

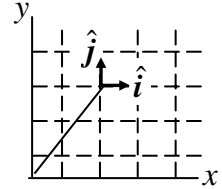
(a) Position Vector in Two Dimensional Plane

1.1 Two dimensional motion in Cartesian coordinate

The position vector in two dimension (x, y) plane is given by $\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$

where \hat{i}, \hat{j} are unit vector in x and y direction respectively.

The base unit vector \hat{i} and \hat{j} are not vary with position as shown in figure.



The velocity is given by $\vec{v} = \dot{\vec{r}} = \dot{x}\hat{i} + \dot{y}\hat{j}$ and acceleration is given by $\vec{a} = \ddot{\vec{r}} = \ddot{x}\hat{i} + \ddot{y}\hat{j}$

Newton's law can be written as $m\ddot{x} = F_x$ and $m\ddot{y} = F_y$.

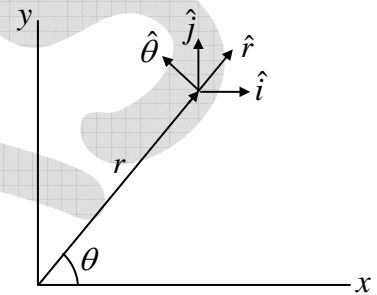
1.2 Two dimensional motion in polar coordinate.

Two dimensional system also can be represent in polar coordinate with variable (r, θ) with transformation rule $x = r \cos \theta$ and

$y = r \sin \theta$ where $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ where r identified as magnitude

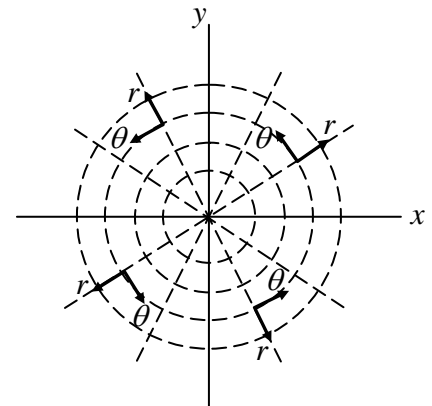
of vector and $\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$ and θ is angle measured from x axis

in anti clock wise direction as shown in figure.



In polar coordinate system \hat{r} and $\hat{\theta}$ are unit vector in radial direction and tangential direction of trajectory. One can see from the figure the \hat{r} and $\hat{\theta}$ are vary with position, where $|\hat{r}| = 1, |\hat{\theta}| = 1$ and $\hat{r} \cdot \hat{\theta} = 0$ conclude they are orthogonal in nature.

The unit vector \hat{r} and $\hat{\theta}$ can be written in basis of unit vector \hat{i} and \hat{j} .

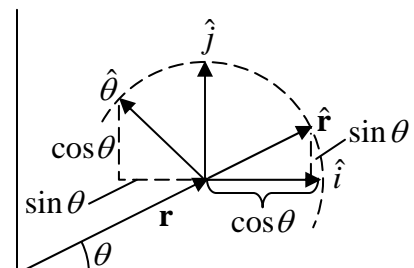


The unit vectors \hat{i}, \hat{j} and $\hat{r}, \hat{\theta}$ at a point in the xy -plane. We see that the orthogonality of \hat{r} and $\hat{\theta}$ plus the fact that they are unit vectors,

$$|\hat{r}| = 1, |\hat{\theta}| = 1,$$

$$\hat{r} = \hat{i} \cos \theta + \hat{j} \sin \theta \text{ and}$$

$$\hat{\theta} = -\hat{i} \sin \theta + \hat{j} \cos \theta \text{ which is shown}$$



The transformation can be shown by rotational Matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{r} \\ \hat{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{i} \\ \hat{j} \end{bmatrix}$$

1.3 Time evolution of \hat{r} and $\hat{\theta}$

$$\hat{r} = \hat{i} \cos \theta + \hat{j} \sin \theta \Rightarrow \frac{d\hat{r}}{dt} = -\hat{i} \sin \theta \dot{\theta} + \hat{j} \cos \theta \dot{\theta} \Rightarrow \frac{d\hat{r}}{dt} = \dot{\theta} \hat{\theta}$$

$$\hat{\theta} = -\hat{i} \sin \theta + \hat{j} \cos \theta \Rightarrow \frac{d\hat{\theta}}{dt} = -\hat{i} \cos \theta \dot{\theta} - \hat{j} \sin \theta \dot{\theta} \Rightarrow \frac{d\hat{\theta}}{dt} = -\dot{\theta} \hat{r}$$

One can easily see unit vector \hat{r} and $\hat{\theta}$ are vary with time .