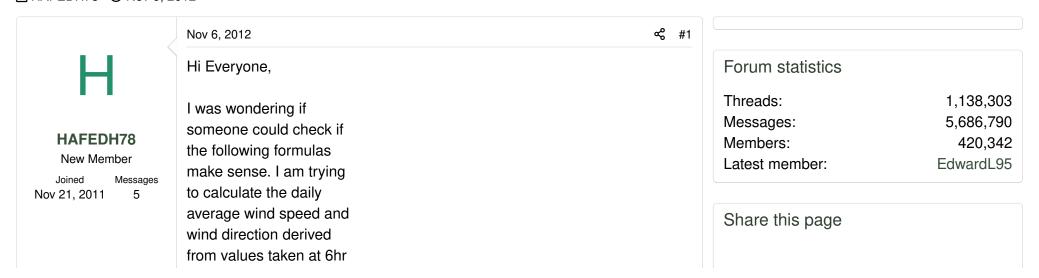


Forums > Question Forums > Excel Questions >

# Calculating Average wind speed and direction



From wind speed	
and direction	
> (meteorological	
wind direction (wdir):	
eg E=90, S=180,	
W=270)	
> (1) calculate u and	
v	
> u = -wspd*sin(wdir)	
> V =	
-wspd*cos(wdir)	
>	
> (2) calculate the	
daily mean of each	
wind component:	
> uave, vave	
>	
> (3) transform to	
wspd and wdir	
> rad = 4.0*atan	
(1.0)/180.	0



> WSPD = sqrt(uAve^2+vAve^2) 	
> WDIR = atan2(uAve,vAve)/rad +180.; mean wind direction [0,360]	
>	
<tbody> </tbody> <colgrou< td=""><td>P&gt;<col span="6"/></td></colgrou<>	P> <col span="6"/>

## **Excel Facts**



## Save Often



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1 2 Next ▶



Well-known Member

Joined Messages
Feb 11, 2005 795

Nov 6, 2012



Can I open a discussion on this. I cannot agree with those formulas based on some tests I ran. I sorted a list of wind speeds and wind directions. I use a weighted average method to calculate average wind direction. I calculate my average speed by taking the weighted average of discounted velocities. Discounted means to me that the velocity is reduced based on the angle to the weighted direction. I will show my formulas and would like to see if anybody has a better idea.

Columns Q and R are given values.

The formula in cell S9 is: =INT(Q9/MAX(\$Q\$9:\$Q\$28)\*1000)
Cell T9 formula: =ABS(COS(RADIANS(R9-WeightedDir))\*Q9)
Row 30 are averages for each column

Cell S32 formula: =SUMPRODUCT(S9:S28,R9:R28)/(SUM(S9:S28))

(WeightedDir)

Cell S33 formula: =SUMPRODUCT(S9:S28,T9:T28)/SUM(S9:S28)

Other test

Cell U9 formula: =Q9\*SIN(R9) Cell V9 formula: =Q9\*COS(R9)

Cell V32 formula: =SQRT(U30^2+V30^2)

Cell V33 formula: =4\*ATAN(1)/180

Cell V34 formula: =ATAN2(U30,V30)/V33+180

	Q	R	S	T
	Wind Speed	Wind Direction	Weighted Count	Discounte Speed
9	2.62	146.59	173	0.37
10	3.80	227.76	252	3.80
11	3.96	207.28	262	3.69
12	4.27	131.76	283	0.50
13	4.40	5.65	291	3.23
14	5.33	247.87	353	5.03
15	5.42	111.83	359	2.43
16	6.21	341.56	412	2.44
17	6.45	241.80	428	6.28
18	7.80	254.33	517	7.02
19	8.02	187.06	532	6.02
20	9.22	329.24	611	1.72
21	9.87	288.18	654	4.98

22	9.88	200.27	655	8.71
23	10.74	320.15	712	0.32
24	11.00	281.36	729	6.64
25	12.62	213.19	837	12.17
26	12.66	155.24	840	3.65
27	13.40	242.27	889	13.01
28	15.07	207.99	1000	14.12
29				
30	8.14	217.1		5.31
31				
32		Weighted Direction:	228.47	
33		Weighted Speed:	6.51	
34				

<TBODY>
</TBODY><COLGROUP><COL span=3><COL><COL><COL span=2>
</COLGROUP>

If I look at the highest velocities, they should drive the average wind speed. So the direction that the highest speeds are traveling will dominate the average direction. If I artificially inflate any given wind speed in the list to a value 1000 times higher I expect the average speed to be very near the inflated value. Just as I expect the direction for that inflated value to dominate the average direction. My calculations show that to be true.

	Q	R	S	T
	Wind	Wind	Weighted	Discou
	Speed	Direction	Count	Speed
9	2.62	146.59	1	1.16 </th
10	3.80	227.76	2	3.62 </th
11	3.96	207.28	2	3.95 </th
12	4.27	131.76	2	0.86 </th
13	4.40	5.65	2	4.00 </th
14	5.33	247.87	3	4.22 </th
15	5.42	111.83	3	0.79 </th
16	6.21	341.56	4	4.10 </th
17	6.45	241.80	4	5.49 </th
18	7.80	254.33	5	5.60 </th
19	8.02	187.06	5	7.37 </th
20	9.22	329.24	6	4.48 </th
21	9.87	288.18	6	2.05 </th
22	9.88	200.27	6	9.73 </th
23	10.74	320.15	7	3.67 </th
24	11.00	281.36	7	3.55 </th
25	12.62	213.19	8	12.60<
26	12.66	155.24	8	7.27 </th
27	13.40	242.27	8	11.35<
28	1507.00	207.99	1000	1505.8
29				

30	82.73	217.1		80.09<
31				
32		Weighted Direction:	210.20	
33		Weighted Speed:	1383.31	
34				

<TBODY>

</TBODY><COLGROUP><COL span=3><COL><COL><COL span=2>

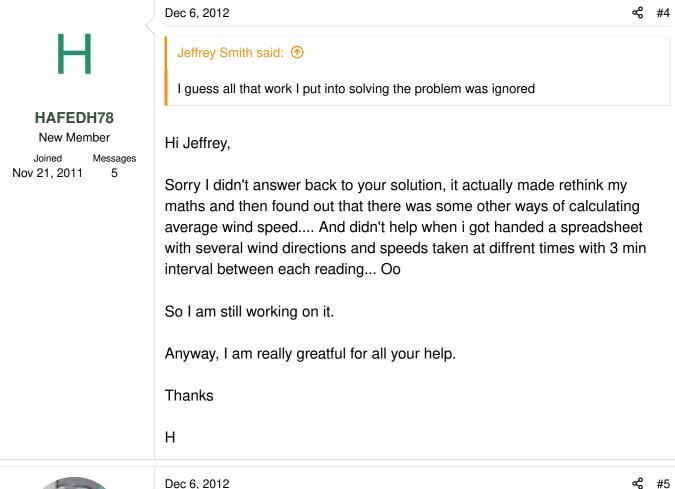


**~** #3



Jeffrey Smith
Well-known Member
Joined Messages
Feb 11, 2005 795

I guess all that work I put into solving the problem was ignored





**Jeffrey Smith** Well-known Member

Joined Messages Feb 11, 2005 795

Thanks for the response H. I'm interested in your findings if you would like to share. Most of my work is analyzing velocity data from acoustic dopplers. I also have installed and

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8/18/21, 00:06 9 of 25

**%** #6

analyzed data from weather stations, although not recently. So my work is right along your question line.

C

### **Chan Weinmeister**

New Member

Joined Mar 1, 2013 Messages

Mar 1, 2013

I stumbled on this thread yesterday when I was looking for ideas on how to average a range of wind direction/speeds. I came up with bad results myself.... Any help on squaring the trig on this would be very helpful.... This is all based on par 1.1 of the following doc -> <a href="http://www.h2ns.com/media/tech-notes/tn09.pdf">http://www.h2ns.com/media/tech-notes/tn09.pdf</a>

DIR	Speed	SIN(DIR)	COS(DIR)
360	20	0.958916	-0.28369109<
360	20	0.958916	-0.28369109<
360	25	0.958916	-0.28369109<
360	25	0.958916	-0.28369109<
360	25	0.958916	-0.28369109<
360	25	0.958916	-0.28369109<
10	25	-0.54402	-0.83907153<
10	25	-0.54402	-0.83907153<
10	25	-0.54402	-0.83907153<
	AVERAGE	0.457937	-0.4688179 </td
15.42353	=(average U^2+ average V^2)^(1/2) 		

-0.73851	=ATAN(average U/average V)	
-42.3137	=DEGREES(radians above)	

<TBODY>

Last edited: Mar 1, 2013



Jeffrey Smith
Well-known Member
Joined Messages
Feb 11, 2005 795

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This is what I came up with by myself. I use a weighted average approach. I would like to have anybody weigh in on this. Tell me how this works for you. I put the average values to show comparison. 6.51 fps is the solution for the table below. I sorted the table by wind speed so I could analyze the results better.

Jeff

Cell U9: =\$\$9/MAX(\$\$\$9:\$\$\$28)

Cell V9: =ABS(COS(RADIANS(\$T9-WeightedDir))\*\$S9)

Range Name WeightedDir = Cell U32

Cell U32: =SUMPRODUCT(U9:U28,T9:T28)/(SUM(U9:U28))

Cell V32: =SUMPRODUCT(U9:U28,V9:V28)/SUM(U9:U28)

	R	S	Т	U	V
		Wind Speed	Wind Direction	Weighted Count	Discounted Speed
9		2.62	146.59	0.174	0.371
10		3.80	227.76	0.252	3.800
11		3.96	207.28	0.263	3.693
12		4.27	131.76	0.283	0.498
13		4.40	5.65	0.292	3.228
14		5.33	247.87	0.354	5.027
15		5.42	111.83	0.360	2.429
16		6.21	341.56	0.412	2.437
17		6.45	241.80	0.428	6.276
18		7.80	254.33	0.518	7.018
19		8.02	187.06	0.532	6.017
20		9.22	329.24	0.612	1.726
21		9.87	288.18	0.655	4.976
22		9.88	200.27	0.656	8.709
23		10.74	320.15	0.713	0.318
24		11.00	281.36	0.730	6.634
25		12.62	213.19	0.837	12.175
26		12.66	155.24	0.840	3.656
27		13.40	242.27	0.889	13.012

28		15.07	207.99	1.000	14.119
29					
30	Average:	8.14	217.07		5.31
31					
32	Weighted:			228.45	6.51

<colgroup><col><col><col><col></colgroup>



Jeffrey Smith
Well-known Member
Joined Messages

795

Feb 11, 2005

Ok, Ignore all previous posts from me on this. Please look at this solution.

I created some user defined functions that help with the flow. Otherwise the if statements in the cells would get quite cumbersome. This converts Magnitude and Direction into Velocity components X (East+-) and Y (North+-). Then you average those values for the set. Use PolarCoord to convert the X/Y components into direction again. Using this method allows for the magnitude to be considered into the direction. Given that some wind readings have more magnitude, so they should be weighted more than readings with less magnitude. The Weighted Velocity is using discounted velocities. Meaning, when a reading is angled to the mean direction, it doesn't flow directly toward the mean point.

Jeff

#161120;text-align: center;">3<td style="text-align: center;text-decoration: underline;;">Magnitude<td style="text-align: center;text-decoration: underline;;">Direction<td style="text-align: center;text-decoration: underline;;">Vel X<td style="text-align: center;text-decoration: underline;;">Vel Y<td style="text-align: center;text-decoration: underline;;">Double Check Coordinatestyle="color: #161120;text-align:" center;">4<td style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">100.004.92<td style="textalign: right;;">-0.87style="text-align: right;;">100.00<tr >5<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">14.00<td style="text-align: right;;">1.214.854.85 right;;">14.00style="color: #161120;text-align:">14.00right;;">15.00right;;">16.00righ center;">6<td style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">13.001.12<td style="textalign: right;;">4.8713.00<td style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">7<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">12.00<td style="text-align: right;;">1.04style="text-align: right;;">4.89style="text-align: right;;">4.89 right;;">12.0012.0012.0012.0012.00 center;">8<td style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">11.000.95<td style="textalign: right;;">4.9111.00 style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">9<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">10.00<td style="text-align: right;;">0.87style="text-align: right;;">4.92style="text-align: right;;">4.92

right;;">10.0010.0010.0010.00 center;">10<td style="text-align: right;;">5.009.00<td style="text-align: right;;">0.784.94<td style="text-align: right;;">9.00<td style="color: #161120;textalign: center;">11 style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">8.00style="text-align: right;;">0.700.70right;;">0.70right; right;;">4.95style="text-align: right;;">8.00right;;">4.95 style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">12<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">7.000.61<td style="text-align: right;;">4.96style="text-align: right;;">7.00 13<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;"><td style="text-align: right;;">5.006.006.006.006.006.00 right;;">0.52style="text-align: right;;">4.97style="text-align: right;;">4.97 right;;">6.00<td style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">14<td style="text-align: right;;">5.005.00<td style="text-align: right;;">0.444.98td style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="color: #161120;textalign: center;">15 style="text-align: right;;">5.005.00 right;;">4.000.350.35 right;;">4.99td>4.00right;;">4.00 style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">16<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">3.000.26<td style="text-align: right;;">4.99style="text-align: right;;">3.00 17<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;"><td style="text-align: right;;">5.00style="text-align: right;;">2.002.00right;">2.00right;">5.0

right;;">0.175.005.00 right;;">2.00<td style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">18style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;"><td style="text-align: right;;">5.001.00<td style="text-align: right;;">0.095.00<td style="text-align: right;;">1.00<td style="color: #161120;textalign: center;">19 style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">0.00style="text-align: right;;">0.000.00right;;">0.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.00 right;;">5.00360.00360.00 style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">20<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">359.00-0.095.00<td style="text-align: right;;">359.00359.00359.00359.00 center;">21<td style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">353.00-0.61<td style="textalign: right;;">4.96style="text-align: right;;">353.00align: right;;">4.96 >22<td style="text-align: right;;">5.00<td style="text-align: right;;">352.00-0.70<td style="textalign: right;;">4.95style="text-align: right;;">352.00<tr >23<td style="fontweight: bold;text-align: center;;"><td style="text-align: right;;">5.00351.00<td style="textalign: right;;">-0.78style="text-align: right;;">4.94<td style="text-align: right;;">351.00351.00351.00 #161120;text-align: center;">24<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;;">10.00<td style="text-align: right;;">350.00-1.74<td style="textalign: right;;">9.85style="text-align: right;;">350.00align: right;;">9.85 >25<td style="font-

weight: bold;text-align: center;;"><td style="text-align: right;;"><td style="text-align: right;;"> >26<td style="fontweight: bold;text-align: right;;">Average:<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: right;;">5.2493.81td style="text-align: right;;">0.484.91<td style="text-align: right;;"><td style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">27 right;;"><td style="text-align: right;;"><td style="text-align: right;;"><td style="color: #161120;text-align: center;">28<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;text-decoration: underline;;">Weighted Vel<td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: center;text-decoration: underline;;">Weighted Dir<td style="text-align: right;;"> >29<td style="fontweight: bold;text-align: center;;"><td style="font-weight: bold;text-align: right;;">4.93td>td>td>td><td style="text-align: right;;"><td style="text-align: right;;"><p style="width:7.2em; font-weight:bold;margin:0;padding:0.2em 0.6em 0.2em 0.5em;border: 1px solid #BBB;border-top:none;text-align: center;background-color: #DAE7F5;color: #161120">Weighted Dir<br /><br /><table width="85%" cellpadding="2.5px" rules="all" style=";border: 2px solid black;border-collapse:collapse;padding: 0.4em;background-color: #FFFFFF" ><b>Worksheet Formulas</b><table cellpadding="2.5px" width="100%" rules="all" style="border: 1px solid;textalign:center;background-color: #FFFFF;border-collapse: collapse; bordercolor: #BBB"><thead><tr style=" background-color: #DAE7F5;color: #161120">Cell<th style="text-align:left;paddingleft:5px;">Formula</thad><th width="10px" style="

```
background-color: #DAE7F5;color: #161120">D4<td style="text-
align:left">=VelX(<font color="Blue">B4,C4</font>)<th
width="10px" style=" background-color: #DAE7F5;color:
#161120">E4=VelY(<font
color="Blue">B4,C4</font>)<th width="10px" style="
background-color: #DAE7F5;color: #161120">F4<td style="text-
align:left">=PolarCoord(<font color="Blue">D4,E4</font>)<th
width="10px" style=" background-color: #DAE7F5;color:
#161120">B26=AVERAGE(<font
color="Blue">B4:B24</font>)<th width="10px" style="
background-color: #DAE7F5;color: #161120">C26<td style="text-
align:left">=AVERAGE(<font color="Blue">C4:C24</font>)<th
width="10px" style=" background-color: #DAE7F5;color:
#161120">D26=AVERAGE(<font
color="Blue">D4:D24</font>)<th width="10px" style="
background-color: #DAE7F5;color: #161120">E26<td style="text-
align:left">=AVERAGE(<font color="Blue">E4:E24</font>)<th
width="10px" style=" background-color: #DAE7F5;color:
#161120">B29=SQRT(<font
color="Blue">D26^2+E26^2</font>)<th width="10px" style="
background-color: #DAE7F5;color: #161120">C29<td style="text-
align:left">=PolarCoord(<font color="Blue">D26,E26</font>)
<br />
This is for calculating the Velocity X from the magnitude and Direction
 Code:
                                                        D
 Function VelX(M As Range, D As Range) As Single
   Dim pi As Double
   Dim Mag As Double
   Dim Dir As Double
```

```
Mag = M.Value
   Dir = D.Value
   pi = Atn(1) * 4
   VelX = Mag * Cos(2 * pi * (90 - Dir) / 360)
 End Function
This is for calculating the Velocity Y from the Magnitude and Direction
 Code:
                                                                 Ð
 Function VelY(M As Range, D As Range) As Single
   Dim pi As Double
   Dim Mag As Double
   Dim Dir As Double
   Mag = M.Value
   Dir = D.Value
   pi = Atn(1) * 4
   VelY = Mag * Sin(2 * pi * (90 - Dir) / 360)
 End Function
This is for calculating the degrees from Velocity X and Velocity Y values
 Code:
                                                                 Ð
```

```
Function PolarCoord(Xrng As Range, Yrng As Range) As Single
  Dim rAlpha As Single
  Dim x As Double
  Dim y As Double
  Dim pi As Double
  x = Xrng.Value
  y = Yrng.Value
  pi = Atn(1) * 4
  If x = 0 Then
   If y = 0 Then
     rAlpha = 90
     rAlpha = 90 - ((y / y) * 90)
    End If
  Else
   rAlpha = 360 + (180 / pi * ATAN2(y, x))
  End If
  If rAlpha < 0 Then
      rAlpha = rAlpha + 360
 ElseIf rAlpha > 360 Then
    rAlpha = rAlpha - 360
 End If
```

### I just like using a ATAN2 built in function instead of using worksheetfunction

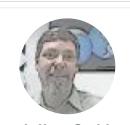
```
Code:

Function ATAN2(ByVal y As Double, ByVal x As Double) As Double

Dim Rad As Double

If x = 0 Then

Rad = 2 * Atn((Sqr(x * x + y * y) - y))
```



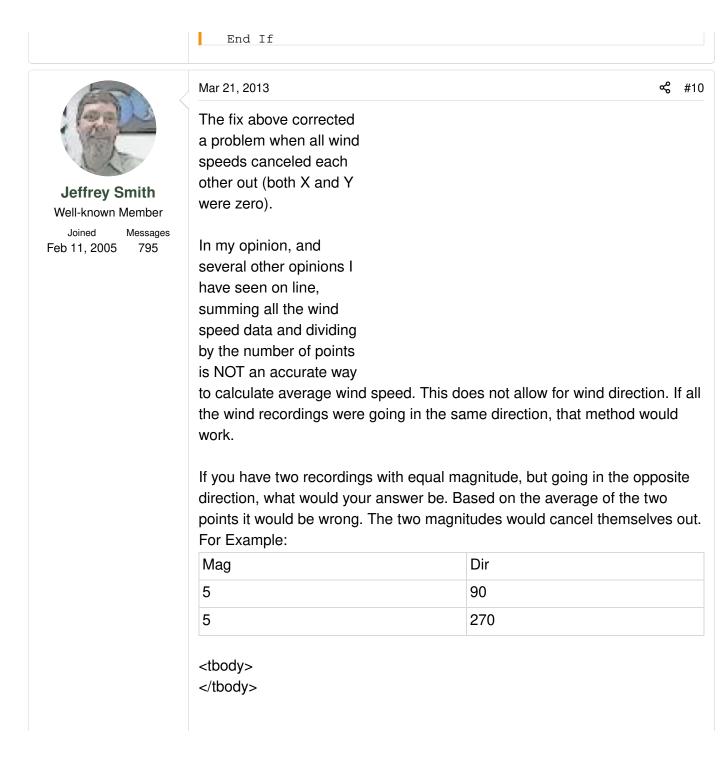
Jeffrey Smith
Well-known Member

Joined Messages
Feb 11, 2005 795

```
Else
Rad = 2 * Atn((Sqr(x * x + y * y) - y) / x)
End If
If Rad < 0 Then Rad = Rad + pi * 2

ATAN2 = Rad
End Function
Please use the PolarCoord function below. One minor fix.
```

```
Code:
                                                             Ð
Function PolarCoord(Xrng As Range, Yrng As Range) As Single
  Dim rAlpha As Single
  Dim x As Double
 Dim y As Double
  Dim pi As Double
 x = Xrng.Value
 y = Yrng.Value
  pi = Atn(1) * 4
  If x = 0 Then
    If y = 0 Then
      rAlpha = 0
    Else
      rAlpha = 90 - ((y / y) * 90)
    End If
  Else
    rAlpha = 360 + (180 / pi * ATAN2(y, x))
  End If
  If rAlpha < 0 Then
      rAlpha = rAlpha + 360
 ElseIf rAlpha > 360 Then
    rAlpha = rAlpha - 360
```



Sum = 10

10 divided by 2 is 5 < wrong

The mean wind speed should be zero

5 - 5 = 0

0/2 = 0

A wind speed magnitude higher than others should be given more weight. For example:

Mag	Dir
5	90
10	270

Sum = 15

15 divided by 2 is 7.5 < wrong

The mean wind speed should be 2.5

10 - 5 = 5

5/2 = 2.5

Of course this simple math only works with two wind speeds going in opposite directions.

Jeff

Last edited: Mar 21, 2013

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