

1 Introduction

The formulae shown here are for use where the end points or distances are less than, or equal to, 1500km.

2 The Direct Problem: Robbin's Formulae

Given: $\phi_1, \lambda_1, \alpha_{12}, s$.

Find: $\phi_2, \lambda_2, \alpha_{21}$.

Then:

$$h = e' \cos \phi_1 \cos \alpha_{12} \quad (1)$$

$$g = e' \sin \phi_1 \quad (2)$$

$$\eta = s/v_1 \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma = \eta \left[1 + \eta^2 \frac{h^2(1-h^2)}{6} - \eta^3 \frac{gh(1-2h^2)}{8} \right. \\ \left. - \eta^4 \left(\frac{h^2(4-17h^2)}{120} - 3g^2(1-7h^2) \right) + \eta^5 \frac{gh}{48} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$$\sin \zeta_2 = \sin \phi_1 \cos \sigma + \cos \phi_1 \cos \alpha_{12} \sin \sigma \quad (5)$$

$$\sin \Delta\lambda = \frac{\sin \sigma \sin \alpha_{12}}{\cos \zeta_2} \quad (6)$$

$$\sin \alpha'_{21} = \frac{-\cos \phi_1 \sin \alpha_{12}}{\cos \zeta_2} \quad (7)$$

$$(8)$$

If $\zeta_2, \Delta\lambda$ or $\alpha'_{21} \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}$ then:

$$\cot \Delta\lambda = \frac{\cos \phi_1 \cot \sigma - \sin \phi_1 \cos \alpha_{12}}{\sin \alpha_{12}} \quad (9)$$

$$\tan \zeta_2 = \frac{\sin \phi_1 \Delta\lambda + \sin \Delta\lambda \cot \alpha_{12}}{\cos \phi_1} \quad (10)$$

$$\tan \alpha'_{21} = \frac{\sin \alpha_{12}}{\cos \sigma \cos \alpha_{12} - \sin \sigma \tan \phi_1} \quad (11)$$

$$\mu = 1 + \frac{e'^2 (\sin \zeta_2 - \sin \phi_1)^2}{2} \quad (12)$$

$$\tan \phi_2 = (1 + e'^2) \left(1 - \frac{e'^2 \mu \sin \phi_1}{\sin \zeta_2} \tan \zeta_2 \right) \quad (13)$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 + \Delta\lambda \quad (14)$$

$$\alpha_{21} = \alpha'_{21} - (\phi_2 - \zeta_2) \sin \alpha'_{21} \tan \frac{\sigma}{2} \quad (15)$$

3 The Reverse Problem: Robbin's Formulae

Given: $\phi_1, \lambda_1, \phi_2, \lambda_2$.

Find: $\alpha_{12}, \alpha_{21}, s$.

Then:

$$\tan \zeta_2 = (1 - e^2) \tan \phi_2 + \frac{e^2 v_1 \sin \phi_1}{v_2 \cos \phi_2} \quad (16)$$

$$\tau_1 = \cos \phi_1 \tan \zeta_2 - \sin \phi_1 \cos(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \quad (17)$$

$$\tan \alpha_{12} = \frac{\sin(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)}{\tau_1} \quad (18)$$

$$\tan \zeta_1 = (1 - e^2) \tan \phi_1 + \frac{e^2 v_2 \sin \phi_1}{v_1 \cos \phi_1} \quad (19)$$

$$\tau_2 = \cos \phi_2 \tan \zeta_1 - \sin \phi_2 \cos(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) \quad (20)$$

$$\tan \alpha_{21} = \frac{\sin(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)}{\tau_2} \quad (21)$$

$$\chi = \frac{\sin(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)}{\sin \alpha_{12}} \quad (22)$$

If $\sin \alpha_{12} \rightarrow 0$ then:

$$\chi = \frac{\tau_1}{\cos \alpha_{12}} \quad (23)$$

$$\sin \sigma = \chi \cos \zeta_2 \quad (24)$$

$$g = e' \sin \phi_1 \quad (25)$$

$$h = e' \cos \phi_1 \cos \alpha_{12} \quad (26)$$

$$s = v_1 \sigma \left[1 - \sigma^2 \frac{h^2(1-h^2)}{6} + \sigma^3 \frac{gh(1-2h^2)}{8} + \sigma^4 \frac{h^2(4-7h^2) - 3g^2(1-7h^2)}{120} - \sigma^5 \frac{gh}{48} \right] \quad (27)$$

4 Definitions

a : Semi Major Axis.

b : Semi Minor Axis.

$$e^2 = \frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2} \quad (28)$$

$$e'^2 = \frac{a^2 - b^2}{b^2} \quad (29)$$

$$v_n = \sqrt{\frac{a}{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \phi_n}} \quad (30)$$

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