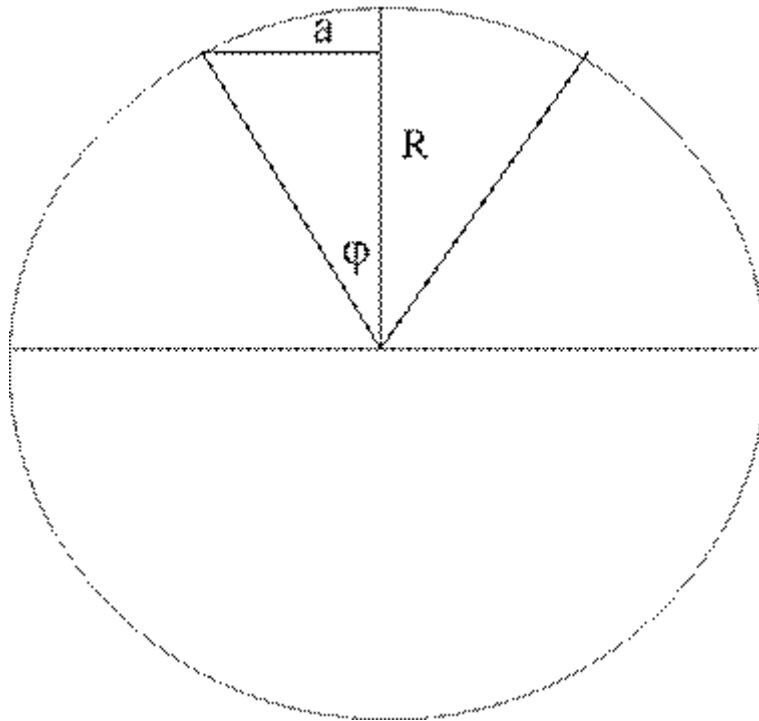


Calculation of curved surface

Calculate the size of a curved surface. A "flat" surface is considered from the perspective of a 2 dimensional person, i.e. on earth. How can a person on earth find out that his surface is curved? When the surface is really flat the surface is πr^2 . In case the surface is curved the surface area could be considered as a segment of a bol/sphere.

Let us calculate the segment of a sphere:



$$a = R \sin \theta$$

Thus calculation of the segment:

$$A = \int_0^\theta 2\pi R \sin \phi \cdot R d\theta = 2\pi R^2 (1 - \cos \theta) \quad \text{is size of segment.}$$

Half the diameter of the segment is: θR

Hence the size of the segment from the perspective of the flat person:

$\pi(\theta R)^2$. When the flat person measures the size of the sphere he will find the real size of the segment. The radius is defined as the surface divided by π and taking the square root.

Thus dividing the size by π and taking the square root he will find his real radius.

Thus $\sqrt{2R^2(1 - \cos \theta)} = R\sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)}$ is real radius from perspective of flat person. Measuring his own radius he will find θR .

Hence the ratio between the real radius and the measured radius is:

$$\text{real/measured} = R\sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)} / \theta R = \sqrt{\frac{2(1 - \cos \theta)}{\theta^2}}$$

Applying Taylor on $\cos \theta$ results in $1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \frac{\theta^6}{6!} + \frac{\theta^8}{8!} \dots$ ==>

$$\frac{2(1 - \cos \theta)}{\theta^2} = 1 - \frac{2\theta^2}{4!} + \frac{2\theta^4}{6!} - \frac{2\theta^6}{8!} + \frac{2\theta^8}{10!} \dots$$

$$\text{Real Radius/Measured Radius} = \sqrt{\frac{2(1 - \cos \theta)}{\theta^2}} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{2\theta^2}{4!} + \frac{2\theta^4}{6!} - \frac{2\theta^6}{8!} + \frac{2\theta^8}{10!} \dots} = R_r/R_m$$

Thus R_r is smaller than the R_m . As an example, in case of $\theta = \pi/2$: $R_r/R_m=0.90$. Hence the ratios between the surfaces is 0.81

For the earth is this when $R_m=10,000$ km and 0.99 (or 1%) when $R_m=3120$ km