

3.9/6: Reformulation of the Spherical Conversion

In the spherical polar system:

$$\underline{\dot{e}}_r = \dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\theta + \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \underline{e}_\phi \quad - (1)$$

$$\underline{\dot{e}}_\theta = -\dot{\theta} \underline{e}_r + \dot{\phi} \cos \theta \underline{e}_\phi \quad - (2)$$

$$\underline{\dot{e}}_\phi = -\dot{\phi} \sin \theta \underline{e}_r - \dot{\phi} \cos \theta \underline{e}_\theta \quad - (3)$$

("Vector Analysis Problem Solver"). The velocity in the spherical polar coordinate system is:

$$\underline{v} = \dot{r} \underline{e}_r + r \dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\theta + r \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \underline{e}_\phi \quad - (4)$$

It follows that:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_r \\ a_\theta \\ a_\phi \end{bmatrix} = \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{r} \\ r \dot{\theta} \\ r \sin \theta \dot{\phi} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\dot{\theta} & -\dot{\phi} \sin \theta \\ \dot{\theta} & 0 & -\dot{\phi} \cos \theta \\ \dot{\phi} \sin \theta & \dot{\phi} \cos \theta & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{r} \\ r \dot{\theta} \\ r \sin \theta \dot{\phi} \end{bmatrix} \quad - (5)$$

can be re expressed as:

$$a_r = \frac{d\dot{r}}{dt} - \underline{\dot{e}}_r \cdot \underline{v} = \frac{dv_r}{dt} - \underline{\dot{e}}_r \cdot \underline{v} \quad - (6)$$

$$a_\theta = \frac{d}{dt}(r \dot{\theta}) - \underline{\dot{e}}_\theta \cdot \underline{v} = \frac{dv_\theta}{dt} - \underline{\dot{e}}_\theta \cdot \underline{v} \quad - (7)$$

$$a_\phi = \frac{d}{dt}(r \sin \theta \dot{\phi}) - \underline{\dot{e}}_\phi \cdot \underline{v} = \frac{dv_\phi}{dt} - \underline{\dot{e}}_\phi \cdot \underline{v} \quad - (8)$$

In the plane polar system:

$$\underline{\dot{e}}_r = \dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\theta \quad - (9)$$

$$\underline{\dot{e}}_\theta = -\dot{\theta} \underline{e}_r \quad - (10)$$

and

$$\underline{v} = \dot{r} \underline{e}_r + r \dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\theta. \quad (11)$$

it follows that:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_r \\ a_\theta \end{bmatrix} = \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{r} \\ r\dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\dot{\theta} \\ \dot{\theta} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{r} \\ r\dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

can be re expressed as:

$$a_r = \frac{d\dot{r}}{dt} - \underline{e}_r \cdot \underline{v} = \frac{dV_r}{dt} - \underline{e}_r \cdot \underline{v} \quad (13)$$

and

$$a_\theta = \frac{d}{dt}(r\dot{\theta}) - \underline{e}_\theta \cdot \underline{v} = \frac{dV_\theta}{dt} - \underline{e}_\theta \cdot \underline{v} \quad (14)$$

Expressions such as (6) to (8) and (13), (14) are true
for any coordinate system
