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7/21/2011 Ether
Here's a simple C function CWYdeg(x,y)
which returns an angle from 0 to 360 degrees
measured clockwise from the +Y Cartesian axis
when given Cartesian coordinates (x,y)
Using single-precision floats, the accuracy
is better than +/-0.17 degree over the
entire 0 to 360 range.
Using a similar technique, it is straightforward
to create a function which returns angles either
clockwise or counterclockwise, from the +X or -X
or +Y or -Y axis, in the range 0 to 360
or -180 to +180
The coefficients for the "helper function" f()
were determined using linear algebra techniques
to minimize the maximum absolute error.
* /
#include <stdio.h>
float CWYdeg(float x, float y) {
float f(float t);
if (x>=0) if (y>=0) if (y>x) return f(x/y); else
if (x==0) return 0; else return 90-f(y/x); else
if (-y \le x) return 90+f(-y/x); else return 180-f(-x/y); else
if (y <= 0) if (y <= x) return 180+f(x/y); else return 270-f(y/x); else
if (y \le -x) return 270+f(-y/x); else return 360-f(-x/y);
float f(float t) {
const float c = -0.0802884041;
const float b= 60.81576;
const float a = -15.574181;
return t*(a*t+b)+c;
// here's code to test the function:
void test(float x, float y) {printf("x=%f y=%f CWYdeg(x,y)=%f\n",x,y,CWYdeg(x,y));}
void main(void){
test(0,0);
test(0,1);
test(1,1);
test(1,0);
test(0,-1);
test(-1, -1);
test(-1,0);
test(-1,1);
test(-0.0001,1);
```