



## Full Paper

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## On the system analysis of the foundations of trigonometry

### Abstract

Analysis of the foundations of standard trigonometry is proposed. The unity of formal logic and of rational dialectics is methodological basis of the analysis. It is shown that the foundations of trigonometry contradict to the principles of system approach and contain formal-logical errors. The principal logical error is that the definitions of trigonometric functions represent quantitative relationships between the different qualities: between qualitative determinacy of angle and qualitative determinacy of rectilinear segments (legs) in rectangular triangle. These relationships do not satisfy the standard definition of mathematical function because there are no mathematical operations that should be carry out on qualitative determinacy of angle to obtain qualitative determinacy of legs. Therefore, the left-hand and right-hand sides of the standard mathematical definitions have no the identical sense. The logical errors determine the essence of trigonometry: standard trigonometry is a false theory.

### Key Words

Mathematics; Physics; Mathematical physics; Geometry; Engineering; Formal logic; Philosophy of science.

## INTRODUCTION

Recently, the progress of science, engineering, and technology has led to rise of the new problem – the problem of rationalization of the fundamental sciences. Rationalization of sciences is impossible without rationalization of thinking and critical analysis of the foundations of sciences within the framework of the correct methodological basis: the unity of formal logic and of rational dialectics. Critical analysis of the sciences within the framework of this methodological basis shows<sup>[1-9]</sup> that the foundations of theoretical physics and mathematical formalism

of theoretical physics (for example, classical geometry, the Pythagorean theorem, differential and integral calculus, vector calculus) contain logical errors.

As is well known, trigonometry is a branch of mathematics that studies trigonometric functions and their applications to geometry<sup>[10-14]</sup>. Trigonometric functions occupy an important place in the modern mathematical formalism, are widely and successfully used in the natural sciences. However, this does not mean that the problem of validity of trigonometry is now completely solved, or that the foundations of trigonometry are not in need of formal-logical and dialectical analysis. In my view, standard

trigonometry cannot be considered as absolute truth if there is no formal-logical and dialectical substantiation of trigonometry.

As is well known, the starting point and basis of trigonometry is calculation of the elements of the geometrical figure – rectangular triangle. The necessity of solution of computational geometrical problems in the initial stages of development of trigonometry was stipulated by practice: trigonometry served as a means of solving practical problems. Therefore, understanding the essence of trigonometry is impossible without the critical analysis of classical geometry. And understanding the essence of geometry is possible only on the basis of the solution of the problem of the relation between geometry and natural sciences.

The problem of relation between geometry and natural sciences attracted special attention of physicists in the 20th century. In 20th century, modern physical (logical, philosophical, and connected with practice) approach to understanding of essence of geometry has arisen. This approach has been proposed by Einstein in connection with creation of the theory of relativity. In spite of the fact that the theory of relativity is erroneous one<sup>[1]</sup>, Einstein's approach does not contradict the sense of Euclid's text "Elements" and is as follows<sup>[15]</sup>: "Among of all sciences, mathematics is held in special respect because its theorems are absolutely true and incontestable whereas other sciences' laws are fairly disputable and there is always danger of their refutation by new discoveries. However, mathematics propositions are based not upon real objects, but exceptionally on objects of our imagination. In this connection, there is a question which excited researchers of all times. Why is possible such excellent conformity of mathematics with real objects if mathematics is only product of the human thought which have been not connected with any experience? Can the human reason understand properties of real things by only reflection without any experience? In my opinion, the answer to this question is in brief as follows: if mathematics theorems are applied to reflection of the real world, they are not exact; they are exact if they do not refer to the reality. Mathematics itself can say nothing about real objects. However, on the other hand, it is also truth that mathematics in general and geometry in particular have its origin in the fact that there is necessity to learn something about behavior of materially existent objects. It is clear that from system of concepts of axiomatic geometry it is impossible to obtain any judgments about such really existent objects which we call by practically solid bodies. In order to such judgments were possible, we should deprive geometry of its formal-logical character having compared the empty scheme of concepts of axiomatic geometry to real objects of our experience. For this purpose, it is enough to add only such statement: solid bodies behave in sense of various possi-

bilities of a mutual position as bodies of Euclidean geometry of three measurements; thus, theorems of Euclidean geometry enclose the statements determining behavior of practically solid bodies. The geometry supplemented with such statement becomes, obviously, natural science; we can consider it actually as the most ancient branch of physics. Its statements are based essentially upon empirical conclusions and not just on the logical conclusions. We will call further the geometry supplemented in such a way as "practical geometry" unlike "purely axiomatic geometry". However, Einstein's approach has not been correctly analyzed and grounded in works of contemporary scientists. Besides, this approach is not generally accepted because it does not contain a methodological key to solution of the problem of relation between geometry and natural sciences. Therefore, this problem was not solved in 20<sup>th</sup> century.

As is well known, the problem of relation between geometry and natural sciences remains urgent problem of philosophy and of natural sciences in 21<sup>st</sup> century (see, for example, Adolf Grünbaum's work<sup>[16]</sup>). In the work<sup>[2]</sup>, it was shown within the framework of the unity of formal logic and of rational dialectics that geometry represents field of natural sciences. In other words, the geometry uses mathematical formalism, but is not mathematics. This means that the geometrical elements that are defined by concepts "point", "line", "straight line", "surface", "plane surface", and "triangle" in the elementary (Euclidean) geometry are material objects. From this point of view, the natural-scientific proof of the Euclidean parallel axiom (Euclid's fifth postulate), classification of triangles on the basis of a qualitative (essential) sign, and also material interpretation of Euclid's, Lobachevski's, and Riemann's geometries are possible<sup>[2]</sup>. Since trigonometry – a branch of geometry – studies the relationships between the lengths of legs and the angles of triangles, the problem of analysis of trigonometry as a natural science arises. But there are no works devoted the analysis of trigonometry as a natural science.

The purpose of the present work is to propose the analysis of the foundations of standard trigonometry as a natural science within the framework of the system approach. Methodological basis of the analysis is the unity of formal logic and of rational dialectics. In this case, the dimensions of the quantities are taken into consideration. The analysis is made in the inductive way: from consideration of simple geometrical figures to consideration of the more complex geometrical figures. This way gives an opportunity to understand the essence of trigonometry.

## METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF ANALYSIS

Unity of formal logic and of rational dialectics is the

only correct methodological basis of science. Therefore, any problem should be solved within the framework of this basis. Application of rational dialectics is possible if one concretizes the fundamental principles of dialectics, chooses the method of dialectical analysis. One of the modern methods of dialectical analysis is the system analysis (system approach). The system approach is based on the following concepts and theoretical propositions:

(a) measure is a philosophical category that designates the unity of qualitative and quantitative determinacy of the object. Measure expresses the boundaries which represent conditions of self-identity (or existence) of objects and of phenomena. Measure determines the dimension of the quantity characterizing the object;

(b) quality is inwardly inherent definiteness in objects and phenomena, the organic unity of the properties, signs, and features, which distinguish given object or phenomenon from others. Since all objects and phenomena have a complex structure, the quality can be considered just as the unity of structure and of component elements. There are not qualities, but only objects which have qualities. Quality is a relatively stable set of essential signs. Quality is a holistic characteristic of an object or phenomenon;

(c) property is a philosophical category that designates such aspect of material object, which stipulates (determines) difference or commonality between other objects. Property is one of the aspects of the given object or phenomenon. Some properties express qualitative determinacy of object, others express quantitative determinacy of object;

(d) the system is a set of elements that are in relations and connections with each other, forming a certain integrity, unity;

(e) the system principle reads as follows: property of system is not a consequence of the properties of its elements; the system determines the properties of the elements; and the properties of elements characterize the system;

(f) structure (construction, arrangement, order) is a set of stable connections (bonds) in object, which ensure its integrity and qualitative self-identity (i.e., ensure conservation of the basic properties) under different external and internal changes;

(g) movement is change in general. Quantitative change (i.e., movement) of system is characterized by the concept "state". Quantitative change is transition of system from some of the states into other states. Set of states forms a class. Each member of class is a state of the system;

(h) mathematics studies the quantitative determinacy belonging to the qualitative determinacy of the object. In accordance with formal logic, the left-hand side and right-hand side of the mathematical expression describing the

property of a system (or subsystem) should be relate and belong to the qualitative determinacy of this system (or subsystem), i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of system}) = \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of system}). \end{aligned}$$

The left-hand side and right-hand side of the mathematical expression describing the property of element should be relate and belong to the qualitative determinacy of this element, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of elements}) = \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of elements}). \end{aligned}$$

In other words, the mathematical expression must take into account of the dimension of quantity;

(i) as is well known, the functional relationship (dependence) between variable quantities  $x$  and  $y$  is symbolically designated by the following formula:  $y = f(x)$  where  $x$  is independent variable (argument), and  $y$  is dependent variable (i.e., argument of function). Values of the argument  $x$  in the domain of function  $y$  can be chosen arbitrarily. Values of function  $y$  depend on the values of the argument  $x$ . The letter  $f$  designates the law of correspondence between the independent variable  $x$  and function  $y$ : symbol  $f$  indicates a set of mathematical actions (operations) that one should make on  $x$  to get  $y$ . In accordance with the formal-logical law of identity, the left-hand and right-hand sides of the quantitative relationship  $y = f(x)$  should have the same meaning, the same qualitative determinacy, belong to the same qualitative determinacy:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of quantity } y) = \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of quantity } f(x)). \end{aligned}$$

In accordance with the formal-logical law of absence of contradiction, left-hand and right-hand sides of the quantitative relationship  $y = f(x)$  should not have a different sense, a different qualitative determinacy, belong to different qualitative determinacy:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of quantity } y) \neq \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of quantity non-} f(x)). \end{aligned}$$

In other words, a mathematical expression must take into consideration the dimension of the quantities;

(j) a typical example of a functional dependence between variable quantities  $s$  and  $t$  is the following formula:  $s = vt$  where  $s$  is the path traversed by a material object  $M$  for the time  $t$ , and  $v$  is the speed of the object  $M$ . Path  $s$  represents trajectory length of the material object in the material frame of reference  $Oxy$ . Each point of the trajectory is the state of the object  $M$  in the frame of reference  $Oxy$ . Time  $t$  is a universal information quantity which is determined by the material clock. The clock determines time, and time characterizes the clock. The material object  $M$ , the material frame of reference  $Oxy$ , and the material clock are mutually independent objects: the destruction (or change) of either of the three objects does not lead to

destruction (or change) other objects. In other words, these objects do not form a material system. Since the concepts “quantity  $s$ ” and “quantity  $t$ ” are mutually independent concepts, the logical connection between these concepts is carried out by the concept “quantity  $v$ .” From mathematical point of view, the functional (informational) connection between quantities  $s$  and  $t$  is carried out by mathematical operation: multiplication of quantity  $t$  by  $v$  determines the informational correspondence between quantities  $s$  and  $t$ . Any functional relationship (i.e., mathematical relationship where the left-hand and right-hand sides are connected by sign of equality) represents a definition of one quantity by means of other quantities which enter into this relationship (for example,  $s = vt$ ,  $v = s/t$ ,  $t = s/v$ ). Thus, the existence of informational (i.e., immaterial) connection between variable quantities is an essential sign of the functional dependence.

(k) the essential sign of the system bond is that there is a material bond (connection) between the elements of the material system. The existence of material bond (connection) between the elements of the system signifies the following fact: from the logical point of view, there exist an indissoluble connection between the concepts which characterize the qualitative determinacy of elements; from the mathematical point of view, there exist a one-to-one correspondence between the values of the quantities which characterize the qualitative and quantitative determinacy (i.e., measure) of elements. Since the destruction or change of qualitative determinacy of element of the system leads to the destruction or change of qualitative determinacy of system, destruction or change of bonds between the elements means destruction or change of connection between concepts and between mathematical quantities. Set of states of system forms a class (i.e., space of states of system). The functional (informational) connection of type  $y = f(x)$  can exist between the elements of a class.

### SYSTEM ANALYSIS OF SOME GEOMETRICAL FIGURES

System analysis of geometrical figures represents a task of finding the states of a material system. This task can be reduced to the task of finding quantitative (tabular or analytical) relationships between the characteristics of the elements of the material system under condition of conservation of the structure (i.e., qualitative determinacy) of the system. The correct solution of the task should be based on the following practical operations (steps): (a) one chooses the element which must be subjected to quantitative change (i.e., to movement); selected element undergoes quantitative change without changing the qualitative determinacy of the system; (b) one finds quantitative

changes in other elements stipulated (conditioned) by the change of the selected element; these changes should not lead to a change in the structure of the system (i.e., to a change of the qualitative determinacy of the system); (c) one finds the boundaries of quantitative changes within which the system remains identical to itself; (d) one finds the elements that does not change; (e) one finds a quantitative (tabular or analytic) relationships between the values and dimensions of variables quantities characterizing elements. However, it should be emphasized that one can obtain an analytical solution of the task only in case of a simple statement of the problem or in the case of simple systems. In these cases, an analytical solution represents a proportion.

### The geometrical figure “circle + radius” as a material system

The simplest geometric figure “circle + radius” as a material system can be studied as follows. The material system “circle + radius” is constructed by joining two elements: circle with the center  $O$  and the rectilinear segment  $OA$ . Connection is carried out as follows (Figure 1):

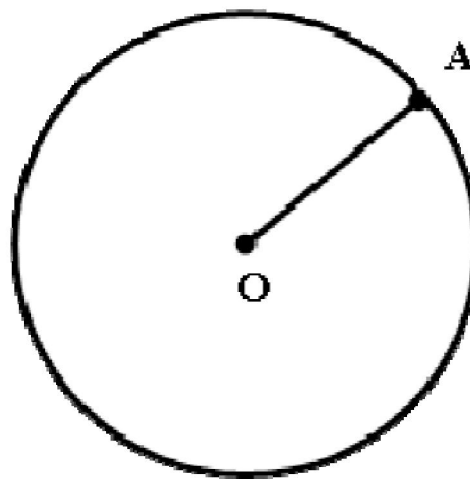


Figure 1 : Geometrical figure “circle + radius  $OA$ ” as a material system. Point  $A$  is a universal joint.

the segment  $OA$  connects the point  $O$  with the point  $A$  lying on the circle (i.e., the segment  $OA$  represents the radius).

If the structure of the system is not changed (i.e., if qualitative determinacy of the system is conserved) under different external and internal quantitative changes, then: (a) change of the length of the segment  $OA$  leads to a change of the length of the circle; (b) change of the length of the circle leads to a change of the length of the segment. As practice shows, this statement is expressed by the following mathematical relationships for relative increments:

$$\text{if } (R - R_1)/R_1 = k_1, \text{ then } (L - L_1)/L_1 = k_1,$$

if  $(L - L_1)/L_1 = k_1$ , then  $(R - R_1)/R_1 = k_1$ ,

where variable quantities  $R$  and  $L$  are radius and length of the circle, respectively (these quantities have the dimension “meter”);  $R_1$  and  $L_1$  are some of the values of variable quantities;  $(R - R_1)$  and  $(L - L_1)$  are increments of the quantities;  $k_1$  is the coefficient of relative increment (extension) of the segments. From these relationships, one can obtain the following equivalent relationships between relative increments of quantities characterizing the elements of the system:

$$k_1 = k_1, L = \left(\frac{L_1}{R_1}\right)R, \frac{L}{R} = \frac{L_1}{R_1}, \frac{L}{L_1} = \frac{R}{R_1},$$

where  $L_1/R_1$  represents the dimensionless coefficient of connection of quantities (the numerical value of the coefficient is determined empirically). These relationships represent the proportions. They do not contain a mathematical definition of the quantity of angle or angle measure since the geometrical system “circle + radius” does not contain an angle. (In other words, the quantity  $L/R$  does not determine the quantity of the angle, i.e. the concept “quantity  $L/R$ ” is not connected with the concept “quantity of angle”). In the case of the system “circle + radius”, the dimensionless quantity  $L/R$  represents “radian measure of length of circle”. If the system does not contain the segment  $OA$ , then the concept “radian measure of length of circle” does not exist. These relationships satisfy the formal-logical laws. For example, the mathematical relationship

$$L = \left(\frac{L_1}{R_1}\right)R$$

satisfies the formal-logical law of identity:

*(qualitative determinacy of system) = (qualitative determinacy of system).*

Unit of length of arc of circle has dimension of length and represents  $1/360$ -th part of  $L$ . In the general case, the length of the segment of arc which constitute (represents)  $n$ -th part of  $L$  is expressed by the following relationship:

$$L/n = \left(\frac{L_1/n}{R_1}\right)R, \frac{L/n}{R} = \frac{L_1/n}{R_1}, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 360, \dots$$

**The geometrical figure “angle” as a material system**

As is well known, the simplest geometrical figure “angle” is one of the most important figures in geometry and trigonometry. This figure as a material system can be constructed and studied as follows.

1. Angle  $\angle AOB$  is called the geometrical figure (material system) constructed by two rectilinear segments (elements)  $OA$  and  $OB$  as follows: (a) the endpoints  $O$  of these segments is bound up with universal joint; (b) segments  $OA$  and  $OB$  can be rotated (revolved) around

(about) the point  $O$  (Figure 2).

The point  $O$  is called the vertex of the angle, and the segments  $OA$  and  $OB$  are called sides of the angle. The

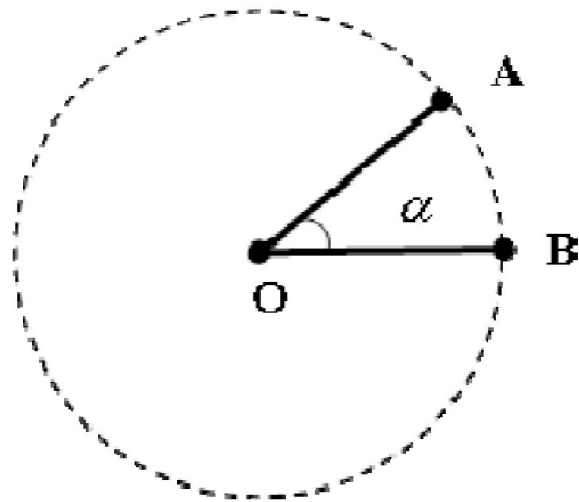


Figure 2 : Geometrical figure “angle  $\angle AOB$  + circle” as a material system. Points  $A, O, B$  are universal joints.

joint gives an opportunity to change the position and length. of the segments  $OA$  and  $OB$ . The angle as the system does not exist if the length of a side is zero.

2. The quantity  $\alpha$  of angle  $\angle AOB$  (i.e., the numerical characteristic of property, the numerical characteristic of the state of the system of elements  $OA$  and  $OB$ ) is a quantity of turn (displacement) of one side of the angle around (about) the point  $O$  relative to the other side. Rotational motion of side of angle can be performed in two opposite directions: “positive” direction (i.e., in a direction which is opposite to the direction of rotational motion of clock hand) and “negative” direction (i.e., in a direction which coincides with the direction of rotational motion of clock hand). Variable quantity  $\alpha$  takes positive numerical values which do not depend on the direction of the rotational movement of the side of the angle and do not depend on the lengths of the sides of the angle. The concepts “angle” and “quantity of angle” are the initial (original) concepts which characterize this system of elements and can not be reduced to other elementary concepts (for example, to concepts such as “segment of line”, “circle”, “length of segment of line”, and “arc length”). In the case of the isolated system “angle”, the concepts “angle” and “circle” are the mutually independent concepts because the existence of geometrical figure “angle” does not depend on the existence of geometrical figure “circle”.

3. The quantity  $\alpha$  is measured by the number of revolutions of the side of angle. This number is a positive number which has the dimension “revolution”. The concept “revolution” designates a result of rotational motion and is not connected with the concept “direction of rotational motion”. If the sides of the angle coincide with each other in the initial position (i.e., before the rotation),

then the quantity  $\alpha$  of the angle  $\angle AOB$  is zero of revolution:  $\alpha = 0$  revolution. If the sides of the angle coincide with each other in the end position (i.e., after the rotation), then the quantity  $\alpha$  of the angle  $\angle AOB$  represents a complete revolution:  $\alpha = 1$  revolution. This angle is called complete angle. If  $\alpha = 1/2$  revolution, then the angle is called flat angle. If  $\alpha = 1/4$  revolution, then the angle is called right angle.  $1/360$ -th part of the complete angle (complete revolution) is called degree (i.e. has the dimension "degree"). Degree is the unique measure (unit) of angle. Dimension "degree" can not be expressed by the dimension "length". (It should be emphasized that the dimensional quantity (for example, "degree") can not be identical with dimensionless quantity (for example, "radian"). Region of admissible values of the angle is  $0^\circ \leq \alpha \leq N^\circ$  where  $N^\circ$  is an arbitrarily large number.

4. In accordance with the formal-logical law of identity, a mathematical expression which describes the quantity  $\alpha$  (as the quantitative determinacy of the system  $\angle AOB$ ) must belong to the following qualitative relation:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of the system } \angle AOB) = \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of the system } \angle AOB). \end{aligned}$$

Mathematical expression which describes length of the side of the angle  $\angle AOB$  (as quantitative determinacy of element of the system  $\angle AOB$ ) must belong to the following qualitative relation:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of the element of the system } \angle AOB) = \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of the element of the system } \angle AOB). \end{aligned}$$

In accordance with the formal-logical law of absence of contradiction, the mathematical expression describing the quantity  $\alpha$  must belong to the following qualitative relation:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of angle}) \neq \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of segment of line}). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that an angle (in particular, a central angle) should not be measured by length of the line segment (in particular, by length of the segment of the arc or by ratio of length of segment of arc to length of radius of this arc). (From the viewpoint of standard geometry, the ratio of length of the arc of the circle to length of the radius of the circle represents radian measure of the central angle. Radian measure of an angle is a dimensionless quantity. Therefore, radian is the name of the dimensionless quantity). In other words, the angle is bound up with the arc of the circle only in case of the system "circle + central angle". Only in this case, there exist a relationship between the quantity of the angle (having dimension "degree") and the quantity of the arc (having dimension "meter"). This relationship is a proportion. Therefore, this relationship is not the definition of the radian measure of angle. This implies that, in the case of the system "angle", concept "radian measure of angle" represents the formal-logical error

consisting in violations of the law of identity and of the law of absence of contradiction, respectively:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{dimension of angle, i.e. "degree"}) = (\text{dimension of angle, i.e. "degree"}), \\ &(\text{dimension of length, i.e. "meter"}) = (\text{dimension of length, i.e. "meter"}); \\ &(\text{radian measure of angle, that has no dimension}) \neq \\ &(\text{degree (grade) measure of angle, that has dimension "degree"}). \end{aligned}$$

This logical error is manifested, for example, in standard mathematical relationships between the degree (grade) measure of angle and the radian measure of angle:

$$1^\circ = \pi/180 \approx 0,017453 \text{ ("radian")} \text{ and } 1 \text{ ("radian")} = 180^\circ / \pi \approx 57,295^\circ.$$

### The geometrical figure "angle + circle" as a material system

Angle  $\angle AOB$  can represent a subsystem (element) of complex material systems, for example: the angle  $\angle AOB$  inscribed in a circle; the angle  $\angle AOB$  in the triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ; the angle  $\angle AOB$  situated in the Cartesian coordinate system  $Oxy$ . In these cases, the following task arises: one should find quantitative (tabular or analytical) relationships between relative increments of quantities characterizing the elements of a complex system under condition that the structure (i.e., qualitative determinacy) of system is conserved.

In the case of the material system "central angle  $\angle AOB$  + circle" (Figure 2), the relationship between the relative increment of quantity  $\alpha$  of the central angle  $\angle AOB$ , the relative increment of quantity  $l$  of the arc (which underpins the angle), and the quantity  $R$  of the radius of the circle has the following form:

$$\frac{\alpha - \alpha_1}{\alpha_1} = \frac{l - l_1}{l_1}, \quad \frac{\alpha}{\alpha_1} = \frac{l}{l_1}, \quad \alpha = \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{l_1} \right) l,$$

$$l = \left( \frac{l_1}{\alpha_1} \right) \alpha, \quad \alpha = \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{l_1/R} \right) \frac{l}{R}, \quad \frac{l}{R} = \left( \frac{l_1/R}{\alpha_1} \right) \alpha$$

where  $\alpha_1$  (with the dimension "degree"), and  $l_1$  (with the dimension "meter") are some of the values of variable quantities of the angle and of the arc, respectively;  $(\alpha - \alpha_1)$  and  $(l - l_1)$  are increments of quantities of the angle and of the arc, respectively;  $(l_1/\alpha_1)$  is the coefficient of connection (coupling coefficient) of the quantities (the coefficient has dimension "meter/degree");  $(l/R)$  is a radian measure of arc. This relationship represents a proportion. The proportion satisfies the formal-logical laws: law of identity and law of absence of contradiction:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{qualitative determinacy of arc of circle}) = \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of arc of circle}); \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of angle}) = \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of angle}). \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of angle}) \neq \\ &(\text{qualitative determinacy of arc of circle}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the connection between degree measure of angle and radian measure of the arc exists only in the case of the system “central angle + circle”. From the formal-logical point of view, this connection should not be expressed in the form of the following standard definitions:

$$1^\circ = \pi/180 \approx 0,017453 \text{ (“radian”) and } 1 \text{ (“radian”) } = 180^\circ/\pi \approx 57,295^\circ.$$

(Note: If the angle  $\angle AOB$  is in coordinate system  $Oxy$ , then the lengths of its sides can be expressed in units of length of coordinate scales. However, this does not mean that the quantity  $\alpha$  (having dimension “degree”) can be expressed in units of length of coordinate scales: quality  $\alpha$  does not belong to qualitative determinacy of the coordinate system  $Oxy$ ).

**The geometrical figure “right triangle” as a material system**

As is well known, the triangle is one of the most important figures in geometry and trigonometry. This figure as a material system can be constructed and studied as

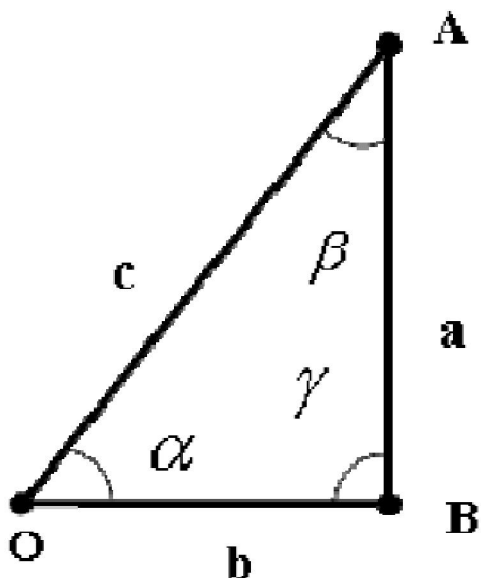


Figure 3 : Geometrical figure “right triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ” as a material system. Points  $O, A, B$  are universal joints.

follows.

1. The triangle is constructed as follows. If the sides of the angle are bound up with the rectilinear segment, then the synthesized system (the constructed geometrical figure)  $\Delta AOB$  is called triangle (Figure 3).

Three points  $O, A, B$  are called vertexes of triangle. The rectilinear segments  $a, b, c$  bounded (bordered) by vertexes are called legs of triangle  $\Delta AOB$ . Triangle as a material system does not exist, if length of any leg is equal to zero. Existence of interior angles  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  of triangle leads to rise of the essential sign (parameter) of system: the sum  $S = \alpha + \beta + \gamma$ . The problem of value

of the sum  $S$  is the essence of the problem of Euclid’s V-th postulate. Value of  $S$  can be determined only by means of experimental investigation of properties of triangle as a material system<sup>[2]</sup>.

2. The experimental device for determination of value  $S$  represents the following material design: material triangle  $\Delta AOB$  which has vertexes  $O, A, B$  as joints. The joints give opportunity to change the following characteristics of triangle: values of quantities  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  of angles and lengths of legs  $a, b, c$  of the triangle under the condition that  $a \neq 0, b \neq 0, c \neq 0$ . In other words, joints give an opportunity of structural (“internal”) movement of triangle (i.e., transitions from some structural states into others). (By definition, the structural movement of the system is the conservation of the basic properties of the system under various internal and external changes).

Structural movement of triangle is reduced to two elementary movements of its legs: to the “shift along a straight line” and to the “rotation around a point”). Statement of the problem of Euclid’s V-th postulate is as follows: it is necessary to show experimentally that  $S = 180^\circ$  and this property of a triangle (as a system) does not depend on properties of elements of a triangle. In other words, it is necessary to show that  $S$  is the invariant of the structural movement of a triangle.

The result of the experiment is as follows<sup>[2]</sup>:

- (a) if the quantity  $\alpha$  is subject to change, then this change leads to a change quantities  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ ;  $0^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 180^\circ$ ;  $0^\circ \leq \beta \leq 180^\circ$ ;  $0^\circ \leq \gamma \leq 180^\circ$ ;
- (b) if  $\alpha \rightarrow 0^\circ$ , then  $\beta + \gamma \rightarrow 180^\circ$ ;
- (c) if  $\alpha \rightarrow 180^\circ$ , then  $\beta + \gamma \rightarrow 0^\circ$ ;
- (d)  $0^\circ \leq (\beta + \gamma) \leq 180^\circ$ ;
- (e) area (as a variable) is not essential sign of a triangle;
- (f) lengths of legs  $a, b, c$  of triangle are not equal to zero.

In other words, unlike reasoning of A.M. Legendre, it is not assumed in this experiment that “legs of triangle increase infinitely” (N. Lobachevski<sup>[17]</sup>).

Therefore, it is possible “to conclude from this that approaching of opposite legs to the third side under decrease of two angles is necessarily finished with transmutation of other angle into two right angles” (N. Lobachevski<sup>[17]</sup>). This result of the experiment signifies that quantity  $S$  represents the sum of the adjacent angles  $\alpha$  and  $(\beta + \gamma)$ . Hence,  $S = 180^\circ$ . Thus, Euclid’s V-th postulate (or the axiom V in the list of Hilbert’s axioms<sup>[18]</sup>) is proven. Consequence is as follows: the list of Hilbert’s axioms<sup>[18]</sup> is incomplete because it does not contain the definition of concept of triangle; therefore, axiom V is not a logical consequence of axioms I-IV. (In other words, the properties of the triangle can be learned only if the triangle has already been constructed (i.e., if the triangle is defined in the list of axioms). Therefore, the property ( $S$

= 180) of the triangle  $\Delta AOB$  as the system is not a logical consequence of the property of the angle  $\angle AOB$ ).

Thus, the experimental study of the properties of a triangle as a material system gives an opportunity to prove Euclid's V-th postulate.

3. The class of rectangular triangles occupies an important place in geometry and trigonometry because: firstly, any triangle can be divided (decomposed) into two rectangular triangles; and secondly, the definition of standard trigonometric functions of acute angle is based on the consideration of rectangular triangle. There is no functional relationship of type  $y = f(x)$  between the quantitative characteristics of the elements of the triangle as a material system. Therefore, the study of the relation between the quantitative characteristics of the elements of rectangular triangle is an experimental (practical) study of structural movement of rectangular triangle, i.e., in an experimental study of a class of rectangular triangles.

The class of rectangular triangles determines a set of states (i.e., space) of rectangular triangle, and the set of states (i.e., space) of rectangular triangle characterizes the class of rectangular triangles. The state of rectangular triangle as a material system composed of six elements represents a measure of the triangle (measure is the unity of qualitative and of quantitative determinacy of a material object) and is symbolically designated as follows:

$$\Delta AOB(a, b, c; \alpha, \beta, \gamma).$$

The existence condition for of a rectangular triangle has the following form (Figure 3):

$$a \neq 0, b \neq 0, c \neq 0; 0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ, \beta = 90^\circ - \alpha, \gamma = 90^\circ, \alpha + \beta + \gamma = 180^\circ.$$

The symbol  $\Delta AOB$  designates the form (i.e. qualitative determinacy, qualitative aspect) of geometrical figure; the symbol  $(a, b, c; \alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  designates the content (i.e. quantitative determinacy, the quantitative aspect) geometrical figure. The state of the rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  taking into consideration the condition of existence (existence condition) of the triangle is designated as follows:

$$\Delta AOB(a, b, c; \alpha, \beta = 90^\circ - \alpha, \gamma = 90^\circ).$$

Movement of rectangular triangle in the space of states means mathematically that quantities  $a, b, c$  and  $\alpha, \beta$  are variable quantities. As is well know, there are two tasks of study rectangular triangles: a geometrical task and trigonometric task. If  $\alpha = const, \beta = const, \gamma = 90^\circ$ , and  $a, b, c$  are variable quantities, the set of rectangular triangles forms a subclass of similar rectangular triangles which are studied in geometry. The statement of the task in the standard trigonometry is as follows: one should find the values of variable quantities  $a, b, c$  under change the values of variable quantity  $\alpha$ .

One can prove experimentally the following facts: the destruction of the angle  $\angle AOB$  leads to destruction of the triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ; generally, the change of the values of variable quantity  $\alpha$  leads to a change of the values of variable quantities  $a, b, c$ ; generally, change the values of variable quantities  $a, b, c$  leads to a change of the values of variable quantity  $\alpha$ . These facts mean that: (a) variable quantity  $\alpha$  is not an independent quantity; (b) all the variable quantities are mutually dependent quantities. Consequently, the result of an experimental study of the states (i.e. structural movement) of rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  is the following expression:

$$\Delta AOB(a_n, b_n, c_n; \alpha_n, \beta_n = 90^\circ - \alpha_n, \gamma = 90^\circ), n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

where the index  $n$  numbers the values of variable quantities. One can represent this result in tabular form. Tabular form shows that structural movement as a movement in the space of states is transitions of dimensional quantity from some values to others:

$$a_n \rightarrow a_{n+1}, b_n \rightarrow b_{n+1}, c_n \rightarrow c_{n+1}; \alpha_n \rightarrow \alpha_{n+1}.$$

These relations satisfy the formal-logical law of identity:

$$(\text{qualitative determination of element}) = (\text{qualitative determination of element}).$$

The relations

$$a_n \rightarrow b_n, a_n \rightarrow c_n, b_n \rightarrow c_n, \alpha_n \rightarrow a_n, \alpha_n \rightarrow b_n$$

between the dimensional quantities which belong to different elements of the system contrary to the formal-logical law of absence of contradiction. But the relationships between the relative increments of quantities which belong to different elements of the system satisfy the formal-logical laws because these relationships represent proportions.

One can prove the following key propositions: (a) there are the determinative quantities and determinable quantities among the variable quantities  $a, b, c, \alpha, \beta$  which characterize rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ; (b) the quantity  $\alpha$  of angle does not determine the legs  $a, b$  of rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ; (c) the legs  $a, b$  of rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  determine the quantity  $\alpha$  of angle. The proof is based on three standard signs of the equality of triangles. These signs are practical signs of equality of triangles and are as follows:

(a) The first sign of equality of triangles reads as follows: if the two legs and one angle between them of the triangle are respectively equal to the two legs and one angle between them of another triangle, then such triangles are equal to each other.

(b) The second sign of equality of triangles reads as follows: if one leg and two adjacent angles of the triangle are respectively equal to leg and two adjacent angles of another triangle, then such triangles are equal to each other.



(c) The third sign of equality of triangles reads as follows: if three legs of the triangle are respectively equal to the three legs of another triangle, then such triangles are equal to each other.

Note: All three signs of equality of triangles contain the common statement that there is at least one leg of the triangle among the three given elements.

Since the triangle can be represented as a material system of two subsystems, the signs of equality triangles express the relation between measures (measure is the unity of qualitative and quantitative determinacy) of the subsystems of the triangle: the measure of one subsystem determines the measure of another subsystem. In essence, these three signs of equality of triangles represent practical criteria of qualitative and quantitative determinacy of the triangle. Indeed, triangle is qualitatively and quantitatively determined (i.e., triangle has certain measure: all elements has certain measures, and, therefore, concrete triangle can be constructed) if the following subsystems are qualitatively and quantitatively determined (i.e., measures are given):

(a) subsystem composed (consisting) of three elements: two legs and the angle between them; (b) or subsystem composed (consisting) of three elements: leg and two adjacent angles; (c) or subsystem composed (consisting) of three elements: the three legs. Thus, the triangle has two subsystems: the determinative subsystem composed (consisting) of three determinative elements (whose measures are given, are known); and determinable subsystem composed (consisting) of three determinable elements (whose measures are not given, but can be found by constructing and measuring). There is always at least one leg among the three determinative elements of the triangle. This implies that: legs  $a, b$  of rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  are determined if angles  $\alpha, \beta$  and leg  $c$  are determined; legs  $a, b$  of rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  is not determined if only angle  $\alpha$  is determined because the angle  $\alpha$  does not determine the legs  $a, b$ ; the angle  $\alpha$  of rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  is determined if the legs  $a, b$  are determined. Thus, the key propositions are proven.

Statement of the task in standard trigonometry can be simplified if one inserts (introduces) the following conditions into consideration: the value of the quantity  $c$  is given and  $c = const$ . In this case, the value of the quantity  $\alpha$  determines the values of the quantities  $a, b$ . Then the state of the rectangular triangle has the following form:

$$\Delta AOB(a_n, b_n, c = const; \alpha_n, \beta_n = 90^\circ - \alpha_n, \gamma = 90), n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

In this connection, it should be noted that, from the formal-logical point of view, it is impossible to formulate correctly signs of equality of triangles in the form of mathematical relationships between quantities which have distinct (different) qualitative determinacy (i.e., dimension).

Explanation is that the signs of equality of triangles express the relation between the measures (measure is the unity of qualitative and quantitative aspects) of subsystems of the triangle. But standard mathematics abstracts the quantitative aspect from the qualitative aspect of the object and studies only the quantitative aspect. Therefore, the correct mathematical relationships should have a sense of proportion.

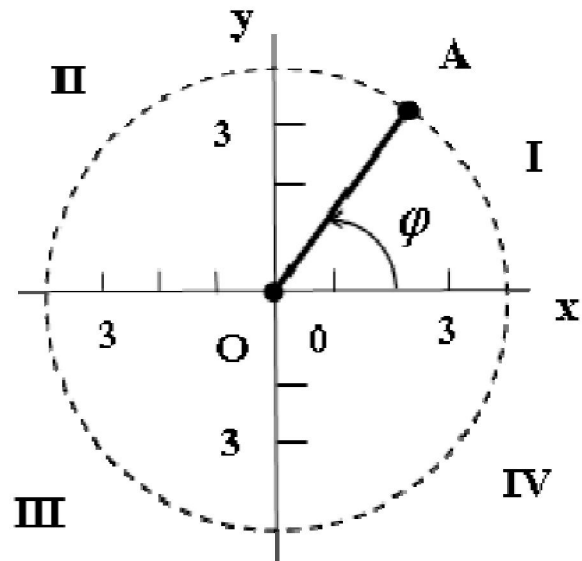


Figure 4 : Geometrical figure “mobile radius OA + coordinate system  $Oxy$ ” as a material system. Points  $O$  and  $A$  are universal joints;  $\varphi$  is the quantity of angle between the segment  $OA$  and the horizontal scale  $x$ .

**The geometrical figure “mobile radius + coordinate system” as a material system**

The geometrical figure “mobile radius + coordinate system” is used in the standard trigonometry to determine the trigonometric functions of arbitrary angle. This figure as a material system can be constructed and studied as follows.

1. In order to study the geometrical figure “mobile radius + coordinate system” as a material system (i.e., to study experimentally), it is necessary to construct a practical (i.e. material) coordinate system. The practical coordinate system on the plane is constructed as follows (Figure 4):

- (a) two rulers (for example, with scale marks (deletions) “centimeter”) are rigidly joined at point  $O$  forming an angle  $180^\circ$  and are horizontally arranged; this scale is called a horizontal scale  $x$ ;
- (b) other two rulers (for example, with scale marks (deletions) “centimeter”) are rigidly joined at point  $O$  forming an angle  $180^\circ$  and are vertically arranged; this scale is called a vertical scale  $y$ ;
- (c) the angle between the scales has constant value  $90^\circ$ ;
- (d) horizontal and vertical scales are fastened onto plane and divide the plane into four parts: the quarters I, II, III, IV.

Then the geometrical figure (i.e., the material geometri-

cal system) “mobile radius  $OA$  + coordinate system” is constructed as follows (Figure 4): (a) the boundary point  $O$  of the rectilinear segment  $OA$  is connected

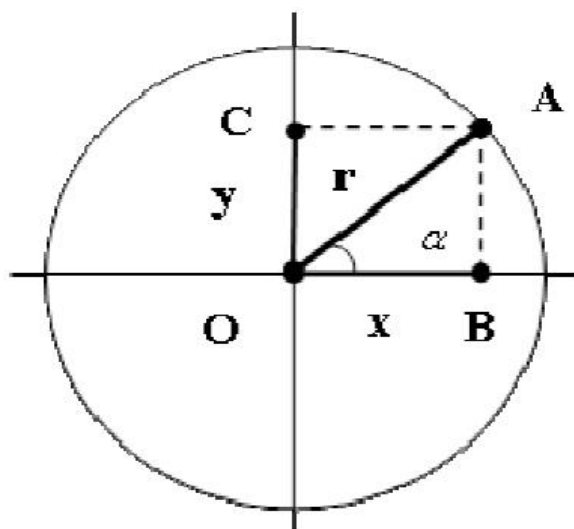


Figure 5 : Geometrical figure “circle + rectangle  $OBAC$  + coordinate system” as a material system. Segment  $OA$  is mobile radius; segments  $OB$  and  $OC$  are projections of radius;  $\alpha$  is quantity of the angle between the segments  $OB$  and  $OA$ ; points  $O, A, B, C$  are universal joints.

with the point  $O$  of the practical coordinate system  $Oxy$  by joint; (b) the angle between the segment  $OA$  and horizontal scale  $x$  is designated by the letter  $\varphi$ ; (c) the segment  $OA$  can rotate around the point  $O$  in the direction of counter-clockwise rotation, so that the quantity  $\varphi$  of angle is considered to be an independent variable; the range of variation of the quantity  $\varphi$  is  $0^\circ \leq \varphi \leq N^\circ$  where  $N^\circ$  is an arbitrarily large number.

2. Trigonometric task is to study experimentally the relationship between the quantity  $\varphi$  of angle and the projections of the segment  $OA$  onto the coordinate scales. Solution of the task is the following results (Figures 4 and 5).

Segment  $OA$  is mobile radius. Projections of radius  $OA$  onto the coordinate scales represent segments  $OB$  and  $OC$ . The quantity of angle between the segments  $OB$  and  $OA$  is  $\alpha$ . Rotation of radius  $OA$  is accompanied by a change in the lengths of segments  $OB$  and  $OC$ . This means that the radius and the projections are the elements of the material (kinematic) system “rectangle  $OBAC$  + diagonal  $OA$ ”. Introducing the designations  $OA \equiv r, OB \equiv x, OC \equiv y$ , one can express mathematically the existence condition for rectangle  $OBAC$  as follows:  $x \neq 0, y \neq 0, r = const, 0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ . This existence condition is identical with the existence condition for the rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  because the diagonal  $OA$  divides the rectangle  $OBAC$  into two equal rectangular triangles  $\Delta AOB$  and  $\Delta AOC$ .

The rotation of radius  $OA$  leads to a change in values

of quantities  $\varphi$  and  $\alpha$ . The quantity  $\varphi$  in the quarters I, II, III, IV possess the values  $0^\circ \leq \varphi \leq 90^\circ, 90^\circ \leq \varphi \leq 180^\circ, 180^\circ \leq \varphi \leq 270^\circ, 270^\circ \leq \varphi \leq 360^\circ$ , respectively. The following values of quantity  $\alpha$  correspond to the values of quantity  $\varphi$ :

- (a) if  $\varphi = 0^\circ$ , then  $\alpha = 0^\circ, y = 0$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  do not exist;
- (b) if  $0^\circ < \varphi < 90^\circ$ , then  $0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  exist in the quarter I;
- (c) if  $\varphi = 90^\circ$ , then  $\alpha = 90^\circ, x = 0$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  do not exist;
- (d) if  $90^\circ < \varphi < 180^\circ$ , then  $0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  exist in quarter II;
- (e) if  $\varphi = 180^\circ$ , then  $\alpha = 0^\circ, y = 0$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  do not exist;
- (f) If  $180^\circ < \varphi < 270^\circ$ , then  $0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  exist in quarter III;
- (g) if  $\varphi = 270^\circ$ , then  $\alpha = 0^\circ, x = 0$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  do not exist;
- (h) If  $270^\circ < \varphi < 360^\circ$ , then  $0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  exist in quarter IV;
- (i) if  $\varphi = 360^\circ$ , then  $\alpha = 0^\circ, y = 0$ . Consequently, triangle  $\Delta AOB$  and rectangle  $OBAC$  do not exist.

This implies that the increase in values of quantity of  $\varphi$  under rotation of the radius  $OA$  leads to movement (displacement) of the rectangle  $OBAC$  (and triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ) from quarter I into quarter IV. At that, the change in the values of the quantity  $\alpha$  occurs as follows:  $\alpha$  increases in quarters I and III;  $\alpha$  decreases in quarters II and IV. This means that the change in values of the quantity  $\alpha$  at increase in values of the quantity  $\varphi$  is periodic motion.

Thus, the range of permissible values of quantity  $\alpha$  of the angle  $\angle AOB$  under rotation of the radius  $OA$  is  $0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ ; impermissible values are  $\alpha = 0^\circ$  and  $\alpha = 90^\circ$  because rectangle  $OBAC$  and triangle  $\Delta AOB$  do not exist for the values  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ ; the study of the material system “mobile radius  $OA$  + coordinate system” reduces to the study of the material system “rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ”.

### The geometrical figure “circle + central angle + rectangular triangle + coordinate system” as a material system

Analysis of the material system “circle + central angle + right triangle + coordinate system” gives the key to understanding the essence of the standard trigonometry.

The system “circle + central angle  $\angle AOB$  + rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  + coordinate system” consists of two subsystems: the subsystem “circle + central angle  $\angle AOB$ ” and the subsystem “rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  + coordi-

nate system” (Figures 4 and 5). The following assertions are true for each of the subsystems:

1) in the case of subsystem “circle + central angle  $\angle AOB$ ”, the relationship between dimensional quantities  $\varphi$  and  $l$  has the following form:

$$\varphi = \left( \frac{\varphi_1}{l_1/r} \right) \frac{l}{r}.$$

This relationship represents the proportion of the relative increments of quantities  $\varphi$  and  $l$  describing the different elements;

2) in the case of subsystem “rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  + coordinate system”, the relationship between the dimensional quantities  $\alpha$  and  $y$  in the linear approximation has the following form:

$$\frac{\alpha - \alpha_1}{\alpha_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{y_1}, \alpha = \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{y_1} \right) y.$$

This linear relationship represents the proportion of the relative increments of quantities  $\alpha$  and  $y$  describing the different elements;

3) in the case of subsystem “rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  + coordinate system”, the relationship between the dimensional quantities  $\alpha$  and  $x$  in the linear approximation has the following form:

$$\frac{\alpha - \alpha_1}{\alpha_1} = - \frac{x - x_1}{x_1}.$$

This linear relationship represents the proportion of relative increments of quantities  $\alpha$  and  $x$  describing the different elements;

4) In the case of the subsystem “rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  + coordinate system”, the relationship between the dimensional quantities  $y$  and  $x$  in the linear approximation has the following form:

$$\frac{y - y_1}{y_1} = - \frac{x - x_1}{x_1}.$$

This linear relationship represents the proportion of relative increments of quantities  $y$  and  $x$  describing the different elements.

One can obtain linear relationship between the relative increments of quantities  $l$  and  $y$  relating to different elements of the subsystems if one takes into consideration that  $\alpha = \varphi$  under  $0^\circ < \varphi < 90^\circ$ . Substituting the expressions for  $\alpha$  and  $\varphi$  into equality  $\alpha = \varphi$ , one obtains the following relationship between  $(l/r)$  and  $(y/r)$ :

$$\left( \frac{\varphi_1}{l_1} \right) \frac{l}{r} = \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{y_1} \right) \frac{y}{r}, \alpha_1 = \varphi_1,$$

i.e.  $\left( \frac{y_1}{l_1} \right) \frac{l}{r} = \frac{y}{r}, l \neq y.$

This relationship represents the proportion and ex-

presses the connection between arc length  $l$  (or radian measure  $(l/r)$  of the arc) and the length of the leg  $y$  of the rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ . This relationship exists only in the case of the complete system “circle + central angle  $\angle AOB$  + rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  + coordinate system”.

Thus, mathematical relationship between the measure of the arc of circle and the leg  $y$  of the rectangular triangle does not exist in the case of separate (single) system “rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ ”.

### ON THE ESSENCE OF STANDARD TRIGONOMETRY

As is known, the standard statement of task in trigonometry is formulated as follows: it is necessary to find the trigonometric functions, i.e. relationship between arbitrary values of quantity  $\alpha$  of angle and values of quantities  $x, y$  of the rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  under condition that the quantity  $r = const$  is given (Figure 4 and 5). The standard solution of this task is the following basic trigonometric functions:

$$\sin \alpha = y/r, \cos \alpha = x/r, \operatorname{tg} \alpha = y/x, \alpha = l/r.$$

The form of these relationships shows that one considers the system “circle + central angle  $\angle AOB$  + rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$  + coordinate system”: the quantities  $r$  and  $l$  characterize the circle; the quantity  $\alpha$  characterizes the central angle; quantities  $x, y$  characterize the projections of the mobile radius  $OA$ ; quantities  $x, y, r, \alpha$  characterize the inscribed rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ . These relationships are not free from objection.

(a) The first objection is that these relationships under the values  $\alpha = 0^\circ$  and  $\alpha = 90^\circ$  of the angle  $\angle AOB$  does not satisfy the condition of existence of rectangle  $OBAC$  and of rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ .

(b) The second objection is that these relationships do not satisfy the standard definition of the function because there are no mathematical operations which one should carries out on the quantity  $\alpha$  to obtain relationships  $\sin \alpha = y/r, \cos \alpha = x/r, \operatorname{tg} \alpha = y/x$ . Therefore, the conformity operations

$$\alpha \rightarrow y, \alpha \rightarrow x, \alpha \rightarrow y/x$$

and standard mathematical relationships between the dimensional quantities which belong to different elements of the system contrary to the formal-logical law of absence of contradiction. If there were any operations (rules) of conformity, these operations (rules) of conformity would have the character of non-mathematical operations (rules) because these operations (rules) would change the qualitative determinacy of the angle  $\alpha$  transmuting angle  $\alpha$  (with the dimension “degree”) into the qualitative determinacy of the legs (with the dimension “meter”).

However, the relationships between the relative increments of quantities belonging to different elements of the system satisfy the formal-logical laws because these relationships represent proportions.

(c) The third objection is that the standard trigonometric functions describing quantitative relationships between the quantity  $\alpha$  and the quantities of line segments do not represent proportions and therefore do not meet the formal-logical law of absence of contradiction:

*(qualitative determination of the angle)  $\neq$*   
*(qualitative determination of the line segment).*

According to the formal-logical law of identity, the correct mathematical (quantitative) expressions describing the quantities of the angle and of the line segment must belong to the following qualitative relations:

*(qualitative certainty angle) =*  
*(qualitative determination of the angle);*  
*(qualitative determination of the line segment) =*  
*(qualitative determination of the line segment).*

As is well known, the radian measure of the arc or the angle is always used in the standard course of mathematical analysis (for example, there are used expressions of type  $(\sin \alpha)/\alpha$ ,  $(\alpha + \sin \alpha)$  as well as expansion of the quantity  $\sin \alpha$  in series where  $\alpha$  some variable quantity which has no dimension). But the concept “radian measure of angle” represents a logical error. Therefore, the use of the radian measure of angle gives rise to erroneous mathematical expressions. For example, if the values of quantity  $\alpha$  are small enough, then the standard definitions lead to the following linear relationship:

$$y/r = \sin \alpha \approx \alpha = l/r, \text{ i.e. } l \approx y,$$

$$\sin \frac{\pi}{180} \approx \frac{\pi}{180} \approx 0,01728, \sin 1^\circ \approx 1^\circ \approx 0,01728,$$

**where  $\alpha \equiv l/r$  is definition of the radian measure of angle;  $l$  is the quantity of the arc which supports the central angle. This implies that: quantity  $\alpha$  is definition of the quantity  $y$  or the quantity  $y$  is definition of the quantity  $\alpha$  if  $\alpha \equiv y/r$ ;  $y = l$ , i.e. the concepts “leg of rectangular triangle” and “arc of circle” are identical concepts. But this contradicts to practice and formal-logical laws. Consequently, the standard definition of trigonometric functions represents a logical error.**

**These objections mean that the true sense of the standard trigonometric functions is that they represent following the quantitative relationships between the different qualities (i.e., between qualitative determinacy of angle and qualitative determinacy of line segments):**

$$\alpha \rightarrow y/r, \alpha \rightarrow x/r, \alpha \rightarrow y/x.$$

(In other words, the left-hand and right-hand sides of the mathematical relationships which define the standard trigonometric functions do not belong to the identical qualitative determinacy, have not the identical sense).

These relationships are not proportions. Consequently, the standard trigonometric functions contradict formal-logical laws of identity and of absence of contradiction.

Thus, the critical analysis of trigonometry within the frameworks of the system approach, the practical criterion of qualitative and of quantitative determinacy of the rectangular triangle  $\Delta AOB$ , and the formal-logic laws shows that the essence of the standard trigonometry is as follows: the standard trigonometric functions are not mathematical functions and represent logical errors.

## DISCUSSION

1. As is well known, science originated in the ancient world in connection with the requirements of social practice and had quick development since 16-17-th ages. In the course of historical development, science changed into a productive force and into the most important social institution which has a significant impact on all spheres of society. Today, science is a huge sphere of human activity aimed at obtaining new knowledge and theoretical systematization of objective knowledge about reality. Sum of objective knowledge underlies the scientific picture of the world. The scientific picture of the world plays an important world-outlook role in the development of human society.

2. Science is developed in the inductive way, i.e., in the way of “negation of negation”. Therefore, extensive and revolutionary periods are alternated in the development of science. Scientific revolutions lead to a change in the structure of science, the cognition principles, categories and methods, as well as forms of organization of science.

Inevitability of scientific revolutions was first emphasized by A. Einstein: “progress of science will be the cause of revolution in its foundations” (A. Einstein). Also, the following statement is truth: a critical reassessment of the standard foundations of science leads to the progress of science. These aspects in development of science are characterized, for example, by A. Einstein’s words: “There has been formed a notion that the foundations of physics were finally established and the work of a theoretical physicist should be to bring a theory in correspondence with all the time increasing abundance of the investigated phenomena. Nobody thought that a need for radical rebuilding of the foundations of all physics could arise. Our notions of physical reality never can be final ones”. At present, the validity of Einstein’s statement is confirmed by the critical state of all the sciences, particularly the state of mathematics.

3. Mathematics studies only quantitative relations between objects, i.e. mathematics abstracts (separate) the

quantitative aspect from the qualitative aspect of real objects. Mathematics ignores the dialectical (practical and logical) principle of unity of the quantitative and qualitative aspects. Therefore, mathematics does not obey general-scientific criterion of truth: practice is criterion of truth. This gives reason to assert that the standard “mathematics is the doctrine where it is not known that we talk about and whether it is true that we speak” (Bertrand Russell). In this connection, the problem of critical analysis of foundations of mathematics within the framework of the correct methodological basis (i.e., the unity of formal logic and of rational dialectics) arises. This methodological basis represents the system of logical laws and of general-scientific methods of cognition of reality: observation and experiment, analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, analogy and hypothesis, logical and historical aspects, abstraction and idealization, generalization and limitation, ascension from concrete concepts to abstract concepts, comparison, modeling, etc.

4. The necessity of application of general-scientific methods for the critical analysis of mathematics is also stipulated by the fact that the standard mathematics contains vagueness which can not become aware and be formulated in the standard mathematical terms because the mathematics does not contain many universal (general-scientific, philosophical) concepts; moreover, origin of vagueness is often stipulated by “thoughtless use of mathematics” (L. Boltzmann). Fundamental example of the “thoughtless use of mathematics” is as follows. The creation of the symbolic algebra in the 16th century, the creation of differential and integral calculus, the construction of analytic geometry in the 17-18th centuries, researches on the foundations of geometry, of differential and of projective geometry in the 19th century led to the fact that mathematics formulates its propositions and laws, abstracting from the concrete nature (i.e., qualitative determinacy, dimension) of quantities, taking into consideration only the numerical values of quantities. In accordance with this, mathematics considers quantities in general and the relations between them, abstracting from the natural-scientific sense of quantities. (In other words, mathematics designates different quantities with different letters and carries out the mathematical operations on the quantities, postulating that these quantities have no a qualitative determinacy, dimensions). In this case, formal-logical errors appear in mathematics and natural-scientific theories.

5. If the criterion of the truth in science is practice, then mathematics should be analyzed and criticized from the practical point of view. In this case, mathematics loses erroneous propositions (theorems, theories), acquires an experimental basis, and is transformed into the mathematical formalism of the natural sciences (i.e., mathematics

becomes useful science); the quantities acquire natural-scientific (qualitative) sense, and geometrical figures represent material systems. Study material systems should be based on the system approach. (As is well known, the system approach is the direction in methodology of scientific cognition and of social practice, which is based on the consideration of objects as systems. The system approach is aimed at disclosure of the integrity of the object, at detection of multiform types of bonds in the object to bring obtained information to unified theoretical picture. The system approach is indissolubly connected with rational dialectics and is concretization of its basic principles. Application of the system approach began in the 20th century. Currently, system approach principles are applied in biology, ecology, psychology, cybernetics, engineering, economics, management, etc.).

The system analysis of geometric figures, foundations of geometry and of trigonometry gives possibility to understand the importance of the experimental substantiation of mathematics. This gives possibility to elicit, to reveal, to recognize errors done by the great mathematicians of the past time and leads to the abolishment (elimination) of set of standard theories. But even the mistakes done by the great scientists contribute to progress in science: “false hypotheses often rendered more services than the true ones” (H. Poincare) because mistakes extend consciousness of scientists. This is the dialectics of truth and of lie in science.

## CONCLUSION

Thus, the analysis of the foundations of standard trigonometry within the framework of the unity of formal logic and of rational dialectics leads to the conclusion that the foundations of standard trigonometry contradict to the principles of system approach and formal-logical laws. The contradictions are as follows:

1) Degree is the only one measure of the angle. Relation between the degree measure of the angle and the radian measure of the arc exists only in the case of the system “circle + central angle” and represents proportion. Therefore, the standard mathematical concept “radian measure of angle” is a logical error.

2) Consideration of the system “mobile radius + coordinate system” is reduced to consideration of the system “rectangular triangle”. The system “rectangular triangle” does not exist if the length of the leg is zero. Therefore, the standard mathematical relationship between leg and angle represents a logical error in the cases when the length of the leg is equal to zero.

3) The relationship between the length of the arc of circle and the length of the leg of rectangular triangle ex-

ists only in the case of the system “circle + central angle + rectangular triangle + coordinate system”. This relationship represents the proportion. The concepts “leg of a rectangular triangle” and “arc of a circle” are not identical concepts. But standard trigonometric relationships contain the assertion that these concepts are identical. Therefore, this assertion represents a logical error.

4) The definitions of the standard trigonometric functions represent quantitative relationships between the different qualities: between the qualitative determinacy of angle and the qualitative determinacy of line segments. Left-hand and right-hand sides of these mathematical definitions do not belong to the same qualitative determinacy, have no the same sense, because these relationships are not proportions. Therefore, the standard trigonometric functions contradict to formal-logical laws of identity and of absence of contradiction.

Consequently, the essence of the standard trigonometry is that it is erroneous theory.

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