

## Velocity and Acceleration in cylindrical Coordinates.

The position vector  $\vec{r}$  in cylindrical coordinates is  $\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$

where  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta$ ,  $z = z$

$$\therefore \vec{r} = r \cos \theta \hat{i} + r \sin \theta \hat{j} + z \hat{k} \longrightarrow (1)$$

The unit vectors  $\hat{e}_r, \hat{e}_\theta$  are given by

$$\hat{e}_r = \frac{\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial r}}{\left| \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial r} \right|} = \cos \theta \hat{i} + \sin \theta \hat{j}$$

$$\hat{e}_\theta = \frac{\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \theta}}{\left| \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \theta} \right|} = -\sin \theta \hat{i} + \cos \theta \hat{j}$$

So eqn (1) becomes

$$\vec{r} = r (\cos \theta \hat{i} + \sin \theta \hat{j}) + z \hat{k}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{r} = r \hat{e}_r + z \hat{k}} \longrightarrow (2)$$

So velocity in cylindrical coordinate is given by

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} (r\hat{e}_r + z\hat{k})$$

$$\therefore, \vec{v} = \hat{e}_r \frac{dr}{dt} + r \frac{d(\hat{e}_r)}{dt} + \frac{dz}{dt} \hat{k} \\ = \dot{e}_r \hat{r} + r \dot{e}_r + \dot{z} \hat{k} \rightarrow (3)$$

$$\text{But } \frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_r) = \frac{d}{dt}(\cos\theta \hat{i} + \sin\theta \hat{j}) \\ = -\sin\theta \dot{\theta} \hat{i} + \cos\theta \dot{\theta} \hat{j} \\ = \dot{\theta} (-\sin\theta \hat{i} + \cos\theta \hat{j}) \\ = \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta \\ \frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_r) = \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta$$

Eqn (3) becomes

$$\boxed{\vec{v} = \dot{r} \hat{e}_r + r \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta + \dot{z} \hat{k}} \rightarrow (4)$$

which is expression for velocity of particle in cylindrical coordinate.

$$\vec{v} = \dot{r}\hat{e}_r + r\dot{\theta}\hat{e}_\theta + \dot{z}\hat{k}$$

where  $V_r = \dot{r}$

$$V_\theta = r\dot{\theta}$$

$$V_z = \dot{z}$$

$$V = \sqrt{V_r^2 + V_\theta^2 + V_z^2}$$

Acceleration:

→ The acceleration is given by

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(\dot{r}\hat{e}_r + r\dot{\theta}\hat{e}_\theta + \dot{z}\hat{k})$$

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d}{dt}(\dot{r}\hat{e}_r) + \frac{d}{dt}(r\dot{\theta}\hat{e}_\theta) + \frac{d}{dt}(\dot{z}\hat{k})$$

$$= \ddot{r}\hat{e}_r + \dot{r}\dot{\theta}\hat{e}_\theta + \dot{r}\dot{\theta}\hat{e}_\theta + r\ddot{\theta}\hat{e}_\theta + r\dot{\theta}\dot{\theta}\hat{e}_\theta + \ddot{z}\hat{k} \rightarrow \textcircled{5}$$

But  $\frac{d}{dt}(\hat{e}_\theta) = \hat{e}_\theta^\cdot$

$$= \frac{d}{dt}(-\sin\theta\hat{i} + \cos\theta\hat{j})$$

$$= -\cos\theta\dot{\theta}\hat{i} - \sin\theta\dot{\theta}\hat{j}$$

$$= -\dot{\theta}(\cos\theta\hat{i} + \sin\theta\hat{j})$$

$$= -\dot{\theta}\hat{e}_r$$

$$\dot{\hat{e}}_r = \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta$$

$$\dot{\hat{e}}_\theta = -\dot{\theta} \hat{e}_r$$

$\therefore$  equation (5) becomes

$$\vec{a} = \dot{r} \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta + \ddot{r} \hat{e}_r + \dot{r} \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta + r \ddot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta - r \dot{\theta} (\dot{\theta} \hat{e}_r) + \ddot{z} \hat{k}$$

$$= \dot{r} \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta + \ddot{r} \hat{e}_r + \dot{r} \dot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta + r \ddot{\theta} \hat{e}_\theta - r \dot{\theta}^2 \hat{e}_r + \ddot{z} \hat{k}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{a} = (\ddot{r} - r \dot{\theta}^2) \hat{e}_r + (r \ddot{\theta} + 2 \dot{r} \dot{\theta}) \hat{e}_\theta + \ddot{z} \hat{k}}$$

which is expression for acceleration of a Particle in cylindrical Coordinates.  $\rightarrow$  (6)

where

$$a_r = \ddot{r} - r \dot{\theta}^2$$

$$a_\theta = r \ddot{\theta} + 2 \dot{r} \dot{\theta}$$

$$a_z = \ddot{z}$$

$$a = \sqrt{a_r^2 + a_\theta^2 + a_z^2}$$