

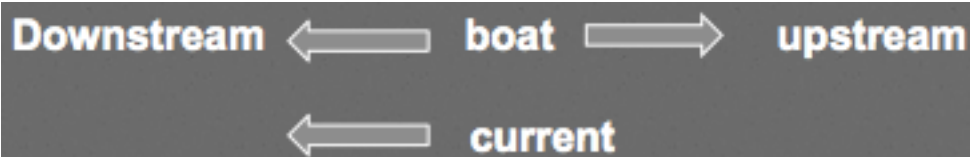
row boat - 5 miles/hr

current of the river - 2 miles/hr

row boat + **downstream** current

row boat - **upstream** current

It takes 2 hours for a boat to travel 28 km downstream. The same boat can travel 18 km upstream in 3 hours. Find the rate of the boat in still water and the rate of the current.



The boat travels with the current when it goes downstream.

Thus, the rate the boat travels downstream is the speed of the boat in still water plus the rate of the current.

	r	t	d
downstream	$x + y$	2	28
upstream	$x - y$	3	18

$$(x + y) 2 = 28 \quad x + y = 14$$

$$(x - y) 3 = 18 \quad \underline{x - y = 6}$$

$$2x = 20$$

$$x = 10$$

$$10 + y = 14$$

$$y = 4$$

Conclusion: The rate of the boat in still water is 10 kph. The rate of the current is 4 kph.

A crew rowing with the current traveled 16 km in 2 hours; against the current, the crew rowed 8 km in 2 hours. Find the rate of rowing in still water and the rate of the current.

	Rate	Time	Distance
Downstream			
Upstream			

airplane - 50 miles/hr

current of the wind - 20 miles/hr

airplane + **tail wind**
current

airplane - **head wind**
current

Traveling with the wind, a plane flew 4000 km in 5 h. Against the wind the plane only flew 3000 km in the same time. Find the rate of speed of the plane in calm air and the speed of the wind.

	Rate	Time	Distance
With the wind	$x + y$	5	4000
Against the wind	$x - y$	5	3000

In general,

x - rate in still water or air

y - rate of the water or wind speed

$x + y$ - rate going with the current
(downstream / tail wind)

$x - y$ - rate going against the current
(upstream / head wind)