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There are mechanisms in engineering in which one link moves after another link that is also in motion. A good example is the movable guide and slider. Direct determination of the velocity and acceleration of the slider in relation to the base (stationary reference frame) is a difficult task. Therefore, the movement of the slider can be divided and considered in relation to the second movable reference frame associated with the guide. The following terminology is used to describe these motions:

- absolute motion the motion of the element in relation to the stationary reference frame,
- relative motion the motion of the element in relation to the movable reference frame,
- lifting motion the motion of a movable reference frame in relation to the stationary reference frame.

In the example of the movable guide and the slider, the absolute motion is the motion of slider respect to the base, the relative motion is the motion of the slider respect to the guide, the lifting motion is the motion of the guide respect to the base.



Compound motion

The formulas for calculating velocity and acceleration with the use of compound motion will be presented on the example of a slider and a moving guide. The slider (absolute) velocity v_c at point *C* is equal to:

 $\vec{v}_C = \vec{v}_B + \vec{v}_{CB}$

 \mathbf{v}_{CB} - it is the relative velocity (in relative motion) of point *C* with respect to *B* and it is always tangent to the guide (we imagine that the guide is stationary and slider is moving).

 v_B – is the velocity of point *B*, i.e. lifting velocity. Point *B* belongs to guide and at considered moment have the same position as point *C* that belongs to slider.

The velocity of point B results from motion of the guide and C it should be known. The guide may be in translational, rotational or plane motion.











Methods of analysis: • analytical, • numerical, • graphical, • experimental. There are also their combinations, such as the combination of analytical and graphical methods – grapho-analytical methods. Due to the form of classes and the advantages of simplicity of determination and help in understanding the essence of kinematic analysis, grapho- analytical methods will be used.
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How many methods should an engineer know?

Analitycal methods

Based on the geometric dependencies, the motion of the mechanism can be described by mathematical formulas. For this purpose: vector notation, matrix notation, complex number, trigonometric or algebraic equations are used. In this way, dependencies describing the positions of the links are obtained. Then you can get formulas for velocity and acceleration by differentiating them with respect to time.

Analytical methods are quite difficult and laborious. However, the obtained results are valuable because:

- enable the analysis of the influence of the geometry of the mechanism on its kinematics,
- can be used for any mechanism of a certain type,
- a solution is obtained for all possible positions with very high accuracy.

Analytical methods - vector loop equation

It is one of the basic methods used to analyze plane mechanisms with analytical methods. Based on the kinematic diagram, a vector polygon is created. The beginnings and ends of vectors are determined by the positions of the kinematic pairs. Since the vectors form a polygon, the equation is:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \vec{l_i} = \vec{l_1} + \vec{l_2} + \vec{l_3} + \dots + \vec{l_n} = 0$$

where I_n are vectors that belong to polygon







Numerical methods

Numerical methods have two main applications in the analysis of mechanisms: 1. Performing calculations in dedicated programs only on the basis of defining the mechanism and boundary conditions.

A significant group of dedicated programs uses the numerical method of multiboby simulation (MBS). It is possible to model planar (2D and 3D) and spatial mechanisms with rigid and deformable members, taking into account friction and contacts, damping, elasticity, external forces and moments.

2. Obtaining results from equations for the full range of motion and various parameters of the mechanism. Also solving equations for that exact solution is not known and only this method is suitable.

Programming languages, spreadsheets and computing programs with a high-level programming language are used. It is possible to obtain results directly from algebraic equations without substituting specific data, through symbolic calculations (e.g. Mathematica, Matlab).















Method of determining velocity and accelerations by grapho-analytical method will be discussed. In order to determine the kinematic parameters, a kinematic diagram as well as velocity and acceleration diagrams should be drawn. It requires the adoption of appropriate drawing scale.

The drawing scale is defined as the ratio of the value of the physical quantity to the value of the drawing quantity:

$$\kappa_l = \frac{l}{(l)} \left[\frac{m}{mm} \right]$$
 lenght scale,

 $\kappa_v = \frac{v}{(v)} \left[\frac{m/s}{mm} \right]$ linear velocity scale,

$$\kappa_a = \frac{a}{(a)} \left[\frac{m/s^2}{mm} \right]$$
 linear acceleration scale.

Example

Example 1. Given: velocity v = 500 m/s, scale $\kappa_v = 10 \left[\frac{m/s}{mm}\right]$. Find the length of the velocity vector in the drawing. $(v) = \frac{v}{\kappa_v} \left[\frac{m}{s} / \frac{m/s}{mm}\right] = \frac{500 \text{ m/s}}{10 \frac{m/s}{mm}} = 50 \text{ mm}$ 2. Given: length of velocity (v) = 50 mm, scale $\kappa_v = 10 \left[\frac{m/s}{mm}\right]$. Find the value of velocity. $v = (v)\kappa_v \left[mm\frac{m/s}{mm}\right] = 50 \text{ mm} \cdot 10\frac{\frac{m}{s}}{mm} = 500 \text{ m/s}$

Velocity and acceleration diagrams will be discussed for:

- 1. Single three node link.
- 2. Assur group of II class.
- 2.1. Assur group of II class with revolute pair.
- 2.2. Assur group of II class with a sliding pair.
- 3. Assur group of III class with four links and revolute pairs.
- 4. An example of determining the velocity and acceleration for four bar mechanism.

















2.2. Veolcity and acceleration diagrams for Assur group of II class with sliding pair

Knowing the velocities of two different points for each of the link, the determination of the velocity of the points B_1 and B_2 may have the following course:

I. Treating the plane motion of links as composed of translational and rotational motion, one can write systems of vector equations and solve them graphically:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_{B1} = \vec{v}_{\underline{A1}} + \vec{v}_{\underline{B1A1}} \\ \vec{v}_{B1} = \vec{v}_{\underline{C1}} + \vec{v}_{\underline{B1C1}} \\ \vdots \\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_{B2} = \vec{v}_{\underline{A2}} + \vec{v}_{\underline{B2A2}} \\ \vec{v}_{B2} = \vec{v}_{\underline{C2}} + \vec{v}_{\underline{B2C1}} \\ \vdots \\ \vec{v}_{B2} = \vec{v}_{\underline{C2}} + \vec{v}_{\underline{B2C1}} \\ \vdots \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

- II. Determine the instantaneous centres and directions of the unknown velocities, and then:
- a) Calculate angular velocity (e.g. $\omega = v_{A1}/|O_1A|$) and unknown velocitice $v_{B1} = \omega \cdot |O_1B|$ i $v_{B2} = \omega \cdot |O_2B|$. The angular velocity ω is the same for both links and it results from the construction of the structural group (rigid connection in the link 1 of the rectilinear part with the slider).
- b) Using the velocity projection method, graphically determine or calculate the velocities of points from the relationship: $v_{\mu\nu}\cos(\beta_{\mu\nu}) = v_{\mu\nu}\cos(\beta_{\mu\nu})$

 v_{1}

$$v_{B1} = \frac{v_{A1}\cos(\rho_{A1})}{\cos(\alpha_{B1})}; v_{B2} = \frac{v_{C2}\cos(\rho_{C2})}{\cos(\alpha_{B2})}$$

III. Determine the velocity vectors using the graphical method from the similarity of figures (in this case triangles).

Methods I and III will be presented









2.2. Veolcity and acceleration diagrams for Assur group of II class with sliding pair

Knowing the accelerations of two different points for each of the link, the determination of the accelerations of the points B_1 and B_2 may have the following course:

I. Treating the plane motion of links as composed of translational and rotational motion, one can write systems of vector equations and solve them graphically:

$$\begin{cases} \vec{a}_{B1} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{A1} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B1A1}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B1A1}^t \\ \|AB \\ \vec{a}_{B1} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{C1} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B1C1}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B1C1}^t \\ \|BC \\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_{B2} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{A2} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2A2}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2A2}^t \\ \|AB \\ \vec{a}_{B2} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{C2} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^t \\ \|BC \\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_{B2} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{C2} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^t \\ \|BC \\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_{B2} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{C2} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^t \\ \|BC \\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_{B2} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{C2} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^t \\ \|BC \\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_{B2} = \vec{\underline{a}}_{C2} + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^n + \vec{\underline{a}}_{B2C2}^t \\ \|BC \\ \|BC \\ \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

II. Determine the instantaneous centres of acceleration and then unknown accelerations. The angular acceleration ε is identical for both members and it results from the construction of the structural group (a rigid connection in the member 1 of the rectilinear part with the slider).

III. Determine the acceleration vectors using the graphical method from the similarity of figures (in this case triangles).

Method I will be presented









Grapho-analytical method 3. Veolcity and acceleration diagrams for Assur group of III class Determining the accelerations also begins with determining the acceleration of the R point, the system of equations has the form: Where: $\vec{a}_{AD}^{n} = \frac{v_{AD}^{2}}{|AD|}; \ \vec{a}_{RA}^{n} = \frac{v_{RA}^{2}}{|RA|}; \ \vec{a}_{BE}^{n} = \frac{v_{BE}^{2}}{|BE|}; \ \vec{a}_{RB}^{n} = \frac{v_{RB}^{2}}{|RB|}$ $\vec{a}_{R} = \vec{a}_{A} + \underbrace{\vec{a}_{RA}^{n}}_{\|AR} + \underbrace{\vec{a}_{RA}^{t}}_{\perp AR}$ $\vec{a}_R = \vec{a}_B + \frac{\vec{a}_{RB}^n}{||BR|} + \frac{\vec{a}_{RB}^t}{\perp BR}$ The acceleration of any point of the three-node link can already be determined, for point C the system of equations has the form: since $\begin{cases} \vec{a}_C = \vec{a}_R + \vec{a}_{CR}^n + \vec{a}_{CR}^t \\ \hline \|CR & \downarrow CR \\ \vec{a}_C = \vec{a}_F + \vec{a}_{CF}^n + \vec{a}_{CF}^t \\ \hline \|CF & \downarrow CF \\ \end{cases}$ $\left(\vec{a}_A = \underbrace{\vec{a}_D}_{\blacksquare} + \underbrace{\vec{a}_{AD}}_{\parallel AD} + \underbrace{\vec{a}_{AD}}_{\perp AD}\right)$ a, $\begin{vmatrix} \vec{a}_B = \underline{\vec{a}_E} \\ \underline{\vec{a}_B} = \underline{\vec{a}_E} + \underline{\vec{a}_{BE}}^n + \underline{\vec{a}_{BE}}^t \\ \underline{\vec{a}_{BE}} \\ \underline{\vec{a}_{BE}} + \underline{\vec{a}_{BE}}^t \end{vmatrix}$ so Fig. [Based on Miller 1996] Ε







Grapho-analytical method
4. An example of determining the velocity and acceleration for four bar mechanism
The acceleration of point C is:
$\vec{a}_C = \vec{a}_B + \vec{a}_{CB}$
and after substituting the component accelerations:
$\frac{\vec{a}_C^n + \vec{a}_C^t}{\ CD} = \frac{\vec{a}_B}{\ CD} + \frac{\vec{a}_{CB}^n + \vec{a}_{CB}^t}{\ BC} + \frac{\vec{a}_{CB}^t}{\ BC}$
The known normal accelerations should be calculated, the acceleration scale is assumed $\kappa_a = 0.05 \left[\frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2 \text{ mm}} \right]$
$a_C^n = \frac{v_C^2}{ CD } = \frac{1.372902018^2}{0.4} = 4.71214987757 \frac{m}{s^2}$
$\left(a_{C}^{n}\right) = \frac{a_{C}^{n}}{\kappa_{a}} = \frac{4,71214987757}{0,05} = 94,24299755142 \text{ mm}$
$a_B = \frac{v_B^2}{ AB } = \frac{(0.4\pi)^2}{0.2} = 7.89568352087 \frac{\mathrm{m}}{\mathrm{s}^2}$
$(a_B) = \frac{a_B}{\kappa_a} = \frac{7.89568352087}{0.05} = 157.91367041742 \text{ mm}$
$a_{CB}^n = \frac{v_{CB}^2}{ BC } = \frac{0.55292246^2}{0.6} = 0.50953874462 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$
$\left(a_{CB}^{n}\right) = \frac{a_{CB}^{n}}{\kappa_{a}} = \frac{0.50953874462}{0.05} = 10,19077489241 \text{ mm}$



Grapho-analytical method	
4. An example of determining the velocity and acceleration for four bar mechanism	
Comparison of results for the analytical, numerical and grapho-analytical methods Results for the grapho-analytical method (velocity and acceleration diagrams were made in the SolidEdge program):	
$\omega_4 = 3,432255045 \text{ rad/s}$ $\varepsilon_4 = 4,857567975 \text{ rad/s}^2$	
Results for analytical formulas (calculations carried out in Matlab):	
$\omega_4 = 3.244092667733456 \text{ rad/s}$ $\varepsilon_4 = 4.444153407551584 \text{ rad/s}^2$	
Results for the numerical method (mechanism simulation and results from the NX program):	
ω_4 = 3,24409259368118 rad/s ε_4 = 4,44415324003924 rad/s ²	

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