

16.5 Relative Motion Analysis

With multiple moving parts, consider using **relative motion analysis**.

For points A and B located on a single rigid body:

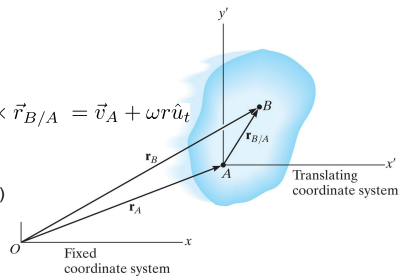
$$\vec{r}_B = \vec{r}_A + \vec{r}_{B/A}$$

$$\vec{v}_B = \vec{v}_A + \vec{v}_{B/A} = \vec{v}_A + \vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}_{B/A} = \vec{v}_A + \omega r \hat{u}_t$$

rotation of B about A
(assuming A, B and O are
in the plane of motion)

absolute velocity of A

absolute velocity of B



1

16.5 Relative Motion Analysis

Example:

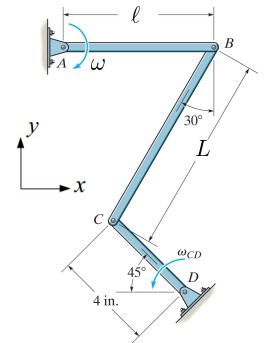
Find ω_{CD} in terms of ω .

Approach:

$$\vec{v}_B = \vec{v}_A + \vec{v}_{B/A}$$

$$\vec{v}_C = \vec{v}_B + \vec{v}_{C/B}$$

$$\vec{v}_D = \vec{v}_C + \vec{v}_{D/C}$$



2

16.5 Relative Motion Analysis

$$\vec{v}_B = \vec{v}_A + \vec{v}_{B/A}$$

$$= \vec{v}_A + \omega r \hat{u}_t$$

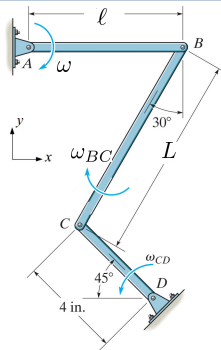
$$= \vec{0} + l\omega (-\hat{j}) = -l\omega \hat{j}$$

$$\vec{v}_C = \vec{v}_B + \vec{v}_{C/B}$$

$$= -l\omega \hat{j} + L\omega_{BC} \hat{u}_t$$

$$\hat{u}_t = -\hat{i} \cos 30^\circ + \hat{j} \sin 30^\circ$$

the positive direction of ω_{BC}
is defined in the diagram



3

16.5 Relative Motion Analysis

The angular velocity is the same between any two points on a rigid body.

$$\vec{v}_{B/A} = -l\omega \hat{j}$$

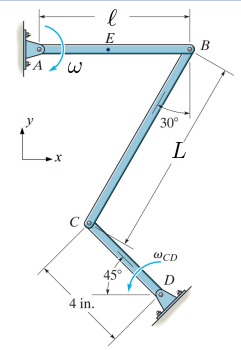
and

$$\vec{v}_{A/B} = l\omega \hat{j}$$

and

$$\vec{v}_{A/E} = \frac{1}{2}l\omega \hat{j}$$

all with the **same** value for ω



4

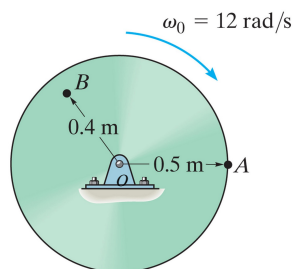
16.5 Relative Motion Analysis

A orbits O at a rate of 12 rad/s.

B orbits O at a rate of 12 rad/s.

A orbits B at a rate of 12 rad/s.

B orbits A at a rate of 12 rad/s.



5

16.5 Relative Motion Analysis

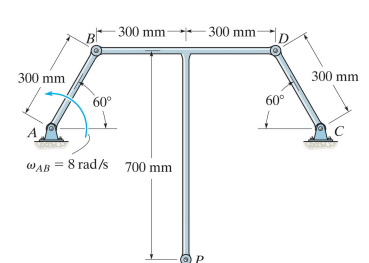
A velocity relative to a fixed point is the same as the velocity relative to any other fixed point.

$$\vec{v}_{B/A} = \vec{v}_{B/C}$$

$$\vec{v}_{D/C} = \vec{v}_{D/A}$$

$$\vec{v}_{P/A} = \vec{v}_{P/C}$$

$$\vec{v}_{A/C} = \vec{0}$$



6