Relative Motion (Translating Axes)

Lecture 7

ME 231: Dynamics

Question of the Day



Passengers in jet *A* flying east at a *speed* of 800 km/h observe jet *B* moving away at a 60° angle although its nose is pointed in the 45° direction.

> Determine the *true velocity* of *B* in an earthfixed coordinate system.

- Question of the day
- Choice of inertial coordinate system
- Vector representation
- Additional considerations
- Answer your questions!

Choice of Inertial Coordinate System

Moving coordinate systems are measured with respect to an *inertial* coordinate system whose *motion is negligible*.





- Absolute position of *B* is defined in an inertial coordinate system *X*-*Y*
- Attach a set of translating (*non-rotating*) axes *x-y* to particle *B* and define the position of *A*
- Define position of "A relative to B" ("A/B") in x-y

Vector Representation: Exercise

$$\mathbf{r}_{A} = \mathbf{r}_{B} + \mathbf{r}_{A/B}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{A} = \dot{\mathbf{r}}_{A} = \dot{\mathbf{r}}_{B} + \dot{\mathbf{r}}_{A/B}$$

Train *A* travels with constant **speed** $v_A = 120$ km/h. Anticipating the need to stop, car *B* decreases its **speed** of 90 km/h at the rate of 3 m/s².

Determine the **velocity** and **acceleration** of the train relative to the car.

- Question of the day
- Choice of inertial coordinate system
- Vector representation
- Additional considerations
- Answer your questions!



- Selection of the moving point (e.g., *A* or *B*) is arbitrary
- Absolute position of *A* is defined in an inertial coordinate system *X*-*Y*
- Attach a set of translating (*non-rotating*) axes *x-y* to particle *A* and define the position of *B*



Car *A* has a **speed** $v_A = 100$ km/h, which is increasing at the rate of 8 km/h each second. Car *B* has a **speed** $v_B =$ 100 km/h, around the turn and is slowing down at the rate of 8 km/h each second.

Determine the *acceleration* that car B appears to have to an observer in car A.

- Question of the day
- Choice of inertial coordinate system
- Vector representation
- Additional considerations
- Answer your questions!

- Begin Homework #3 due next week (9/12)
- Read Chapter 2, Section 2.7 again