

Relationships between linear and angular motion

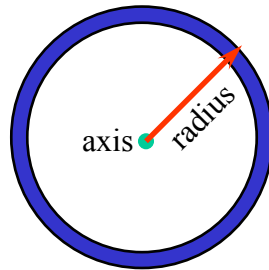
- Body segment rotations combine to produce linear motion of the whole body or of a specific point on a body segment or implement
 - Joint rotations create forces on the pedals.
 - Forces on pedals rotate crank which rotates gears which rotate wheels.
 - Rotation of wheels result in linear motion of the bicyclist and his bike.



Examples

- Running
 - Coordinate joint rotations to create translation of the entire body.
- Softball pitch
 - Rotate body to achieve desired linear velocity of the ball at release.
- Golf
 - Rotate body to rotate club to strike the ball for intended distance and accuracy.
- Example specific to your interests:

- Key concept:
 - the motion of any point on a rotating body (e.g., a bicycle wheel) can be described in linear terms
- Key information:
 - axis of rotation
 - radius of rotation: distance from axis to point of interest



- Linear and angular displacement

$$d = \theta \times r$$

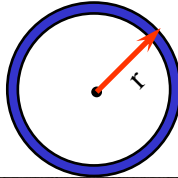
WARNING

θ must be expressed in the units of **radians** for this expression to be valid

NOTE: radians are expressed by a “unit-less” unit. That is, the units of radians seem to be invisible in each of the equations which related linear and angular motion.

Example

- Bicycle odometers measure **linear distance** traveled per wheel **rotation** for a point on the outer edge of the tire...



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- You describe bicycle wheel radius ($r = 0.33 \text{ m}$)
 - Device counts rotations ($\theta = 1 \text{ rev} = 2 \pi \text{ rad}$)
 - Question: How many times did a Tour de France's cyclist's wheel rotate ($d = 3427.5 \text{ km}$)?
 - know:
 - need:
 - use:
 - answer:

- Linear and angular velocity

$$v_T = \omega \times r$$

WARNING

ω must be expressed in the units of **radians/s** for this expression to be valid

- Although v_T may appear to be a new term, it is simply the linear or tangential velocity of the point of interest.

Example: Hockey wrist shot

- A hockey player is rotating his stick at 1700 deg/s at the instant of contact. If the blade of the stick is located 1.2 m from the axis of rotation, what is the linear speed of the blade at impact?
 - know:
 - need:
 - use:
 - answer:



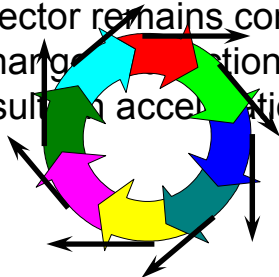
Follow up questions

- What would happen to blade velocity if the stick was rotated two times faster?
- What would happen to blade velocity if the stick (radius of rotation) was 25% shorter?

- What does the $v_T = \omega r$ relationship tell us about performance?
 - In many tasks, it is important to maximize the linear velocity (v_T) of a projectile or of a particular endpoint (usually distal)
 - club head speed in golf
 - ball velocity in throwing
 - Theoretically: v_T can be increased in two ways:
 - increasing r
 - increasing ω
 - Problem: it is more difficult to rotate an object when its mass is distributed farther from the axis of rotation.
 - What are some examples of this tradeoff?

- Linear and angular acceleration

- Newton's 1st law of motion states that an object must be forced to follow a curved path.
- A change of direction represents a change in velocity (a vector quantity).
- Therefore, even if the magnitude of a velocity vector remains constant (10 m/s), a change in direction of the velocity vector results in acceleration.



Radial acceleration

- Radial acceleration (a_R) - the linear acceleration that serves to describe the change in direction of an object following a curved path.
 - Radial acceleration is a linear quantity
 - It is always directed inward, toward the center of a curved path.

Example – Radial acceleration

- Skaters or skiers on a curve must force themselves to change directions.
- Changes of direction result in changes in velocity - even if the speed remains constant (why?)
- Changes of velocity, by definition, result in accelerations (a_R).
- This radial acceleration is caused by the component of the ground reaction force (GRF) that is directed toward the center of the turn.



$$a_R = v_T^2/r = (\omega r)^2/r = \omega^2 r$$

- This relationship demonstrates:
 - for a given r , higher v_T is related to a higher a_R ; which means a higher force is needed to produce a_R (i.e., to maintain curved path).
 - for a given r , higher ω is also related to a higher a_R ; which means a higher force is needed to produce a_R (i.e., to maintain curved path).
 - for a given v_T , lower r (i.e., a tighter “turning radius”) results in a higher a_R (and the need for a greater force to maintain a curved path)

Example scenarios



- Two bicyclists are racing on a rainy day and both enter a slippery corner at 25 m/s. If the one cyclist takes a tighter turning radius than the other, which cyclist experiences the greatest radial acceleration?
 - Who is at greater risk for slipping or skidding?
 - What strategies can cyclists take to reduce the risk of skidding?
 - Which strategy is theoretically more effective?

Other examples

- A baseball pitcher delivers two pitches with exactly the same technique. However, the first pitch is thrown two times faster than the second (e.g. fastball vs very slow change up).
 - During which pitch does the athlete experience greater radial accelerations?
 - In which direction(s) are the radial accelerations experienced?
 - How these accelerations relate to injury (e.g., rotator cuff damage)?
- In preparation for his high-bar dismount, a gymnast increases his rate of rotation by a factor of three. His radius of rotation remains the same.
 - By what factor does his radial acceleration change during this time?

- Tangential acceleration (a_T) - the linear acceleration that serves to describe the rate of change in magnitude of tangential velocity.

$$a_T = (v_{Tf} - v_{Ti})/t$$

- Although a_T may appear to be a new term, it is simply the change in linear or tangential velocity of the point of interest.

Resultant Acceleration Vector

- Rotational and curvilinear motions will always result in radial acceleration because the direction of the velocity vector is always changing.
- If the magnitude of the velocity vector also changes, tangential acceleration will also be present.
- Therefore, during all rotational and curvilinear motions the resultant acceleration is composed of the radial and tangential accelerations.

