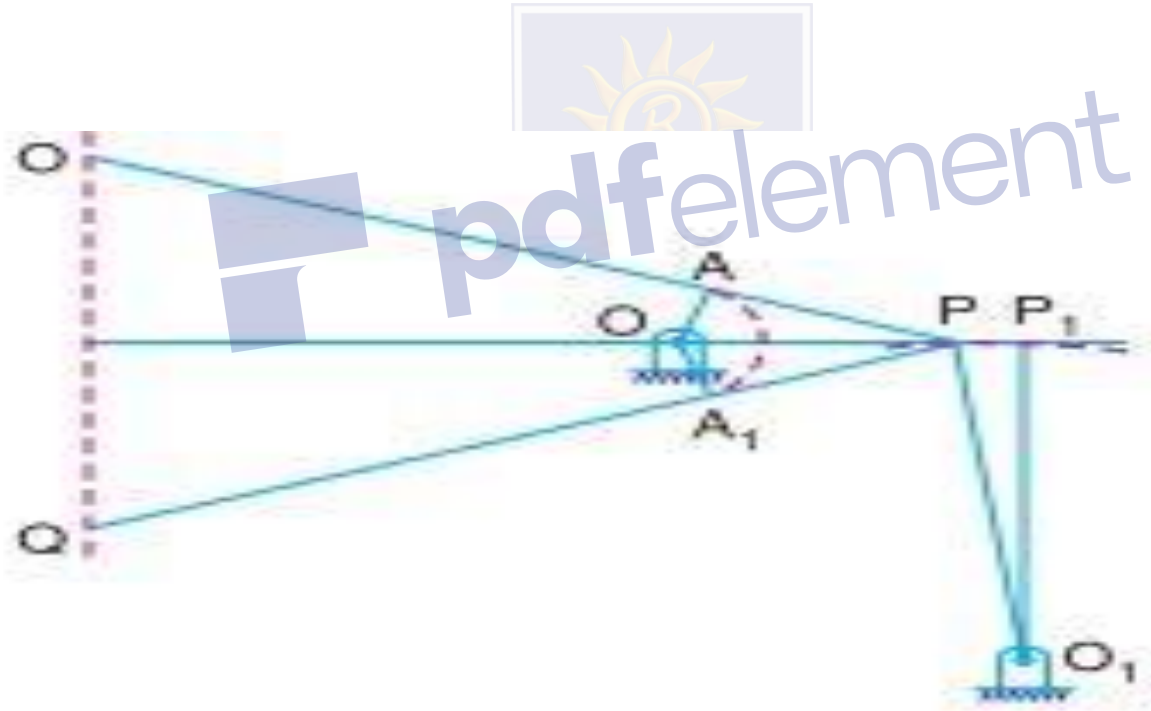


The link OA oscillates about O through an angle $\angle AOA_1$ which causes the pin P to move along a circular arc with O_1 as centre and O_1P as radius. For small angular displacements of OP on each side of the horizontal, the point Q on the extension of the link PA traces out an approximately a straight path QQ', if the lengths are such that $OA = (AP)^2 / AQ$



4. Tchebicheff's mechanism.

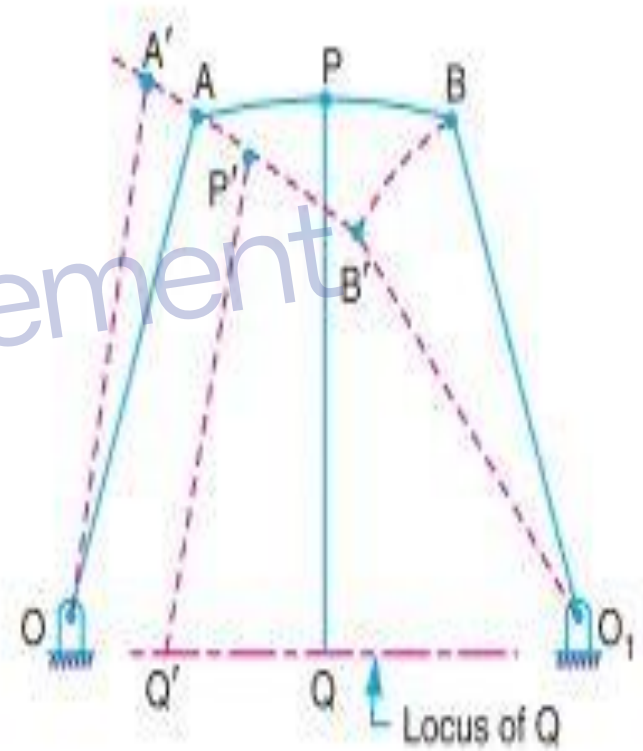
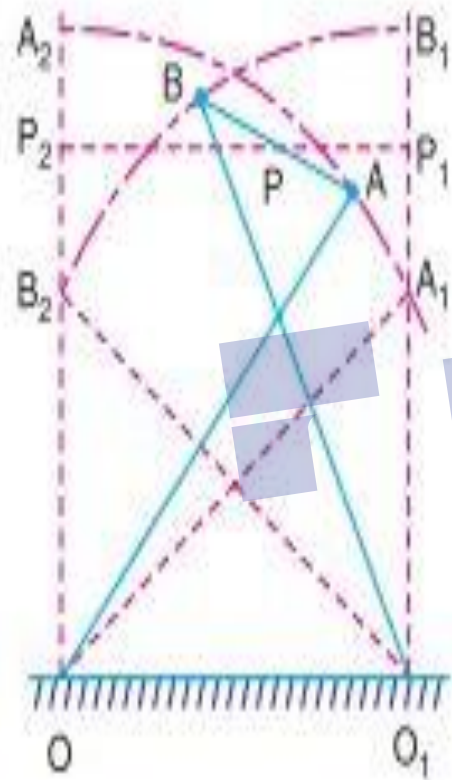
It is a four bar mechanism in which the crossed links OA and O₁B are of equal length, as shown in Fig. 9.9. The point P, which is the mid-point of AB traces out an approximately straight line parallel to OO₁. The proportions of the links are, usually, such that point P is exactly above O or O₁ in the extreme positions of the mechanism i.e. when B lies along OA or when B lies along BO₁. It may be noted that the point P will lie on a straight line parallel to OO₁, in the two extreme positions and in the mid position, if the lengths of the links are in proportions

$$AB : OO_1 : OA = 1 : 2 : 2.5.$$

5. Roberts mechanism.

It is also a four bar chain mechanism, which, in its mean position, has the form of a trapezium. The links OA and O₁B are of equal length and OO₁ is fixed. A bar PQ is rigidly attached to the link AB at its middle point P.

A little consideration will show that if the mechanism is displaced as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 9.10, the point Q will trace out an approximately straight line.



Steering Gear Mechanism

The steering gear mechanism is used for changing the direction of two or more of the wheel axles with reference to the chassis, so as to move the automobile in any desired path.

Usually the two back wheels have a common axis, which is fixed in direction with reference to the chassis and the steering is done by means of the front wheels.

In automobiles, the front wheels are placed over the front axles, which are pivoted at the points A and B, as shown in Fig.

These points are fixed to the chassis.

The back wheels are placed over the back axle, at the two ends of the differential tube.

When the vehicle takes a turn, the front wheels along with the respective axles turn about the respective pivoted points. The back wheels remain straight and do not turn.

Therefore, the steering is done by means of front wheels only.



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