4t^2, \quad y = 6t - 3t^2.$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are in meters and  $t$  is in seconds. Determine the path, velocity and acceleration of the particle.

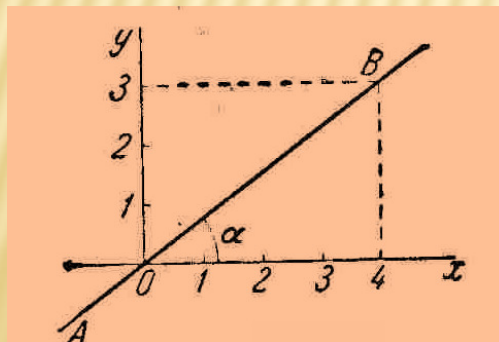
**S o l u t i o n.** To determine the path, we first eliminate time  $t$  from the equations of motion. Multiplying both parts of the first equation by 3 and both parts of the second by 4, and subtracting the second from the first, we obtain  $3x - 4y = 0$ , or  $y = \frac{3}{4}x$ .

Let us determine the velocity of the particle:

$$v_x = \frac{dx}{dt} = 8(1 - t), \quad v_y = \frac{dy}{dt} = 6(1 - t); \quad v = \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2} = 10(1 - t).$$

Determine the acceleration of the particle,

$$a_x = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -8, \quad a_y = \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -6, \quad a = 10 \text{ m/sec}^2.$$



Vectors  $v$  and  $a$  are evidently directed along the path, i.e., along  $AB$ . As  $a = \text{const.}$ , the motion is uniformly variable.

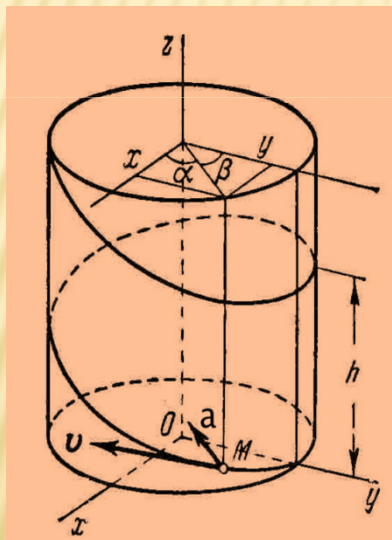
**Problem.** The motion of a particle is described by the equations:

$$x = l \sin \omega t, \quad y = l \cos \omega t, \quad z = ut,$$

where  $l$ ,  $\omega$  and  $u$  are constants. Determine the path, velocity and acceleration of the particle.

**Solution.** Squaring the first two equations and adding them, we obtain (since  $\sin^2 \omega t + \cos^2 \omega t = 1$ ):  $x^2 + y^2 = l^2$ .

Hence, the path lies on a circular cylinder of radius  $l$ , the axis of which is coincident with the  $z$  axis.



Determining  $t$  from the third equation and substituting its value into first, we find:  $x = l \sin \left( \frac{\omega}{u} z \right)$ .

Thus, the path of the particle is the line of intersection of a sinusoidal surface, whose generators are parallel to the  $y$  axis, with the cylindrical surface of radius  $l$ . This curve is called a *screw*.

It can be seen from the equations of motion that the particle makes one turn along the screw line in time  $t_1$ , determined by the equation  $\omega t_1 = 2\pi$ .

This displacement of the particle parallel to the  $z$  axis in that time is  $h = ut_1 = \frac{2\pi u}{\omega}$  and is called the *pitch* of the screw.

Differentiating the equations of motion with respect to time, we obtain:

$$v_x = l\omega \cos \omega t, \quad v_y = -l\omega \sin \omega t, \quad v_z = u,$$

whence  $v = \sqrt{l^2\omega^2(\cos^2\omega t + \sin^2\omega t) + u^2} = \sqrt{l^2\omega^2 + u^2}$ .

Calculate the projections of the acceleration:

$$a_x = -l\omega^2 \sin \omega t, \quad a_y = -l\omega^2 \cos \omega t, \quad a_z = 0,$$

whence  $a = \sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2} = l\omega^2$ .

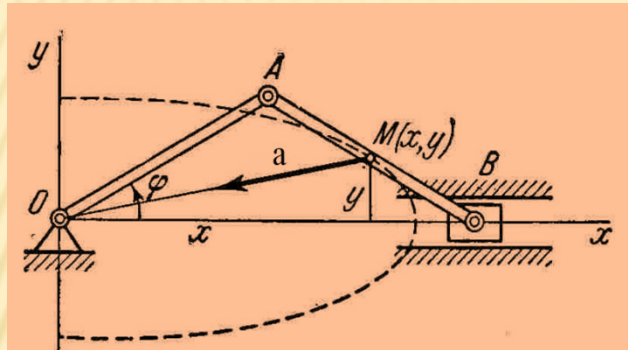
Thus, the motion has an acceleration of constant magnitude. To determine the direction of acceleration, we have the equations:

$$\cos \alpha_1 = \frac{a_x}{a} = -\sin \omega t = -\frac{x}{l}, \quad \cos \beta_1 = \frac{a_y}{a} = -\cos \omega t = -\frac{y}{l}, \quad \cos \gamma_1 = \frac{a_z}{a} = 0.$$

Evidently  $\frac{x}{l} = \cos \alpha$ ,  $\frac{y}{l} = \cos \beta$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the angles made by the radius  $l$ , drawn from the axis of the cylinder to the moving particle, with the  $x$  and  $y$  axes.

As the cosines of angles  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$  differ from the cosines of the angles  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  only in sign, we conclude that the acceleration of the particles is continuously directed along the radius of the cylinder towards its axis.

**P r o b l e m.** Determine the path, velocity and acceleration of point  $M$  in the middle of the connecting rod of the crank, if  $OA = AB = 2r$  and angle  $\varphi$  increases in proportion with time:  $\varphi = \omega t$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** Let us develop the equations of motion of point  $M$ :

$$x = 2r \cos \varphi + r \cos \varphi, \quad y = r \sin \varphi.$$

Substituting the expression for  $\varphi$ , we obtain the equations of motion of point  $M$ :

$$x = 3r \cos \omega t, \quad y = r \sin \omega t.$$

To determine the path of  $M$  we write the equations of motion in the form:

$$\frac{x}{3r} = \cos \omega t, \quad \frac{y}{r} = \sin \omega t.$$

Squaring these equations and adding them, we obtain:  $\frac{x^2}{9r^2} + \frac{y^2}{r^2} = 1$ .

Thus, the path described by point  $M$  is an ellipse with semiaxes equal  $3a$  and  $a$ .

Determine the velocity of point  $M$ :

$$V_x = -3r\omega \sin \omega t, \quad V_y = r\omega \cos \omega t; \quad V = r\omega \sqrt{9\sin^2 \omega t + \cos^2 \omega t}.$$

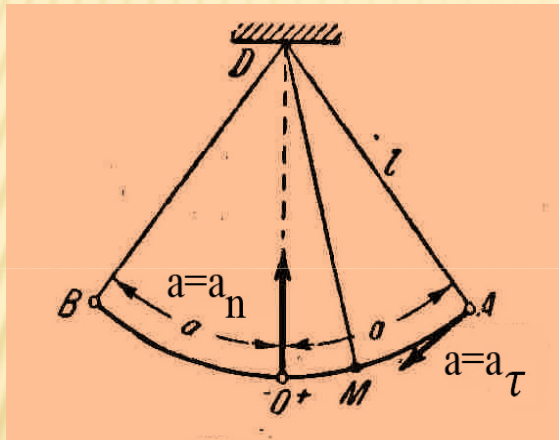
Now determine the acceleration of point  $M$ :  $a_x = -3r \cos \omega t = -\omega^2 x$ ,

$$a_y = -r\omega^2 \sin \omega t = -\omega^2 y, \quad \text{whence } a = \sqrt{\omega^4(x^2 + y^2)} = \omega^2 r,$$

where  $r$  is the radius vector from the origin to point  $M$ .



**P r o b l e m.** Small oscillations of the pendulum are represented by the equation of motion  $s = l \sin kt$  (the origin is at  $O$ ,  $l$  and  $k$  are constants). Determine the velocity, tangential and normal accelerations of the bob and the positions at which they become zero if the bob describes a circular arc of radius  $l$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** From the respective equations we find:

$$v = \frac{ds}{dt} = lk \cos kt; \quad a_{\tau} = \frac{dv}{dt} = -lk^2 \sin kt,$$

$$a_n = \frac{v^2}{l} = \frac{l^2 k^2}{l} \cos^2 kt.$$

The equation of motion is that of simple harmonic motion, the amplitude of swing being  $l$ . In the extreme positions  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $\sin kt = \pm 1$ , and consequently,  $\sin kt = 0$  while  $\cos kt = 1$ . In this position,  $a_{\tau} = 0$  and  $v$  and  $a_n$  have their maximum values:

$$v_{max} = lk, \quad a_{n max} = \frac{l^2 k^2}{l}.$$

**P r o b l e m.** A train starts moving from rest with uniform acceleration along a curve of radius  $R = 800$  m and reaches a velocity  $v_1 = 36$  km/h after travelling a distance  $s_1 = 600$  m. Determine the velocity and acceleration of the train at the middle of this distance.

**S o l u t i o n.** As the train moves with uniform acceleration and  $v_0 = 0$ , its equation of motion (assuming  $s_0 = 0$ ) is  $s = \frac{1}{2}a_\tau t^2$ , and velocity is  $v = a_\tau t$ .

Eliminating time  $t$  from these equations, we obtain  $v^2 = 2a_\tau s$ .

According to the conditions of the problem, at  $s = s_1$ ,  $v = v_1$ , whence we find:

$$a_\tau = \frac{v_1^2}{2s_1}.$$

At the middle of the path, where  $s_2 = \frac{s_1}{2}$ , the velocity  $v_2$  is

$$v_2 = \sqrt{2a_\tau s_2} = \sqrt{a_\tau s_1} = \frac{v_1}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

The normal acceleration at this point of the path is  $a_{n2} = \frac{v_2^2}{R} = \frac{v_1^2}{2R}$ .

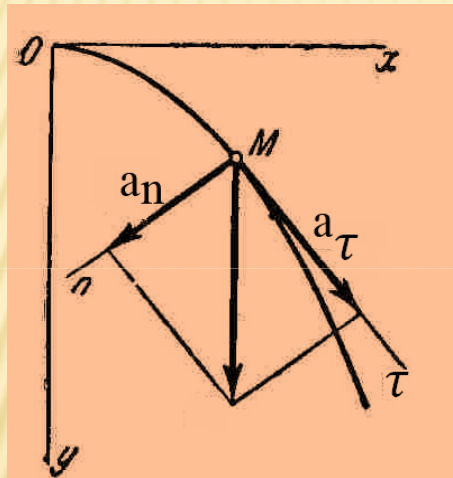
Knowing  $a_\tau$  and  $a_{n2}$  we find:  $a_2 = \sqrt{a_\tau^2 + a_{n2}^2} = \frac{v_1^2}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{s_1^2} + \frac{1}{R^2}}$ .

Substituting the numerical values, we obtain:

$$v_2 \approx 7.1 \text{ m/sec}, \quad a_2 = \frac{5}{48} \approx 0.1 \text{ m/sec}^2.$$

**P r o b l e m.** The equations of motion for a particle thrown with a horizontal velocity are  $x = v_0 t$ ,  $y = \frac{1}{2} g t^2$ , where  $v_0$  and  $g$  are constants.

Determine the path, velocity and acceleration of the particle, its tangential and normal accelerations and the radius of curvature of its path at any point, expressing them in terms of the velocity of the particle at given point.



**S o l u t i o n.** Determining  $t$  from the first equation and substituting its expression into the second, we obtain:  $y = \frac{g}{2v_0^2} x^2$ . So the path of the particle is a parabola.

Differentiating the equation of motion, we find:

$$v_x = \frac{dx}{dt} = v_0; \quad v_y = \frac{dy}{dt} = gt, \text{ whence } v = \sqrt{v_0^2 + g^2 t^2}.$$

From the respective equations we have:  $a_x = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 0$ ,  $a_y = \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = g$ ,  $a = g$ .

In the present case the particle has an acceleration of constant magnitude and direction, parallel to  $y$  axis. Note that, although  $a = \text{const.}$ , the motion of the particle is not uniformly variable, since the condition for uniformly variable motion is not  $a = \text{const.}$ , but  $a_\tau = \text{const.}$  In this case, we shall find,  $a_\tau$  is not constant.

Knowing the dependence of  $v$  on  $t$ , we can find  $a_\tau$ :

$$a_\tau = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{g^2 t}{\sqrt{v_0^2 + g^2 t^2}} = \frac{g^2 t}{v}.$$

But we have  $v^2 = v_0^2 + g^2 t^2$ , and consequently,  $t = \frac{1}{g} \sqrt{v^2 - v_0^2}$ .

Substituting this expression of  $t$ , we have:  $a_\tau = g \sqrt{1 - \frac{v_0^2}{v^2}}$ .

It follows that at the initial moment, when  $v = v_0$ ,  $a_\tau = 0$ , then increasing together with  $v$  and, at  $v \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $a_\tau \rightarrow g$ . Thus, in the limit the tangential acceleration approaches the total acceleration  $g$ .

To determine  $a_n$ , we refer to the equation  $a^2 = a_\tau^2 + a_n^2$ , whence

$$a_n^2 = a^2 - a_\tau^2 = g^2 - g^2 \left(1 - \frac{v_0^2}{v^2}\right) = g^2 \frac{v_0^2}{v^2}, \text{ and } a_n = \frac{v_0 g}{v}.$$

Thus, at the initial moment ( $v = v_0$ ),  $a_n = g$ , decreasing as  $v$  increases and in the limit approaching zero.

To determine the radius of curvature of the path, we use the equation  $a_n = \frac{v^2}{\rho}$ ,

$$\text{whence } \rho = \frac{v^2}{a_n} = \frac{v^2}{v_0 g}.$$

**P r o b l e m.** A shaft rotation with a speed of  $n = 90$  rpm decelerates uniformly when the motor is switched off and stops in  $t_1 = 40$  sec. Determine the number of revolutions made by the shaft in this time.

**S o l u t i o n.** As the rotation is uniformly retarded,

$$\varphi = \omega_0 t + \varepsilon \frac{t^2}{2}, \quad \omega = \omega_0 + \varepsilon t.$$

The initial angular velocity of the uniformly retarded rotation is that which the shaft had before the motor was switched off. Hence,  $\omega_0 = \frac{\pi n}{30}$ .

At the instant  $t = t_1$ , when the shaft stopped, its angular velocity was  $\omega_1 = 0$ . Substituting these values into equation, we obtain:

$$0 = \frac{\pi n}{30} + \varepsilon t_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \varepsilon = -\frac{\pi n}{30 t_1}.$$

If we denote as  $N$  the number of revolutions of the shaft in time  $t_1$  (not be confused with  $n$ , which is the angular velocity!), the angle of rotation in that time will be  $\varphi_1 = 2\pi N$ . Substituting the values of  $\varepsilon$  and  $\varphi_1$  we obtain

$$2\pi N = \frac{\pi n}{30} t_1 - \frac{\pi n}{60} t_1 = \frac{\pi n}{60} t_1,$$

whence  $N = \frac{n t_1}{120} = 30$  revolutions.

**P r o b l e m.** A flywheel of radius  $R = 1.2$  m rotates uniformly, making  $n = 90$  rpm. Determine the linear velocity and acceleration of a point on the rim of the flywheel.

**S o l u t i o n.** The linear velocity of such a point is  $v = R\omega$ , where the angular velocity  $\omega$  must be expressed in radians per second. In our case

$$\omega = \frac{\pi n}{30} = 3\pi \text{ sec}^{-1}.$$

Hence,

$$v = \frac{\pi n}{30} R \approx 11.3 \frac{m}{sec}.$$

As  $\omega = \text{const.}$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0$ , and consequently

$$a = a_n = R\omega^2 = \frac{\pi^2 n^2}{900} R \approx 106.6 \text{ m/sec}^2.$$

The acceleration is directed towards the axis of rotation.

**P r o b l e m.** The equation of the motion of an accelerated flywheel is

$$\varphi = \frac{9}{32}t^3.$$

Determine the linear velocity and acceleration of a point lying at a distance  $h = 0.8$  m from the axis of rotation at the instant when its tangential and normal accelerations are equal.

**S o l u t i o n.** We determine the angular velocity and angular acceleration of the flywheel:

$$\omega = \frac{d\varphi}{dt} = \frac{27}{32}t^2, \quad \varepsilon = \frac{d\omega}{dt} = \frac{27}{16}t.$$

The formulas for the tangential and normal acceleration of the point are  $a_\tau = h\varepsilon$ , and  $a_n = h\omega^2$ .

Denote the instant when  $a_\tau = a_n$  by the symbol  $t_1$ . Obviously, at that instant  $\varepsilon_1 = \omega_1^2$ , or  $\frac{27}{16}t_1 = \left(\frac{27}{32}\right)^2 t_1^4$ , whence  $t_1^3 = \frac{64}{27}$  and  $t_1 = \frac{4}{3}$  sec.

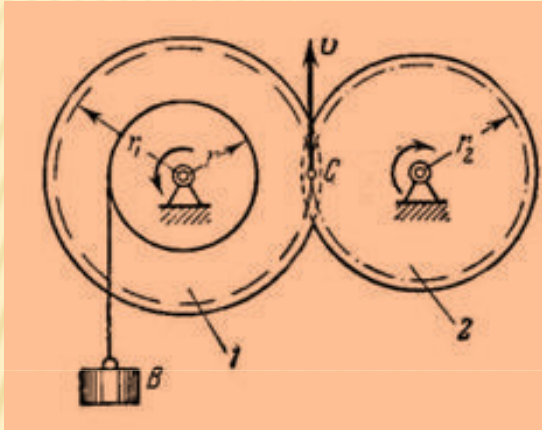
Substituting this value of  $t_1$  in the expressions for  $\omega$  and  $\varepsilon$ , we find that at time  $t_1$

$$\omega_1 = \frac{3}{2} \text{ sec}^{-1}, \quad \varepsilon_1 = \frac{9}{4} \text{ sec}^{-2}.$$

The required values are thus

$$v_1 = h\omega_1 = 1.2 \text{ m/sec}; \quad a_1 = h\sqrt{\varepsilon_1^2 + \omega_1^4} = 1.8\sqrt{2} \approx 2.54 \text{ m/sec}^2.$$

Problem. The weight  $B$  rotates a shaft of radius  $r$  with gear 1 and radius  $r_1$  mounted on it. The weight starts moving from rest with a constant acceleration  $a$ . Develop the equation of rotation of the gear 2 of radius  $r_2$  which is meshed with gear 1.



S o l u t i o n. As the initial velocity of the weight is zero, its velocity at any instant is  $v_B = at$ . All the points on the surface of the shaft have the same velocity. At the same time, their velocity is  $\omega_1 r$ , where  $\omega_1$  is the angular velocity of both the shaft and gear 1. Consequently,  $\omega_1 r = at$ ,  $\omega_1 = \frac{at}{r}$ .

As at point  $C$ , where the gears mesh, the linear velocity of both gears must be the same, we have  $v_C = \omega_1 r_1 = \omega_2 r_2$ , whence  $\omega_2 = \frac{r_1}{r_2} \omega_1 = \frac{r_1 a}{r_2 r} t$ .

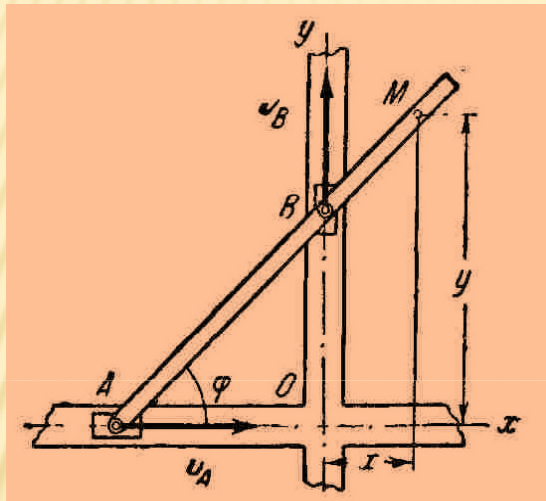
Since  $\omega_2 = \frac{d\varphi_2}{dt}$ , we have  $d\varphi_2 = \frac{r_1 a}{r_2 r} t dt$ .

Integrating both sides and assume angle  $\varphi_2 = 0$  at time  $t = 0$ , we obtain the equation of uniformly accelerated rotation of gear 2 in the form:

$$\varphi_2 = \frac{r_1 a}{2 r r_2} t^2.$$



**P r o b l e m.** Determine the relation between the velocities of points  $A$  and  $B$  of the ellipsograph rule if angle  $\varphi$  is given.



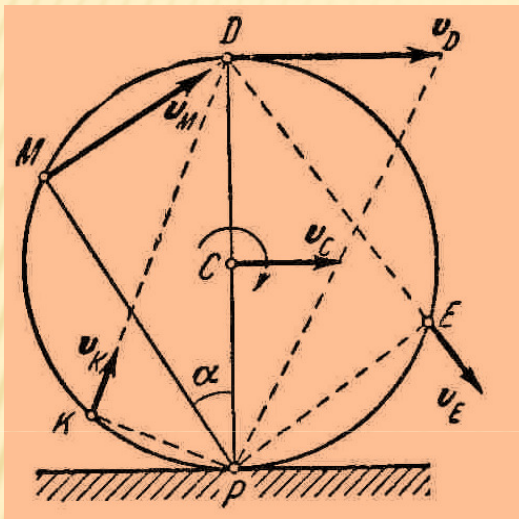
**S o l u t i o n.** The directions of velocities of point  $A$  and  $B$  are known. Hence, projecting vectors  $v_A$  and  $v_B$  on  $AB$  and applying the theorem of projections of two points, we obtain:

$$v_A \cos \varphi = v_B \cos(90^\circ - \varphi),$$

whence

$$v_A = v_B \tan \varphi .$$

**Problem.** Determine the velocity of point  $M$  on the rim of the rolling wheel by introducing the instantaneous center of zero velocity.



**Solution.** The point of contact  $P$  of the wheel is the instantaneous center of zero velocity, as  $v_P = 0$ . Consequently,  $v_M \perp PM$ . As the right angle  $PMD$  rests on the diameter, the velocity vector  $v_M$  of any point of the rim passes through point  $D$ .

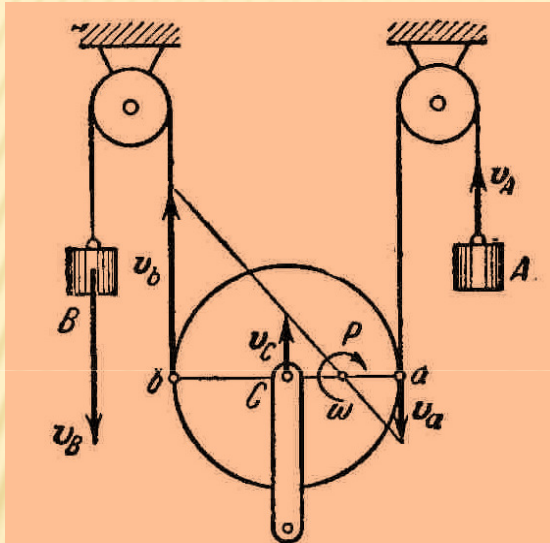
Writing the proportion  $\frac{v_M}{PM} = \frac{v_C}{PC}$  and noting that  $PC = R$  and  $PM = 2R \cos \alpha$ , we find

$$v_M = 2v_C \cos \alpha.$$

The further point  $M$  is from  $P$ , the greater its velocity. The upper end  $D$  of the vertical diameter has the maximum velocity  $v_D = 2v_C$ . The angular velocity of the wheel is  $\omega = \frac{v_C}{PC} = \frac{v_C}{R}$ .

The velocities are similarly distributed for all cases of a wheel or gear rolling along a cylindrical surface.

**Problem.** Determine the velocity of the centre  $C$  of the pulley of radius  $r$  and its angular velocity if load  $A$  is moving up with a velocity  $v_A$  and load  $B$  is moving down with a velocity  $v_B$ . The thread does not slip and all its sections are vertical.



**Solution.** As the thread does not slip on the pulley, the velocities of points  $a$  and  $b$  of the pulley are equal in magnitude to the velocities of the loads, i.e.,  $v_a = v_A$  and  $v_b = v_B$ .

Knowing the velocities of points  $a$  and  $b$  and assuming for convenience that  $v_B > v_A$ , we can determine the position of the instantaneous centre of zero velocity  $P$  of the pulley. The velocity of the centre of pulley  $C$  is denoted by the vector  $v_C$ .

$$\text{We develop the equations: } \omega = \frac{|v_b + (-v_a)|}{ab} \quad \omega = \frac{|v_b - v_c|}{bC},$$

$$\text{whence, as } ab = 2r \text{ and } bC = r, \text{ we obtain } \omega = \frac{v_B + v_A}{2r}, \quad v_C = \frac{v_B - v_A}{2}.$$

At  $v_B > v_A$  the centre moves up; if  $v_B < v_A$  it moves down; at  $v_B = v_A$ ,  $v_C = 0$ .

The values of  $\omega$  and  $v_C$  for the case of both loads lowering can be found by substituting  $-v_A$  for  $v_A$  in the equations.

**P r o b l e m.** Link  $OA$  rotates about axis  $O$  with an angular velocity  $\omega_{OA}$ ; with it moves gear 1 which rolls around the fixed gear 2. The radii of the two gears are both equal to  $r$ . Hinged to gear 1 is a connecting rod  $BD$  of length  $l$ , attached to which is a rockshaft  $DC$ . Determine the angular velocity  $\omega_{BD}$  of the connecting rod for the instant when it is perpendicular to link  $OA$ , if at that instant angle  $BDC = 45^\circ$ .

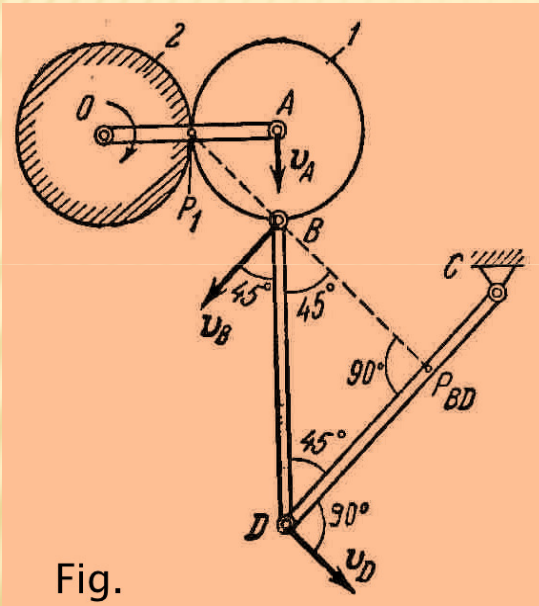


Fig.

**S o l u t i o n.** Let us determine the velocity of point  $B$  from the fact that it also belongs to gear 1, for which the velocity is known to be  $v_A = \omega_{OA}2r$ , ( $v_A \perp OA$ ) and the instantaneous center of zero velocity is at  $P_1$ . Consequently,  $v_B \perp PB$ , and from the theorem of the projections of velocities  $v_B \cos 45^\circ = v_A$ , whence  $v_B = v_A\sqrt{2} = 2r\omega_{OA}\sqrt{2}$ .

Now we know the velocity  $v_B$  of a point of the connecting rod and the direction of velocity  $v_D$ , ( $v_D \perp DC$ ).

Erecting perpendiculars to  $v_B$  and  $v_D$ , we obtain the instantaneous centre  $P_{BD}$  of the connecting rod:  $BP_{BD} = l\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ , whence  $\omega_{BD} = \frac{v_B}{BP_{BD}} = 4\frac{r}{l}\omega_{OA}$ .

**Problem.** A gear 1 and crank  $OA$  are mounted independently of each other on an axle  $O$ . The crank rotates with an angular velocity  $\omega_{OA}$ . Fixed to the connecting rod  $AB$  with its center at  $A$  is gear 2. The crank  $OA$  carries axis  $A$  of the gear 2, the connecting rod passes through the rocker slide  $C$ . The radii of gears 1 and 2 are both equal to  $r$ . Determine the angular velocity  $\omega_1$  of gear 1 at the instant when  $OA \perp OC$ , if  $\angle ACO = 30^\circ$ .

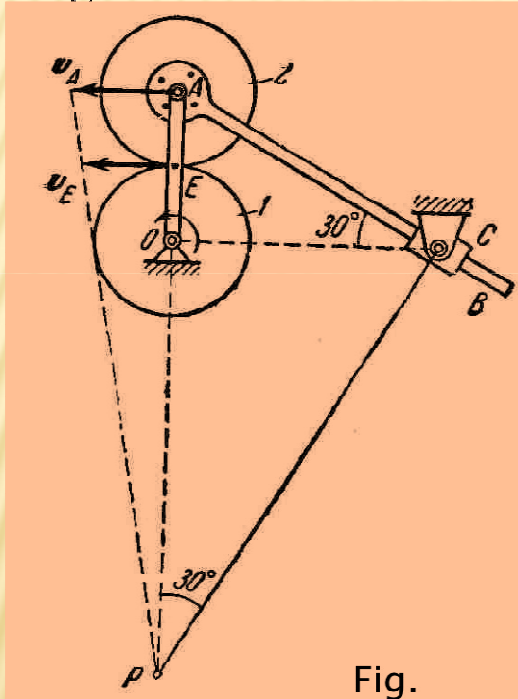


Fig.

**Solution.** For gear 2 we know the direction and magnitude of the velocity of point  $A$ :  $v_A \perp OA$ ,  $v_A = \omega_{OA} 2r$ .

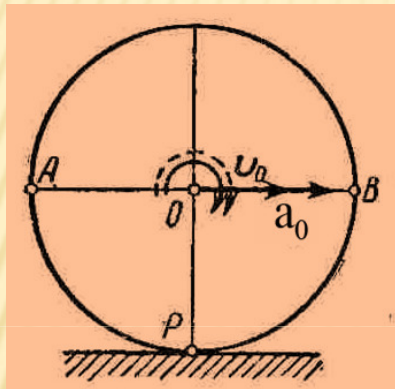
Besides, we know the direction of velocity  $v_E$ .

Gear 2 and the connecting rod are actually one body for which we know the direction of the velocity of point  $C$ : vector  $v_C$  is directed along  $CA$ , as at point  $C$  the rod can only slide in the rocker. By erecting the perpendiculars to  $v_A$  and  $v_C$ , we obtain the instantaneous center of zero velocity  $P$  of the body  $BAE$ .

From the statement of the problem  $\angle ACO = 30^\circ$ , hence  $\angle CPA = 30^\circ$ . Therefore  $AC = 2AO = 4r$ ,  $PA = 2AC = 8r$ ,  $PE = 7r$ , and from the proportion

$$\frac{v_E}{PE} = \frac{v_A}{PA} \text{ we find that } v_E = \frac{7}{8} v_A = \frac{7}{4} r \omega_{OA}, \text{ whence } \omega_1 = \frac{v_E}{OE} = \frac{7}{4} \omega_{OA}.$$

**P r o b l e m.** The center  $O$  of a wheel of radius  $R = 0.2$  m rolling along a straight rail has at a given instant a velocity  $v_0 = 1$  m/sec and an acceleration  $a_0 = 2$  m/sec<sup>2</sup>. Determine the acceleration of the point  $B$  lying at the end of diameter  $AB$  perpendicular to  $OP$  and the acceleration of the point  $P$  coincident with the instantaneous center of zero velocity.



**S o l u t i o n.** The point of contact  $P$  is the instantaneous center of zero velocity; hence the angular velocity of the wheel is

$$\omega = \frac{v_0}{PO} = \frac{v_0}{R}.$$

As the quantity  $PO = R$  is constant for any position of the wheel, by differentiating the equation with respect to time we obtain

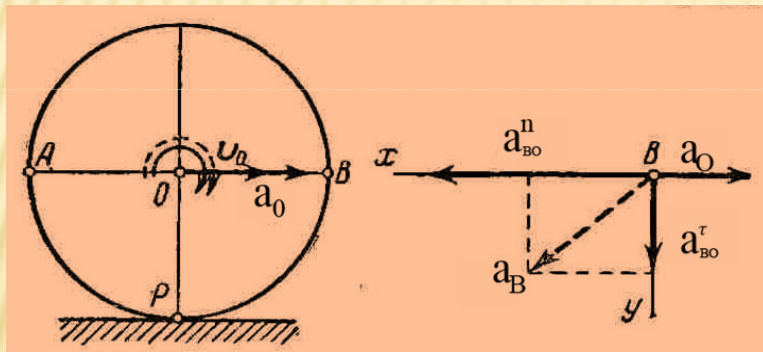
$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = \frac{1}{R} \frac{dv_0}{dt} \quad \text{or} \quad \varepsilon = \frac{a_0}{R}.$$

The signs of  $\varepsilon$  and  $\omega$  are the same, therefore the rotation of the wheel is accelerated.

It should not be assumed that  $v_0$  is constant only because the given value of  $v_0 = 1 \text{ m/sec}$ . This value is for the given instant, and it changes with time, since  $a_0 \neq 0$ . In this case  $\frac{dv_0}{dt} = a_0$ , as the motion of point  $O$  is rectilinear. In the general case  $\frac{dv_0}{dt} = a_0 \tau$ .

As point  $O$  is our pole, we have  $\mathbf{a}_B = \mathbf{a}_0 + \mathbf{a}_{BO}^\tau + \mathbf{a}_{BO}^n$ .

In our case  $BO = R$ , and  $a_{BO}^\tau = BO \cdot \varepsilon = a_0 = 2 \text{ m/sec}^2$ ,  $a_{BO}^n = BO \cdot \omega^2 = \frac{v_0^2}{R} = 5 \text{ m/sec}^2$ .



Drawing axes  $Bx$  and  $By$ , we find that

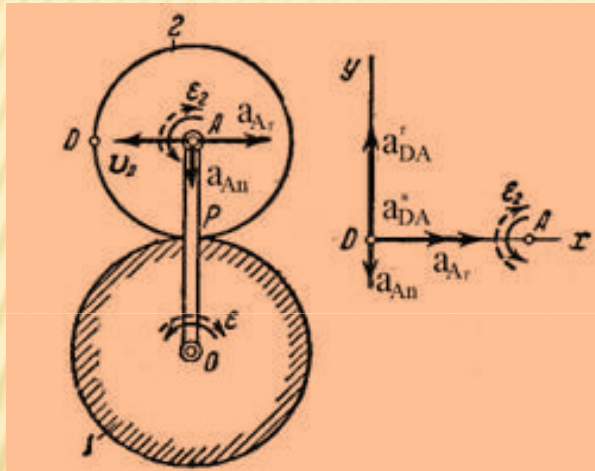
$$a_{Bx} = a_{BO}^n - a_0 = \frac{3m}{\text{sec}^2},$$

$$a_{By} = a_{BO}^\tau = \frac{2m}{\text{sec}^2}.$$

Whence  $a_B = \sqrt{a_{Bx}^2 + a_{By}^2} = \sqrt{13} \approx 3.6 \text{ m/sec}^2$ .

Similarly we can easily find that the acceleration of point  $P$  is  $a_P = a_{BO}^\tau = 5 \text{ m/sec}^2$  and is directed along  $PO$ . Thus, the acceleration of point  $P$ , whose velocity at the given instant is zero, is not zero.

**Problem.** Gear 1 of radius  $r_1 = 0.3$  m is fixed; rolling around it is gear 2 of radius  $r_2 = 0.2$  m mounted on link  $OA$ . The link turns about axis  $O$  and has at the given instant an angular velocity  $\omega = 1 \text{ sec}^{-1}$  and an angular acceleration  $\varepsilon = -4 \text{ sec}^{-2}$ . Determine the acceleration of point the  $D$  on the rim of the moving gear at the given instant (radius  $AD$  is perpendicular to the link).



**Solution.** From the statement of the problem it is easy to determine the velocity  $v_A$  and acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_A$  of the point  $A$  of the gear, which we take as the pole.

Knowing  $\omega$  and  $\varepsilon$  of the link, we obtain

$$v_A = OA \cdot \omega = 0.5 \text{ m/sec}^2,$$

$$a_{A\tau} = OA \cdot \varepsilon = -2 \text{ m/sec}^2,$$

$$a_{An} = OA \cdot \omega^2 = 0.5 \text{ m/sec}^2.$$

The point of contact  $P$  is the instantaneous center of gear 2; consequently, the angular velocity of gear 2 is  $\omega_2 = \frac{v_A}{AP} = \frac{v_A}{r_2}$ ;  $\omega_2 = 2.5 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ .

The acceleration of point  $D$  is  $\mathbf{a}_D = \mathbf{a}_{A\tau} + \mathbf{a}_{An} + \mathbf{a}_{DA\tau} + \mathbf{a}_{DAn}$ .

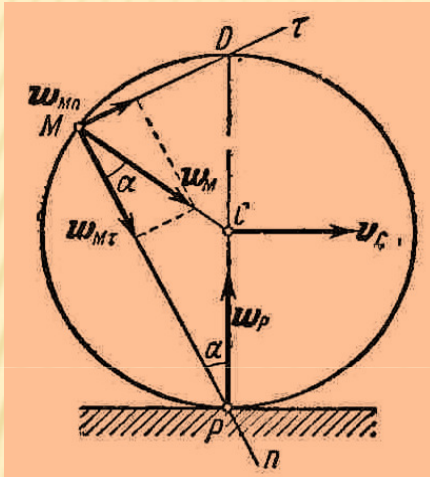
In our case  $DA = r_2$ ,  $a_{DA\tau} = DA \cdot \varepsilon_2 = -2 \text{ m/sec}^2$ ,  $a_{DAn} = DA \cdot \omega_2^2 = 1.25 \text{ m/sec}^2$ .

Drawing axes  $Dx$  and  $Dy$ , we find that  $a_{Dx} = |a_{A\tau}| + a_{DAn} = 3.25 \text{ m/sec}^2$ ,  $a_{Dy} =$

$$|a_{DA\tau}^{\tau}| - a_{An} = 1.5 \text{ m/sec}^2, \text{ whence } \mathbf{a}_D = \sqrt{a_{Dx}^2 + a_{Dy}^2} \approx 3.58 \text{ m/sec}^2.$$



**Problem.** A wheel rolls along a straight rail so that the velocity  $v_C$  of its center  $C$  is constant. Determine the acceleration of a point  $M$  on the rim of the wheel.



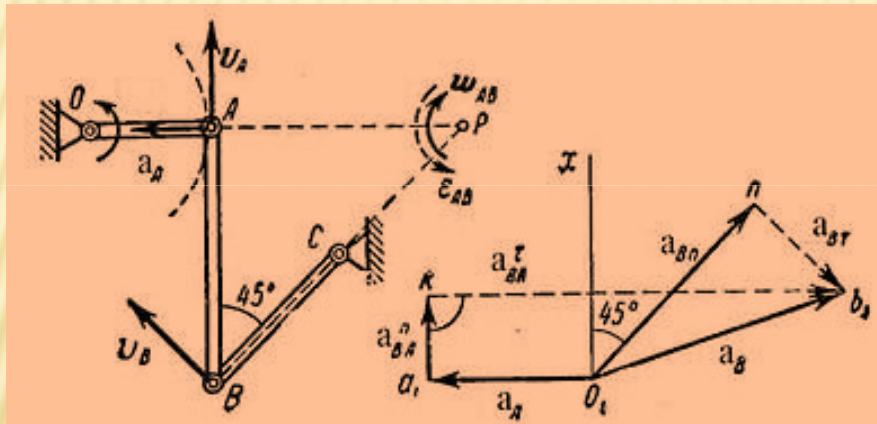
**Solution.** As  $v_C = \text{const.}$ , then point  $C$  is the instantaneous center of zero acceleration. The instantaneous center of zero velocity is at  $P$ .

Consequently,  $\omega = \frac{v_C}{PC} = \frac{v_C}{R} = \text{const.}$ ,

$$\varepsilon = \frac{d\omega}{dt} = 0, \quad \tan \mu = \frac{\varepsilon}{a^2} = 0, \quad \mu = 0$$

Thus, the acceleration of any point  $M$  on the rim (including  $P$ ) is equal to  $v_C^2/R$  and is directed towards the center of the wheel, since angle  $\mu = 0$ .

**P r o b l e m.** Attached to a crank  $OA$  rotating uniformly about axis  $O$  with an angular velocity  $\omega_{OA} = 4 \text{ sec}^{-1}$  is a connecting rod  $AB$  hinged to a rockshaft  $BC$ . The given dimensions are:  $OA = r = 0.5 \text{ m}$ ,  $AB = 2r$ ,  $BC = r\sqrt{2}$ . In the position shown in the diagram,  $\angle OAB = 90^\circ$  and  $\angle ABC = 45^\circ$ . Determine for this position the acceleration of point  $B$  of the connecting rod and the angular velocity and angular acceleration of the rockshaft  $BC$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** Considering the motion of the connecting rod  $AB$ , we take point  $A$  as the pole. As  $\omega_{OA} = \text{const.}$ , we obtain:

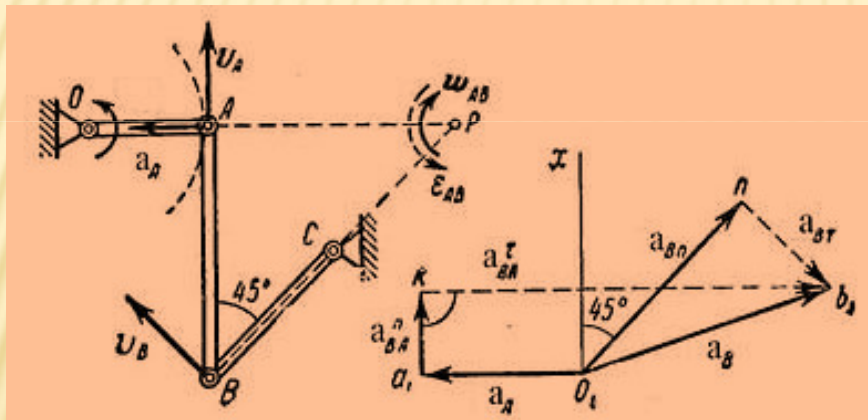
$$v_A = r\omega_{OA} = 2 \text{ m/sec}, \quad a_A = a_{An} = r\omega_{OA}^2 = 3 \text{ m/sec}^2.$$

We know the path of point  $B$  of the connecting rod (a circle of radius  $BC$ ). Hence, knowing the direction of  $v_B$  ( $v_B \perp BC$ ), we can locate the instantaneous center of zero velocity  $P$  of the rod. It is evident that  $AP = AB = 2r$ . Therefore,  $\omega_{AB} = \frac{v_A}{AP}$  or  $\omega_{AB} = \frac{\omega_{OA}}{2} = 2 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ .

Knowing  $\omega_{AB}$ , we have  $a_{BA}^n = AB \cdot \omega_{AB}^2 = 4 \text{ m/sec}^2$ .

Knowing the path of point  $B$ , we can determine its normal acceleration  $a_{Bn}$ . For this, applying the theorem of projections (or the instantaneous center of zero velocity  $P$ ), we first determine the velocity  $v_B$ . We have  $v_B \cos 45^\circ = v_A$ , whence  $v_B = v_A \sqrt{2}$ . Therefore,  $a_{Bn} = \frac{v_B^2}{BC} = \frac{2v_A^2}{r\sqrt{2}} = 8\sqrt{2} \text{ m/sec}^2$ .

Then  $a_A + a_{BA}^n + a_{BA}^\tau = a_{Bn} + a_{B\tau}$ .



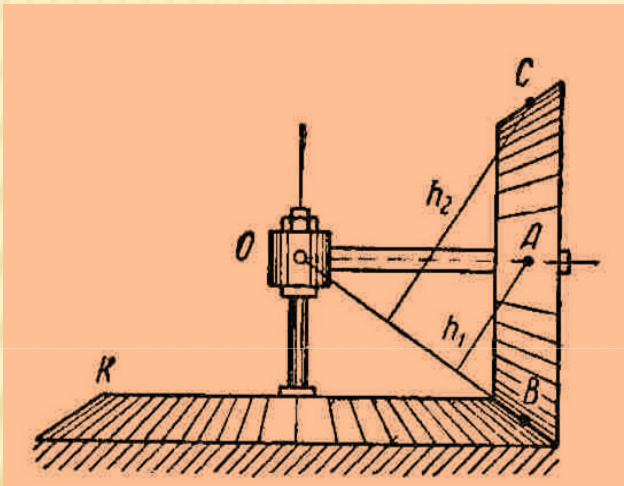
Now draw coordinate axis  $O_1x$  perpendicular to the unknown vector  $a_{BA}^\tau$  and project on it both sides of vector equation (e). We obtain  $a_{BA}^n = a_{Bn} \cos 45^\circ - |a_{B\tau}| \cos 45^\circ$ , whence  $|a_{B\tau}| = a_{Bn} - a_{BA}^n \sqrt{2} = 8\sqrt{2} - 4\sqrt{2} = 4\sqrt{2}$ .

And finally  $a_B = \sqrt{a_{B\tau}^2 + a_{Bn}^2} = 4\sqrt{10} = 12.65 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{sec}^2}$ .

Then  $\omega_{BC} = \frac{v_B}{BC}$ ,  $|\varepsilon_{BC}| = \frac{|a_{B\tau}|}{BC}$ .

Solving them, we obtain:  $\omega_{BC} = 4 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{BC} = -8 \text{ sec}^{-2}$  (the minus shows that  $a_{B\tau}$  is directed opposite to  $v_B$ ).

**P r o b l e m.** Determine the velocities of point  $B$  and  $C$  of the bevel wheel if the velocity  $v_A$  of the wheel center  $A$  along its path is known. The wheel runs without slipping on the fixed conic surface  $K$ .



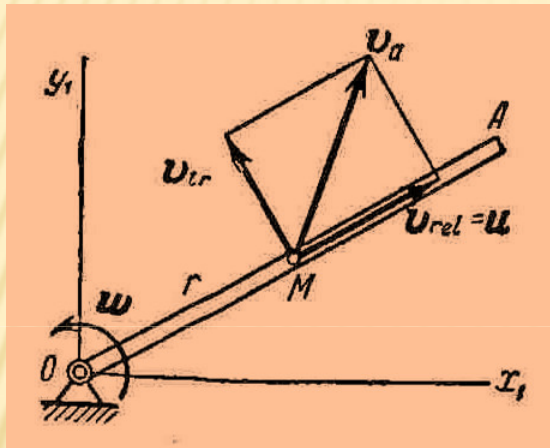
**S o l u t i o n.** The wheel rotates about a fixed point  $O$ . As it runs without slipping, the points of the wheel on line  $OB$  must have the same velocity as the points of surface  $K$ , i.e., zero, and  $OB$  is the instantaneous axis of rotation of the wheel.

Therefore  $v_A = \omega h_1$ , where  $\omega$  is the angular velocity of the wheel in its motion about axis  $OB$ , and  $h_1$  is the distance of  $A$  from that axis.

Hence,  $\omega = v_A/h_1$ .

The velocity  $v_C$  of point  $C$  is  $\omega h_2$  where  $h_2$  is the distance of  $C$  from  $OB$ . As in this case  $h_2 = 2h_1$ ,  $v_C = 2v_A$ . From the point  $B$ , which is on the instantaneous axis of rotation,  $v_B = 0$ .

**P r o b l e m.** Point  $M$  moves in a straight line along  $OA$  with a velocity  $u$ , while  $OA$  itself turns in the plane  $Ox_1y_1$  round  $O$  with an angular velocity  $\omega$ . Find the velocity of point  $M$  relative to the axes  $Ox_1y_1$  expressed as a function of the distance  $OM = r$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** Consider the motion of point  $M$  as a resultant motion consisting of its relative motion along  $OA$  and its motion together with  $OA$ .

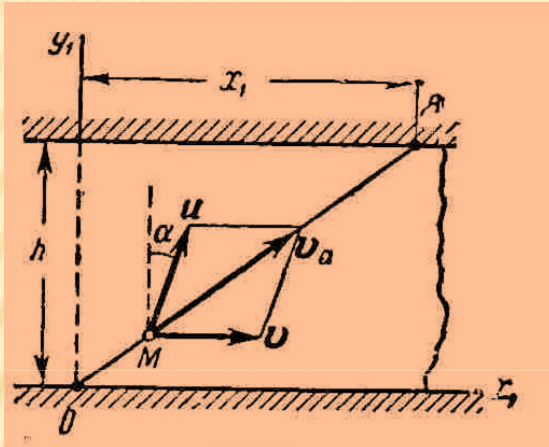
The velocity  $u$  along  $OA$  is the relative velocity of the point.

The rotational motion of  $OA$  about  $O$  is, for the point  $M$ , the motion of transport, and the velocity of the point of  $OA$  with which  $M$  coincides at the given instant is the transport velocity  $v_{tr}$ .

As this point of  $OA$  moves along a circle of radius  $OM = r$ ,  $v_{tr} = r\omega$  and is perpendicular to  $OM$ .

Constructing a parallelogram with vectors  $u$  and  $v_{tr}$  as its sides, we obtain the absolute velocity  $v_a$  of  $M$  relative to the axes  $Ox_1y_1$ . As  $u$  and  $v$  are mutually perpendicular, in magnitude  $v_a = \sqrt{u^2 + \omega^2 r^2}$ .

**P r o b l e m.** The current of a river of width  $h$  has a constant velocity  $v$ . A man can row a boat in motionless water with a velocity  $u$ . Determine the direction he should take in order to cross the river in the least possible time and the point where he will reach the opposite bank.



**S o l u t i o n.** Assume that the boat has started from point  $O$ . Assume further that the rower steers his boat at a constant angle  $\alpha$  to axis  $Oy_1$ . Then the absolute velocity  $v_A$  of the boat is compounded of the relative velocity  $v_{rel}$  imparted to it by the rower ( $v_{rel} = u$ ) and the transport velocity  $v_{tr}$ , which is the velocity of the stream ( $v_{tr} = v$ ):  $v_a = v_{rel} + v_{tr} = u + v$ .

The projections of the absolute velocity on the coordinate axes are

$$v_{ax_1} = u \sin \alpha + v; \quad v_{ay_1} = u \cos \alpha.$$

As both projections are constant, the displacements of the boat along the coordinate axes are  $x_1 = (u \sin \alpha + v)t$ ;  $y_1 = (u \cos \alpha)t$ .

When the boat reaches the opposite bank,  $y_1 = h$ , whence the duration of the crossing is  $t_1 = \frac{h}{u \cos \alpha}$ .

Obviously  $t_1$  will have the least value when  $\cos \alpha = 1$ , i.e., when  $\alpha = 0$ .

Consequently, in order to cross the river in the shortest time, the rower should steer his boat perpendicular to the bank. This time is:

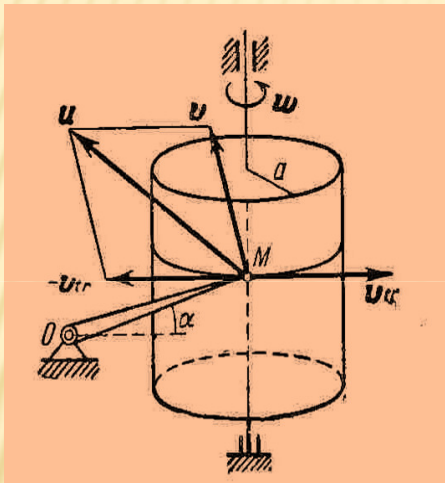
$$t_{min} = \frac{h}{u}.$$

Assuming  $\alpha = 0$  and  $t = t_{min}$  in the expression for  $x_1$ , we have

$$x_1 = \frac{v}{u} h.$$

Thus, the boat will reach the other bank at a point  $B$  at a distance  $x_1$  downstream from  $Oy_1$  directly proportional to  $v$  and  $h$  and inversely proportional to  $u$ .

**P r o b l e m.** At a given instant, the arm  $OM$  of a recording mechanism makes an angle  $\alpha$  with the horizontal and the pencil  $M$  has a velocity  $\mathbf{v}$  directed perpendicular to  $OM$ . The drum with the paper rotates about a vertical axis with an angular velocity  $\omega$ . Determine the velocity  $\mathbf{u}$  of the pencil on the paper if the radius of the drum is  $a$ .



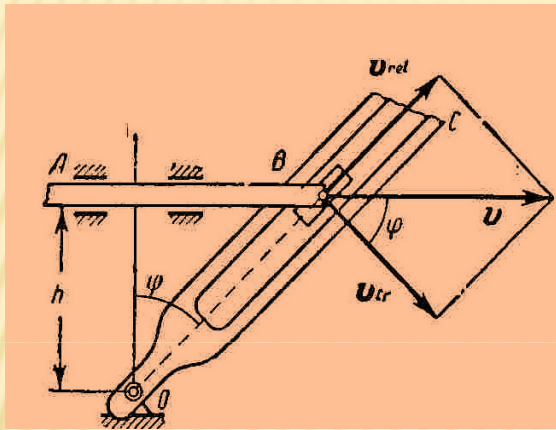
**S o l u t i o n.** The absolute velocity of the pencil is  $\mathbf{v}_a = \mathbf{v}$ . Velocity  $\mathbf{v}$  can be regarded as the geometrical sum of the velocity of the pencil relative to the paper (i.e., the required velocity  $\mathbf{u}$ ) and the transport velocity  $\mathbf{v}_{tr}$ , which is equal to the velocity of the point of the paper with which the pencil coincides at the given moment; its magnitude is  $v_{tr} = \omega a$ .

From the theorem of the composition of velocities we have  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}_{tr}$ , whence  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} + (-\mathbf{v}_{tr})$ .

Constructing a parallelogram with vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $(-\mathbf{v}_{tr})$  as its sides, we obtain the required velocity  $\mathbf{u}$ . As the angle between  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $(-\mathbf{v}_{tr})$  is  $90^\circ - \alpha$ , in magnitude  $u = \sqrt{v^2 + \omega^2 a^2 + 2v\omega a \sin \alpha}$ .



**P r o b l e m.** End  $B$  of a horizontal rod  $AB$  is hinged to a block sliding along the slots of a rocker  $OC$  and turns the latter round axis  $O$ . The distance from  $O$  to  $AB$  is  $h$ . Find the dependence of the angular velocity of the rocker on the velocity  $v$  of the rod and angle  $\varphi$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** The absolute velocity of the slide block equals the velocity  $v$  of the rod. It can be regarded as compounded of the relative velocity  $v_{rel}$  of the block in its motion in the slots of the rocker and the transport velocity  $v_{tr}$ , which is the velocity of the point of the rocker with which the block coincides at the given time.

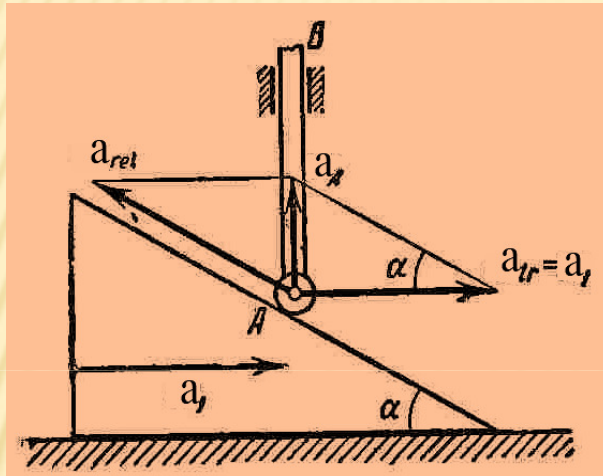
The direction of these velocities are along  $OB$  and perpendicular to  $OB$ , respectively.

We obtain  $v_{rel}$  and  $v_{tr}$  by resolving velocity  $v$  along them. From the parallelogram we find that in magnitude  $v_{tr} = v \cos \varphi$ .

But, on other hand, the transport velocity  $v_{tr} = \omega \cdot OB = \omega \frac{h}{\cos \varphi}$ , where  $\omega$  is the angular velocity of the rocker.

Equating expressions of  $v_{tr}$ , we obtain the angular velocity:  $\omega = \frac{v}{h} \cos^2 \varphi$ .

**P r o b l e m.** A wedge moving horizontally with an acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_1$  pushes up a rod moving in vertical slides. Determine the acceleration of the rod if the angle of the wedge is  $\alpha$ .

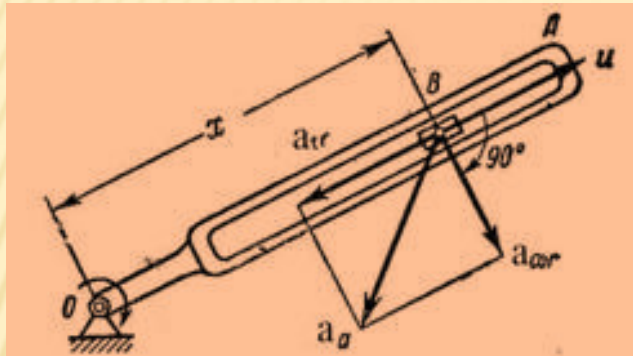


**S o l u t i o n.** The absolute acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_A$  of point  $A$  is directed vertically up. It can be regarded as consisting of a relative acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_{rel}$  directed along the side of the wedge and a transport acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}$ , which is equal to the acceleration of the wedge  $\mathbf{a}_1$ .

As the motion of transport of the wedge is translation, by drawing a parallelogram and taking into account that  $\mathbf{a}_{tr} = \mathbf{a}_1$ , we obtain  $\mathbf{a}_A = \omega_1 \tan \alpha$ .

Which is the acceleration of the rod.

**P r o b l e m.** The rocker  $OA$  turns with a constant angular velocity  $\omega$  about axis  $O$ . A block  $B$  slides along the slots with a constant relative velocity  $u$ . Determine the dependence of the absolute acceleration of the block on its distance  $x$  from  $O$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** Stopping the rocker, we find that the relative motion of the block along it is uniform and rectilinear; consequently  $a_{rel} = 0$ .

For the block, the motion of the rocker is that of transport.

Consequently, the transport acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}$  of the block is equal to the acceleration of the point of the rocker, with which the block coincides.

Since that point of the rocker is moving in a circle of radius  $OB = x$  and  $\omega = const.$ , vector  $\mathbf{a}_{tr} = \mathbf{a}_{tr}^n$  and is directed along  $BO$ . In magnitude  $a_{tr} = a_{tr}^n = \omega^2 x$ .

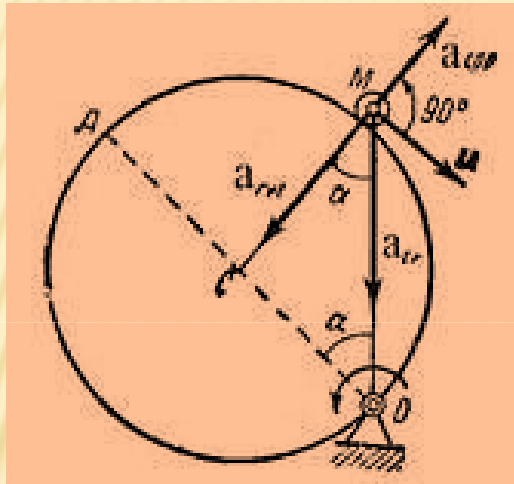
The Coriolis acceleration  $a_{cor} = 2\omega u$ . By turning the vector of the relative velocity  $\mathbf{u}$  about point  $B$  through a right angle in the direction of the rotation of transport (clockwise), we obtain the direction of  $\mathbf{a}_{cor}$ .

From Coriolis theorem,  $\mathbf{a}_a = \mathbf{a}_{rel} + \mathbf{a}_{tr} + \mathbf{a}_{cor}$ .

In the present case  $\mathbf{a}_{rel} = 0$  and  $\mathbf{a}_{cor}$  is perpendicular to  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}$ .

Consequently,  $a_a = \sqrt{a_{tr}^2 + a_{cor}^2} = \omega \sqrt{\omega^2 x^2 + 4u^2}$ .

**P r o b l e m.** The eccentric is a circular disc of radius  $R$  rotating with a uniform angular velocity  $\omega$  about axis  $O$  through the rim of the disc. Sliding from point  $A$  along the disc with a constant relative velocity  $u$  is a pin  $M$ . Determine the absolute acceleration of the pin at any time  $t$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** At time  $t$  the pin is at a distance  $s = \overline{AM} = ut$  from  $A$ . Consequently, at the instant angle  $AOM = \alpha$  will be

$$\alpha = \frac{s}{2R} = \frac{u}{2R}t,$$

as  $\alpha$  is equal to half the central angle  $ACM$ .

Stopping the motion of the disc at time  $t$ , we find that the relative motion of the pin is along a circle of radius  $R$ .

$$\text{As } v_{rel} = u = \text{const.}, a_{rel}^{\tau} = \frac{du}{dt} = 0; \quad a_{rel}^n = \frac{u^2}{R}.$$

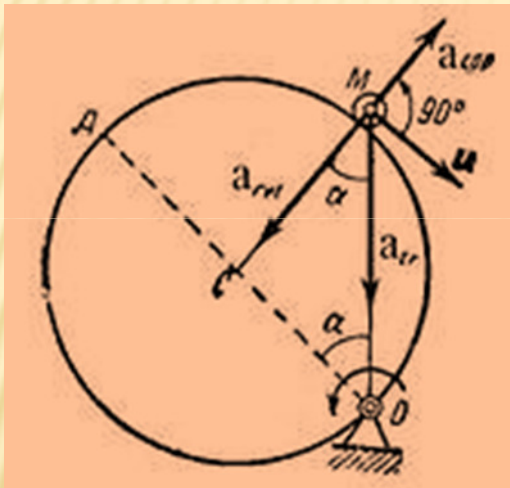
The vector  $\mathbf{a}_{rel} = \mathbf{a}_{rel}^n$  is directed along the radius  $MC$ .

For the pin the motion of the disc is that of transport. Hence, the transport acceleration  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}$  of the pin is equal to the acceleration of the point of the disc with which it coincides at the given time. This point moves in a circle of radius  $OM = 2R \cos \alpha$ . For the disc,  $\omega = \text{const.}$ , hence  $\varepsilon = 0$ , and  $a_{tr}^{\tau} = OM \cdot \varepsilon = 0$ ;  $a_{tr}^n = OM \cdot \omega^2 = 2R\omega^2 \cos \alpha$ .

Vector  $\mathbf{a}_{tr} = \mathbf{a}_{tr}^n$  is directed along  $MO$ .

As the motion is in one plane,  $\mathbf{a}_{cor} = 2\omega\mathbf{u}$ .

The direction of  $\mathbf{a}_{cor}$  is found by turning vector  $\mathbf{v}_{rel} = \mathbf{u}$  round point  $M$  through  $90^\circ$  in the direction of the motion of transport (counter-clockwise).



The absolute acceleration of the pin is

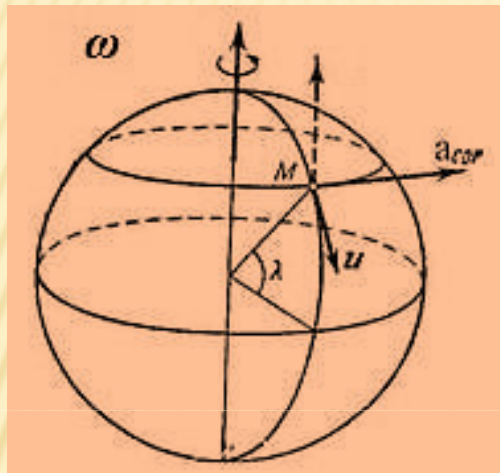
$$\mathbf{a}_a = \mathbf{a}_{rel} + \mathbf{a}_{tr} + \mathbf{a}_{cor}.$$

In this case vectors  $\mathbf{a}_{rel}$  and  $\mathbf{a}_{cor}$  are collinear and can be replaced by a collinear vector  $\mathbf{a}_1$  of magnitude  $\mathbf{a}_1 = \mathbf{a}_{rel} - \mathbf{a}_{cor}$ .

Adding vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1$  and  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}$  according to the parallelogram law, we obtain finally

$$a_a = \sqrt{a_{tr}^2 + (a_{rel} - a_{cor})^2 + 2a_{tr}(a_{rel} - a_{cor}) \cos \alpha}.$$

**P r o b l e m.** A body in the Northern Hemisphere is translated from North to South along a meridian with a velocity  $v_{rel} = u \text{ m/sec}$ . Determine the magnitude and direction of the Coriolis acceleration of the body at latitude  $\lambda$ .



**S o l u t i o n.** Neglecting the dimensions of the body, we treat it as a particle. The relative velocity of the body  $u$  makes an angle  $\alpha$  with the earth's axis. Consequently,  $a_{cor} = 2\omega u \sin \lambda$ , where  $\omega$  is the angular velocity of the earth's rotation.

Thus, the Coriolis acceleration is greatest at the Pole, where  $\lambda = 90^\circ$ .

As the body approaches the equator, the value of  $a_{cor}$  decreases, till it reaches zero at the equator, where the vector  $v_{rel} = u$  is parallel to the axis of rotation of the earth.

The direction of  $a_{cor}$  is found by the rule of a vector product.

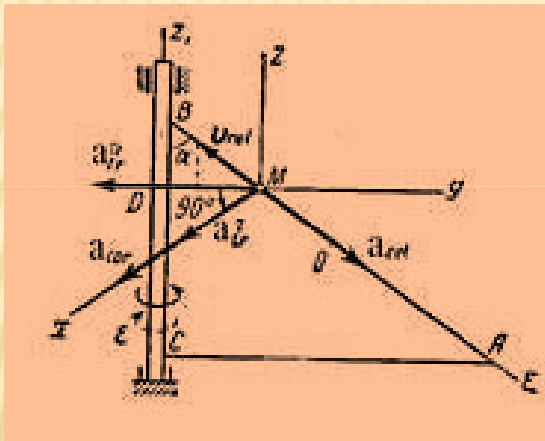
As  $a_{cor} = 2(\omega \times u)$  we find that vector  $a_{cor}$  is perpendicular to the plane through vectors  $u$  and  $\omega$ , i.e., perpendicular to the meridian plane, and is directed eastwards, from where the shortest turn from vector  $\omega$  to vector  $u$  is seen anticlockwise.

The question of how the Coriolis acceleration affects the motion of bodies at the earth's surface is studied in the course of dynamics. However, from the formula obtained it can be seen that the value of  $a_{cor}$  is usually small, as the angular velocity of rotation of the earth is small:

$$\omega \approx \frac{2\pi}{24 \cdot 3,600} \text{sec}^{-1}.$$

It is apparent, therefore, that for motions with small velocities the Coriolis acceleration can, for all practical purposes, be neglected.

**P r o b l e m.** The hypotenuse of the right-angled triangle  $ABC$  is  $AB = 2a = 20$  cm, and  $\angle CBA = \alpha = 60^\circ$ . The triangle rotates about axis  $Cz_1$  according to the law  $\varphi = 10t - 2t^2$ . Particle  $M$  oscillates along  $AB$  about its middle  $O$ , its equation of motion being  $\xi = a \cos(\frac{\pi}{3}t)$  (axis  $O\xi$  is directed along  $OA$ ). Determine the absolute acceleration of the particle  $M$  at time  $t_1 = 2$  sec.



**S o l u t i o n.** 1) Determine the position of  $M$  on its relative path  $AB$  at time  $t_1$ . From the equation of the motion we have

$$\xi_1 = a \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = -\frac{a}{2},$$

i.e., at time  $t_1$  the particle  $M$  is at the middle of segment  $OB$ .

As the relative motion is rectilinear,  $v_{rel} = \frac{d\xi}{dt} = -\frac{\pi}{3} a \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}t\right)$ .

At time  $t_1 = 1$  sec,  $v_{rel} = -\frac{\pi}{6} a\sqrt{3}$ ;  $|v_{rel_1}| = \frac{5}{3} \pi\sqrt{3}$  cm/sec.

Differentiating, we obtain  $\omega = \frac{d\varphi}{dt} = 10 - 4t$ ,  $\omega_1 = 2$  sec<sup>-1</sup>,  $\varepsilon = \frac{d\omega}{dt} = -4$  sec<sup>-2</sup>



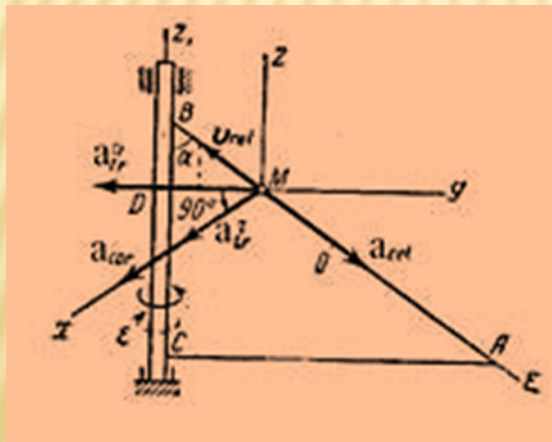
As the relative motion is rectilinear  $a_{rel} = \frac{dv_{rel}}{dt} = -\frac{\pi^2}{9} a \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}t\right)$ .

At time  $t_1 = 2$  sec,  $a_{rel} = \frac{\pi^2}{18} a = \frac{5}{9} \pi^2 \text{ cm/sec}^2$

For the particle  $M$  the motion of the triangle is that of transport, and the transport acceleration of  $M$  is equal to the acceleration of the point of the triangle with which  $M$  coincides at the given time. This point of the triangle moves in a circle of radius  $MD = h$ , and at time  $t_1 = 2$  sec,  $h_1 \frac{a}{\sin \alpha} = 5 \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ cm}$ .

Thus,  $a_{tr}^{\tau} = \varepsilon h = -10\sqrt{3} \text{ cm/sec}^2$ ;  $a_{tr}^n = \omega^2 h = 10\sqrt{3} \text{ cm/sec}^2$ .

Vector  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}^{\tau}$  is normal to plane  $ABC$  in the direction opposite to that of the rotation of the triangle. Vector  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}^n$  is directed along  $MD$  towards the axis of rotation  $Cz_1$ .

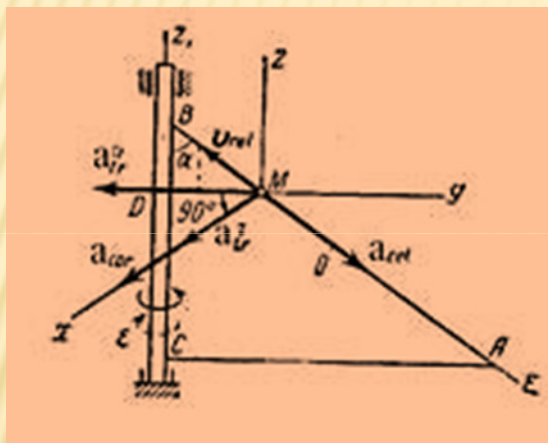


At time  $t_1 = 2$  sec,  $a_{cor} = 2|\omega v_{rel}| \sin \alpha = 10\pi \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{sec}^2}$ . The projection of  $\mathbf{v}_{rel}$  lies along  $MD$ . Turning that projection through a right angle in the direction of the rotation of transport, i.e., counterclockwise, we obtain the direction of  $\mathbf{a}_{cor}$  (which in the present case coincides with the direction of  $\mathbf{a}_{tr}^{\tau}$ ).

The absolute acceleration of the particle  $M$  is

$$\mathbf{a}_a = \mathbf{a}_{rel} + \mathbf{a}_{tr}^{\tau} + \mathbf{a}_{tr}^n + \mathbf{a}_{cor}.$$

In order to determine the value of  $a_a$ , draw a set of axes  $Oxyz$  and calculate the projections of all the vectors on them. We obtain



$$a_{ax} = a_{cor} + |a_{rel}^{\tau}| = 10\pi + 10\sqrt{3} \approx 48.7 \text{ cm/sec}^2,$$

$$a_{ay} = a_{rel} \sin \alpha - a_{tr}^n = \frac{5\pi^2}{18} \sqrt{3} - 10\sqrt{3} \approx -12.6 \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{sec}^2}.$$

$$a_{az} = -a_{rel} \cos \alpha = -\frac{5}{18} \pi^2 \approx 2.7 \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{sec}^2},$$

And finally  $a_a = \sqrt{a_{ax}^2 + a_{ay}^2 + a_{az}^2} = 50.4 \text{ cm/sec}^2.$

Vector  $\mathbf{a}_a$  can be constructed according to its rectangular components along the coordinate axes  $Oxyz$ .