

Outline

1. Overview of related rates.
2. Jack the Ripper.
3. Gulf of Sidra.

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Do-over test:

Wednesday

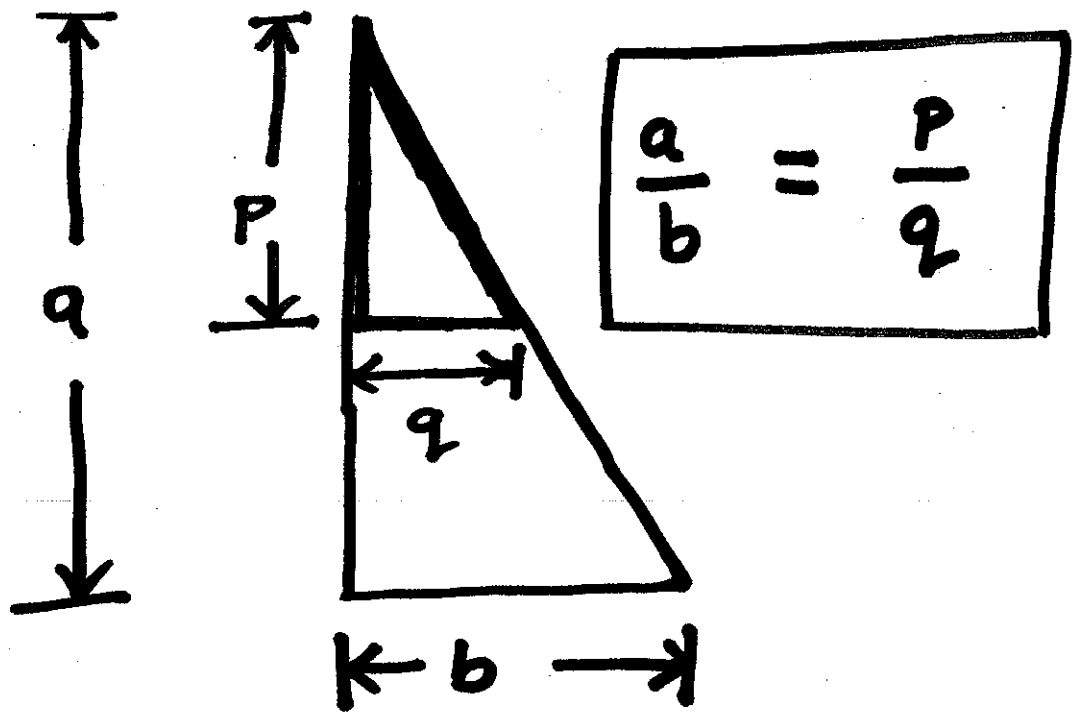
8-9 pm

9-10 pm

1212 Doherty.

1. Structure of Related Rates Problems

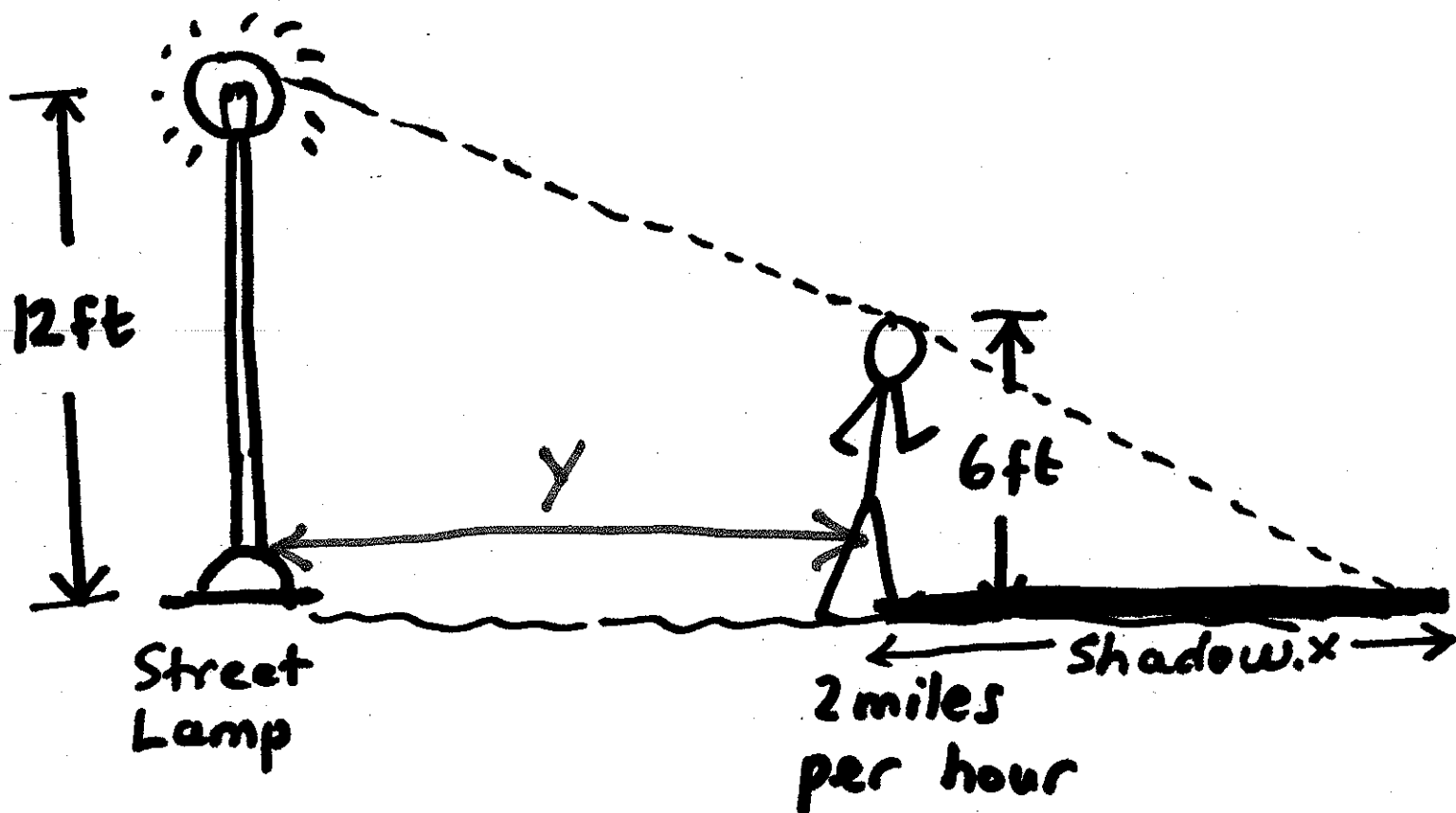
- Overall strategy:
 - (a) Figure out what rate we need to find. (Say dy/dt).
 - (b) Figure out what rate we are given (say dx/dt).
 - (c) Find an equation that connects the quantities $x(t)$ and $y(t)$.
 - Volume and area formulas.
 - Trigonometric formulas.
 - Pythagoras $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$
 - Similar triangles.



(d) Differentiate the equation so that it becomes an equation relating $\frac{dx}{dt}$ and $\frac{dy}{dt}$.

(e) Solve for the derivate / rate you need, i.e. $\frac{dy}{dt}$.

Example



$$\frac{10560}{3600} = 2.93 \text{ ft/s.}$$

When he is 30 ft from the lamp, how quickly is his shadow growing?

Solution

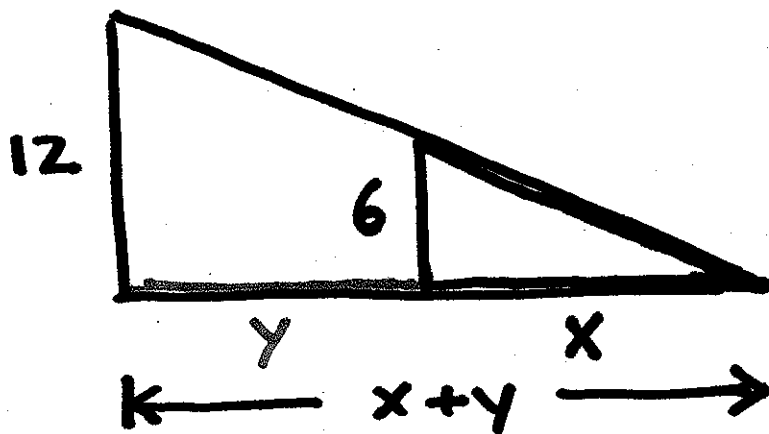
We want the rate of change of the length of the shadow.

$x =$ length of shadow (feet).

Want: dx/dt .

$y =$ distance from lamp to person (feet).

Have: $dy/dt = 2.93$ ft/s.



Similar Triangles : $\frac{x+y}{12} = \frac{x}{6}$

$$x + y = 2x$$

$$y = x$$

$$y(t) = x(t).$$

Take derivatives:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} y'(t) &= x'(t) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= \frac{dx}{dt} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{only one} \\ \text{of these} \\ \text{necessary} \end{array}$$

Want: $\frac{dx}{dt}$

Have: $\frac{dy}{dt} = 2.93 \text{ ft/s}$

Answer: $\frac{dx}{dt} = 2.93 \text{ ft/s.}$

looms, almost gripping her with sinister, unholy power. Her pretty face contorts in a paroxysm of fear, her lips tremble, too afraid to scream. He is upon her. Darkness descends, and the caped figure dissolves into the mist, phantasmal, leaving death and depravity in its evil wake.

One of the effects that contributes to the atmosphere, suspense and a palpable sense of menace is the way that the murderer's shadow seems to move forward at a much faster rate than the person is actually walking. In this handout, you will use derivatives and the Principle of Similar Triangles to determine why this happens.

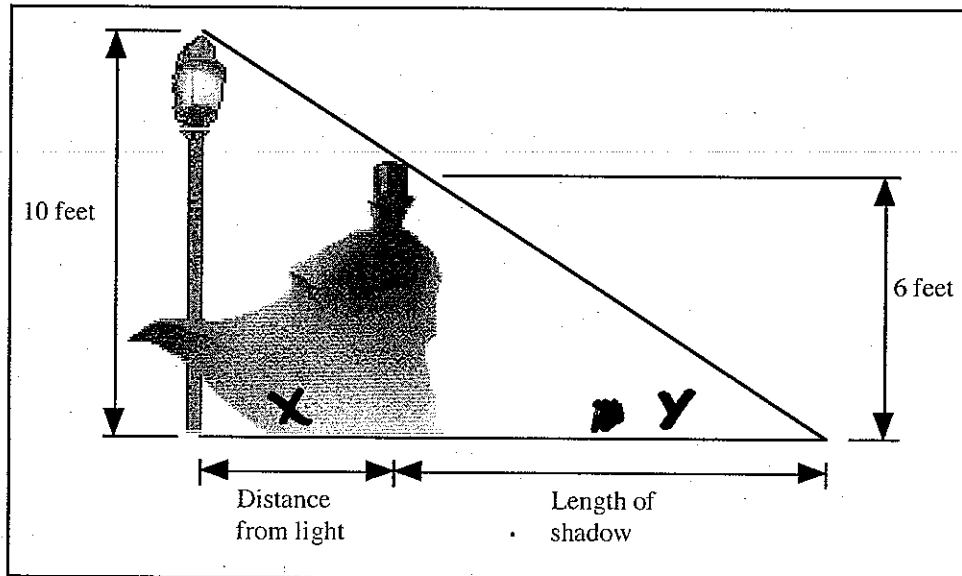


Figure 4: The killer walks away from the street lamp.

- Figure 4 shows the situation as the killer walks away from the street lamp. The lamp is 18 feet tall, and the killer (including top hat) is 6 feet tall. If x represents the killer's distance from the street lamp in feet and y represents the length of the killer's shadow in feet, find a relationship between x and y .

~~$$\frac{18}{x+y} = \frac{6}{y}$$~~

$$\frac{x+y}{10} = \frac{y}{6}$$

~~$$6x + 6y = 10y$$~~

$$6x = 4y$$

$$x = \frac{2}{3}y$$

$$y = \frac{3}{2}x$$

2. A normal human walking speed is about 4 feet per second. If this is how fast the killer is walking, how would you represent this fact using the symbols defined in Question 1 and derivatives?

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 4 \text{ ft/s.}$$

3. The ultimate objective of this problem is to find out how quickly the length of the killer's shadow grows. What quantity or derivative do you need to calculate?

$$\frac{dy}{dt}$$

4. Find a relationship between the derivatives $\frac{dx}{dt}$ and $\frac{dy}{dt}$.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

5. How quickly (in units of feet per second) is the killer's shadow growing when he is ten feet from the street lamp?

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 6 \text{ ft/s.}$$

Handout 9: The Gulf of Sidra Incident



Figure 1: Libyan President Colonel Muammar Abu Minyar al-QADHAFI, better known to the west as Gadaffi.

In 1981 Colonel Gadaffi (the President of Libya - see Figure 1¹) claimed the entire Gulf of Sidra as Libyan territorial waters (see Figure 2²).

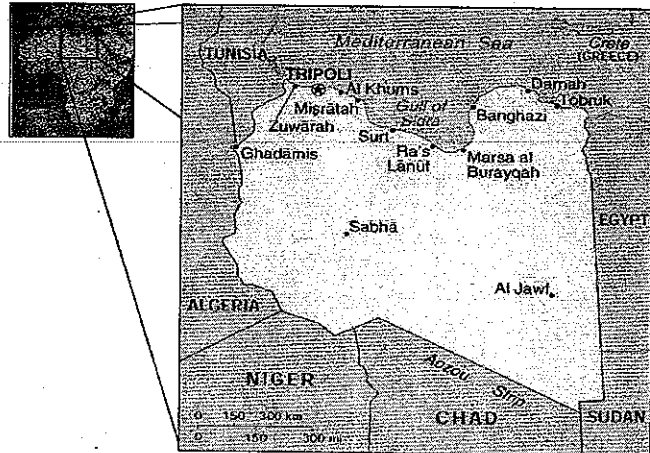


Figure 2: Location of the Northern African nation of Libya and the Gulf of Sidra.

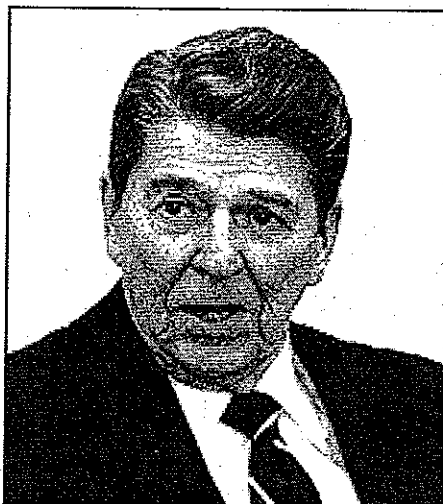


Figure 3: Former US President Ronald Reagan.

This action was not in accord with international laws, and President Reagan (see Figure 3³) challenged this position by conducting naval exercises in the Gulf⁴.

The admiral commanding these naval forces ordered F-14's (see Figure 4⁵) to patrol at a distance of ten miles from the Libyan coast. Any unidentified aircraft crossing the Libyan coast at a speed of greater than 500 miles per hour was to be treated as hostile.

Figure 5 (see next page) shows one of the situations that developed during this crisis. An F-14 was circling (essentially remaining near the same spot) at an altitude of approximately 5.7 miles. When the F-14 was 10 miles (diagonal distance) from the coast, its AWG-9 air search radar detected an object moving rapidly across the Libyan coastline.

¹ Image source: <http://www.goal.com/es/esp/>

² Image sources: CIA World Factbook, 2002. and <http://www.africaguide.com/>

³ Image source: http://reagan.webteamone.com/reagan_images.cfm

⁴ Throughout these exercises, Libyan and US forces antagonized each other by approaching with every indication that they were preparing to attack. The most serious incident occurred on August 19, 1981, when a pair of Libyan Su-22 "Fitter" aircraft approached a pair of US Navy F-14's and fired an air-to-air missile. Both F-14's easily evaded the missile and returned fire destroying both Libyan aircraft.

⁵ Image source: US Navy, <http://www.navy.mil/>

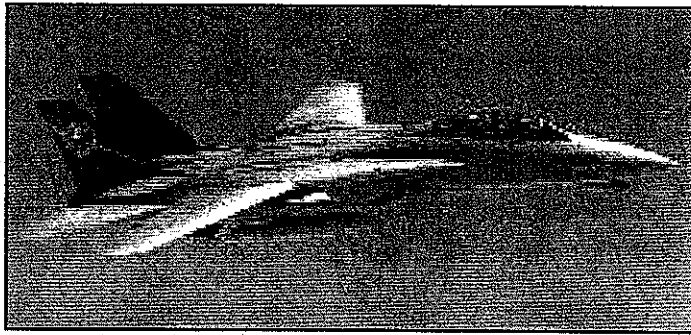


Figure 4: The F-14 Tomcat Fleet Defense Interceptor

The AWG-9 measures the rate at which the distance between the F-14 and the target changes. In this situation, the AWG-9 measured the rate of change of this distance to be 420 miles per hour.

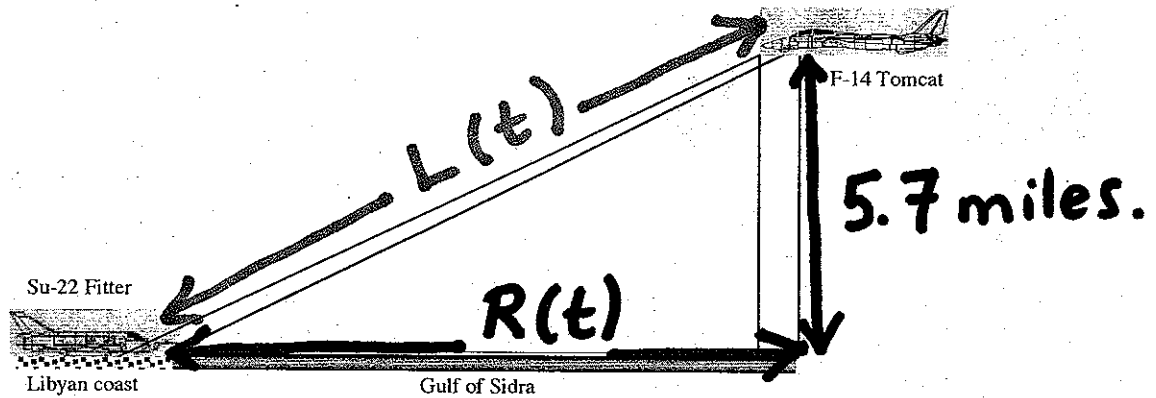


Figure 5: The situation at the start of the engagement.



Figure 6: A pair of Libyan Su-22 "Fitter" aircraft flying over a coastal region near the Gulf of Sidra.

In 1981, the Libyan airforce included a number of high performance Soviet made aircraft such as the Su-22 "Fitter" (see Figure 6⁶). The top speed⁷ of the Su-22 was approximately 1380 miles per hour.

⁶ Image source: <http://www.tbe.aims.on.ca/keele/emir/su-22.htm>

⁷ Source: <http://www.acrospaceweb.org/>

In this handout, you will analyze the mathematics that the computer on the F-14 performed to convert the information from the AWG-9 radar into information about the speed of the object that the F-14 detected. When you have finished doing this, you will be able to decide whether the radar contact should be classified as "hostile" or not.

Let t represent the number of seconds that have elapsed since the F-14 first detected the target. Let $L(t)$ represent the diagonal distance (the length of the hypotenuse of the triangle in Figure 5) between the F-14 and the object. Let $R(t)$ represent the horizontal distance between the F-14 and the object (i.e. the length of the base of the triangle in Figure 5).

1. Using the quantities defined above to express your answer, what rate of change does the AWG-9 radar measure?

$$L'(t) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dL}{dt}.$$

2. Using the quantities defined above to express your answer, what is the air speed of the object that the F-14 detected?

$$R'(t) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dR}{dt}.$$

3. Using Figure 5, find a relationship between the functions $R(t)$ and $L(t)$. Use this relationship to find a relationship between the derivatives $R'(t)$ and $L'(t)$.

Pythagorean Theorem.

$$(R(t))^2 + (5.7)^2 = (L(t))^2$$

$$2 \cdot R(t) \cdot R'(t) + 0 = 2 \cdot L(t) \cdot L'(t)$$

$$R'(t) = \frac{L(t)}{R(t)} \cdot L'(t)$$

$$R(t) = \sqrt{L(t)^2 - 5.7^2}$$

4. This incident occurred when the diagonal distance between the F-14 and the Libyan coast was 10 miles. What was the horizontal distance between the F-14 and the object at the moment when the object crossed the Libyan coastline?

$$R(t) = \sqrt{10^2 - 5.7^2} \approx 8.216 \text{ miles}$$

5. Use your answers to Questions 1-4, along with any other relevant information from the introduction, to calculate the air speed of the object as it crossed the Libyan coastline. In the actual incident, the F-14 crew classified the contact as hostile. Was their decision justified?

$$R'(t) = \frac{10}{8.216} (420) \approx 511.17 \text{ miles/hour}$$

The decision was justified.