

ME 2580 Example #30: (Rigid Body Kinematics – Relative Velocity)

Given: $l_1 = l_2 = 0.4$ (m)

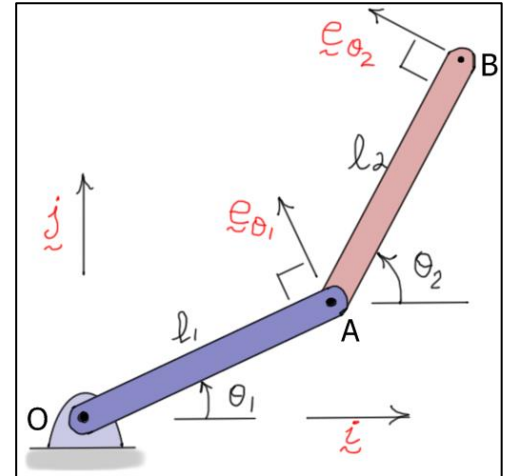
$\theta_1 = 25$ (deg), $\omega_1 = \dot{\theta}_1 = 10$ (r/s) CCW

$\theta_2 = 60$ (deg), $\omega_2 = \dot{\theta}_2 = 5$ (r/s) CCW

Find: v_B the velocity of the endpoint B

Solution:

Using the relative velocity equation for two points fixed on a rigid body,



$$v_B = v_A + v_{B/A} = v_O + \underset{\text{zero}}{v_{A/O}} + v_{B/A}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left[\omega_{OA} \times r_{A/O} \right] + \left[\omega_{AB} \times r_{B/A} \right] \\ &= \left[\omega_1 k \times l_1 (\cos(25) i + \sin(25) j) \right] + \left[\omega_2 k \times l_2 (\cos(60) i + \sin(60) j) \right] \\ &= l_1 \omega_1 \underbrace{(-\sin(25) i + \cos(25) j)}_{e_{\theta_1}} + l_2 \omega_2 \underbrace{(-\sin(60) i + \cos(60) j)}_{e_{\theta_2}} \\ &= (-1.69047 i + 3.62523 j) + (-1.73205 i + 1 j) \\ &\Rightarrow \boxed{v_B \approx -3.42 i + 4.63 j} \end{aligned}$$

Notes:

1. The direction of $v_{A/O}$ the velocity of A with respect to O is in the e_{θ_1} direction which is **perpendicular** to link OA as shown.
2. The direction of $v_{B/A}$ the velocity of B with respect to A is in the e_{θ_2} direction which is **perpendicular** to link AB as shown.
3. The directions of each of these relative velocities is determined by the **cross** (or vector) **product**. In each case, the direction is perpendicular to **both** the angular velocity vector and the relative position vector of the two points, O and A for the first link and A and B for the second link.