

Applications of Trigonometry

Angles of Elevation and Depression

Let O and P be two points such that the point P is at higher level. Let OA and PB be horizontal lines through O and P respectively.

If an observer is at O and the point P is the object under consideration, then the line OP is called the line of sight of the point P and the angle AOP , between the line of sight and the horizontal line OA , is known as the angle of elevation of Point P as seen from O .

If an observer is at P and the object under consideration is at O , then the angle BPO is known as the angle of depression of O as seen from P .

Obviously, the angle of elevation of a point P as seen from a point O is equal to the angle of depression of O as seen from P .

