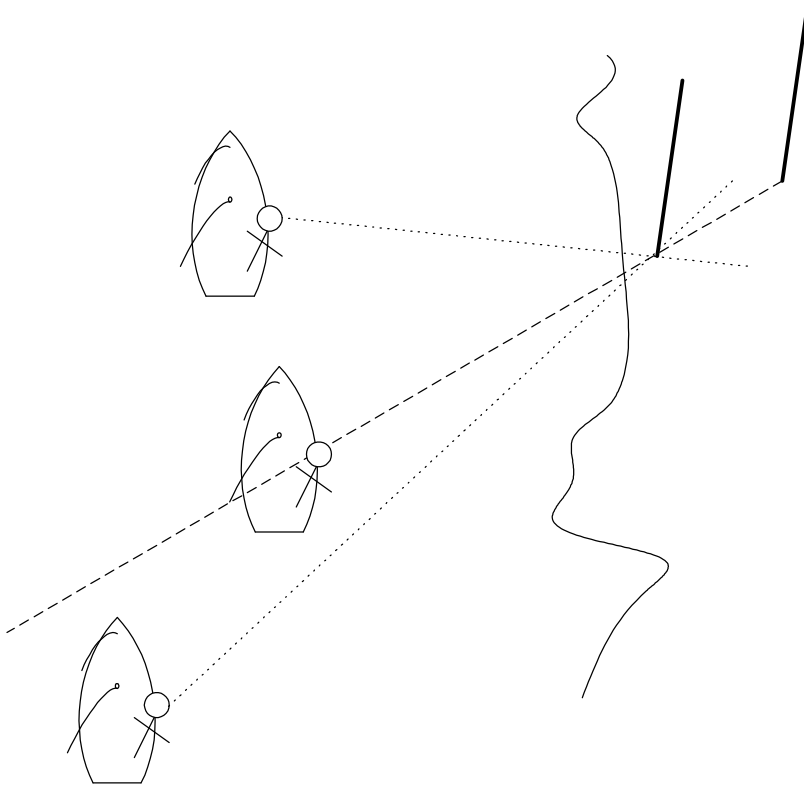


Transits Lines

A transit line is created by lining up 2 fixed objects and hence creating an imaginary line across the water.



In the example above a transit can be formed between the 2 posts on the shore. The sailor is therefore able to determine a relative position.

If the sailor wants to stay stationary, for example before a start he can determine if he is moving forward or backward.

Other uses include determining the exact course being sailed and the direction of the current.

In this example the sailor has lined the buoy up with a post on the shore to create the transit. After sailing for a while he can see that the buoy is no longer in line with the post – ie. he is not on the transit so is not actually sailing towards the buoy.

Transits can be created with any fixed object, either on the shore or on the water.

Questions:

1) In the example on the right the sailor would be able to determine in which direction the current is flowing - indicate with an arrow which way.

2) Which of the following could be used to create a transit:

- a) a tree
- b) a person
- c) a boat sailing
- d) a swimmer
- e) a building
- f) a buoy

3) How would a transit line help you before and during the start of a race?

