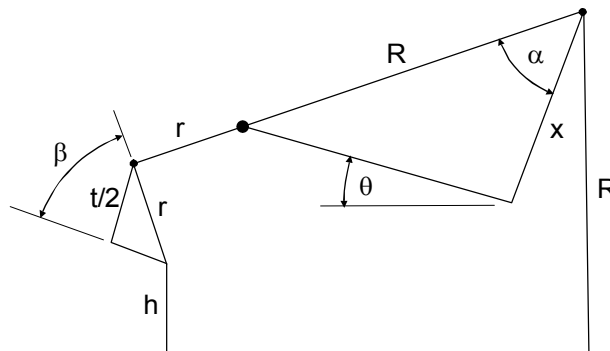
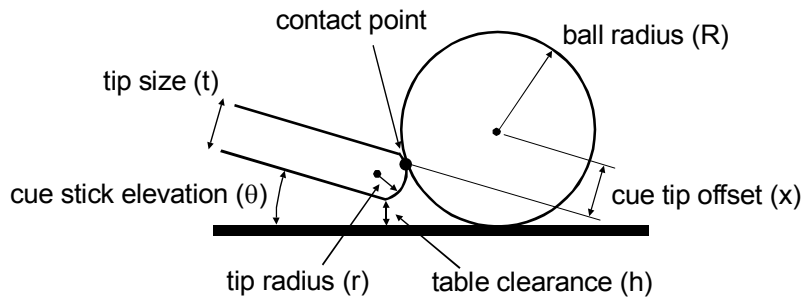


TP A.22 "Tips" of English

supporting:
 "The Illustrated Principles of Pool and Billiards"
<http://billiards.colostate.edu>
 by David G. Alciatore, PhD, PE ("Dr. Dave")

originally posted: 5/2/2006 last revision: 5/2/2006



ball radius:

$$R := \frac{2.25 \cdot \text{in}}{2}$$

tip sizes:

$$t_{\min} := 11 \cdot \text{mm}$$

$$t_{\max} := 14 \cdot \text{mm}$$

$$t_{\text{avg}} := 12.5 \cdot \text{mm}$$

tip curvatures:

$$r_{\text{dime}} := \frac{0.705 \cdot \text{in}}{2}$$

$$r_{\text{nickel}} := \frac{0.835 \cdot \text{in}}{2}$$

$$r_{\text{flat}} := 1 \cdot \text{in}$$

Geometry (see the drawing above)

$$\alpha(x) := \arccos\left(\frac{x}{R}\right) \qquad \beta(t,r) := \arcsin\left[\frac{\left(\frac{t}{2}\right)}{r}\right]$$

$$h(x,t,r,\theta) := R - (R+r) \cdot \cos(\theta + \alpha(x)) - r \cdot \sin(\theta + \beta(t,r))$$

Based on TP A.3, a typical minimum cue stick elevation is about:

$$\theta_{\min} := 2 \cdot \text{deg}$$

An average cue stick elevation (for most non elevated shots) is probably closer to:

$$\theta_{\text{avg}} := 4 \cdot \text{deg}$$

An average angle for an elevated cue stick is:

$$\theta_{\text{elev}} := 20 \cdot \text{deg}$$

The minimum tip radius possible for a given tip size is:

$$r_{\min}(t) := \frac{t}{2}$$

Note that even for a large tip, a small tip radius is still possible:

$$r_{\min}(t_{\max}) = 0.276 \text{ in} \quad \text{which is still smaller than:} \quad r_{\text{dime}} = 0.353 \text{ in}$$

The maximum offset that can be applied corresponds to when the table clearance is zero:

$$R - (R + r) \cdot \cos(\theta + \alpha(x)) - r \cdot \sin(\theta + \beta(t, r)) = 0$$

$$\cos(\theta + \alpha(x)) = \frac{R - r \cdot \sin(\theta + \beta(t, r))}{(R + r)}$$

$$\alpha(x) = \arccos\left(\frac{x}{R}\right) = \arccos\left[\frac{R - r \cdot \sin(\theta + \beta(t, r))}{(R + r)}\right] - \theta$$

$$\frac{x}{R} = \cos\left[\arccos\left[\frac{R - r \cdot \sin(\theta + \beta(t, r))}{(R + r)}\right] - \theta\right]$$

$$x_{\max}(t, r, \theta) := R \cdot \cos\left[\arccos\left[\frac{R - r \cdot \sin(\theta + \beta(t, r))}{(R + r)}\right] - \theta\right]$$

TP A.12 defines the "offset factor" as x/R . The largest recommended offset factor (to prevent miscues) is $1/2$ (0.5).

For a large, flatter tip, large offsets (i.e., close to $0.5R$) are not possible (because the table gets in the way [i.e., h is negative]):

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\min})}{R} = 0.416 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\min}) = -0.182 \text{ in}$$

With a smaller tip with a smaller radius, larger offsets are possible (i.e., there is ample table clearance for large offset shots):

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.656$$

At the maximum recommended offset (0.5R), the table clearance for a small, round tip is:

$$h\left(\frac{R}{2}, t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}\right) = 0.242 \text{ in}$$

$$h\left(\frac{R}{2}, t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}\right) = 6.144 \text{ mm} \quad (\text{about a } 1/4 \text{ inch clearance})$$

With an elevated cue stick, larger offsets are possible, but they are still limited by the tip size and radius:

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{elev}})}{R} = 0.809 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{elev}}) = 0.57 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{elev}})}{R} = 0.78 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\min}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{elev}}) = 0.532 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{elev}})}{R} = 0.589 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\min}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{elev}}) = 0.219 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{elev}})}{R} = 0.792 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\max}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{elev}}) = 0.534 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{elev}})}{R} = 0.76 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\max}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{elev}}) = 0.491 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{elev}})}{R} = 0.568 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{elev}}) = 0.168 \text{ in}$$

Here are some other values for various cases:

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.656 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.242 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.629 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\min}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.208 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.459 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\min}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.091 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.639 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.214 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.612 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.18 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.446 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.12 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.621 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\max}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.187 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.594 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\max}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.152 \text{ in}$$

$$\frac{x_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}})}{R} = 0.432 \quad h(0.5 \cdot R, t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.149 \text{ in}$$

From the drawings above, the distance from the centerline of the shaft to the center of the ball is:

$$c(x, r) := (r + R) \cdot \frac{x}{R}$$

Therefore, for a given center line distance, the offset can be found with:

$$x(c, r) := \frac{R \cdot c}{(r + R)}$$

The centerline offset (c) is often expressed as "tips of English" (i.e., as multiples of tip widths):

$$c_{\text{tips}}(n, t) := n \cdot t$$

Using the equation above, the offset can be related to "tips of English" as:

$$x_{\text{tips}}(n, t, r) := \frac{R \cdot n \cdot t}{(r + R)}$$

An alternative measure of the amount of English is the percentage of the maximum recommended value (0.5R):

$$pE(n, t, r) := \frac{x_{\text{tips}}(n, t, r)}{0.5 \cdot R}$$

Here is a comparison of "tips of English" and actual offsets for various cases:

one tip of English: $n := 1$

$x := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.293$	$pE(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 58.622 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.556 \text{ in}$
$x := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.281$	$pE(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 56.152 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.555 \text{ in}$
$x := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.333$	$pE(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 66.616 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.468 \text{ in}$
$x := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.319$	$pE(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 63.809 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.467 \text{ in}$
$x := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.373$	$pE(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 74.61 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.381 \text{ in}$
$x := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.357$	$pE(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 71.466 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.379 \text{ in}$

one and a half tips of English: $\frac{n}{R} := 1.5$

$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.44$	$pE(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 87.933 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.334 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.421$	$pE(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 84.228 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.334 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.5$	$pE(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 99.924 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.215 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.479$	$pE(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 95.713 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.214 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.56$	$pE(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 111.915 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.095 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.536$	$pE(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 107.199 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.094 \text{ in}$

two tips of English: $\frac{n}{R} := 2$

$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.586$	$pE(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 117.244 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.109 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.562$	$pE(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 112.304 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.109 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{flat}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.408$	$pE(n, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{flat}}) = 81.519 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{min}}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.112 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.666$	$pE(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 133.232 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.043 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.638$	$pE(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 127.618 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.043 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.463$	$pE(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}}) = 92.635 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.039 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.746$	$pE(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}}) = 149.22 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.196 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.715$	$pE(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) = 142.932 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.196 \text{ in}$
$\frac{x}{R} := x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{flat}})$	$\frac{x}{R} = 0.519$	$pE(n, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{flat}}) = 103.752 \%$	$h(x, t_{\text{max}}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.19 \text{ in}$

number of "tips" of English for maximum offset ($x = 0.5R$), using the equations above:

$$n_{\max}(t, r) := \frac{(r + R)}{2 \cdot t}$$

$$n_{\min} := n_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}) \quad n = 1.706 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\min}, r_{\text{dime}}), t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.214 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\min} := n_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{nickel}}) \quad n = 1.781 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\min}, r_{\text{nickel}}), t_{\min}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.208 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\min} := n_{\max}(t_{\min}, r_{\text{flat}}) \quad n = 2.453 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\min}, r_{\text{flat}}), t_{\min}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.091 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\text{avg}} := n_{\max}(t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}) \quad n = 1.501 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}), t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.214 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\text{avg}} := n_{\max}(t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}) \quad n = 1.567 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}), t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.18 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\text{avg}} := n_{\max}(t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}}) \quad n = 2.159 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}}), t_{\text{avg}}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.12 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\max} := n_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{dime}}) \quad n = 1.34 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\max}, r_{\text{dime}}), t_{\max}, r_{\text{dime}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.187 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\max} := n_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{nickel}}) \quad n = 1.399 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\max}, r_{\text{nickel}}), t_{\max}, r_{\text{nickel}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = 0.152 \text{ in}$$

$$n_{\max} := n_{\max}(t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}) \quad n = 1.928 \quad h(x_{\text{tips}}(n, t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}), t_{\max}, r_{\text{flat}}, \theta_{\text{avg}}) = -0.149 \text{ in}$$