

Chapter 1

1-1

Introduction & Mathematical Concepts

- I've already given the philosophical intro on the syllabus, so we just jump into the deep end now.

Units

- physics is an exact science
- to understand ~~the~~ ^{the} physics of nature we need accurate & precise measurements.
↳ answer not wrong
- so we need accurate standards ↳ answer known to many digits of measure for the quantities of interest — e.g., length, time, mass
- we need precisely defined units that are the same / valid for all cases
- For discrete quantities, this is no problem.

- if there are 10 cows in the field, there are 10 cows in the field precisely.
→ cattle have their own natural unit — the cow.

But for continuous quantities (length, time, etc) nature has not been so kind.

There are no macroscopic objects that are precisely identical.

- all stones are different
- all snowflakes

- animate things are somewhat better constrained and so ~~many~~ ^{some} ~~measurements~~ ^{units} started out as defined by a human object

- foot
- inch from a thumb width maybe.
- hand as in the height of a horse (which doesn't seem a very convenient unit actually).

In physics jargon everything much bigger than a molecule is macroscopic even microbes are macroscopic
↓
an abuse of language but that's the convention

also it is used rather loosely
- some true macro is just bigger than microbes

— after a long history of
units & measures people
arrived at having a single
~~well~~ ultra-carefully maintained
object to be the defining
object of a unit at least in some key cases.

1-3

all other measurement scales are
calibrated by it — usually
at several removes

— the meter was once ~~the~~
defined as ^{distance between} two marks on
a platinum iridium bar

& the kilogram was (& still is
though perhaps not for much

longer) as a platinum-iridium cylinder

These objects are both kept Sevrès
outside of Paris

Why Paris you ask?

Well why not.

— La Cité de lumière et l'amour.

— if you were a keeper of weights
and measures would you
choose Peoria? ϕ

actually I believe it was 1-4
a political deal

— England got Greenwich
mean time & the
prime meridian

— France got the meter & the
kilogram

— America got nothing: our trade
negotiators were off the ball in
the 1880s or so when these
things were decided

But using single objects
isn't so great.

— metal expands when heated

— mass changes by accumulation
of dust.

the single objects have to be
ever so carefully maintained and
even then it's hard to be sure
they are exactly stable to all the
precision we need.

— and what if they are destroyed somehow
in war — e.g., WWII?

So what was desired
 was to set basic units
 by physical "objects"
 or things
 that we believe to be
 exact in ~~the~~ principle.

— So the meter is now
 defined as the distance
 light in a vacuum travels
 in $\frac{1}{299\,792\,458}$ seconds.

— In the theory of special relativity
 the ^{vacuum light} speed is invariant.

↳ all observers ~~measure~~ measure the
 same speed — which does weird
 things to time — but that's a
 story for another day.

↳ and we believe that theory is accurate
 beyond anything we can measure.

I should say a great deal of ^{well-established} modern physical theory is inextricably linked.

but not all

↳ if one part is somehow wrong, then there is something wrong with a lot of it.

↳ all of modern experiments and a good deal of modern technology tells us that well-established results are right to any degree and we can presently test it.
 and SR is part of that inextricably linked theory!

— So you don't need to go to that bar in ~~Sèvres~~ — (I. bar of metal)

↳ anyone with the right equipment can do a fundamental calibration.

↳ usually only national bureaus of standards do that kind of thing.

— What of the second.

— it's defined as the time for exactly 9 192 631 770 wave cycles

of emission of particular 1-7
kind of a Ce-133 atom.

↖ element ↗ isotope

— why? One for some reason
it's easy to deal with in
the lab.

Historically the second was

$$\frac{1}{24} \cdot \frac{1}{60} \cdot \frac{1}{60} = \frac{1}{86400}$$

of a solar day.

↳ but length of the day varies
and is slowly increasing with
time.

— It's a macroscopic object and so
it's periods ~~cannot~~ (i.e., days)
can't be exactly identical
even in principle.

But Ce-133 is microscopic
& quantum mechanics (the story
of another day) tells us
all unperturbed Ce-133 atoms
are absolutely in principle identical

— This is true of all simple microscopic objects. [1-8a]

→ For example every electron is exactly in principle like every other one.

They are sort of like Platonic forms (ideas)

Unit?
One of the founders of QM
Heisenberg was the son of a professor of break^{studies} & this may have given him some openness to the idea of Platonic forms

Nowadays most basic units are based on natural things we think are absolutely invariant in principle.

Macroscopic mass though is still linked to that kilogram cylinder.

↳ microscopic mass is defined by the mass $C-12$ atom (ordinary), but hitherto it hasn't been possible to use that for macro measurements, but maybe some day soon it will be.

These natural standards (1-86)

- the speed of light
- the Ce-133 frequency
- mass of C-12 atom

we believe are unchanging and
in principle absolute quantities according
to modern ~~the~~ physics theory.

- because of the inextricably
connection of modern physics
supported by a host of experiments
and ~~you~~ ~~tells~~ the fact
that your cell phone works.

This Doesn't mean we can measure them
perfectly, but people who try
can always approach them
more & more closely to perfect
measurements and anyone ~~at~~ anywhere
and at any time in the future.

→ those people are often —
but not only — researchers
at National Bureau of Standards.

Basic & Derived Units

1-9

There are 7 base units,

those of length meter

time second

mass kilogram

Mass by the way is not weight although the two are closely connected on the Earth's surface.

as well
discuss more fully later
mass is resistance to acceleration.
- objects in free-fall are weightless, but a massive object is still harder to get moving than a small one

and 4 others we won't annoy ourselves with now.

~~unit~~
unit

current ampere (Wikipedia)

temperature kelvin

quantity of (almost) elementary objects mole

luminous intensity candela ← why do we need this?

maybe because it's based on model of the human eye.

exactly it.

- the subjective effect of light on human needs a base unit for historical and practical reasons

Systeme International
de metrie

These are the SI units that are universally adopted in science as standard → of course, ~~we~~ science uses all other kinds

of units when convenient. [1-10]

[e.g., in astronomy, the mass of the sun = the solar mass is a convenient unit for measuring the mass of stars that range from $\sim \frac{1}{80}$ to ~ 100 or more solar masses.

This is a physically meaningful unit in this context

— the kilogram is a convenient size for human scale objects.

Of course, conventional units outside of science & engineering can be ~~other~~ things.

— e.g., miles, feet, slugs (don't ask) ~~in~~ British units.
in US.

— like many scientists, 1-11
I think we should
junk British units, but the
changeover would be a bit
painful

↳ we should at least
get rid of Fahrenheit for
temperature — everyone knows
or can learn Celsius anyway.

from the base units derived units
can be obtained.

— speed is the ratio of $\frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$

and so has units

of $\frac{\text{length}}{\text{time}}$ or in SI $\frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$.

— Volume is the product of

3 lengths so has

SI units of m^3

— Some derived units have
special names

e.g., the joule = $\text{kg} \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}^2}$

the unit of energy
which we'll get to

the unit of power (in physical sense) is $\frac{\text{J}}{\text{s}} = \text{watt}$

Power is energy per unit time (1-12a)

— a 100 W light bulb
use 100 J every second
→ mostly ~~going into heat~~ ~~rather~~ not going into
visible light — only
~5%. (Wikipedia)

We also have multiples of base
SI ~~units~~ units denoted by prefixes
~~units~~ ~~(When one just limit to the base~~
~~units and not of derived quantities~~
~~that is the case.)~~

kilo **K** 10^3

(small)

e.g., a kilogram = 10^3 gram

~~add~~ for practical ^{or historical} reasons

we consider the kilogram
the base unit rather than
the gram.

kilometer = 10^3 m

centi **c** 10^{-2}

e.g.,

centimeter = 10^{-2} m.

small
letters
for decrease

mega — **M**

micro — **m** (11-6)

10^6 MJ small 16
gasoline has ~45 MJ/kg
of chemical energy

not
for
kg
or km

capital
for
increase

to release on combustion

1-126

- only a fraction of which goes into kinetic energy

20 to 30% (Wikipedia)

Kilogram is ~~not~~ the base unit not the gram due to some foul up in the old days

fact at the Beringer's - only a ~~box~~ model & a click away

The set of ~~of one just used~~ base units meter, kilogram, second, and ~~an~~ unprefix units derived from them, then that is called MKS for meters, kilograms, seconds.

base set. No prefixes except kilogram.

When one is just doing elaborate ~~at~~ calculation when an intuitive feel for sizes is not needed then it is best to use MKS units.

consistent MKS

- since then you don't need to worry about conversions, ~~and~~ and writing the units explicitly
- the units will work to be MKS units if you do the math correctly.

~~CGS~~ CGS = centimeters, grams, seconds are a rival consistent set. It's just as good as MKS but is only used by astronomers. T+... what I use in my ~~work~~ work

But people don't just stick to MKS. 1-12c

- they use units that are physically or otherwise meaningful for the quantities they are treated.

- of course, sometimes they use units out of pure obstinacy - there is no other reason for Fahrenheit.

So since we won't stick to MKS for good (and bad) reasons, we need to deal with unit conversions

(which are often a great bore).

to release on combustion

1-13

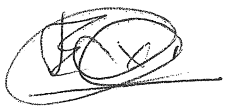
↳ only a fraction of which goes into the kinetic energy of a car
→ 20 or 30% (Wikipedia)

(Wikipedia) is so good to have these facts at the fingertips literally

Unit Conversions

— sort of a bore, but we have to put up with it.

↳ convenient units are not always base units or even SI units



But it's really just algebra with the units being like "unknown" x 's that have to be cancelled.

"Soap"
Jessica Tate
"I never really found out what x was"

e.g. $(10x) \times (13 \frac{y}{x}) = 130y.$

Ex. 1

Convert 30 kg
to g (grams)

This is so cinchy that
one hardly needs to
follow a procedure,
but we will

$$1 \text{ kg} = 1000 \text{ g}$$

$$\therefore 1 = \frac{1000 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ kg}}$$

Cutnell doesn't
use the
term, but
it's common
- a factor
of unity.

$$30 \text{ kg} \\ \therefore = 30 \text{ kg} \times 1$$

Multiplying
by 1 is always
allowed

$$= 30 \cancel{\text{kg}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ g}}{1 \cancel{\text{kg}}}$$

cancel
the
"unknown" kg

$$= 30 \times 1000 \text{ g}$$

$$= 30000 \text{ g}$$

Ex. 2 Angel Falls
in Venezuela

1-15

— world's highest falls.

— 979.0 m

Niagara Falls
51 m,

Shoshone Falls
64.7 m

More water
falls over
Niagara
I'm sure.

— as person's
whose hometown
is near Niagara Falls
~~falls~~ I find this
hard to accept.

— the mighty Niagara
is second
to none.

find the height in feet.
(a perfectly useless number
I'd say).

$$1 \text{ m} = 3.281 \text{ ft}$$

$$\therefore 1 = \frac{3.281 \text{ ft}}{1 \text{ m}} \text{ factor of unity.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore h &= 979.0 \text{ m} \\ &= 979.0 \text{ m} \times 1 \\ &= 979.0 \text{ m} \times \frac{3.281 \text{ ft}}{1 \text{ m}} \\ &\cong 3000 \text{ ft.} \end{aligned}$$

Note on the board [1-16]

I will very often

use only 1 digit

~~accuracy~~ of precision and ^{so 1 digit} accurate

— this is what one does
in any fast mental
calculation.

And I'll have to do it when
people ask me to work out
problems, I've not prepared.

In fact, on homework & test problems
it often pays to do
the calculation to one digit
accuracy in your head
before you use your calculator
to calculate a precise number

Ex 3. Convert

10 m/s into ~~mi/hr~~ mi/hr
= mph

Question for class

— what is special about 10 m/s?

— wait, look at watch.

— what is special in sports?

— wait till they give.

Often
calculators
go astray
— but so
does the
head sometimes.

- about as fast as a human can run

↳ if the human in question is an Olympic sprinter.

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But Usain Bolt

can do a bit better

9.6 s
m/s

in the 200 m.

$$v = 10 \frac{m}{s}$$

$$= 10 \frac{m}{s} \times 1 \times 1$$

↳ ~~1~~

$$1 = \frac{3600s}{1h}$$

$$1 = \frac{1km}{10^3m} \cdot \frac{1mi}{1.609km}$$

$$= 10 \frac{m}{s} \cdot \frac{1km}{10^3m} \cdot \frac{1mi}{1.609km} \cdot \frac{3600s}{1h}$$

$$\approx 10 \cdot \frac{3.6}{1.6} \frac{mi}{h}$$

$$= 22.5 \frac{mi}{h}$$

Question for Class

What is $1 \frac{m}{s}$ in $\frac{mi}{h}$ approximately?

$$\approx 2.25 \frac{mi}{h}$$

What is special about $1 \frac{m}{s}$ ~~is human~~
for the human condition?

~~about~~
- of order walking speed.

Omit? Yes? It is a strategy for checking your ~~work~~ equations, but frankly at the intro physics level, I've ~~never~~ ^{seen much} use for it. There will be no

Dimensional Analysis

explicit questions on dimensional analysis.

- we usually think of dimensions as being the 3 spatial dimension
- maybe plus time as the 4th dimension.

- but one can think any quantity as ~~being a de existing~~
~~in an abstract~~

extending in an abstract dimension

e.g., the dimension of mass where the unit of "length" is the kilogram.

You can analyze the ~~units~~ dimensions or units of an equation to see if it is dimensionally correct, which is not the same as correct.

Ex.

$x = vt$ or $x = v^2 t$

$L = \frac{L}{T} T = L$

$L = \frac{L^2}{T^2} T = \frac{L^2}{T}$

Yes not yes

Always use units! Always use units!

Trigonometry - I'm going to go a bit beyond

1-19

↳ triangle measurement

roughly speaking

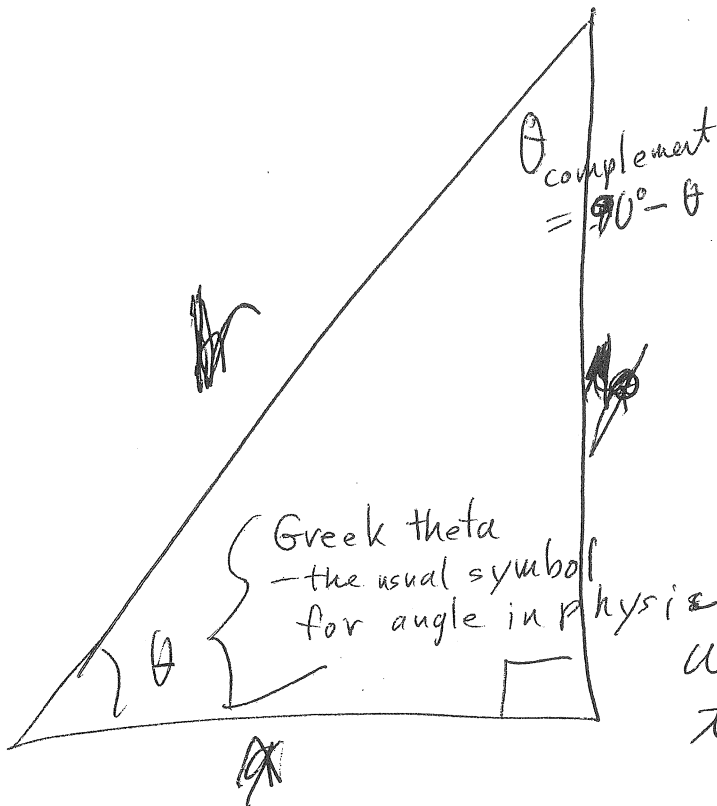
Gr. trigon + metron
triangle + measure

the text here since we will need a bit beyond later.

Some folks may know it already.

(Wikipedia)

Most people I expect are somewhat familiar with the subject which just deals with the relationships of angles and ~~sides~~ ~~course~~ the ratios of sides of a right angle triangle



The Absolute ~~values~~ ^{sizes} of ~~the~~ hypotenuse ~~or~~ adjacent ~~or~~ opposite are unspecified since only their ratios enter trigonometry.

and I will use it all the time — get used to it.

Recall the Pythagorean
Theorem

1-20

$$c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

Thus if you've specified

or a & b

or a & c

or b & c

you've specified the third
side and the whole ~~area~~ shape
of the triangle

just by saying the
lengths of any two sides.

→ this includes the angles
of course.

On the other hand, ~~the~~ a single
angle (other than the right angle
which understood as already given)

specifies the ratios of all

the sides via the trigonometric
function.

The 3 basic trigonometric functions 1-21

trig functions) are sine \Rightarrow sin
cosine \Rightarrow cos
tangent \Rightarrow tan

These functions ~~along~~ with θ
as their argument give
the ratios of the sides

$$\frac{~~h~~}{r} = \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{~~x~~}{h} = \cos \theta$$

$$\frac{~~x~~}{~~h~~} = \tan \theta$$

Note

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

$$1 = \left(\frac{x}{r}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{r}\right)^2$$

$$1 = \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta$$

a trig. identity.

~~Of course, from~~

sin, cos, tan

transcendental functions

and other trig functions are

But they are the only transcendental functions

which means they can't be evaluated by a finite series of algebraic operations

\hookrightarrow they are not exactly expressible as polynomials.

You have to add up an infinite series of powers of θ to evaluate them exactly

Ex.

$$\sin \theta = a_0 + a_1 \theta + a_2 \theta^2 + a_3 \theta^3 + \dots = \theta - \frac{1}{6} \theta^3 + \frac{1}{120} \theta^5 - \dots$$

It is a weird thing that are exact numbers like π or e that we know are exact, but we can't in principle know them exactly in terms of rational numbers - they're irrational

Which can't be done in practice.

But you can always evaluate enough terms that you have them as accurately as you need.

- this is what calculators and computers do
- and how tables of trig functions are created.

Of course, you can ~~invert~~ inverse the functions

means inverse in this context, not "one over"

$$\theta = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) = \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) = \arccos\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

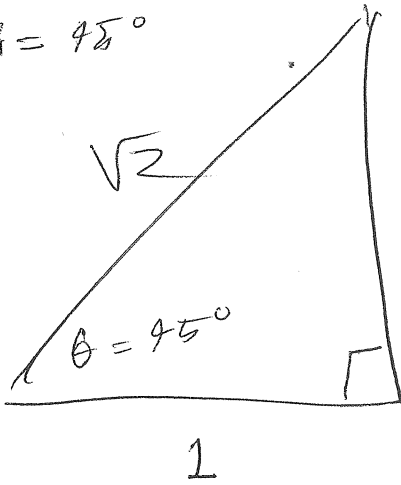
$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) = \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

and calculators do this too.

Standard angle triangles

1-23

1 $\theta = 45^\circ$



$$\sin \theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = .7071\dots$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = .7071\dots$$

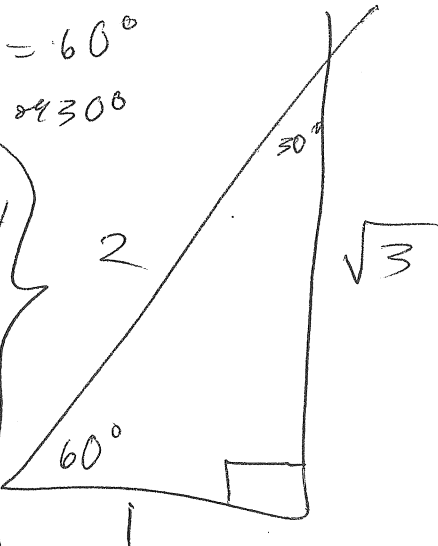
$$\tan \theta = 1$$

One of the few exact rational number values for a trig function.

$$\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2}$$

2 $\theta = 60^\circ$

or 30°



$$\theta = 60 \quad \sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = .8660\dots$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\tan \theta = \sqrt{3} = 1.7321\dots$$

irrational numbers that trail on forever without being periodic.

$$\theta = 30 \quad \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$2 = \sqrt{1^2 + (\sqrt{3})^2}$$

These are tricky to prove but one can do it using a hexagon



construction.

Note

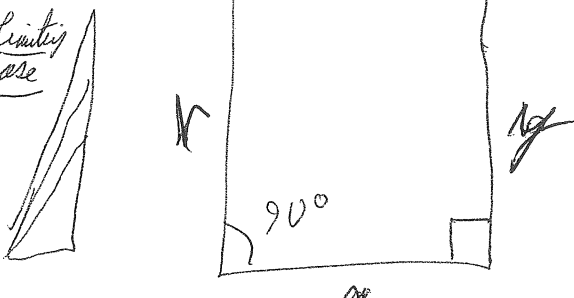
$$h = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$1 = \sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{h}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{b}{h}\right)^2} = \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta}$$

$1 = \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta$ a trig identity for all θ .

3 $\theta = 90^\circ$

Limiting case



~~$\theta = 90^\circ$~~

$$\sin \theta = \frac{r}{r} = 1$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{0}{r} = 0$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{r}{0} = \infty$$

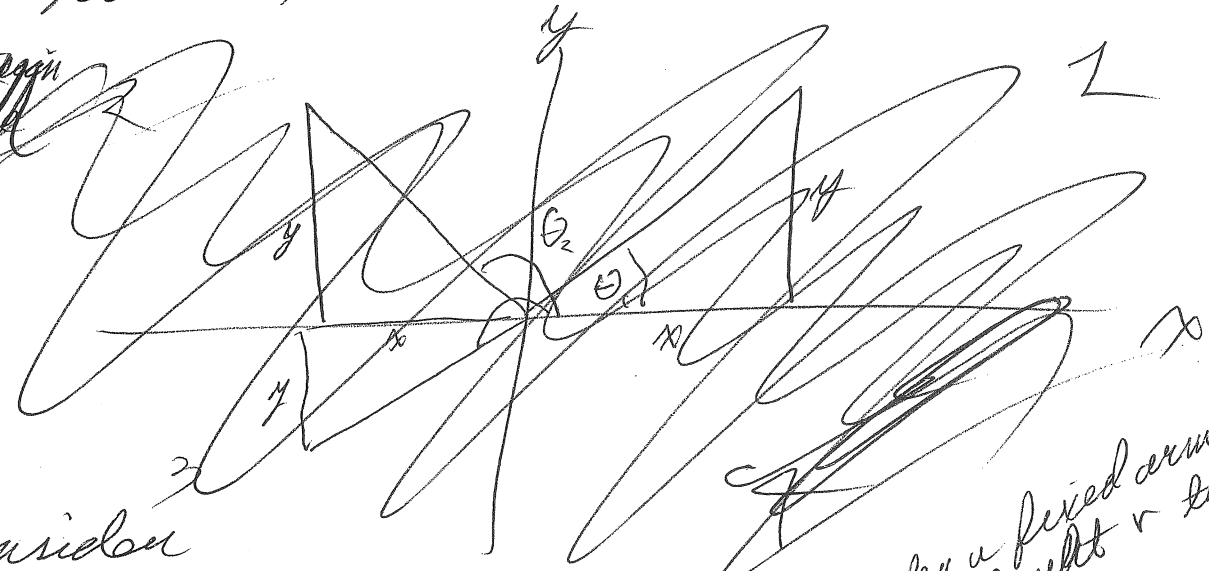
There are limiting values what you get as $\theta \rightarrow 90^\circ$

The trig functions
 can be extended to
 angles $> 90^\circ$ and $< 0^\circ$

1-27a

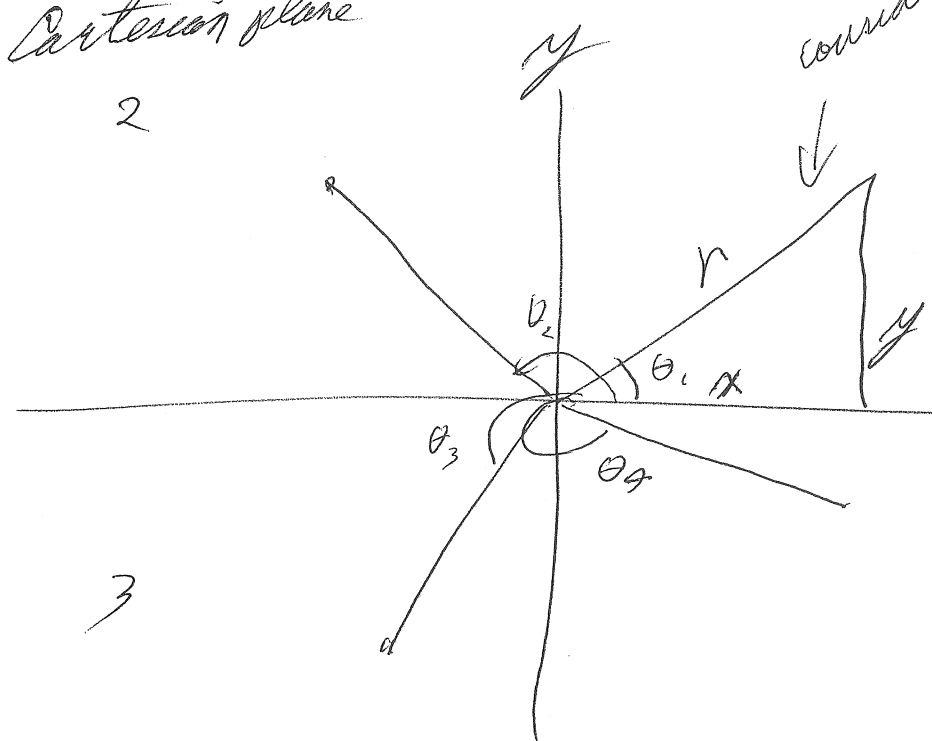
- your calculator knows
 how to do this.

Cartesian
 Model



Consider
 the Cartesian plane

consider a fixed arm
 of length r that you
 can rotate



1 2 3 4
 1 2 3 4

θ is always
 measured
 positive ~~from~~
 counterclockwise

from the
 +ve x-axis

3

7

Define the functions as before, but now, x or y can become negative.

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

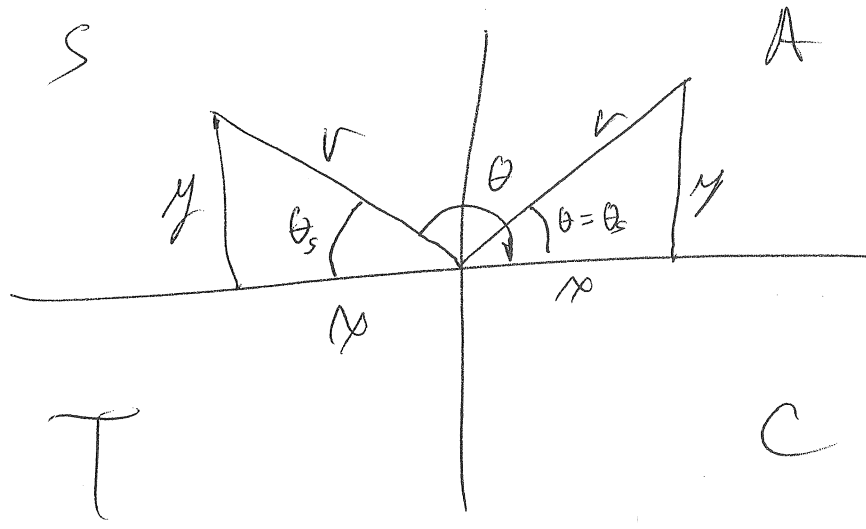
$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

$$1 - 24b$$

for all x and y as θ increases or decreases as far ~~as far~~ as one likes.

CAST rule



There are simple rules for finding the trig functions in other quadrants based on values in quadrant 1, but omit them.

2nd quadrant or S quadrant Omit?

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r} = \sin \theta_s = \sin(180^\circ - \theta) = \sin \theta_{sup} \text{ where } \theta_{sup} \in (0, 90)$$

so if $\theta = 135^\circ$

$$\sin 135^\circ = \sin 45^\circ$$

$$\text{but } \cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} = -\frac{|x|}{r} = -\cos \theta_{sup} = -\cos(180 - \theta) = -\cos \theta_{sup}$$

e.g. if $\theta = 135^\circ$

$\dots 45^\circ$

and so we know it's 1st quadrant value

1 - 250

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

$$= -\frac{y}{|x|}$$

~~$\tan \theta$~~

$$= -\tan(180 - \theta)$$

$$= -\tan(\theta)$$

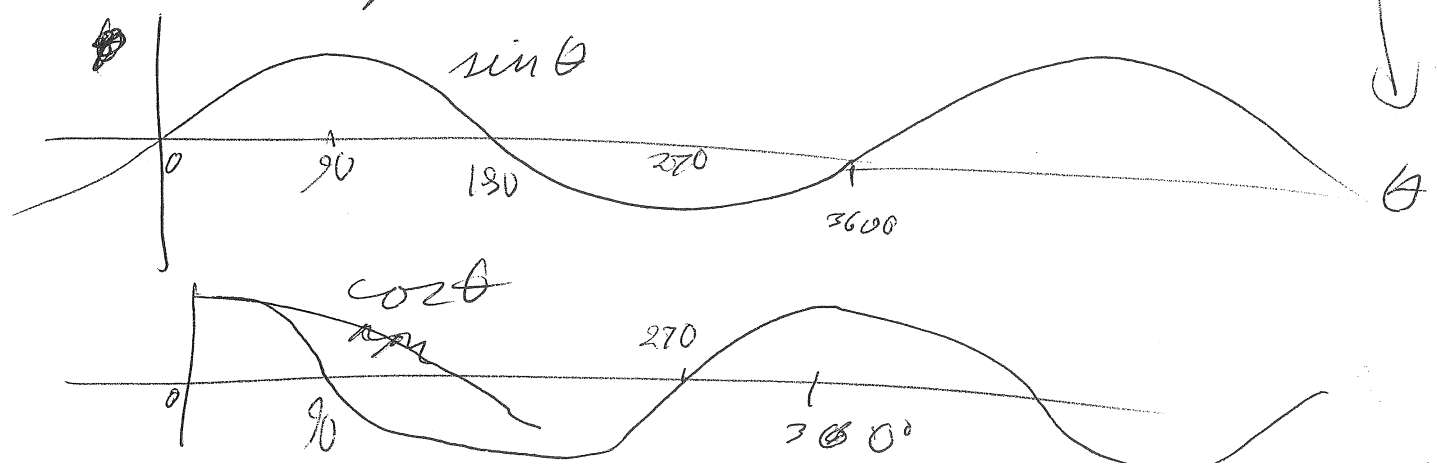
e.g., $\tan 135^\circ = -\tan 45^\circ$

— and one could go on to find expressions for the function in all quadrants from the function in the 1st quadrant.

— the calculator does that for you.

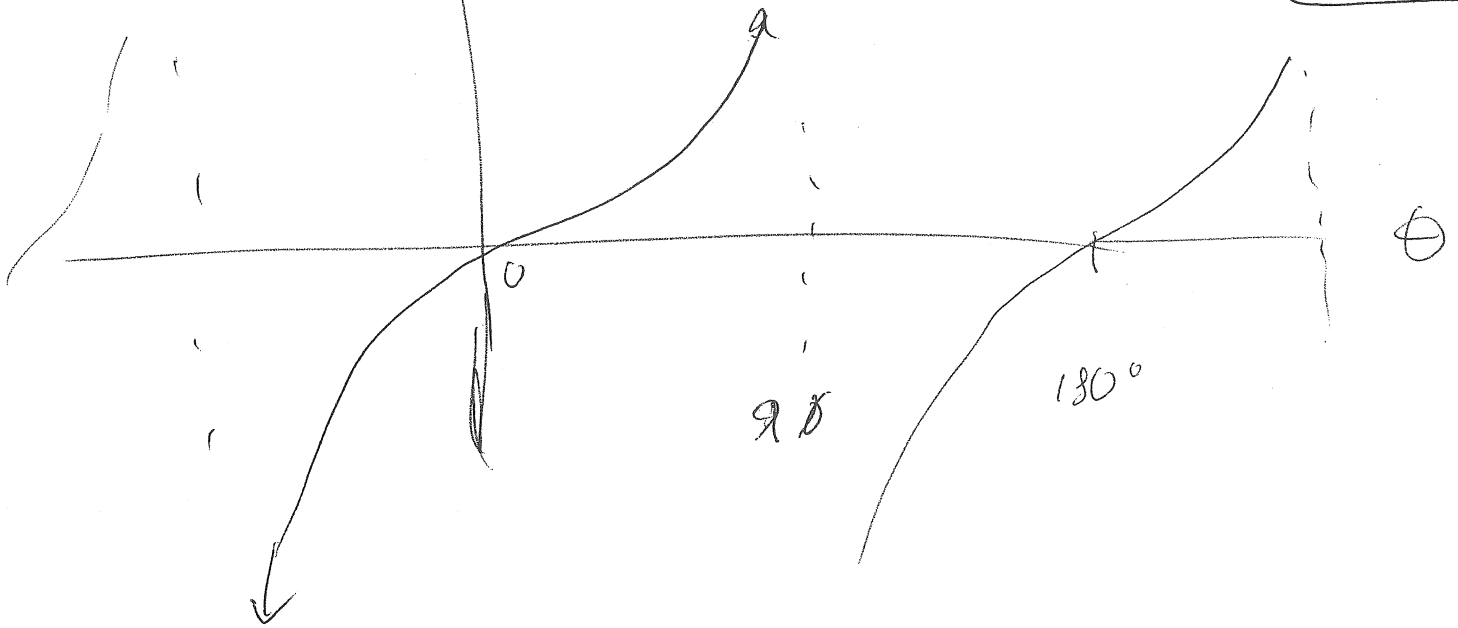
— But ~~the trig~~ trig are periodic functions they repeat every 360° and you can plot them

The theta axis
↓
 θ



$\tan \theta$ actual repeats every 180°

1-2 ~~3~~



↑
infinities
or singular points.

$\sin \theta$ and $\cos \theta$ are called
sinusoidal functions
because they are sine-like

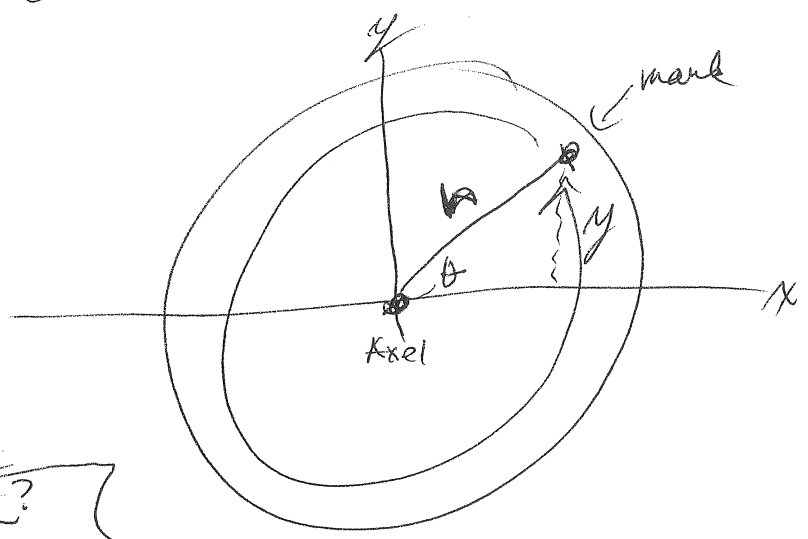
The sinusoidal curves
are common

1-27a

— they turn up for any
rotational motion.

Consider a wheel turning at a constant
angular rate (cycles
per second)

as the mark
goes around
and around.



But what is it's
y - height on
Cartesian plot?

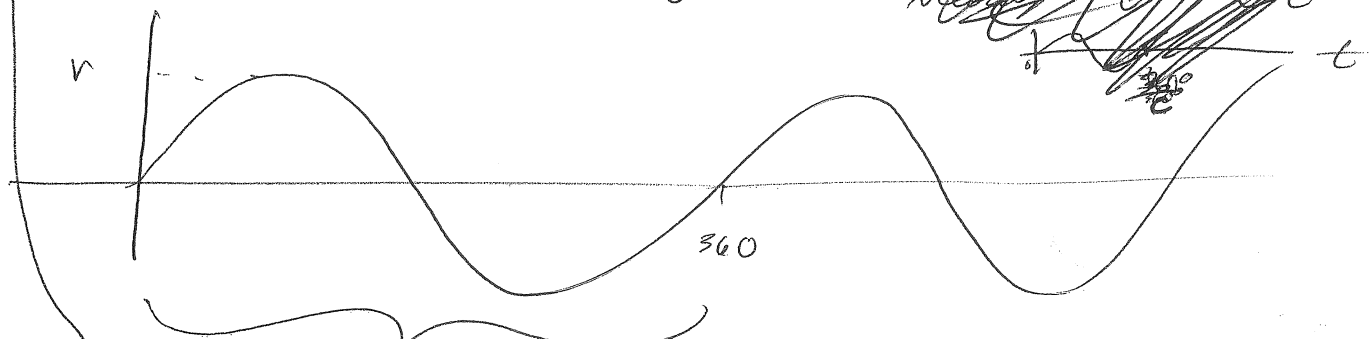
Unit?
Not
just a
mathematical
curiosity
since
mechanical
devices
have to
convert
linear
to rotational
motion
and
vice
versa.

Well $\frac{y}{r} = \sin \theta$

$y = r \sin \theta$

as θ increase from zero to ∞

For a constant angular
velocity $\theta = \omega t$



360° is a complete period of the wave.

Say

~~scribbled out text~~

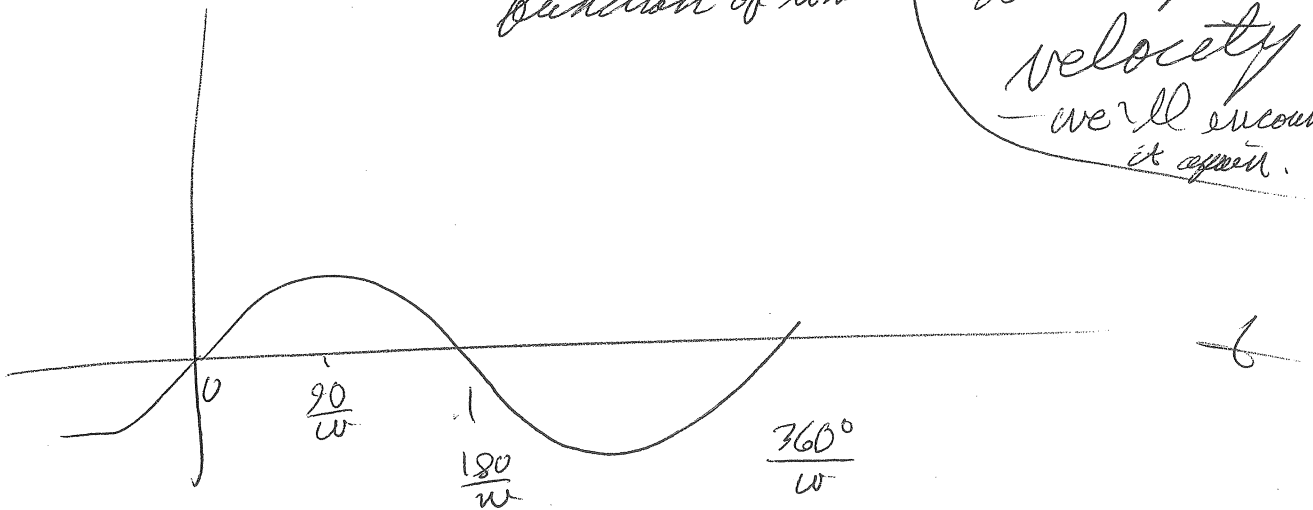
11-276

$$\theta = \omega t \quad \text{where}$$

ω = Greek
omega

When you can plot
sine waves as
function of time

called
the angular
velocity.
- we'll encounter
it again.



We will return to sine waves
at a later time.

- They turn up in a lot
of places besides
~~what~~ rotational
motion

e.g., Alternating current (AC) and alternating voltage are sinusoidal functions of time.

Question

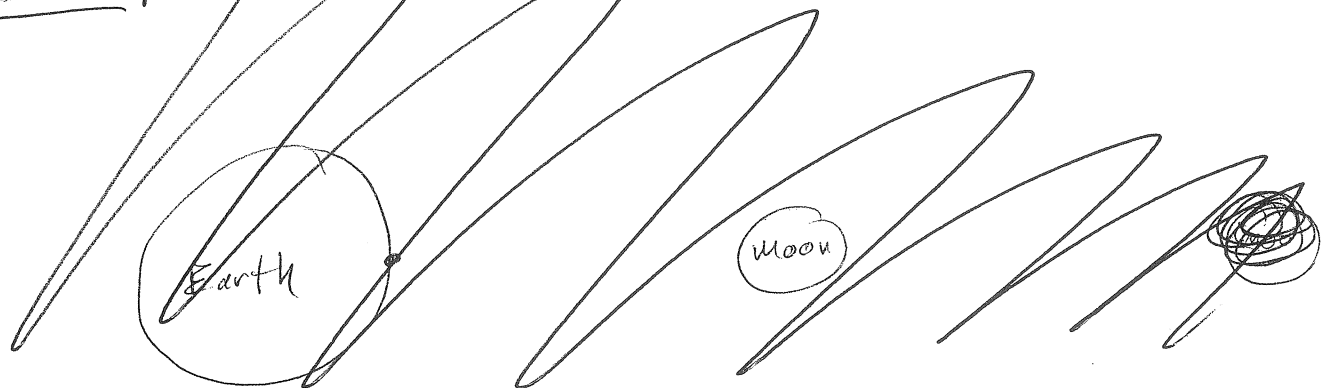
What is the time period of a standard North American AC?

Wait 15 seconds How many cycles per second?

60 cycles = 60 Hertz.

So $\frac{1}{60}$ s for 1 cycle.

Ex. From astronomy

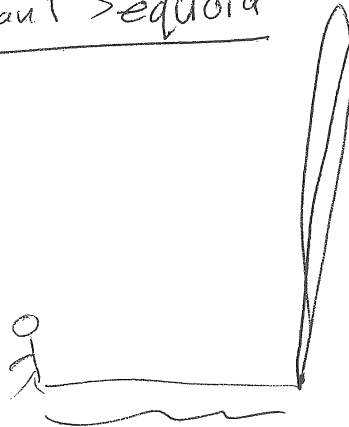


Ex. Height of a Redwood
a Giant Sequoia

1-29

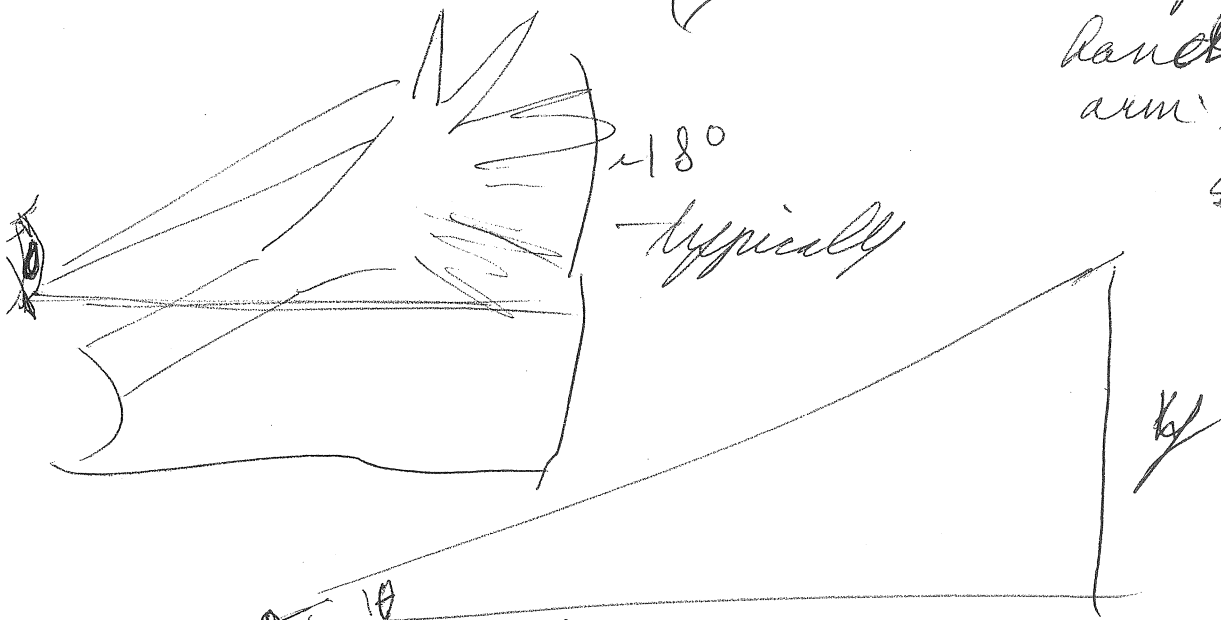


You stand at the base and the tree seems to go up to the sky.



you walk ~~100m~~ 100 steps ≈ 100 m away and measure its

angular height with 2 spread hands at arm's length.
~~36~~ = 36°



Your height is negligible compared to a redwood

~~100~~ = 100 m
the baseline

$$\tan \theta = \frac{h}{100}$$

(this is not a super precise...)

$$h \approx 100 \tan \theta = 100 \text{ m} \times .7265 \approx 73 \text{ m}$$

Scalars & Vectors

(1-30)

- a scalar is a quantity that has no associated direction in ^{real} space → it just has a magnitude

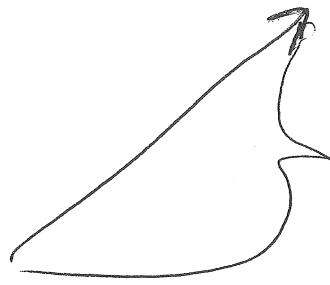
eg.,
- temperature, density

- a vector is a quantity with both a magnitude and a direction in ^{real space} (in more advanced physics and math their definition needs revision, but it's fine for our needs) ^{but can be in an abstract space,}

The ^{prototype} (representative) vector is displacement to use the physics jargon word.
↓
which is distance and direction specified

Graphically we can represent 1-30

a vector
as a line
with an arrow
head



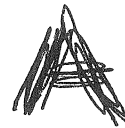
← arrow head
gives the
direction.

length
represents
the magnitude

~~also~~ To represent
a vector in symbols
there are several forms

all mean
vector A

boldface



but this
is hard

to distinguish
on a
whiteboard

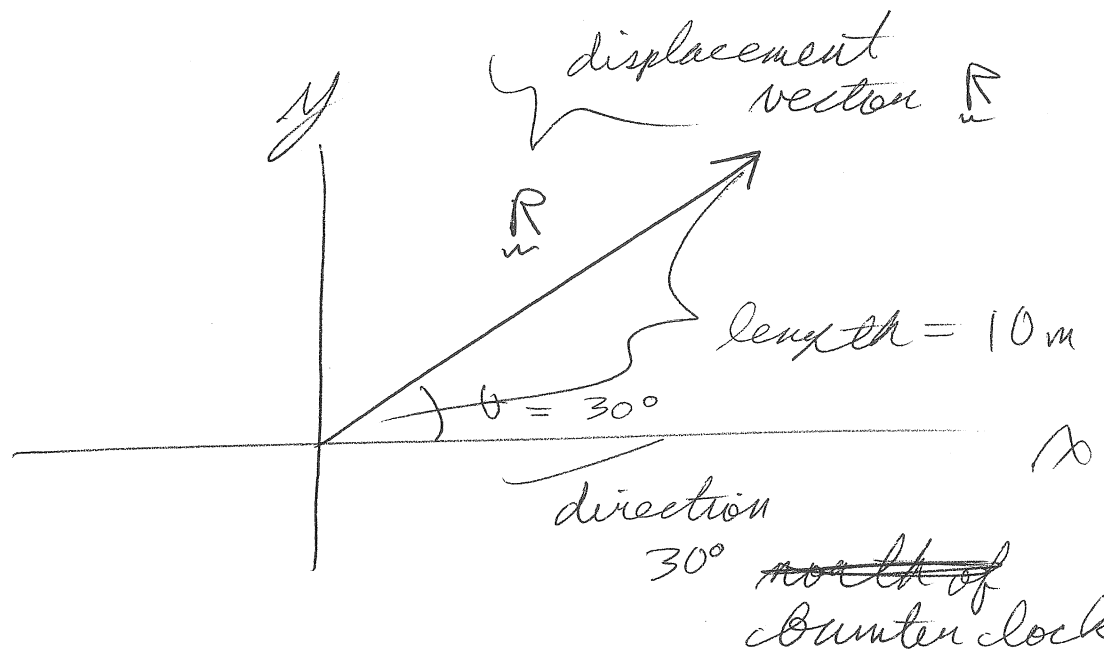
overhead arrow
as in the
text



or under squiggle



This is the one
I use on the board
since I ~~then~~ find
squiggles easy to
write → you ^{all} may think
that is all I do write



Both length & direction need to be specified to specify a vector completely.

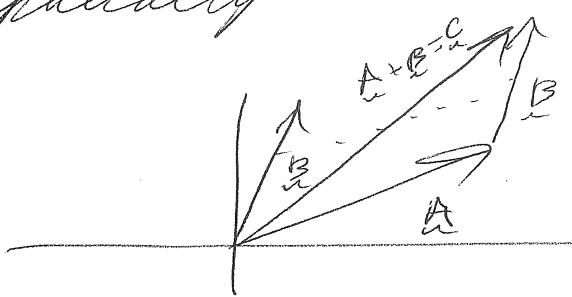
— but the direction can be specified in several ways. — with respect to different axes or using components.

Vector Addition

↳ this is a defined process. resultant vector makes sense. One needs a new rule because they are not scalars.

$$\underline{A} + \underline{B} = \underline{C}$$

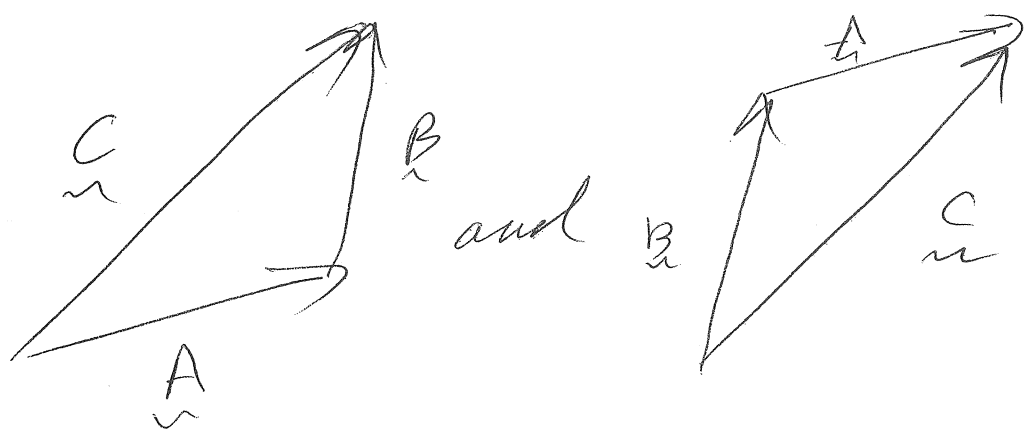
graphically



↳ transport B to a head-to-tail position

$$\underline{A} + \underline{B} = \underline{B} + \underline{A}$$

vector addition is commutative.



Negative of a vector

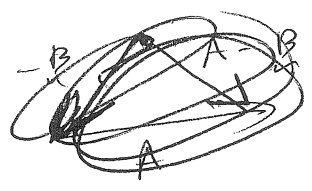
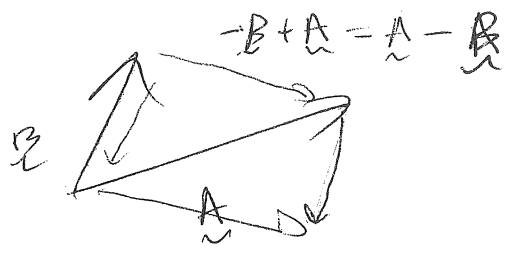
if \underline{A} then $-\underline{A}$

- same magnitude, but opposite direction
 (opposite "sense" in math jargon)

one of two opposing directions in which a vector can point.
 (Pa-1102)

Vector subtraction

$$\underline{A} - \underline{B} = \underline{A} + (-\underline{B})$$



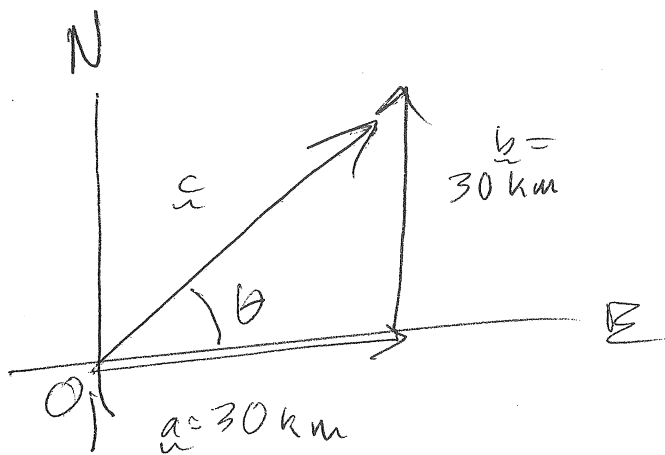
Ex

You displace

1-34

30 km east,

then 30 km north



What distance have you traveled?

wait 15 Sec

60 km.

But what is your displacement from the origin?

$$c = a + b$$

$$c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

by Pythagorean theorem

$$\cong \sqrt{2000}$$

$$\cong 45 \text{ km}$$

without the ruler I mean magnitude

one of those special triangles the isosceles right triangle

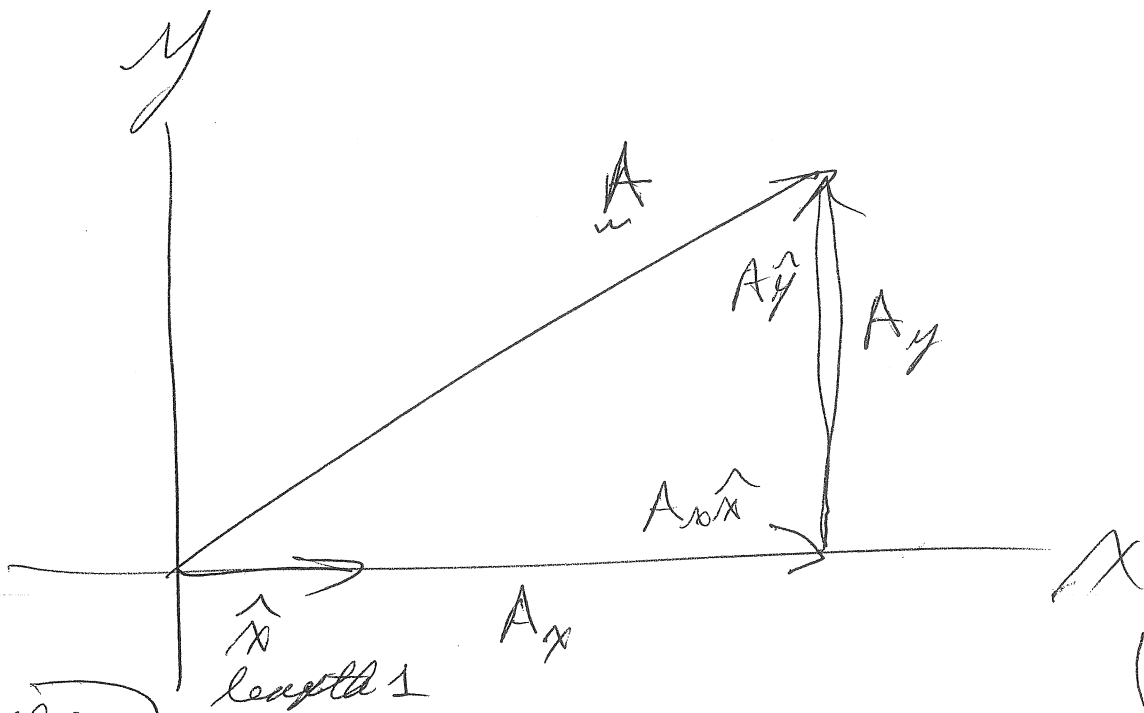
Question

Direction from east?

45°

Vector Components

- now I know what you are thinking, it's tedious to deal with ~~with~~ two things that have to be dealt with in different ways
 - i.e., length & direction
- Is there some more ~~flexible~~ flexible way to deal with vectors?
- Yes you can break them into components relative to some coordinate system.



(ordered pair notation.)

$$\vec{A} = A_x \hat{x} + A_y \hat{y} = (A_x, A_y)$$

So this should be valid just by vector addition.

As should

$\vec{A} + \vec{B}$

scalar x-component

a unit vector in the x-direction

a unit vector in the y-direction.

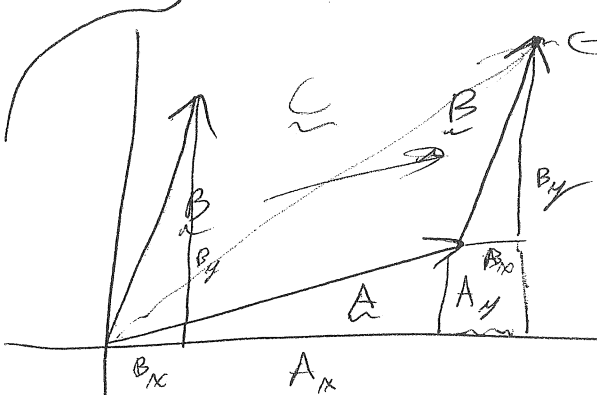
pointed hat ^ means unit vector

scalar y component

The components are scalars

and add and subtract

that way. This works correctly as we can show graphically



x-coordinate is $A_x + B_x = C_x$
 y-coordinate is $A_y + B_y = C_y$

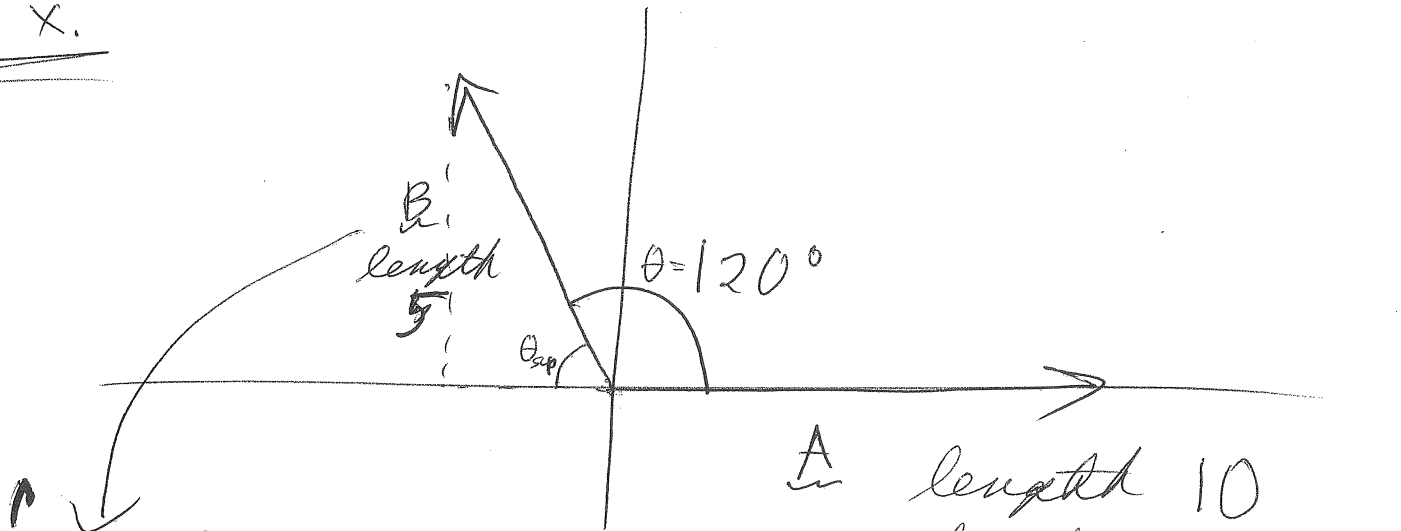
so these do add to give the components of vector C

Thus graphical vector addition is indeed equivalent to adding components as scalars.

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$$\vec{A} + \vec{B} = (A_x + B_x, A_y + B_y)$$

Ex.



we have to find the components of \vec{B} with trig.

\vec{A} length 10
direction all in the x-direction
 $\vec{A} = (10, 0)$

$B = 5$ the magnitude

$$B_x = -B \cos \theta_{sup} = B \cos \theta$$

$$B_y = B \sin \theta_{sup} = B \sin \theta$$

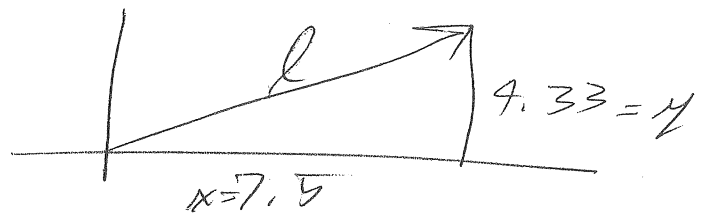
You can always use the angles measured clockwise from the x-axis which is the standard new Cartesian.

$$B_x = -5 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = -2.5$$

$$B_y = 5 \cdot .866 \cong 4.33$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{A} + \underline{B} &= \underline{A} \\ &= (10 - 2.5, 0 + 4.33) \\ &= (7.5, 4.33) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} l &= \sqrt{7.5^2 + 4.33^2} \\ &= \sqrt{55 + 20} \\ &= \sqrt{75} \\ &\approx 8.5 \end{aligned}$$



Not bad.

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{4.33}{7.5}\right) \approx 30$$

$$x = l \cos \theta$$

$$l = \frac{x}{\cos \theta} \approx 8.66$$

Did in math.1

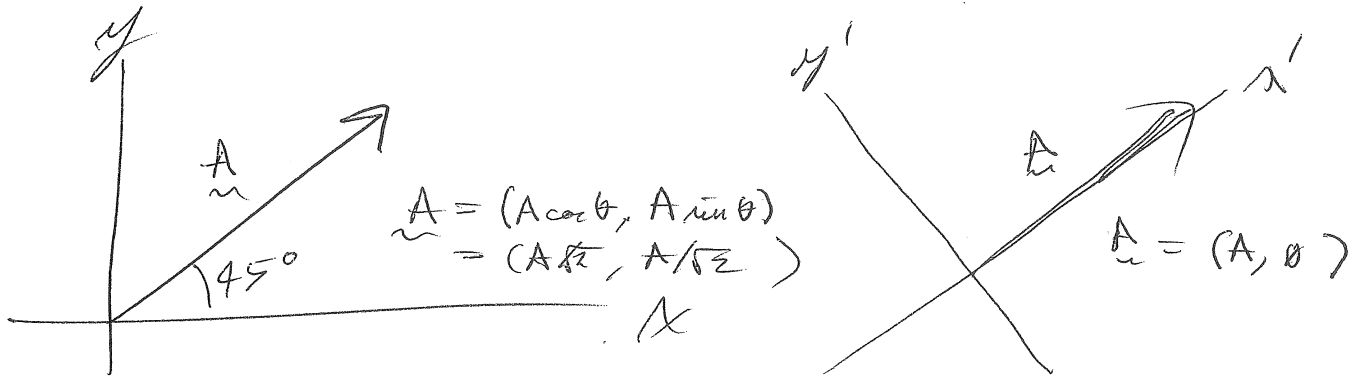
Vector Components

are Not Unique

- They are determined relative to a coordinate system.

Ex.

1-39



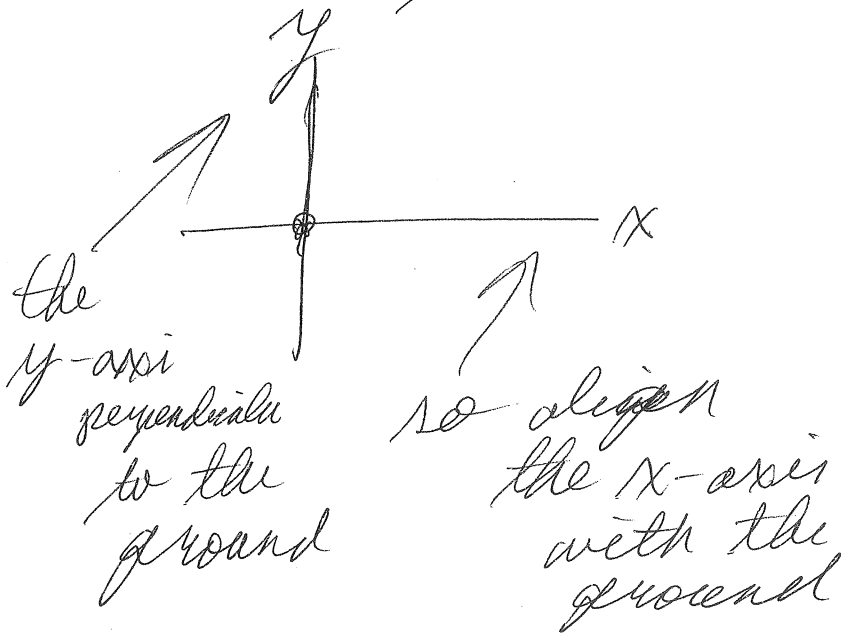
Same vector, but the components are different for different sets of axes.

— But in either coordinate system, the ~~axes~~ components are correct and you will deduce the correct behavior for the vector.

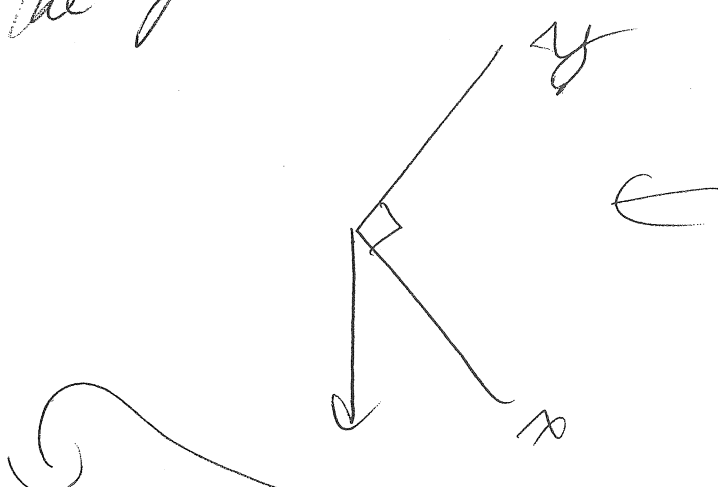
But usually you can choose the coordinate system for convenience of calculation.

Ex

In this course we'll consider falling objects. — lots & lots of times. And projectile motion maybe a little less often.



↳ thus for dropped objects the motion is only in ~~one~~ the y-direction and is scalar-like



← if you choose the axes this way then you'd need two components to describe the motion and even they would be a mess.

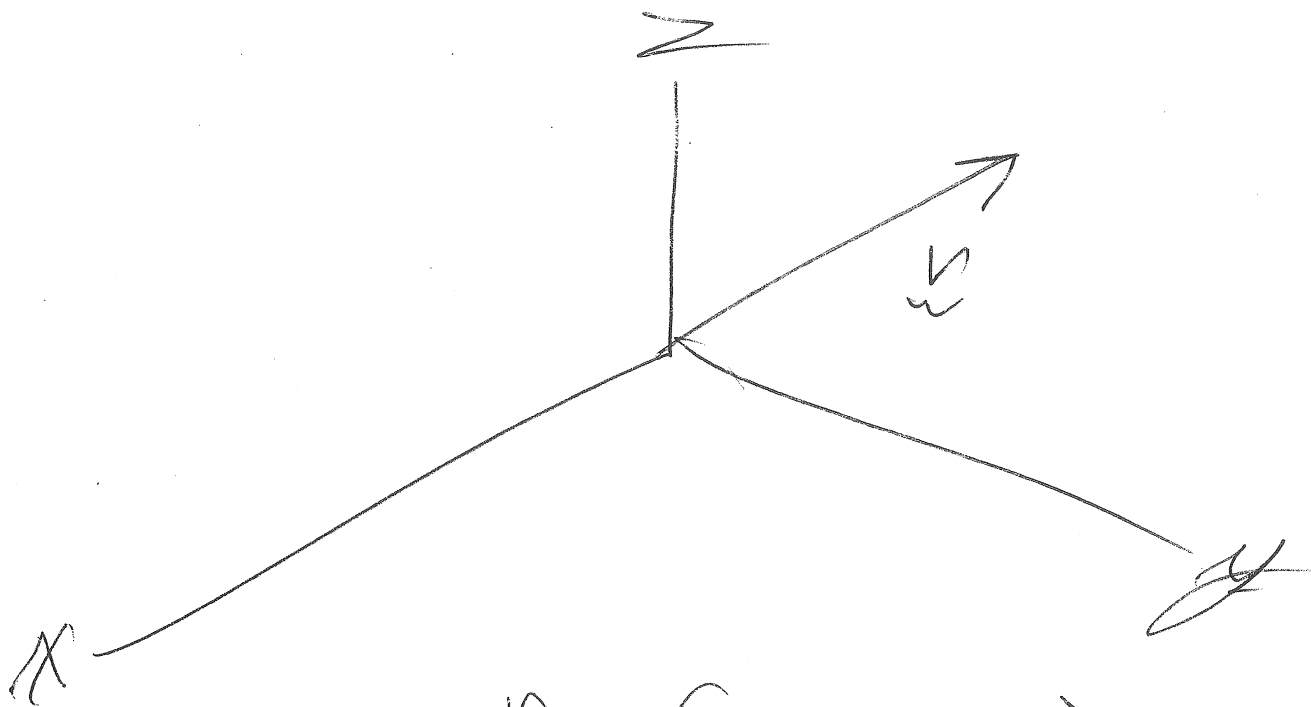
You'd get the same answer if you did it

Three Dimensional

1-91

Vectors

They are easy enough in principle, but they are beyond the scope of this class.



$$\vec{v} = (x, y, z)$$

They just have 3-components.