

By similar figures,

$$\frac{T - W}{T} = \frac{L}{R}$$

$$RT - RW = LT$$

$$(R - L)T = RW$$

$$T = \frac{RW}{R - L}$$

$$\theta = \frac{R}{T} = \frac{R - L}{W}$$

Turning radius at the center is $T - \frac{W}{2} = \frac{2RW - W(R - L)}{2(R - L)} = \frac{W(R + L)}{2(R - L)}$

$$= \frac{R + L}{2\theta}$$

$$\Delta y = \left(\frac{R + L}{2\theta} \right) \sin \theta$$

$$\Delta x = \left(\frac{R + L}{2\theta} \right) (1 - \cos \theta)$$

However, one must be careful about numerical stability as $\theta \rightarrow 0$.
Luckily, calculus helps us with Taylor expansions.

$$\sin \theta = \theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots$$

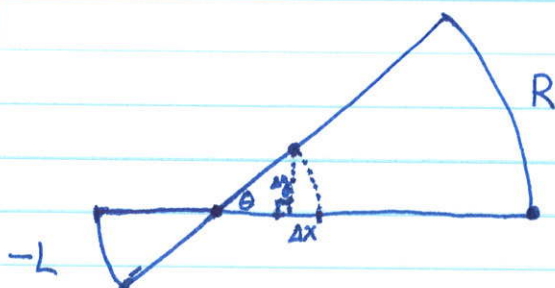
$$\cos \theta = 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \dots$$

$$\Delta y \approx \left(\frac{R + L}{2\theta} \right) \left(\theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots \right) = \left(\frac{R + L}{2} \right) \left(1 - \frac{\theta^2}{3!} + \frac{\theta^4}{5!} - \dots \right)$$

$$\Delta x = \left(\frac{R + L}{2\theta} \right) \left(1 - 1 + \frac{\theta^2}{2!} - \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \dots \right) = \left(\frac{R + L}{2} \right) \left(\frac{\theta}{2!} - \frac{\theta^3}{4!} + \dots \right)$$

What if $R > 0 > L$?

Let W = length of axle (same as before)



Then the center of rotation is $\frac{RW}{R+(-L)}$ from the right wheel.

So,

$$\theta = \frac{R}{\frac{RW}{R+(-L)}} = \frac{R-L}{W} \quad (\text{still works!})$$



T_c , turning radius of center of axle is:

$$\frac{RW}{R+(-L)} - \frac{W}{2} = \frac{2RW - W(R-L)}{2(R-L)} = \frac{W(R+L)}{2(R-L)} = \frac{R+L}{2\theta}.$$

$$\Delta y = \left(\frac{R+L}{2\theta} \right) \sin \theta = \dots \quad \text{Taylor expansion}$$

$$\Delta x = \left(\frac{R+L}{2\theta} \right) (\cos \theta - 1) = \dots$$

Same formula as before!

If $|L| > |R|$, then flip the sign on Δx ? Apparently not!