

Astronomical surveying

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Celestial Sphere: An imaginary sphere of infinite radius with the earth at its centre and other celestial bodies studded on its inside surface is known as celestial sphere.



Terrestrial Sphere: The terrestrial sphere is a concept derived from Greek astronomy and is supposedly the region of space from the earth to the moon, consisting of the four classical elements: earth, water, air and fire.

Great circle divides the sphere in two equal hemispheres.

Great Circle: (G.C): The imaginary line of intersection of an infinite plane, passing through the centre of the earth and the circumference of the celestial sphere is known as Great circle.

Terrestrial Poles: The terrestrial poles are the two points in which the earth's axis of rotation meets the earth's sphere.

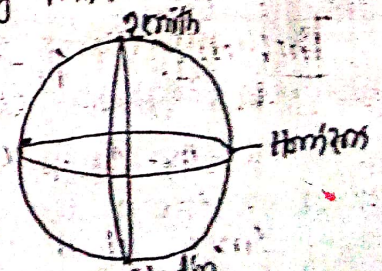
Celestial poles: If the earth's axis of rotation is produced indefinitely, it will meet the celestial sphere in two points called the north and south celestial poles.

Terrestrial equator: The terrestrial equator is the great-circle of the earth, the plane of which is at right angles to the axis of rotation. The two poles are equidistant from it.

Celestial Equator: The celestial equator is the great circle of the celestial sphere in which it is represented by intersection of the plane of terrestrial equator.

Zenith: Zenith is the point on the upper portion of celestial sphere above the observer.

Nadir: Nadir is the point on the lower portion of celestial sphere below the observer.



Horizon always perpendicular to the Zenith-Nadir line.

Altitude (α) The altitude of celestial or heavenly body is the distance above the horizon, measured in the vertical circle the body.

Latitude: It is the angular distance of any place on the earth's surface north or south of the equator and is measured on the meridian of the place. It is marked + or - or N or S according as the place is north or south of the equator. The latitude may also be defined as the angle between the zenith and the celestial sphere. It is denoted by θ .

Co-latitude The co-latitude of a place is the angular distance from the zenith to the pole. It is the complement of the latitude and equal to $(90^\circ - \theta)$.

Longitude: The longitude of a place is the angle between a fixed reference meridian called the prime or first meridian and the meridian of the place. The prime meridian universally adopted is that of Greenwich. The longitude of any place varies between 0° to 180° , and is marked by ϕ° east or west of Greenwich.

Problem Difference in longitude between two place A and B

$$A = 20^\circ E$$

$$B = 15^\circ W$$

East $+$
West $-$ Longitude

Solution

Given $\phi_1 = +20^\circ$

$$\phi_2 = -15^\circ$$

N $+$
S $-$ Latitude

Difference in longitude between A and B

$$\phi_1 - \phi_2 = 20 - (-15) = 35^\circ$$

Problem

$$\phi_1 = 40^\circ E, \phi_2 = 150^\circ W$$

$$\phi_1 - \phi_2 = 40^\circ - (-150^\circ) = 190^\circ$$

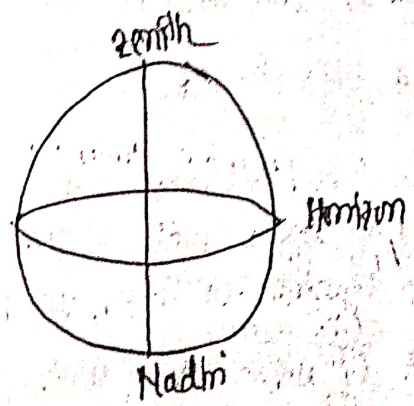
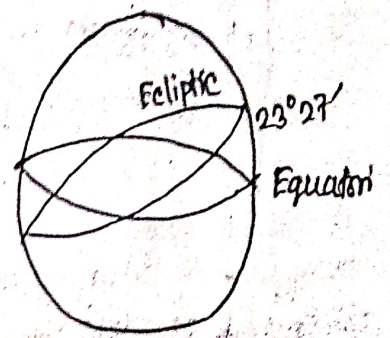
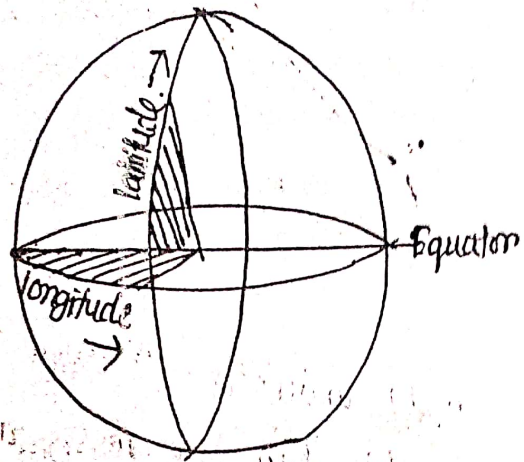
Since it is greater than 180° , it represents the obtuse angular difference. The acute angular difference between A and B is equal to $(360^\circ - 190^\circ) = 170^\circ$.

Observer's meridian

The meridian of any particular point is that circle which passes through the zenith and Nadir of the point as well as through the poles. It is also a vertical circle. Elliptic is a great circle of heavens.

Obliquity of Ecliptic

The angle in which the plane of the ecliptic is inclined to the plane of the equator is called obliquity of Ecliptic. The angle is about 23° 27'.



The Nautical mile

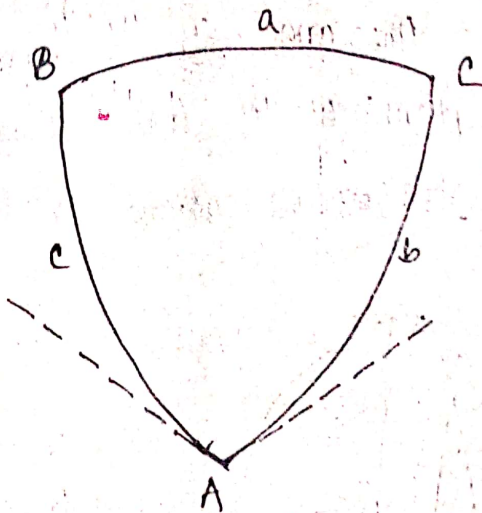
A nautical mile is equal to the distance on an arc of the great circle corresponding to an angle of 1 minute subtended by the arc at the centre of the earth.

Radius of earth = 6370 km

$$\begin{aligned} \text{One nautical mile} &= \frac{\text{Circumference of the great circle}}{360 \times 60} \\ &= \frac{2\pi \times 6370}{360 \times 60} = 1.852 \text{ km} \end{aligned}$$

Spherical triangle

A spherical triangle is that triangle which is formed upon the surface of the sphere by intersection of three arcs of great circles and the angle formed by the arcs at the vertices of the triangle are called the spherical triangle.



Properties of spherical triangle

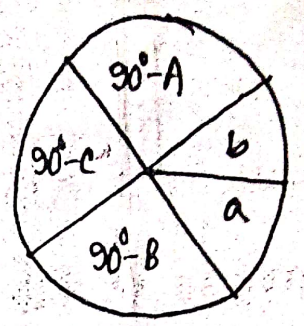
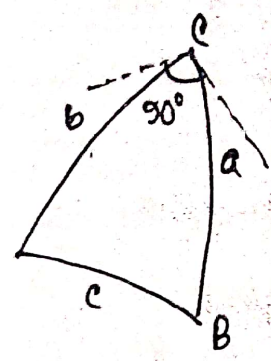
- (i) Any angle is less than two right angles or π .
- (ii) The sum of three angles is less than six right angles or 3π and greater than two right angles or π .
- (iii) The sum of any two sides is greater than the third.
- (iv) If the sum of any two sides is equal to two right angles or π , the sum of the angles opposite them is equal to two right angles or π .
- (v) The smaller angle is opposite the smaller side and vice versa.

Naper Rule

Definition of Right angled spherical triangle

Let ABC be a spherical triangle & right angled at C. Napier defines the circular part as follows.

- (i) the side a to one side of the right angle
- (ii) the side b to other side of right angle
- (iii) The complement $(90^\circ - A)$ of the angle A
- (iv) The complement $(90^\circ - c)$ of the side c
- (v) The complement $(90^\circ - B)$ of the angle B.



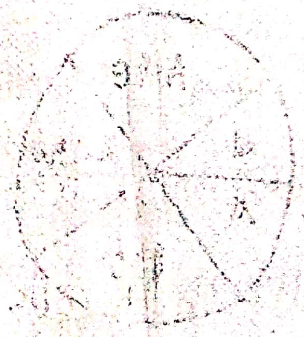
Napier rule

sine of middle part = product of tangent of adjacent part.
 sine of middle part = product of cosine of opposite part.

Thus,

$$\sin b = \tan a \tan (90^\circ - A)$$

$$\sin b = \cos (90^\circ - B) \cos (90^\circ - C)$$



Sidereal time

The sidereal day is the interval of time between two successive upper transits of the first point of Aries.

Solar Apparent Time

A solar day is the interval of time that elapses between two successive lower transits of the sun's centres over the meridian of the place. The lower transit is chosen in order that the date may change at mid-night. The solar time at any instant is the hour angle of the sun's centre reckoned westward from 0h to 24h. This is called the apparent solar time.

Mean Solar Time

The mean solar day may be defined as the interval between successive transit of the mean sun. The mean solar day may be defined as the interval between successive transit of the mean sun. The mean solar day is the average of all the apparent solar days of the year.

$$\text{Equation of time} = \text{Apparent solar time} - \text{Mean solar time}$$

Standard Time

In order to avoid confusion arising from the use of different local mean time it is necessary to adopt the mean time on a particular meridian as the standard time for the whole of the country.

For places East of the standard meridian, local mean time is later (greater) than standard time.

For places West of the standard meridian, local mean time is earlier (less).

Civil Time universal time \Rightarrow

0hr - 15min - 30sec PM

0hr - 15min - 30sec PM

Astronomical time

0hr - 15min - 30sec

12hr - 15min - 30sec

The Earth: The Earth is considered approximately spherical in shape. But actually it is very approximately an oblate spheroid. The earth is flattened at poles - its diameter along the polar axis being lesser than its diameter at the equator. The diameter along the polar axis is 6357 km and the diameter at the equator is 6378 km.

The sun: The sun is at a distance of 93005000 miles from the earth. The distance is only about $\frac{1}{250000}$ of that of the nearest star. The diameter of the sun is about 109 times the diameter of the earth. The mass of the sun is about 332000 times that of the earth. The temperature at the centre of the sun is computed to be about 20 million degrees.

Measurement of time

Time is the interval which lapses between any two instants.

G.M.T. = Greenwich Mean Time

G.A.T. = Greenwich Apparent Time

L.A.N. = Local Apparent Noon

L.Std.T. = Local Standard Time.

L.M.T. = Local Mean Time

L.A.T. = Local Apparent Time.

L.S.T. = Local Sidereal Time

L.M.M. = Local Mean Midnight

AM = Antimeridian
PM = Postmeridian

$$360^\circ = 24 \text{ hr}$$

$$1 \text{ hr} = \frac{360}{24} = 15^\circ$$

$$1 \text{ min} = \frac{15 \times 60}{60} = 15'$$

$$1 \text{ sec} = \frac{15 \times 60}{60} = 15''$$

$$1^\circ = \frac{24 \times 60}{360} = 4 \text{ min}$$

Units of Time

There are the following systems used for measuring time

- (i) sidereal Time
- (ii) solar Apparent Time
- (iii) Mean solar time
- (iv) standard Time.

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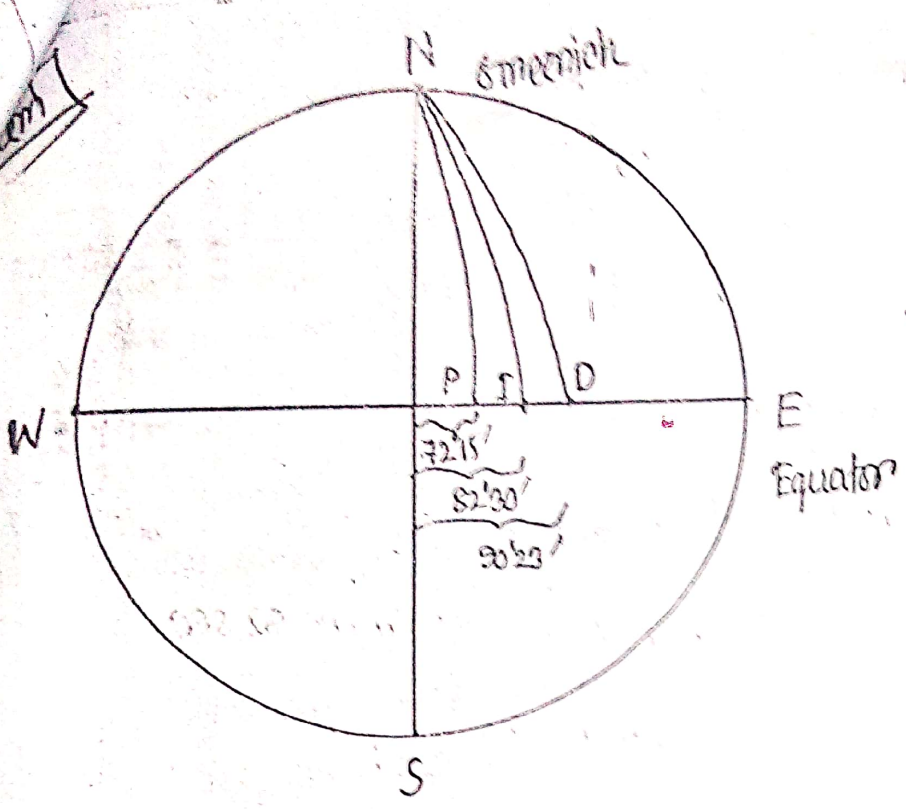
For places West of the standard meridian, local mean time is earlier (less).

Civil Time universal time \Rightarrow

0hr - 15min - 30sec AM
0hr - 15min - 30sec PM

Astronomical time

0hr - 15min - 30sec
12hr - 15min - 30sec



WS - longitude
 NS = latitude

Parallel latitude same
 But different longitude

P = longitude $72^{\circ}15' E$
 I = longitude $82^{\circ}30' E$
 D = longitude $90^{\circ}23' E$

India @ standard time 20hr 24m 6sec east Pakistan @ Dhaka @ 00

India = 20hr 24m 6sec (Astronomical time)
 = 8hr 24m 6sec PM (civil time)

$$360^{\circ} = 24 \text{ hr}$$

$$1^{\circ} = \frac{24 \times 60}{360}$$

$$= 4 \text{ min}$$

Difference in longitude = $82^{\circ}30' - 72^{\circ}15'$
 = $10^{\circ}15'$

$$10^{\circ} = \frac{10^{\circ}}{15} = 0 \text{ hr } 40 \text{ m } 0 \text{ s}$$

$$15' = 1 \text{ min}$$

$$10^{\circ}15' = 41 \text{ min}$$

1 hr = 15°
 1 min = 15'
 1 sec = 15''

Time at Pakistan = 8hr 24m 6sec - 41min 0s

$$= 7 \text{ hr } 43 \text{ min } 6 \text{ sec}$$

Difference in longitude = $90^{\circ}23' - 82^{\circ}30'$
 $= 7^{\circ}53'$

$7^{\circ} = \frac{7^{\circ}}{15} = 0\text{hr } 28\text{min } 0\text{sec}$

$53' = 3\text{min } 32\text{sec}$

$7^{\circ}53' = 31\text{min } 32\text{sec}$

Time at Dhaka = $8\text{hr } 24\text{min } 6\text{sec} + 31\text{min } 32\text{sec}$
 $= \boxed{8\text{hr } 55\text{min } 38\text{sec}}$

convert to hour, degree, minute second.

$\boxed{50^{\circ}12'48''} =$

$50^{\circ} = \frac{50^{\circ}}{15} = 3\text{hr } 20\text{min } 0\text{sec}$

$12' = \frac{12'}{15} = 0\text{min } 48\text{sec}$

$48'' = \frac{48''}{15} = 3.2\text{sec}$

$\boxed{50^{\circ}12'48'' = 3\text{hr } 20\text{min } 51.2\text{sec}}$

$\boxed{4\text{hr } 34\text{min } 13\text{sec}}$

$\boxed{15^{\circ}}$

$4\text{hr} = 4 \times 15 = 60^{\circ} = 60^{\circ}0'0''$

$\boxed{0^{\circ}15'}$

$34\text{min} = 34 \times 15'' = 8^{\circ}30'$

$\boxed{0^{\circ}0'15''}$

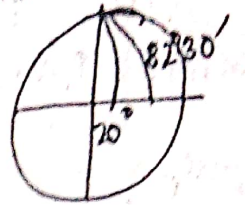
$13\text{sec} = 13 \times 15'' = 0^{\circ}3'15''$

$\boxed{68^{\circ}33'15''}$

The standard time meridian in India is $82^{\circ}30'E$. If the standard time at any instant is 20 hours 24 minutes 6 sec. Find the local mean time for two places having longitudes a) $20^{\circ}E$ b) $20^{\circ}W$

Solution

a) Difference in longitude = $82^{\circ}30' - 20^{\circ}$
 $= 62^{\circ}30'$



20 hr 24 m 6 sec (Astron)

= 8 hr 24 m 6 sec PM (LT)

$62^{\circ} = \frac{62^{\circ}}{15} = 4 \text{ hr } 8 \text{ min } 0 \text{ sec}$

$30' = \frac{30'}{15} = 2 \text{ min}$

$62^{\circ}30' = \boxed{4 \text{ hr } 10 \text{ min } 0 \text{ sec}}$

^{G.T}
 East 2 2hr West 2hr

East	2 2hr	West	2hr
West	2 2hr	East	2hr

East 2hr ⊕
 West 2hr ⊖

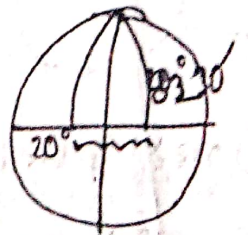
~~L.M.T = Standard time~~

L.M.T = 8 hr 24 m 6 sec - 4 hr 10 min 0 sec

= $\boxed{4 \text{ hr } 14 \text{ min } 6 \text{ sec PM}}$

b)

Difference in longitude = $82^{\circ}30' + 20^{\circ}$
 $= 102^{\circ}30'$



The meridian is $\boxed{\text{West}}$ to the standard meridian.

$102^{\circ} = 6 \text{ hr } 48 \text{ min } 0 \text{ sec}$

$30' = 2 \text{ min}$

$102^{\circ}30' = \boxed{6 \text{ hr } 50 \text{ min } 0 \text{ sec}}$

L.M.T = 8 hr 24 m 6 sec - 6 hr 50 min 0 sec

= $\boxed{1 \text{ hr } 34 \text{ min } 6 \text{ sec PM}}$

L.M.T = Standard time + longitude (E/W)

L.M.T = Standard time - longitude (E/W)

Example

find the G.M.T corresponding to following L.M.T.

- (a) 9hr 40min 12sec AM at a place in longitude $42^{\circ} 36' W$
- (b) 4hr 32min 10sec AM at a place in longitude $56^{\circ} 32' E$

$$\boxed{G.M.T = L.M.T \pm \text{longitude } \left(\frac{W}{E}\right)}$$

west \oplus

East \ominus

(a)

$$\boxed{42^{\circ} 36'}$$

$$42^{\circ} = 2 \text{ hr } 48 \text{ min } 0 \text{ sec}$$

$$36' = 2 \text{ min } 24 \text{ sec}$$

$$42^{\circ} 36' = \boxed{2 \text{ hr } 50 \text{ min } 24 \text{ sec}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} G.M.T &= \cancel{9 \text{ hr } 40 \text{ min } 12 \text{ sec}} + \text{L.M.T} + \text{longitude (W)} \\ &= 9 \text{ hr } 40 \text{ min } 12 \text{ sec} + 2 \text{ hr } 50 \text{ min } 24 \text{ sec} \\ &= 12 \text{ hr } 30 \text{ min } 36 \text{ sec PM} \\ &= \boxed{0 \text{ hr } 30 \text{ min } 36 \text{ sec}} \text{ PM} \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$56^{\circ} 32' \quad 56^{\circ} = 3 \text{ hr } 44 \text{ min } 0 \text{ sec} \quad 32' = 2 \text{ min } 8 \text{ sec}$$

$$56^{\circ} 32' = 3 \text{ hr } 46 \text{ min } 8 \text{ sec}$$

$$\begin{aligned} G.M.T &= \cancel{4 \text{ hr}} \text{ L.M.T} - \text{longitude (E)} \\ &= \cancel{4 \text{ hr } 32 \text{ min } 10 \text{ sec}} - 3 \text{ hr } 46 \text{ min } 8 \text{ sec} \\ &= 4 \text{ hr } 32 \text{ min } 10 \text{ sec} - 3 \text{ hr } 46 \text{ min } 8 \text{ sec} \\ &= \boxed{0 \text{ hr } 46 \text{ min } 2 \text{ s}} \text{ (AM)} \end{aligned}$$

calculate the distance in kilometers between two points A and B

parallel of latitude, given that

lat. of A, $28^{\circ}42'N$; longitude of A, $31^{\circ}12'W$

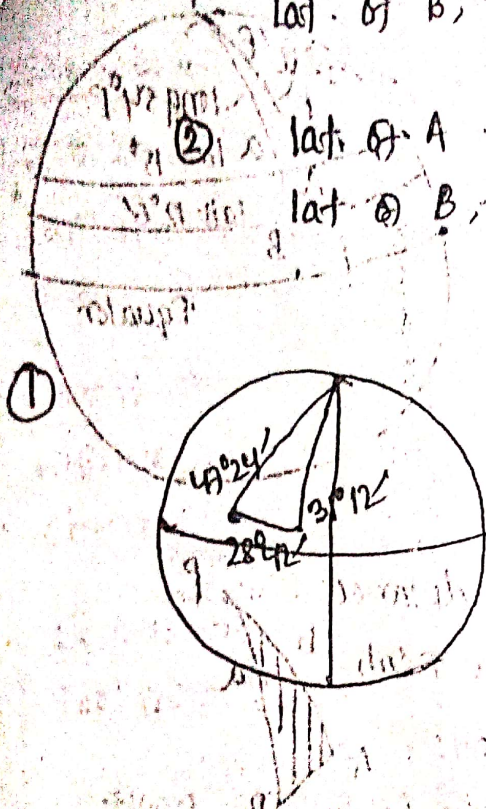
lat. of B, $28^{\circ}42'N$ longitude of B, $47^{\circ}24'W$

lat. of A $12^{\circ}36'S$

longitude of $115^{\circ}6'W$

lat. of B, $12^{\circ}36'S$

longitude of $150^{\circ}24'E$



The distance in nautical miles between A and B along the parallel of latitude
 = Difference in longitude in minute $\times \cos$ latitude

$$\text{Difference in longitude} = (47^{\circ}24' - 31^{\circ}12') = 16^{\circ}12' = 972 \text{ minutes}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Distance} &= 972 \cos 28^{\circ}42' = 852.58 \text{ nautical miles} \\ &= 852.58 \times 1.852 = 1578.98 \text{ km} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{1 \text{ nautical mile} = 1.852 \text{ km}}$$

$$\text{(2) Difference in longitude} = 360^{\circ} - (150^{\circ}24' - 115^{\circ}6') = 94^{\circ}30' = 5670 \text{ min}$$

$$\text{Distance} = 5670 \cos 12^{\circ}36' = 5503.44 \text{ nautical miles}$$

$$= (5503.44 \times 1.852) \text{ km}$$

$$\boxed{10247.94 \text{ km}}$$

Example Find the shortest distance between two places A and B, given that the latitudes of A and B are 15° N and 12° S and their longitudes are 50° E and 54° E respectively. Find also the direction of B on the great circle route.

Solution

In spherical triangle ABP,

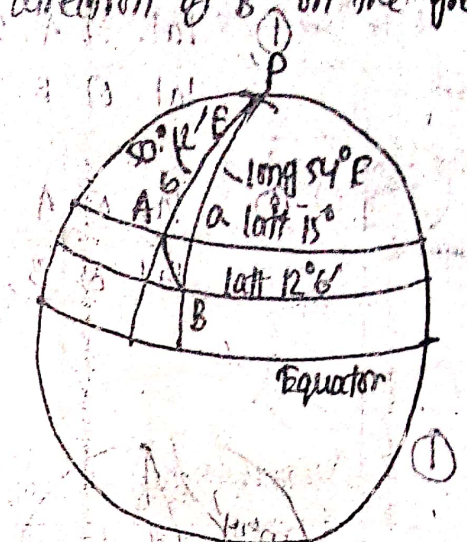
$$b = AP = 90^{\circ} - 15^{\circ} = 75^{\circ}$$

$$a = BP = 90^{\circ} - 12^{\circ} = 78^{\circ}$$

then $\angle P = \angle APB = \text{difference in longitude}$

$$= 54^{\circ} - 50^{\circ} = 4^{\circ}$$

$$= 3^{\circ} 48'$$



The shortest distance between two points is the distance along the great circle passing through the two points.

Knowing the two sides one angle, the third side AB = P can be easily computed by the cosine rule.

$AB = P$ can be easily computed by the cosine rule.

$$\cos P = \frac{\cos p - \cos a \cos b}{\sin a \sin b}$$

Distance in the direction of B

$$\cos P = \frac{\cos p - \cos a \cos b}{\sin a \sin b}$$

$$\cos 3^{\circ} 48' = \frac{\cos 78^{\circ} - \cos 75^{\circ} \cos 78^{\circ}}{\sin 75^{\circ} \sin 78^{\circ}}$$

$$\cos P = 0.99661$$

$$P = \cos^{-1}(0.99661) = 4.7^{\circ}$$

$$\text{arc} = \text{radius} \times \text{central angle} = \frac{6370 \times 4.7^{\circ} \times \pi}{180^{\circ}}$$

$$\text{distance AB} = 522.54 \text{ km}$$