

Math Notes for Beginning Programmers

Solutions and Explanations for Commonly Asked HS-MS Programming Questions

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Distance formula

points.

If you have two objects, space ships, airplanes or whatever, you can figure out how far apart they are with this formula:

If the first object is at position (X_1, Y_1) , and the second object is at position (X_2, Y_2) , then





The Pythagorean Theorem can be used to calculate the distance between them. According to Pythagoras, if you know how long distance A is and you know how long distance B is, you can figure out distance C which is the distance between our two points. The formula is as follows:

$$C^2 = A^2 + B^2$$

$$C = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2} \quad \blacktriangleleft$$

 $A = X_2 - X_1$

Since **A** is simply the difference between X_2 and X_1 , and **B** is the difference between Y_2 and Y_1 , and **C** is the distance, the following formula is possible.

Taking the square root of both sides yields distance **C**, the distance between the two

This is Pythagoras' equation.

The final formula, after substituting for A, B and C, ends up being:

$$Dist = \sqrt{(X_2 - X_1)^2 + (Y_2 - Y_1)^2}$$

Which would be programmed as:

 $DIST = SQR((X2-X1)^{2}+(Y2-Y1)^{2})$

NOTE: When you make objects on the the screen, remember perspective. Start from the background and work forward.



Impact Damage and Velocity

When one object smacks into another, how do you tell what happens to the two of them? Willem 'sGravesande, a Dutch researcher with a weird name, discovered that when brass balls are dropped into clay, a ball that travels twice as fast makes four times as big a hole, while a ball twice as heavy traveling the same speed only makes a hole only twice as large. Therefore the following applies:



If E is the amount of energy an object has, or if you wish, how much damage it does when it hits, and M is the mass or weight of the object, and V is the velocity or the speed it is traveling, then:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$$

This can be programmed as follows:

DAMAGE = WEIGHT * SPEED ^ 2





Likewise, the energy needed to reach a certain speed V (in a vacuum) can be found using the following formula:

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{2E}{m}}$$

Use the NASA formulas to the left to calculate force or energy. They are very helpful.



Linear Gravitational Effects

If an object travels across the Earth, or a planet (a place where gravity always pulls down) and the object is not far away, hundreds of miles, for example, then the following is true:

- 1. Gravity **is a constant**. On our Earth, that constant is 9.8 meters per second, every second. (In a program, use a number that makes things look realistic.)
- 2. Gravity always pulls objects **down at the same rate** no matter how fast they are going or what direction they are traveling.
- 3. Gravity, just like <u>all</u> other forces (called vectors) is added to predict an object's path.



Every movement by any object across the computer screen can be described in terms of how much it moves horizontally and how much it moves vertically. Mathematicians like to use Dx and Dy for this movement.

Gravity vector g



Each time the computer recomputes the position of the object, the Y movement, or rate of speed the object is rising or falling, has the gravity constant subtracted from it.

Programming this concept is easy:

1. At the top of your program include a gravity constant. This number will depend upon the execution speed of the computer, how far away the object is supposed to be and many other factors. Experiment. Your number should look something like this:

g = .013

2. Now, add the gravity constant, **g** to your up and down speed, **Dy** when you calculate the next location of your object. Look how easy this is:

 Notice we add, not subtracted gravity. Higher numbers go down not up on a computer screen.

Calculating the Position of a Rotating Object

Many things in this world arc, orbit or swing, a base ball bat, opening doors, storms, planets, arms and legs to name just a few. All are all explained by simple trig formulas.

> IF: The CENTER of the swing or axis is located at (X,Y), The DISTANCE away from the center or Radius is R, The ANGLE (in Radians, which we will explain later) is







Cartesian and Polar Coordinate Conversions

Cartesian coordinates are the familiar (x, y) coordinate system. **PSET**, and **LINE** use this system. Polar coordinates use an angle and distance to place objects. The **CIRCLE** command uses polar coordinates.



Here is the way to convert Given: from one system to A_{dea} is angle A in degrees another. A_{rad} is angle A in radians (x₁,y₁) origin or beginning point $A_{radians} = \frac{2\pi A_{deg}}{360}$ **R** is the distance traveled from (x, y)Dx the amount of horizontal distance covered. Dy the amount of vertical distance covered $A_{degrees} = \frac{360A_{rad}}{2\pi}$ New Location $Dy = R sin (A_{rad})$ $\pi = 3.14159265$ (approximate) Dy $Dx = R \cos (A_{rad})$ R ... A_{rad} Old Location $R = \sqrt{(X_2 - X_1)^2 + (Y_2 - Y_1)^2}$ $R = \sqrt{Xm^2 + Ym^2}$ (X1,Y1) Dx $A_{rad} = \arctan\left[\frac{Y_2 - Y_1}{X_2 - X_1}\right] \mod 2\pi \text{ for } (X2-X1) \neq 0$ This equation < must be QBasic supports Arc Tangent and Modulo arithemtic with the ATN adjusted function and the MOD operator. Arc sine, cosine and tangent simply by quadrant undo sine, cosine and tangent to find the angle. using the Angle=ArcSin(Sin(Angle)) following: MOD is division keeping the remander rather than the quitient. In this formula we divide by 2π . MOD keeps us from going past 2π and getting an error. IF (Y2-Y1)>0 AND (X2-X1)>0 THEN A=90-A IF (Y2-Y1)>0 AND (X2-X1)<0 THEN A=270-A

- IF (Y2-Y1)<0 AND (X2-X1)>0 THEN A=90-A
- IF (Y2-Y1)<0 AND (X2-X1)<0 THEN A=270-A

Handling the Edge of Screen Animation



There are four options for objects that encounter the edge of the screen. They can:

- 1. Crash or stick to the edge.
- 2. Bounce (see notes below).
- 3. Wrap to the other side of the screen.
- 4. Continue unseen.

IF X+R>640 OR X-R<1 THEN

IF Y+R>480 OR Y-R<1 THEN Dx=0 : Dy=0

INVISIBLE=0

Crash \rightarrow

Bounce \rightarrow

Crash \rightarrow

Bounce \rightarrow

Wrap

 \rightarrow

 \rightarrow

END IF

END IF

Wrap

Dx=0 : Dy=0

Remember the size of the object and bounce on its edge, not its center.

Dx = -Dx*e: X=X+2*Dx

Dy= -Dy*e : Y=Y+2*Dy

IF Y+R>480 THEN Y=Y-480

INVISIBLE=0

IF X+R>640 THEN X=X-640

IF X-R<1 THEN X=X+640

IF Y-R<1 THEN Y=Y+480



Draw and erase objects only if INVISIBLE is zero to exclude destroyed objects.

Where :

(X,Y) is the center of the object. Dx is the object's horiz. movement Dy is the object's vert. movement R is the object's radius and the screen is 640X480 pixels.

Notes on bouncing objects or rays:

1. The laws of Physics state that the angle of incidence (or the angle it is coming in on) is equal to the angle of reflection (the angle it goes out on.)

2. When an object bounces, in the real world, objects are inelastic, which means they lose energy each time they bounce. A rubber ball may have an elasticity of .75 and bounce back 75% as high the second bounce, while your neighbor's dog has an elasticity of about .03 and basically just splats when dropped.



Infusing Graphics into Text

It is possible to make your own letters or predict where text will print in your picture. Letters can attack your spaceship, or be an impenetrable wall to tanks. All you need to know is where they are in your graphics or where to place your graphics to fit into them. Find the following information:



- 1. The maximum size of the graphics screen. (640x480 in SCREEN 12)
- 2. The maximum size of the text screen.

(80x30 in SCREEN 12)

Given: X_{max} is the right edge of the screen in graphics. 640? Y_{max} is the bottom edge of the screen in graphics. 480? H_{max} is the right edge of the screen in text. V_{max} is the bottom edge of the screen in text.

If you wanted to draw a box around a letter located COL letters over and ROW letters down, use the formulas to the right.

Program example:

SCREEN 12 XMAX=640:YMAX=480 HMAX=80:VMAX=30 INPUT "COL,ROW";COL,ROW $\begin{bmatrix} (COL-1)\frac{X_{max}}{H_{max}}, (ROW-1)\frac{Y_{max}}{V_{max}} \end{bmatrix}$

The program generates random letters here so you can see your work.

FOR I=1 TO 2400 PRINT CHR\$(INT(RND*26)+65); NEXT I

THE CODE BELOW DRAWS A BOX AROUND THE LETTER.

LINE ((COL-1)*XMAX/HMAX,(ROW-1)*YMAX/VMAX)-(COL*XMAX.HMAX-1),ROW*YMAX/VMAX-1),14,B

Using Raster Graphics & Matrices



 $\begin{array}{c} \text{If you had a table of colors like the following,} \\ \text{you could create a picture like the one to} \\ \text{the left.} \end{array}$

0,4,4,4,0

4,0,4,0,4 0,4,4,4,0

0,0,4,0,0

0,0,4,0,0

0,0,4,0,0

0,4,0,4,0

4,0,0,0,4

(1,1)

(1,2)

(1,3) -

(2,1)

"Stick Man"

The numbers are QBasic standard colors. Four is red and zero is black.

PROGRAMMING: A single pixel can

be colored using the following:

X=1 : Y=1

DATA 4

READ C \leftarrow This gets the 4 in DATA and puts it in C

PSET (X,Y),C \leftarrow This makes pixel (X,Y) color C



Using Raster Graphics & Matrices ② Scaling and Effects

SCALABLE BOXES MADE FROM MATRIX INFORMATION:

Instead of making pictures out of dots, pictures can be made out of boxes. This allows them to be "blown up", or scaled to any size you want, and saves computer memory at the same time. To do this, each dot must become a box with a left coordinate and a right coordinate.





Pictures may also be made using circles of varying sizes. Small radii would make the picture look pointalistic, while large radii would give it a bubbled look. Each circle must have a radius located one half a scale over and lower than the upper left corner of a box. To try it, just replace the **LINE** command shown above with this:

CIRCLE (X+S*(I-1)+S/2, (Y+S*(J-1)+S/2), S/2 PAINT (X+S*(I-1)+S/2, (Y+S*(J-1)+S/2), C ← Put this in to fill in the circles

Math Notes For Programmers



Bio-motion

Although it is extremely difficult to program a simulation of the Human body's motion, making a stick figure travel across the screen is relatively easy.



First, make a stick man. The example to the right would move any time you change the (X,Y) position of the head, and it would scale larger or smaller when you change **R**, the radius.

Notice that the trailing leg trails because Lx is subtracted from X and the advanced leg is ahead because Lx is added to X.

Program the Lx variable to bounce back and forth between +Max and -Max at the same speed that the man moves so it looks like his back foot stays in the same place as he "walks".

{Redraw the stick man here to erase}

FOR i = 1 TO 30000: NEXT i

COLOR 0

x = x + dxLx = Lx + dLx

LOOP

Here is a sample of a program:

x = 20: y = 240 r = 5: c = 14

dx = .3: dLx = dx

Lmax = 8: Lx = 2

DO

COLOR C {Draw the stick man here}



You can add arms and accessorize your stick man with guns and other dangerous objects. Consider using SIN and cos to put in knees. It would be easy to have 3-D effects by changing radius R to scale the man when he moves

IF Lx > Lmax OR Lx < -Lmax THEN dLx = -dLx

toward or away from you. Be sure to increase or decrease DX and DLX depending on how far away our stick man is so he moves more slowly when he is far away.

Auto Targeting Using the Geometry of Similar Triangles

You can program a gun to aim wherever the mouse points or wherever an airplane flies. Using the same principles, you can make an enemy always seek a player. All it takes is a little bit of simple geometry. The trick is to keep the Xs and Ys proportional. Simply, multiply the ratio of the length of the gun and the distance of the object by X and Y.



$$Object_{distance} = \sqrt{(X_3 - X_1)^2 + (Y_3 - Y_1)^2}$$

Given the gun length: Gun_{length} , $X_{distance}$ and $Y_{distance}$ calculate the muzzle coordinates of the gun

$$X_{2} = Object_{distance} \left[\frac{Gun_{length}}{X_{distance}} \right] + X_{1} \qquad Y_{2} = Object_{distance} \left[\frac{Gun_{length}}{Y_{distance}} \right] + Y_{1}$$

Any bullets fired will travel at the following rate:

$$\Delta X_2 = Gun_{power} \left[\frac{Gun_{length}}{X_{distance}} \right]$$

Programming auto tracking gun:

 $\Delta Y_{2} = Gun_{power} \left[\frac{Gun_{length}}{Y_{distance}} \right]$

Remember Δ meanschange, so ΔX is Xmovement.

Programming bullet movement:

BulletDx = power * (GunLn / Xdist) BulletDy = power * (GunLn / Ydist)

Xdist = $x^3 - x^1$ Ydist = $y^3 - y^1$ Dist = SQR(($x^3 - x^1$) ^ 2 + ($y^3 - y^1$) ^ 2) $x^2 = dist * (GunLn / Xdist) + x^1$ $y^2 = dist * (GunLn / Ydist) + y^1$ Line (x^1 , y^1) - (x^2 , y^2) \leftarrow This is the

$$\leftarrow$$
 This is the gun. It always points toward (x3,y3)

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Single Point Gravitational Fields in 2-D Space



According to Newton's law, gravitation between two objects is calculated by the following:



WHERE F1 and F2 are the two forces of gravity. G is 6.67 X 10 -11 a universal constant. m1 and m2 are the masses of the objects R is the distance between the objects.

Calculating gravity in 2-D space is more complicated than calculating the path of a bouncing ball, because <u>both x and y are changed</u> by gravity, and the gravity itself decreases by the square of number of radii away you are from the object. The first step is to calculate the power of gravity at the location of the object.

Given:

 r_1 and r_2 - the radii of the two objects g_1 and g_2 - the gravitational pull of both objects $(x_1,y_1) \& (x_2,y_2)$ - the position of the objects



The gravity will affect every object in space. When the Sun pulls the Earth toward it, the Earth also pulls the Sun toward it. For all objects, planets, stars, space ships, the new movement is the former movement plus the gravity pull of all the other objects around it.

$$\Delta x = \Delta x + \frac{g_1(x_1 - x_2)}{\frac{\sqrt{(X_1 - X_2)^2 + (Y_1 - Y_2)^2}}{r_1^2}} \qquad \Delta y = \Delta y + \frac{g_1(y_1 - y_2)}{\frac{\sqrt{(X_1 - X_2)^2 + (Y_1 - Y_2)^2}}{r_1^2}}$$

This is how to do the sun. (The planet does move the sun.):

(by Moon)

Programming the movement of the Earth around the Sun would look something like this:

 $\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Dx}_{\mathsf{e}} &= \mathsf{Dx}_{\mathsf{e}} + (\mathsf{g}_{\mathsf{s}} * (\mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{s}} - \mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{e}})) / (\ \mathsf{SQR} ((\mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{s}} - \mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{e}}) \ ^2 + (\mathsf{y}_{\mathsf{s}} - \mathsf{y}_{\mathsf{e}}) \ ^2) / \, \mathsf{r}_{\mathsf{s}} \ ^2 \\ \mathsf{Dy}_{\mathsf{e}} &= \mathsf{Dy}_{\mathsf{e}} + (\mathsf{g}_{\mathsf{s}} * (\mathsf{y}_{\mathsf{s}} - \mathsf{y}_{\mathsf{e}})) / (\ \mathsf{SQR} ((\mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{s}} - \mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{e}}) \ ^2 + (\mathsf{y}_{\mathsf{s}} - \mathsf{y}_{\mathsf{e}}) \ ^2) / \, \mathsf{r}_{\mathsf{s}} \ ^2 \end{aligned}$

Where the Sun is located at (x_s, y_s) ; it is moving at Dx_s , Dy_s ; has radius r_s , and gravity g_s , and the Earth is located at (x_e, y_e) ; it is moving at Dx_e , Dy_e ; has radius r_e , and gravity g_e .

NOTE: The Sun will need its movement changed by Earth is moving the Earth's gravity to be completely accurate, but because the Earth has about one millionth the mass, it this way is usually ignored. To move at a right angle ACHIEVING A PERFECT CIRCULAR ORBIT: to gravitation, move x to Sometimes you want your object in space to travel in a counter y perfect circular orbit. In order to orbit an object, you gravity and need to be travelling at a right angle to it. The formula move y to Sun's gravity for the perfect sideways speed (v or velocity) for a counter x is pulling circular orbit of radius *r* and gravity *G* is: gravity. this way $v = \sqrt{Gr}$ This is how you could program it: 1. Calculate the DISTANCE from the dst = Sqr(($x_e - x_s$) ^ 2 + ($y_e - y_s$) ^ 2) gravity source. Calculate the HORIZONTAL AND $dstx = x_s - x_e$ VERTICAL DISTANCE. $dsty = f_s - y_e$ 3. Calculate the GRAVITY at that $gt = G / (dst^2)$ distance. 4. Make the VERTICAL SPEED the Dy_e = dstx / dst * Sqr(gt * dst) horizontal part of the total speed. $Dx_e = -dsty / dst * Sqr(qt * dst)$ 5. Make the HORIZONTAL SPEED the vertical part of the total speed. The force of gravity varies with distance from the Earth 12,000 16,000 20,000 24,000 4.000 8.000 distance in miles (12,874) (19,312) (25,749) (32,186) (38,623) (6.437)(kilometers) from the Earth's surface 32 3.6 1.3 0.9 0.6 acceleration due to 8 2 Earth (9.75)(2.44)(1.09)(0.61)(0.39)(0.27)(0.18)gravity in feet (meters) per second per second 100 6.25 2.77 2 amount a 100-pound 25 11



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(45.4)

(11.3)

(5)

(2.8)

(1.8)

(1.3)

(0.9)

(45.4-kilogram) person would weigh at each location in pounds (kilograms)

2-D Circular Body Collision

IF YOU KNOW THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. The center and radius of each object.
- 2. The velocity **Dx**, **Dy** for both objects.
- 3. The mass of both objects.

IT IS POSSIBLE TO CALCULATE:

- 1. The distance the objects are from each other, <u>AND</u> if they hit each other.
- 2. The collision point of the two objects.
- 3. Then, from those, the new **Dx**, **Dy** motion for the two objects.

First calculate the distance between the two objects, and check to see if it is less than or equal to the two radii added.

Programmed, it would look something like this:

Dist = SQR ((x2 - x1) ^ 2 + (y2 - y1) ^ 2) IF r1 + r2 <= Dist Then Pythagorean Theorem for Calculating Distance: $Distance = \sqrt{(X_2 - X_1)^2 + (Y_2 - Y_1)^2}$



The collision point for circles with the same radius is an average of their positions:

For circles at (X1,Y1) and (X2,Y2) it would be:

 $\left(\frac{X_1+X_2}{2},\frac{Y_1+Y_2}{2}\right)$



For circles with different radii, the formula is:

$$\left(\frac{X_1R_2 + X_2R_1}{R_1 + R_2}, \frac{Y_1R_2 + Y_2R_1}{R_1 + R_2}\right)$$

If you want to program an explosion at the collision point, do this:

ExplosionX = (x1 * r2 + x2 * r1) / (r1 + r2)ExplosionY = (y1 * r2 + y2 * r1) / (r1 + r2)



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2-D Circular Body Collision 2

Calculating the new velocities after collision



For circle one the new velocity is:





New
$$Dy_1 = Dy_1(M_1 - M_2) + \frac{2M_2Dy_2}{M_1 + M_2}$$



New
$$Dx_2 = Dx_2(M_2 - M_2) + \frac{2M_1Dx_1}{M_1 + M_2}$$

New $Dy_2 = Dy_2(M_2 - M_2) + \frac{2M_1Dy_1}{M_1 + M_2}$

This is how collisions can be programmed for circle 1 with a mass m1, and movement dx1, dy1 striking circle 2, mass m2 and movement dx2, dy2:

Note: It is important not to overwrite the original movement of the circles until all calculations are complete.



'---- Plot circle-circle bounce ------

 $\begin{array}{l} ndx1 = (dx1 * (m1 - m2) + (2 * m2 * dx2)) / (m1 + m2) \\ ndy1 = (dy1 * (m1 - m2) + (2 * m2 * dy2)) / (m1 + m2) \end{array}$

 $\begin{array}{l} ndx2 = (dx2 * (m2 - m1) + (2 * m1 * dx1)) / (m2 + m1) \\ ndy2 = (dy2 * (m2 - m1) + (2 * m1 * dy1)) / (m2 + m1) \end{array}$

'---- Change the motions------

dx1 = ndx1

Rotating Objects in 3-D Space

3-D rotation is really 2-D rotation applied three times. Here is a rotation matrix for the points (X,Y,Z) rotated by the angles Ax, Ay and Az in π radians, all programmed and ready to go. See CALCULATING THE POSITION OF A ROTATING OBJECT above for a discussion of π radians. There are several ways to do 3-D graphics. In this one, Z moves objects up and to the right to make them look farther away. Note that the points, X, Y, Z are zero at the point of rotation. When you plot them on the screen, plot just

