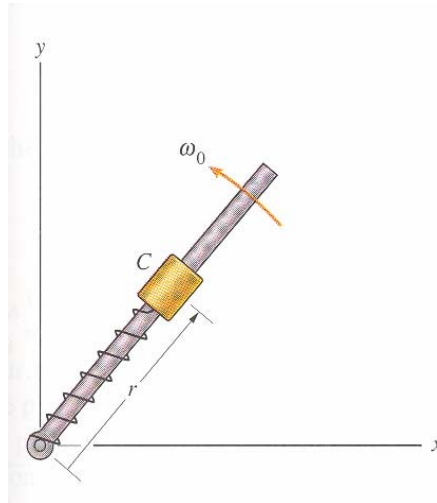


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**Example 6.1**

The bar shown rotates in the  $xy$  plane with constant angular velocity  $\omega_0$ . The spring attached to the collar  $C$  causes the radial component of its acceleration to vary as  $a_r = -Kr$  where  $K$  is a constant. When  $r = r_0$  the radial component of the velocity of  $C$  is  $v_0$ . Determine the radial and transverse components of the velocity of  $C$  as functions of  $r$ .

**Solution:**

The radial and transverse components of the velocity and acceleration of a particle is given in polar coordinates by Eqs. (6.5) and (6.10):

$$\begin{aligned}v_r &= \frac{dr}{dt} = \dot{r} & v_\theta &= r \frac{d\theta}{dt} = r\dot{\theta} \\a_r &= \ddot{r} - r\dot{\theta}^2 & a_\theta &= r\ddot{\theta} + 2\dot{r}\dot{\theta}\end{aligned}$$

In this case  $\dot{\theta} = \omega_0 = \text{constant}$ . Thus  $\ddot{\theta} = \frac{d\omega_0}{dt} = 0$ . Then the velocity and acceleration components become:

$$\begin{aligned}v_r &= \dot{r} & v_\theta &= r\omega_0 \\a_r &= \ddot{r} - r\omega_0^2 & a_\theta &= 2\dot{r}\omega_0\end{aligned}$$

Using the given data the radial component of the acceleration can be written as:

$$\ddot{r} - r\omega_0^2 = -Kr \quad \text{or} \quad \ddot{r} = (\omega_0^2 - K)r \quad (\text{i})$$

From this expression  $\dot{r}$  can be obtained as a function of  $r$  by:

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{r} &= \frac{d\dot{r}}{dt} = \frac{d\dot{r}}{dr} \frac{dr}{dt} = \dot{r} \frac{d\dot{r}}{dr} = (\omega_0^2 - K)r \\ \dot{r} d\dot{r} &= (\omega_0^2 - K)r dr\end{aligned}$$

Now the two sides of this equation can be integrated using the initial values given ( $v = v_0$  when  $r = r_0$ )

$$\int_{v_0}^{\dot{r}} \dot{r} d\dot{r} = \int_{r_0}^r (\omega_0^2 - K)r dr$$

which results in

$$\dot{r}^2 - v_0^2 = (\omega_0^2 - K)(r^2 - r_0^2)$$

or

$$\dot{r} = \left[ v_0^2 + (\omega_0^2 - K)(r^2 - r_0^2) \right]^{1/2}$$

Thus the radial and transverse components of the velocity of C as functions of  $r$  are:

$$v_r = \left[ v_0^2 + (\omega_0^2 - K)(r^2 - r_0^2) \right]^{1/2}$$

$$v_\theta = r\omega_0$$

In this case  $r$  can be solved for fully as a function of time from the relations given. Rearranging (i) we can write:

$$\ddot{r} + (K - \omega_0^2)r = 0$$

This is a linear homogeneous second-order differential equation whose solution is given by:

$$r(t) = R \sin(\omega_n t + \phi) \quad \text{for } K > \omega_0^2$$

where  $\omega_n = \sqrt{K - \omega_0^2}$ .

The values of  $R$  and  $\phi$  can be determined from initial conditions as:

$$R = \sqrt{r_0^2 + \left( \frac{v_0}{\omega_n} \right)^2}$$

$$\phi = \arctan \left( \frac{\omega_n r_0}{v_0} \right)$$