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RESEARCH PAPER
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**AN ALGORITHM FOR DETERMINING
THE LOCATION OF POINTS IN
COMPUTER SIMULATIONS**

OCTOBER 1987



✓ PREPARED BY
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FOR MODEL VALIDATION

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**DR. ROBERT L. HELMBOLD
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**US Army Concepts Analysis Agency
8120 Woodmont Avenue
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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CSCA-MVM

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

US ARMY CONCEPTS ANALYSIS AGENCY
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BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20814-2797

19 FEB 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Under Secretary of the Army (Operations Research),
Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

SUBJECT: Algorithm for Determining Locations in Computer Simulations

1. This paper describes a new and effective algorithm for determining in computer simulations the locations of points relative to prespecified boundary or phase lines. It was developed to satisfy a need that arises frequently in computer simulations of military operations where boundary or phase lines often designate regions that need to be treated differently for one reason or another. It's being provided to you in the expectation that you will find it useful in your work.

2. Questions or inquiries should be directed to our Office, Special Assistant for Model Validation, U.S. Army Concepts Analysis Agency (CSCA-MV), 8120 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814-2797, (301) 295-1669.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. B. Vandiver III", is located above the typed name.

E. B. VANDIVER III
Director



**AN ALGORITHM FOR DETERMINING
THE LOCATION OF POINTS IN
COMPUTER SIMULATIONS**

**STUDY
SUMMARY
CAA-RP-87-3**

THE REASON FOR PERFORMING THIS STUDY was to develop and document an improved algorithm for determining in computer simulations the locations of points relative to prespecified boundary or phase lines. The need for an improved algorithm was recognized when a previously-used method was discovered to lack sufficient generality.

THE PRINCIPAL FINDINGS are that a useful algorithm can be developed for determining in computer simulations the locations of points relative to prespecified boundary or phase lines. This algorithm applies to boundary and phase lines of very general shape and configuration, and so improves on those previously used in some simulations. It is based on the notion of winding number, which is used in the mathematical theory of complex variables.

THE MAIN ASSUMPTION is that the prespecified boundary or phase lines can adequately be approximated by a polygonal line, i.e., a finite number of connected straight line segments.

THE PRINCIPAL LIMITATIONS are that the boundary or phase lines need to be defined and entered into computer memory by manual methods--but this is true for other point-location algorithms, as well. Also, as in all point-location algorithms, points so close to a boundary line as to be affected by arithmetical roundoff errors may not be assigned to the correct zones.

THE SCOPE OF THE WORK is limited to finding an improved algorithm for determining the location of points relative to prespecified boundary or phase lines.

THE WORK WAS PERFORMED on the initiative of Dr. Robert L. Helmbold of the US Army Concepts Analysis Agency's Model Validation Office. It was reviewed by Dr. Daniel Willard of the Office, Deputy Under Secretary of the Army for Operations Research; Dr. Ralph Johnson, CSCA-FOT; COL Irving R. Schuetze, CSCA-RQN; and Mr. Dick Lester, CSCA-MV.

Tear-out copies of this synopsis are at back cover.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		Page
1	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1-1
	Problem	1-1
	Background	1-2
	Scope	1-3
	Limitations	1-4
	Timeframe	1-5
	Key Assumptions	1-6
	Approach	1-7
	Conclusions	1-8
	Observations	1-9
2	APPROACH	2-1
3	RESULTS	3-1
4	CONCLUSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS	4-1
APPENDIX		
A	Reference	A-1
B	Computer Program	B-1
C	Distribution	C-1
GLOSSARY		Glossary-1
STUDY SUMMARY (tear-out copies)		

FIGURES

FIGURE		Page
1-1	Point PAPA and Boundary Lines ALFA, BRAVO, CHARLIE, and DELTA	1-2
1-2	Closed Curve Golf Illustrating Winding Number With Respect to Points PAPA-0, PAPA-1, and PAPA-2	1-4
1-3	Stages in Transforming an Original Boundary Curve to a Closed Polygonal Curve	1-5
2-1	A Vertex Numbering for the Closed Polygonal Curve from Figure 1-3	2-2
2-2	Example of a Closed Polygonal Curve to Avoid	2-4
3-1	A Serpentine-shared Region	3-2
3-2	Disjoint Components	3-5
3-3	Multiple Zones	3-8

TABLES

TABLE		
2-1	Coordinates of Vertices for the Closed Polygonal Curve in Figure 2-1	2-2
3-1	Vertex Coordinates for Figure 3-1	3-3
3-2	Vertex Coordinates for Figure 3-2	3-6
3-3	Vertex Coordinates for Figure 3-3	3-10

CHAPTER 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1-1. PROBLEM. Develop an algorithm which, given several prespecified boundary or phase lines in a plane and a point in the plane, will determine where the given point is located relative to the prespecified boundary or phase lines. For example, in Figure 1-1, the algorithm should determine whether the point is to the left or right of each boundary or phase line. (Note: that the boundary or phase lines are considered to be oriented as illustrated in Figure 1-1.) Such oriented boundary lines are necessary if "left" and "right" are to have meaningful definitions. For the case shown in Figure 1-1, point PAPA is to the left of boundary lines ALFA, BRAVO, and CHARLIE, and is to the right of boundary line DELTA.

1-2. BACKGROUND. The need for determining where a given point lies relative to a family of boundary lines arises frequently in computer simulations of military operations where boundary or phase lines often designate regions that need to be treated differently for one reason or another. For example, the boundary lines may mark the border between friendly and enemy territory, national boundaries, air defense identification zones, areas where special rules of engagement (such as free-fire or no-fire) apply, contaminated and uncontaminated regions, areas of differing mobility characteristics, unit boundaries, fire support coordination lines, and so forth. As Figure 1-1 illustrates, humans can easily make these determinations if provided with a graphical display. However, in military simulations, it often is the case that no graphical displays are conveniently available, or that all the operations are to take place within the computer simulation without human monitoring or intervention, or both. In such cases, it is necessary to provide the computer with an algorithm for determining where the given point is located relative to the boundary lines.

For instance, the Nuclear Fire Planning and Assessment Model (NUFAM) at the US Army Concepts Analysis Agency (CAA) employs a boundary line to mark the separation between friendly and enemy target elements. An inspection of the algorithm originally proposed for that purpose revealed that it was:

- a. Narrowly applicable in the sense that it could give incorrect results unless the boundary curves were of a very simple shape and orientation.
- b. Ad hoc in the sense of apparently not being based on any general principles.
- c. User-hostile in the sense that its implementation involved a series of logical branches whose net result was not easily discernible. As a result, the algorithm appeared difficult to verify, debug, modify, or incorporate confidently into laser programs.
- d. Expensive in the sense of requiring considerable computer time for determining the location of a given point relative to prespecified boundary or phase lines.

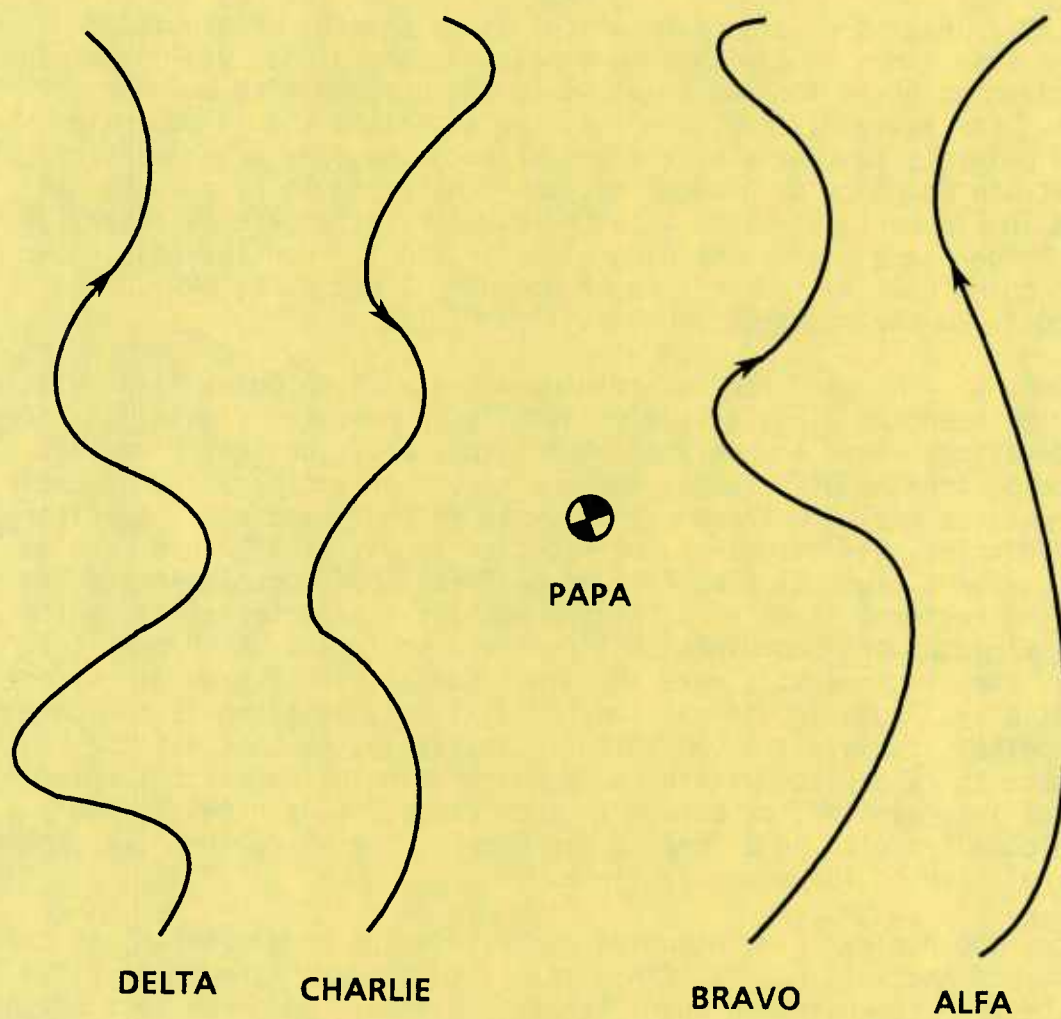


Figure 1-1. Point PAPA and Boundary Lines
ALFA, BRAVO, CHARLIE, and DELTA

1-3. SCOPE. This paper develops an algorithm for determining where a given point is located relative to prespecified boundary or phase lines. The algorithm presented here is:

a. Widely applicable in the sense that it gives correct answers even when the boundary curves are complex in shape and orientation.

b. Explicitly based on general principles.

c. User-friendly in the sense that its implementation involves a straightforward computation whose net result is easily discernible. As a result, the algorithm should be easy to verify, debug, modify, or incorporate confidently into larger programs.

It still requires a fair amount of computer time to determine the location of a point, but it is not expected to need more than the one originally proposed for use in NUFAM.

1-4. LIMITATIONS. The algorithm presented here is sometimes inconsistent in its assignment of points on (or quite close to) the boundary. That is, it may sometimes count these points to the left of the boundary when they actually are on or to the right of it, and vice versa. However, this phenomenon occurs only for points on or so close to the boundary that machine-specific limitations on arithmetic precision affect the results. Such limitations arise from inescapable restrictions on the number of significant figures used in the computations, and hence affect all such algorithms.

1-5. TIMEFRAME. Not applicable.

1-6. KEY ASSUMPTIONS. The key assumption is that the boundary curves can adequately be approximated by polygonal lines. The same assumption is used in NUFAM and in many other computer simulations. In this paper, we adopt the convention that all boundary or phase lines, all polygonal lines, and all closed curves (whether smooth or polygonal) are considered to be oriented. Henceforth, the fact that they are oriented will be mentioned only occasionally as a reminder or for emphasis. But the fact that they are oriented is always to be understood, even if it's not mentioned explicitly. In this paper, we adopt a further convention for boundary or phase lines separating friendly from enemy territory. This is, that friendly forces or territory always lies to the left of an oriented boundary or phase line, and enemy forces or territory to the right of it. Examples of how this is implemented are shown in Chapter 3.

1-7. APPROACH. The approach is based on the general theory of winding numbers developed for the mathematical theory of complex functions (see Ahlfors, pp 92-94, among others). The winding number of a prespecified (oriented) closed curve with respect to a given point is the number of times the prespecified closed curve winds (in a counterclockwise direction) about the given point. In Figure 1-2, the closed curve GOLF winds zero times about the point PAPA-0, once (counterclockwise) about the point PAPA-1, and twice (counterclockwise) about the point PAPA-2. To apply winding number theory to determining the location of points relative to an (oriented) boundary or phase line, we extend the boundary or phase line to form a closed (oriented)

curve. The extension of a boundary or phase line to a closed curve can be done either before or after the boundary line is approximated by a polygonal line. Figure 1-3 shows the stages in going from an original boundary line, to an approximating polygonal one, to a closed polygonal curve. The approximating polygonal boundary line can be chosen in many different ways, and the extension to a closed polygonal curve can also be done in many different ways. Naturally, the analyst should choose a closed polygonal curve that facilitates subsequent analysis.

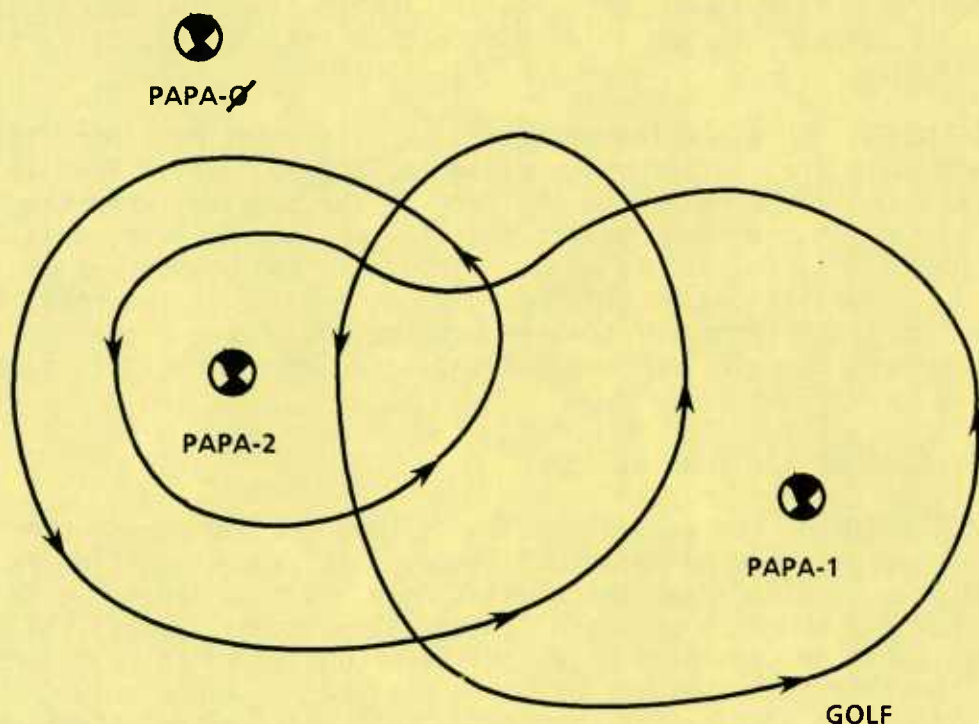


Figure 1-2. Closed Curve GOLF Illustrating Winding Number With Respect to Points PAPA-0, PAPA-1, and PAPA-2



Figure 1-3a. Original Oriented Boundary Line

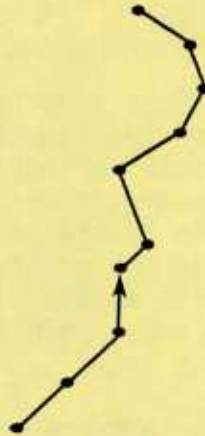


Figure 1-3b. An Oriented Polygonal Approximation To the Original Oriented Boundary Line

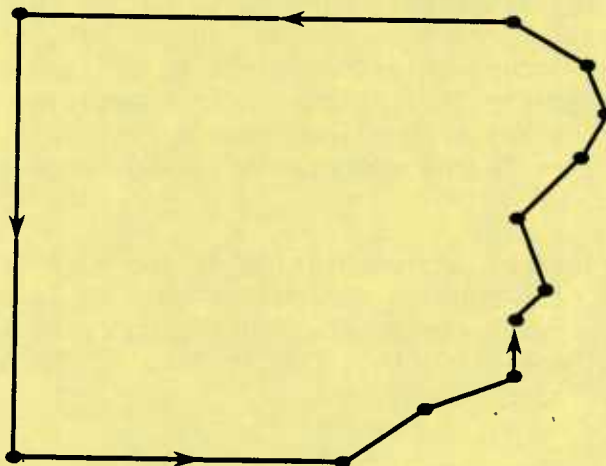


Figure 1-3c. An Oriented Closure Of An Approximating Polygonal Boundary Line

The benefits from replacing an original boundary line by a closed polygonal curve arise from the following facts:

a. Points to the left of the original boundary line are inside the closed polygonal curve, and hence have winding numbers of one with respect to it. Also, points to the right of the original boundary line are outside the closed polygonal curve, and hence have winding numbers of zero with respect to it. Hence, we have replaced the original problem of determining whether a given point is to the right or left of the boundary line with the problem of calculating the winding number of the closed polygonal curve with respect to the given point.

b. The winding number of a closed polygonal curve with respect to a point can be computed by a simple finite algorithm.

Hence, a simple finite algorithm suffices to determine whether a point is to the left or right of the original boundary line. The details of this development are provided in Chapter 2. Examples are presented in Chapter 3.

1-8. CONCLUSIONS

a. A simple finite algorithm suffices to determine the location of a point relative to (oriented) boundary or phase lines. The resultant algorithm is widely applicable in the sense that it gives correct answers even when the boundary curves are complex in shape and orientation. It has the merit of being based explicitly on general mathematical principles. It is user-friendly in the sense that its implementation involves a straightforward computation whose net result is easily discernible. As a result, the algorithm should be easy to verify, debug, modify, or incorporate confidently into larger programs.

b. The algorithm still requires a fair amount of computer time to determine the location of a point, but it is not expected to need more than the one originally proposed for use in NUFAM. The algorithm also is sometimes inconsistent in its assignment of points on (or quite close to) the boundary. That is, it may sometimes count these points to the left of the boundary when they actually are on or to the right of it, and vice versa. However, this phenomenon occurs only for points on or so close to the boundary that machine-specific limitations on arithmetic precision affect the results. Such limitations arise from inescapable restrictions on the number of significant figures used in the computations, and hence affect all such algorithms.

1-9. **OBSERVATIONS.** Practical implementation of the algorithm would be aided by the development of a fast-running subroutine that could be incorporated into large simulations or wargames such as NUFAM, Concepts Evaluation Model (CEM), Force Evaluation Model (FORCEM), Combat Sample Generator (COSAGE), Vector in Commander (VIC) and others.

CHAPTER 2

APPROACH

2-1. APPROACH. Throughout the rest of this paper, it will be assumed that the original boundary or phase lines have been replaced by closed polygonal curves, as described in paragraph 1-7. As stated there, this replaces the original problem of finding whether a point is to the left or right of the original boundary line by one of finding the winding number of the closed polygonal curve with respect to the given point. This chapter outlines a procedure for obtaining the winding number of a closed polygonal curve with respect to a given point. A program to perform the necessary computations is provided in Appendix D. Examples of closed polygonal curves for use with this computer program are provided in Chapter 3.

2-2. NUMBER VERTICES. The first step is to number the vertices of the closed polygonal curve. Number them consecutively from one to N. Assign increasing numbers to vertices in order according to the orientation of the closed polygonal curve. In principle, the number "1" can be assigned arbitrarily to any vertex of the polygonal curve, but usually one choice is more convenient than the others. Since the choice does not matter to the theory, the analyst is free to choose the most convenient "number 1" vertex. Figure 2-1 shows how the 12 vertices of the closed polygonal curve from Figure 1-3 might be numbered.

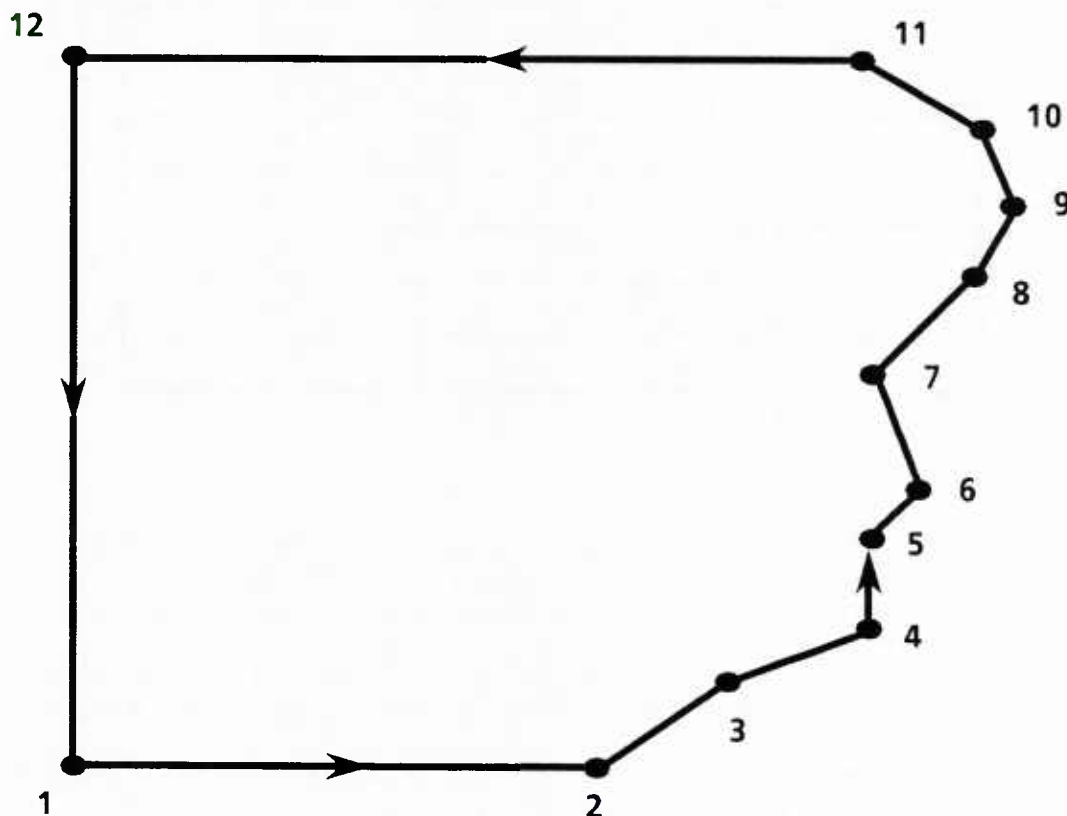


Figure 2-1. A Vertex Numbering for the Closed Polygonal Curve from Figure 1-3

2-3. TABULATE COORDINATES OF VERTICES. Make a table of the coordinates of the vertices of the closed polygonal curve. The rows of this table must correspond to the numbers assigned to the vertices. Table 2-1 shows how the table of coordinates might look for the closed polygonal curve shown in Figure 2-1.

Table 2-1. Coordinates of Vertices For The Closed Polygonal Curve in Figure 2-1

Vertex number	Coordinates	
	x	y
1	0	0
2	7.0	0
3	8.2	1.6
4	9.4	2.2
5	9.5	3.5
6	9.9	4.0
7	9.5	5.2
8	10.6	6.1
9	10.9	7.0
10	10.6	7.9
11	9.5	8.3
12	0	8.3

Observe that the notions of inside and outside are topological in nature. The use of this observation is that the coordinates of the vertices may be recorded in any convenient coordinate systems provided only that:

- a. The coordinates of the given point are recorded in the same coordinate system as that used to record the vertices of the closed polygonal curve, and
- b. There is a continuous (i.e., topological) mapping of the coordinates onto the region defined by the closed polygonal curve.

This freedom to choose any convenient coordinate system can be used by the analyst to choose one that makes his work easy. For example, the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) grid system could be used as the coordinate system.

Latitude and longitude could also be used, as could an arbitrary Cartesian coordinate system. Provided they are used consistently once chosen, results will be the same no matter which coordinate system is used. (Problems arise at discontinuities in the UTM grid, and at discontinuities in latitude-longitude at the poles and at the Prime Meridian. These difficulties arise because the mapping of the coordinates onto the region is not topological across UTM grid discontinuities or across latitude-longitude discontinuities. However, with the possible exception of very large expanses on the globe, the analyst will see how to choose a convenient coordinate system that is free of these discontinuities.)

2-4. OBTAIN COORDINATES OF GIVEN POINT. Obtain the coordinates of the given point relative to the same coordinate system used to record the locations of the vertices. For example, for the closed polygonal curve of Figure 2-1, the given point may be at $x = 5$ and $y = 5$. This point is obviously inside the closed polygonal curve, and hence is to the left of the boundary line.

2-5. FIND WINDING NUMBER. Use the algorithm of Appendix D to determine the winding number of the closed polygonal curve with respect to the given point. For the vertices shown in Table 2-1 and a given point at coordinate $x = 5$ and $y = 5$, the winding number will be equal to 1.

2-6. CONTINUATION. Repeat the steps described in paragraphs 2-3 and 2-4 until the winding numbers of all of the closed polygonal curves with respect to each given point have been determined.

2-7. CAUTIONARY NOTE. Avoid closed polygonal curves that do not separate the plane into well-defined "inside" and "outside" pieces. Figure 2-2 is an example of the type of closed polygonal curve to avoid. It is not clear whether the shaded region is intended to be considered "inside" or "outside" the closed curve, which therefore fails to separate the plane into clearly defined "inside" and "outside" components. In fact, the algorithm of Appendix D assigns a winding number of minus one to points in the heavily shaded region, which (given the conventions adopted in paragraph 1-6) would be interpreted as being in enemy territory. The algorithm assigns a winding number of plus one to points in the lightly shaded regions, and a winding number of zero to points in the unshaded region.

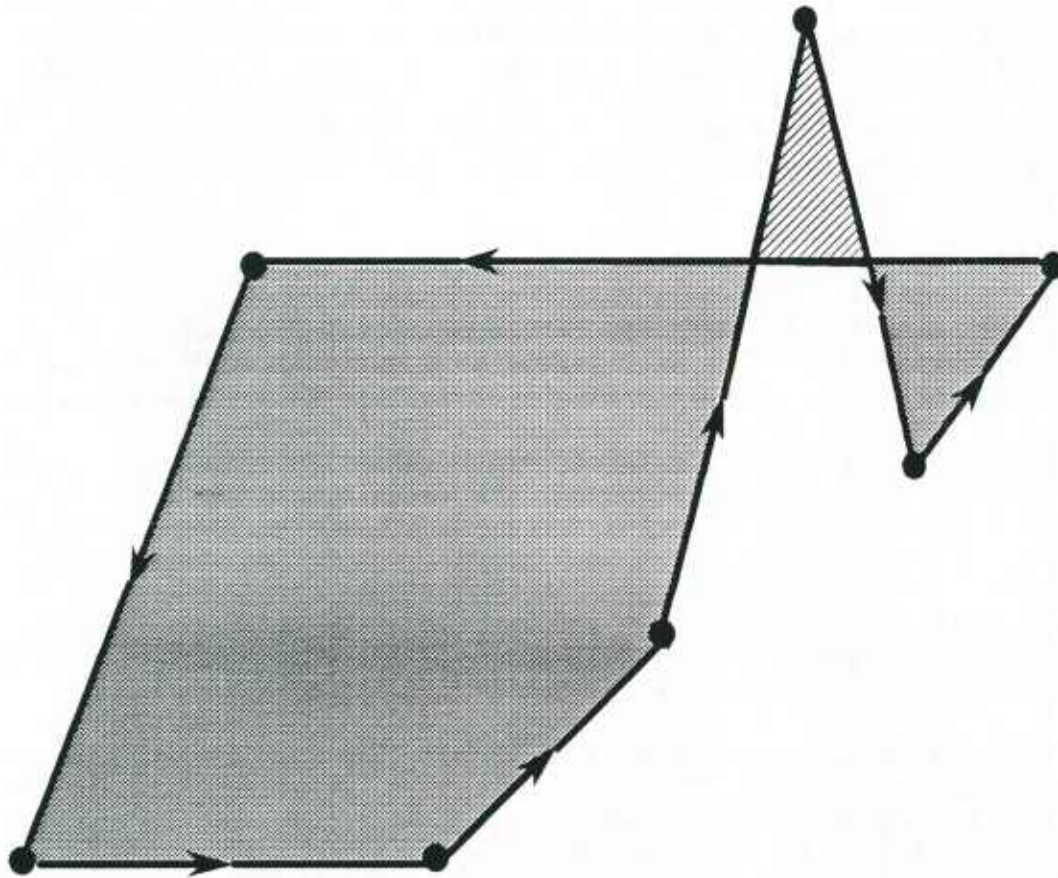


Figure 2-2. Example of a Closed Polygonal Curve to Avoid

2-8. MOVING BOUNDARY AND PHASE LINES. After units move, or boundary and phase lines shift, the location of the points representing unit position usually have to be recomputed. When movement is represented as a series of "snapshots" of an evolving situation, the same procedures as outlined above and illustrated in Chapter 3 can be applied at each "snapshot" to obtain the unit locations relative to pertinent boundary or phase lines.

CHAPTER 3

RESULTS

3-1. INTRODUCTION. This chapter presents some examples to illustrate the flexibility of the algorithm and the options it provides the analyst. The program in Appendix D correctly computes winding numbers for these and other cases that have been tried.

3-2. A SERPENTINE-SHAPED REGION. To test the algorithm, the serpentine-shaped region of Figure 3-1 was constructed. This shape has no obvious military tactical significance, but it is suitable for testing the operation of the algorithm. Note that Figure 3-1 shows the vertex numbers for only the first and last two or three vertices. This was done to avoid cluttering the figure with redundant symbols. The other vertices are, of course, numbered in order according to the orientation of the closed polygonal curve bounding the serpentine shaped region. The vertex coordinates are given in Table 3-1.

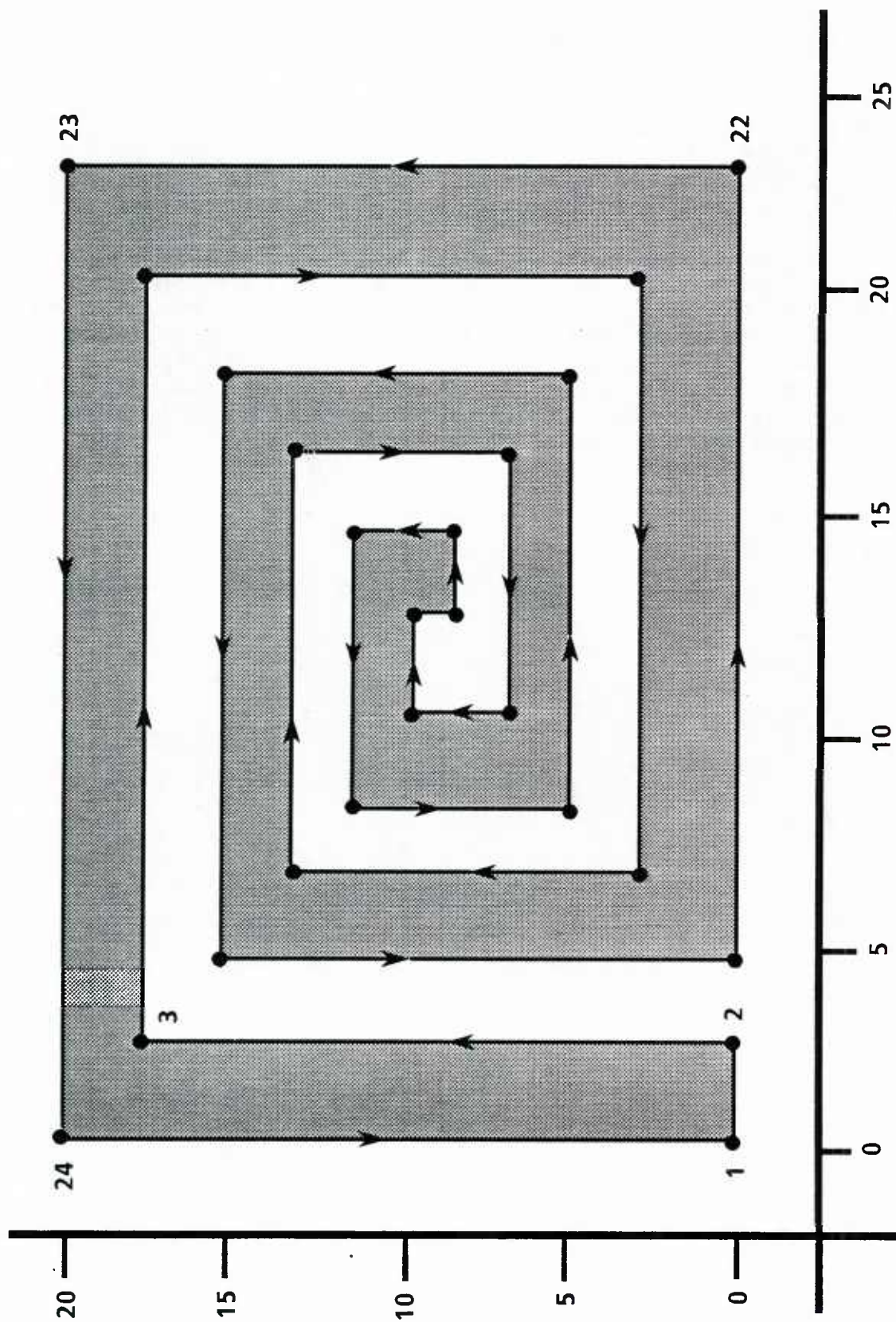


Figure 3-1. A Serpentine-Shaped Region

**Table 3-1. Vertex Coordinates For
Figure 3-1**

Vertex number	Coordinates	
	x	y
1	0	0
2	2	0
3	2	18
4	20	18
5	20	2
6	6	2
7	6	14
8	16	14
9	16	6
10	10	6
11	10	10
12	12	10
13	12	8
14	14	8
15	14	12
16	8	12
17	8	4
18	18	4
19	18	16
20	4	16
21	4	0
22	22	0
23	22	20
24	0	20

When used with the algorithm of Appendix D, the points in the shaded region are assigned a winding number of plus one, as they should since they lie inside the closed polygonal curve. Points in the unshaded region are assigned a winding number of zero, as they should since they are outside the closed polygonal curve. Points on the closed polygonal curve may be assigned a winding number of zero or plus one, depending on the specific numerical rounding method employed by the particular computer machine used to perform the algorithm.

3-3. DISJOINT COMPONENTS. Figure 3-2 shows a shaded region consisting of two components bounded by a closed polygonal curve. Militarily the inner shaded area may represent a friendly force surrounded by enemy forces, who are themselves surrounded by a larger friendly force represented by the outer shaded area. Table 3-2 gives the vertex coordinates used in the algorithm of Appendix D. The winding number is plus one for points in either shaded region, and zero elsewhere.

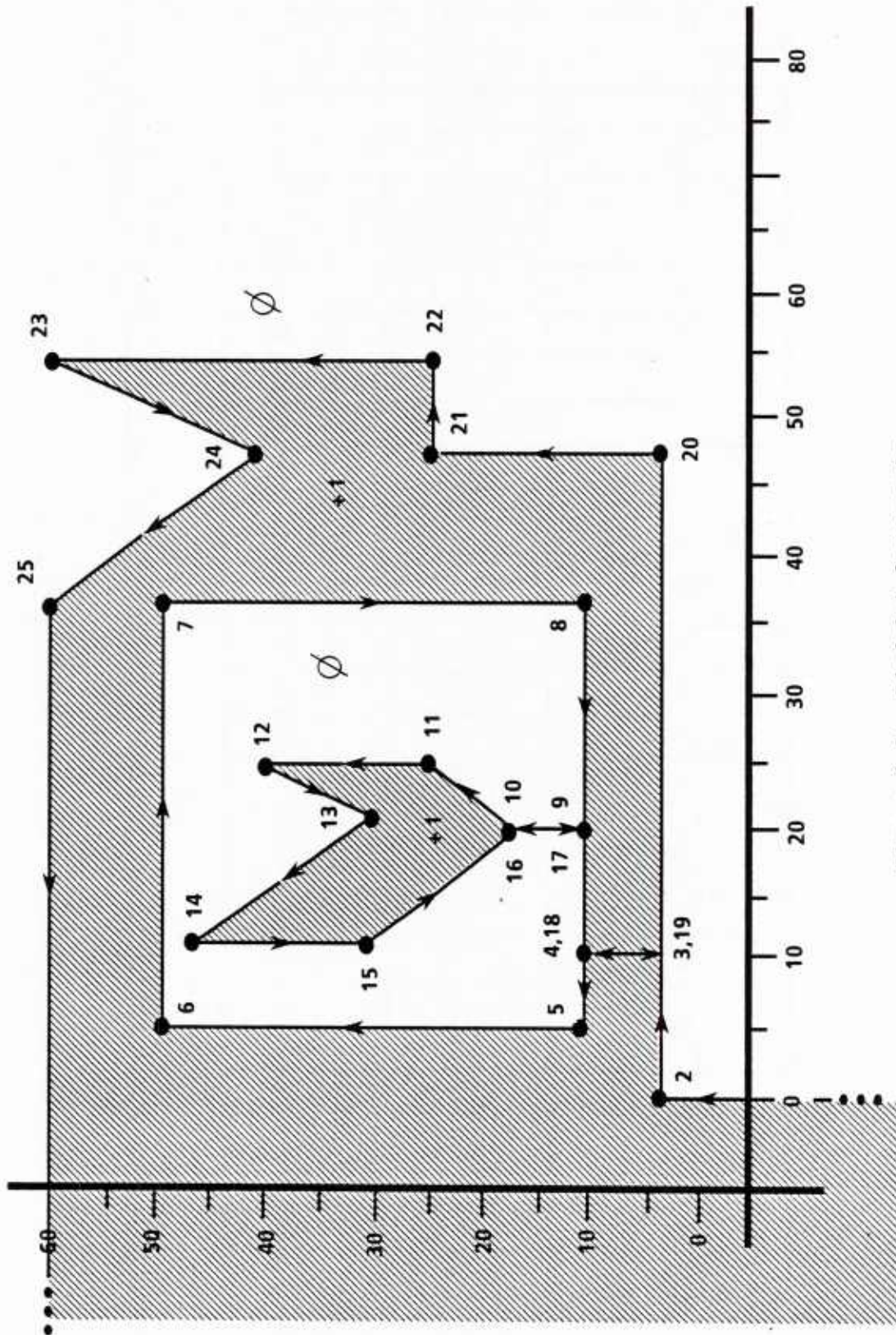


Figure 3-2. Disjoint Components

Table 3-2. Vertex Coordinates For
Figure 3-2

Vertex number	Coordinates	
	x	y
1	0	-106
2	0	5
3	10	5
4	10	10
5	5	10
6	5	50
7	35	50
8	35	10
9	20	10
10	20	15
11	25	20
12	25	40
13	20	25
14	10	45
15	10	25
16	20	15
17	20	10
18	10	10
19	10	5
20	45	5
21	45	20
22	55	20
23	55	60
24	45	40
25	35	60
26	-106	60
27	-106	-106

a. One of the points of this example is that the algorithm will give the correct winding number for disjoint components, like those shown in Figure 3-2.

b. A second point is that this approach fails to distinguish points like the one at (100, 100) which are completely outside the shaded regions from points like the one at (30, 30) which are between the two shaded components. If that distinction is important, then separate closed polygonal curves can be used (e.g., one for the boundary of the inner shaded region, one for the inner and outer boundaries of the region between the two shaded components, and a third for the inner and outer boundaries of the outer shaded region).

c. A third point of this example is the closed polygonal curves may be strung together by links like those between vertices 9 and 10 that are traversed twice during the circuit around the polygonal curve. The fact that this link is traversed once from vertex 9 to vertex 10, and again in the reverse direction from vertex 16 to vertex 17, causes it to "cancel out" of the winding number computation. Points on this link are correctly assigned a winding number of zero. Similarly, points on the link from vertex 3 to vertex 4 are correctly assigned a winding number of plus one.

3-4. MULTIPLE ZONES. Figure 3-3 shows a closed polygonal curve that bounds multiple zones. This figure may correspond to a military situation where all territory to the left of boundary line A is held by friendly forces, territory between boundary lines A and AH is "no man's land," and territory to the right of boundary line AH is enemy-held territory. In addition, various zones in friendly territory are separated by phase lines B, C, and D. Similarly, zones in enemy-held territory are separated by phase line BEY.

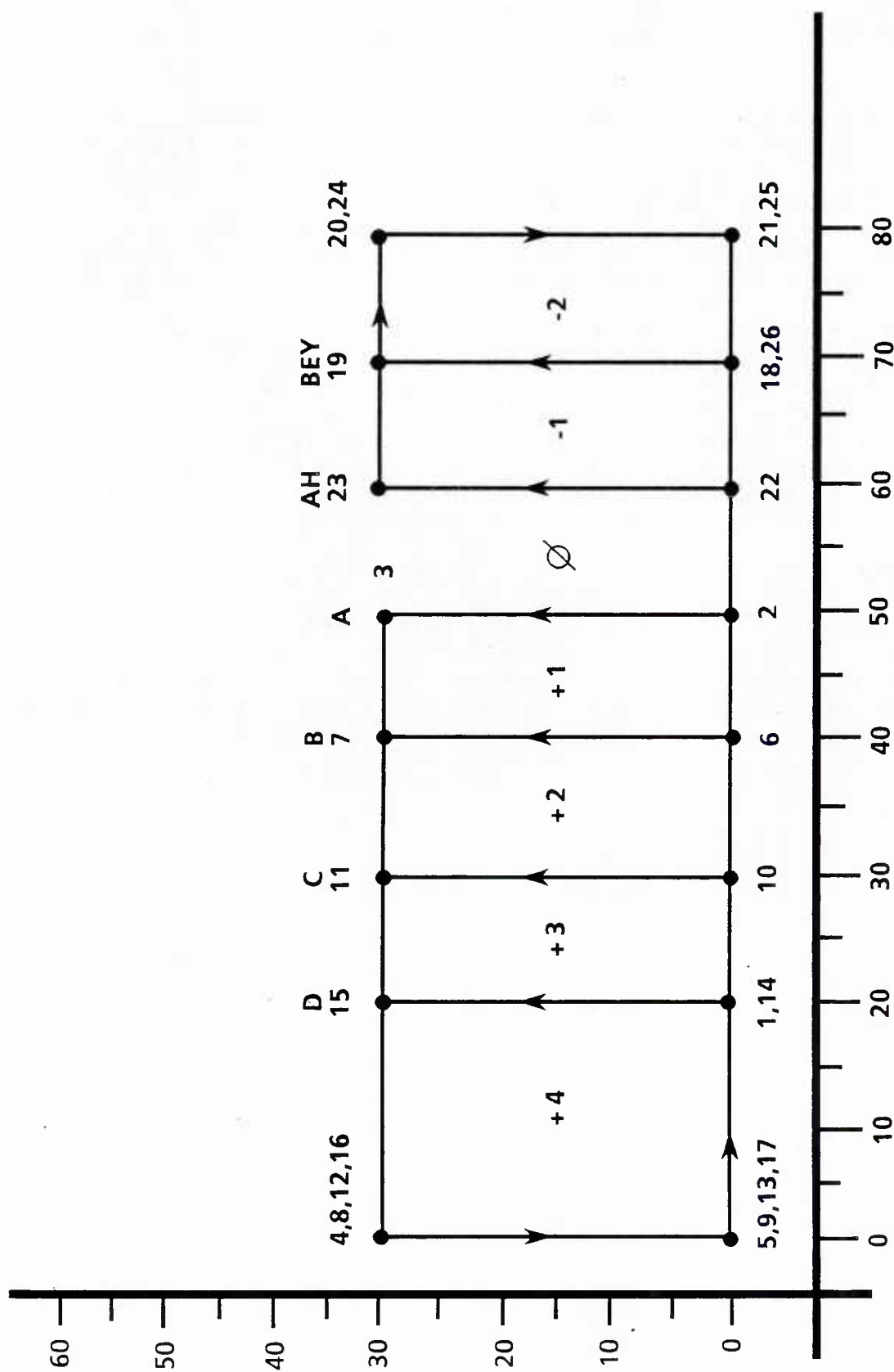


Figure 3-3. Multiple Zones

a. The vertex numbers in Figure 3-3 indicate the manner in which the curve is traversed. This manner of traversal is chosen in such a way that each zone has a different winding number. Negative winding numbers indicate that the curve winds about the point in a clockwise manner. Positive winding numbers indicate that the curve winds about the point in a counterclockwise manner. Note that the conventions adopted in paragraph 1-6 imply that positive winding numbers are used for zones in friendly territory, and negative winding numbers are used for zones in enemy-held territory. For example, points in the zone between phase lines A and B have a winding number of plus one, and points in the zone to the right of phase line BEY have a winding number of minus two.

b. Since the winding numbers uniquely identify the zones, to determine which zone a given point lies in it suffices to compute the winding number of the closed polygonal curve with respect to the given point.

c. Table 3-3 gives the coordinates of the vertices for Figure 3-3. As usual, some points on the boundary may be assigned to an unrelated zone, due to machine-specific details of roundoff operations. This is inherent in the lack of exact correspondence between theoretical mathematical operations and those actually carried out by computing machines, and hence unavoidable.

**Table 3-3. Vertex Coordinates For
Figure 3-3**

Vertex number	Coordinates	
	x	y
1	20	0
2	50	0
3	50	30
4	0	30
5	0	0
6	40	0
7	40	30
8	0	30
9	0	0
10	30	0
11	30	30
12	0	30
13	0	0
14	20	0
15	20	30
16	0	30
17	0	0
18	70	0
19	70	30
20	80	30
21	80	0
22	60	0
23	60	30
24	80	30
25	80	0
26	70	0

3-5. RUNNING TIME CONSIDERATIONS. The program at Appendix B is written in APPLESOFT BASIC. Timing checks indicate that this program, when used on an APPLE II computer, takes approximately 0.01 seconds per side of the closed polygonal curve for each given point. Therefore, we can estimate that computing the winding numbers for each of 10,000 given points with respect to a closed polygonal curve having 100 sides would take 10,000 seconds, or 167 minutes on the APPLE II. If mainframe computers are 100 times faster, then they could do these computations in only about 1.7 minutes. The required time could be shortened if the winding number program were written to optimize its speed.

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSIONS AND OBSERVATION

4-1. CONCLUSIONS

a. A simple finite algorithm suffices to determine the location of a point relative to (oriented) boundary or phase lines. The resultant algorithm is widely applicable in the sense that it gives correct answers even when the boundary curves are complex in shape and orientation. It has the merit of being based explicitly on general mathematical principles. It is user-friendly in the sense that its implementation involves a straightforward computation whose net result is easily discernable. As a result, the algorithm should be easy to verify, debug, modify, or incorporate confidently into larger programs.

b. The algorithm still requires a fair amount of computer time to determine the location of a point, but it is not expected to need more than the one originally proposed for use in NUFAM. The algorithm also is sometimes inconsistent in its assignment of points on (or quite close to) the boundary. That is, it may sometimes count these points to the left of the boundary when they actually are on or to the right of it, and vice versa. However, this phenomenon occurs only for points on or so close to the boundary that machine-specific limitations on arithmetic precision affect the results. Such limitations arise from inescapable restrictions on the number of significant figures used in the computations, and hence affect all such algorithms.

4-2. OBSERVATIONS. Practical implementation of the algorithm would be aided by the development of a fast-running subroutine that could be incorporated into large simulations or war games such as NUFAM, CEM, FORCEM, COSAGE, VIC and others.

APPENDIX A

REFERENCE

Ahlfors, Lars V., "Complex Analysis: An Introduction to the Theory of Analytic Functions of One Complex Variable," McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York, NY, 1953

APPENDIX B

COMPUTER PROGRAM

```

22000 REM ---FIND WINDING NUMBER
22005 A$ = "N"
22010 PI = 3.1415926536: TWOPI = 2 * PI
22020 HOME : PRINT "FIND WINDING NUMBER WRT COLS 1 AND 2" : PRINT: PRINT
22025 PRINT "NOTE: COLS 1 & 2 GIVE THE COORDS OF THE" : PRINT "VERTICES OF
      AN ORIENTED CLOSED POLYGON"
22027 PRINT
22030 IF A$ = "N" THEN INPUT "USE MATRIX NO. = "; M
22035 IF A$ < > "N" THEN PRINT "USE MATRIX NO. = "; M
22040 PRINT : PRINT "ENTER COORDINATES OF THE BASE POINT:"
22050 INPUT "      X = "; X
22060 INPUT "      Y = "; Y
22110 AX = M(M,RR,1) - X
22120 AY = M(M,RR,2) - Y
22130 GOSUB 22900: REM ---FIND ARG(AX,AY) = ANGLE OF VERTEX RR = VERTEX 0,
      AS VIEWED FROM THE BASE POINT
22150 A = 0: REM ---INITIALIZE ACCUMULATOR TO ZERO
22160 FOR J = 1 TO RR: REM ---PROCEED AROUND THE POLYGON IN ORDER OF ITS
      VERTICES
22165 XARG = ARG: REM ---XARG = ARG OF THE PRECEDING VERTEX
22170 AX = M(M,J,1) - X
22180 AY = M(M,J,2) - Y
22185 GOSUB 22900: REM ---FIND ANGLE OF VERTEX J AS VIEWED FROM THE
      BASE POINT
22190 DEXTA = ARG - XARG: REM --- DEXTA = ANGLE SUBTENDED BY SIDE (J-1,J)
      AS VIEWED FROM THE BASE POINT
22200 A = A + DEXTA + TWOPI * ((DEXTA < - PI) - (DEXTA > PI))
22210 NEXT
22220 OMEGA = A / TWOPI: REM ---OMEGA = WINDING NUMBER
22230 OMEGA = INT (OMEGA + .1): REM---ROUND TO NEAREST INTEGER
22270 PRINT : PRINT "WINDING NUMBER = "; OMEGA
22275 PRINT "WRT COLS 1 AND 2 OF MATRIX "; M
22277 PRINT : IF OMEGA = 0 THEN PRINT "POINT IS OUTSIDE"
22278 IF OMEGA > 1 THEN PRINT "POINT IS INSIDE"
22280 PRINT : PRINT "DO ANOTHER BASE POINT (Y/N) = ";: GET A$: PRINT
22285 IF A$ < > "N" THEN GOTO 22020
22299 RETURN
22900 REM ---FIND ARG(AX,AY)
22910 IF AX = 0 THEN ARG = SGN (AY) * PI / 2: RETURN
22920 ARG = ATN (AY / AX) + PI * ((AX < 0) + 2 * (AX > 0) * (AY < 0)):
      RETURN

```

PROGRAM NOTES:

1. The above program is in APPLESOFT Basic.
2. $\text{ATN}(AY/AX) = \text{ARCTAN}(AY/AX)$, and returns a value in radians between $(- \pi/2)$ and $(+ \pi/2)$.

3. Expressions like $(AX < 0)$ are evaluated as one if the condition in parentheses is satisfied, and as zero otherwise.

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GLOSSARY**ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, AND SHORT TERMS**

CEM	Concepts Evaluation Model
COSAGE	Combat Sample Generator
FORCEM	Force Evaluation Model
NUFAM	Nuclear Fire Planning and Assessment Model
VIC	VECTOR in COMMANDER