

Off-Site Instruction Packet Day 5

6-3 Day 2 Angles and Radian Measure

Arc Length and Angular Speed

The formula for arc length can also be written in terms of radians.

Arc Length

An arc with central angle measure θ radians has length

$$l = r\theta$$

In other words, the arc length is the radius times the radian measure of the central angle of the arc.

Example 5: **Arc Length**

The second hand on a clock is 6 inches long. How far does the tip of the hand move in 15 seconds? $15 \text{ seconds} = \frac{1}{4} \text{ of a revolution}$

$$\frac{1}{4} \cdot 2\pi = \frac{\pi}{2} \qquad l = 6 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right) = 3\pi = 9.4 \text{ inches}$$

Example 6: **Central Angle Measure**

Find the central angle measure (in radians) of an arc of length 5 cm on a circle with a radius of 3 cm.

$$5 = 3\theta \qquad \theta = \frac{5}{3}$$

Linear and Angular Speed

Suppose that a wheel is rotating at a constant rate around its center, O , and P is a point on the outer edge of the wheel. There are two ways to measure the speed of point P , in terms of the distance traveled in terms of the angle of rotation. The two measures of speed are called *linear speed* and *angular speed*. $(d=rt)$

Recall that speed of a moving object is $\frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$. If the object is traveling in a circular path with radius r , the **linear speed** is given by

$$\text{linear speed} = \frac{\text{arc length}}{\text{time}} = \frac{r\theta}{t}$$

and the **angular speed** is given by

$$\text{angular speed} = \frac{\text{angle}}{\text{time}} = \frac{\theta}{t}$$

where θ is the radian measure of the angle through which the object traveled in time t . Notice the relationship between linear speed and angular speed:

$$\text{linear speed} = r \cdot \text{angular speed}$$

Example 7: Linear and Angular Speed

A merry-go-round makes 8 revolutions per minute.

- a) What is the angular speed of the merry-go-round in radians per minute?

$$8 \cdot 2\pi = 16\pi$$

$$\frac{\theta}{t} = \frac{16\pi}{1} \quad 16\pi \text{ radians per minute}$$

- b) How fast is a horse 12 feet from the center traveling?

$$\text{linear speed} = r \cdot \text{angular speed}$$

$$= 12 \cdot 16\pi = 192\pi \text{ ft/min} \approx 6.9\text{mph}$$

- c) How fast is a horse 4 feet from the center traveling?

$$4 \cdot 16\pi = 64\pi \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{min}} \approx 2.3 \text{ mph}$$

Assessment:

Pg 441 #49-55 (odd)