المحاضرة الاولى

**Basic Principle of Surveying** 



المرحلة الثانية



قسم هندسة السدود والموارد المائيه

الفصل الدراسي الاول







# Dr. Khamis Naba Sayl

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#### Surveying I

#### Chapter one Basic Principle of Surveying

#### 1-1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, students will be able to:

1. Define surveying and other technical terms

2. Describe the importance of surveying

3. Identify and state the different types of surveying

4. Describe different surveying applications

5. State the different types of errors in surveying

#### 1-2 DEFINITION OF SURVEYING

Surveying, which has recently also been interchangeably called geomatics, has traditionally been defined as *the science, art, and technology of determining the relative positions of points above, on, or beneath the Earth's surface, or of establishing such points.* 

In a more general sense, however, surveying (geomatics) can be regarded as that discipline which covers all methods for measuring and collecting information about the physical earth and our environment, processing that information, and disseminating a variety of resulting products to a wide range of clients. Surveying has been important since the beginning of civilization. Its earliest applications were in measuring and marking boundaries of property ownership. Throughout the years its importance has steadily increased with the growing demand for a variety of maps and other spatially related types of information and the expanding need for establishing accurate line and grade to guide construction operations.

Today the importance of measuring and monitoring our environment is becoming increasingly critical as our population expands, land values appreciate, our natural resources dwindle, and human activities continue to stress the quality of our land, water, and air. Using modern ground, aerial, and satellite technologies, and computers for data processing, contemporary surveyors are now able to measure and monitor the Earth and its natural resources on literally a global basis.

Never before has so much information been available for assessing current conditions, making sound planning decisions, and formulating policy in a host of landuse, resource development, and environmental preservation applications.

A *surveyor* is a professional person with the academic qualifications and technical expertise to conduct one, or more, of the following activities;

• To determine, measure and represent the land, three-dimensional objects, point-fields, and routes;

• To collect and interpret land and geographically related information;

• To use that information for the planning and efficient administration of the land, the sea and any structures thereon; and

• To conduct research into the above practices and to develop them.

#### **Detailed Functions**

The surveyor's professional tasks may involve one or more of the following activities, which may occur either on, above, or below the surface of the land or the sea and may be carried out in association with other professionals.

1. The determination of the size and shape of the earth and the measurements of all data needed to define the size, position, shape and contour of any part of the earth and monitoring any change therein.

2. The positioning of objects in space and time as well as the positioning and monitoring of physical features, structures and engineering works on, above or below the surface of the earth.

3. The development, testing and calibration of sensors, instruments and systems for the abovementioned purposes and for other surveying purposes.

4. The acquisition and use of spatial information from close range, aerial and satellite imagery and the automation of these processes.

5. The determination of the position of the boundaries of public or private land, including national and international boundaries, and the registration of those lands with the appropriate authorities.

6. The design, establishment and administration of geographic information systems (GIS) and the collection, storage, analysis, management, display and dissemination of data.

7. The analysis, interpretation and integration of spatial objects and phenomena in GIS, including the visualization and communication of such data in maps, models and mobile digital devices.

8. The study of the natural and social environment, the measurement of land and marine resources and the use of such data in the planning of development in urban, rural and regional areas.

9. The planning, development and redevelopment of property, whether urban or rural and whether land or buildings.

10. The assessment of value and the management of property, whether urban or rural and whether land or buildings.

11. The planning, measurement and management of construction works, including the estimation of costs.

## 1-3 **GEOMATICS**

Geomatics is a relatively new term that is now commonly being applied to encompass the areas of practice formerly identified as surveying. The name has gained widespread acceptance in the United States, as well as in other English-speaking countries of the world, especially in Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Many college and university programs in the United States that were formerly identified as "Surveying" or "Surveying Engineering" are now called "Geomatics" or "Geomatics Engineering."

The principal reason cited for making the name change is that the manner and scope of practice in surveying have changed dramatically in recent years. This has occurred in part because of recent technological developments that have provided surveyors with new tools for measuring and/or collecting information, for computing, and for displaying and disseminating information. It has also been driven by increasing concerns about the environment locally, regionally, and globally, which have greatly exacerbated efforts in monitoring, managing, and regulating the use of our land, water, air, and other natural resources. These circumstances, and others, have brought about a vast increase in demands for new spatially related information.

#### 1-4 GEODETIC AND PLANE SURVEYS

Two general classifications of surveys are **geodetic and plane**. They differ principally in the assumptions on which the computations are based, although field measurements for geodetic surveys are usually performed to a higher order of accuracy than those for plane surveys. In geodetic surveying, the curved surface of the Earth is considered by performing the

computations on an ellipsoid (curved surface approximating the size and shape of the Earth). It is now becoming common to do geodetic computations in a three-dimensional, Earth-centered, Earth-fixed (ECEF) Cartesian coordinate system. The calculations involve solving equations derived from solid geometry and calculus. Geodetic methods are employed to determine relative positions of widely spaced monuments and to compute lengths and directions of the long lines between them. These monuments serve as the basis for referencing other subordinate surveys of lesser extents.

Satellite positioning can provide the needed positions with much greater accuracy, speed, and economy. GNSS receivers enable ground stations to be located precisely by observing distances to satellites operating in known positions along their orbits. GNSS surveys are being used in all forms of surveying including geodetic, hydrographic, construction, and boundary surveying.

In plane surveying, except for leveling, the reference base for fieldwork and computations is assumed to be a flat horizontal surface. The direction of a plumb line (and thus gravity) is considered parallel throughout the survey region, and all observed angles are presumed to be plane angles. For areas of limited size, the surface of our vast ellipsoid is actually nearly flat. On a line 5 mi long, the ellipsoid arc and chord lengths differ by only about 0.02 ft. A plane surface tangent to the ellipsoid departs only about 0.7 ft at 1 mi from the point of tangency. In a triangle having an area of 75 square miles, the difference between the sum of the three ellipsoidal angles and three plane angles is only about 1 sec. Therefore, it is evident that except in surveys covering extensive areas, the Earth's surface can be approximated as a plane, thus simplifying computations and techniques. In general, algebra, plane and analytical geometry, and plane trigonometry are used in plane-surveying calculations.

#### **1-4 SPECIALIZED TYPES OF SURVEYS**

Many types of surveys are so specialized that a person proficient in a particular discipline may have little contact with the other areas. Persons seeking careers in surveying and mapping, however, should be knowledgeable in every phase, since all are closely related in modern practice. Some important classifications are described briefly here.

**Control surveys** establish a network of horizontal and vertical monuments that serve as a reference framework for initiating other surveys.

**Topographic surveys** determine locations of natural and artificial features and elevations used in map making.

**Land, boundary, and cadastral surveys** establish property lines and property corner markers. The term cadastral is now generally applied to surveys of the public lands systems.

Hydrographic surveys define shorelines and depths of lakes, streams, oceans, reservoirs, and other bodies of water. Sea surveying is associated with port and offshore industries and the

marine environment, including measurements and marine investigations made by shipborne personnel.

Alignment surveys are made to plan, design, and construct highways, railroads, pipelines, and other linear projects. They normally begin at one control point and progress to another in the most direct manner permitted by field conditions.

**Construction surveys** provide line, grade, control elevations, horizontal positions, dimensions, and configurations for construction operations. They also secure essential data for computing construction pay quantities.

**As-built surveys** document the precise final locations and layouts of engineering works and record any design changes that may have been incorporated into the construction. These are particularly important when underground facilities are constructed, so their locations are accurately known for maintenance purposes, and so that unexpected damage to them can be avoided during later installation of other underground utilities.

**Mine surveys** are performed above and below ground to guide tunneling and other operations associated with mining. This classification also includes geophysical surveys for mineral and energy resource exploration.

**Solar surveys** map property boundaries, solar easements, obstructions according to sun angles, and meet other requirements of zoning boards and title insurance companies.

**Ground, aerial, and satellite surveys** are broad classifications sometimes used. Ground surveys utilize measurements made with ground-based equipment such as automatic levels and total station instruments. Aerial surveys are accomplished using either photogrammetry or remote sensing. Photogrammetry uses cameras that are carried usually in airplanes to obtain images, whereas remote sensing employs cameras and other types of sensors that can be transported in either aircraft or satellites.

#### 1-5 UNITS AND SIGNIFICANT FIGURES

#### 1-4-1 Introduction

Five types of observations illustrated in Figure 1.1 form the basis of traditional plane surveying: (1) horizontal angles, (2) horizontal distances, (3) vertical (or zenith) angles, (4) vertical distances, and (5) slope distances. In the figure, OAB and ECD are horizontal planes, and OACE and ABDC are vertical planes. Then as illustrated, horizontal angles, such as angle AOB, and horizontal distances, OA and OB, are measured in horizontal planes; vertical angles, such as AOC, are measured in vertical planes; zenith angles, such as EOC, are also measured in vertical planes; vertical lines, such as AC and BD, are measured vertically (in the direction of gravity); and slope distances, such as OC, are determined along inclined planes. By using combinations of these basic observations, it is possible to compute relative positions between any points.



Figure 1-1 Kinds of measurements in surveying.

#### 1-4-2 UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Magnitudes of measurements (or of values derived from observations) must be given in terms of specific units. In surveying, the most commonly employed units are for length, area, volume, and angle. Two different systems are in use for specifying units of observed quantities, the English and metric systems. Because of its widespread adoption, the metric system is called the International System of Units, and abbreviated SI.

The basic unit employed for length measurements in the English system is the foot, whereas the meter is used in the metric system. In the past, two different definitions have been used to relate the foot and meter. Although they differ slightly, their distinction must be made clear in surveying.

Under this standard, the foot was approximately equal to 0.3048006 and 1 ft equals exactly 0.3048 m. A summary of the length units used in past and present surveys in the United States includes the following:

1 foot = 12 inches 1 yard = 3 feet 1 inch = 2.54 centimeters (basis of international foot) 1 meter = 39.37 inches (basis of U.S. survey foot)

In the English system, areas are given in square feet or square yards. The most common unit for large areas is the acre. Ten square chains (Gunter's) equal 1 acre. Thus an acre contains 43,560  $ft^2$ , which is the product of 10 and  $66^2$ . The arpent (equal to approximately 0.85 acre, but varying somewhat in different states) was used in land grants of the French crown. When employed as a linear term, it refers to the length of a side of 1 square arpent.

Volumes in the English system can be given in cubic feet or cubic yards. For very large volumes, for example, the quantity of water in a reservoir, the acre-foot unit is used. It is equivalent to the area of an acre having a depth of 1 ft, and thus is 43,560 ft<sup>3</sup>.

The unit of angle used in surveying is the degree, defined as 1/360 of a circle. One degree (1°) equals 60 min, and 1 min equals 60 sec. Divisions of seconds are given in tenths, hundredths,

and thousandths. Other methods are also used to subdivide a circle, for example, 400 grads (with 100 centesimal min/grad and 100 centesimal sec/min. Another term, gons, is now used interchangeably with grads. The military services use mils to subdivide a circle into 6400 units.

A radian is the angle subtended by an arc of a circle having a length equal to the radius of the circle. Therefore,  $2\pi$  rad =  $360^{\circ}$ , 1 rad = $57^{\circ}17'$  44.8″= $57.2958^{\circ}$  and 0.01745 rad =  $1^{\circ}$ .

As noted previously, the meter is the basic unit for length in the metric or SI system. Subdivisions of the meter (m) are the millimeter (mm), centimeter (cm), and decimeter (dm), equal to 0.001, 0.01, and 0.1 m, respectively. A kilometer (km) equals 1000 m, which is approximately five eighths of a mile. Areas in the metric system are specified using the square meter ( $m^2$ ). Large area s, for example, tracts of land, are given in hectares (ha), where one hectare is equivalent to a square having sides of 100 m. Thus, there are 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>, or about 2.471 acres per hectare. The cubic meter ( $m^3$ ) is used for volumes in the SI system. Degrees, minutes, and seconds, or the radian, are accepted SI units for angles.

#### **1-4-3** SIGNIFICANT FIGURES

In recording observations, an indication of the accuracy attained is the number of digits (significant figures) recorded. By definition, the number of significant figures in any observed value includes the positive (certain) digits plus one (only one) digit that is estimated or rounded off, and therefore questionable. For example, a distance measured with a tape whose smallest graduation is 0.01 ft, and recorded as 73.52 ft, is said to have four significant figures; in this case the first three digits are certain, and the last is rounded off and therefore questionable but still significant.

The number of significant figures is often confused with the number of decimal places. Decimal places may have to be used to maintain the correct number of significant figures, but in themselves they do not indicate significant figures. Some examples follow:

Two significant figures: 24, 2.4, 0.24, 0.0024, 0.020

Three significant figures: 364, 36.4, 0.000364, 0.0240

Four significant figures: 7621, 76.21, 0.0007621, 24.00.

Zeros at the end of an integer value may cause difficulty because they may or may not be significant. In a value expressed as 2400, for example, it is not known how many figures are significant; there may be two, three, or four, and therefore definite rules must be followed to eliminate the ambiguity. The preferred method of eliminating this uncertainty is to express the value in terms of powers of 10.

When observed values are used in the mathematical processes of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, it is imperative that the number of significant figures given in answers be consistent with the number of significant figures in the data used. The following three steps will achieve this for addition or subtraction: (1) identify the column containing the rightmost significant digit in each number being added or subtracted, (2) perform the addition or subtraction, and (3) round the answer so that its rightmost significant digit occurs in the leftmost column identified in step (1). Two examples illustrate the procedure:

(a)	(b)	
$ \begin{array}{r}                                     $	378. <u>-2.1</u> 375.9 (answer 376.)	

In (a), the digits 8, 3, and 0 are the rightmost significant ones in the numbers 46.7418, 1.03, and 375.0, respectively. Of these, the 0 in 375.0 is leftmost with respect to the decimal. Thus, the answer 422.7718 obtained on adding the numbers is rounded to 422.8, with its rightmost significant digit occurring in the same column as the 0 in 375.0. In (b), the digits 8 and 1 are rightmost, and of these the 8 is leftmost. Thus, the answer 375.9 is rounded to 376.

#### **1-5 ROUNDING OFF NUMBERS**

Rounding off a number is the process of dropping one or more digits so the answer contains only those digits that are significant. In rounding off numbers to any required degree of precision in this text, the following procedures will be observed:

- 1. When the digit to be dropped is lower than 5, the number is written without the digit. Thus, 78.374 becomes 78.37. Also 78.3749 rounded to four figures becomes 78.37.
- 2. When the digit to be dropped is exactly 5, the nearest even number is used for the preceding digit. Thus, 78.375 becomes 78.38 and 78.385 is also rounded to 78.38.
- 3. When the digit to be dropped is greater than 5, the number is written with the preceding digit increased by 1. Thus, 78.386 becomes 78.39.

Procedures 1 and 3 are standard practice. When rounding the value 78.375 in procedure 2, however, some people always take the next higher hundredth, whereas others invariably use the next lower hundredth. However, using the nearest even digit establishes a uniform procedure and produces better-balanced results in a series of computations. It is an improper procedure to perform two stage rounding where, for example, in rounding 78.3749 to four digits it would be first rounded to five figures, yielding 78.375, and then rounded again to 78.38. The correct answer in rounding 78.3749 to four figures is 78.37.

It is important to recognize that rounding should only occur with the final answer. Intermediate computations should be done without rounding to avoid problems that can be caused by rounding too early. For the example below, the sum of 46.7418, 1.03, and 375.0 is rounded to 422.8 as shown in the "correct" column. If the individual values are rounded prior to the addition as shown in the "incorrect" column, the incorrect result of 422.7 is obtained.



#### **1-6 THEORY OF ERRORS IN OBSERVATION**

Making observations (measurements), and subsequent computations and analyses using them, are fundamental tasks of surveyors. Good observations require a combination of human skill and mechanical equipment applied with the utmost judgment. However, no matter how carefully made, observations are never exact and will always contain errors. Surveyors (geomatics engineers), whose work must be performed to exacting standards, should therefore thoroughly understand the different kinds of errors, their sources and expected magnitudes under varying conditions, and their manner of propagation. Only then can they select instruments and procedures necessary to reduce error sizes to within tolerable limits.

Of equal importance, surveyors must be capable of assessing the magnitudes of errors in their observations so that either their acceptability can be verified or, if necessary, new ones made. The design of measurement systems is now practiced. Computers and sophisticated software are tools now commonly used by surveyors to plan measurement projects and to investigate and distribute errors after results have been obtained.

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**Basic Principle of Surveying** 

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#### **1-6-1 DIRECT AND INDIRECT OBSERVATIONS**

Observations may be made directly or indirectly. Examples of direct observations are applying a tape to a line, fitting a protractor to an angle, or turning an angle with a total station instrument. An indirect observation is secured when it is not possible to apply a measuring instrument directly to the quantity to be observed. The answer is therefore determined by its relationship to some other observed value or values. As an example, we can find the distance across a river by observing the length of a line on one side of the river and the angle at each end of this line to a

point on the other side, and then computing the distance by one of the standard trigonometric formulas. Many indirect observations are made in surveying, and since all measurements contain errors, it is inevitable that quantities computed from them will also contain errors. The manner by which errors in measurements combine to produce erroneous computed answers is called error propagation.

#### **1-6-2 ERRORS IN MEASUREMENTS**

By definition, an error is the difference between an observed value for a quantity and its true value, or

 $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}^{-}$ 

where E is the error in an observation, X the observed value, and  $X^-$  its true value. It can be unconditionally stated that (1) no observation is exact, (2) every observation contains errors, (3) the true value of an observation is never known, and, therefore, (4) the exact error present is always unknown. These facts are demonstrated by the following. When a distance is observed with a scale divided into tenths of an inch, the distance can be read only to hundredths (by interpolation). However, if a better scale graduated in hundredths of an inch was available and read under magnification, the same distance might be estimated to thousandths of an inch. And with a scale graduated in thousandths of an inch, a reading to ten thousandths might be possible. Obviously, accuracy of observations depends on the scale's division size, reliability of equipment used, and human limitations in estimating closer than about one tenth of a scale division. As better equipment is developed, observations more closely approach their true values, but they can never be exact. Note that observations, not counts (of cars, pennies, marbles, or other objects), are under consideration here.

#### 1-6-3 MISTAKES

These are observer blunders and are usually caused by misunderstanding the problem, carelessness, fatigue, missed communication, or poor judgment. Examples include transposition of numbers, such as recording 73.96 instead of the correct value of 79.36; reading an angle counterclockwise, but indicating it as a clockwise angle in the field notes; sighting the wrong target; or recording a measured distance as 682.38 instead of 862.38. Large mistakes such as these are not considered in the succeeding discussion of errors. They must be detected by careful and systematic checking of all work, and eliminated by repeating some or all of the measurements. It is very difficult to detect small mistakes because they merge with errors. When not exposed, these small mistakes will therefore be incorrectly treated as errors.

#### 1-6-4 SOURCES OF ERRORS IN MAKING OBSERVATIONS

Errors in observations stem from three sources, and are classified accordingly.

*Natural errors* are caused by variations in wind, temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, atmospheric refraction, gravity, and magnetic declination. An example is a steel tape whose length varies with changes in temperature.

*Instrumental errors* result from any imperfection in the construction or adjustment of instruments and from the movement of individual parts. For example, the graduations on a scale may not be perfectly spaced, or the scale may be warped. The effect of many instrumental errors can be reduced, or even eliminated, by adopting proper surveying procedures or applying computed corrections.

*Personal errors* arise principally from limitations of the human senses of sight and touch. As an example, a small error occurs in the observed value of a horizontal angle if the vertical crosshair in a total station instrument is not aligned perfectly on the target, or if the target is the top of a rod that is being held slightly out of plumb.

#### **1-6-5 TYPES OF ERRORS**

Errors in observations are of two types: systematic and random.

*Systematic errors*, also known as biases, result from factors that comprise the "measuring system" and include the environment, instrument, and observer. So long as system conditions remain constant, the systematic errors will likewise remain constant. If conditions change, the magnitudes of systematic errors also change. Because systematic errors tend to accumulate, they are sometimes called *cumulative errors*.

Conditions producing systematic errors conform to physical laws that can be modeled mathematically. Thus, if the conditions are known to exist and can be observed, a correction can be computed and applied to observed values. An example of a constant systematic error is the use of a 100-ft steel tape that has been calibrated and found to be 0.02 ft too long. It introduces a 0.02-ft error each time it is used, but applying a correction readily eliminates the error. An example of variable systematic error is the change in length of a steel tape resulting from temperature differentials that occur during the period of the tape's use. If the temperature changes are observed, length corrections can be computed by a simple formula.

**Random errors** are those that remain in measured values after mistakes and systematic errors have been eliminated. They are caused by factors beyond the control of the observer, obey the laws of probability, and are sometimes called accidental errors. They are present in all surveying observations.

The magnitudes and algebraic signs of random errors are matters of chance. There is no absolute way to compute or eliminate them, but they can be estimated using adjustment procedures known as least squares. Random errors are also known as compensating errors, since they tend to partially cancel themselves in a series of observations. For example, a person interpolating to hundredths of a foot on a tape graduated only to tenths, or reading a level rod marked in hundredths, will presumably estimate too high on some values and too low on others. However, individual personal characteristics may nullify such partial compensation since some people are inclined to interpolate high, others interpolate low, and many favor certain digits—for example, 7 instead of 6 or 8, 3 instead of 2 or 4, and particularly 0 instead of 9 or 1.

#### 1-6-6 PRECISION AND ACCURACY

A discrepancy is the difference between two observed values of the same quantity. A small discrepancy indicates there are probably no mistakes and random errors are small. However, small discrepancies do not preclude the presence of systematic errors.

*Precision* refers to the degree of refinement or consistency of a group of observations and is evaluated on the basis of discrepancy size. If multiple observations are made of the same quantity and small discrepancies result, this indicates high precision. The degree of precision attainable is dependent on equipment sensitivity and observer skill.

Accuracy denotes the absolute nearness of observed quantities to their true values. The difference between precision and accuracy is perhaps best illustrated with reference to target shooting. In Figure 1.2(a), for example, all five shots exist in a small group, indicating a precise operation; that is, the shooter was able to repeat the procedure with a high degree of consistency. However, the shots are far from the bull's-eye and therefore not accurate. This probably results from misaligned rifle sights. Figure 1.3(b) shows randomly scattered shots that are neither precise nor accurate. In Figure 1.3(c), the closely spaced grouping, in the bull's-eye, represents both precision and accuracy. The shooter who obtained the results in (a) was perhaps able to produce the shots of (c) after aligning the rifle sights. In surveying, this would be equivalent to the calibration of observing instruments.



Figure 1.2 Examples of precision and accuracy. (a) Results are precise but not accurate. (b)Results are neither precise nor accurate. (c) Results are both precise and accurate.

#### **1-7ELIMINATING MISTAKES AND SYSTEMATIC ERRORS**

All field operations and office computations are governed by a constant effort to eliminate mistakes and systematic errors. Of course it would be preferable if mistakes never occurred, but because humans are fallible, this is not possible. In the field, experienced observers who alertly

perform their observations using standardized repetitive procedures can minimize mistakes. Mistakes that do occur can be corrected only if discovered. Comparing several observations of the same quantity is one of the best ways to identify mistakes. Making a common sense estimate and analysis is another. Assume that five observations of a line are recorded as follows: 567.91, 576.95, 567.88, 567.90, and 567.93. The second value disagrees with the others, apparently because of a transposition of figures in reading or recording. Either casting out the doubtful value, or preferably repeating the observation can eradicate this mistake. When a mistake is detected, it is usually best to repeat the observation.

However, if a sufficient number of other observations of the quantity are available and in agreement, as in the foregoing example, the widely divergent result may be discarded. Serious consideration must be given to the effect on an average before discarding a value. It is seldom safe to change a recorded number, even though there appears to be a simple transposition in figures. Tampering with physical data is always a bad practice and will certainly cause trouble, even if done infrequently.

#### **1-8 MOST PROBABLE VALUE**

It has been stated earlier that in physical observations, the true value of any quantity is never known. However, its most probable value can be calculated if redundant observations have been made. Redundant observations are measurements in excess of the minimum needed to determine a quantity. For a single unknown, such as a line length that has been directly and independently observed a number of times using the same equipment and procedures, the first observation establishes a value for the quantity and all additional observations are redundant. The most probable value in this case is simply the arithmetic mean, or

$$\overline{M} = \frac{\Sigma M}{n}$$

Where  $M^-$  is the most probable value of the quantity, the sum of the individual measurements M, and n the total number of observations. The above equation can be derived using the principle of least squares, which is based on the theory of probability.

#### **1-9 MEASURES OF PRECISION**

As shown in Figures 3.3 and 3.4, although the curves have similar shapes, there are significant differences in their dispersions; that is, their abscissa widths differ. The magnitude of dispersion is an indication of the relative precisions of the observations. Other statistical terms more

commonly used to express precisions of groups of observations are standard deviation and variance. The equation for the standard deviation is

$$\sigma = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma \nu^2}{n-1}}$$

Where  $\mathbf{5}$  is the standard deviation of a group of observations of the same quantity, the residual of an individual observation,  $\Sigma v^2$  the sum of squares of the individual residuals, and n the number of observations. Variance is equal to the square of the standard deviation.



Figure 1-3 Normal distribution curves for: (a) increased precision, (b) decreased precision.

Example: A line has been observed 10 times using the same equipment and procedures. The results are shown in column (1) of the following table. It is assumed that no mistakes exist, and that the observations have already been corrected for all systematic errors. Compute the most probable value for the line length and its standard deviation.

Length	Residual <i>v</i>	$\nu^2$
(ft)(1)	(ft)(2)	(3)
538.57	+0.12	0.0144
538.39	-0.06	0.0036
538.37	-0.08	0.0064
538.39	-0.06	0.0036
538.48	+0.03	0.0009
538.49	+0.04	0.0016
538.33	-0.12	0.0144
538.46	+0.01	0.0001
538.47	+0.02	0.0004
538.55	+0.10	0.0100
$\Sigma = 5\overline{384.50}$	$\Sigma = 0.00$	$\Sigma \nu^2 = 0.0554$

Solution:

The residuals are calculated and tabulated in column (2) and their squares listed in column (3). Note that in column (2) the algebraic sum of residuals is zero. (For observations of equal reliability, except for round off, this column should always total zero and thus provide a computational check.) By Equation

$$\overline{M} = \frac{\Sigma M}{n}$$
$$= \frac{5384.5}{10} = 538.45 \, ft$$
$$\sigma = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma \nu^2}{n-1}}$$
$$= \sqrt{\frac{0.0554}{9}} = \pm 0.078 \, ft$$

#### 1-10 ERROR PROPAGATION

It was stated earlier that because all observations contain errors, any quantities computed from them will likewise contain errors. The process of evaluating errors in quantities computed from observed values that contain errors is called error propagation. The propagation of random errors in mathematical formulas can be computed using the general law of the propagation of variances. Typically in surveying (geomatics), this formula can be simplified since the observations are usually mathematically independent. For example, let a, b, c, ---, n be observed values containing errors  $E_a$ ,  $E_b$ ,  $E_c$ , --,  $E_n$  respectively. Also let Z be a quantity derived by computation using these observed quantities in a function f, such that

$$Z = f(a, b, c, \dots, n)$$

Then assuming that a, b, c, --- ,n are independent observations, the error in the computed quantity Z is

$$E_Z = \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial a}E_a\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial b}E_b\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial c}E_c\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial n}E_n\right)^2}$$

where the terms  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial a}$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial b}$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial c}$ , ...,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial n}$  are the partial derivatives of the function f with respect to the variables a, b, c, ---, n. In the subsections that follow, specific cases of error propagation common in surveying are discussed, and examples are presented.

#### Example(3)

Assume that a line is observed in three sections, with the individual parts equal to (753.81,  $\pm 0.012$ ), (1238.40,  $\pm 0.028$ ) and (1062.95, ; $\pm 0.020$ ) ft respectively. Determine the line's total length and its anticipated standard deviation.

Solution:

Total length = 753.81 + 1238.40 + 1062.95 = 3055.16 ft.

$$E_{Sum} = \pm \sqrt{0.012^2 + 0.028^2 + 0.020^2} = \pm 0.036 \, \text{ft}$$

Example 4: Assume that any distance of 100 ft can be taped with an error of  $\pm 0.02$  if certain techniques are employed. Determine the error in taping 5000 ft using these skills.

#### Solution

Since the number of 100 ft lengths in 5000 ft is 50 then

$$E_{Series} = \pm E\sqrt{n} = \pm 0.02\sqrt{50} = \pm 0.14 \,\mathrm{ft}$$

Observer A		Observer B			
0	1	"	0	/	"
86	34	10	86	34	05
	33	50		34	00
	33	40		33	55
	34	00		33	50
	33	50		34	00
	34	10		33	55
	34	00		34	15
	34	20		33	44

Example 2.6. The same angle was measured by two different observers using the same instrument, as follows:

Calculate: (a) The standard deviation of each set. (b) The standard error of the arithmetic means. (c) The most probable value (MPV) of the angle.

			0		-	n		2
bserver	A	r	$r^2$	(	Ibserver	r B	r	$r^2$
1	"	//	"	0	'	"	"	"
34	10	10	100	86	34	05	7	49
33	50	-10	100		34	00	2	4
33	40	-20	400		33	55	-3	9
34	00	0	0		33	50	-8	64
33	50	-10	100		34	00	2	4
34	10	10	100		33	55	-3	9
34	00	0	0		34	15	17	289
34	20	20	400		33	44	-14	196
34	00	0	$1200 = \Sigma r^2$	86	33	58	0	$624 = \Sigma r^2$
	/ 34 33 33 34 34 34 34 34 34 34	'         "           34         10           33         50           33         40           34         00           33         50           34         10           34         00           33         50           34         10           34         00           34         20           34         00	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$					

(a) (i) Standard deviation 
$$\sigma = \pm \sqrt{\left[\frac{\Sigma v^2}{(n-1)}\right]} = \left(\frac{1200}{7}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 13.1''$$

(b) (i) Standard error 
$$S_{\bar{x}_A} = \frac{S_A}{n^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{13.1}{8^{\frac{1}{2}}} = 4.6''$$

(a) (ii) Standard deviation 
$$S_B = \left(\frac{624}{7}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 9.4''$$

(b) (ii) Standard error 
$$S_{\bar{x}_B} = \frac{9.4}{8^{\frac{1}{2}}} = 3.3''$$

(c) As each arithmetic mean has a different precision exhibited by its  $S_{\bar{x}}$  value, the arithmetic means must be weighted accordingly before they can be averaged to give the MPV of the angle:

Weight of 
$$A \propto \frac{1}{S_{\bar{x}_A}^2} = \frac{1}{21.2} = 0.047$$
  
Weight of  $B \propto \frac{1}{10.9} = 0.092$ 

The ratio of the weight of A to the weight of B is 0.047:0.092

:. MPV of the angle = 
$$\frac{(0.047 \times 86^{\circ} \, 34' \, 00'' + 0.092 \times 86^{\circ} \, 33' \, 58'')}{(0.047 + 0.092)}$$

H.W

1- An angle is observed repeatedly using the same equipment and procedures. Calculate (a) the angle's most probable value, (b) the standard deviation, and (c) the standard deviation of the mean.

23°30′ 00″, 23°29 ′ 40″, 23°30 ′ 15″ and, 23°29 ′ 50″.

2- A distance AB is observed repeatedly using the same equipment and procedures, and the results, in meters, are listed in Problems 3.6 through 3.10. Calculate (a) the line's most probable length, (b) the standard deviation, and (c) the standard deviation of the mean for each set of results.

65.401, 65.400, 65.402, 65.396, 65.406, 65.401, 65.396, 65.401, 65.405, and 65.404

3- Convert the following distances given in meters to U.S. survey feet: (a) 4129.574 m (b) 738.296 m (c) 6048.083 m.

4- Convert the following distances given in feet to meters: (a) 537.52 ft (b) 9364.87 ft (c) 4806.98 ft

5- Compute the area in acres of triangular lots shown on a plat having the following recorded right-angle sides: (a) 208.94 ft and 232.65 ft.

المحاف \* 0 الثالثة

# DSTANCE MEASUREMENTS

# Chapter two DSTANCE MEASUREMENTS

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, the student will be able to:

- 1. Measure horizontal distance
- 2. Identify and use different measurements
- 3. Identify equipment's of horizontal measurement.
- 4. Identify the sources of errors and corrective actions.

Three methods of distance measurement are:

- 1-Direct method using a tape or wire
- 2-Tacheometric method or optical method
- 3- EDM (Electromagnetic Distance Measuring equipment) method.

## **2.1 DIRECT METHOD USING TAPE**

In this method, steel tapes or wires are used to measure distance very accurately. Nowadays, EDM is being used exclusively for accurate measurements but the steel tape still is of value for measuring limited lengths for setting out purposes.

#### 2-2 CORRECTION FOR TAPE MEASUREMENTS

Tape measurements require certain corrections to be applied to the measured distance depending upon the conditions under which the measurements have been made. These corrections are discussed below.

#### **2.2.1** Correction for Absolute Length

Due to manufacturing defects the absolute length of the tape may be different from its designated or nominal length. Also with use the tape may stretch causing change in the length and it is imperative that the tape is regularly checked under standard conditions to determine its absolute length. The correction for absolute length or standardization is given by

$$c_a = \frac{c}{l}L \qquad \dots (2.1)$$

Where

c = the correction per tape length,

l = the designated or nominal length of the tape, and

L= the measured length of the line.

If the absolute length is more than the nominal length the sign of the correction is positive and vice versa.

Example. A distance of 220.450 m was measured with a steel band of nominal length 30 m. On standardization the tape was found to be 30.003 m. Calculate the correct measured distance, assuming the error is evenly distributed throughout the tape.

Solution:

Error per 30 m = 3 mm

 $\therefore \text{ Correction for total length} = \left(\frac{220.450}{30}\right) \times 3mm = 22mm$ 

: Correct length is 220.450 + 0.022 = 220.472 m

#### 2.2.2 Correction for Temperature

If the tape is used at a field temperature different from the standardization temperature then the temperature correction to the measured length is

$$c_t = \alpha (t_m - t_0) L \qquad \dots (2.2)$$

where

 $\alpha$  = the coefficient of thermal expansion of the tape material,

 $t_m$  = the mean field temperature, and

 $t_0$  = the standardization temperature.

The sign of the correction takes the sign of  $(t_m - t_0)$ .

#### 2.1.3 Correction for Pull or Tension

If the pull applied to the tape in the field is different from the standardization pull, the pull correction is to be applied to the measured length. This correction is

$$c_p = \frac{\left(P - P_0\right)}{AE}L \qquad \dots (2.3)$$

where

P = the pull applied during the measurement,

 $P_0$  = the standardization pull,

A = the area of cross-section of the tape, and

E = the Young's modulus for the tape material.

The sign of the correction is same as that of  $(P - P_0)$ .

#### 2.2.4 Correction for Sag

For very accurate measurements the tape can be allowed to hang in catenary between two supports (Fig. 2.1a). In the case of long tape, intermediate supports as shown in Fig. 2.1b, can be used to reduce the magnitude of correction.





The tape hanging between two supports, free of ground, sags under its own weight, with maximum dip occurring at the middle of the tape. This necessitates a correction for sag if the tape has been standardized on the flat, to reduce the curved length to the chord length. The correction for the sag is

$$c_g = \frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{W}{P}\right)^2 L \qquad \dots (2.4)$$

where

W = the weight of the tape per span length.

The sign of this correction is always negative.

If both the ends of the tape are not at the same level, a further correction due to slope is required. It is given by

$$c'_g = c_g \cos \alpha \qquad \dots (2.5)$$

where

 $\alpha$  = the angle of slope between the end supports.

#### 2.1.5 Correction for Slope

If the length L is measured on the slope as shown in Fig. 2.2, it must be reduced to its horizontal equivalent L  $\cos \theta$ . The required slope correction is

$$c_s = (1 - \cos \theta) L \quad (exact) \qquad \dots (2.6)$$

$$=\frac{h^2}{2L} \quad (approximate) \qquad \dots (2.7)$$



where

 $\theta$  = the angle of the slope, and

h = the difference in elevation of the ends of the tape.

The sign of this correction is always negative.

#### 2.1.6 Correction for Alignment

If the intermediate points are not in correct alignment with ends of the line, a correction for alignment given below, is applied to the measured length (Fig. 2.3).



where

d = the distance by which the other end of the tape is out of alignment.

The correction for alignment is always negative.

Example 2.2. A line AB between the stations A and B was measured as 348.28 using a 20 m tape, too short by 0.05 m. Determine the correct length of AB, the reduced horizontal length of AB if AB lay on a slope of 1 in 25, and the reading required to produce a horizontal distance of 22.86 m between two pegs, one being 0.56 m above the other.

#### **Solution:**

(a) Since the tape is too short by 0.05 m, actual length of AB will be less than the measured length. The correction required to the measured length is

It is given that

c = 0.05 m; l = 20 m L = 348.28 m

$$c_a = \frac{c}{l}L$$

$$c_a = \frac{0.05}{20} \times 348.28 = 0.87 \text{ m}$$

The correct length of the line

= 348.28 - 0.87 = **347.41 m** 

(b) A slope of 1 in 25 implies that there is a rise of 1 m for every 25 m horizontal distance. If the angle of slope is  $\alpha$  (Fig. 2.16) then



Thus the horizontal equivalent of the corrected slope length 347.41 m is

$$D = AB \cos \alpha$$
  
= 347.41 × cos (2°17′26″) = 347.13 m.

Alternatively, for small angles

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{25} \quad \text{radians} = 2^{\circ} 17' 31'',$$

which gives the same value of D as above. From Fig. 2.17, we have



Therefore the reading required

$$= 22.87 + \frac{0.05}{20.0} \times 22.87 = 22.93 \text{ m}$$

Example 2.3. A tape of standard length 20 m at 85°F was used to measure a base line. The measured distance was 882.50 m. The following being the slopes for the various segments of the line:

Segment length (m)	Slope
100	2°20′
150	4°12′
50	1°06′
200	7°48′
300	3°00′
82.5	5°10′

Calculate the true length of the line if the mean temperature during measurement was 63°F and the coefficient of thermal expansion of the tape material is  $6.5 \times 10^{-6}$  per °F.

#### **Solution:**

Correction for temperature

$$c_t = \alpha (t_m - t_0) L$$
  
= 6.5×10<sup>-6</sup>×(63-85)×882.50 = -0.126 m

Correction for slope

$$c_{s} = \Sigma[(1 - \cos \alpha)L]$$
  
=  $(1 - \cos 2^{\circ}20') \times 100 + (1 - \cos 4^{\circ}12') \times 150 + (1 - \cos 1^{\circ}06') \times 50 + (1 - \cos 7^{\circ}48') \times 200 + (1 - \cos 3^{\circ}00') \times 300 + (1 - \cos 5^{\circ}10') \times 82.5$   
=  $-3.092$  m

Total correction =  $c_t + c_s = -0.126 + (-3.092) = -3.218$  m Correct length = 882.50 - 3.218 = 879.282 m

Example 2.4. A base line was measured by tape suspended in catenary under a pull of 145 N, the mean temperature being 14°C. The lengths of various segments of the tape and the difference in level of the two ends of a segment are given in Table

Bay/Span	Length (m)	Difference in level (m)
1	29.988	+ 0.346
2	29.895	- 0.214
3	29.838	+ 0.309
4	29.910	- 0.106

If the tape was standardized on the flat under a pull of 95 N at 18°C determine the correct length of the line. Take

Cross-sectional area of the tape =  $3.35 \text{ mm}^2$ Mass of the tape = 0.025 kg/mCoefficient of linear expansion =  $0.9 \times 10^{-6}$  per °C Young's modulus =  $14.8 \times 10^4 \text{ MN/m}^2$ 

# Solution:

It is given that

$$P_0 = 95$$
 N, P = 145 N  
 $t_0 = 18^{\circ}$ C,  $t_m = 14^{\circ}$ C  
 $A = 3.35$  mm<sup>2</sup>,  $\alpha = 0.9 \times 10^{-6}$  per °C  
 $w = mg = 0.025 \times 9.81$  kg/m

$$E = 14.8 \times 10^{4} \text{ MN/m}^{2} = \frac{14.8 \times 10^{4} \times 10^{6}}{10^{6}} \text{ N/mm}^{2} = 14.8 \times 10^{4} \text{ N/mm}^{2}$$
$$H = 51.76 \text{ m}, R = 6370 \text{ km}$$

Total length of the tape L = 29.988 + 29.895 + 29.838 + 29.910 = 119.631 m

Temperature correction

$$c_t = \alpha (t_m - t_0) L$$
  
= 0.9 × 10<sup>-6</sup> × (14 - 18) × 119.631 = - 0.0004 m

Pull correction

$$c_p = \frac{(P - P_0)}{AE}L$$

$$= \frac{(145 - 95) \times 119.631}{3.35 \times 14.8 \times 10^4} = 0.0121 \text{ m}$$

Sag correction

$$c_{g} = -\frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{W}{P}\right)^{2} L$$

$$= -\left[\frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{wl_{1}}{P}\right)^{2} l_{1} + \frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{wl_{2}}{P}\right)^{2} l_{2} + \frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{wl_{3}}{P}\right)^{2} l_{3} + \frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{wl_{4}}{P}\right)^{2} l_{4}\right]$$

$$= -\frac{w^{2}}{24P^{2}} \left(l_{1}^{3} + l_{2}^{3} + l_{3}^{3} + l_{4}^{3}\right)$$

$$= -\frac{(0.025 \times 9.81)^{2}}{24 \times 145^{2}} \left(29.988^{3} + 29.895^{3} + 29.838^{3} + 29.910^{3}\right)$$

$$= -0.0128 \text{ m}$$

Slope correction

$$c_{s} = -\frac{h^{2}}{2L}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \times \left[ \frac{0.346^{2}}{29.988} + \frac{0.214^{2}}{29.895} + \frac{0.309^{2}}{29.838} + \frac{0.106^{2}}{29.910} \right]$$
$$= -0.0045 \text{ m}$$

Total correction = 
$$c_t + c_p + c_g + c_s$$
.

$$= -0.0056$$

Correct length = 119.631 - 0.0056 = 119.6254 m

EXAMPLE 2-5
A 30-m steel tape standardized at 20°C and supported throughout under a tension of 5.45 kg was found to be 30.012 m long. The tape had a cross-sectional area of 0.050 cm<sup>2</sup> and a weight of 0.03967 kg/m. This tape was held horizontal, supported at the ends only, with a constant tension of 9.09 kg, to measure a line from A to B in three segments. The data listed in the following table were recorded. Apply corrections for tape length, temperature, pull, and sag to determine the correct length of the line.

## Solution:

(a) The tape length correction by

$$C_L = \left(\frac{30.012 - 30.000}{30.000}\right) 81.151 = +0.0324 \text{ m}$$

(b) Temperature corrections by Equation (6.4) are (Note: separate corrections are required for distances observed at different temperatures.):

Sect	ion Measured (Recorded)	Temperature (°C)
<b>A-</b> 1	30.000	14
1-2	30.000	15
2-B	21.151	16
	Σ81.151	
	$C_{T_1} = 0.0000116(14 - 20)30.0$	000 = -0.0021  m
	$C_{T_2} = 0.0000116(15 - 20)30.0$	000 = -0.0017  m
	$C_{T_3} = 0.0000116(16 - 20)21.1$	151 = -0.0010  m
	Σ	$C_T = -0.0048 \text{ m}$

(c) The pull correction by

$$C_P\left(\frac{9.09 - 5.45}{0.050 \times 2,000,000}\right)$$
 81.151 = 0.0030 m

(d) The sag corrections by Equation (6.6) are (Note: separate corrections are required for the two suspended lengths.):

$$C_{S_1} = -2 \left[ \frac{(0.03967)^2 (30.000)^3}{24 (9.09)^2} \right] = -0.0429 \text{ m}$$
$$C_{S_2} = -\frac{(0.03967)^2 (21.151)^3}{24 (9.09)^2} = -0.0075 \text{ m}$$
$$\Sigma C_S = -0.0504 \text{ m}$$

(e) Finally, corrected distance AB is obtained by adding all corrections to the measured distance, or

AB = 81.151 + 0.0324 - 0.0048 + 0.0030 - 0.0504 = 81.131 m

H.w

1) A 100-ft steel tape standardized at  $68^{\circ}$ F and supported throughout under a tension of 20 lb was found to be 100.012 ft long. The tape had a cross-sectional area of 0.0078 in.<sup>2</sup> and a weight of 0.0266 lb/ft. This tape is used to lay off a horizontal distance CD of exactly 175.00 ft. The ground is on a smooth 3% grade, thus the tape will be used fully supported. Determine the correct slope distance to layoff if a pull of 15 lb is used and the temperature is  $87^{\circ}$ F.

2) A tape of 30 m length suspended in catenary measured the length of a base line. After applying all corrections the deduced length of the base line was 1462.36 m. Later on it was found that the actual pull applied was 155 N and not the 165 N as recorded in the field book. Correct the deduced length for the incorrect pull. The tape was standardized on the flat under a pull of 85 N having a mass of 0.024 kg/m and cross-sectional area of 4.12 mm<sup>2</sup>. The Young's modulus of the tape material is 152000 MN/ m<sup>2</sup> and the acceleration due to gravity is 9.806 m/s<sup>2</sup>.



# LEVELING—THEORY AND METHODS

# Chapter Three

# LEVELING—THEORY AND METHODS

# **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this chapter, the students will be able to:

- 1. Define and describe different types of leveling.
- 2. Understand the principles of leveling and measure vertical distances
- 3. Apply the skills of leveling
- 4. Identify measurement errors and take corrective

# 3.1 .INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the various heighting procedures used to obtain the elevation of points of interest above or below a reference datum. The most commonly used reference datum is mean sea level (MSL). There is no such thing as a common global MSL, as it varies from place to place depending on local conditions. It is important therefore that MSL is clearly defined wherever it is used.

The engineer is, in the main, more concerned with the relative height of one point above or below another, in order to ascertain the difference in height of the two points, rather than a direct relationship to MSL. It is not unusual, therefore, on small local schemes, to adopt a purely arbitrary reference datum. This could take the form of a permanent, stable position or mark, allocated such a value that the level of any point on the site would not be negative. For example, if the reference mark was allocated a value of 0.000 m, then a ground point 10 m lower would have a negative value, minus 10.000 m. However, if the reference value was 100.000 m, then the level of the ground point in question would be 90.000 m. As minus signs in front of a number can be misinterpreted, erased or simply forgotten about, they should, wherever possible, be avoided.

The vertical height of a point above or below a reference datum is referred to as the reduced level or simply the level of a point. Reduced levels are used in practically all aspects of construction: to produce ground contours on a plan; to enable the optimum design of road, railway or canal gradients; to facilitate ground modelling for accurate volumetric calculations. Indeed, there is scarcely any aspect of construction that is not dependent on the relative levels of ground points.

# 3.2 LEVELLING

Levelling is the most widely used method for obtaining the elevations of ground points relative to a reference datum and is usually carried out as a separate procedure from that used for fixing planimetric position.

Levelling involves the measurement of vertical distance relative to a horizontal line of sight. Hence it requires a graduated staff for the vertical measurements and an instrument that will provide a horizontal line of sight.

# **3-3 DEFINITIONS**

<u>Level line</u> A level line or level surface is one which at all points is normal to the direction of the force of gravity as defined by a freely suspended plumb-bob. Thus in Figure 3.1 the difference in level between A and B is the distance A\_B, provided that the non-parallelism of level surfaces is ignored.

*<u>Horizontal line</u>* A horizontal line or surface is one that is normal to the direction of the force of gravity at a particular point. Figure 3.1 shows a horizontal line through point C.

<u>**Datum**</u> A datum is any reference surface to which the elevations of points are referred. The most commonly used datum is that of mean sea level (MSL).



Fig. 3.1 Horizontal and level lines

<u>Bench mark (BM)</u> A relatively permanent object, natural or artificial, having a marked point whose elevation above or below a reference datum is known or assumed.

<u>Mean sea level (MSL)</u>. The average height for the surface of the seas for all stages of tide over a 19-year period.

<u>Vertical datum</u> Any level surface to which elevations are referenced. This is the surface that is arbitrarily assigned an elevation of zero. This level surface is also known as a reference datum since points using this datum have heights relative to this surface.

*Elevation.* The distance measured along a vertical line from a vertical datum to a point or object. If the elevation of point A is 802.46 ft, A is 802.46 ft above the reference datum. The elevation of a point is also called its height above the datum.

<u>Geoid.</u> A particular level surface that serves as a datum for all elevations and astronomical observations.

## **3.4 CURVATURE AND REFRACTION**

From the definitions of a level surface and a horizontal line, it is evident that the horizontal plane departs from a level surface because of curvature of the Earth. In Figure 3.2, the deviation DB from a horizontal line through point A is expressed approximately by the formulas

$$C_f = 0.667 M^2 = 0.0239 F^2$$

or

$$C_m = 0.0785K^2$$



Figure 3.2 Curvature and refraction.

where the departure of a level surface from a horizontal line is  $C_f$  in feet or  $C_m$  in meters, M is the distance AB in miles, F the distance in thousands of feet, and K the distance in kilometers. Since points A and B are on a level line, they have the same elevation. If a graduated rod was held vertically at B and a reading was taken on it by means of a telescope with its line of sight AD horizontal, the Earth's curvature would cause the reading to be read too high by length BD. Light rays passing through the Earth's atmosphere are bent or refracted toward the Earth's surface. Thus a theoretically horizontal line of sight, like AH in Figure 3.2, is bent to the curved form AR. Hence, the reading on a rod held at R is diminished by length RH.

The effects of refraction in making objects appear higher than they really are (and therefore rod readings too small) can be remembered by noting what happens when the sun is on the horizon. At the moment when the sun has just passed below the horizon, it is seen just above the horizon. The sun's diameter of approximately 32 min is roughly equal to the average refraction on a horizontal sight. Since the red wavelength of light bends the greatest, it is not uncommon to see a red sun in a clear sky at dusk and dawn.

Displacement resulting from refraction is variable. It depends on atmospheric conditions, length of line, and the angle a sight line makes with the vertical. For a horizontal sight, refraction  $R_f$  in feet or  $R_m$  in meters is expressed approximately by the formulas

$$R_f = 0.093 \ M^2 = 0.0033 \ F^2$$

or

 $R_m = 0.011 K^2$ 

This is about one seventh the effect of curvature of the Earth, but in the opposite direction. The combined effect of curvature and refraction, h in Figure 3.2, is approximately

or 
$$h_f = 0.574 \ M^2 = 0.0206 \ F^2$$
$$h_m = 0.0675 \ K^2$$

Where  $h_f$  is in feet and  $h_m$  is in meters.

For sights of 100, 200, and 300 ft,  $h_f = 0.00021$ , 0.00082, and 0.0019 ft, respectively, or 0.00068 m for a 100 m length.

# **3.5 DIRECT DIFFERENTIAL LEVELLING**

Differential levelling or spirit levelling is the most accurate simple direct method of determining the difference of level between two points using an instrument known as level with a levelling staff. A level establishes a horizontal line of sight and the difference in the level of the line of sight and the point over which the levelling staff is held, is measured through the levelling staff.

Fig. 3.3 shows the principle of determining the difference in level  $\Delta h$  between two points A and B, and thus the elevation of one of them can be determined if the elevation of the other one is known. *SA* and *SB* are the staff readings at A and B, respectively, and *hA* and *hB* are their respective elevations.



From the figure, we find that

(i) if SB < SA, the point B is higher than point A.

(ii) if SB > SA, the point B is lower than point A.

(iii) to determine the difference of level, the elevation of ground point at which the level is set up, is not required.

Before discussing the booking and methods of reducing levels, the following terms associated with differential levelling must be understood.

*Station*: A station is the point where the levelling staff is held. (Points A, a, b, B, c and C in Fig. 3.4).

*Height of instrument (H.I.) or height of collimation*: For any set up of the level, the elevation of the line of sight is the height of instrument. (*H.I.* = hA + SA in Fig. 3.3).

**Back sight (B.S.):** It is the first reading taken on the staff after setting up the level usually to determine the height of instrument. It is usually made to some form of a bench mark (B.M.) or to the points whose elevations have already been determined. When the instrument position has to be changed, the first sight taken in the next section is also a back sight. (Staff readings *S1 and S5* in Fig. 3.4).



*Fore sight (F.S.):* It is the last reading from an instrument position on to a staff held at a point. It is thus the last reading taken within a section of levels before shifting the instrument to the next section, and also the last reading taken over the whole series of levels. (Staff readings *S4 and S7* in Fig. 3.4).

**Change point (C.P.) or turning point:** A change point or turning point is the point where both the fore sight and back sight are made on a staff held at that point. A change point is required before moving the level from one section to another section. By taking the fore sight the elevation of the change point is determined and by taking the back sight the height of instrument is determined. The change points relate the various sections by making fore sight and back sight at the same point. (Point B in Fig. 3.4).

*Intermediate sight (I.S.):* The term 'intermediate sight' covers all sightings and consequent staff readings made between back sight and fore sight within each section. Thus, intermediate sight station is neither the change point nor the last point. (Points a, b, and c in Fig. 3.4).

*Balancing of sights:* When the distances of the stations where back sight and fore sight are taken from the instrument station, are kept approximately equal, it is known as balancing of sights. Balancing of sights minimizes the effect of instrumental and other errors.

*Reduced level (R.L.):* Reduced level of a point is its height or depth above or below the assumed datum. It is the elevation of the point.

**Rise and fall:** The difference of level between two consecutive points indicates a rise or a fall between the two points. In Fig. 3.3, if (SA - SB) is positive, it is a rise and if negative, it is a fall. Rise and fall are determined for the points lying within a section.

*Section:* A section comprises of one back sight, one fore sight and all the intermediate sights taken from one instrument set up within that section. Thus the number of sections is equal to the number of set ups of the instrument. (From A to B for instrument position 1 is section-1 and from B to C for instrument position 2 is section-2 in Fig. 3.4).

## **3.6 Booking and Reducing the Levels**

For booking and reducing the levels of points, there are two systems, namely the *height of instrument or height of collimation method* and *rise and fall method*. The columns for booking the readings in a level book are same for both the methods but for reducing the levels, the number of additional columns depends upon the method of reducing the levels. Note that except for the change point, each staff reading is written on a separate line so that each staff position has its unique reduced level. This remains true at the change point since the staff does not move and the back sight from a forward instrument station is taken at the same staff position where the fore sight has been taken from the backward instrument station. To explain the booking and reducing levels, the levelling operation from stations A to C shown in Fig. 3.4, has been presented in Tables 3.1 and 3.2 for both the methods. These tables may have additional columns for showing chainage, embankment, cutting, etc., if required.

In reducing the levels for various points by the height of instrument method, the height of instrument (H.I.) for the each section highlighted by different shades, is determined by adding the elevation of the point to the back sight reading taken at that point. The H.I. remains

unchanged for all the staff readings taken within that section and therefore, the levels of all the points lying in that section are reduced by subtracting the corresponding staff readings, i.e., I.S. or F.S., from the H.I. of that section.

Station	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	H.I.	R.L.	Remarks	
A	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>			H.I. <sub>A</sub> =	h <sub>A</sub>	B.M. = ha	Se
				$h_A + S_1$			ctio
а		<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>			$h_a = \text{H.I.}_A - S_2$		<u>P-1</u>
b		$S_3$			$h_b = \text{H.I.}_A - S_3$		
В	$S_5$		$S_4$	H.I. <sub>B</sub> =	$h_B = H.IA - S_4$	C.P.	-
				$h_B + S_5$			-
с		$S_6$			$h_c = \text{H.I.}_{\text{B}} - S_6$		Sect
С			<i>S</i> <sub>7</sub>		$H_C = \text{H.I.}_{\text{B}} - S_7$		ion-
	$\Sigma$ B.S.		$\Sigma$ F.S.				2
Check:	Σ Β.	$S_{-} \Sigma$	F.S. = L	ast R.L. –	First R.L.		

Table 3.1 Height of instrument method

In the rise and fall method, the rises and the falls are found out for the points lying within each section. Adding or subtracting the rise or fall to or from the reduced level of the backward station obtains the level for a forward station. In Table 3.2, r and f indicate the rise and the fall, respectively, assumed between the consecutive points.

Station	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	Rise	Fall	R.L.	Remarks	
A	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>					$h_A$	B.M. = $h_a$	Se
а		<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>		$r_1 = S_1 - S_2$		$h_a = h_A + r_1$		ction-1
Ь		<i>S</i> <sub>3</sub>			$f_1 = S_2 - S_3$	$h_b = h_a - f_1$		
В	$S_5$		$S_4$		$f_2 = S_3 - S_4$	$h_B = h_b - f_2$	C.P.	
с		$S_6$			$f_3 = S_5 - S_6$	$h_c = h_B - f_3$		
С			<i>S</i> <sub>7</sub>	$r_2 = S_6 - S_7$		$H_C = h_c + r_2$		Sectio
	Σ B.S.		Σ F.S.	$\Sigma$ Rise	Σ Fall			n-2
Check:	eck: $\Sigma$ B.S. $-\Sigma$ F.S. $= \Sigma$ Rise $-\Sigma$ Fall = Last R.L. $-$ First R.L.							

The arithmetic involved in reduction of the levels is used as check on the computations. The following rules are used in the two methods of reduction of levels.

a) For the height of instrument method
(i) Σ B.S. - Σ F.S. = Last R.L. - First R.L.
(ii) Σ [H.I. . (No. of I.S.'s + 1)] - Σ I.S. - Σ F.S. = Σ R.L. - First R.L.
(b) For the rise and fall method
Σ B.S. - Σ F.S. = Σ Rise - Σ Fall = Last R.L. - First R.L.

*Example 3.1.* The following readings were taken with a level and 4 m staff. Draw up a level book page and reduce the levels by the height of instrument method. 0.578 B.M.(= 58.250 m), 0.933, 1.768, 2.450, (2.005 and 0.567) C.P., 1.888, 1.181, (3.679 and 0.612) C.P., 0.705, 1.810.

Solution:

The first reading being on a B.M., is a back sight. As the fifth station is a change point, 2.005 is fore sight reading and 0.567 is back sight reading. All the readings between the first and fifth readings are intermediate sight-readings. Similarly, the eighth station being a change point, 3.679 is fore sight reading, 0.612 is back sight reading, and 1.888, 1.181 are intermediate sight readings. The last reading 1.810 is fore sight and 0.705 is intermediate sight-readings. All the readings have been entered in their respective columns in the following table and the levels have been reduced by height of instrument method. In the following computations, the values of B.S., I.S., H.I., etc., for a particular station have been indicated by its number or name.

Station	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	H.I.	R.L.	Remarks
1	0.578			58.828	58.250	B.M.=58.250 m
2		0.933			57.895	
3		1.768			57.060	
4		2.450			56.378	
5	0.567		2.005	57.390	56.823	C.P.
6		1.888			55.502	
7		1.181			56.209	
8	0.612		3.679	54.323	53.711	C.P.
9		0.705			53.618	
10			1.810		52.513	
Σ	1.757	8.925	7.494		557.956	
Check: $1.757 - 7.494 = 52.513 - 58.250 = -5.737$ (O.K.)						

г	a	h	14	2	2	- 2	
L	а	υ	1		υ	•••	

*Example 3.2*. Reduce the levels of the stations from the readings given in the Example 3.1 by the rise and fall method.

### Solution:

Booking of the readings for reducing the levels by rise and fall method is same as explained in Example 3.1. The computations of the reduced levels by rise and fall method is given below and the results are tabulated in the table. In the following computations, the values of B.S., I.S., Rise (r), Fall (f), etc., for a particular station have been indicated by its number or name.

(i) Calculation of rise and fall

Station	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	Rise	Fall	R.L.	Remarks
1	0.578					58.250	B.M.=58.250 m
2		0.933			0.355	57.895	
3		1.768			0.835	57.060	
4		2.450			0.682	56.378	
5	0.567		2.005	0.445		56.823	C.P.
6		1.888			1.321	55.502	
7		1.181		0.707		56.209	
8	0.612		3.679		2.498	53.711	C.P.
9		0.705			0.093	53.618	
10			1.810		1.105	52.513	
Σ	1.757		7.494	1.152	6.889		
Check:	Check: $1.757 - 7.494 = 1.152 - 6.889 = 52.513 - 58.250 = -5.737$ (O.K.)						

Га	bl	e	3	.4

*Example 3.3.* The following consecutive readings were taken with a level on continuously sloping ground at a common interval of 20 m. The last station has an elevation of 155.272 m. Rule out a page of level book and enter the readings.

# Calculate

(i) the reduced levels of the points by rise and fall method, and

(ii) the gradient of the line joining the first and last points.

0.420, 1.115, 2.265, 2.900, 3.615, 0.535, 1.470, 2.815, 3.505, 4.445, 0.605, 1.925, 2.885.

# Solution:

Since the readings have been taken along a line on a continuously sloping ground, any sudden large change in the reading such as in the sixth reading compared to the fifth reading and in the eleventh reading compared to the tenth reading, indicates the change in the instrument position.

Therefore, the sixth and eleventh readings are the back sights and fifth and tenth readings are the fore sights. The first and the last readings are the back sight and fore sight, respectively, and all remaining readings are intermediate sights.

The last point being of known elevation, the computation of the levels is to be done from last point to the first point. The falls are added to and the rises are subtracted from the known elevations. The computation of levels is explained below and the results have been presented in the following table.

Station	Chainage (m)	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	Rise	Fall	R.L.	Remarks
1	0	0.420					164.657	
2	20		1.115			0.695	163.962	
3	40		2.265			1.150	162.812	
4	60		2.900			0.635	162.177	
5	80	0.535		3.615		0.715	161.462	C.P.
6	100		1.470			0.935	160.527	
7	120		2.815			1.345	159.182	
8	140		3.505			0.690	158.492	
9	160	0.605		4.445		0.940	157.552	C.P.
10	180		1.925			1.320	156.232	
11	200			2.885		0.960	155.272	Elevation
								= 155.272 m
Σ		1.560		10.945	0.000	9.385		
Check: $1.560 - 10.945 = 0.000 - 9.385 = 155.272 - 164.657 = -9.385$ (O.K.)								

Table 3.5

(ii) Calculation of gradient

The gradient of the line 1-11 is

distance between points 1-11

$$=\frac{155.272 - 164.657}{200} = \frac{-9.385}{200}$$

= 1 in 21.3 (falling)

Ex3-4 Data from a differential leveling have been found in the order of B.S., F.S..... etc. staring with the initial reading on B.M. (elevation 150.485 m) are as follows : 1.205, 1.860, 0.125, 1.915, 0.395, 2.615, 0.880, 1.760, 1.960, 0.920, 2.595, 0.915, 2.255, 0.515, 2.305, 1.170. The final reading closes on B.M.. Put the data in a complete field note form and carry out reduction of level by Rise and Fall method. All units are in meters.

<b>B.S.</b> (m)	<b>F.S.</b> (m)	Rise (m)	Fall (m)	Elevation (m)	Remark
1.205				150.485	B.M.
0.125	1.860		0.655	149.830	
0.395	1.915		1.7290	148.040	
0.880	2.615		2.220	145.820	
1.960	1.760		0.880	144.940	
2.595	0.920	1.040		145.980	
2.255	0.915	1.680		147.660	
2.305	0.515	1.740		149.450	
	1.170	1.135		150.535	B.M.

In case of Rise and Fall method for Reduction of level, following arithmetic checks are applied to verify calculations.

 $\Sigma$  B.S. -  $\Sigma$  F.S. =  $\Sigma$  Rise -  $\Sigma$  Fall = Last R.L. - First R.L.

With reference to Table

 $\Sigma$  B.S. -  $\Sigma$  F.S. = 4.795 - 7.145 = - 2.350

 $\Sigma$  Rise -  $\Sigma$  Fall. = 1.130 - 3.480 = - 2.350

Last R.L. - First R.L.= 97.650 - 100.000 = -2.350

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# LEVELING—THEORY AND METHODS

Example 3.5. A page of level book is reproduced below in which some readings marked as  $(\times)$ , are missing. Complete the page with all arithmetic checks.

Station	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	Rise	Fall	R.L.	Remarks
1	3.150					×	
2	1.770		×		0.700	×	C.P.
3		2.200			×	×	
4	×		1.850	×		×	C.P.
5		2.440			0.010	×	
6	×		×	1.100		×	C.P.
7	1.185		2.010	×		222.200	C.P.
8		-2.735		×		×	Staff held
							Inverteu
9	×		1.685		4.420	×	C.P.
10			1.525		0.805	×	
Σ	12.055		×	×	×		

For the computation of reduced levels the given reduced level of point 7 is to be used. For the points 1 to 6, the computations are done from points 6 to 1, upwards in the table and for points 8 to 10, downwards in the table.

$h_6$	=	$h_7 - r_7 = 222.200 - 0.790 = 221.410 \text{ m}$
$h_5$	=	$h_6 - r_6 = 221.410 - 1.100 = 220.310 \text{ m}$
$h_4$	=	$h_5 + f_5 = 220.310 + 0.010 = 220.320$ m
$h_3$	=	$h_4 - r_4 = 220.320 - 0.350 = 219.970$ m
$h_2$	=	$h_3 + f_3 = 219.970 + 0.430 = 220.400$ m
$h_1$	=	$h_2 + f_2 = 220.400 + 0.700 = 221.100 \text{ m}$
$h_8$	=	$h_7 + r_8 = 222.200 + 3.920 = 226.120 \text{ m}$
$h_9$	=	$h_8 - f_9 = 226.120 - 4.420 = 221.700 \text{ m}$
<i>h</i> <sub>10</sub>	=	$h_9 - f_{10} = 221.700 - 0.805 = 220.895$ m

Station	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	Rise	Fall	R.L.	Remarks	
1	3.150					221.100		
2	1.770		3.850		0.700	220.400	C.P.	
3		2.200			0.430	219.970		
4	2.430		1.850	0.350		220.320	C.P.	
5		2.440			0.010	220.310		
6	2.800		1.340	1.100		221.410	C.P.	
7	1.185		2.010	0.790		222.200	C.P.	
8		-2.735		3.920		226.120	Staff held inverted	
9	0.720		1.685		4.420	221.700	C.P.	
10			1.525		0.805	220.895		
Σ	12.055		12.266	6.610	6.365			
Check: $12.055 - 12.266 = 6.610 - 6.365 = 220.895 - 221.100 = -0.205$ (O.K.)								

#### 3.6. 1 COMPARISON OF METHODS AND THEIR USES

Less arithmetic is involved in the reduction of levels with the height of instrument method than with the rise and fall method, in particular when large numbers of intermediate sights is involved. Moreover, the rise and fall method gives an arithmetic check on all the levels reduced, i.e., including the points where the intermediate sights have been taken, whereas in the height of instrument method, the check is on the levels reduced at the change points only. In the height of instrument method the check on all the sights is available only using the second formula that is not as simple as the first one.

The height of instrument method involves less computation in reducing the levels when there are large numbers of intermediate sights and thus it is faster than the rise and fall method. The rise and fall method, therefore, should be employed only when a very few or no intermediate sights are taken in the whole levelling operation. In such case, frequent change of instrument position requires determination of the height of instrument for the each setting of the instrument and, therefore, computations involved in the height of instrument method may be more or less equal to that required in the rise and fall method. On the other hand, it has a disadvantage of not having check on the intermediate sights, if any, unless the second check is applied.

#### **3.7 RECIPROCAL LEVELLING**

*Reciprocal levelling* is employed to determine the correct difference of level between two points which are quite apart and where it is not possible to set up the instrument between the two points for balancing the sights. It eliminates the errors due to the curvature of the earth, atmospheric refraction and collimation.

If the two points between which the difference of level is required to be determined are A and B then in reciprocal levelling, the first set of staff readings  $(a_1 \text{ and } b_1)$  is taken by placing the staff on A and B, and instrument close to A. The second set of readings  $(a_2 \text{ and } b_2)$  is taken again on A and B by placing the instrument close to B. The difference of level between A and B is given by

$$\Delta h = \frac{(a_1 - b_1) + (a_2 - b_2)}{2}$$

and the combined error is given by

$$e = \frac{(b_1 - a_1) - (b_2 - a_2)}{2}$$

where

 $e = e_l + e_c - e_r$   $e_l$  = the collimation error assumed positive for the line of sight inclined upward,  $e_c$  = the error due to the earth's curvature, and  $e_r$  = the error due to the atmospheric refraction. We have  $e_c - e_r$  = the combined curvature and refraction error =  $0.067d^2$ 

The collimation error is thus given by

#### $e_l = e - 0.067d_2$ in metre

where d is the distance between A and B in kilometre.



Figure 3.5 Reciprocal leveling.

**Example 3.6.** Reciprocal levelling was conducted across a wide river to determine the difference in level of points A and B, A situated on one bank of the river and B situated on the other. The following results on the staff held vertically at A and B from level stations 1 and 2, respectively, were obtained. The level station 1 was near to A and station 2 was near to B.

Instrument	Staff reading on				
at	A	В			
1	1.485	1.725			
2	1.190	1.415			

(a) If the reduced level of B is 55.18 m above the datum, what is the reduced level of A?

(b) Assuming that the atmospheric conditions remain unchanged during the two sets of the observations, calculate (i) the combined curvature and refraction correction if the distance AB is 315 m, and (ii) the collimation error.

#### Solution:

To eliminate the errors due to collimation, curvature of the earth and atmospheric refraction over long sights, the reciprocal levelling is performed. From the given data, we have

 $a_1 = 1.485 m$ ,  $a_2 = 1.725 m$ 

 $b_1 = 1.190 \text{ m}, b_2 = 1.415 \text{ m}$ 

The difference in level between A and B is given by

$$\Delta h = \frac{(a_1 - b_1) + (a_2 - b_2)}{2}$$
$$= \frac{(1.485 - 1.190) + (1.725 - 1.415)}{2} = 0.303 \text{ m}$$

R.L. of B = R.L. of  $A + \Delta h$ R.L. of A = R.L. of  $B - \Delta h$ = 55.18 - 0.303 = **54.88 m**.

The total error  $e = e_1 + e_c - e_r$ 

$$e = \frac{(b_1 - a_1) - (b_2 - a_2)}{2}$$
$$= \frac{(1.190 - 1.485) - (1.415 - 1.725)}{2} = 0.008 \text{ m}$$

and  $e_c - e_r = 0.067 \ d^2$ 

 $= 0.067 \times 0.3152 = 0.007$  m.

Therefore collimation error  $e_l = e - (e_c - e_r)$ 

= 0.008 - 0.007 = 0.001 m.

# 3.8 LOOP CLOSURE AND ITS APPORTIONING

A *loop closure* or *misclosure* is the amount by which a level circuit fails to close. It is the difference of elevation of the measured or computed elevation and known or established elevation of the same point. Thus loop closure is given by

e = computed value of R.L. – known value of R.L.

If the length of the loop or circuit is L and the distance of a station to which the correction c is computed, is l, then

$$c = -e \frac{l}{L}$$

Alternatively, the correction is applied to the elevations of each change point and the closing point of known elevation. If there are n1 change points then the total number points at which the corrections are to be applied is

$$n = n_1 + 1$$

and the correction at each point is

$$=-\frac{e}{n}$$

The corrections at the intermediate points are taken as same as that for the change points to which they are related.

Another approach could be to apply total of -e/2 correction equally to all the back sights and total of +e/2 correction equally to all the fore sights. Thus if there are  $n_B$  back sights and  $n_F$  fore sights then

correction to each back sight = 
$$-\frac{e}{2n_B}$$
  
correction to each fore sight =  $+\frac{e}{2n_F}$ 

**Example 3.7.** The readings given in Table 3.10, were recorded in a levelling operation from points 1 to 10. Reduce the levels by the height of instrument method and apply appropriate checks. The point 10 is a bench mark having elevation of 66.374 m. Determine the loop closure and adjust the calculated values of the levels by applying necessary corrections. Also determine the mean gradient between the points 1 to 10.

Station	Chainage (m)	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	Remarks
1	0	0.597			B.M.= 68.233 m
2	20	2.587		3.132	C.P
3	40		1.565		
4	60		1.911		
5	80		0.376		
6	100	2.244		1.522	C.P
7	120		3.771		
8	140	1.334		1.985	C.P
9	160		0.601		
10	180			2.002	

Table 3.10

Reduced levels of the points

 $\begin{array}{l} H.I.1 = h1 + B.S.1 = 68.233 + 0.597 = 68.830 \ m \\ h2 = H.I.1 - F.S.2 = 68.233 + 3.132 = 65.698 \ m \\ H.I.2 = h2 + B.S.2 = 65.698 + 2.587 = 68.285 \ m \\ h3 = H.I.2 - I.S.3 = 68.285 - 1.565 = 66.720 \ m \\ h4 = H.I.2 - I.S.4 = 68.285 - 1.911 = 66.374 \ m \\ h5 = H.I.2 - I.S.5 = 68.285 - 0.376 = 67.909 \ m \\ h6 = H.I.2 - F.S.6 = 68.285 - 1.522 = 66.763 \ m \\ H.I.6 = h6 + B.S.6 = 66.763 + 2.244 = 69.007 \ m \\ h7 = H.I.6 - I.S.7 = 69.007 - 3.771 = 65.236 \ m \\ h8 = H.I.6 - F.S.8 = 69.007 - 1.985 = 67.022 \ m \\ H.I.8 = h8 + B.S.8 = 67.022 + 1.334 = 68.356 \ m \\ h9 = H.I.8 - I.S.9 = 68.356 - 0.601 = 67.755 \ m \\ h10 = H.I.8 - F.S.10 = 68.356 - 2.002 = 66.354 \ m \\ \end{array}$ 

Loop closure and loop adjustment The error at point 10 = computed R.L. – known R.L. = 66.354 - 66.374 = -0.020 m Therefore correction = +0.020 m

Since there are three change points, there will be four instrument positions. Thus the total number of points at which the corrections are to be applied is four, i.e., three C.P.s and one last

F.S. It is reasonable to assume that similar errors have occurred at each station. Therefore, the correction for each instrument setting which has to be applied progressively, is

$$= +\frac{0.020}{4} = 0.005 \,\mathrm{m}$$

i.e., the correction at station	1 0.0 m
the correction at station 2	+ 0.005 m
the correction at station 6	+ 0.010 m
the correction at station 8	+ 0.015 m
the correction at station 10	+ 0.020  m

The corrections for the intermediate sights will be same as the corrections for that instrument stations to which they are related. Therefore,

correction for I.S.3, I.S.4, and I.S.5 = +0.010 m

correction for I.S.7 = + 0.015 m

correction for I.S.9 = +0.020 m

Applying the above corrections to the respective reduced levels, the corrected reduced levels are obtained. The results have been presented in Table 3.11.

Station	Chainage (m)	B.S.	I.S.	F.S.	H.I.	R.L.	Correction	Corrected R.L.	
1	0	0.597			68.830	68.233	_	68.233	
2	20	2.587		3.132	68.285	65.698	+ 0.005	65.703	
3	40		1.565			66.720	+ 0.010	66.730	
4	60		1.911			66.374	+ 0.010	66.384	
5	80		0.376			67.909	+ 0.010	67.919	
6	100	2.244		1.522	69.007	66.763	+ 0.010	66.773	
7	120		3.771			65.236	+ 0.015	65.251	
8	140	1.334		1.985	68.356	67.022	+ 0.015	67.037	
9	160		0.601			67.755	+ 0.020	67.775	
10	180			2.002		66.354	+ 0.020	66.374	
Σ		6.762		8.641					
Check: $6.762 - 8.641 = 66.354 - 68.233 = -1.879$ (O.K.)									

Table 3.11

Gradient of the line 1-10 The difference in the level between points 1 and 10,  $\Delta h = 66.324 - 68.233 = -1.909$  m The distance between points 1-10, D = 180 m Gradient =  $-\frac{-1.909}{180}$ = - 0.0106 = 1 in 94.3 (falling)

#### 3.9 TWO-PEG TEST

Two-peg test is conducted for checking the adjustment of a level. Fig. 3.6 shows the method of conducting the test. Two rigid points A and B are marked on the ground with two pegs and the instrument is set up exactly between them at point C. Readings are taken on the staff held at A and B, and the difference between them gives the correct difference in level of the pegs. The equality in length of back sight and fore sight ensures that any instrumental error, e, is equal on both sights and is cancelled out in the difference of the two readings. The instrument is then moved to D so that it is outside the line AB and it is near to one of the pegs. Readings are again taken on the staff held at A and B. The difference in the second set of the staff readings is equal to the difference in level of the points A and B, and it will be equal to that determined with the first set of readings if the instrument is in adjustment. If the two values of the difference in level difference in level difference in level of adjustment.



Figure 3.6 Two-peg test

The adjustment of the instrument can also be tested by determining the difference in level of the points A and B by placing the instrument at C and D as shown in Fig. 3.7.





Figure 3.7

Example 3.8 the readings obtaining from two-peg test carried out on an automatic level with a single level staff set up alternately a two pages A and B placed 50 m apart were as followes:

- 1- With the level midway between A and B Staff reading at A =1.283 Staff reading at B =0.860
- 2- With the level positioned 5 m from peg B on the line A B produced Staff reading at A =1.612 Staff reading at B =1.219

Calculate :

- i- The collimation error of the level per 50 m of sight
- ii- The reading that should have been observed on the staff A from the level in position 5m from B.

Solution:

- 1) Collimation error e = (0.860-1.283)-(1.219-1.612)= -0.030 m per 50 m
- 2) For the instrument in position 5 m from peg B, the reading that should have been obtained on the staff when held on at A is

$$= 1.612 - \left[\frac{-0.030}{50}\right]55 = 1.645 m$$

This is checked by computing the reading that should have been obtained on the staff when held on at B

$$= 1.219 - \left[\frac{-0.030}{50}\right] 5 = 1.222$$

The actual difference 1.222 - 1.645 = 0.860 - 1.283 = -0.423

#### 3.10 Trigonometric Leveling

The difference in elevation between two points can be determined by measuring (1) the inclined or horizontal distance between them and (2) the zenith angle or the altitude angle to one point from the other. (Zenith and altitude angles, described in more detail in Section 8.13, are measured in vertical planes. Zenith angles are observed downward from vertical, and altitude angles are observed up or down from horizontal.) Thus, in Figure 4.9, if slope distance S and zenith angle z or altitude angle between C and D are observed, then V, the elevation difference between C and D, is

 $V = S \cos z$  $V = S \sin \alpha$ 



Figure 3.9 Trigonometric leveling—short lines.

Alternatively, if horizontal distance H between C and D is measured, then V is

$$V = H \cot z$$

or

or

$$V = H \tan \alpha$$

The difference in elevation ( $\Delta$ elev) between points A and B in Figure 3.9 is given by

$$\Delta elev = hi + V - r$$

where hi is the height of the instrument above point A and r the reading on the rod held at B when zenith angle z or altitude angle is read. If r is made equal to hi, then these two values cancel in Equation above and simplify the computations.

For short lines (up to about 1000 ft in length) elevation differences obtained in trigonometric leveling are appropriately depicted by Figure 3.9 and properly computed using Equations above. However, for longer lines Earth curvature and refraction become factors that must be considered, as shown in Figure 3.10



Figure 3.10Trigonometric leveling—long lines

# Example 3.9

The slope distance and zenith angle between points A and B were observed with a total station instrument as 9585.26 ft and  $81^{\circ}42'20'''$ -respectively. The *hi* and rod reading r were equal. If the elevation of A is 1238.42 ft, compute the elevation of B.

# Solution:

The curvature and refraction correction is

$$h_f = 0.0206 \left(\frac{9585.26 \sin 81^{\circ} 42' 20''}{1000}\right)^2 = 1.85 \,\mathrm{ft}$$

(Theoretically, the horizontal distance should be used in computing curvature and refraction. In practice, multiplying the slope distance by the sine of the zenith angle approximates it.)

 $V = 9585.26 \cos 81^{\circ}42'20'' = 1382.77$  ft  $\Delta elev = 1382.77 + 1.85 = 1384.62$  ft

Finally, the elevation of B is

 $elev_B = 1238.42 + 1384.62 = 2623.04 \text{ ft}$ 

## 3.11 LEVELLING APPLICATIONS

Of all the surveying operations used in construction, levelling is the most common. Practically every aspect of a construction project requires some application of the levelling process. The more general are as follows.

#### 3.11.1 Sectional levelling

This type of levelling is used to produce ground profiles for use in the design of roads, railways and pipelines.

In the case of such projects, the route centre-line is set out using pegs at 10 m, 20 m or 30 m intervals. Levels are then taken at these peg positions and at critical points such as sudden changes in ground profiles, road crossings, ditches, bridges, culverts, etc. A plot of these elevations is called a longitudinal section. When plotting, the vertical scale is exaggerated compared with the horizontal, usually in the ratio of 10:1. The longitudinal section is then used in the vertical design process to produce formation levels for the proposed route design figure 3.11.

Whilst the above process produces information along a centre-line only, cross-sectional levelling extends that information at  $90^{\circ}$  to the centre-line for 20–30 m each side. At each centre-line peg the levels are taken to all points of interest on either side. Where the ground is featureless, levels at 5 m intervals or less are taken. In this way a ground profile at right angles to the centre-line is obtained. When the design template showing the road details and side slopes is plotted at formation level, a cross-sectional area is produced, which can later be used to compute volumes of earthwork. When plotting cross-sections the vertical and horizontal scales are the same, to permit easy scaling of the area and side slopes (Figure 3.12).

From the above it can be seen that sectional levelling also requires the measurement of horizontal distance between the points whose elevations are obtained. As the process involves the observation of many points, it is important to connect to existing BMs at regular intervals. In

most cases of route construction, one of the earliest tasks is to establish BMs at 100 m intervals throughout the area of interest. Levelling which does not require the measurement of distance, such as establishing BMs at known positions, is sometimes called 'fly levelling'.



Figure 3.11 Longitudinal section of proposed route

39.000 	FILL \$	SLOPES 1	in	2 D			đ F.L.		
38.000 								- 302	
37.000 AOD						<u>c</u>		1977-	~~.
Cross Chainage from ¢_(m)	-7.000	-5.000	-4.571	-3.000	0.000	3.000	4.820	5.000	7.000
Existing Ground Level (m)	37.857	37.857	37.853		37.807		37.728	37.725	37.557
Proposed Road Level (m)				39.088	39.088	39.088			
Proposed Formation Level (m)				38.638	38.638	38.638			

# 3.11.2 Contouring

A contour is a horizontal curve connecting points of equal elevation. Contours graphically represent, in a two-dimensional format on a plan or map, the shape or morphology of the terrain. The vertical distance between contour lines is called the contour interval. Depending on the accuracy required, they may be plotted at 0.1 m to 0.5 m intervals in flat terrain and at 1 m to 10 m intervals in undulating terrain. The interval chosen depends on:

(1) The type of project involved; for instance, contouring an airstrip requires an extremely small contour interval.

(2) The type of terrain, flat or undulating.

(3) The cost, for the smaller the interval the greater the amount of field data required, resulting in greater expense.

Contours are generally well understood so only a few of their most important properties will be outlined here.

(1) Contours are perpendicular to the direction of maximum slope.

(2) The horizontal separation between contour lines indicates the steepness of the ground. Close spacing defines steep slopes, wide spacing gentle slopes.

(3) Highly irregular contours define rugged, often mountainous terrain.

(4) Concentric closed contours represent hills or hollows, depending on the increase or decrease in

elevation.

(5) The slope between contour lines is assumed to be regular.

(6) Contour lines crossing a stream form V's pointing upstream.

(7) The edge of a body of water forms a contour line.

Contours are used by engineers to:

(1) Construct longitudinal sections and cross-sections for initial investigation.

(2) Compute volumes.

(3) Construct route lines of constant gradient.

(4) Delineate the limits of constructed dams, road, railways, tunnels, etc.

(5) Delineate and measure drainage areas.

If the ground is reasonably flat, the optical level can be used for contouring using either the direct or indirect methods. In steep terrain it is more economical to use other heighting, as outlined later.

# (1) Direct contouring

In this method the actual contour is pegged out on the ground and its planimetric position located. A backsight is taken to an appropriate BM and the HPC of the instrument is obtained, say 34.800 m AOD. A staff reading of 0.800 m would then place the foot of the staff at the 34 m contour level. The staff is then moved throughout the terrain area, with its position pegged at every 0.800 m reading. In this way the 34 m contour is located. Similarly a staff reading of 1.800

m gives the 33 m contour and so on. The planimetric position of the contour needs to be located using an appropriate survey technique.

This method, although quite accurate, is tedious and uneconomical and could never be used over a large area. It is ideal, however, in certain construction projects that require excavation to a specific single contour line.

This method, although quite accurate, is tedious and uneconomical and could never be used over a large area. It is ideal, however, in certain construction projects that require excavation to a specific single contour line.

# (2) Indirect contouring

This technique requires establishing a grid of intersecting evenly spaced lines over the site. A theodolite and steel tape may be used to set out the boundary of the grid. The grid spacing will depend upon the roughness of the ground and the purpose for which the data are required. All the points of intersection throughout the grid may be pegged or shown by means of paint from a spray canister. Alternatively ranging rods at the grid intervals around the periphery would permit the staff holder, with the aid of an optical square, to align himself with appropriate pairs and thus fix each grid intersection point, for example, alignment with rods B-B and 2-2 fixes point B2 (Figure 3.13). Alternatively assistants at ranging rods B and 2 could help to line up the staff holder. When the RLs of all the intersection points are obtained, the contours are located by linear interpolation between the levels, on the assumption of a uniform ground slope between each pair of points. The interpolation may be done arithmetically using a pocket calculator, or graphically.

Consider grid points B2 and B3 with reduced levels of 30.20mand 34.60mrespectively and a horizontal grid interval of 20m (Figure 3.14). The height difference between B2 and B3 is 4.40mand the 31mcontour is 0.80 m above B2. The horizontal distance of the 31 m contour from  $B2 = x_1$ 

where (20/4.40) = 4.545 m = Kand  $x_1 = \text{K} \times 0.80 \text{ m} = 3.64 \text{ m}$ Similarly for the 32 m contour:

 $x_2 = K \times 1.80 \text{ m} = 8.18 \text{ m}$ 

and so on, where (20/4.40) is a constant K, multiplied each time by the difference in height from the reduced level of B2 to the required contour value. For the graphical interpolation, a sheet of transparent paper (Figure 3.15) with equally spaced horizontal lines is used. The paper is placed over the two points and rotated until B2 obtains a value of 30.20 m and B3 a value of 34.60 m. Any appropriate scale can be used for the line separation. As shown, the 31, 32, 33 and 34 m contour positions can now be pricked through onto the plan.

This procedure is carried out on other lines and the equal contour points joined up to form the contours required.



Figure 3.13 Grid layout for contouring



Figure 3.14 Contour calculations



Figure 3.15 Graphical contour plotting

#### **3-12 PRECISION IN LEVELING**

Precision in leveling is increased by repeating observations, making frequent ties to established benchmarks, using high-quality equipment, keeping it in good adjustment, and performing the measurement process carefully. However, no matter how carefully the work is executed, errors will exist and will be evident in the form of misclosures, as discussed in Section 5.4.To determine whether or not work is acceptable, misclosures are compared with permissible values on the basis of either number of setups or distance covered. Various organizations set precision standards based on their project requirements. For example, on a simple construction survey, an allowable misclosure of C = 0.02 ft/n

The Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee (FGCS) recommends the following formula to compute allowable misclosures

#### $C = m\sqrt{K}$

where C is the allowable loop or section3 misclosure, in millimeters; mis a constant; and K the total length leveled, in kilometers. For "loops" (circuits that begin and end on the same benchmark), K is the total perimeter distance, and the FGCS specifies constants of 4, 5, 6, 8, and 12 mm for the five classes of leveling, designated, respectively, as (1) first-order class I, (2) first-order class II, (3) second-order class I, (4) second-order class II, and (5) third-order. For "sections" the constants are the same, except that 3 mm applies for first-order class I.

#### EXAMPLE 3.9

A differential leveling loop is run from an established BM A to a point 2 mi away and back, with a misclosure of 0.056 ft. What order leveling does this represent?

#### Solution

$$C = \frac{0.056 \text{ ft}}{0.0028 \text{ ft/mm}} = 17 \text{ mm}$$
  

$$K = (2 \text{ mi} + 2 \text{ mi}) \times 1.61 \text{ km/mi} = 6.4 \text{ km}$$
  
By a rearranged form of Equation 5.1,  $m = \frac{C}{\sqrt{K}} = \frac{17}{\sqrt{6.4}} = 6.7$ 

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# Part 2

# **Distance measurements**

# Part 2

# **Chapter 4 Distance measurements**

#### 4.1 TACHEOMETRIC OR OPTICAL METHOD

In stadia tacheometry the line of sight of the tacheometer may be kept horizontal or inclined depending upon the field conditions. In the case of horizontal line of sight (Fig. 4.1), the horizontal distance between the instrument at A and the staff at B is

$$D = ks + c$$

where

k and c = the multiplying and additive constants of the tacheometer, and s = the staff intercept,

 $= S_T - S_B$ , where  $S_T$  and  $S_B$  are the top hair and bottom hair readings, respectively.

Generally, the value of k and c are kept equal to 100 and 0 (zero), respectively, for making

the computations simpler. Thus



The elevations of the points, in this case, are obtained by determining the height of instrument and taking the middle hair reading. Let hi = the height of the instrument axis above the ground at A, hA, hB = the elevations of A and B, and SM = the middle hair reading then, the height of instrument is:

H.I. = hA + hiand hB = H.I. - SM= hA + hi - SM

In the case of inclined line of sight as shown in Fig. 4.2, the vertical angle  $\alpha$  is measured, and the horizontal and vertical distances, D and V, respectively, are determined from the following expressions.

$$D = ks\cos^2 \alpha$$
$$V = \frac{1}{2}ks\sin 2\alpha$$



Figure 4.2

The elevation of B is computed as below.

$$hB = hA + hi + V - SM$$

**Example 4.1.** The following tacheometric observations were made on two points P and Q from station A.
Staff at	Vertical angle	Staff reading			
		Upper	Middle	Lower	
Р	- 5°12′	1.388	0.978	0.610	
Q	+ 27°35′	1.604	1.286	0.997	

The height of the tacheometer at A above the ground was 1.55 m. Determine the elevations of P and Q if the elevation of A is 75.500 m. The stadia constant k and c are respectively 100 and 0.00 m.

# Solution:

Since the vertical angles are given, the line of sights are inclined for both the points. From Eqs.

we have

$$H = ks \cos^2 \alpha$$
$$V = \frac{1}{2} ks \sin 2\alpha$$

The given data are

$$s_1 = (1.388 - 0.610) = 0.778 \text{ m}, \quad \alpha_1 = 5^{\circ}12'$$
  
 $s_2 = (1.604 - 0.997) = 0.607 \text{ m}, \quad \alpha_2 = 27^{\circ}35'$ 

Therefore the distances

$$H_{AP} = 100 \times 0.778 \times \cos^{2}(5^{\circ}12') = 77.161 \text{ m}$$
$$V_{AP} = \frac{1}{2} \times 100 \times 0.778 \times \sin(2 \times 5^{\circ}12') = 7.022 \text{ m}$$
$$H_{AQ} = 100 \times 0.607 \times \cos^{2}(27^{\circ}35') = 47.686 \text{ m}$$
$$V_{AQ} = \frac{1}{2} \times 100 \times 0.607 \times \sin(2 \times 27^{\circ}35') = 24.912 \text{ m}$$

The height of the instrument

H.I. = Elevation of A + instrument height

$$= 75.500 + 1.55 = 77.050 \text{ m}$$

Elevation of P

hP = H.I. - VAP - middle hair reading at P= 77.050 - 7.022 - 0.978 = **69.050 m** 

Elevation Q

HQ = H.I. + VAQ - middle hair reading at Q= 77.050 + 24.912 - 1.286 = **100.676 m.** 

# 4.2 ELECTRONIC DISTANCE MEASUREMENT

# **4.2.1 Introduction**

A major advance in surveying instrumentation occurred approximately 60 years ago with the development of electronic distance measuring (EDM) instruments. These devices measure lengths by indirectly determining the number of full and partial waves of transmitted electromagnetic energy required in traveling between the two ends of a line. In practice, the energy is transmitted from one end of the line to the other and returned to the starting point; thus, it travels the double path distance. Multiplying the total number of cycles by its wavelength and dividing by 2, yields the unknown distance.

Electronic distance measurement is based on the rate and manner that electromagnetic energy propagates through the atmosphere. The rate of propagation can be expressed with the following equation

 $V = f\lambda$ 

where V is the velocity of electromagnetic energy, in meters per second; f the modulated frequency of the energy, in hertz;2 and  $\lambda$  the wavelength, in meters. The velocity of electromagnetic energy in a vacuum is 299,792,458 m/sec. Its speed is slowed somewhat in the atmosphere according to the following equation

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where c is the velocity of electromagnetic energy in a vacuum, and n the atmospheric index of refraction. The value of n varies from about 1.0001 to 1.0005, depending on pressure and temperature, but is approximately equal to 1.0003. Thus, accurate electronic distance measurement requires that atmospheric pressure and temperature be measured so that the appropriate value of n is known.

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# **Angles, Azimuths, and Bearings**

# Chapter five Angles, Azimuths, and Bearings

# Learning objectives

At the end of this chapter, the student will be able to:

- 1. Define the different types of angles with their instrument and unit of measurements.
- 2. Describe different meridians and system of designating direction of lines.
- 3. Explain magnetic declination and local attraction phenomena.

# **5.1 Introduction**

Determining the locations of points and orientations of lines frequently depends on the observation of angles and directions. In surveying, directions are given by azimuths and bearings.

Angles measured in surveying are classified as either horizontal or vertical, depending on the plane in which they are observed. Horizontal angles are the basic observations needed for determining bearings and azimuths. Vertical angles are used in trigonometric leveling and for reducing slope distances to horizontal.

Angles are most often directly observed in the field with total station instruments, although in the past transits, theodolites, and compasses have been used.

Three basic requirements determine an angle. As shown in Figure 5.1, they are (1) reference or starting line, (2) direction of turning, and (3) angular distance (value of the angle). Methods of computing bearings and azimuths described in this chapter are based on these three elements.



Figure 5.1 Basic requirements in determining an angle.

# **5.2 KINDS OF HORIZONTAL ANGLES**

The kinds of horizontal angles most commonly observed in surveying are (1) interior angles, (2) angles to the right, and (3) deflection angles. Because they differ considerably, the kind used must be clearly indicated in field notes. Interior angles, shown in Figure 5.2, are observed on the inside of a closed polygon. Normally the angle at each apex within the polygon is measured. Then, a check can be made on their values because the sum of all interior angles in any polygon must equal

(n - 2)180 where n is the number of angles. Polygons are commonly used for boundary surveys and many other types of work. Surveyors (geomatics engineers) normally refer to them as closed traverses.

*Exterior angles*, located outside a closed polygon, are explements of interior angles. The advantage to be gained by observing them is their use as another check, since the sum of the interior and exterior angles at any station must total 360°.

*Angles to the right* are measured clockwise from the rear to the forward station. Note: As a survey progresses, stations are commonly identified by consecutive alphabetical letters (as in Figure 7.2), or by increasing numbers. Thus, the interior angles of Figure 5.2(a) are also angles to the right. Most data collectors require that angles to the right be observed in the field. Angles to the left, turned counterclockwise from the rear station, are illustrated in Figure 5.2(b).



Figure 5.2Closed polygon. (a) Clockwise (angles to the right). (b) Counterclockwise interior angles (angles to the left).

Note that the polygons of Figure 5.2 are "right" and "left"—that is, similar in shape but turned over like the right and left hands. Figure 5.2(b) is shown only to emphasize a serious mistake that occurs if counterclockwise angles are observed and recorded or assumed to be clockwise. To avoid this confusion, it is recommended that a uniform procedure of always observing angles to the right be adopted and the direction of turning noted in the field book with a sketch.

Angles to the right can be either interior or exterior angles of a closed polygon traverse. Whether the angle is an interior or exterior angle depends on the direction the instrument proceeds around the traverse. If the direction around the traverse is counterclockwise, then the angles to the right will be interior angles. However, if the instrument proceeds clockwise around the traverse, then exterior angles will be observed. If this is the case, the sum of the exterior angles for a closed-polygon traverse will be  $(n + 2)180^{\circ}$ . Analysis of a simple sketch should make these observations clear.

**Deflection angles** (Figure 5.3) are observed from an extension of the back line to the forward station. They are used principally on the long linear alignments of route surveys. As illustrated in the figure, deflection angles may be observed to the right (clockwise) or to the left (counterclockwise) depending on the direction of the route. Clockwise angles are considered plus, and counterclockwise ones minus, as shown in the figure. Deflection angles are always smaller than  $180^{\circ}$  and appending an R or L to the numerical value identifies the direction of turning. Thus the angle at B in Figure 5.3 is (R), and that at C is (L). Deflection angles are the only exception where counterclockwise observation of angles should be made.



Figure 5.3 Deflection angles.

#### **5.3 DIRECTION OF A LINE**

The direction of a line is defined by the horizontal angle between the line and an arbitrarily chosen reference line called a meridian. Different meridians are used for specifying directions including (a) geodetic (also often called true), (b) astronomic, (c) magnetic, (d) grid, (e) record, and (f) assumed.

**The geodetic meridian** is the north-south reference line that passes through a mean position of the Earth's geographic poles. The positions of the poles defined as their mean locations between the period of 1900.0 and 1905.0.

Wobbling of the Earth's rotational axis causes the position of the Earth's geographic poles to vary with time. At any point, **the astronomic meridian** is the north-south reference line that passes through the instantaneous position of the Earth's geographic poles. Astronomic meridians derive their name from the field operation to obtain them, which consists in making observations on the celestial objects. Geodetic and astronomic meridians are very nearly the same, and the former can be computed from the latter by making small corrections.

A magnetic meridian is defined by a freely suspended magnetic needle that is only influenced by the Earth's magnetic field.

Surveys based on a state or other plane coordinate system employ a grid meridian for reference. Grid north is the direction of geodetic north for a selected central meridian and held parallel to it over the entire area covered by a plane coordinate system.

In boundary surveys, the term record meridian refers to directional references quoted in the recorded documents from a previous survey of a particular parcel of land. Another similar term, deed meridian, is used in the description of a parcel of land as recorded in a property deed.

*An assumed meridian* can be established by merely assigning any arbitrary direction—for example, taking a certain street line to be north. The directions of all other lines are then found in relation to it.

From the above definitions, it should be obvious that the terms north or due north, if used in a survey, must be defined, since they do not specify a unique line.

# **5.4** AZIMUTHS

Azimuths are horizontal angles observed clockwise from any reference meridian. In plane surveying, azimuths are generally observed from north, but astronomers and the military have used south as the reference direction. Examples of azimuths observed from north are shown in Figure 5.4. As illustrated, they can range from  $0^{\circ}$  to  $360^{\circ}$  in value. Thus the azimuth of OA is  $70^{\circ}$ ; of OB,  $145^{\circ}$ ; of OC,  $235^{\circ}$ ; and of OD,  $330^{\circ}$ .

Azimuths may be geodetic, astronomic, magnetic, grid, record, or assumed, depending on the reference meridian used. To avoid any confusion, it is necessary to state in the field notes, at the beginning of work, what reference meridian applies for azimuths, and whether they are observed from north or south.

A line's forward direction can be given by its forward azimuth, and its reverse direction by its back azimuth. In plane surveying, forward azimuths are converted to back azimuths, and vice versa, by adding or subtracting 180°. For example, if the azimuth of OA is 70°, the azimuth of AO is

 $70^{\circ} + 180^{\circ} = 250^{\circ}$ .

If the azimuth of OC is  $235^{\circ}$ , the azimuth of CO is  $235^{\circ} - 180^{\circ} = 55^{\circ}$ .



Figure 5.4 Azimuths

Azimuths can be read directly on the graduated circle of a total station instrument after the instrument has been oriented properly. This can be done by sighting along a line of known azimuth with that value indexed on the circle, and then turning to the desired course. Azimuths are used advantageously in boundary, topographic, control, and other kinds of surveys, as well as in computations.

#### **5.5 BEARINGS**

Bearings are another system for designating directions of lines. *The bearing of a line is defined as the acute horizontal angle between a reference meridian and the line*. The angle is observed from either the north or south toward the east or west, to give a reading smaller than 90°. The letter N or S preceding the angle, and E or W following it shows the proper quadrant. Thus, a properly expressed bearing includes quadrant letters and an angular value .An example is N80°E. In Figure 5.5,



Figure 5.5 Bearings angles

All bearings in quadrant NOE are measured clockwise from the meridian. Thus the bearing of line OA is N70°E. All bearings in quadrant SOE are counterclockwise from the meridian, so OB is S35°E. Similarly, the bearing of OC is S55°W and that of OD, N30°W.When lines are in the cardinal directions, the bearings should be listed as "Due North," "Due East," "Due South," or "Due West."

Geodetic bearings are observed from the geodetic meridian, astronomic bearings from the local astronomic meridian, magnetic bearings from the local magnetic meridian, grid bearings from the appropriate grid meridian, and assumed bearings from an arbitrarily adopted meridian. The magnetic meridian can be obtained in the field by observing the needle of a compass, and used along with observed angles to get computed magnetic bearings.

In Figure 5.6 assume that a compass is set up successively at points A, B, C, and D and bearings read on lines AB, BA, BC, CB, CD, and DC. As previously noted, bearings AB, BC, and CD are forward bearings; those of BA, CB, and DC, back bearings. Back bearings should have the same numerical values as forward bearings but opposite letters. Thus if bearing AB is N44°E, bearing BA is S44°W.



Figure 5.6 Forward and back bearings

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Angles, Azimuths, and Bearings

#### 5.6 COMPARISON OF AZIMUTHS AND BEARINGS

Because bearings and azimuths are encountered in so many surveying operations, the comparative summary of their properties given in Table 5.1 should be helpful. Bearings are readily computed from azimuths by noting the quadrant in which the azimuth falls, then converting as shown in the table.

Example 5.1 The azimuth of a boundary line is128°13′ 46″ Convert this to a bearing.

#### Solution

The azimuth places the line in the southeast quadrant. Thus, the bearing angle is

 $180^{\circ} - 128^{\circ}13' 46'' = 51^{\circ}46'14''$ 

and the equivalent bearing is S51°46'14"E.

### **Table 5.1 COMPARISON OF AZIMUTHS AND BEARINGS**

Azimuths		Bearings
Vary from 0 to 360°		Vary from 0 to 90°
Require only a numeri	cal value	Require two letters and a numerical value
May be geodetic, astro grid, assumed, forw	onomic, magnetic, ard or back	Same as azimuths
Are measured clockwi	se only	Are measured clockwise and counterclockwise
Are measured either from north only, or from south only on a particular survey		Are measured from north and south
Quadrant		Formulas for computing bearing angles from azimuths
I (NE)		Bearing = Azimuth
II (SE)		Bearing = 180° - Azimuth
III (SW)		Bearing = Azimuth - 180°
IV (NW)		Bearing = $360^{\circ}$ – Azimuth
Example dir	ections for lines in t	the four quadrants (azimuths from north)
	Azimuth	Bearing
	54°	N54°E
	112°	S68°E
	231°	S51°W

Example 5.2 The first course of a boundary survey is written as N37°13′ W What is its equivalent azimuth?

N15°W

# Solution

Since the bearing is in the northwest quadrant, the azimuth is

345°

360° - 37°13′= 322°47′

# **5.7 COMPUTING AZIMUTHS**

Most types of surveys, but especially those that employ traversing, require computation of azimuths (or bearings). A traverse is a series of connected lines whose lengths and angles at the *junction points have been survey the boundary lines of a piece of property*, for example, a "closed-polygon" type traverse like that of Figure 5.2(a) would normally be used. A highway survey from one city to another would usually involve a traverse like that of Figure 5.3. Regardless of the type used, it is necessary to compute the directions of its lines. Many surveyors prefer azimuths to bearings for directions of lines because they are easier to work with,

especially when calculating traverses with computers. Also sines and cosines of azimuth angles provide correct algebraic signs for departures and latitudes.

Azimuth calculations are best made with the aid of a sketch. Figure 5.7 illustrates computations for azimuth BC in Figure 5.2(a). Azimuth BA is found by adding 180° to azimuth AB:

 $180^{\circ} + 41^{\circ}35' = 221^{\circ}35'$  to yield its back azimuth. Then the angle to the right at B, is added to azimuth BA to get azimuth BC: This general process of adding (or subtracting)  $180^{\circ}$  to obtain the back azimuth and then adding the angle to the right is repeated for each line until the azimuth of the starting line is recomputed. If a computed azimuth exceeds  $360^{\circ}$ , then  $360^{\circ}$  is subtracted from it and the computations are continued. These calculations are conveniently handled in tabular form,

as illustrated in Table 7.2. This table lists the calculations for all azimuths of Figure 7.2(a). Note that a check was secured by recalculating the beginning azimuth using the last angle. The procedures illustrated in Table 7.2 for computing azimuths are systematic and readily programmed for computer solution.

Traverse angles must be adjusted to the proper geometric total before azimuths are computed. As noted earlier, in a closed-polygon traverse, the sum of interior angles equals  $(n - 2)180^\circ$ , where n is the number of angles or sides. If the traverse angles fail to close by say 10" and are not adjusted prior to computing azimuths, the original and computed check azimuth of AB will differ by the same10" assuming there are no other calculating errors. The azimuth of any starting course should always be recomputed as a check using the last angle. Any discrepancy shows that (a) an arithmetic error was made or (b) the angles were not properly adjusted prior to computing azimuths.

#### Table 7.2 COMPUTATION OF AZIMUTHS (FROM NORTH) FOR LINES OF FIGURE 5.2 a

211°51′ = DE
<u>-180°00′</u>
$31^{\circ}51' = ED$
+135°42′
$167^{\circ}33' = EF$
+180°00′
347°33′ = FE
+118°52′
$466^{\circ}25' - *360^{\circ} = 106^{\circ}25' = FA$
<u>-180°00′</u>
286°25′ = AF
+115°10′
401°35′ − *360° = 41°35′ = AB 🗸

\*When a computed azimuth exceeds 360°, the correct azimuth is obtained by merely subtracting 360°.

#### **5.8 COMPUTING BEARINGS**

Drawing sketches similar to those in Figure 5.8 showing all data simplify computations for bearings of lines. In Figure 5.8(a), the bearing of line AB from Figure 5.2(a) is N 41°35' E and the angle at B turned clockwise (to the right) from known line BA is 129°11' Then the bearing angle of line BC is  $180^{\circ}$  -  $(41^{\circ}35' + 129^{\circ}11') = 9^{\circ}14'$ , and from the sketch the bearing of BC is N9°14' W

In Figure 5.8(b), the clockwise angle at C from B to D was observed as 88°35'.

The bearing of CD is  $88^{\circ}35' - 9^{\circ}14' = S79^{\circ}21'W$ . Continuing this technique, the bearings in Table 5.3 have been determined for all lines in Figure 5.2(a).

In Table 5.3, note that the last bearing computed is for AB, and it is obtained by employing the angle observed at A. It yields a bearing of which agrees with the starting bearing. Students should compute each bearing of Figure 5.2(a) to verify the values given in Table 5.3.

An alternate method of computing bearings is to determine the azimuths and then convert the computed azimuths to bearings as



Figure 5.8 (a) Computation of bearing BC of Figure 5.2(a). (b) Computation of bearing CD of Figure 5.2(a).

Course	Bearing
AB	N41°35′E
BC	N9°14′W
CD	S79°21′W
DE	\$31°51′W
EF	S12°27′E
FA	S73°35′E
AB	N41°35′E 🖌

#### Table 5.3 BEARINGS OF LINES IN FIGURE 5.2(a)

Bearings, rather than azimuths, are used predominately in boundary surveying. This practice originated from the period of time when the magnetic bearings of parcel boundaries were determined directly using a surveyor's compass. Later, although other instruments (i.e., transits and theodolites) were used to observe the angles, and the astronomic meridian was more commonly used, the practice of using bearings for land surveys continued and is still in common use today. Because boundary retracement surveyors must follow the footsteps of the original surveyor they need to understand magnetic directions and their nuances .

#### **5.9 MAGNETIC DECLINATION**

Magnetic declination is the horizontal angle observed from the geodetic meridian to the magnetic meridian. Navigators call this angle variation of the compass; the armed forces use the term deviation. An east declination exists if the magnetic meridian is east of geodetic north; a west declination occurs if it is west of geodetic north. East declinations are considered positive and west declinations negative. The relationship between geodetic north, magnetic north, and magnetic declination is given by the expression geodetic azimuth = magnetic azimuth + magnetic declination

Because the magnetic pole positions are constantly changing, magnetic declinations at all locations also undergo continual changes. Establishing a meridian from astronomical or satellite (GNSS) observations and then reading a compass while sighting along the observed meridian can obtain the current declination at any location obtained baring any local attractions. Another way of determining the magnetic declination at a point is to interpolate it from an isogonic chart. An isogonic chart shows magnetic declinations in a certain region for a specific epoch of time. Lines on such maps connecting points that have the same declination are called isogonic lines. The isogonic line along which the declination is zero (where the magnetic needle defines geodetic north as well as magnetic north) is termed the agonic line.

#### Example 5.3

Assume the magnetic bearing of a property line was recorded as S43°30'E in 1862. At that time the magnetic declination at the survey location was3°15'W What geodetic bearing is needed for a subdivision property plan?

#### Solution

A sketch similar to Figure 5.11 makes the relationship clear and should be used by beginners to avoid mistakes. Geodetic north is designated by a full-headed long arrow and magnetic north by a half-headed

shorter arrow. The geodetic bearing is seen to be  $S43^{\circ}30' E + 3^{\circ}15' = S46^{\circ}45'E$ . Using different colored pencils to show the direction of geodetic north, magnetic north, and lines on the ground helps



Figure 5.11 Computing geodetic bearings from magnetic bearings and declinations.

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Traversing

# Chapter six Traversing

# 6.1 Introduction

Measured angles or directions of closed traverses are readily investigated before leaving the field. Linear measurements, even though repeated, are more likely a source of error, and must also be checked. Although the calculations are lengthier than angle checks, with today's programmable calculators and portable computers they can also be done in the field to determine, before leaving, whether a traverse meets the required precision. If specifications have been satisfied, the traverse is then adjusted to create perfect "closure" or geometric consistency among angles and lengths; if not, field observations must be repeated until adequate results are obtained.

Investigation of precision and acceptance or rejection of the field data are extremely important in surveying. Adjustment for geometric closure is also crucial. For example, in land surveying the law may require property descriptions to have exact geometric agreement.

Different procedures can be used for computing and adjusting traverses. These vary from elementary methods to more advanced techniques based on the method of least squares. The usual steps followed in making elementary traverse computations are (1) adjusting angles or directions to fixed geometric conditions, (2) determining preliminary azimuths (or bearings) of the traverse lines, (3) calculating departures and latitudes and adjusting them for misclosure, (4) computing rectangular coordinates of the traverse stations, and (5) calculating the lengths and azimuths (or bearings) of the traverse lines after adjustment. These procedures are all discussed in this chapter and are illustrated with several examples.

## **6.2 BALANCING ANGLES**

In elementary methods of traverse adjustment, the first step is to balance (adjust) the angles to the proper geometric total. For closed traverses, angle balancing is done readily since the total error is known, although its exact distribution is not. Angles of a closed traverse can be adjusted to the correct geometric total by applying one of two methods:

1. Applying an average correction to each angle where observing conditions were approximately the same at all stations. The correction for each angle is found by dividing the total angular misclosure by the number of angles.

2. Making larger corrections to angles where poor observing conditions were present.

Of these two methods, the first is almost always applied.

### Example 6.1

For the traverse of Figure 6.1, the observed interior angles are given in Table 10.1. Compute the adjusted angles using methods 1 and 2.





# Solution

The computations are best arranged as shown in Table 6.1. The first part of the adjustment consists of summing the interior angles and determining the misclosure according to  $\Sigma = (n - 2) 180^{\circ}$ , which in this instance, as shown beneath column 2, is+11". The remaining calculations are tabulated, and the rationale for the procedures follows.

			Me	ethod 1	
Point (1)	Measured Interior Angle (2)	Multiples of Average Correction (3)	Correction Rounded To 1″ (3)	Successive Differences (5)	Adjusted Angle (6)
А	100°45′37″	2.2″	2″	2″	100°45′35″
В	231°23′43″	4.4"	4″	2″	231°23′41″
С	17°12′59″	6.6″	7″	3″	17°12′56″
D	89°03′28″	8.8″	9″	2″	89°03′26″
Ε	101°34'24"	11.0″	11″	2″	101°34'22"
	$\Sigma = 540^{\circ}00'11''$			$\Sigma = 11''$	$\Sigma = 540^{\circ}00'00''$
				Method 2	
Point (1)	Measu Inter Ang (2)	ured ior le	Adjustm (7)	Adj ent A	usted ngle (8)
А	100	°45′37″	2″	10	0°45'35″
В	231	°23′43″	3″	23	31°23′40″
С	17	°12′59″	3″	1	7°12′56″
D	89	03′28″	1″	8	39°03′27″
Ε	101	°34′24″	2″	10	)1°34′22″
	$\Sigma = 540^{\circ}$	°00′11″	$\Sigma = 11''$	$\Sigma = 54$	40°00′00″

#### TABLE 6.1 ADJUSTMENT OF ANGLES

For work of ordinary precision, it is reasonable to adopt corrections that are even multiples of the smallest recorded digit or decimal place for the angle readings. Thus in this example, corrections to the nearest 1" will be made.

Method 1 consists of subtracting 11''/5 = 2.2'' from each of the five angles. However, since the angles were read in multiples of 1'', applying corrections to the nearest tenth of a second would give a false impression of their precision. Therefore it is desirable to establish a pattern of corrections to the nearest1'', as shown in Table 6.1. First multiples of the average correction of 2.2''\_ are tabulated in column (3). In column (4), each of these multiples has been rounded off to the nearest1'' .Then successive differences (adjustments for each angle) are found by subtracting the preceding value in column (4) from the one being considered. These are tabulated in column (5). Note that as a check, the sum of the corrections in this column must equal the angular misclosure of the traverse, which in this case is 11'' . The adjusted interior angles obtained by applying these corrections are listed in column (6). As another check, they must total exactly the true geometric value of (n - 2)180°, or  $540^{\circ}00'00''$  in this case.

In method 2, judgment is required because corrections are made to the angles expected to contain the largest errors. In this example, is subtracted from the angles at B and C, since they have the shortest sights (along line BC), and 2 is subtracted from the angles at A and E, because they have the next shortest sights (along line AE). A 1" correction was applied to angle D because of its long

sights. The sum of the corrections must equal the total misclosure. The adjustment made in this manner is shown in columns (7) and (8) of Table 6.1.

# **6.3** COMPUTATION OF PRELIMINARY AZIMUTHS OR BEARINGS

After balancing the angles, the next step in traverse computation is calculation of either preliminary azimuths or preliminary bearings. This requires the direction of at least one course within the traverse to be either known or assumed. For some computational purposes an assumed direction is sufficient, and in that case the usual procedure is to simply assign north as the direction of one of the traverse lines. On certain traverse surveys, the magnetic bearing of one line can be determined

and used as a reference for determining the other directions. However, in most instances, as in boundary surveys, true directions are needed. This requirement can be met by (1) incorporating within the traverse a line whose true direction was established through a previous survey; (2) including one end of a line of known direction as a station in the traverse, and then observing an angle from that reference line to a traverse line; or (3) determining the true direction of one traverse line by astronomical observations.

If a line of known direction exists within the traverse, computation of preliminary azimuths (or bearings) proceeds as discussed in Chapter 5. Angles adjusted to the proper geometric total must be used; otherwise the azimuth or bearing of the first line, when recomputed after using all angles and progressing around the traverse, will differ from its fixed value by the angular misclosure. Azimuths or bearings at this stage are called "preliminary" because they will change after the traverse is adjusted. It should also be noted that since the azimuth of the courses will change, so will the angles, which were previously adjusted.

# Example 6.2

Compute preliminary azimuths for the traverse courses of Figure 6.1, based on a fixed azimuth of 234°17′18″ for line AW, a measured angle to the right of 151°52′24″ for WAE, and the angle adjustment by method 1 of Table 6.1.

# Table 6.2TCOMPUTATION OF PRELIMINARY AZIMUTH USING THE<br/>TABULAR METHOD

$126^{\circ}55'17'' = AB$	+89°03′26″ + D
+180°	$284^{\circ}35'20'' = DE$
306°55′17″ = BA	-180°
+231°23′41″ + B	$104^{\circ}35'20'' = ED$
$538^{\circ}18'58'' - 360^{\circ} = 178^{\circ}18'58'' - BC$	+101°34′22″ + E
<u>-180°</u>	206°09′42″ = EA
358°18′58″ = CD	-180°
+17°12′56″ + C	26°09′42″ = AE
$375^{\circ}31'54'' - 360^{\circ} = 15^{\circ}31'54'' = CD$	+100°45'35" + A
-180°	$126^{\circ}55'17'' = AB$
$195^{\circ}31'54'' = DC$	

# Solution

Step 1: Compute the azimuth of course AB.

 $Az_{AB} = 234^{\circ}17'18'' + 151^{\circ}52'24'' + 100^{\circ}45'35'' - 360^{\circ} = 126^{\circ}55'17''$ 

Step 2: Using the tabular method discussed in chapter five, compute preliminary azimuths for the remaining lines. The computations for this example are shown in Table 6.2. Figure 6.2 demonstrates the computations for line BC. Note that the azimuth of AB was recalculated as a check at the end of the table.



Figure 6.2 Computation of azimuth BC.

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# **6.4 DEPARTURES AND LATITUDES**

After balancing the angles and calculating preliminary azimuths (or bearings), traverse closure is checked by computing the departure and latitude of each line. As illustrated in Figure 6.3, the departure of a course is its orthographic projection on the east-west axis of the survey and is equal to the length of the course multiplied by the sine of its azimuth (or bearing) angle. Departures are sometimes called eastings or westings.



Figure 6.3 Departure and latitude of a line.

Also as shown in Figure 6.3, the latitude of a course is its orthographic projection on the northsouth axis of the survey, and is equal to the course length multiplied by the cosine of its azimuth (or bearing) angle. Latitude is also called northing or southing.

In equation form, the departure and latitude of a line are

departure = 
$$L \sin \alpha$$
  
latitude =  $L \cos \alpha$ 

where L is the horizontal length and the azimuth of the course. Departures and latitudes are merely changes in the X and Y components of a line in a rectangular grid system, sometimes referred to as  $\Delta X$  and  $\Delta Y$ . In traverse calculations, east departures and north latitudes are considered plus; west departures and south latitudes, minus. Azimuths (from north) used in computing departures and latitudes range from 0 to 360°, and the algebraic signs of sine and cosine functions automatically produce the proper algebraic signs of the departures and latitudes. Thus, a line with an azimuth of 126°55'17" has a positive departure and negative latitude (the sine at the azimuth is plus and the cosine minus); a course of 284°35′20″ azimuth has a negative departure and positive latitude. In using bearings for computing departures and latitudes, the angles are always between 0 and 90°; hence their sines and cosines are invariably positive. Proper algebraic signs of departures and latitudes must therefore be assigned on the basis of the bearing angle directions, so a NE bearing has a plus departure and latitude, a SW bearing gets a minus departure and latitude, and so on. Because computers and hand calculators automatically affix correct algebraic signs to departures and latitudes through the use of azimuth angle sines and cosines, it is more convenient to use azimuths than bearings for traverse computations.

# **6.5 DEPARTURE AND LATITUDE CLOSURE CONDITIONS**

For a closed-polygon traverse like that of Figure 6.4 (a), it can be reasoned that if all angles and distances were measured perfectly, the algebraic sum of the departures of all courses in the traverse should equal zero. Likewise, the algebraic sum of all latitudes should equal zero. And for closed link-type traverses like that of Figure 6.4(b), the algebraic sum of departures should equal the total difference in departure  $\Delta X$  between the starting and ending control points. The same condition applies to latitudes  $\Delta Y$  in a link traverse. Because the observations are not perfect and errors exist in the angles and distances, the conditions just stated rarely occur. The amounts by which they fail to be met are termed *departure misclosure* and *latitude misclosure*. Their values are computed by algebraically summing the departures and latitudes, and comparing the totals to the required conditions.



Figure 6.4 closed and open traverse

The magnitudes of the departure and latitude misclosures for closed polygon- type traverses give an "indication" of the precision that exists in the observed angles and distances. Large misclosures certainly indicate that either significant errors or even mistakes exist. Small misclosures usually mean the observed data are precise and free of mistakes, but it is not a guarantee that systematic or compensating errors do not exist.

# 6.6 TRAVERSE LINEAR MISCLOSURE AND RELATIVE PRECISION

Because of errors in the observed traverse angles and distances, if one were to begin at point A of a closed-polygon traverse like that of Figure 6.1, and progressively follow each course for its observed distance along its preliminary bearing or azimuth, one would finally return not to point A, but to some other nearby point A'. Point A' would be removed from A in an east-west direction by the departure misclosure, and in a north-south direction by the latitude misclosure. The distance between A and A' is termed the linear misclosure of the traverse. It is calculated from the following formula:

linear misclosure =  $\sqrt{(\text{departure misclosure})^2 + (\text{latitude misclosure})^2}$ 

The relative precision of a traverse is expressed by a fraction that has the linear misclosure as its numerator and the traverse perimeter or total length as its denominator, or

relative precision 
$$=$$
  $\frac{\text{linear misclosure}}{\text{traverse length}}$ 

The fraction that results from above Equation is then reduced to reciprocal form, and the denominator rounded to the same number of significant figures as the numerator. This is illustrated in the following example.

# Example 10.3

Based on the preliminary azimuths from Table 10.2 and lengths shown in Figure 6.1, calculate the departures and latitudes, linear misclosure, and relative precision of the traverse.

Station	Preliminary Azimuths	Length	Departure	Latitude
А	126°55′17″	647.25	517.451	-388.815
В	178°18′58″	203.03	5.966	-202.942
С	15°31′54″	720.35	192.889	694.045
D	284°35'20"	610.24	-590.565	153.708
Ε	206°09'42"	285.13	-125.715	-255.919
А		$\Sigma = 2466.00$	$\Sigma = 0.026$	$\Sigma = 0.077$

## Table 6.3 COMPUTATION OF DEPARTURES AND LATITUDES

#### Solution

In computing departures and latitudes, the data and results are usually listed in a standard tabular form, such as that shown in Table 10.3. The column headings and rulings save time and simplify checking.

In Table 10.3, taking the algebraic sum of east (+) and west (-) departures gives the misclosure, 0.026 ft. Also, summing north (+) and south (-) latitudes gives the misclosure in latitude, 0.077 ft. Linear misclosure is the hypotenuse of a small triangle with sides of 0.026 ft and 0.077 ft, and in this example its value is, by

linear misclosure = 
$$\sqrt{(0.026)^2 + (0.077)^2} = 0.081$$
 ft

The relative precision for this traverse is

relative precision 
$$=\frac{0.081}{2466.00}=\frac{1}{30,000}$$

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# 6.7 TRAVERSE ADJUSTMENT

For any closed traverse, the linear misclosure must be adjusted (or distributed) throughout the traverse to "close" or "balance" the figure. This is true even though the misclosure is negligible in plotting the traverse at map scale. There are several elementary methods available for traverse adjustment, but the one most commonly used is the compass rule (Bowditch method). As noted earlier, adjustment by least squares is a more advanced technique that can also be used.

# 6.7 Compass (Bowditch) Rule

The compass, or Bowditch, rule adjusts the departures and latitudes of traverse courses in proportion to their lengths. Although not as rigorous as the least-squares method, it does result in a logical distribution of misclosures. Corrections by this method are made according to the following rules:

correction in departure for AB =  $-\frac{\text{(total departure misclosure)}}{\text{traverse perimeter}}$  length of AB

correction in latitude for AB

 $= -\frac{(\text{total latitude misclosure})}{\text{traverse perimeter}} \text{ length of } AB$ 

Note that the algebraic signs of the corrections are opposite those of the respective misclosures.

# Example 6.4

Using the preliminary azimuths from Table 6.2 and lengths from Figure 6.1, compute departures and latitudes, linear misclosure, and relative precision. Balance the departures and latitudes using the compass rule.

# Solution

A tabular solution, which is somewhat different than that used in Example 6.3, is employed for computing departures and latitudes (see Table 6.4). To compute departure and latitude corrections by the compass rule, Equations mentioned above are used as demonstrated. The correction in departure for AB is:

$$-\left(\frac{0.026}{2466}\right)647.25 = -0.007 \text{ ft}$$

And the correction for the latitude of AB is

$$-\left(\frac{0.077}{2466}\right)647.25 = -0.020 \text{ ft}$$

The other corrections are likewise found by multiplying a constant—the ratio of misclosure in departure, and latitude, to the perimeter—by the successive course lengths.

InTable 6.4, the departure and latitude corrections are shown in parentheses above their unadjusted values. These corrections are added algebraically to their respective unadjusted values, and the corrected quantities tabulated in the "balanced" departure and latitude columns. A check is made of the computational process by algebraically summing the balanced departure and latitude columns to verify that each is zero. In these columns, if rounding off causes a small excess or deficiency, revising one of the corrections to make the closure perfect eliminates this. **Table 6.4 BALANCING DEPARTURES AND LATITUDES BY THE COMPASS** 

# (BOWDITCH) RULE

		, Length (ft)	Unadjusted		Balanced		Coordinates*	
F Station	Preliminary Azimuths		Departure	Latitude	Departure	Latitude	X (ft) (easting)	Y (ft) (northing)
А			(-0.007)	(-0.020)			10,000.00	5000.00
	126°55′17″	647.25	517.451	-388.815	517.444	-388.835		
В			(-0.002)	(-0.006)			10,517.44	4611.16
	178°18′58″	203.03	5.966	-202.942	5.964	-202.948		
С			(-0.008)	(-0.023)			10,523.41	4408.22
	15°31′54″	720.35	192.889	694.045	192.881	694.022		
D			(-0.006)	(-0.019)			10,716.29	5102.24
	284°35'20"	610.24	-590.565	153.708	-590.571	153.689		
Е			(-0.003)	(-0.009)			10,125.72	5255.93
	206°09′42″	285.13	-125.715	-255.919	-125.718	-255.928		
А							10,000.00	5000.00
	2	$\Sigma = 2466.00$	$\Sigma = 0.026$	$\Sigma = 0.077$	$\Sigma = 0.000$	$\Sigma = 0.000$		

\*Coordinates are rounded to same significance as observed lengths.

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Traversing

## **6.8 RECTANGULAR COORDINATES**

Rectangular X and Y coordinates of any point give its position with respect to an arbitrarily selected pair of mutually perpendicular reference axes. The X coordinate is the perpendicular distance, in feet or meters, from the point to the Y axis; the Y coordinate is the perpendicular distance to the X axis. Although the reference axes are discretionary in position, in surveying they are normally oriented so that the Y axis points north-south, with north the positive Y direction. The X axis runs east-west, with positive X being east. Given the rectangular coordinates of a number of points, their relative positions are uniquely defined.

Coordinates are useful in a variety of computations, including (1) determining lengths and directions of lines, and angles; (2) calculating areas of land parcels; (3) making certain curve calculations; and (4) locating inaccessible points. Coordinates are also advantageous for plotting maps.

Given the X and Y coordinates of any starting point A, the X coordinate of the next point B is obtained by adding the adjusted departure of course AB to  $X_A$ .

Likewise, the Y coordinate of B is the adjusted latitude of AB added to  $Y_A$ . In equation form this is

 $X_B = X_A + \text{departure } AB$  $Y_B = Y_A + \text{latitude} AB$ 

For closed polygons, the process is continued around the traverse, successively adding departures and latitudes until the coordinates of starting point A are recalculated. If these recalculated coordinates agree exactly with the starting ones, a check on the coordinates of all intermediate points is obtained (unless compensating mistakes have been made). For link traverses, after progressively computing coordinates for each station, if the calculated coordinates of the closing control point equal that point's control coordinates, a check is obtained.

#### Example 6.5

Using the balanced departures and latitudes obtained in Example 6.4 (see Table 6.4) and starting coordinates  $X_A = 10,000.00$  and  $Y_A = 5,000.00$  calculate coordinates of the other traverse points.

#### Solution

The process of successively adding balanced departures and latitudes to obtain coordinates is carried out in the two rightmost columns of Table 6.4. Note that the starting coordinates  $X_A = 10,000.00$  and  $Y_A = 5,000.00$  are recomputed at the end to provide a check. Note also that X and Y coordinates are frequently referred to as eastings and northings, respectively, as is indicated in Table 6.4.

## 6.9 ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR MAKING TRAVERSE COMPUTATIONS

Procedures for making traverse computations that vary somewhat from those described in preceding sections can be adopted. One alternative is to adjust azimuths or bearings rather than angles. Another is to apply compass rule corrections directly to coordinates. These procedures are described in the subsections that follow.

# 6.9.1 Balancing Angles by Adjusting Azimuths or Bearings

In this method, "unadjusted" azimuths or bearings are computed based on the observed angles. These azimuths or bearings are then adjusted to secure a geometric closure, and to obtain preliminary values for use in computing departures and latitudes. The method is equally applicable to closed-polygon traverses, like that of Figure 6.1, or to closed-link traverses, as shown in Figure 6.4(b) that begins on one control station and ends on another. The procedure of making the adjustment for angular misclosure in this manner will be explained by an example.

# Example 6.6

Table 6.5 lists observed angles to the right for the traverse of Figure below. The azimuths of lines and have known values of A-AzMk<sub>1</sub> and E-AzMk<sub>2</sub>, respectively. Compute unadjusted azimuths  $139^{\circ}05'45''$  and  $86^{\circ}20'47''$  balance them to obtain geometric closure. **Solution** 

From the observed angles of column (2) in Table 6.5, unadjusted azimuths have been calculated and are listed in column (3). Because of angular errors, the unadjusted azimuth of the final line E-AzMk<sub>2</sub> disagrees with its fixed value by  $0^{\circ}00'10''$ . This represents the angular misclosure, which is divided by 5, the number of observed angles, to yield a correction of -2'' per angle. The corrections to azimuths, which accumulate and increase by -2'' for each angle, are listed in column (4). Thus line AB, which is based on one observed angle, receives a -2'' correction; line BC which uses two observed angles, gets a -4'' correction; and so on. The final azimuth, E-Az Mk<sub>2</sub> receives a -10'' correction because all five observed angles have been included in its calculation. The corrected preliminary azimuths are listed in column 5.



Station (1)	Measured Angle* (2)	Unadjusted Azimuth (3)	Azimuth Correction (4)	Preliminary Azimuth (5)
Az MK1				
		319°05′45″		319°05′45″
А	283°50′10″			
		62°55′55″	-2″	62°55′53″
В	256°17′18″			
		139°13′13″	-4"	139°13'09"
С	98°12′36″			
		57°25′49″	-6"	57°25′43″
D	103°30'34″			
		340°56′23″	-8″	340°56′15″
Е	285°24′34″			
Az Mk <sub>2</sub>		86°20′57″	-10″	86°20′47″
			86°20′57″	
			- <u>86°20′47″</u>	
		miscl	$osure = 0^{\circ}00'10''$	
•	)	correction per angle	$= -10^{\circ}/5 = -2^{\circ}$	
Observed an	gies are angles to the	e right.		

# **Table 6.5 BALANCING TRAVERSE AZIMUTHS**

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# **6.9.2 Balancing Departures and Latitudes by Adjusting Coordinates**

In this procedure, commencing with the known coordinates of a beginning station, unadjusted departures and latitudes for each course are successively added to obtain "preliminary" coordinates for all stations. For closed-polygon traverses, after progressing around the traverse, preliminary coordinates are recomputed for the beginning station. The difference between the computed preliminary X coordinate at this station and its known X coordinate is the departure misclosure. Similarly, the disagreement between the computed preliminary Y coordinate for the beginning station and its known value is the latitude misclosure. Corrections for these misclosures can be calculated using compass-rule Equations and applied directly to the preliminary coordinates to obtain adjusted coordinates. The result is exactly the same as if departures and latitudes were first adjusted and coordinates computed from them, as was done in Examples 6.4 and 6.5.

Closed traverses can be similarly adjusted. For this type of traverse, unadjusted departures and latitudes are also successively added to the beginning station's coordinates to obtain preliminary coordinates for all points, including the final closing station. Differences in preliminary X and Y coordinates, and the corresponding known values for the closing station, represent the departure and latitude misclosures, respectively. These misclosures are distributed directly to preliminary coordinates using the compass rule to obtain final adjusted coordinates. The procedure will be demonstrated by an example.

# Example 6.7

Table 10.6 lists the preliminary azimuths (from Table 6.5) and observed lengths (in feet) for the traverse of Figure 6.4(b). The known coordinates of stations A and Eare  $X_A = 12,765.48$ ,  $Y_A = 43,280.21$ ,  $X_E = 14,797.12$  and  $Y_E = 44,384.51$  ft. Adjust this traverse for departure and latitude misclosures by making corrections to preliminary coordinates.

# Solution

From the lengths and azimuths listed in columns (2) and (3) of Table 6.6, departures and latitudes are computed and tabulated in columns (4) and (5). These unadjusted values are progressively added to the known coordinates of station A to obtain preliminary coordinates for all stations, including E, and are listed in columns (6) and (7). Comparing the preliminary X and Y coordinates of station E with its known values yields departure and latitude misclosures of +0.179 and -0.024 ft, respectively. From these values, the linear misclosure of 0.181 ft and relative precision of 1/21,000 are computed.

		Preliminary			Preliminary Coordinates (ft)		Corrections (ft)		Adjusted Coordinates*	
Station (1)	Length (ft) (2)	Azimuth (3)	Departure (4)	Latitude (5)	X (6)	Y (7)	X (8)	Y (9)	X (ft) (10)	Y (ft) (11)
A	1045.50	62°55′53″	930.978	475.762	12,765.48	43,280.21	-0.048	0.006	12,765.48	43,280.21
В	1007.38	139°13′09″	657.988	-762.802	13,696.458	43,755.972	(_0.048) _0.046	(0.006) 0.006	13,696.41	43,755.98
С	897.81	57°25′43″	756.604	483.336	14,354.446	42,993.170	(_0.094) _0.041	(0.012) 0.006	14,354.35	42,993.18
D	960.66	340°56′15″	-313.751	907.980	15,111.050	43,476.506	(_0.135) _0.044	(0.018) 0.006	15,110.92	43,476.52
Ε					14,797.299	44,384.486	(-0.179)	(0.024)	14,797.12	44,384.51
	$\Sigma = 3911.35$				- <u>14,797.12</u>	-44,384.51				
				Misclosures	+0.179	-0.024				
				linear precisio	$n = \sqrt{(0.179)^2}$	$(-0.024)^2 = 0.1$	181 fr			

**Table 6.6 TRAVERSE ADJUSTMENT BY COORDINATES** 

Linear precision =  $\sqrt{(0.179)^2 + (-0.024)^2} = 0.181$  ft 0.18]

Relative precision 
$$=\frac{0.181}{3911}=\frac{1}{21,000}$$

\*Adjusted coordinates are rounded to same significance as observed lengths.

Compass-rule corrections for each course are computed and listed in columns (8) and (9). Their cumulative values obtained by progressively adding the corrections are given in parentheses in columns (8) and (9). Finally, by applying the cumulative corrections to the preliminary coordinates of columns 6 and 7, final adjusted coordinates (rounded to the nearest hundredth of a foot) listed in columns (10) and (11) are obtained.

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# 6.10 INVERSING

If the departure and latitude of a line AB are known, its length and azimuth or bearing are readily obtained from the following relationships:

$$\tan \operatorname{azimuth} (\operatorname{or bearing}) AB = \frac{\operatorname{departure} AB}{\operatorname{latitude} AB}$$
$$\operatorname{length} AB = \frac{\operatorname{departure} AB}{\operatorname{sin azimuth} (\operatorname{or bearing}) AB}$$
$$= \frac{\operatorname{latitude} AB}{\operatorname{cos azimuth} (\operatorname{or bearing}) AB}$$
$$= \sqrt{(\operatorname{departure} AB)^2 + (\operatorname{latitude} AB)^2}$$

Equations above can be written to express departures and latitudes in terms of coordinate differences  $\Delta X$  and  $\Delta Y$  as follows

departure<sub>AB</sub> = 
$$X_B - X_A = \Delta X$$
  
latitude<sub>AB</sub> =  $Y_B - Y_A = \Delta Y$ 

**Substituting Equations** 

tan azimuth (or bearing)
$$AB = \frac{X_B - X_A}{Y_B - Y_A} = \frac{\Delta X}{\Delta Y}$$
  
length  $AB = \frac{X_B - X_A (\text{or } \Delta X)}{\text{sin azimuth (or bearing)} AB}$   
 $= \frac{Y_B - Y_A (\text{or } \Delta Y)}{(\text{cos azimuth (or bearing)} AB)}$   
 $= \sqrt{(X_B - X_A)^2 + (Y_B - Y_A)^2}$   
 $= \sqrt{(\Delta X)^2 + (\Delta Y)^2}$ 

Equations above can be applied to any line whose coordinates are known, whether or not it was actually observed in the survey. Note that  $X_B$  and  $Y_B$  must be listed first in Equations above, so that  $\Delta X$  and  $\Delta Y$  will have the correct algebraic signs. Computing lengths and directions of lines from departures and latitudes, or from coordinates, is called inversing.

### 6.11 COMPUTING FINAL ADJUSTED TRAVERSE LENGTHS AND DIRECTIONS

In traverse adjustments, as illustrated in Examples 8.4 and 6.7, corrections are applied to the computed departures and latitudes to obtain adjusted values. These in turn are used to calculate X and Y coordinates of the traverse stations. By changing departures and latitudes of lines in the adjustment process, their lengths and azimuths (or bearings) also change. In many types of surveys, it is necessary to compute the changed, or "final adjusted," lengths and directions. For example, if the purpose of the traverse was to describe the boundaries of a parcel of land, the final adjusted lengths and directions would be used in the recorded deed. The equations developed in the preceding section permit computation of final values for lengths and directions of traverse lines based either on their adjusted departures and latitudes or on their final coordinates.

## Example 6.8

Calculate the final adjusted lengths and azimuths of the traverse of Example 6.4 from the adjusted departures and latitudes listed in Table 6.4.

# Solution

Equations above are applied to calculate the adjusted length and azimuth of line AB. All others were computed in the same manner. The results are listed in Table 6.7.

Table 6.7 FINAL ADJUSTED LENGTHS AND DIRECTIONS FOR TRAVERSE OFEXAMPLE 6.4

	Bala	nced	Balanced			
Line	Departure	Latitude	Length (ft)	Azimuth		
AB	517.444	-388.835	647.26	126°55'23"		
BC	5.964	-202.948	203.04	178°19'00"		
CD	192.881	694.022	720.33	15°31′54″		
DE	-590.571	153.689	610.24	284°35′13″		
EA	-125.718	-255.928	285.14	206°09'41"		

 $\tan \text{ azimuth}_{AB} = \frac{517.444}{-388.835} = -1.330755;$  $\text{azimuth}_{AB} = -53^{\circ}04'37'' + 180^{\circ} = 126^{\circ}55'23''$ 

$$\text{length}_{AB} = \sqrt{(517.444)^2 + (-388.835)^2} = 647.26 \text{ ft}$$

Comparing the observed lengths of Table 6.4 to the final adjusted values in Table 6.7, it can be seen that, as expected, the values have undergone small changes, some increasing, others decreasing, and length DE remaining the same because of compensating changes.

### Example 10.9

Using coordinates, calculate adjusted lengths and azimuths for the traverse of Example 10.7 (see Table 10.6).

### Solution

Equations are used to demonstrate calculation of the adjusted length and azimuth of line AB. All others were computed in the same way. The results are listed in Table 6.8. Comparing the adjusted lengths and azimuths of this table with their unadjusted values of Table 6.6 reveals that all values have undergone changes of varying amounts.

$$X_B - X_A = 13,696.41 - 12,765.48 = 930.93 = \Delta X$$
  

$$Y_B - Y_A = 43,755.98 - 43,280.21 = 475.77 = \Delta Y$$
  
tan azimuth<sub>AB</sub> = 930.93/475.77 = 1.95668075; azimuth<sub>AB</sub> = 62°55'47".

$$\text{length}_{AB} = \sqrt{(930.93)^2 + (475.77)^2} = 1045.46 \,\text{ft.}$$

Line	Adju	usted	Adjusted		
	$\Delta X$	ΔΥ	Length (ft)	Azimuth	
AB	930.93	475.77	1045.46	62°55′47″	
BC	657.94	-762.80	1007.35	139°13′16″	
CD	756.57	483.34	897.78	57°25'38"	
DE	-313.80	907.99	960.68	340°56′06″	

 Table 6.8 Final Adjusted Lengths and Directions for Traverse of Example 10.7