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## **ORTHOGONAL CURVILINEAR COORDINATES**

Description specifies the position of a point, by giving the value of **3-parameters**,  $q^a$ , (i.e.  $\theta, \varphi, R$ ) which form an **orthogonal mesh** in space.

There exist a unique transformation between the Cartesian Coordinates  $(x, y, z)$  and the Orthogonal Coordinates,  $q^a$ , (i.e.  $\theta, \varphi, R$ ), such that:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}(\theta, \varphi, R), \quad \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}(\theta, \varphi, R), \quad \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z}(\theta, \varphi, R) \\ (3.16)$$

$$\theta = \theta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}), \quad \varphi = \varphi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}), \quad R = R(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) \\ (3.17)$$



$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}(\theta, \phi, R), \quad \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}(\theta, \phi, R), \quad \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z}(\theta, \phi, R) \quad (3.16)$$

$$\theta = \theta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}), \quad \phi = \phi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}), \quad R = R(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) \quad (3.17)$$

When two of the parameters of  $\mathbf{q}^a$  (i.e.  $\theta, \phi, R$ ) are held constant while the third is given a range of values, the first group of equations (16) and (17) specifies a curve in space in parametric form.

When the constant parameter pair is given a variety of values, the result is a family of curves. Repeating this procedure with each of the other pairs of parameters held constant, produces two more families of curves (i.e. called mesh). The families of curves are mutually Orthogonal.

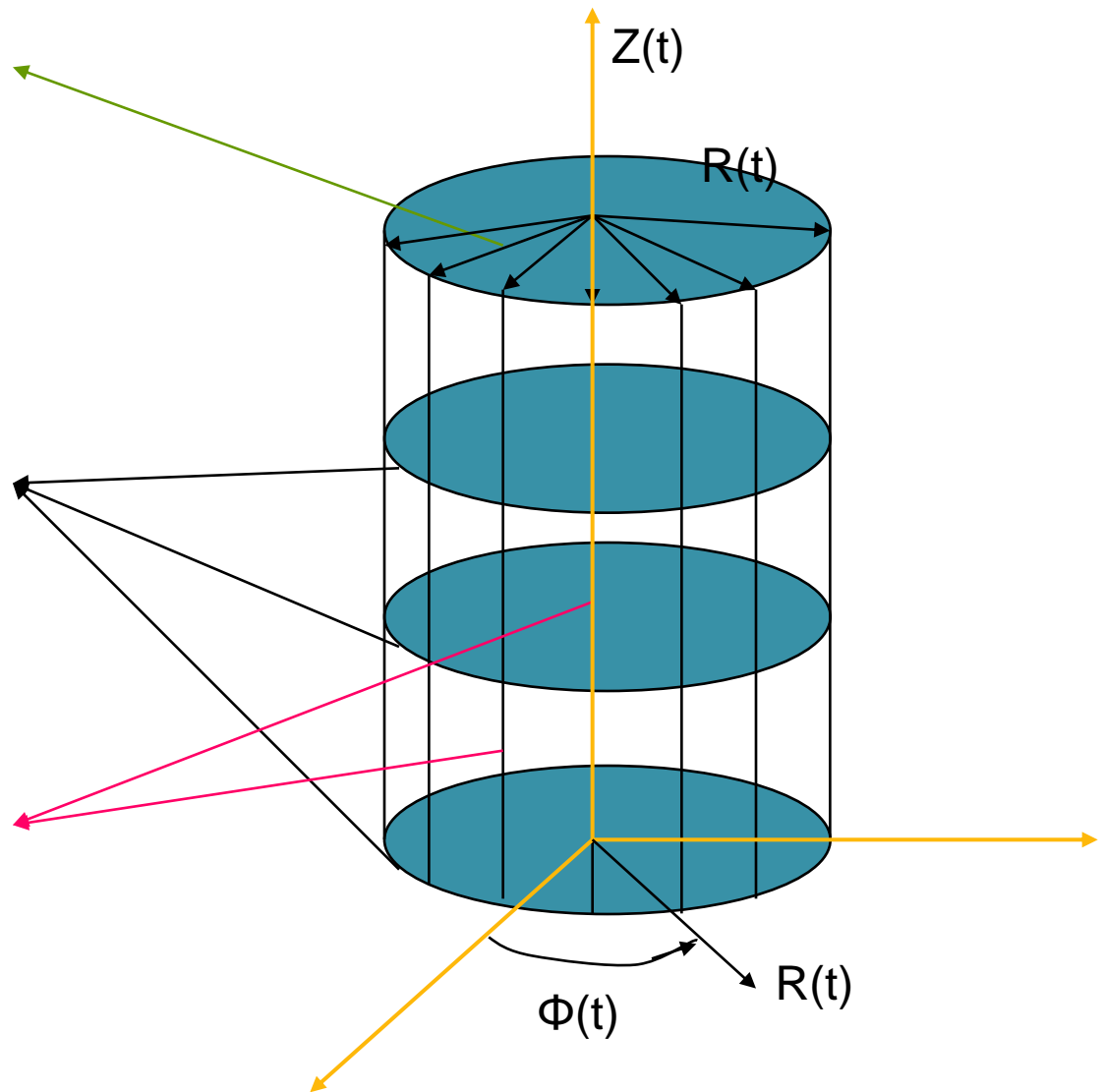
They are named after one of the types of surfaces on which one of the curvilinear coordinates is constant.



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X = X(R, \phi_1, Z_1) \\ X = X(R, \phi_2, Z_2) \\ \vdots \\ X = X(R, \phi_i, Z_i) \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X = X(R_1, \phi, Z_1) \\ X = X(R_2, \phi, Z_2) \\ \vdots \\ X = X(R_i, \phi, Z_i) \end{array} \right.$$

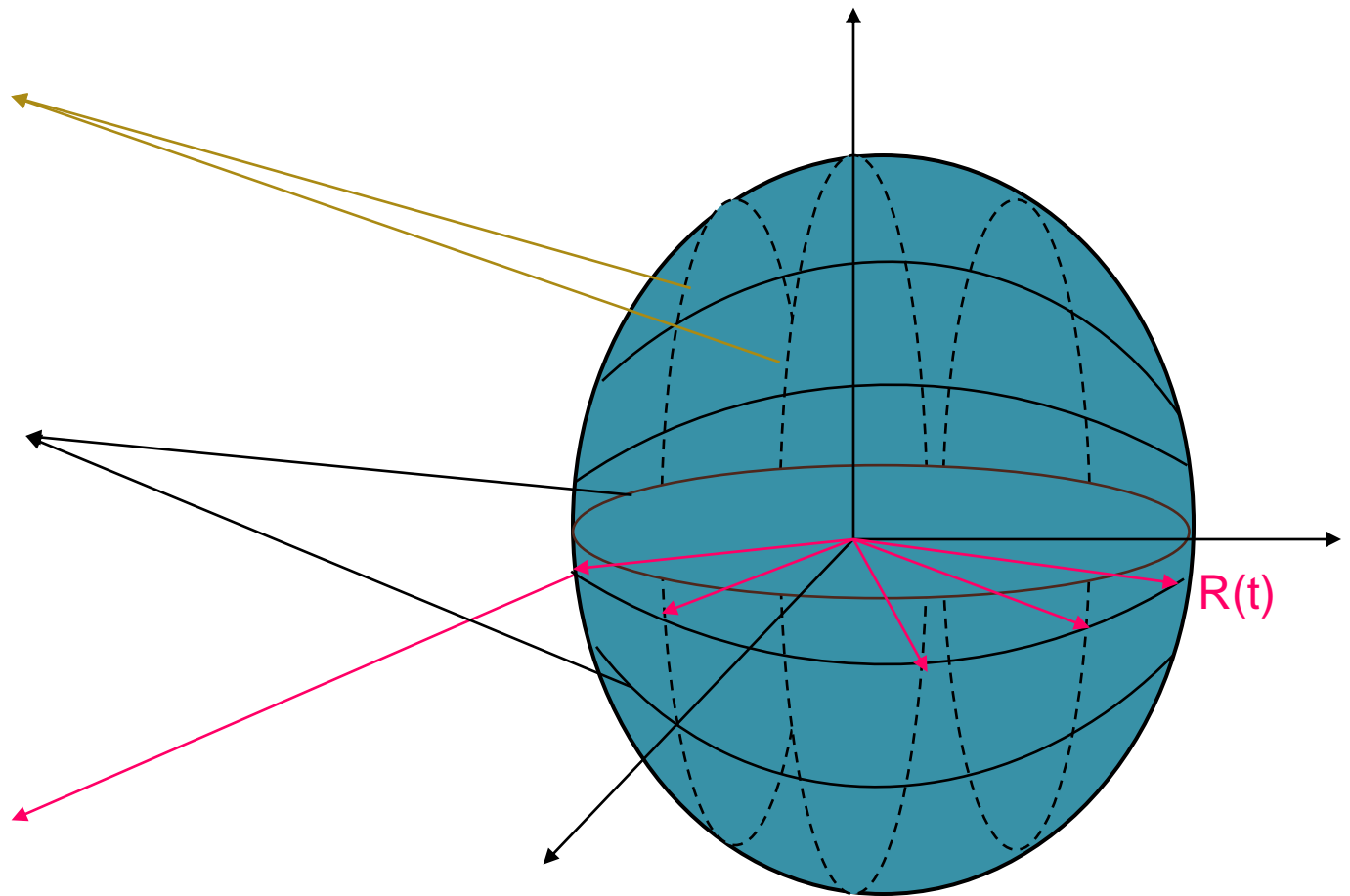
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X = X(R_1, \phi_1, Z) \\ X = X(R_2, \phi_2, Z) \\ \vdots \\ X = X(R_i, \phi_i, Z) \end{array} \right.$$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X = X(\theta, \varphi_1, R_1) \\ X = X(\theta, \varphi_2, R_2) \\ \vdots \\ X = X(\theta, \varphi_i, R_i) \end{array} \right.$$

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$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X = X(\theta_1, \varphi_1, R) \\ X = X(\theta_2, \varphi_2, R) \\ \vdots \\ X = X(\theta_i, \varphi_i, R) \end{array} \right.$$



## *Cylindrical Coordinates (R, $\phi$ , Z):*

*Base Vectors are:  $\{\underline{x}_R, \underline{x}_\phi, \underline{x}_Z\}$*

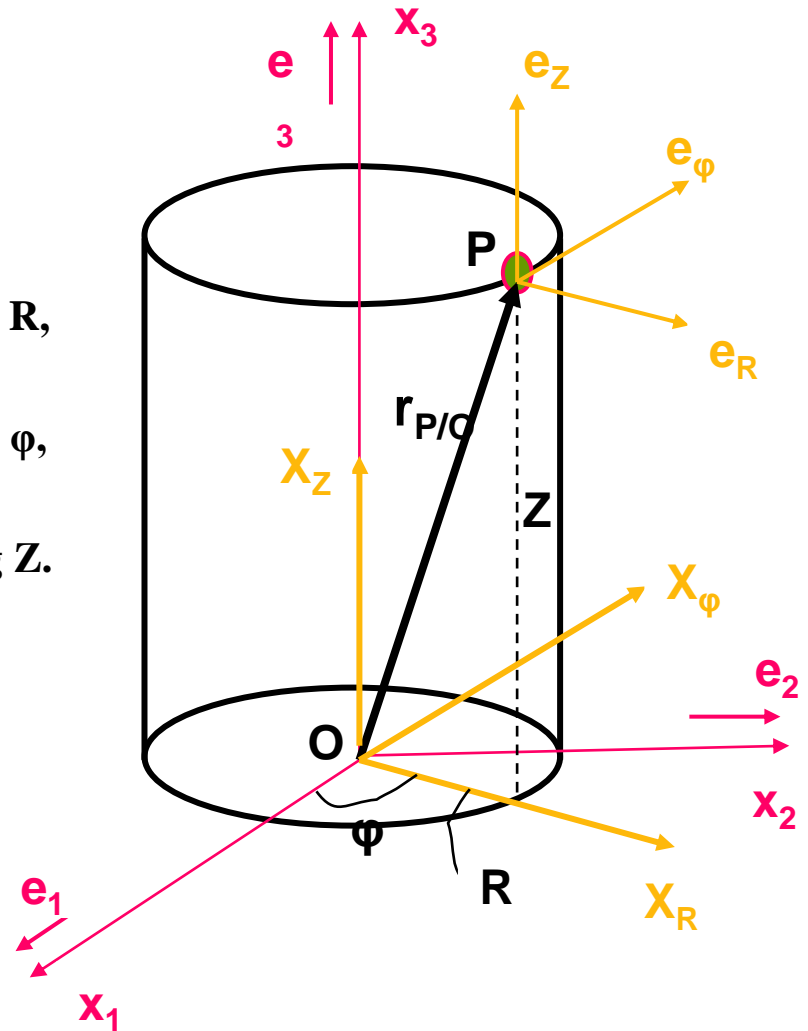
$\underline{e}_R$  : unit vector in the direction of increasing R,

$\underline{e}_\phi$  : unit vector in the direction of increasing  $\phi$ ,

$\underline{e}_Z$  : unit vector in the direction of increasing Z.

Position Vector:

$$\underline{r}_{P/O} = R\underline{e}_R + Z\underline{e}_Z \quad (3.18)$$



## Velocity Vector:

$$\underline{v}_P = \dot{R}\underline{e}_R + R\dot{\underline{e}}_R + \dot{Z}\underline{e}_Z + Z\dot{\underline{e}}_Z$$

unit vectors  $\{\underline{e}_R, \underline{e}_\phi, \underline{e}_Z\}$  all rotate with an angular velocity “  $\dot{\phi}$  ”,

then using Jaumann Rate, we have:

$$\dot{\underline{e}}_R = \underline{\omega}_R \times \underline{e}_R = (\dot{\phi}\underline{e}_Z) \times (\underline{e}_R) = \dot{\phi}\underline{e}_\phi \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\underline{e}}_Z = 0$$

$$\underline{v}_P = \dot{R}\underline{e}_R + R\dot{\phi}\underline{e}_\phi + \dot{Z}\underline{e}_Z \quad (3.19)$$



## Acceleration Vector:

$$\underline{a}_P = \ddot{R}\underline{e}_R + \dot{R}\dot{\underline{e}}_R + \dot{R}\dot{\phi}\underline{e}_\phi + R\ddot{\phi}\underline{e}_\phi + R\dot{\phi}\dot{\underline{e}}_\phi + \ddot{Z}\underline{e}_Z + \dot{Z}\dot{\underline{e}}_Z$$

$$\dot{\underline{e}}_\phi = \underline{\omega}_\phi \times \underline{e}_\phi = (\dot{\phi}\underline{e}_Z) \times (\underline{e}_\phi) = -\dot{\phi}\underline{e}_R \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\underline{e}}_Z = 0$$

$$\underline{a}_P = (\ddot{R} - R\dot{\phi}^2)\underline{e}_R + (2\dot{R}\dot{\phi} + R\ddot{\phi})\underline{e}_\phi + \ddot{Z}\underline{e}_Z = a_R\underline{e}_R + a_\phi\underline{e}_\phi + a_Z\underline{e}_Z \quad (3.20)$$

$a_R$  : Radial Acceleration

$a_\phi$  : Transverse Acceleration

$a_Z$  : Axial Acceleration

$2\dot{R}\dot{\phi}$  : Coriolis Acceleration (due to the simultaneous change in “R” and “ $\phi$ ” with respect to time).





## *Spherical Coordinates ( $\theta$ , $\varphi$ , $R$ ):*

*Base Vectors are:  $\{\underline{x}_\theta, \underline{x}_\varphi, \underline{x}_R\}$*

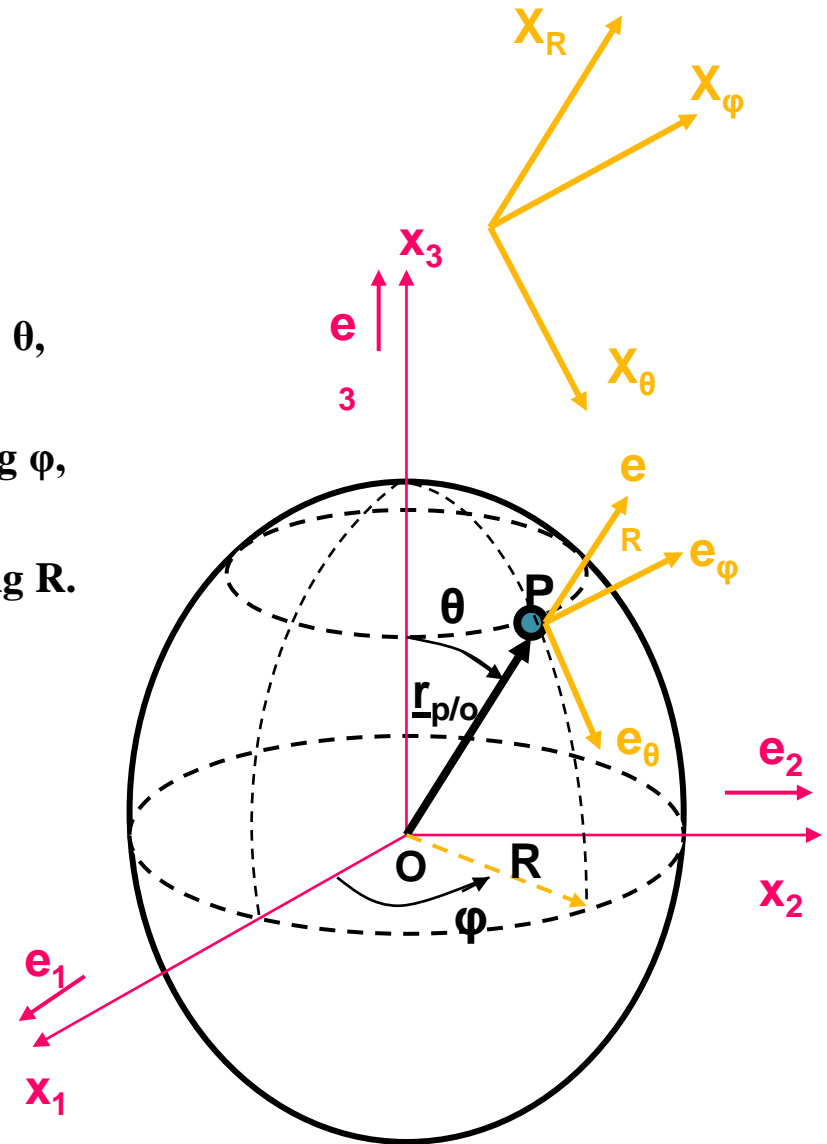
$\underline{e}_\theta$ : unit vector in the direction of increasing  $\theta$ ,

$\underline{e}_\varphi$ : unit vector in the direction of increasing  $\varphi$ ,

$\underline{e}_R$ : unit vector in the direction of increasing  $R$ .

*Position Vector:*

$$\underline{r}_{P/O} = R \underline{e}_R \quad (3.21)$$



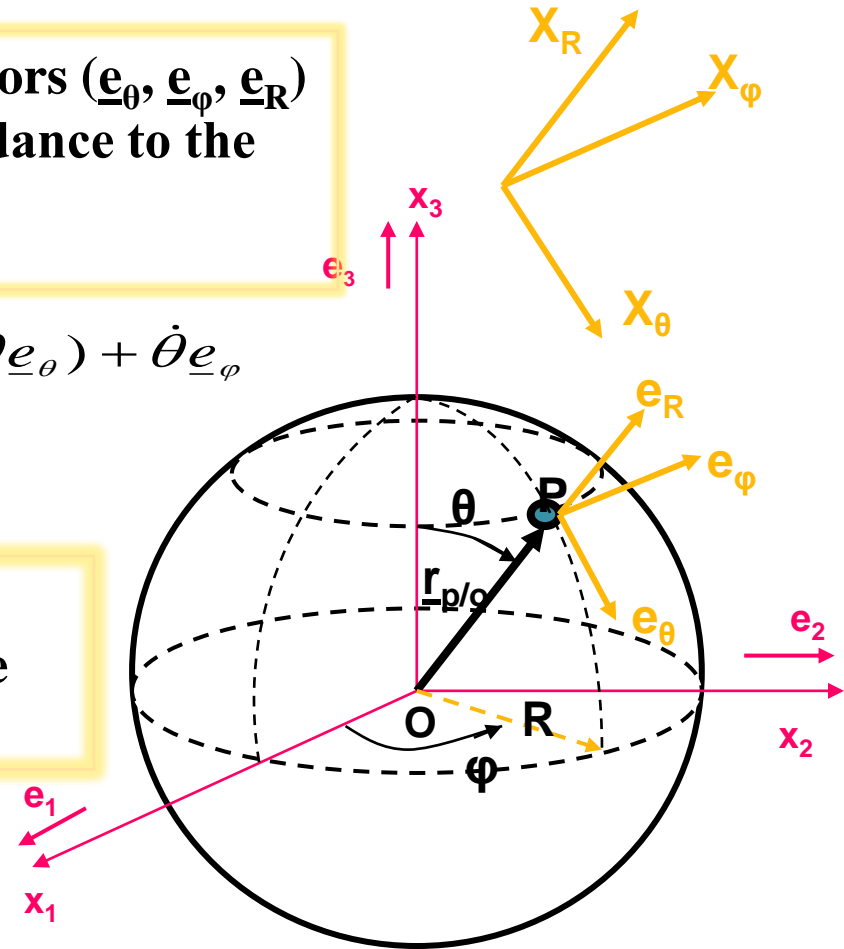
## Spherical Coordinates ( $\theta$ , $\phi$ , $R$ ):

**Note that** orientation of the unit vectors ( $\underline{e}_\theta$ ,  $\underline{e}_\phi$ ,  $\underline{e}_R$ ) Changes with “ $\theta$ ” and “ $\phi$ ”, in accordance to the following angular velocity:

$$\underline{\Omega} = \dot{\phi} \underline{e}_3 + \dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\phi = \dot{\phi} (\cos \theta \underline{e}_R - \sin \theta \underline{e}_\theta) + \dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\phi$$

★ (3.22)

Now, applying Jaumann Rate to the position vector  $\underline{r}_{P/O}$  rotating with the angular velocity  $\underline{\Omega}$ , we have:



### Velocity Vector:

$$\underline{v}_P = \dot{\underline{r}}_{P/O} = \dot{R} \underline{e}_R + \underline{\Omega} \times \underline{r}_{P/O} = \dot{R} \underline{e}_R + (R \dot{\phi} \sin \theta \underline{e}_\phi + R \dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\theta) \quad (3.23)$$



## Acceleration Vector:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{a}_P = \dot{\underline{v}}_P &= (\dot{v}_P)_i \underline{e}_i + \underline{\Omega} \times \underline{v}_P = \ddot{R} \underline{e}_R + (\dot{R}\dot{\phi} \sin \theta + R\ddot{\phi} \sin \theta + R\dot{\theta}\dot{\phi} \cos \theta) \underline{e}_\phi + \\ &(\dot{R}\dot{\theta} + R\ddot{\theta}) \underline{e}_\theta + [\dot{R}\dot{\phi} \sin \theta \underline{e}_\phi - R\dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta \underline{e}_R + \dot{R}\dot{\theta} \underline{e}_\phi - R\dot{\theta}^2 \underline{e}_R - \\ &R\dot{\phi}^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \underline{e}_\theta + R\dot{\theta}\dot{\phi} \cos \theta \underline{e}_\phi]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{a}_P &= (\ddot{R} - R\dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta - R\dot{\theta}^2) \underline{e}_R + \\ &(2\dot{R}\dot{\phi} \sin \theta + 2R\dot{\theta}\dot{\phi} \cos \theta + R\ddot{\phi} \sin \theta) \underline{e}_\phi + \\ &+ (R\ddot{\theta} + 2\dot{R}\dot{\theta} - R\dot{\phi}^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) \underline{e}_\theta\end{aligned}$$



(3.24)



## **Kinematical Quantities in Curvilinear Coordinates** **via Transform Approach:**

**Theorem-6:** The orientation of a curvilinear coordinate,  $q^\alpha$ , (i.e. R,  $\phi$ , Z), at a point “P” in space is defined by the direction of the Base Vectors,  $\underline{g}_\alpha$ , at that point. If we let:

$\underline{r}(q^\alpha)$  : position vector of “P”, then; ★

$$\underline{\text{Base Vectors}} = \underline{g}_\alpha = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial q^\alpha} \quad \text{and unit vectors of } \underline{g}_\alpha \text{ are: } \underline{e}_\alpha = \frac{\underline{g}_\alpha}{|\underline{g}_\alpha|} \quad (3.25)$$

**Note that the curvilinear coordinates are Orthogonal if the base vectors form an orthogonal set, that is: “  $\underline{g}_\alpha \cdot \underline{g}_\beta = 0$  for  $\alpha \neq \beta$  ”.**



**Ex: In Cylindrical Coordinates:**

$$q^\alpha \equiv (R, \varphi, Z)$$

$$\underline{r} = x_i \underline{e}_i = R \cos \varphi \underline{e}_1 + R \sin \varphi \underline{e}_2 + Z \underline{e}_3 \quad (\text{position vector})$$

**Base vectors** representing the orientation of the cylindrical coordinates at point P are:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{X}_R = \underline{g}_R = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial R} = \cos \varphi \underline{e}_1 + \sin \varphi \underline{e}_2 \\ \underline{X}_\varphi = \underline{g}_\varphi = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial \varphi} = -R \sin \varphi \underline{e}_1 + R \cos \varphi \underline{e}_2 \\ \underline{X}_Z = \underline{g}_Z = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial Z} = \underline{e}_3 \end{array} \right.$$

{A coordinate system is said to be **curvilinear** if one or more of its base vectors are functions of position.}



and;

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \underline{e}_R &= \frac{\underline{g}_R}{|\underline{g}_R|} = \frac{\underline{g}_R}{1} = \underline{g}_R = \cos \varphi \underline{e}_1 + \sin \varphi \underline{e}_2 \\ \underline{e}_\varphi &= \frac{\underline{g}_\varphi}{|\underline{g}_\varphi|} = \frac{\underline{g}_\varphi}{R} = -\sin \varphi \underline{e}_1 + \cos \varphi \underline{e}_2 \\ \underline{e}_Z &= \frac{\underline{g}_Z}{|\underline{g}_Z|} = \frac{\underline{g}_Z}{1} = \underline{g}_Z = \underline{e}_3 \end{aligned} \right.$$

Therefore, Position Vector Components of point P is represented by:

$$\begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \underline{T}_\varphi \begin{Bmatrix} X_R \\ X_\varphi \\ X_Z \end{Bmatrix}; \text{ where : } \underline{T}_\varphi = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \varphi & -\sin \varphi & 0 \\ \sin \varphi & \cos \varphi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ or:}$$



$$\{x_i\} = \underline{T}_{\varphi} \{x_{\alpha}\}, \text{ where: } \{x_{\alpha}\} = \begin{Bmatrix} X_R \\ X_{\varphi} \\ X_Z \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} R \\ 0 \\ Z \end{Bmatrix} \quad (3.26)$$



and;

$$\{x_{\alpha}\} = \underline{T}_{\varphi}^t \{x_i\} \Rightarrow \{\underline{v}_{\alpha}\} = \underline{T}_{\varphi}^t \{\underline{v}_i\} \Rightarrow \{a_{\alpha}\} = \underline{T}_{\varphi}^t \{a_i\}$$

**Velocity Vector Components** may be obtained by time derivative of Eq. (3.26) as:

$$\{\dot{x}_i\} = \dot{\underline{T}}_{\varphi} \{x_{\alpha}\} + \underline{T}_{\varphi} \{\dot{x}_{\alpha}\} \Rightarrow \{\underline{v}_i\} = \dot{\underline{T}}_{\varphi} \begin{Bmatrix} R \\ 0 \\ Z \end{Bmatrix} + \underline{T}_{\varphi} \begin{Bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ 0 \\ \dot{Z} \end{Bmatrix}, \text{ but:}$$

$$\{\underline{v}_{\alpha}\} = \underline{T}_{\varphi}^t \{\underline{v}_i\} = \underline{T}_{\varphi}^t \dot{\underline{T}}_{\varphi} \begin{Bmatrix} R \\ 0 \\ Z \end{Bmatrix} + \underline{T}_{\varphi}^t \underline{T}_{\varphi} \begin{Bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ 0 \\ \dot{Z} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ R\dot{\varphi} \\ \dot{Z} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} v_R \\ v_{\varphi} \\ v_Z \end{Bmatrix} \quad (3.27)$$



Similarly, Acceleration Vector Components are obtained as:

$$\{a_i\} = \underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi} \ddot{\{x_{\alpha}\}} + 2\underline{\underline{\dot{T}}}_{\varphi} \dot{\{x_{\alpha}\}} + \underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi} \ddot{\{x_{\alpha}\}}$$

$$\{a_{\alpha}\} = \underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi}^t \{a_i\} = \underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi}^t \underline{\underline{\ddot{T}}}_{\varphi} \{x_{\alpha}\} + 2\underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi}^t \underline{\underline{\dot{T}}}_{\varphi} \dot{\{x_{\alpha}\}} + \underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi}^t \underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi} \ddot{\{x_{\alpha}\}}$$

$$\{a_{\alpha}\} = \underline{\underline{T}}_{\varphi}^t \underline{\underline{\ddot{T}}}_{\varphi} \begin{Bmatrix} R \\ 0 \\ Z \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{R} \\ 2\dot{R}\dot{\phi} \\ \ddot{Z} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{R} - R\dot{\phi}^2 \\ 2\dot{R}\dot{\phi} + R\ddot{\phi} \\ \ddot{Z} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} a_R \\ a_{\phi} \\ a_Z \end{Bmatrix}$$



**(3.28)**





**Other Curvilinear Coordinates:** {i.e. Elliptical or Conical Coordinates ( $\zeta, \eta, \xi$ )};  $\{\zeta: \text{Zeta}, \eta: \text{Eta}, \xi: \text{Xi/Zai}\}$

**Ex: Plane Elliptical-Hyperbolic Coordinates** ( $\zeta, \eta$ ):

Consider the following plane elliptical-hyperbolic coordinate system as:

$$x_1 = R\left(\zeta + \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \cos \eta \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = R\left(\zeta - \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \sin \eta$$

where “m” and “R” are constants. *Note that:*

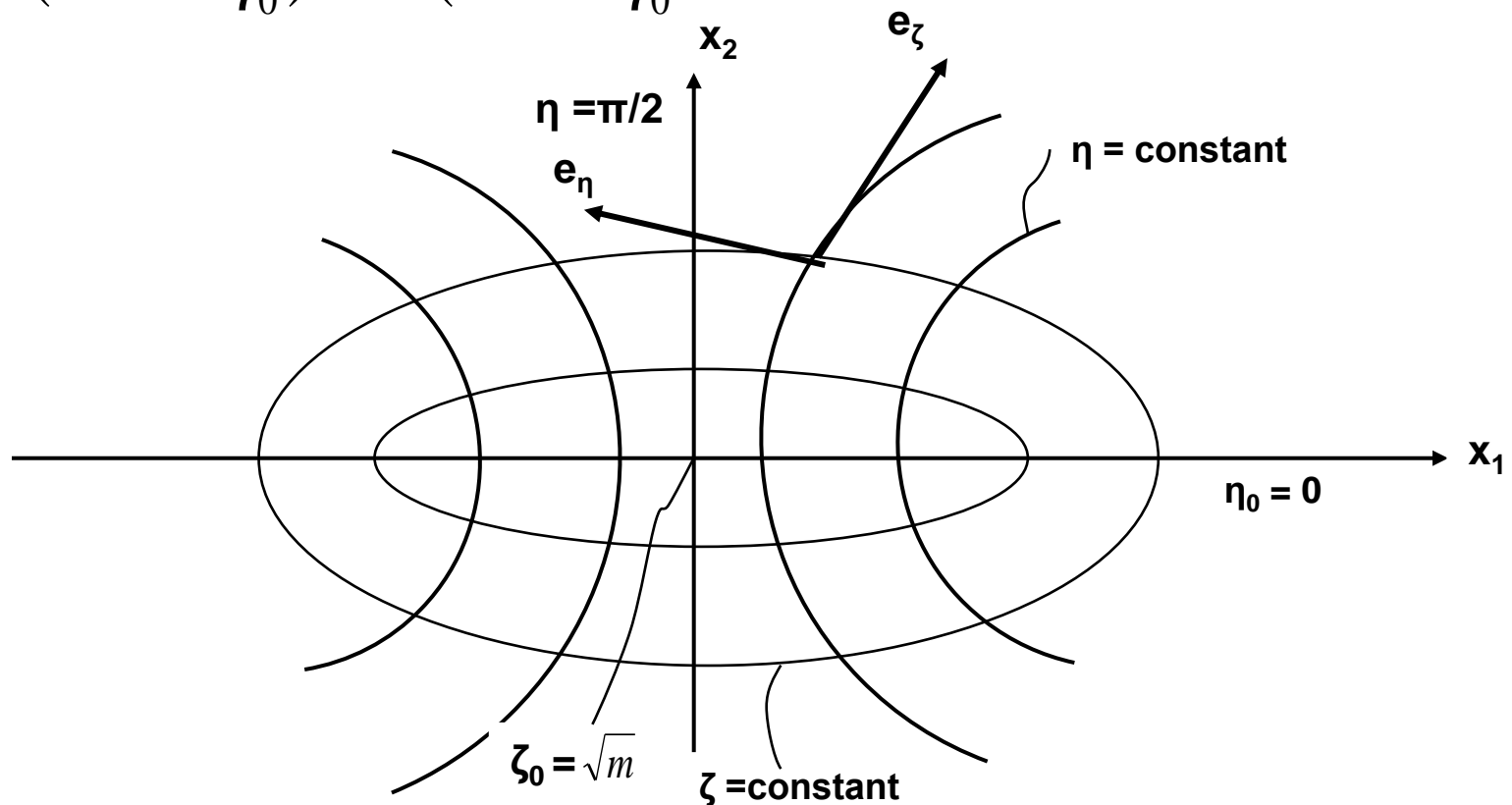
If  $\zeta = \zeta_0 = \text{constant}$ , then the lines of constant  $\zeta$  are ellipses defined by:

$$\frac{x_1^2}{R^2 \left(\zeta_0 + \frac{m}{\zeta_0}\right)^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{R^2 \left(\zeta_0 - \frac{m}{\zeta_0}\right)^2} = 1 \quad (\text{Ellipse in } x_1\text{-}x_2 \text{ plane})$$



If  $\eta = \eta_0 = \text{constant}$ , then the lines of constant  $\eta$  are hyperbolas defined by:

$$\frac{x_1^2}{(R \cos \eta_0)^2} - \frac{x_2^2}{(R \sin \eta_0)^2} = 4m \quad (\text{Hyperbola in } x_1\text{--}x_2 \text{ plane})$$



### Position Vector:

$$\underline{r} = x_1 \underline{e}_1 + x_2 \underline{e}_2 = R\left(\zeta + \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \cos \eta \underline{e}_1 + R\left(\zeta - \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \sin \eta \underline{e}_2$$

### Base Vectors:

$$\underline{X}_\zeta = \underline{g}_\zeta = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial \zeta} = \left[R\left(1 + \frac{-m}{\zeta^2}\right) \cos \eta\right] \underline{e}_1 + \left[R\left(1 - \frac{-m}{\zeta^2}\right) \sin \eta\right] \underline{e}_2$$

$$\underline{X}_\eta = \underline{g}_\eta = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial \eta} = \left[-R\left(\zeta + \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \sin \eta\right] \underline{e}_1 + \left[R\left(\zeta - \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \cos \eta\right] \underline{e}_2$$



**(3.29)**



### Check for Orthogonality:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{g}_\zeta \cdot \underline{g}_\eta &= \left[-R^2 \left(\zeta + \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \left(1 - \frac{m}{\zeta^2}\right) \sin \eta \cos \eta\right] + \left[R^2 \left(\zeta - \frac{m}{\zeta}\right) \left(1 + \frac{m}{\zeta^2}\right) \sin \eta \cos \eta\right] \\ &= -R^2 \left(\zeta - \frac{m^2}{\zeta^3}\right) \sin \eta \cos \eta + R^2 \left(\zeta - \frac{m^2}{\zeta^3}\right) \sin \eta \cos \eta = 0\end{aligned}$$

### Unit Vectors:

$$\underline{e}_\zeta = \frac{\underline{g}_\zeta}{|\underline{g}_\zeta|} = \frac{\underline{g}_\zeta}{R \sqrt{\left[ \left(1 + \frac{m^2}{\zeta^4}\right) - \frac{2m}{\zeta^2} \cos 2\eta \right]}}; \quad \underline{e}_\eta = \frac{\underline{g}_\eta}{|\underline{g}_\eta|} = \frac{\underline{g}_\eta}{R \zeta \sqrt{\left[ \left(1 + \frac{m^2}{\zeta^4}\right) - \frac{2m}{\zeta^2} \cos 2\eta \right]}}$$



**Orthogonal Transformation** between  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{x}_a\}$ , or  $\{\mathbf{e}_i\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{e}_a\}$ :

$$\begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \underline{\underline{T}} \begin{Bmatrix} x_\zeta \\ x_\eta \end{Bmatrix}; \quad \text{where:} \quad \underline{\underline{T}} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} (1 - \frac{m}{\zeta^2}) \cos \eta & -(1 + \frac{m}{\zeta^2}) \sin \eta \\ (1 + \frac{m}{\zeta^2}) \sin \eta & (1 - \frac{m}{\zeta^2}) \cos \eta \end{bmatrix}}{\sqrt{[(1 + \frac{m^2}{\zeta^4}) - \frac{2m}{\zeta^2} \cos 2\eta]}}$$

**Special Cases:** If;



**(3.30)**

$$\zeta_0 = \sqrt{m} \Rightarrow x_1 = R(\sqrt{m} + \frac{m}{\sqrt{m}}) \cos \eta = 2R\sqrt{m} \cos \eta, \text{ and } x_2 = R(\sqrt{m} - \frac{m}{\sqrt{m}}) \sin \eta = 0$$

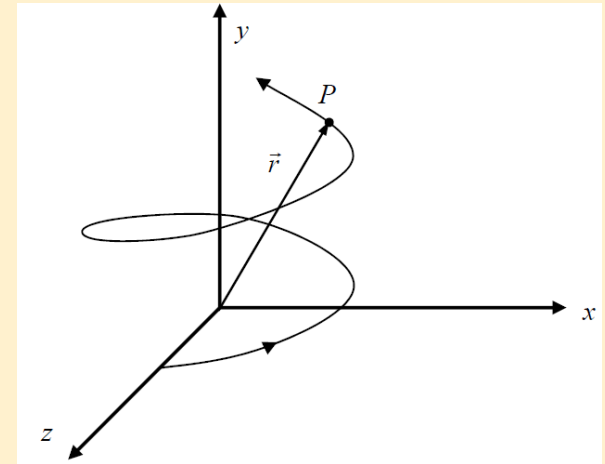
$$\eta_0 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = R(\zeta + \frac{m}{\zeta}), \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = 0$$



**Example:** A particle P shown in the figure moves along a helical path described by the equations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = a \cos(\Omega t) \\ y = a \sin(\Omega t) \\ z = bt \end{array} \right. \quad (a)$$

**Determine the velocity and acceleration of the particle P?**



### Solution Methods:

**1. Rectangular Coordinates;** We may write directly from Eq. (a):

$$\vec{r} = a \cos(\Omega t) \vec{i} + a \sin(\Omega t) \vec{j} + bt \vec{k} \quad (b)$$

$$\vec{v} = \dot{\vec{r}} = -a\Omega \sin(\Omega t) \vec{i} + a\Omega \cos(\Omega t) \vec{j} + b \vec{k} \quad (c)$$

$$\vec{a} = \dot{\vec{v}} = -a\Omega^2 \cos(\Omega t) \vec{i} - a\Omega^2 \sin(\Omega t) \vec{j} \quad (d)$$



From which:

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{z}^2} = \sqrt{a^2 \Omega^2 + b^2} \quad (\text{e})$$

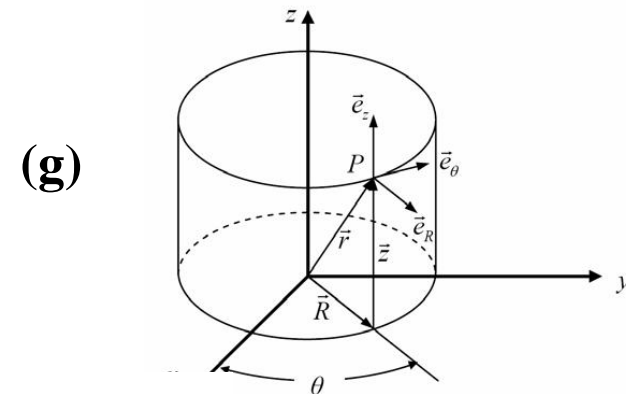
$$|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{\ddot{x}^2 + \ddot{y}^2 + \ddot{z}^2} = a \Omega^2 \quad (\text{f})$$

**2. Cylindrical Coordinates;** From Eq. (a) according to cylindrical coordinates we can write:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R = a ; \quad \dot{R} = \ddot{R} = 0 \\ \theta = \Omega t ; \quad \dot{\theta} = \Omega ; \quad \ddot{\theta} = 0 \\ z = bt ; \quad \dot{z} = b ; \quad \ddot{z} = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\vec{v} = \dot{R} \vec{e}_R + R \dot{\theta} \vec{e}_\theta + \dot{z} \vec{e}_z = a \Omega \vec{e}_\theta + b \vec{e}_z \quad (\text{h})$$

$$\vec{a} = (\ddot{R} - R \dot{\theta}^2) \vec{e}_R + (2 \dot{R} \dot{\theta} + R \ddot{\theta}) \vec{e}_\theta + \ddot{z} \vec{e}_z = -a \Omega^2 \vec{e}_R \quad (\text{i})$$



From which their magnitudes are:

$$\boxed{|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{a^2 \Omega^2 + b^2}} \quad (j)$$

$$\boxed{|\vec{a}| = a \Omega^2} \quad (k)$$

**3. Path Variable Coordinates;** The velocity is given in path coordinates as:

$$\vec{v} = \dot{s} \vec{e}_t \quad (l)$$

Directly by use of Eq. (a) we obtain:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{s} = \frac{ds}{dt} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dt}\right)^2} = \sqrt{a^2 \Omega^2 + b^2} \\ \ddot{s} = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (m)$$





The unit vector  $\vec{e}_t$  is defined by:

$$\vec{e}_t = \frac{\vec{v}}{\dot{s}} = \frac{-a\Omega \sin(\Omega t)\vec{i} + a\Omega \cos(\Omega t)\vec{j} + b\vec{k}}{\sqrt{a^2\Omega + b^2}} \quad (n)$$

The acceleration is of the form:

$$\vec{a} = \dot{\vec{v}} = \ddot{s}\vec{e}_t + \underbrace{\dot{s}\dot{\vec{e}}_t}_{\rho} = \ddot{s}\vec{e}_t + \frac{\dot{s}^2}{\rho}\vec{e}_n \quad (o)$$

And from Eq. (o) w

$$\dot{\vec{e}}_t = \frac{\dot{s}}{\rho}\vec{e}_n \quad (p)$$

Therefore, by differentiating Eq. (n) with respect to time we have:

$$\frac{-a\Omega^2 \cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} - a\Omega^2 \sin(\Omega t)\vec{j}}{\sqrt{a^2\Omega + b^2}} = \frac{\dot{s}}{\rho}\vec{e}_n \quad (q)$$



Considering only the magnitude of both sides of Eq. (q) we have:

$$\frac{\dot{s}}{\rho} = \frac{a\Omega^2}{\sqrt{a^2\Omega + b^2}} \quad (r)$$

Also from Eqs (q) and (r) we can write:

$$\vec{e}_n = -\cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} - \sin(\Omega t)\vec{j} \quad (s)$$

Substituting these into Eqs. (l) and (o) we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v} &= -a\Omega\sin(\Omega t)\vec{i} + a\Omega\cos(\Omega t)\vec{j} + b\vec{k} \\ \vec{a} &= -a\Omega^2\cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} - a\Omega^2\sin(\Omega t)\vec{j} \end{aligned} \quad (t)$$

The magnitudes of  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{a}$  agrees with the results obtained by the previous coordinates.



#### 4. Spherical Coordinates; The velocity in Spherical Coordinates is given by:

$$\vec{v} = \dot{r} \vec{e}_r + r \dot{\phi} \vec{e}_\phi + r \dot{\theta} \sin(\phi) \vec{e}_\theta \quad (\text{u})$$

now;

$$|\vec{r}| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2} \quad (\text{v})$$

and,

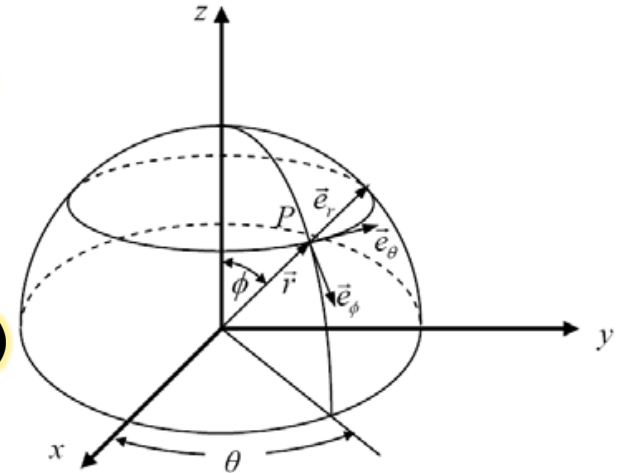
$$\tan(\phi) = \frac{a}{bt} \quad (\text{w})$$

from which,

$$\sin(\phi) = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \quad ; \quad \cos(\phi) = \frac{bt}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \quad (\text{x})$$

and from Eq. (w) by differentiation we obtain;

$$\dot{\phi} = -\frac{ab}{b^2 t^2} \frac{1}{\sec^2(\phi)} = -\frac{ab}{b^2 t^2} \frac{1}{(1 + \tan^2(\phi))} = -\frac{ab}{a^2 + b^2 t^2} \quad (\text{y})$$



also,

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{e}_r &= \sin(\phi)\cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} + \sin(\phi)\sin(\Omega t)\vec{j} + \cos(\phi)\vec{k} \\ \vec{e}_\phi &= \cos(\phi)\cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} + \cos(\phi)\sin(\Omega t)\vec{j} - \sin(\phi)\vec{k} \\ \vec{e}_\theta &= -\sin(\Omega t)\vec{i} + \cos(\Omega t)\vec{j}\end{aligned}\tag{z}$$

Substituting these results into Eq. (u), we obtain;

$$\vec{v} = \dot{r}\vec{e}_r + r\dot{\phi}\vec{e}_\phi + r\dot{\theta}\sin(\phi)\vec{e}_\theta\tag{u}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v} &= \frac{2b^2 t}{2\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} + \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \sin(\Omega t)\vec{j} + \frac{bt}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \vec{k} \right) \\ &+ \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2} \frac{-ab}{a^2 + b^2 t^2} \left( \frac{bt}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} + \frac{bt}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \sin(\Omega t)\vec{j} - \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} \vec{k} \right) \\ &+ \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2} \frac{a\Omega}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 t^2}} (-\sin(\Omega t)\vec{i} + \cos(\Omega t)\vec{j})\end{aligned}$$

and upon simplification we obtain;



$$\vec{v} = -a\Omega \sin(\Omega t)\vec{i} + a\Omega \cos(\Omega t)\vec{j} + b\vec{k}$$

(z-1)

Similarly, acceleration in Spherical Coordinate can be computed from:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{a} = \dot{\vec{v}} = & \left( \ddot{r} - r\dot{\phi}^2 - r\dot{\theta}^2 \sin^2(\phi) \right) \vec{e}_r \\ & + \left( r\ddot{\phi} + 2\dot{r}\dot{\phi} - r\dot{\theta}^2 \sin(\phi)\cos(\phi) \right) \vec{e}_\phi \\ & + \left( r\ddot{\theta} \sin(\phi) + 2\dot{r}\dot{\theta} \sin(\phi) + 2r\dot{\phi}\dot{\theta} \cos(\phi) \right) \vec{e}_\theta\end{aligned}$$

(z-2)

$$\vec{a} = -a\Omega^2 \cos(\Omega t)\vec{i} - a\Omega^2 \sin(\Omega t)\vec{j}$$

(z-3)

Which is the same result as before!!!

**It is well clear from this example that a wise selection of coordinates in a given problem will speed up the solution.**





# مختصر