

Calculate the angle between hour hand and minute hand

This problem is known as **Clock angle problem** where we need to find angle between hands of an analog clock at .

Examples:

Input: h = 12:00, m = 30.00

Output: 165 degree

Input: h = 3.00, m = 30.00

Output: 75 degree

The idea is to take 12:00 (h = 12, m = 0) as a reference. Following are detailed steps.

- 1) Calculate the angle made by hour hand with respect to 12:00 in h hours and m minutes.
- 2) Calculate the angle made by minute hand with respect to 12:00 in h hours and m minutes.
- 3) The difference between two angles is the angle between two hands.

How to calculate the two angles with respect to 12:00?

The minute hand moves 360 degree in 60 minute (or 6 degree in one minute) and hour hand moves 360 degree in 12 hours (or 0.5 degree in 1 minute). In h hours and m minutes, the minute hand would move $(h*60 + m)*6$ and hour hand would move $(h*60 + m)*0.5$.

```
// C program to find angle between hour and minute hands
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
// Utility function to find minimum of two integers
```

```
int min(int x, int y) { return (x < y)? x: y; }
```

```
int calcAngle(double h, double m)
{
```

```
// validate the input
if (h < 0 || m < 0 || h > 12 || m > 60)
    printf("Wrong input");

if (h == 12) h = 0;
if (m == 60) m = 0;

// Calculate the angles moved by hour and minute hand
// with reference to 12:00
int hour_angle = 0.5 * (h*60 + m);
int minute_angle = 6*m;

// Find the difference between two angles
int angle = abs(hour_angle - minute_angle);

// Return the smaller angle of two possible angles
angle = min(360-angle, angle);

return angle;
}
```

```
// Driver program to test above function
int main()
{
    printf("%d \n", calcAngle(9, 60));
    printf("%d \n", calcAngle(3, 30));
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

90

75

Exercise: Find all times when hour and minute hands get superimposed.