

Introduction to Sailing

Torrey Pines Sailing Club
San Diego, CA
October/November 2024

Instructor: Pete Politzer

website: sailtpsc.com

Schedule

Wednesdays

October 30; November 6, 13, 20

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Text

“Basic Keelboat”

published by USSailing

\$20, here and now

Outline

- Introductory stuff
- Parts of a sailboat
- Making a boat go
- Sail control, steering, getting from here to there
- Sailing rules & safety
- Local knowledge

Plus: Lots of information about TPSC
– membership, water lessons,

...

These classes will give you some of the principles of sailing;
to learn to sail, you **MUST** get into a boat
– we can arrange that.

Things I won't cover

- setting up and putting away a boat
 - motors
 - docks – leaving and returning
 - anchoring
 - reefing a sail
 - man-overboard rescue
 - etc.
-
- there's not enough time in this class
 - much variation, depends on the boat type and model
 - better covered during lessons on the water

Very briefly about the Torrey Pines Sailing Club

- >50 years old!
- Roughly 70 members
- Cooperative organization
 - members do the work
- 7 boats at Shelter Island Marina
- Inexpensive
- Vlad will tell you more

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Many kinds of sailboats



Star of India (1863)



Preussen (1902)



America (1851)





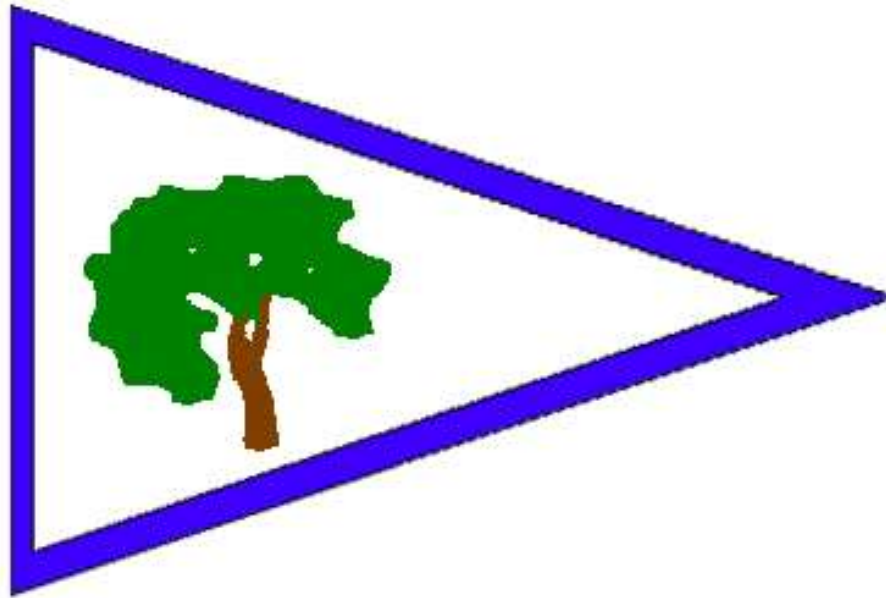
ketch



felucca



TPSC Victory (Bermuda-rigged sloop)



part 2

TPSC burgee

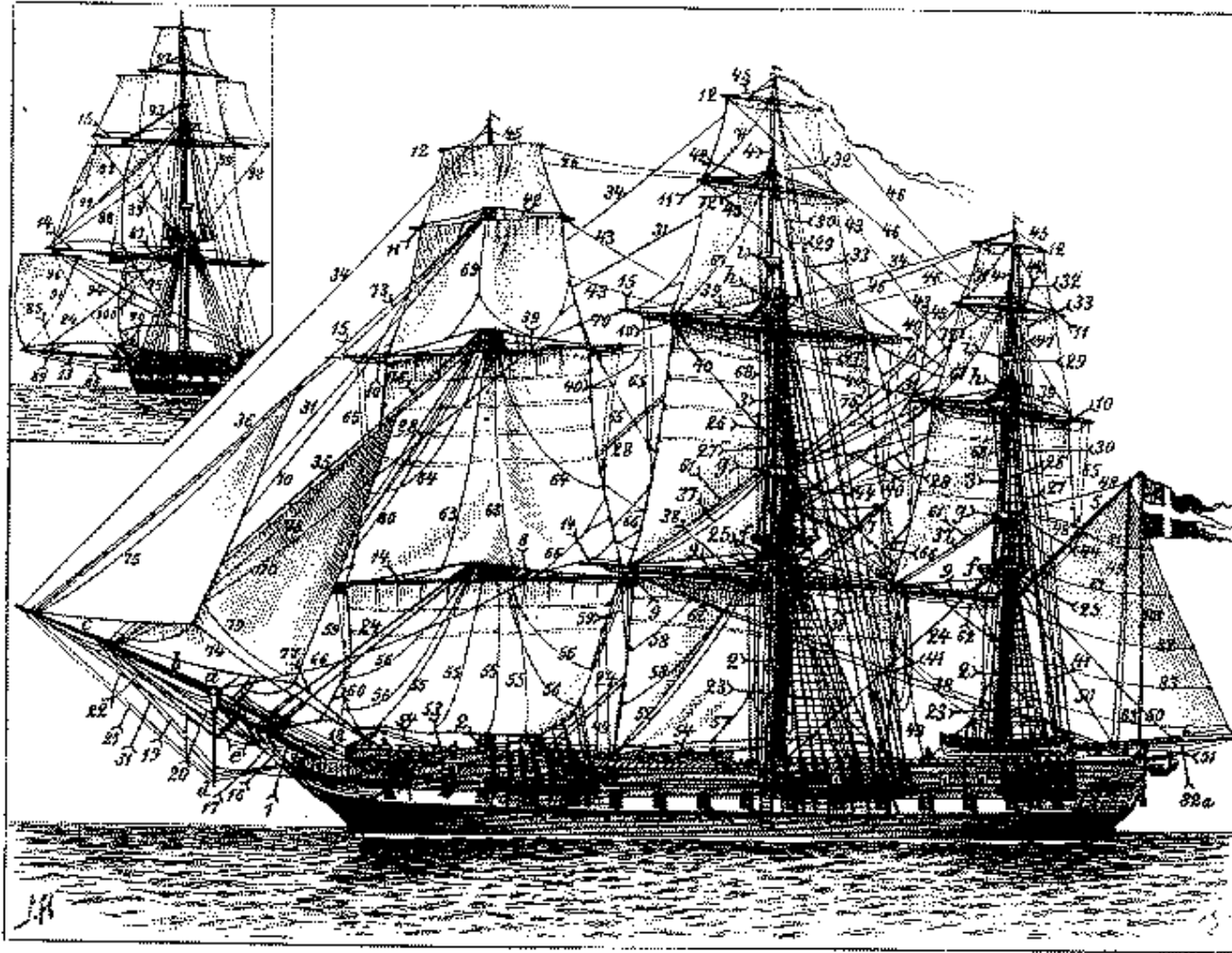


Parts of a boat

- Lots of nautical names & terms
- Mostly historical origin (some very obscure)
- Very specific
- Necessary for accurate & rapid communication

For example:

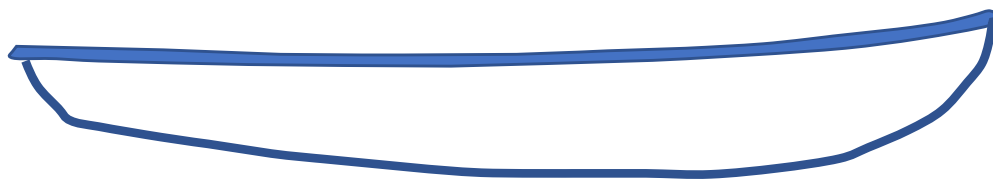
- **rope** is what you buy at the store
- when it's on or near a boat, it becomes a **line**
- when it's used for something, it gets a specific name
e.g., **jib sheet**, **main halyard**, ...



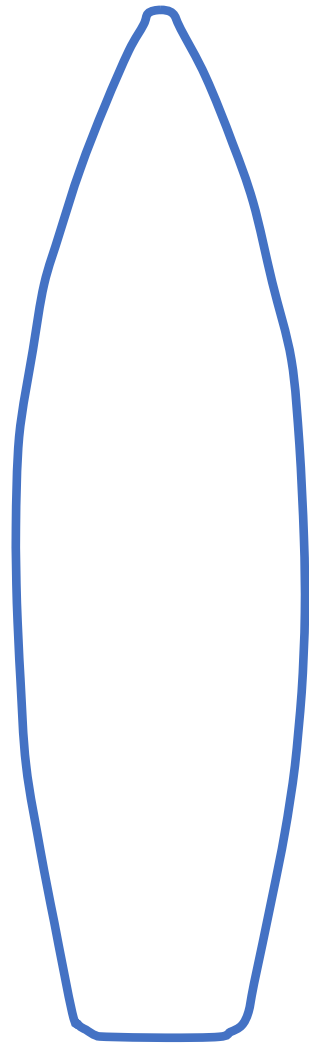


San Salvador (1542/2015)

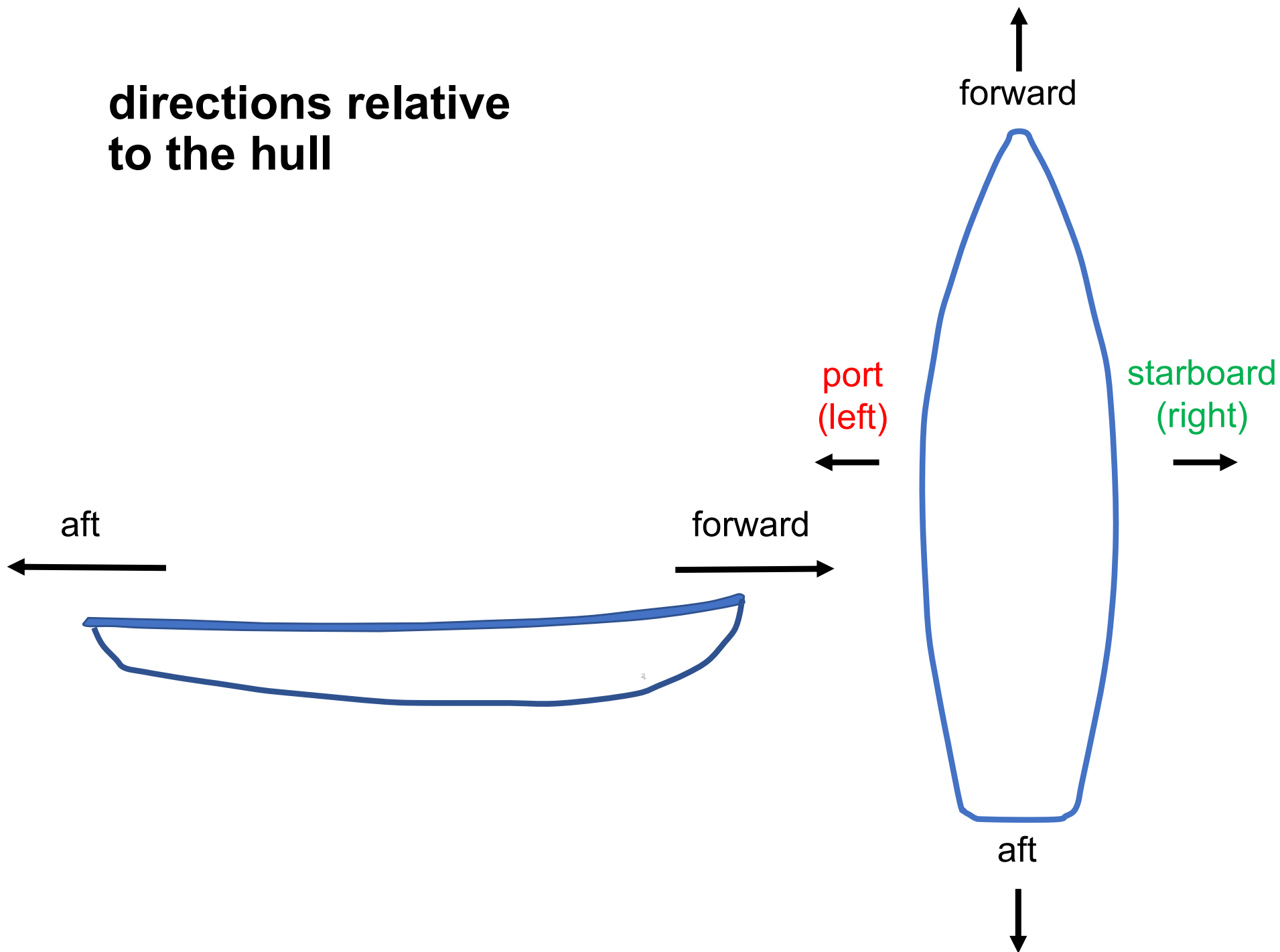
build a boat – learn the main parts



hull



directions relative to the hull

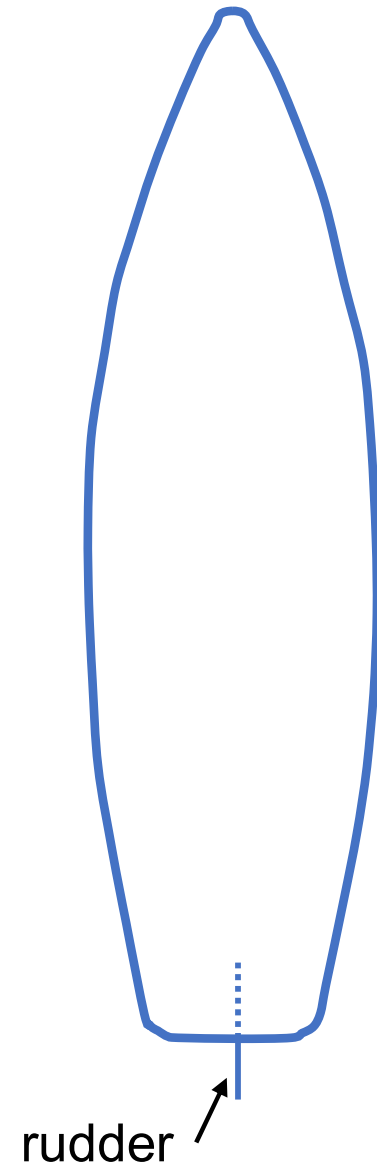
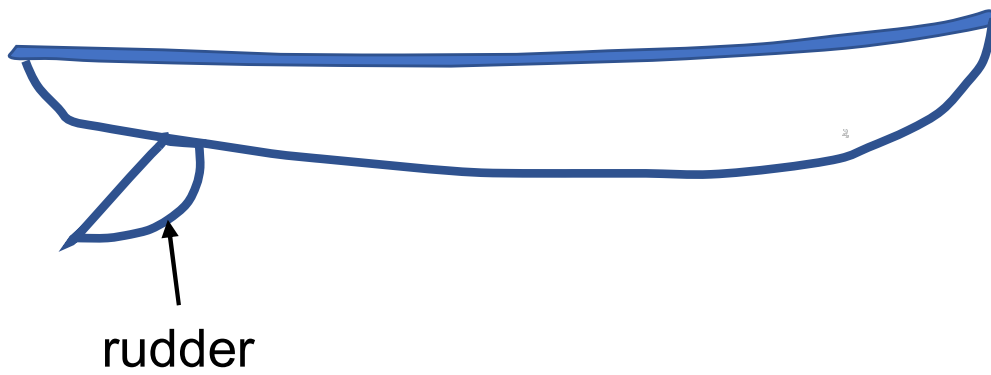




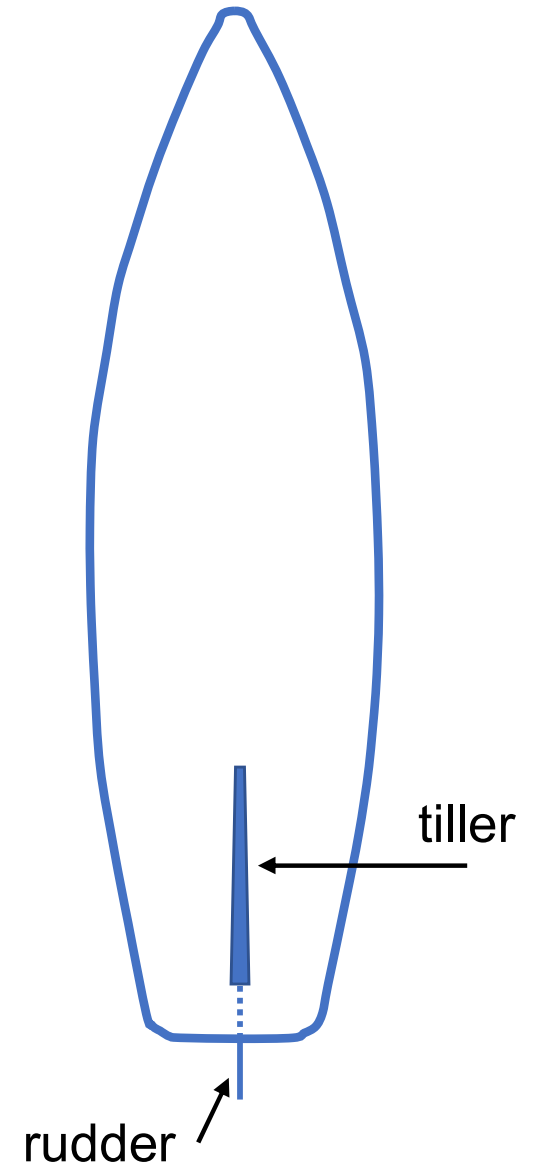
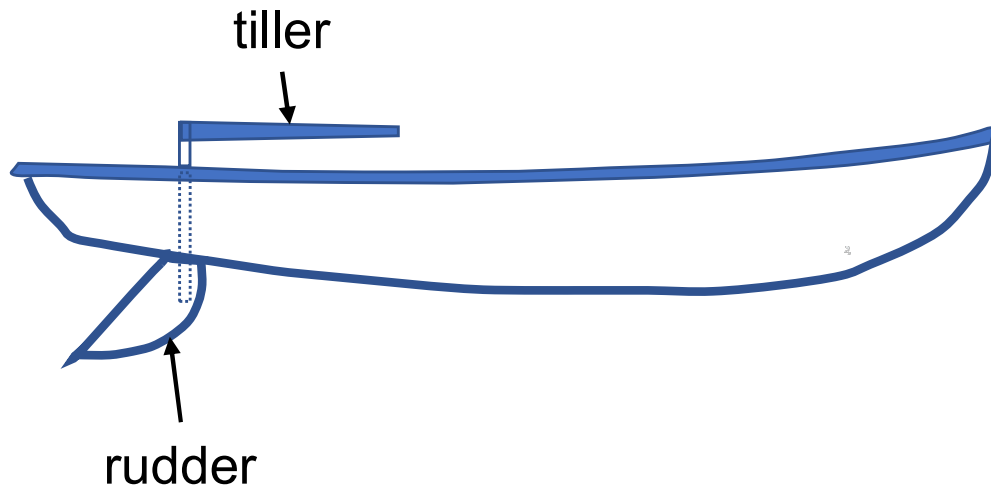
steering oar
(Old English: steorbord – steer board)

Bayeux tapestry c. 1070

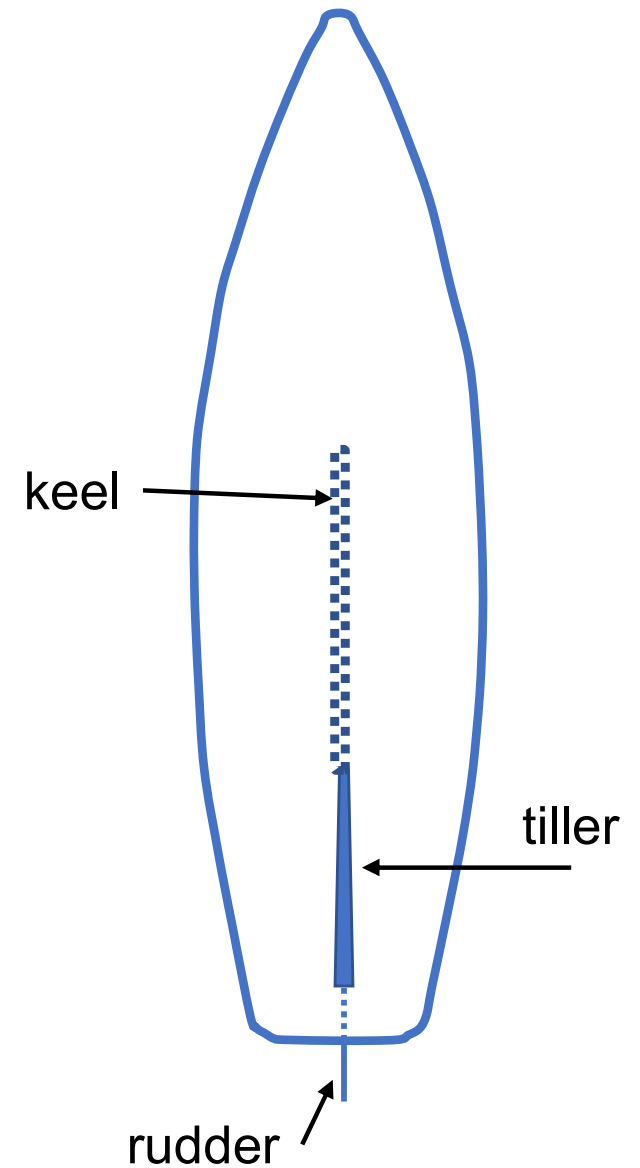
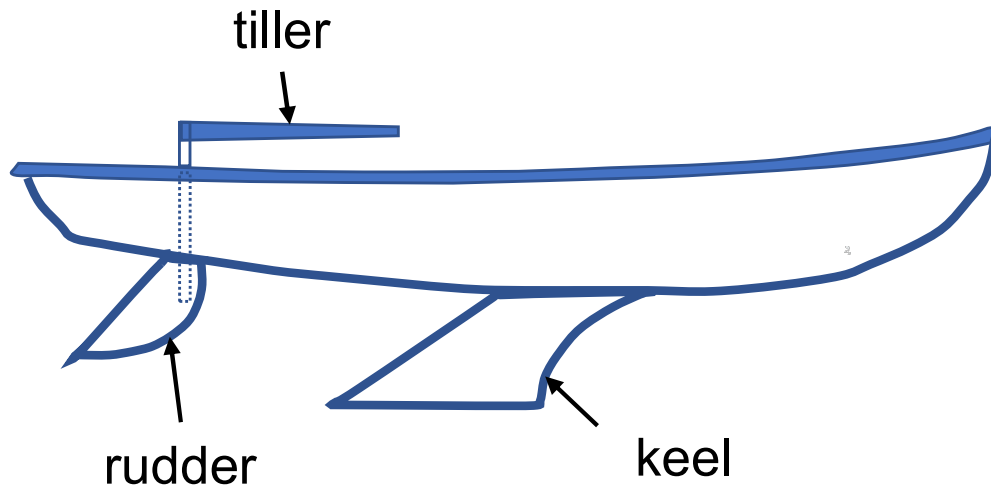
– we need something to steer with



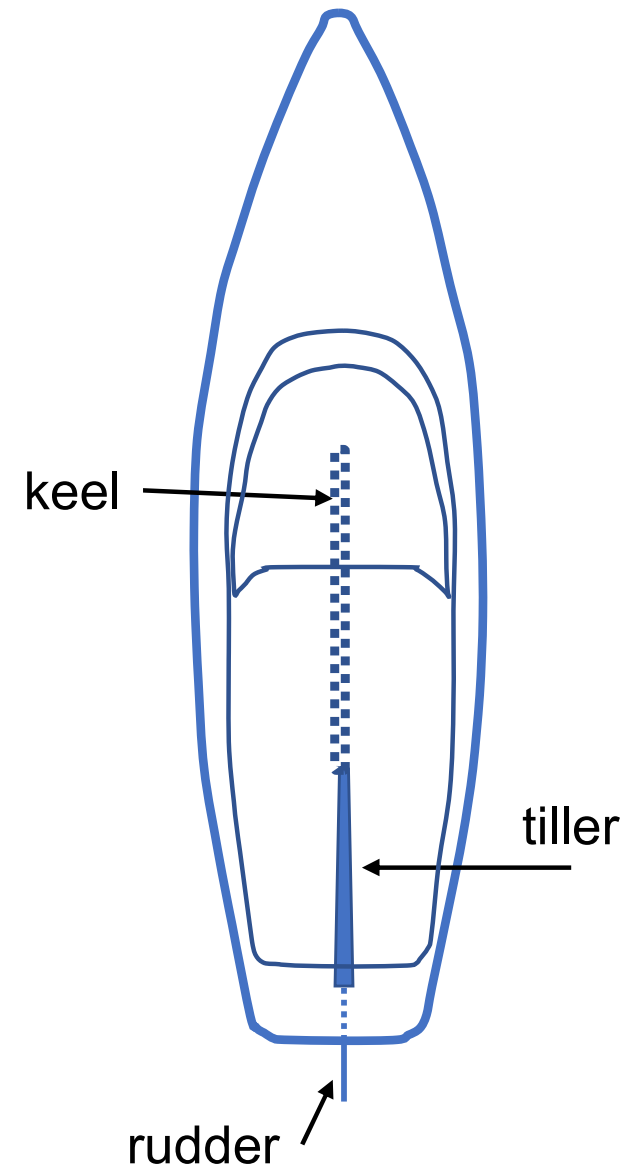
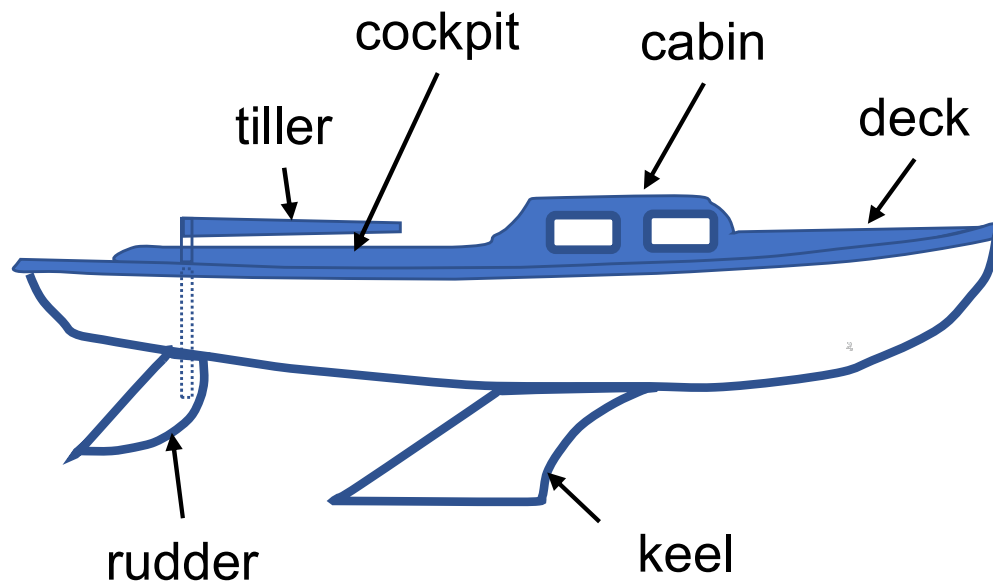
- we need something to steer with;
- then, something to control the rudder



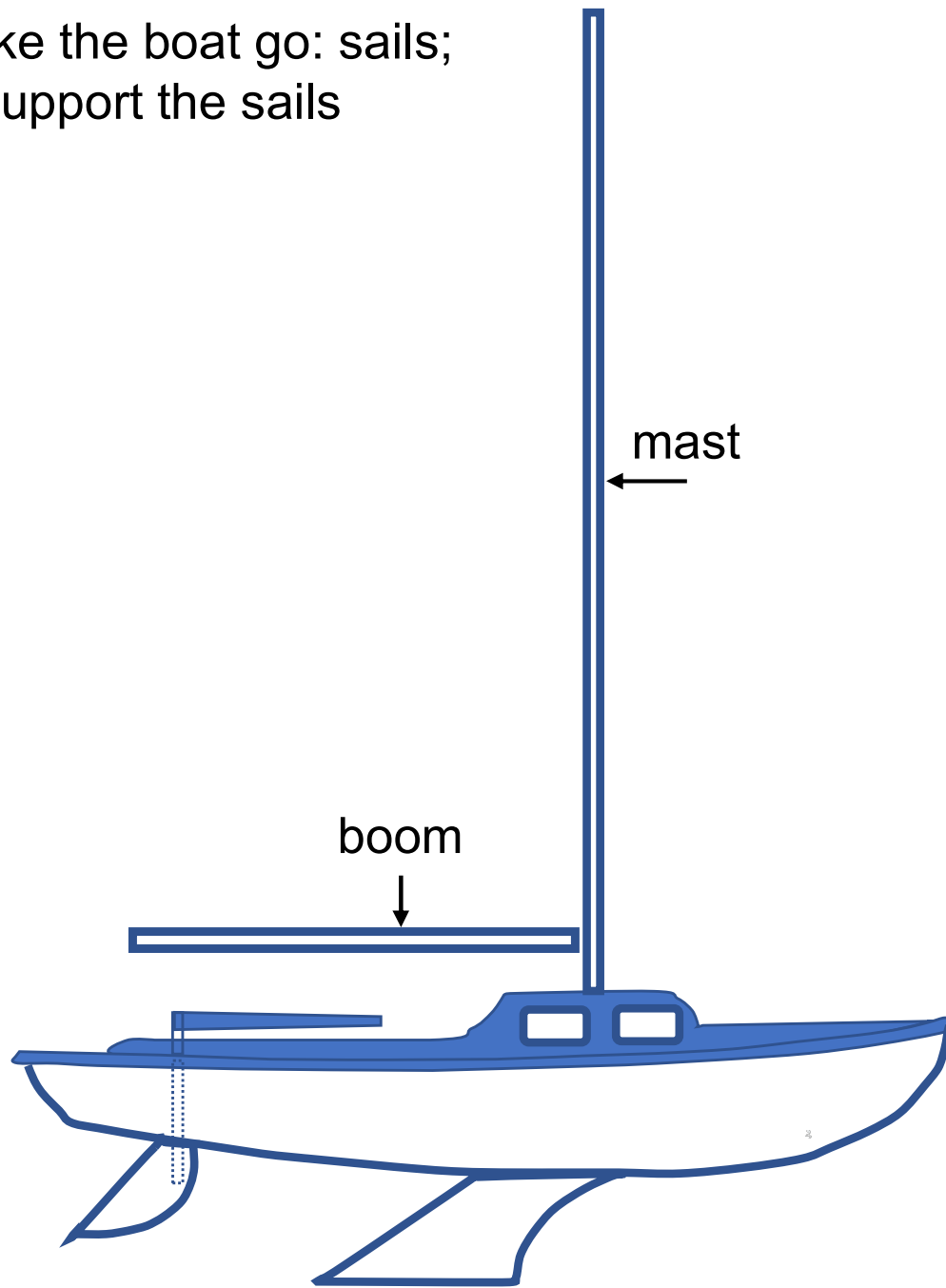
- we need something to steer with;
- then, something to control the rudder;
- and one more attachment under the hull
(why have a keel? – later)



- we need something to steer with;
- then, something to control the rudder;
- and one more attachment under the hull
(why have a keel? – later)
- finish the top of the hull

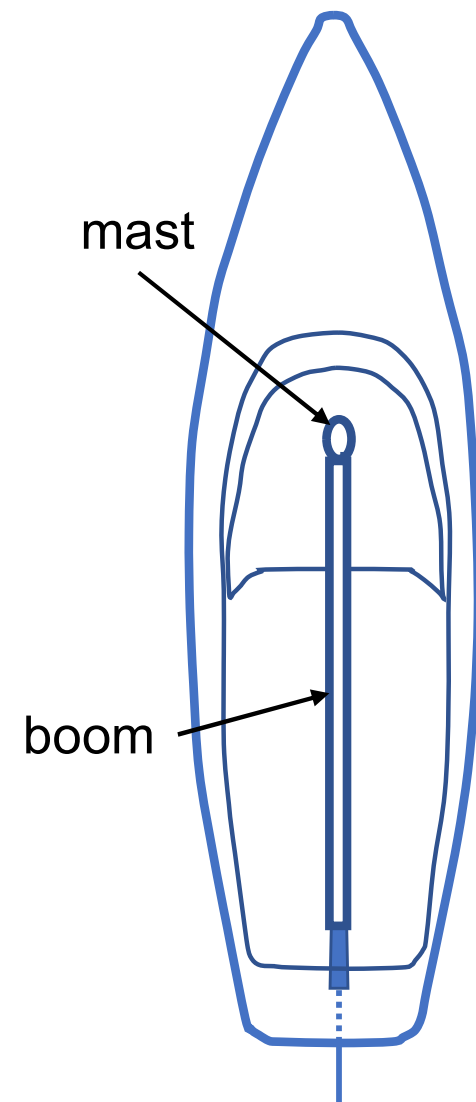


to make the boat go: sails;
first, support the sails



mast

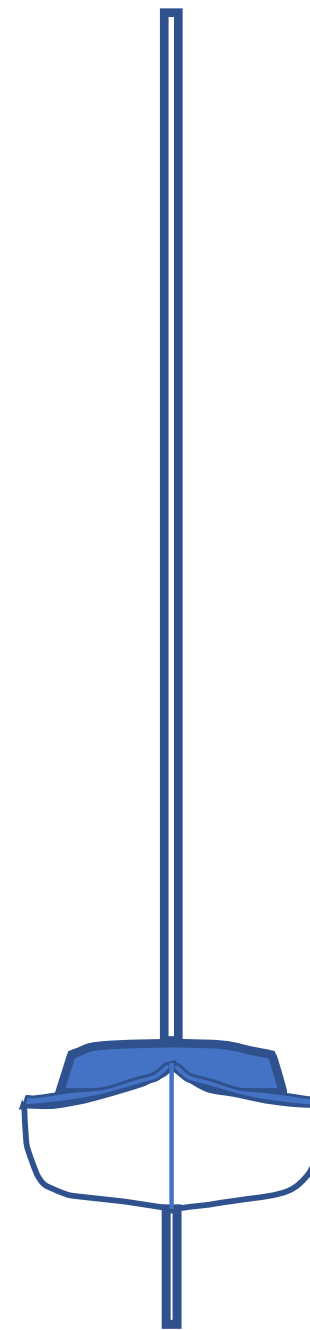
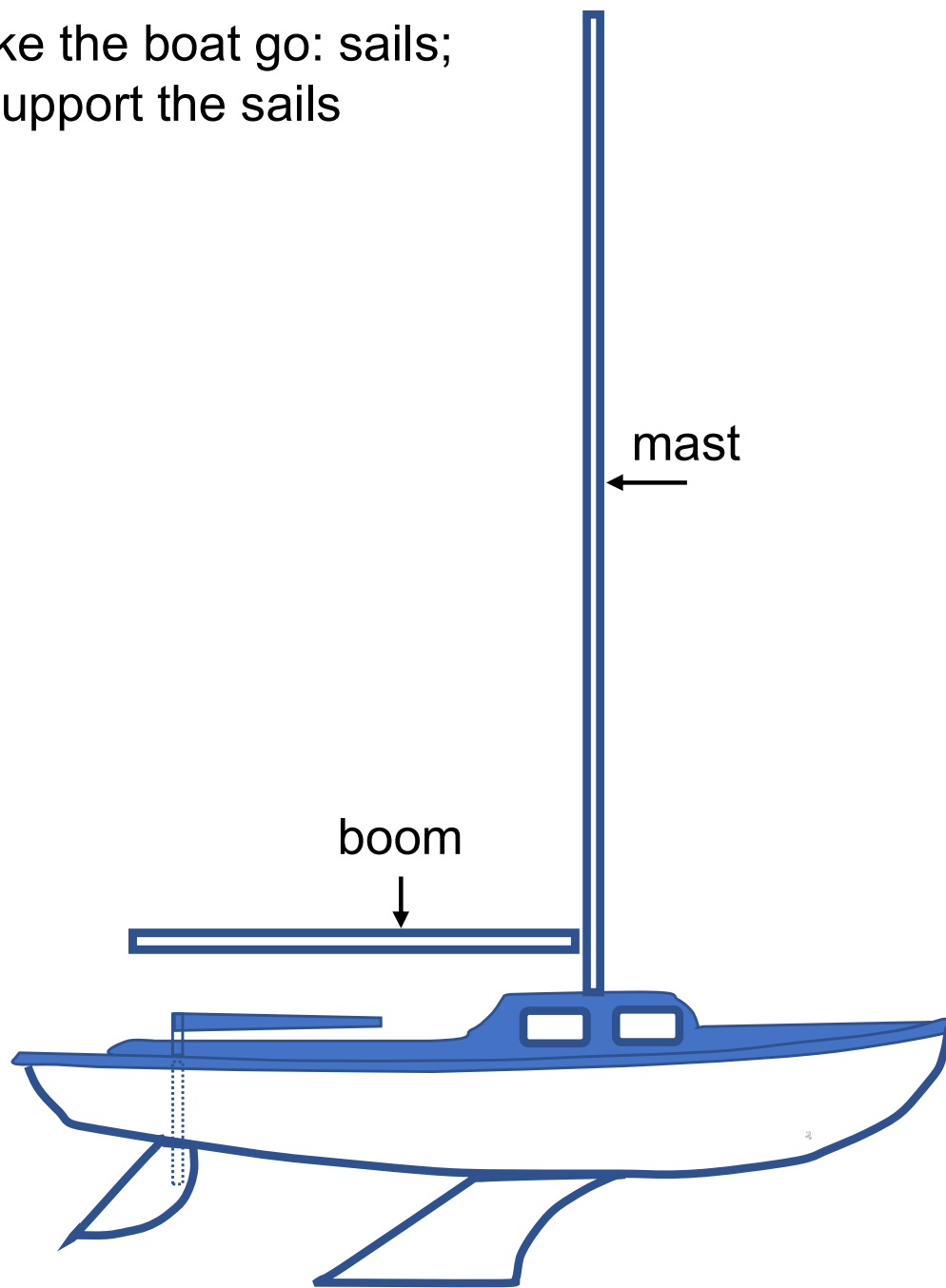
boom



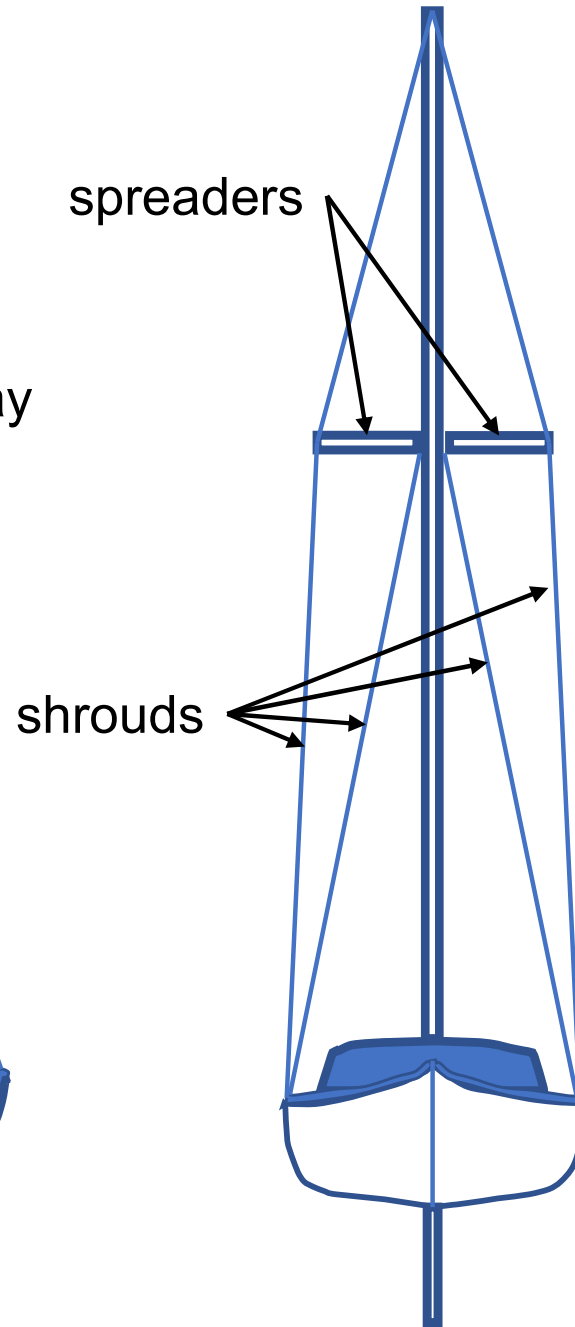
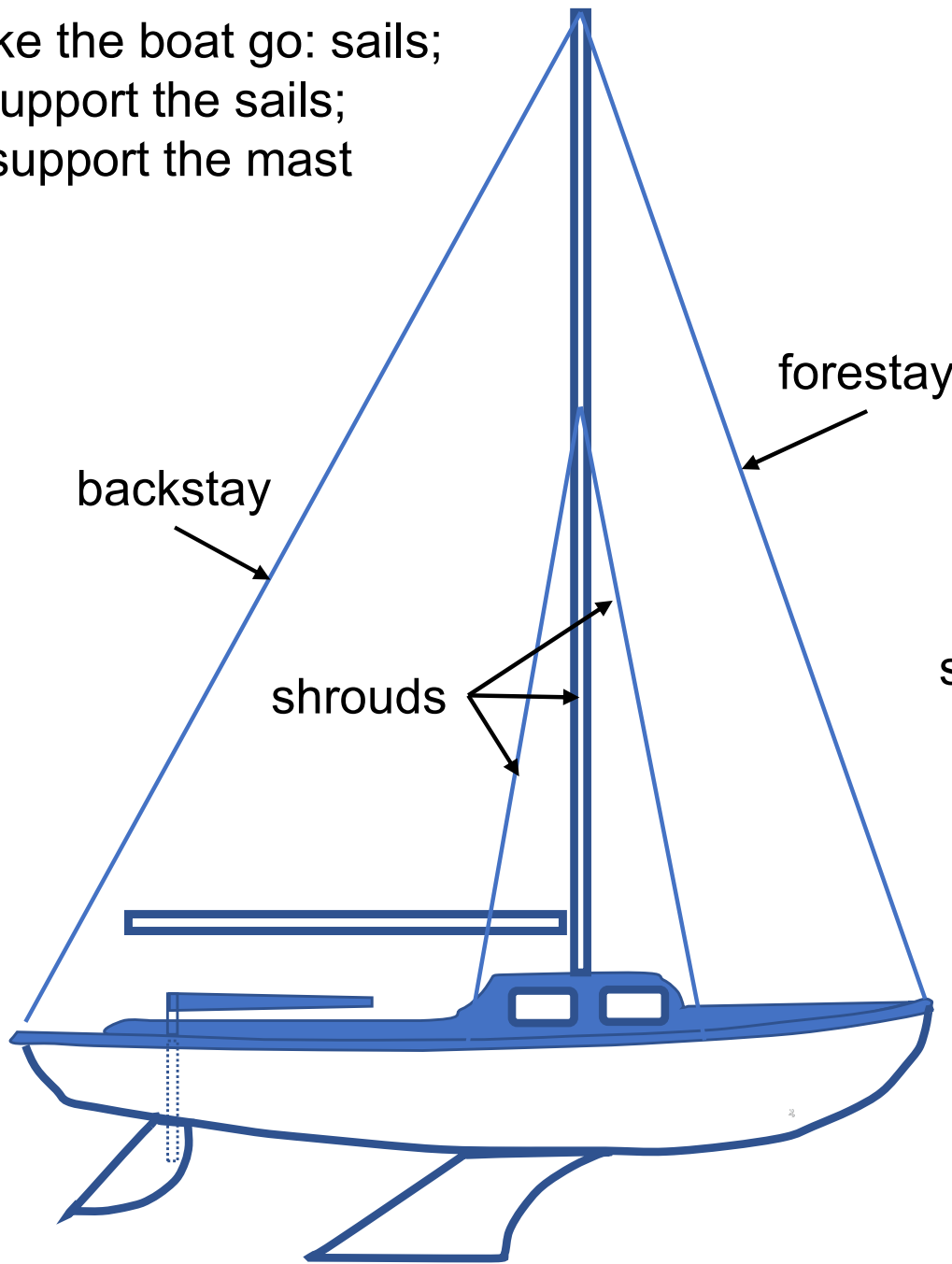
mast

boom

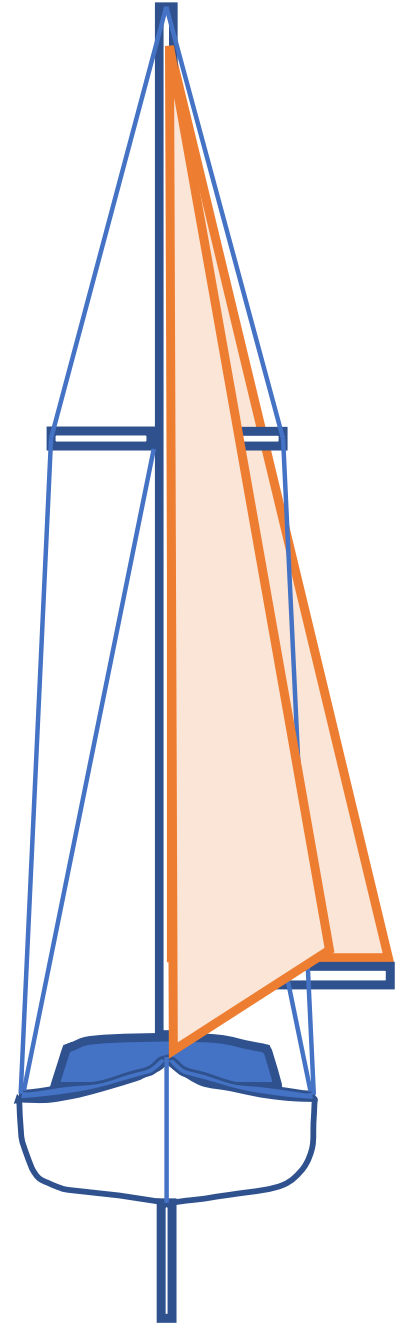
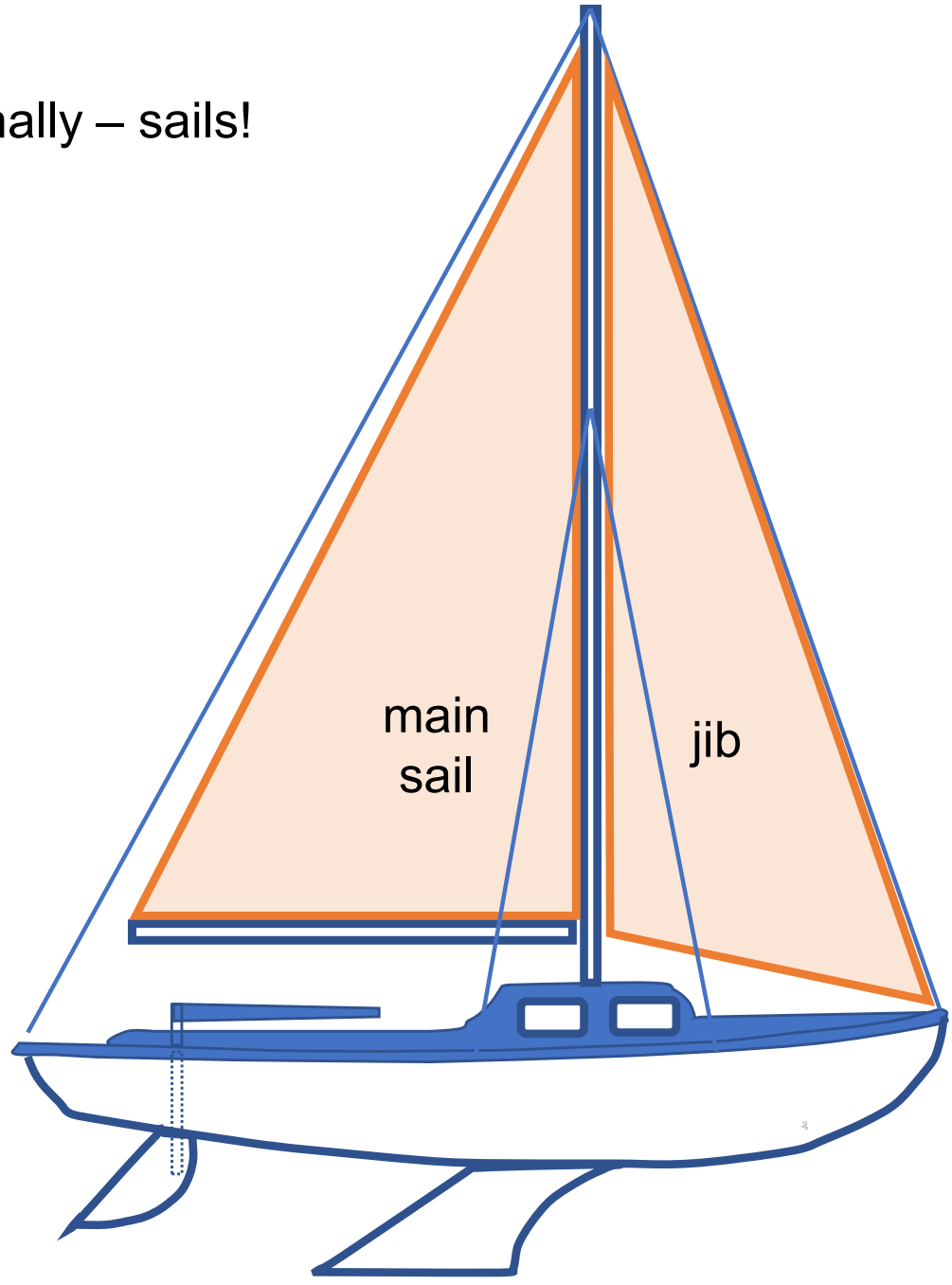
to make the boat go: sails;
first, support the sails



to make the boat go: sails;
first, support the sails;
also, support the mast



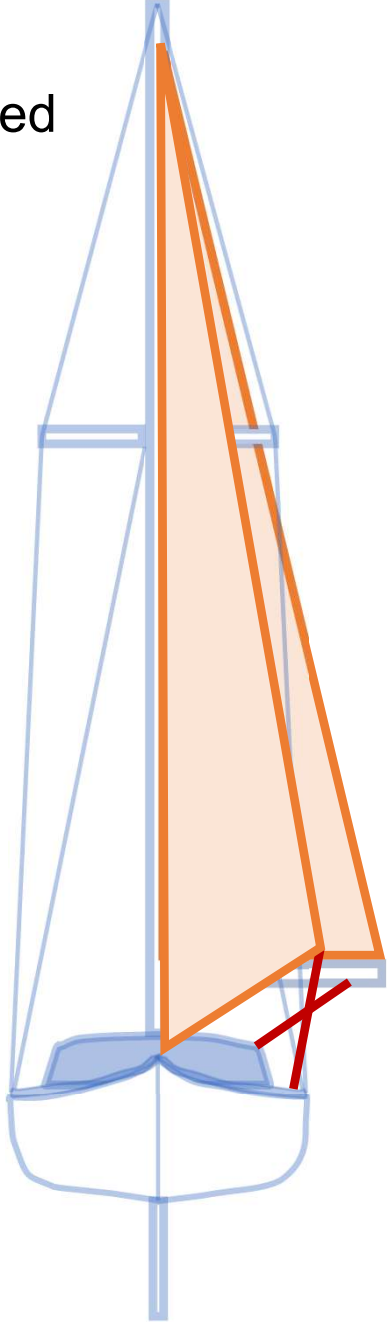
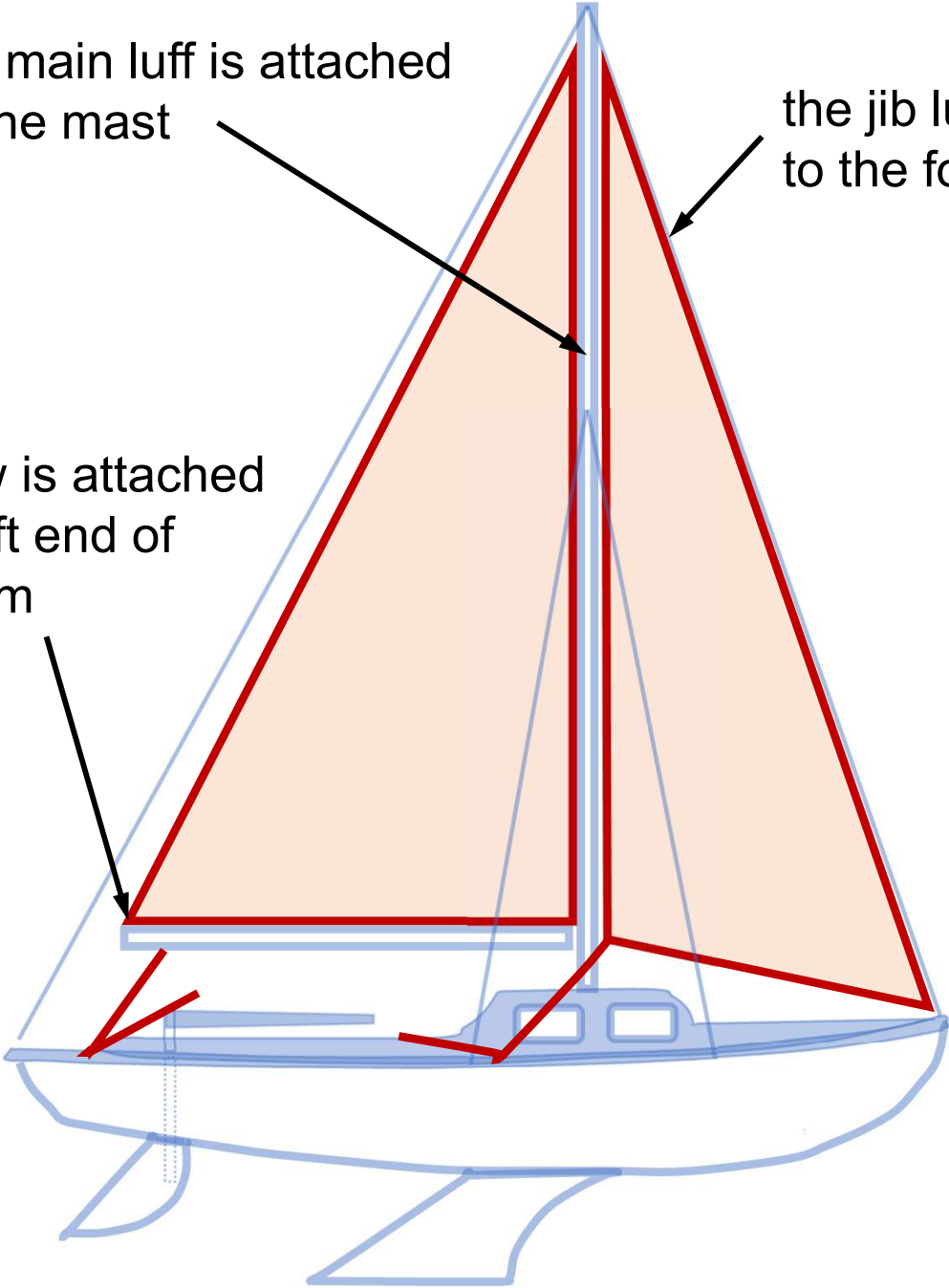
finally – sails!



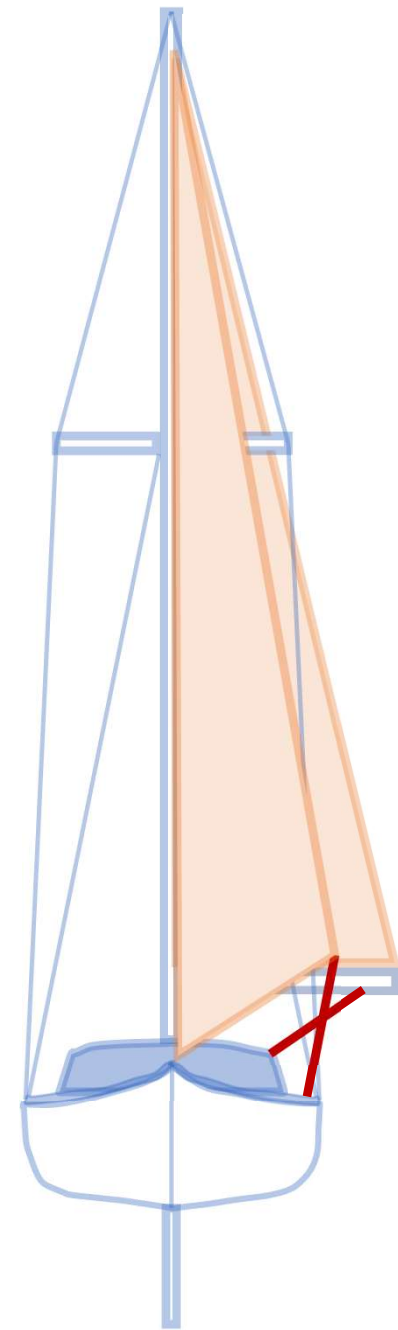
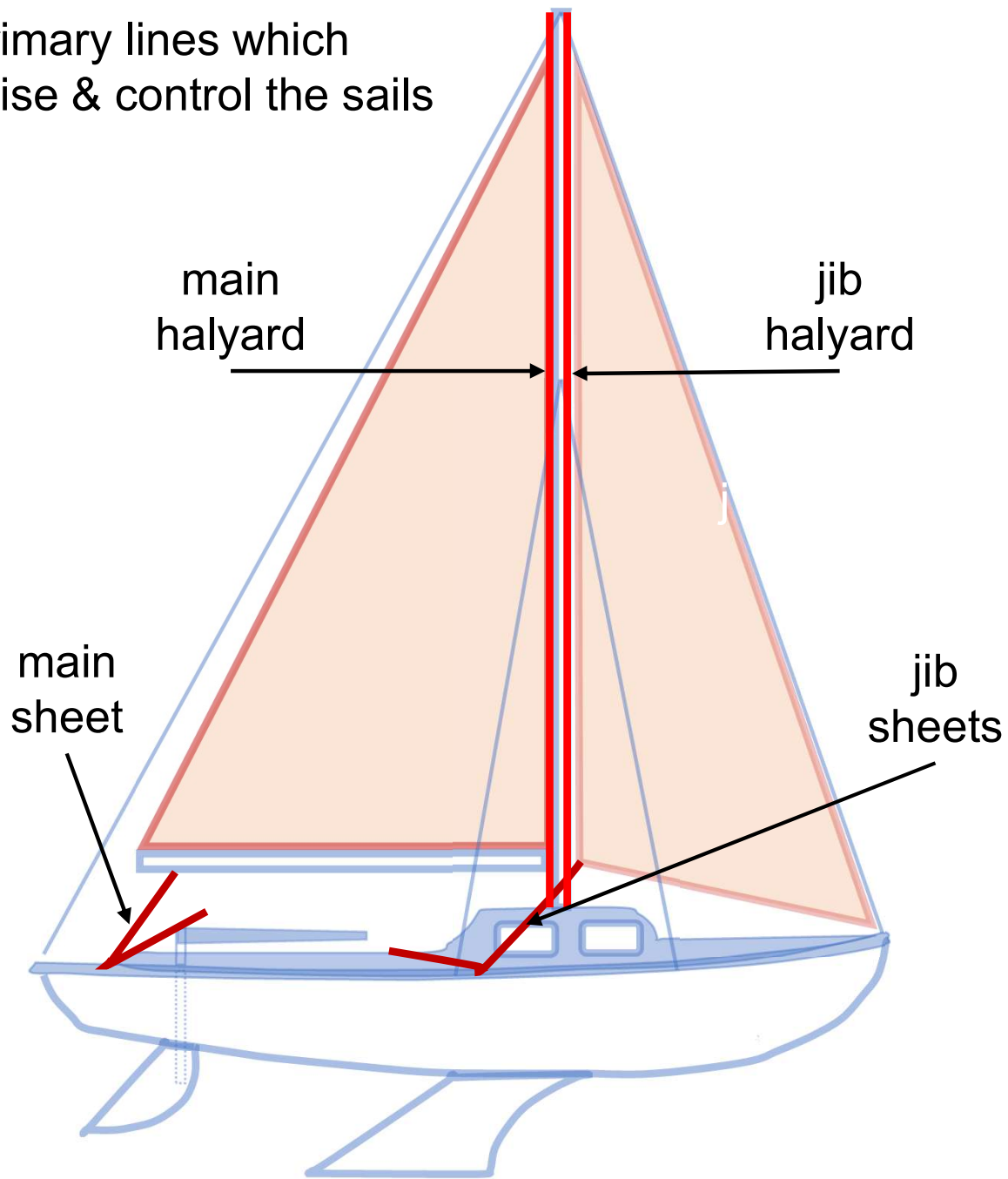
the main luff is attached to the mast

the jib luff is attached to the forestay

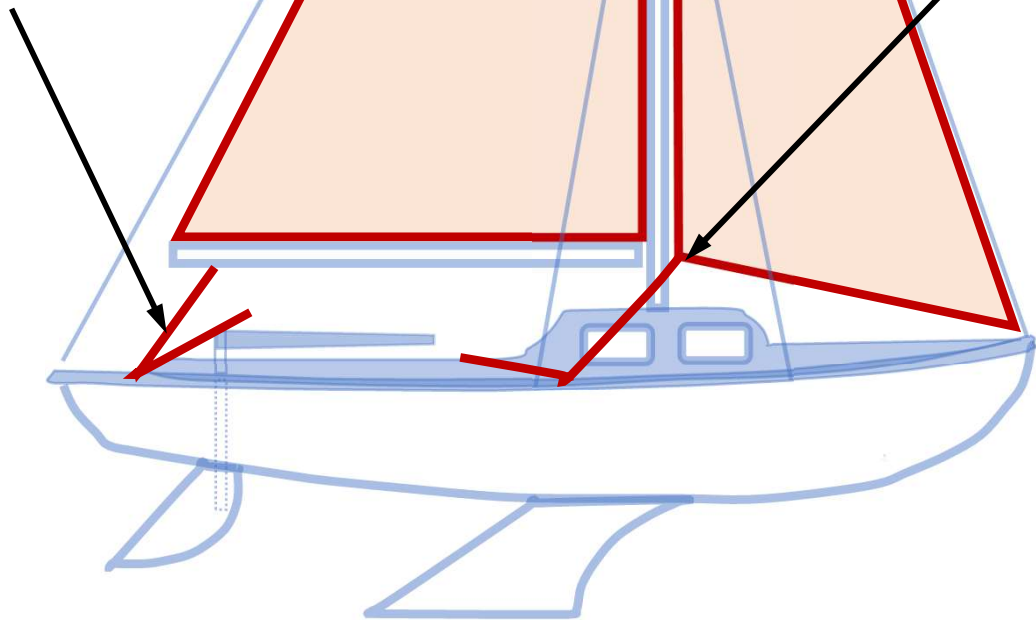
the clew is attached to the aft end of the boom



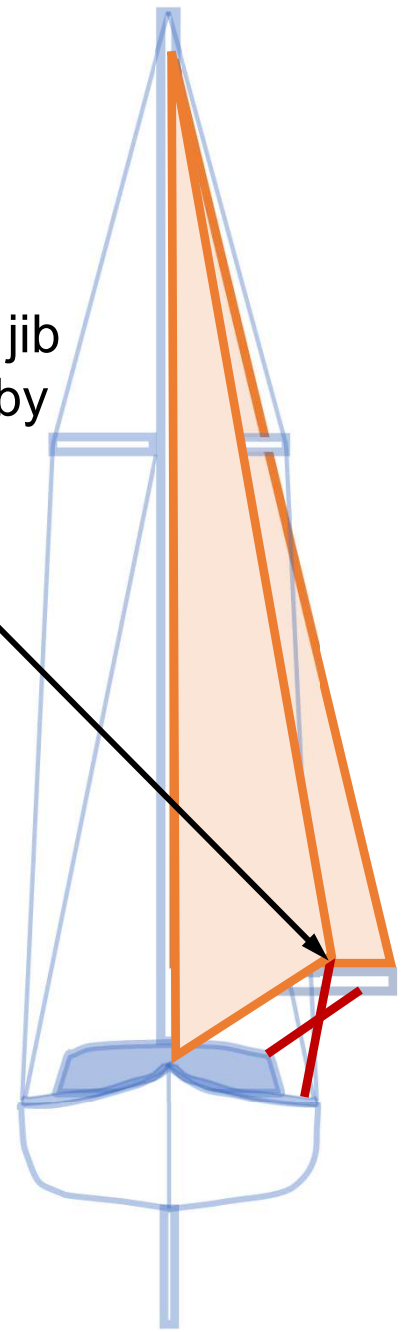
primary lines which
raise & control the sails



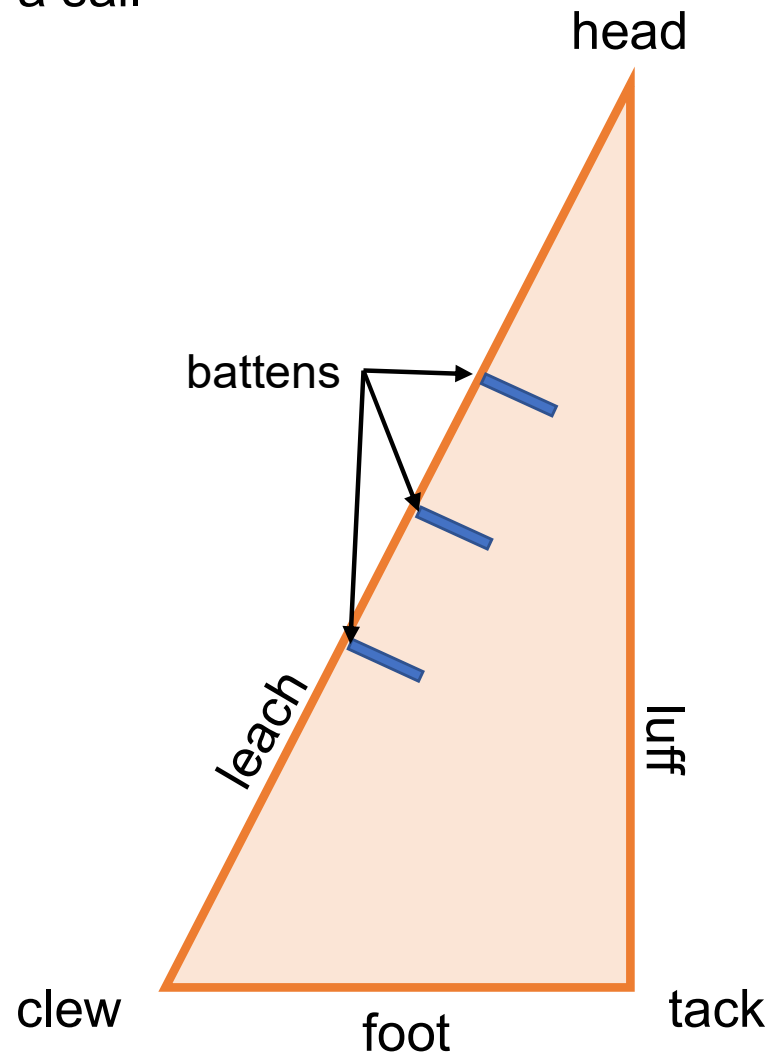
the position of the boom is controlled by the main sheet

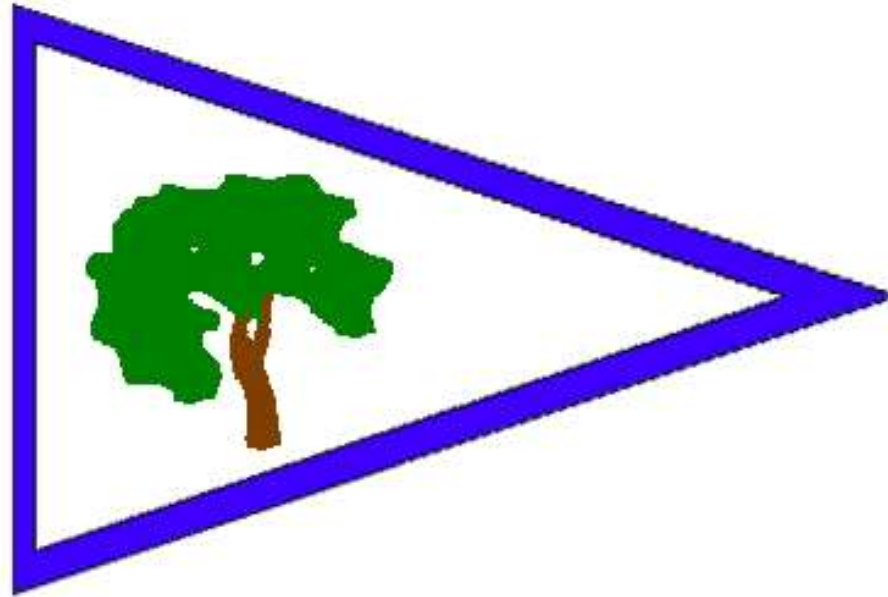


the position of the jib clew is controlled by the jib sheet



parts of a sail





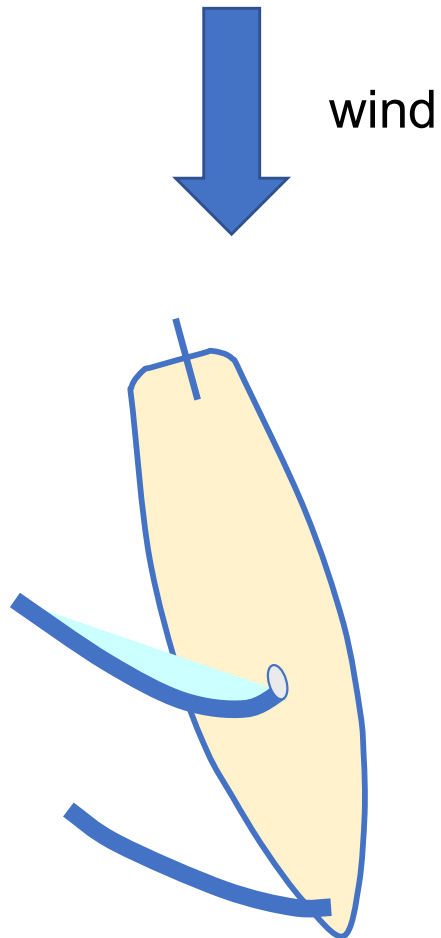
part 3



Making a boat go

- **Downwind**
- **Upwind**
- **Forces**
- **Sail trim**

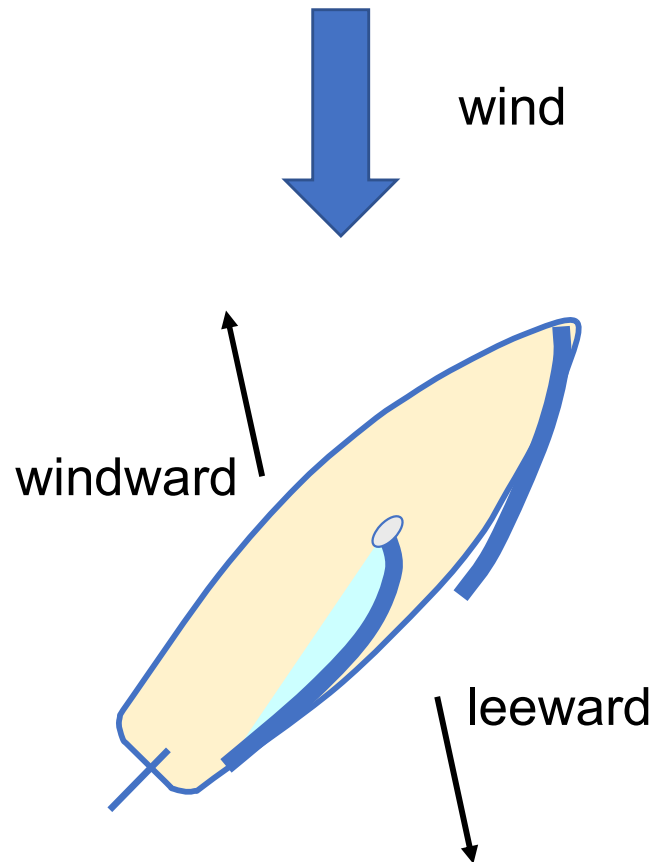
Sailing downwind



- pretty simple
- wind pushes on sail (like Viking ships or square-riggers)



Sailing upwind

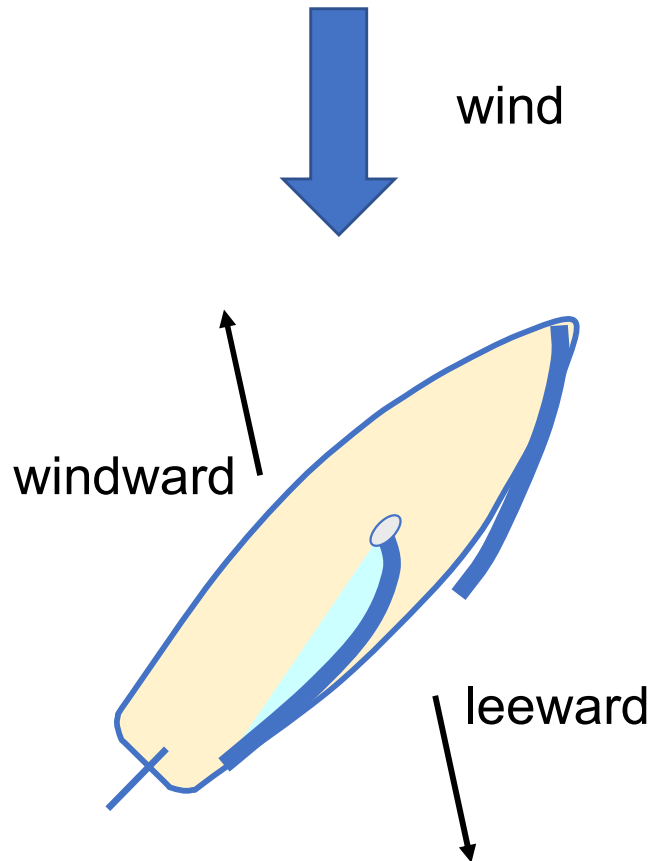


windward – toward the wind
leeward – away from the wind

lots going on here

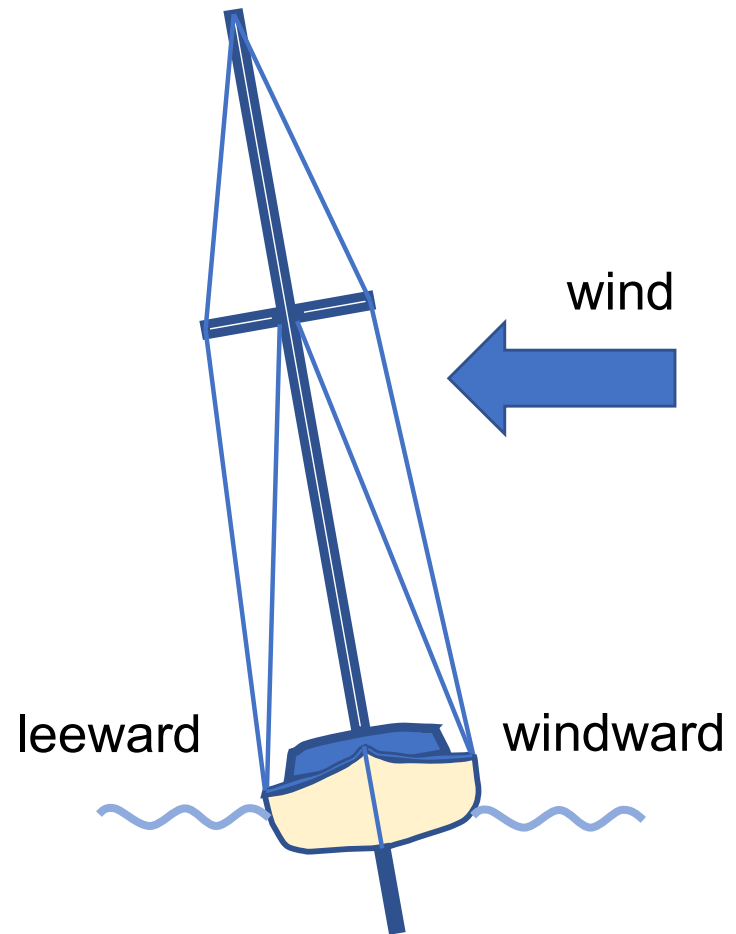


Sailing upwind



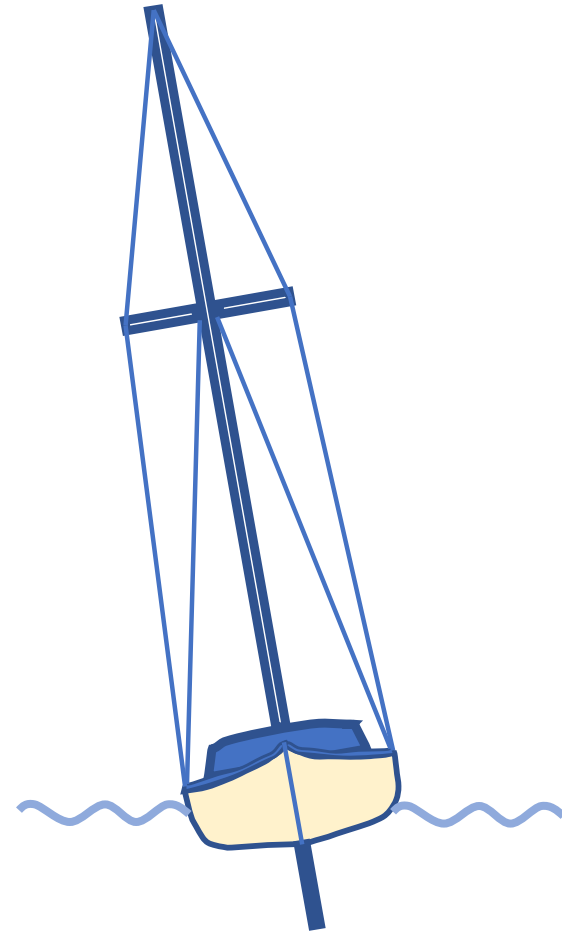
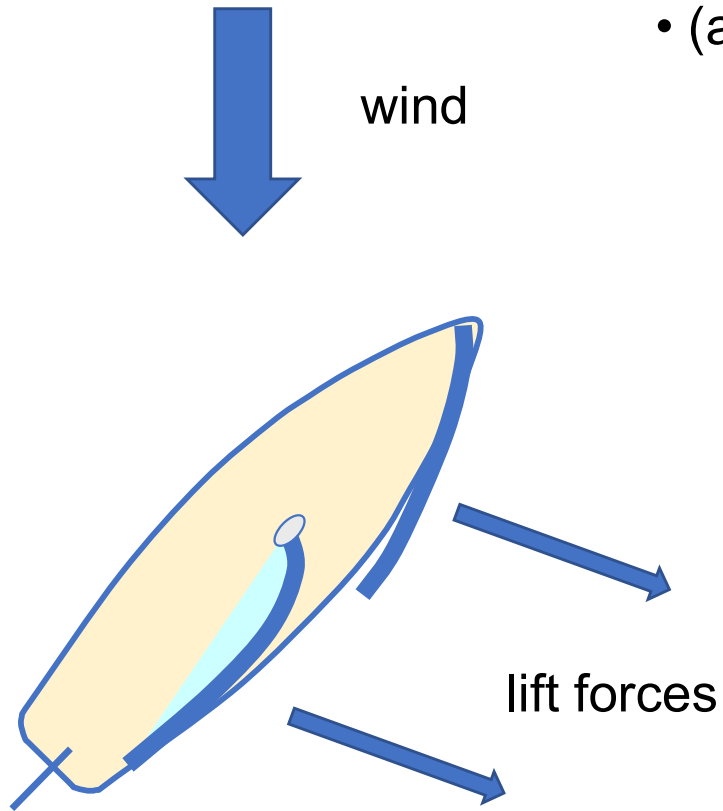
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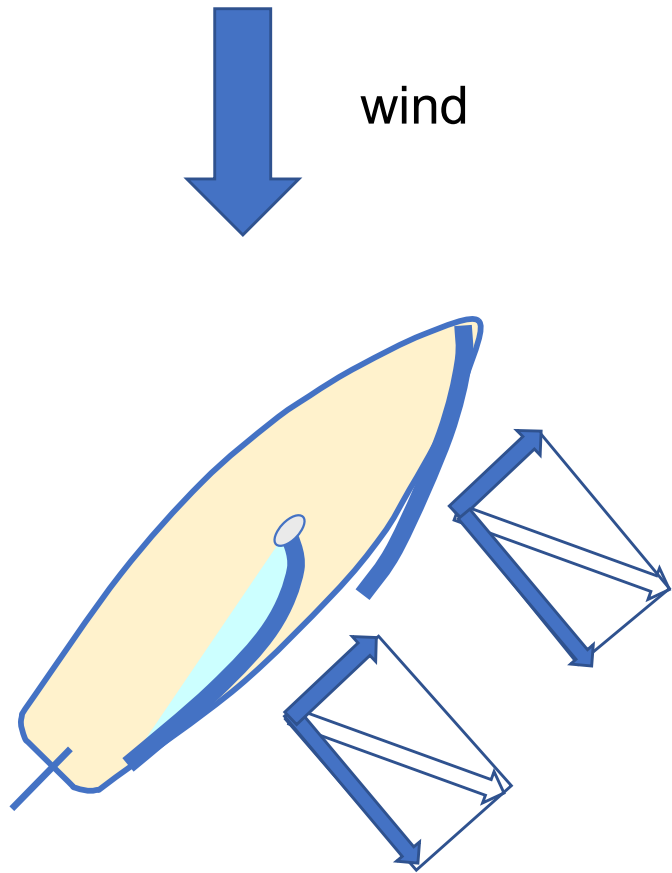


Sailing upwind

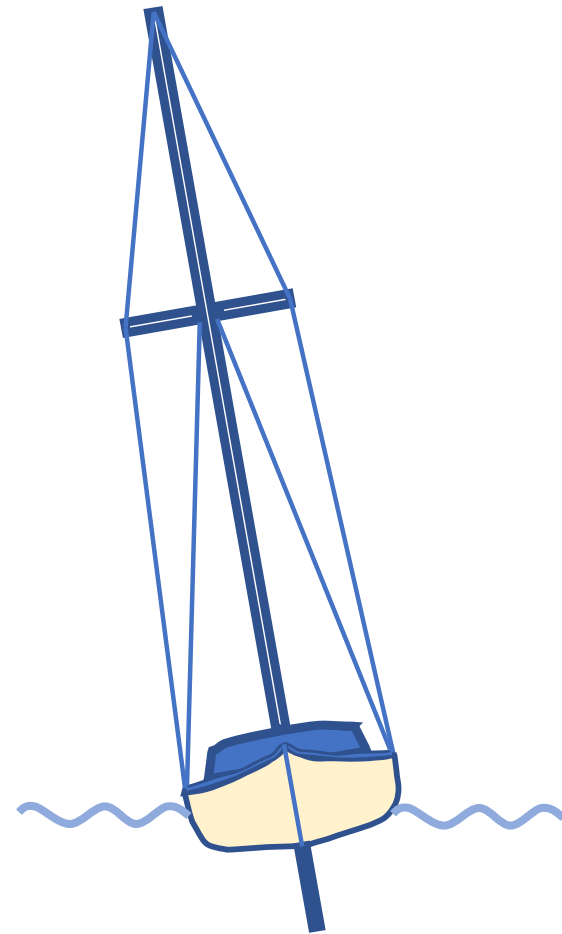
- air flow around curved sail causes lift
- (as with an airplane wing)



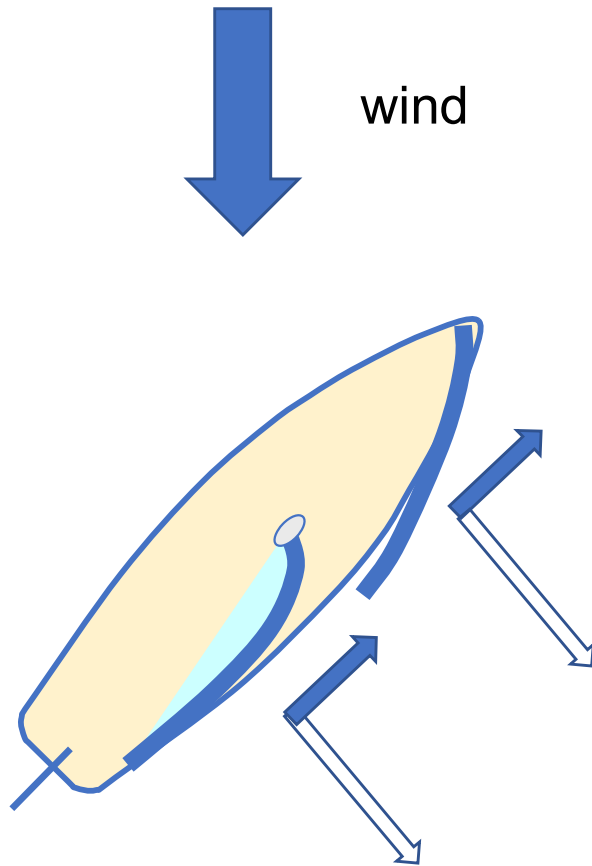
Sailing upwind



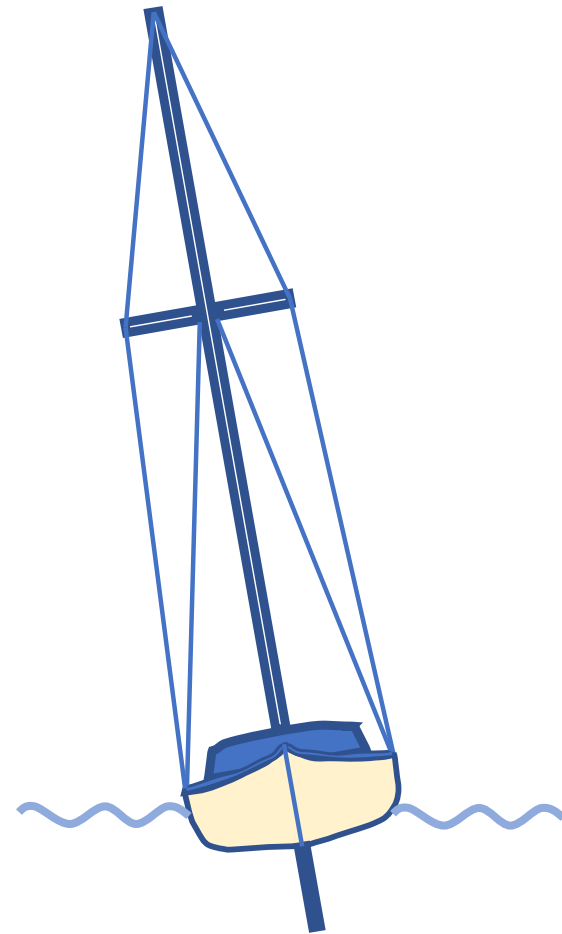
lift force leads to both
– forward force
– sideways force



Sailing upwind

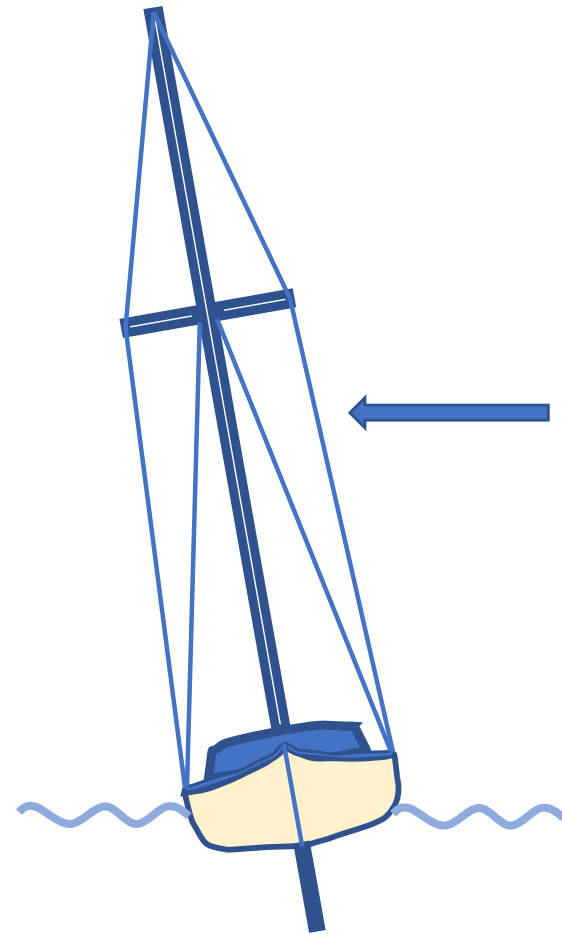
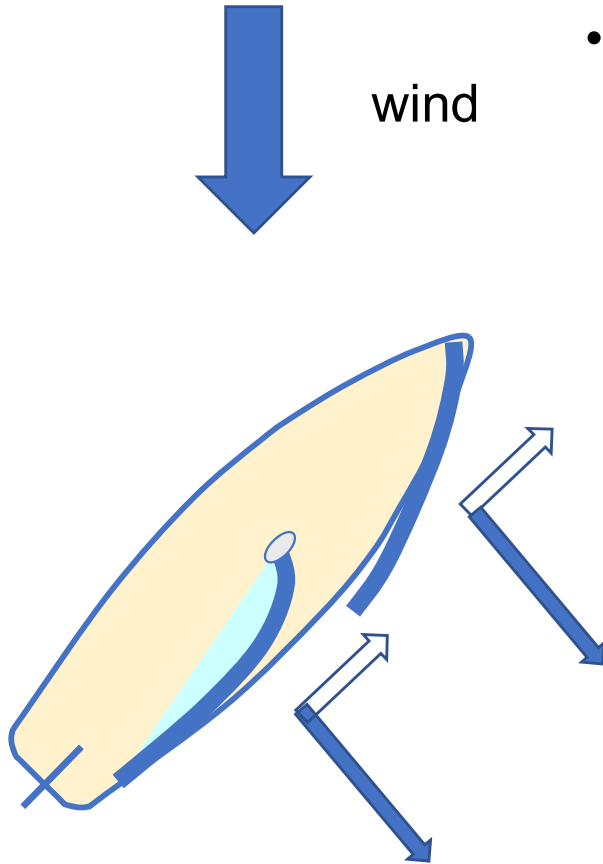


forward force pushes boat forward
(what we want)



Sailing upwind

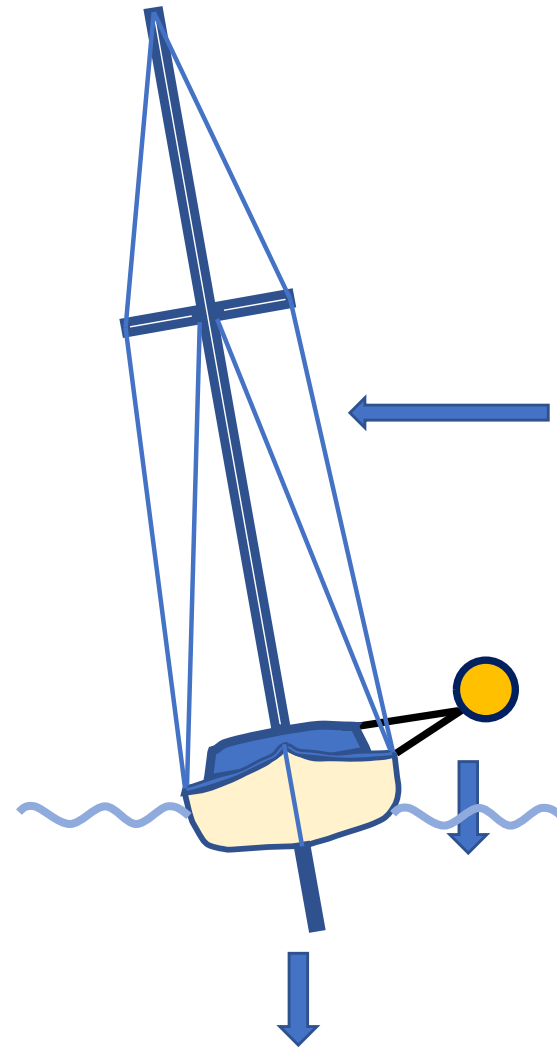
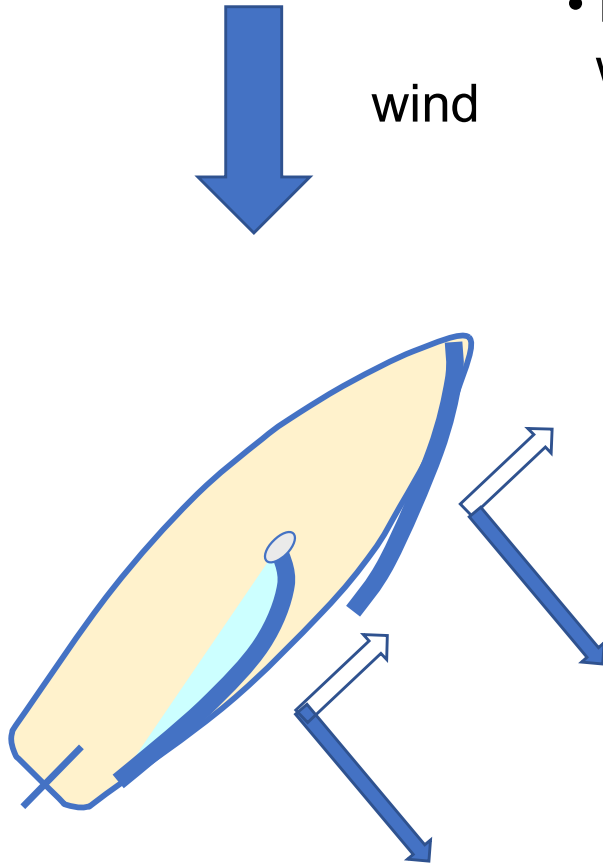
- sideways force tries to push boat sideways through the water
- resisted by the keel* & the hull
- get slow drift to leeward



* one reason for a keel

Sailing upwind

- sideways force also causes boat to **heel** (tilt)
- resisted by weight of keel* and weight of crew on windward (high) side

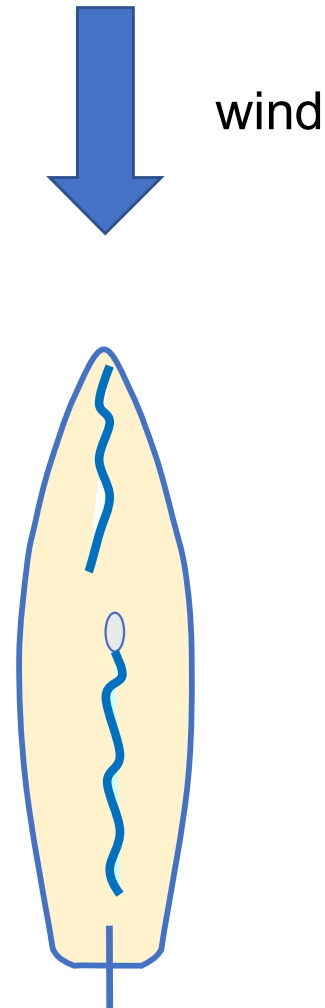


*another reason for a keel

Sailing directly into the wind

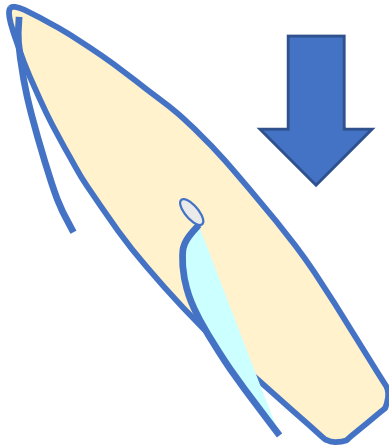
- doesn't work
- "in irons"
- boat stops
- lose control

– to get out of irons,
drift backwards and
to one side



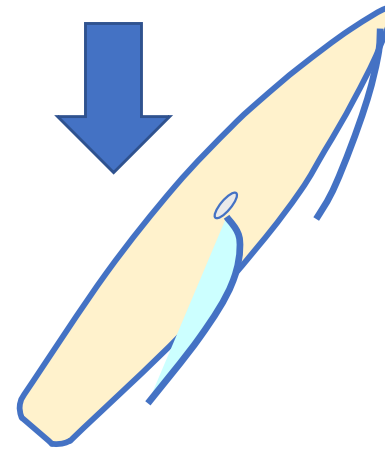
tell how the boat is oriented w.r.t. the wind

starboard tack



wind comes over
starboard side

port tack



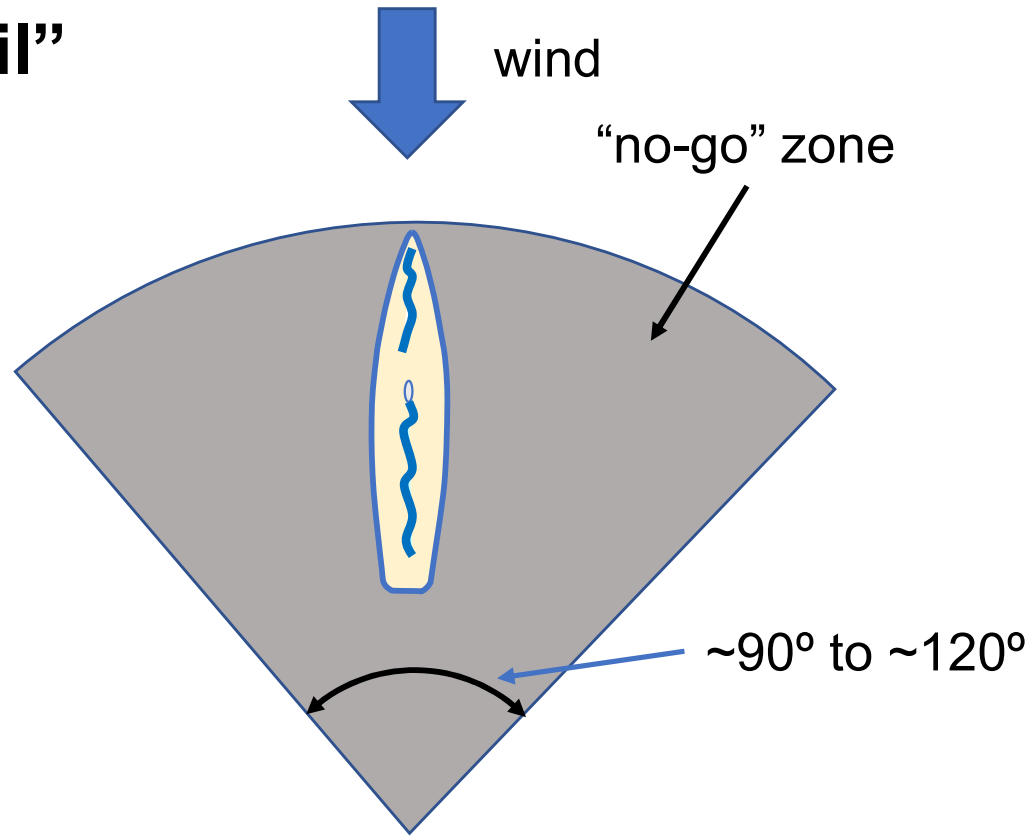
wind comes over
port side

”tack” has two meanings:

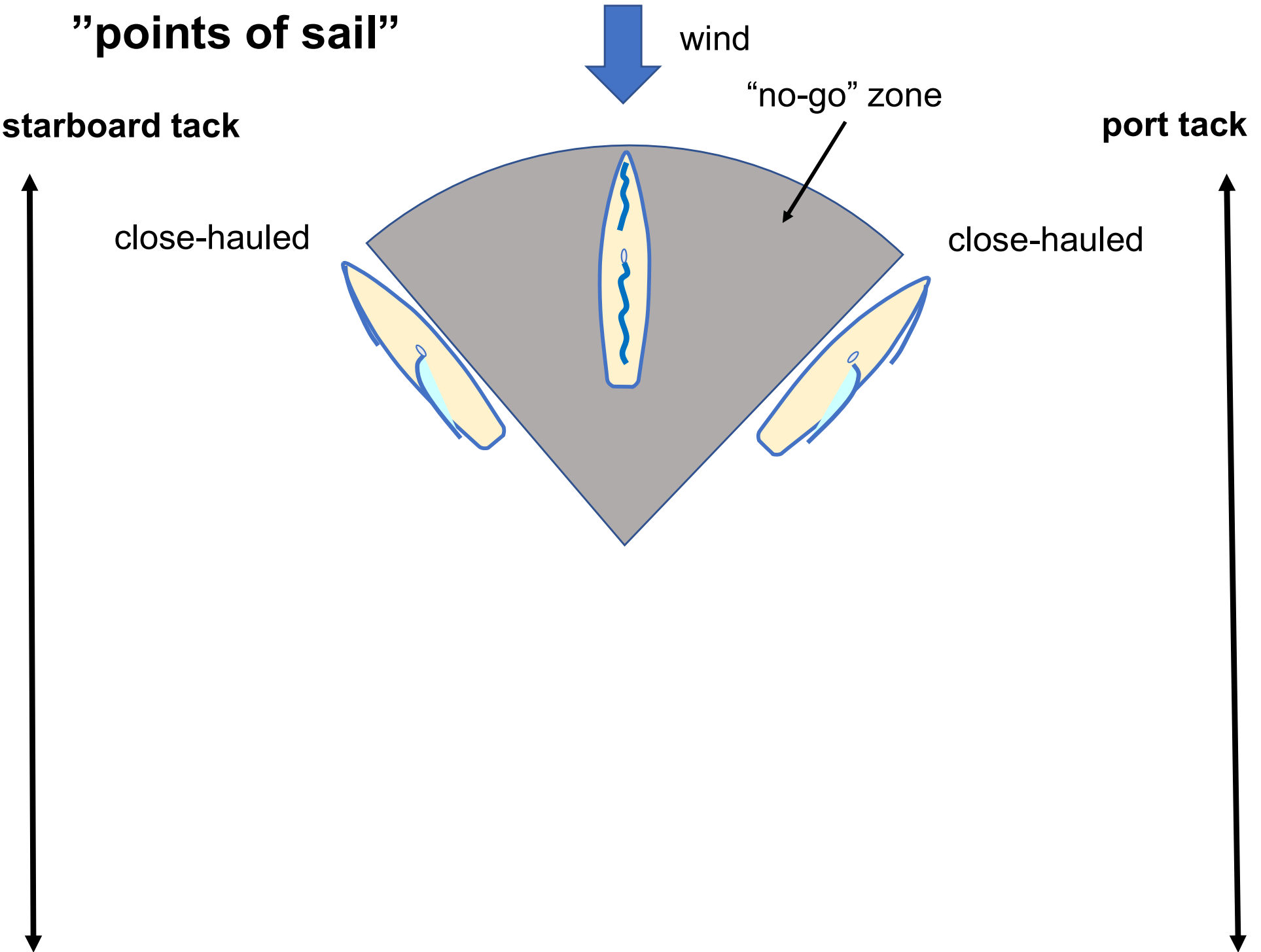
noun – sailing direction relative to wind

verb – turn through the direction of the wind

"points of sail"



"points of sail"



"points of sail"

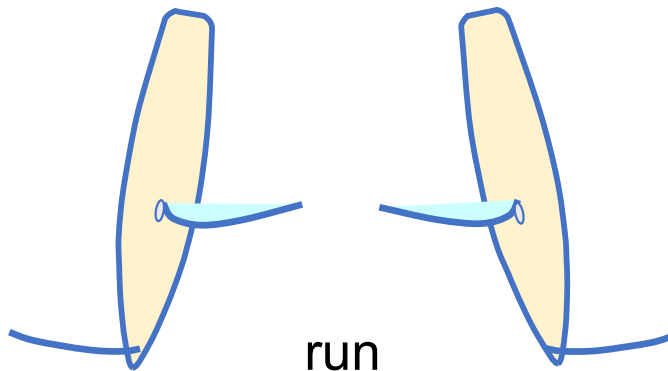
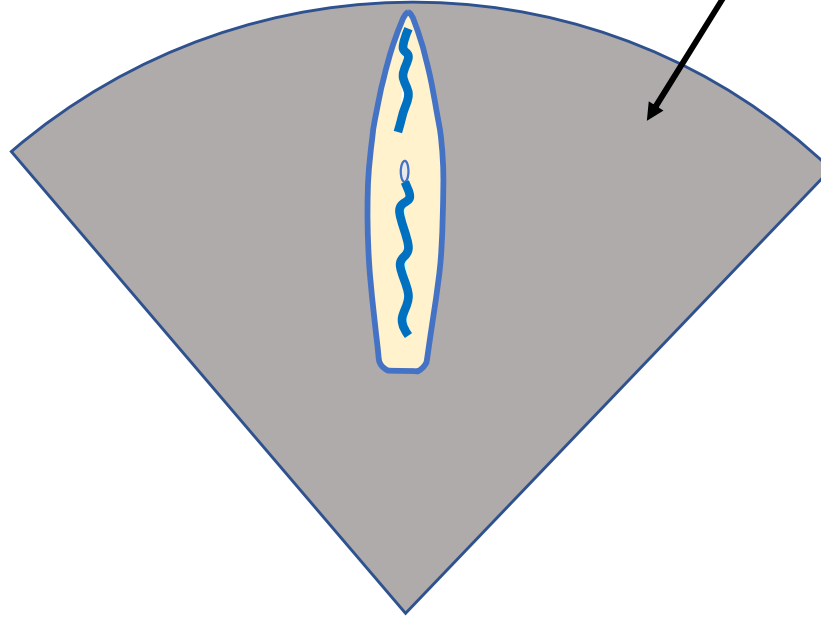
starboard tack

port tack



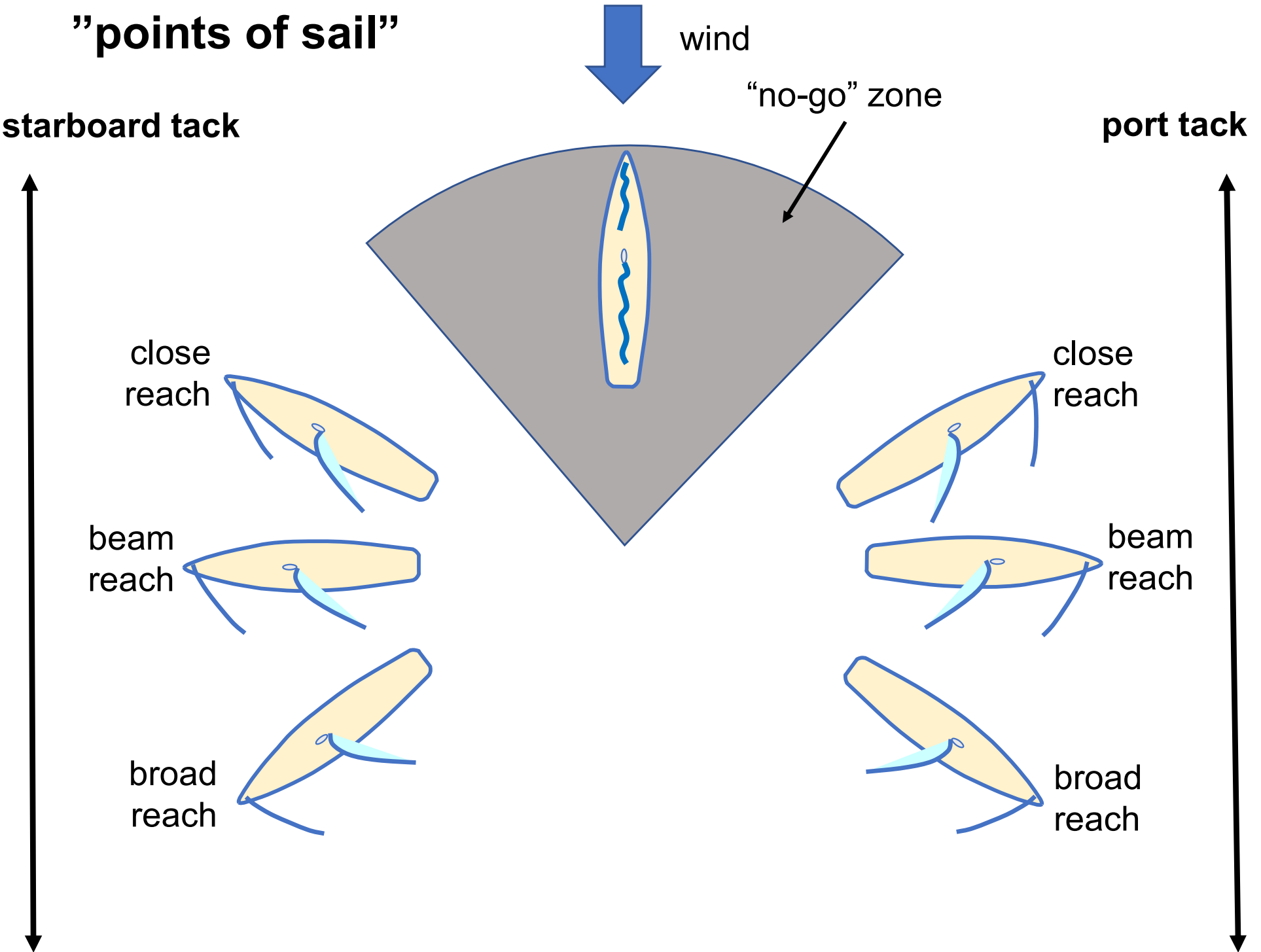
wind

"no-go" zone

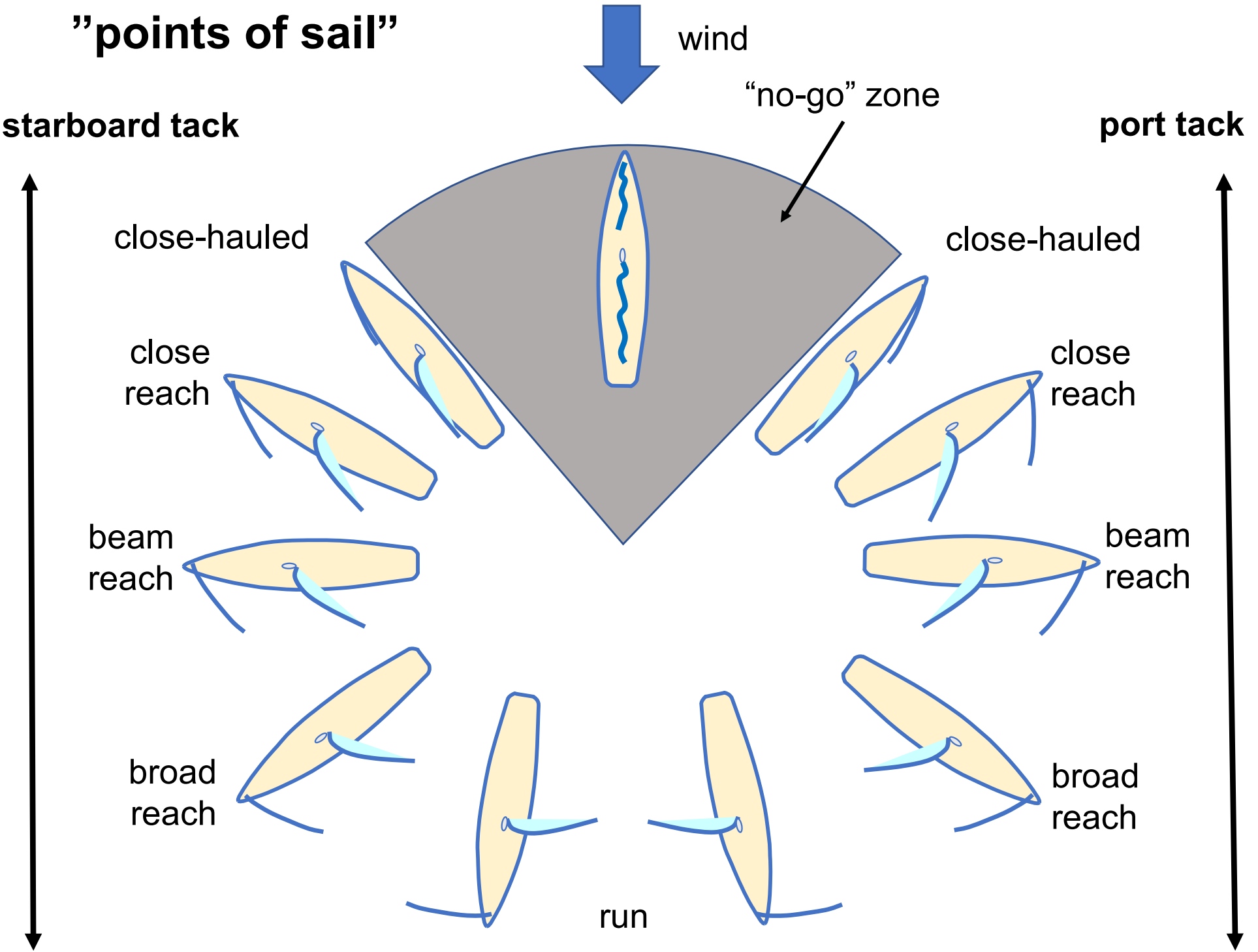


run

"points of sail"

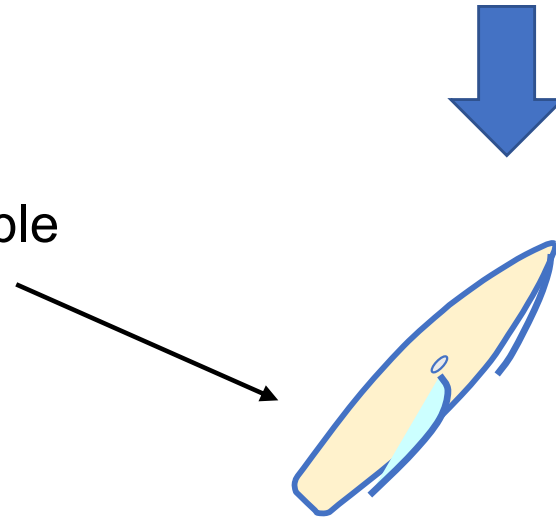


"points of sail"



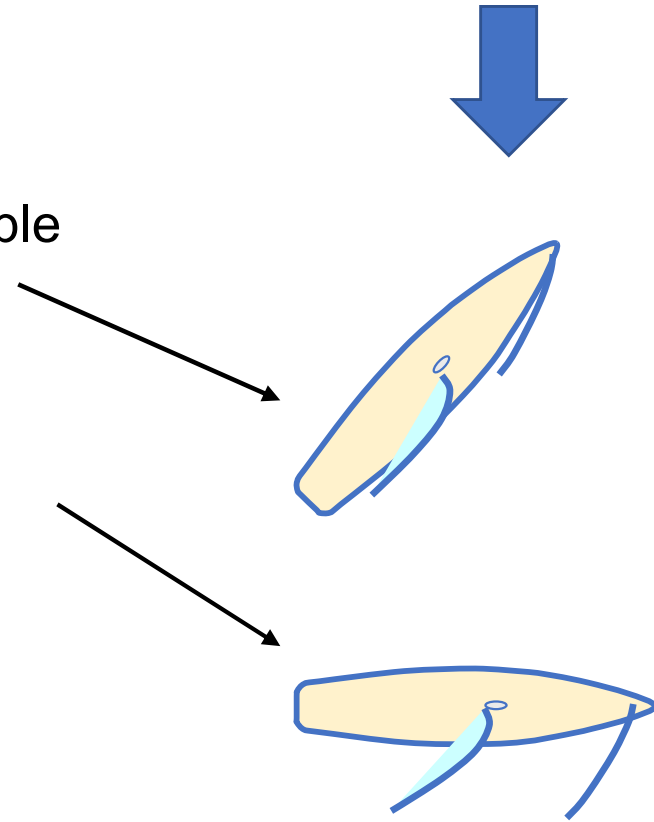
some observations about points of sail

- sailing **close-hauled** can be uncomfortable and requires constant tweaking
 - you may prefer a close reach



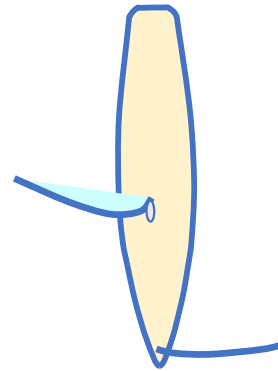
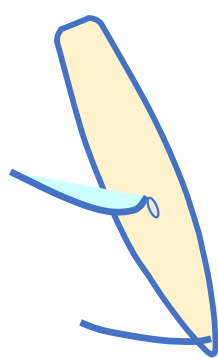
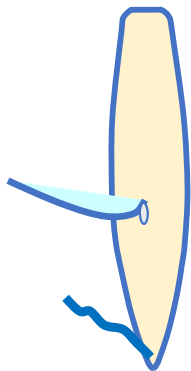
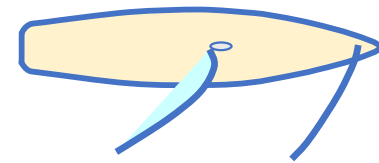
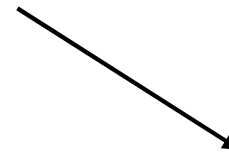
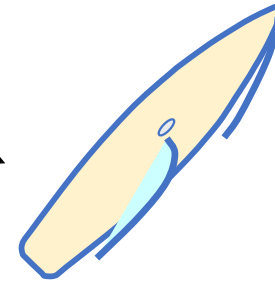
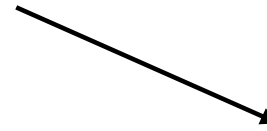
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- a broad **reach** is fastest and most fun



some observations about points of sail

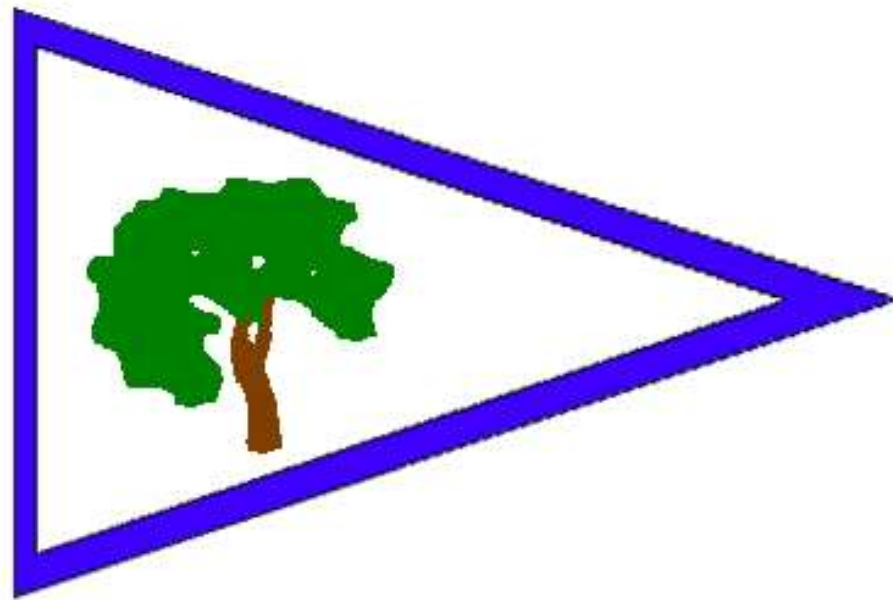
- sailing **close-hauled** can be uncomfortable and requires constant tweaking
 - you may prefer a close reach
- a broad **reach** is fastest and most fun
- going straight downwind, the main blankets the jib
 - either head up a little
 - or put the jib on the other side “wing-and-wing”



Summary (1-3)

We covered:

- Parts of a boat
- How the wind makes a boat go
- Points of sail



part 4



Sail control, steering, getting from here to there

- **controlling and trimming the sails**
- **sail adjustments**
- **de-powering**

Controlling and trimming the sails

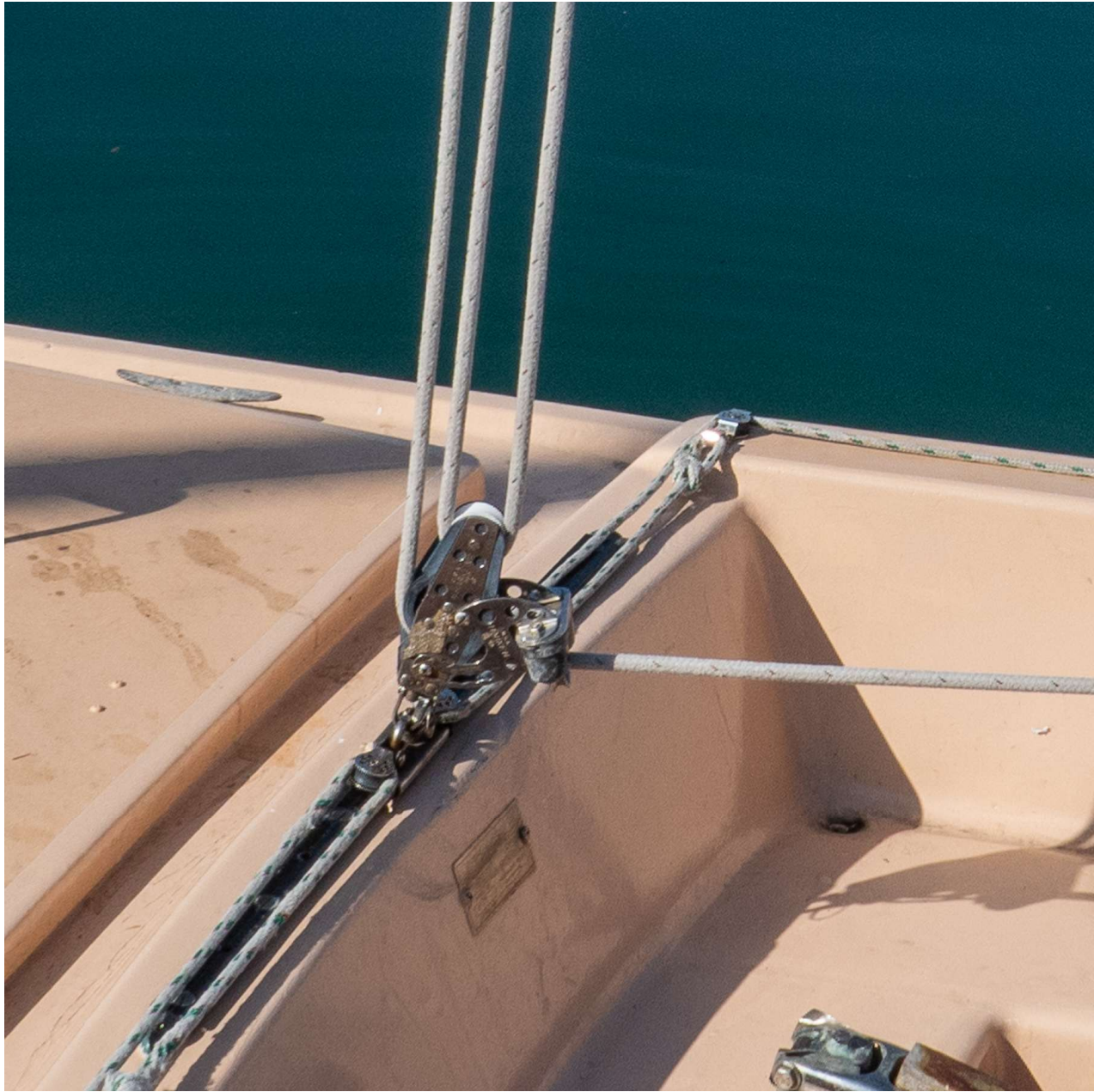
- sheets: primary sail control

Controlling and trimming the sails

- sheets: primary sail control
- The **main sheet** controls the position of the boom, and so the angle between the mainsail and the boat.
- It connects the aft end of the boom to the cockpit.
(Location varies from boat to boat.)
- Usually in a block-and-tackle arrangement.





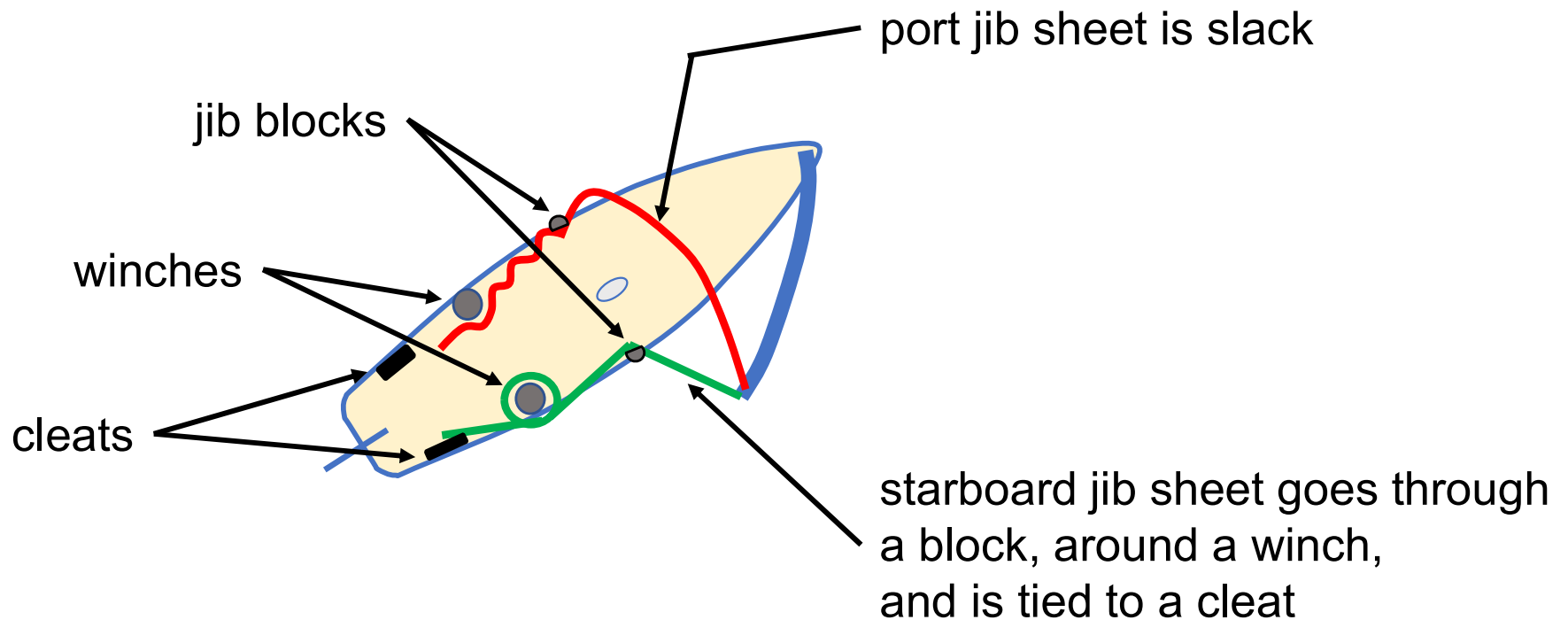


Controlling and trimming the sails

- sheets: primary sail control
- **jib sheets** are attached to the clew (aft corner) of the jib
 - there are two jib sheets; passing to the cockpit outside of the shrouds
 - one is used to control the position of the jib clew, the other is slack (depends on which tack we're on)

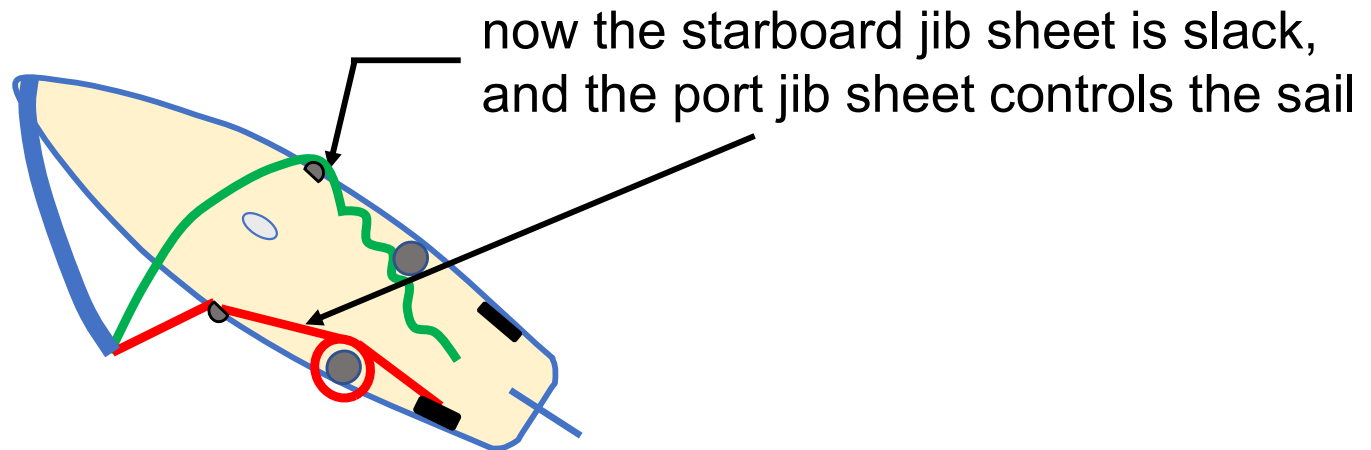
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- for example, on port tack:



Controlling and trimming the sails

- sheets: primary sail control
- **jib sheets** are attached to the clew (aft corner) of the jib
 - there are two jib sheets; passing to the cockpit outside of the shrouds
 - one is used to control the position of the jib clew, the other is slack (depends on which tack we're on)
- after turning to starboard tack:





cleat

block

winch

jib
sheet

clew

jib

sheeted jib



jib block on Victory



winch on Victory



cleat for Victory jib sheet (cam cleat)



There are many possible adjustments of a sail

- Poor **trim** => lose power
- Most basic: adjust sheet (position of clew)

trim: adjust the shape and position

There are many possible adjustments of a sail

- Poor **trim** => lose power
- Most basic: adjust sheet (position of clew)

Too loose:



– first the sail will **luff**; bulge to windward at the luff

– then it will flap like a flag

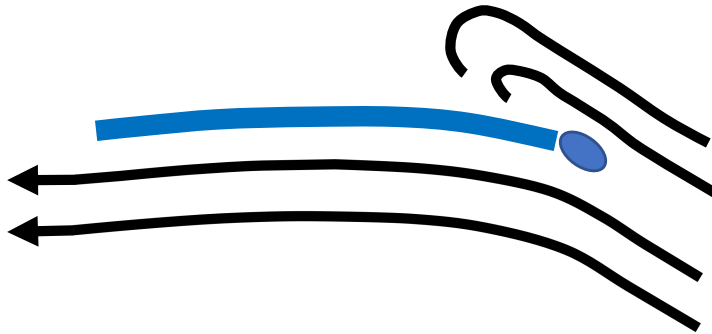
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Too loose:



Too tight:



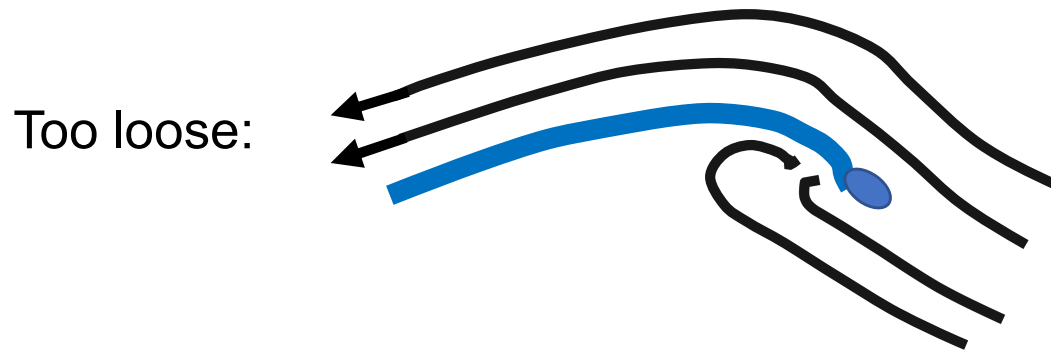
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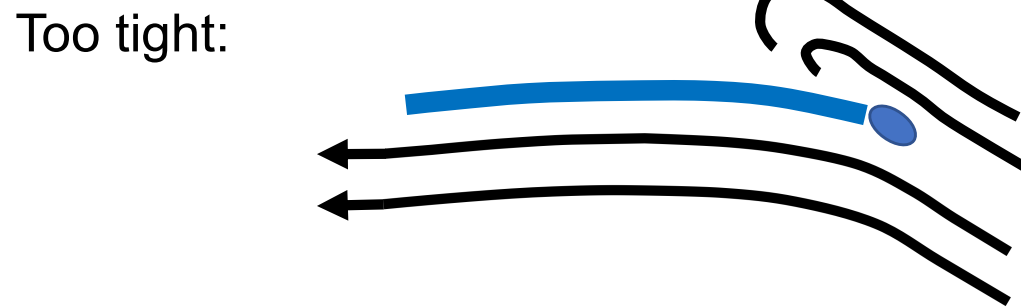
– sail will “stall”; look good but going nowhere & too much heel

There are many possible adjustments of a sail

- Poor **trim** => lose power
- Most basic: adjust sheet (position of clew)

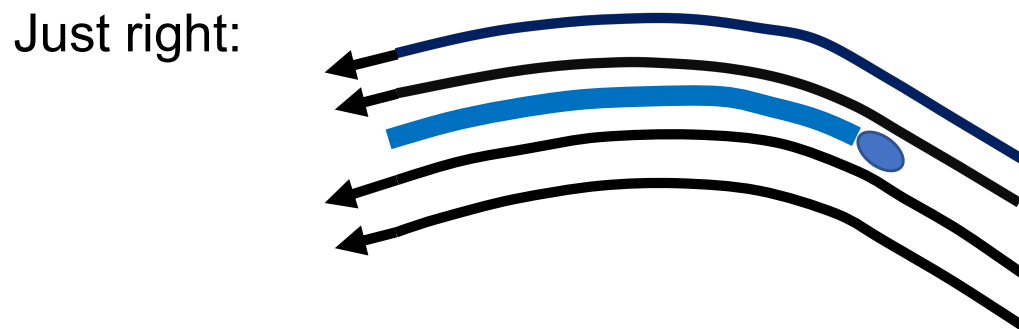


– first the sail will **luff**; bulge to windward at the luff



– then it will flap like a flag

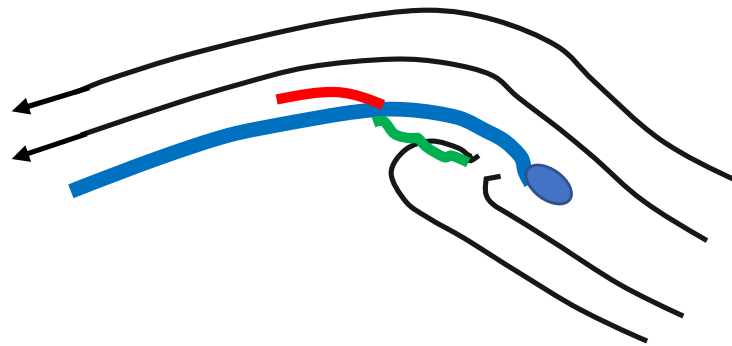
– sail will “stall”; look good but going nowhere & too much heel



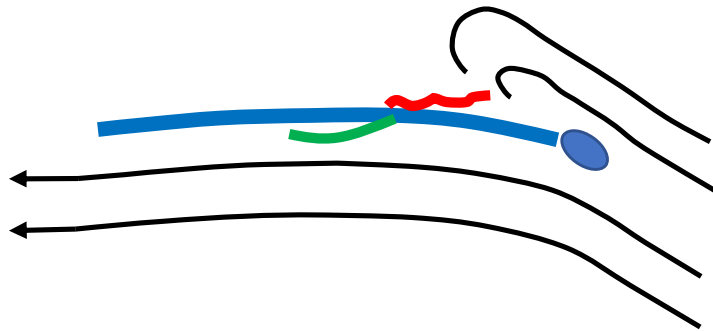
– smooth flow
=> optimum performance

Tell-tales

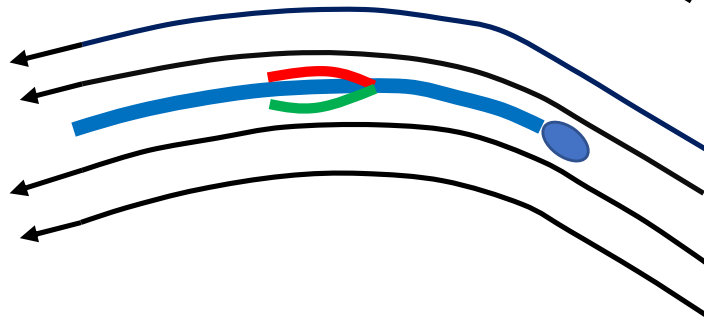
- There may be tell-tales attached to the surface of the jib, or main, or both.
- Also at the leach (trailing edge) of the main.



– windward tell-tale flutters



– leeward tell-tale flutters



– both tell-tales stream smoothly aft

- With practice, you will be able to judge optimal trim by feel!



Tell-tales on window in jib

De-powering

- sometimes there is too much wind for your comfort level
 - either there is a brief puff or a longer stretch of high wind
 - your response is to reduce the power of the sail

De-powering

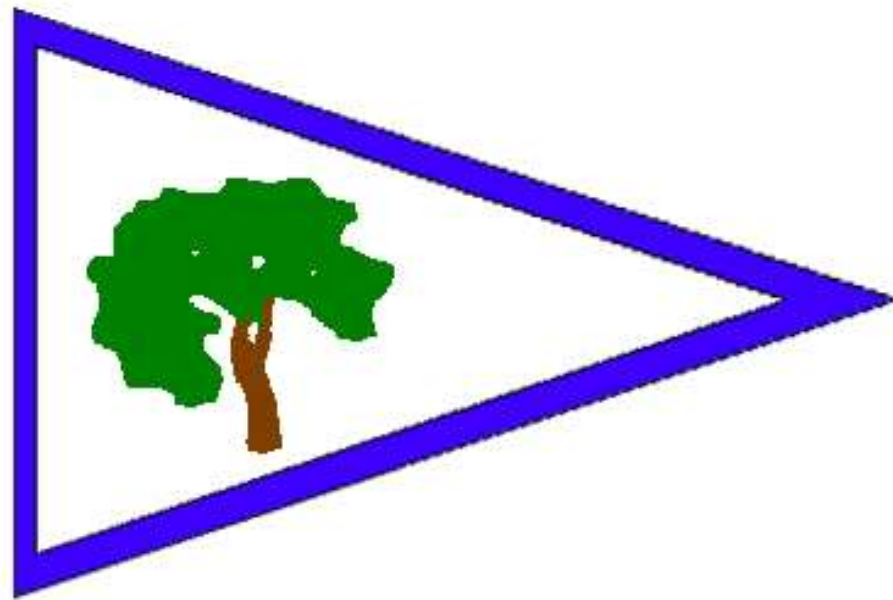
- sometimes there is too much wind for your comfort level
 - either there is a brief puff or a longer stretch of high wind
 - your response is to reduce the power of the sail
- in a puff
 - make the sail luff
 - => ease the sail – *“when in doubt, let it out”*
 - => or head up (turn into the wind)

De-powering

- sometimes there is too much wind for your comfort level
 - either there is a brief puff or a longer stretch of high wind
 - your response is to reduce the power of the sail
- in a puff
 - make the sail luff
 - => ease the sail – *“when in doubt, let it out”*
 - => or head up (turn into the wind)
- in a steadier strong wind
 - flatten the sails
 - => tighten the vang, outhaul, downhaul, jib leech
 - (in a very light wind, do the opposite => loosen everything)
 - **“reef”** the sails (reduce their area)
 - lower the jib (sail only with the main)

De-powering

- sometimes there is too much wind for your comfort level
 - either there is a brief puff or a longer stretch of high wind
 - your response is to reduce the power of the sail
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 - (in a very light wind, do the opposite => loosen everything)
 - **“reef”** the sails (reduce their area)
 - lower the jib (sail only with the main)
- last – if you don’t feel safe, lower the sails, start the motor, go home



part 5

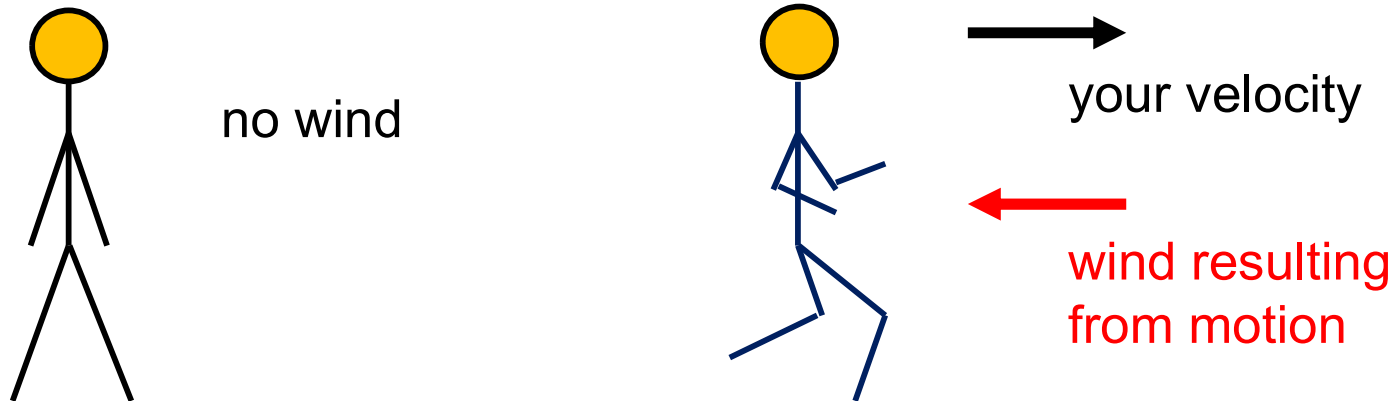
Driving the boat

- **Wind – true and apparent**
- **Turning**
- **Sailing straight**

Where is the wind coming from? How strong is it?

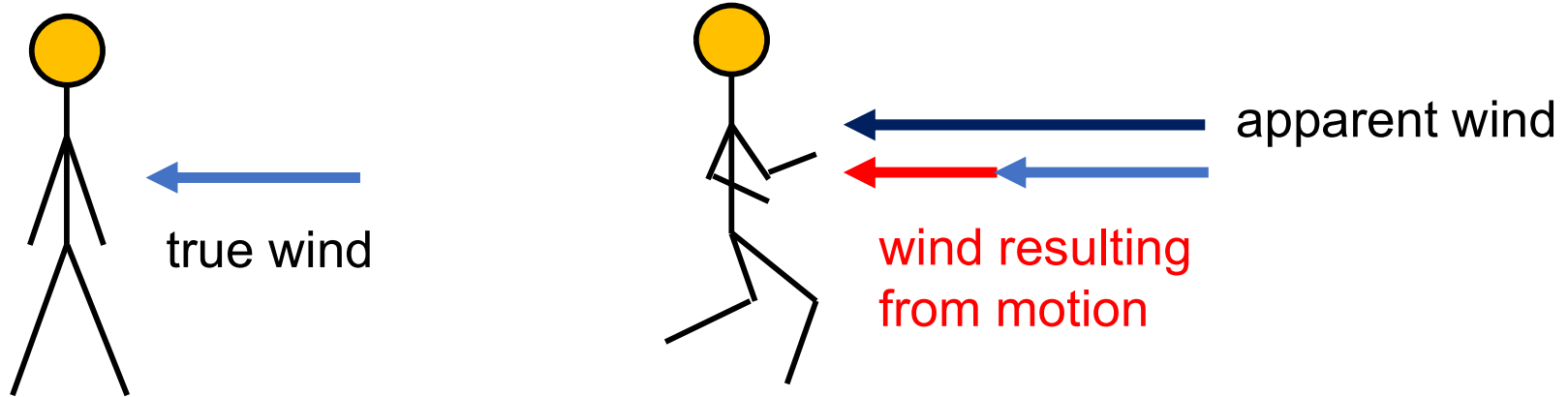
“Apparent wind”

- A sailboat moves through air and is driven by air.
- Air speed and direction are usually thought of as measured with respect to instruments fixed to the ground (or you, standing still); called “true wind”
- But: you can make your own wind, by moving.
- The velocity of the wind due to your motion is equal and opposite to your velocity.

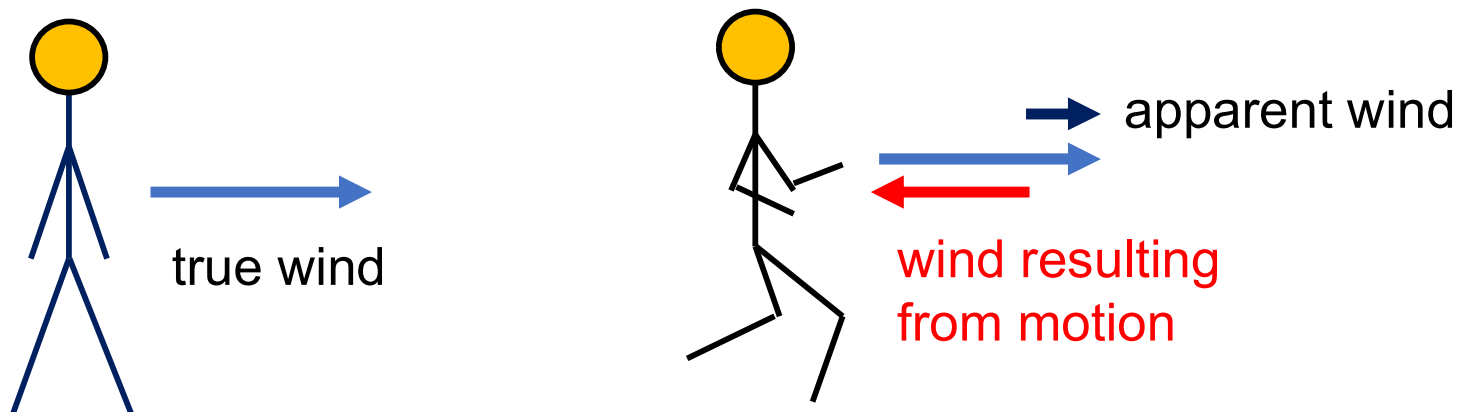


Apparent wind

running into the wind => true wind and motion wind add
=> apparent wind is larger

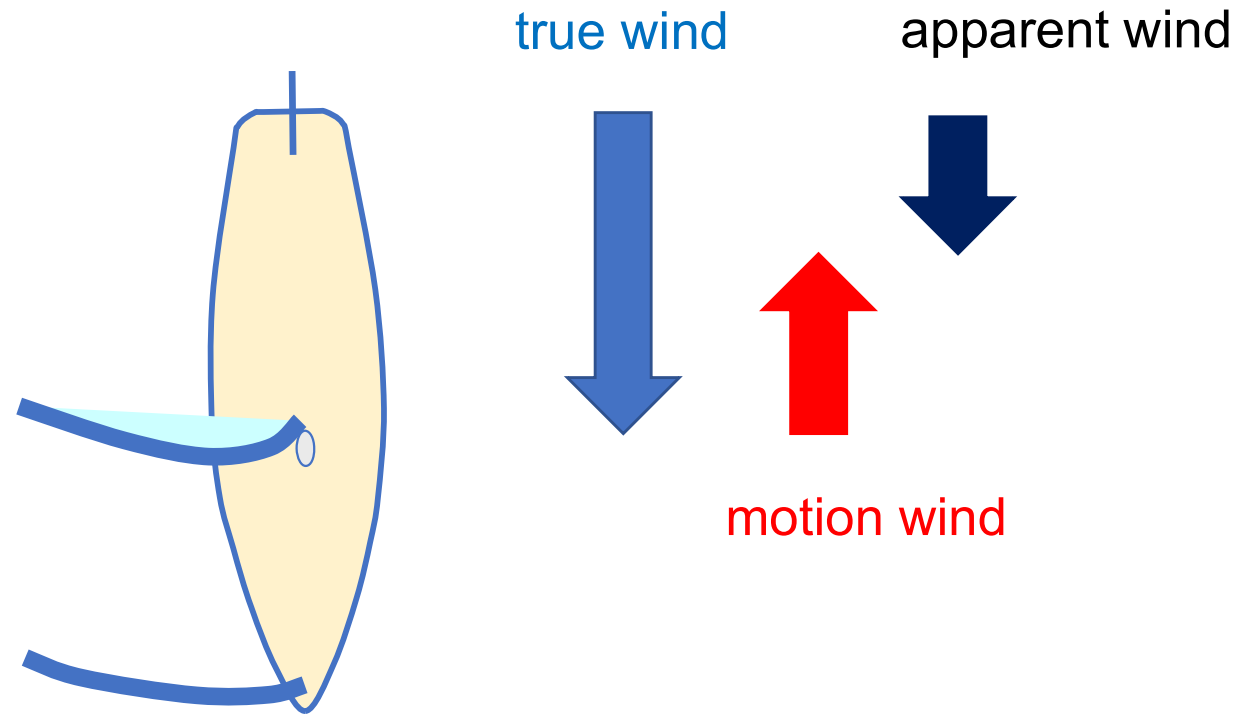


running with the wind => winds subtract
=> apparent wind is smaller



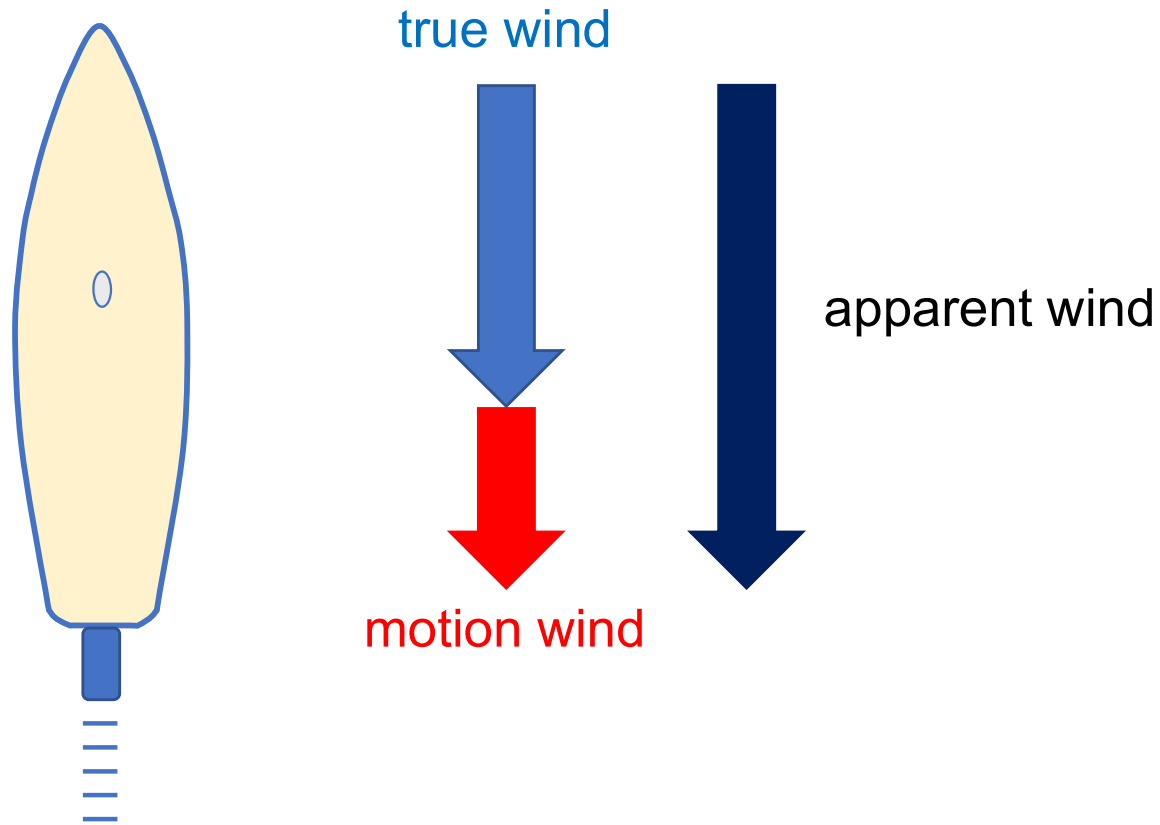
A sailboat is moving through the air and so it responds to the apparent wind

Sailing downwind



- The wind driving the boat, and felt by the crew is less than the true wind
- This makes a downwind run a good time to take it a bit easier

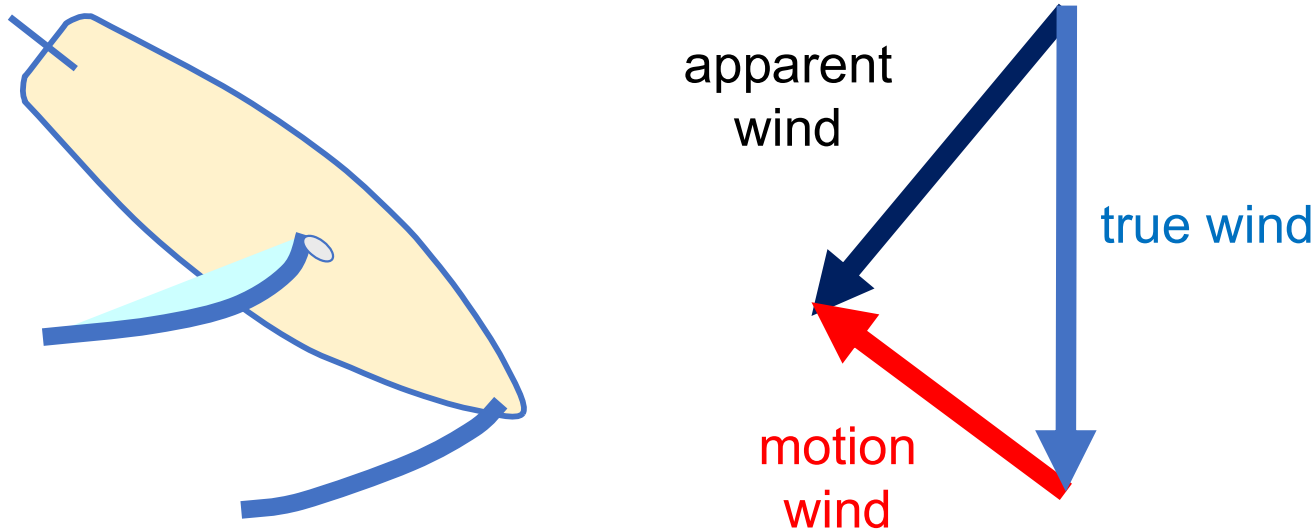
~~Sailing~~ motoring upwind



- The wind felt by the boat and the crew is large
- This can make going upwind less comfortable
- Note that the apparent wind can vary a lot, depending on the direction you're moving

What is the apparent wind when sailing another course?

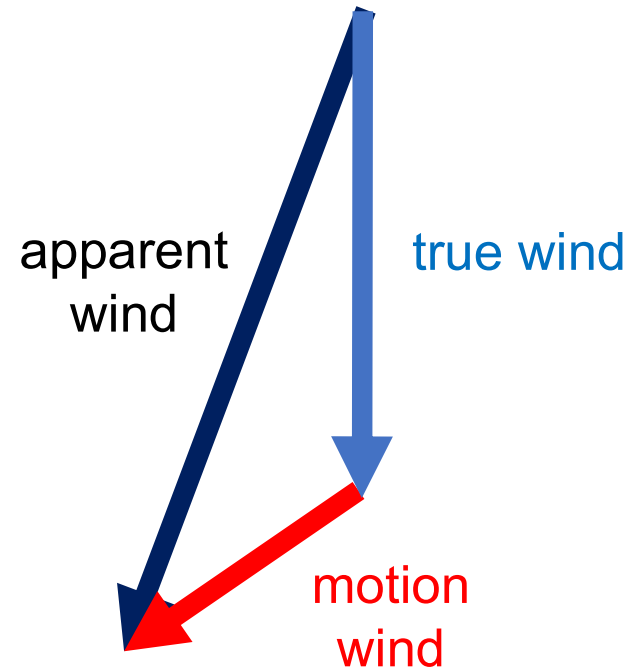
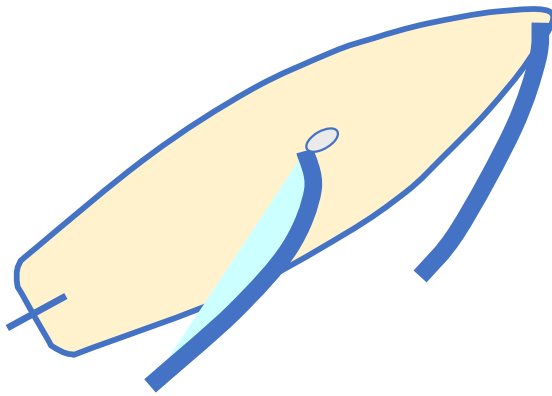
on a broad reach:



- The (apparent) wind strength is **reduced**
- Its direction has changed
 - crew should adjust the sails

What is the apparent wind when sailing another course?

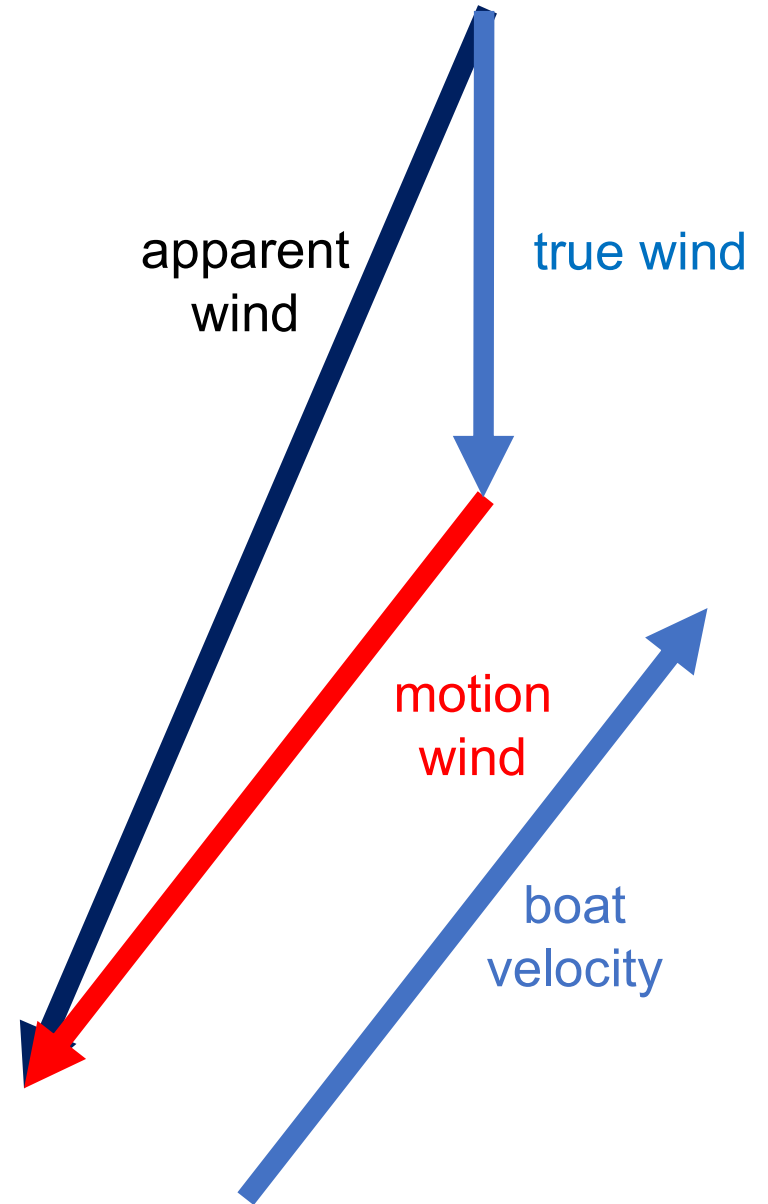
on a close reach:



- The (apparent) wind strength is **increased**
- Its direction has changed
 - crew should adjust the sails



Boats on foils (and ice boats) which have little drag can sail much faster than the wind.

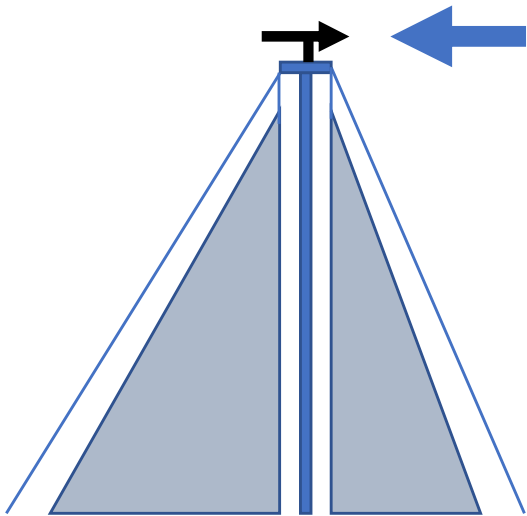


How to tell where the wind is coming from

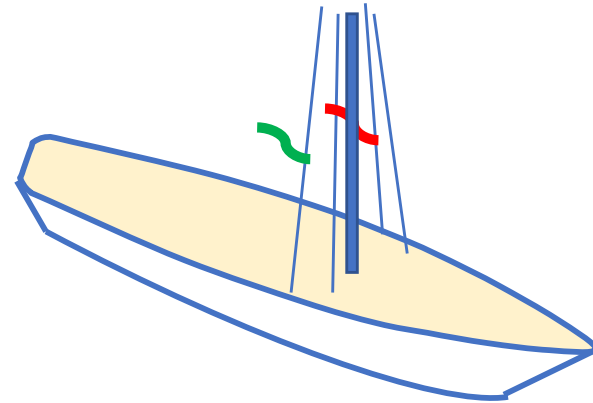
- Most important: learn to judge the feel of the wind on your face!



- Wind vane (“fly”) on top of mast



- Tell-tales (strips of yarn) on shrouds



- Ripples on water (roughly perpendicular to wind)



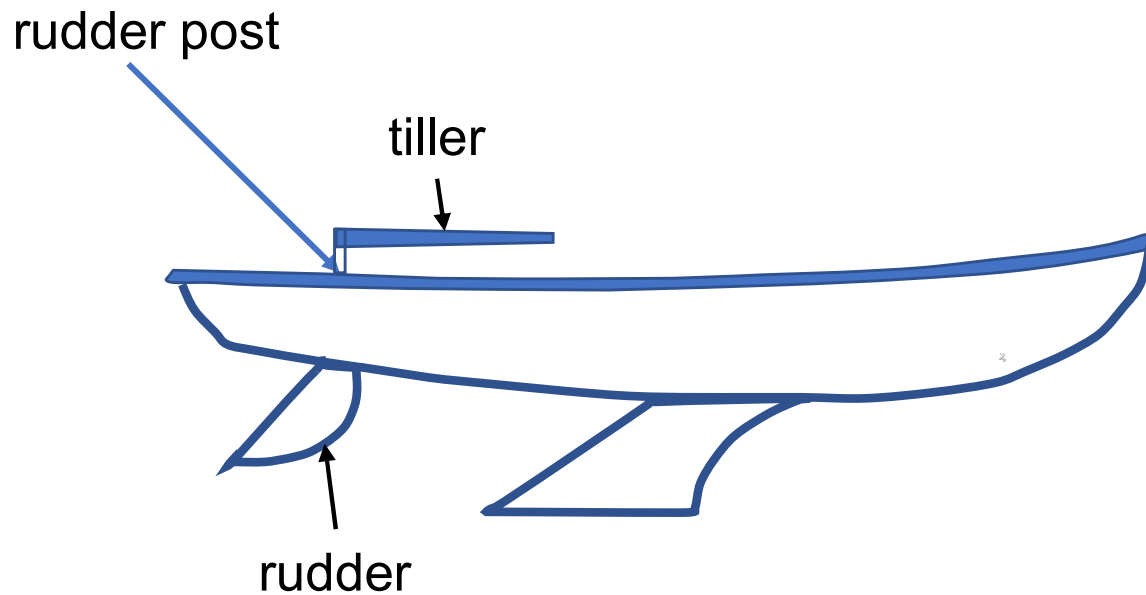
masthead fly



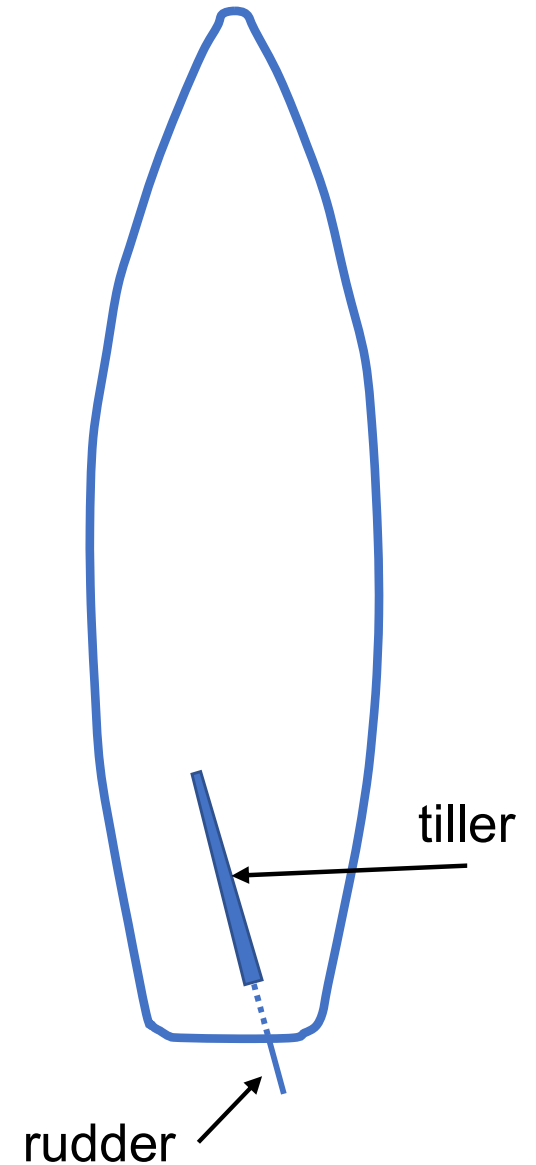
tell-tale on shroud

Steering

- The **rudder** is mounted on a vertical axle (the rudder post).
- The **tiller** is attached to the top of the post, allowing the helmsman to move the rudder.



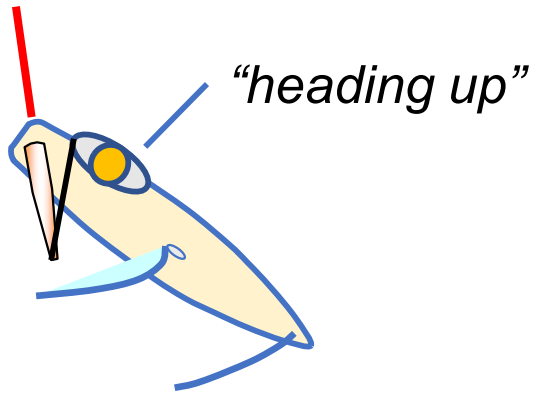
helmsman: the person steering the boat





helmsman

Turning

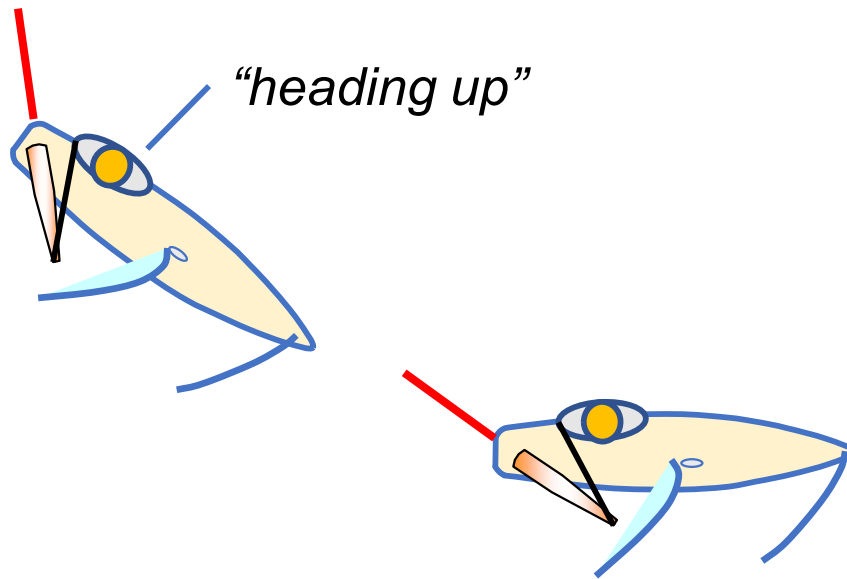


- To turn to port (left) put the tiller to starboard.
- Think: you are steering the back of the boat.

“head up” => turn toward the wind

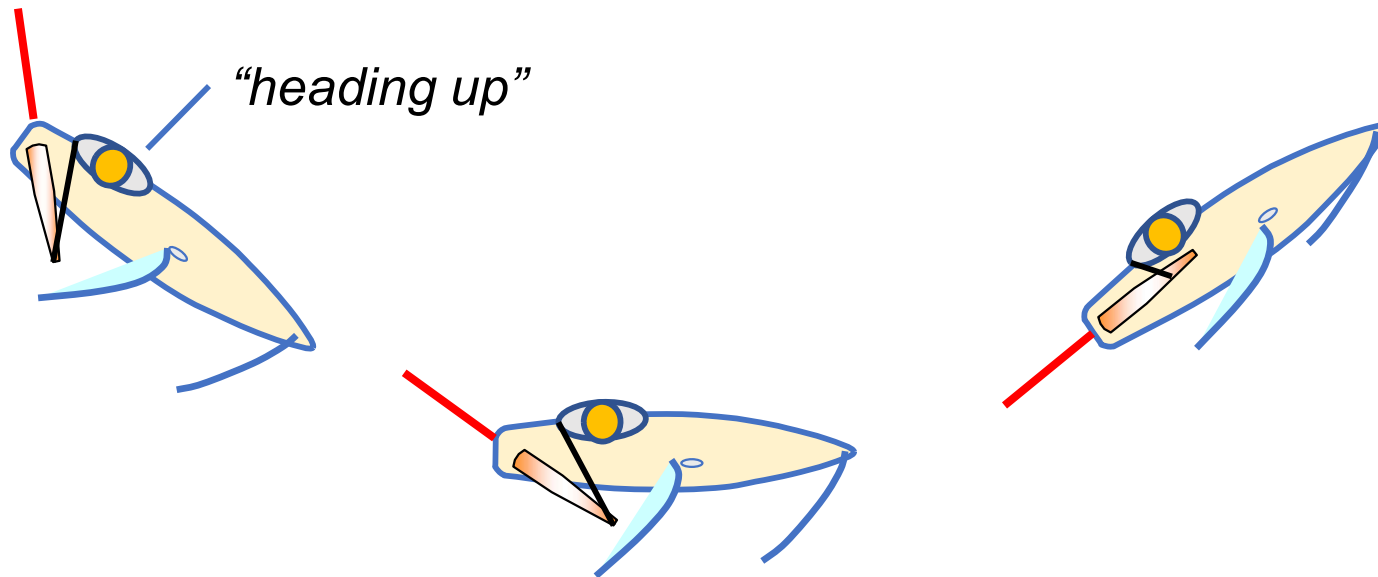
“bear off” => turn away from the wind

Turning



- To turn to port (left) put the tiller to starboard.
- Think: you are steering the back of the boat.
- Crew adjusts sails during turn.

Turning



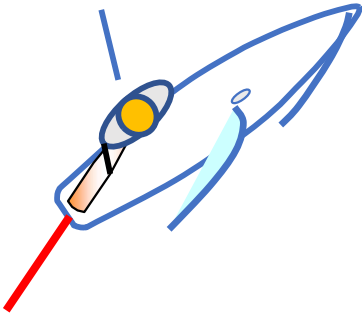
- To turn to port (left) put the tiller to starboard.
- Think: you are steering the back of the boat.
- Crew adjusts sails during turn.
- When turn is completed, straighten tiller.

– Generally the helmsman and crew will be on the windward (high) side.

Turning



“bearing off”

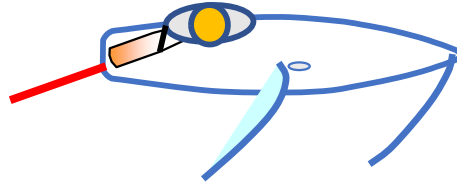
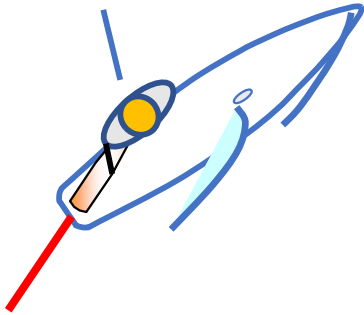


- To turn to starboard, put the tiller to port.
- Again: you are steering the back of the boat.

Turning



“bearing off”

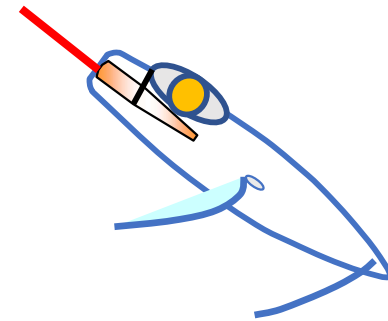
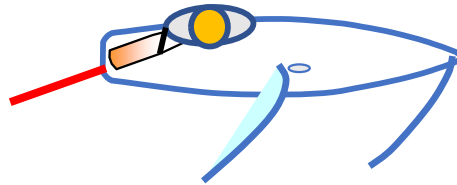
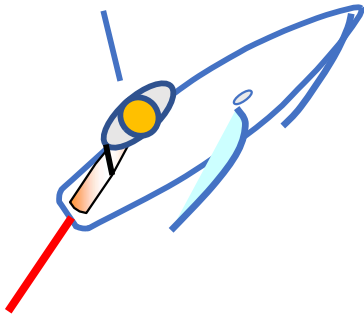


- To turn to starboard, put the tiller to port.
- Again: you are steering the back of the boat.

Turning



“bearing off”



- To turn to starboard, put the tiller to port.
- Again: you are steering the back of the boat.
- When turn is completed, straighten tiller & crew adjusts sails.

– Directions of turns are called out w.r.t. the wind, so the crew knows what to do with the sails.

Sailing a “straight” course

- The wind is never entirely steady.
Also waves and currents vary from moment to moment.
⇒ The helmsman and crew need to constantly adjust tiller and sails.
- When not close-hauled (on a reach or run) the helmsman generally holds his course, and the crew adjusts the sails for wind changes.
- When close-hauled (sails pulled in as far as they’ll go), the helmsman must adjust for changes in wind speed and direction.

Sailing a “straight” course

- Out at sea, the helmsman maintains a course using a compass or (if really skilled) by the sun and stars and wave patterns.
- Near shore or in the bay (the rest of us), pick a recognizable point on shore (e.g., an airport tower) and aim for it.
- However, water currents and the wind (remember leeway) can push the boat sideways. So be aware of sideways drift.
- If possible, pick two points on shore (one near and one far) that line up with each other (called a “**range**”), and keep them in line.



North Island control tower



range marks at south end of Shelter Island

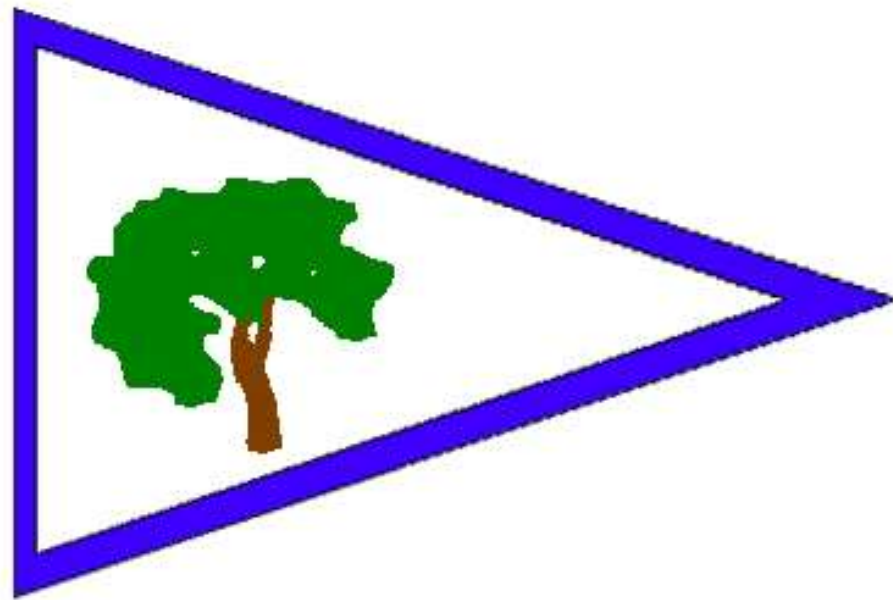


Harbor Island range marks

Summary (4-5)

We covered:

- Gear that controls the boat
- Optimal sail adjustment
- True and apparent wind
- Steering
- Turning



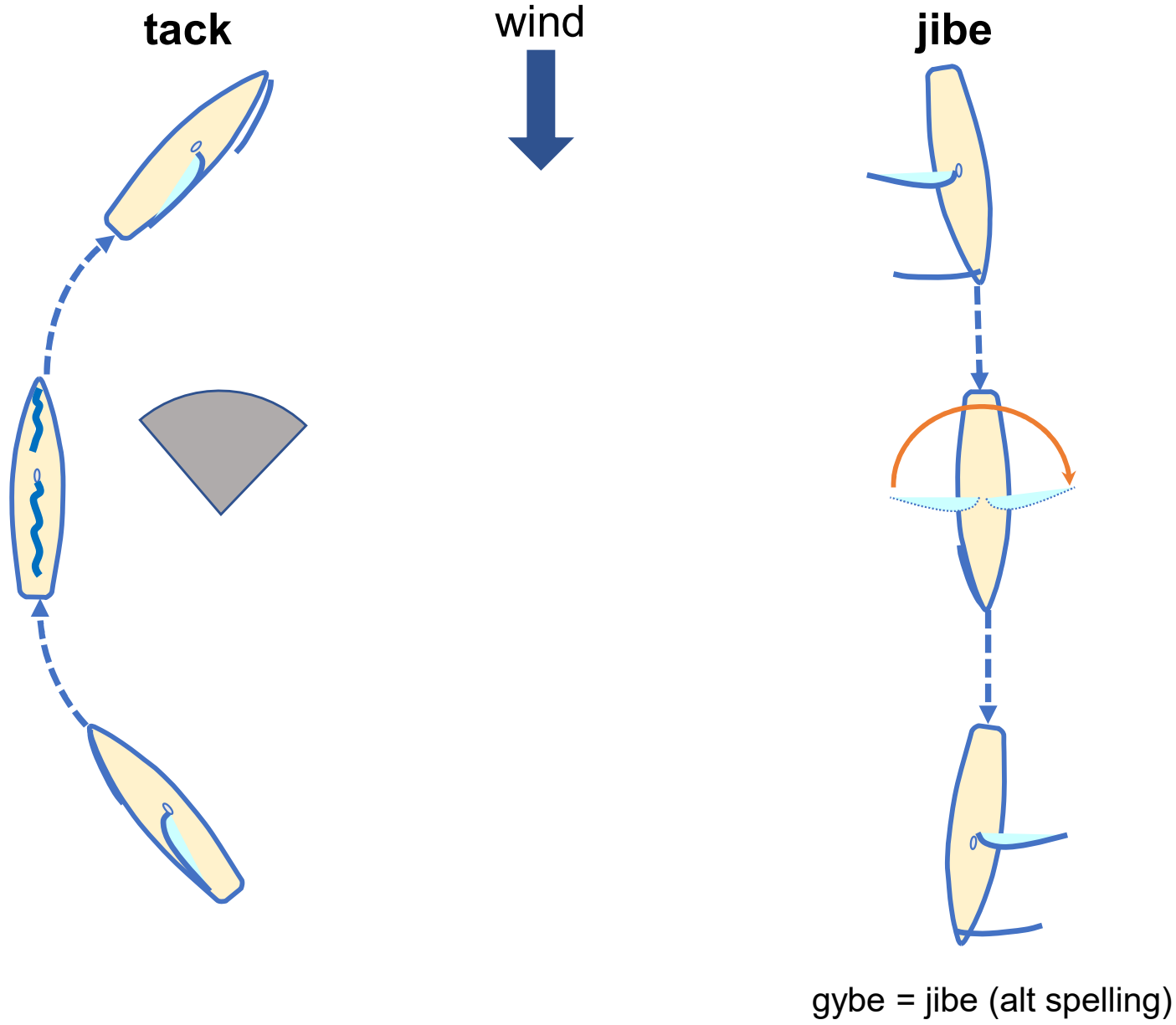
part 6



Driving the boat

- **Tacking**
- **Jibing**
- **Stopping**

Turning through the wind

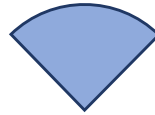


Getting where you're going – upwind

you want to go here



wind



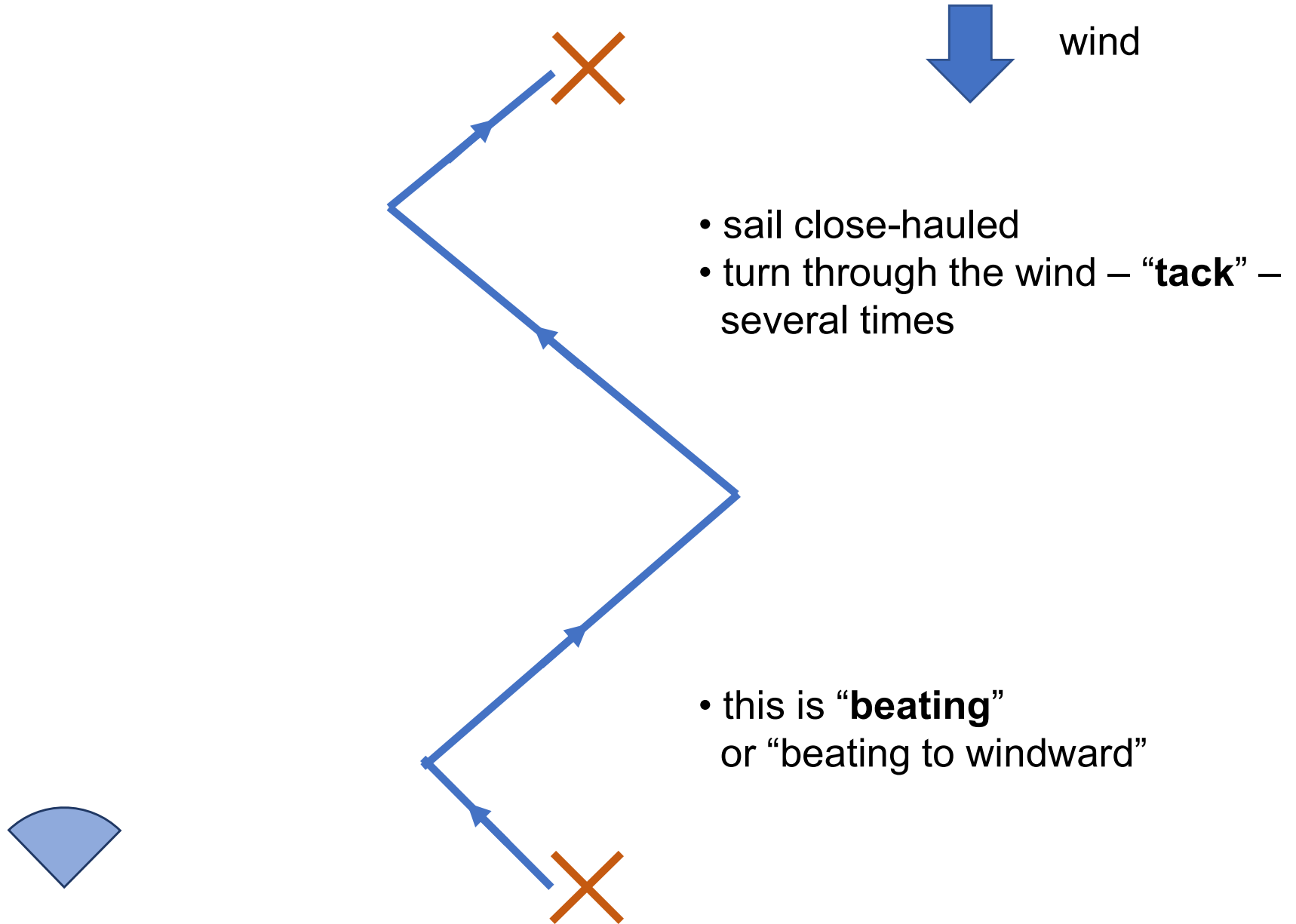
but you can't sail in the no-go zone

what do you do?

you are here



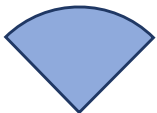
Getting where you're going – upwind



Tacking



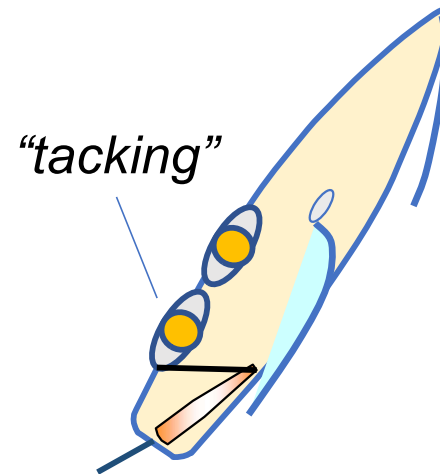
- look around
 - make sure the way is clear
 - look in the direction you're turning and pick a landmark (so you know when to end the turn)
- communicate with the crew
 - “prepare to tack” or “ready about”
- crew checks sheets & answers
 - “ready”



Tacking



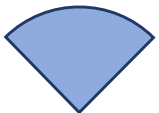
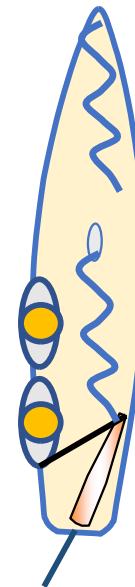
- communicate with crew
 - “tacking” or “hard a-lee”
- head up (turn into the wind)



Tacking



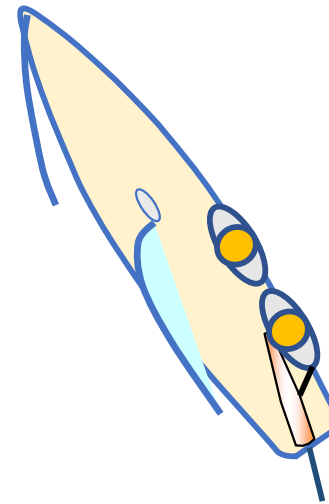
- as the jib begins to luff,
 - crew releases the working jib sheet
- coast through the no-go zone
 - turn too slowly
 - => get stuck in no-go zone
"in irons"
 - turn too quickly
 - => too much drag due to rudder
lose most forward speed
 - when boom crosses centerline
helmsman moves to other side



Tacking



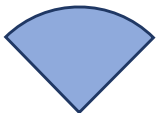
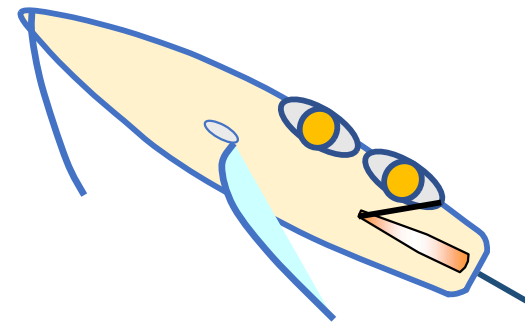
- when the wind catches the jib and pushes it to leeward, crew sheets in the new working jib sheet
- crew crosses to the other side



Tacking



- straighten tiller
- sail in direction selected before tacking
- adjust for new apparent wind
- adjust sails for optimum performance
- tidy up loose lines



Getting where you're going – downwind

- you're sailing downwind on a run or a broad reach
– for example, on a port tack

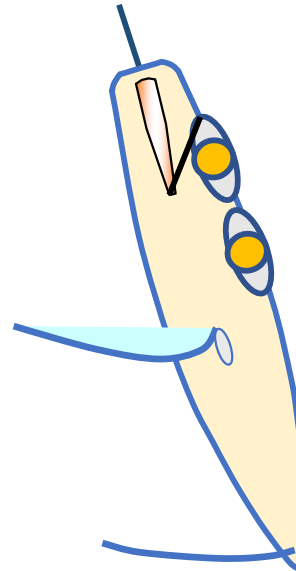


wind

- you want to switch to a starboard tack
(there's a rock or another boat in front of you)

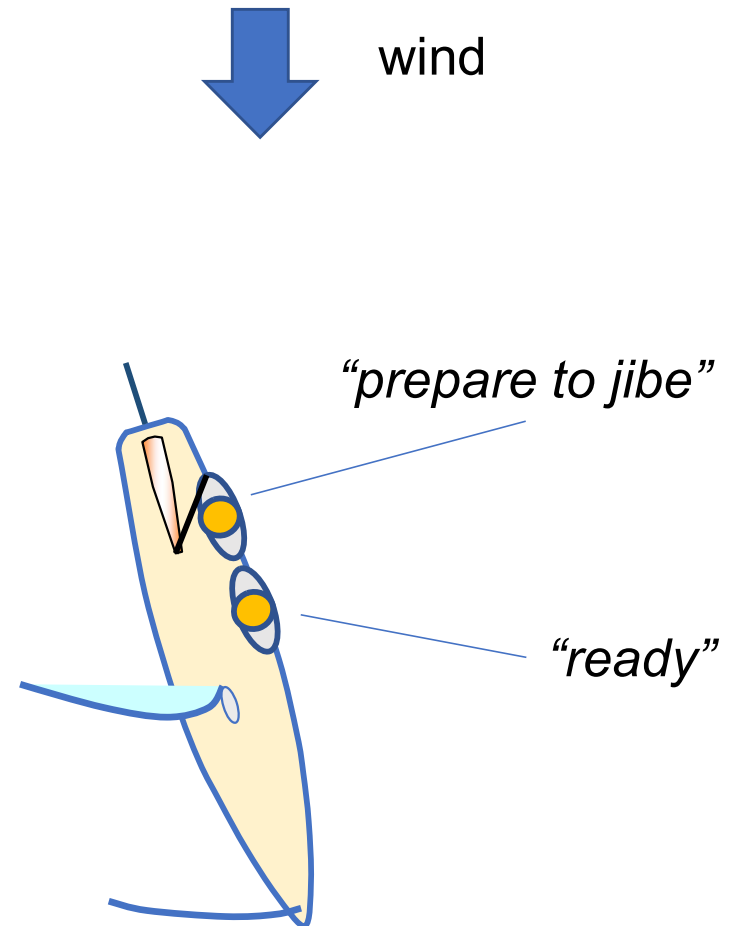
- what do you do?

=> **jibe** (or gybe)



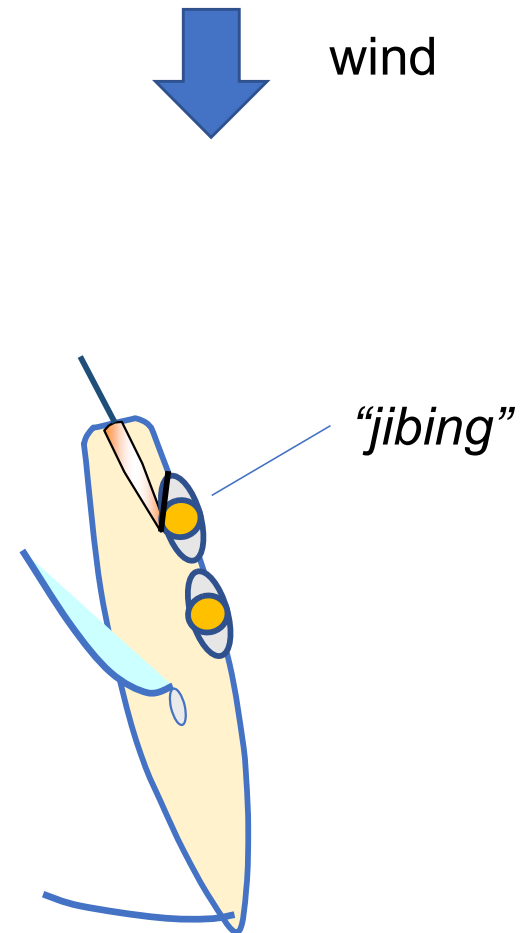
Jibing

- look around; make sure the way is clear
- communicate with the crew
 - “prepare to jibe”
- crew checks sheets, says “ready”



Jibing

- start to turn
- say “jibing” (or “jibe-ho”)
- as turn proceeds, sheet in the main



(“sheet in” => pull in on the main (or jib) sheet)

Jibing

- as the turn proceeds, continue to sheet in the boom
- get boom to centerline when wind crosses the stern



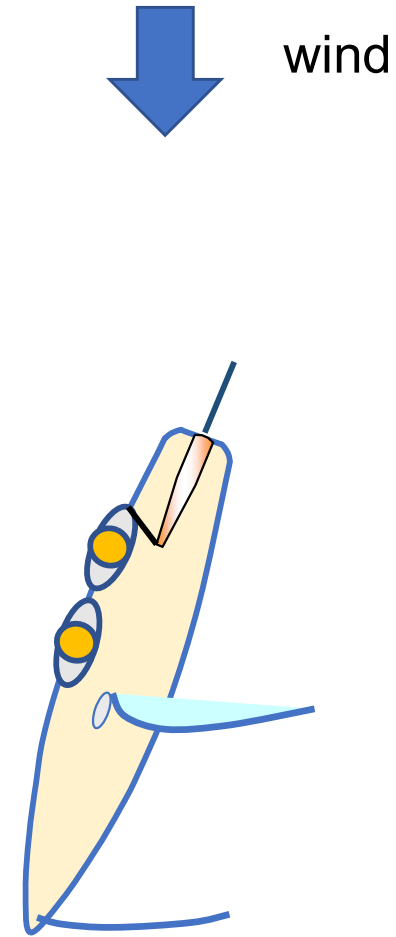
wind



Jibing

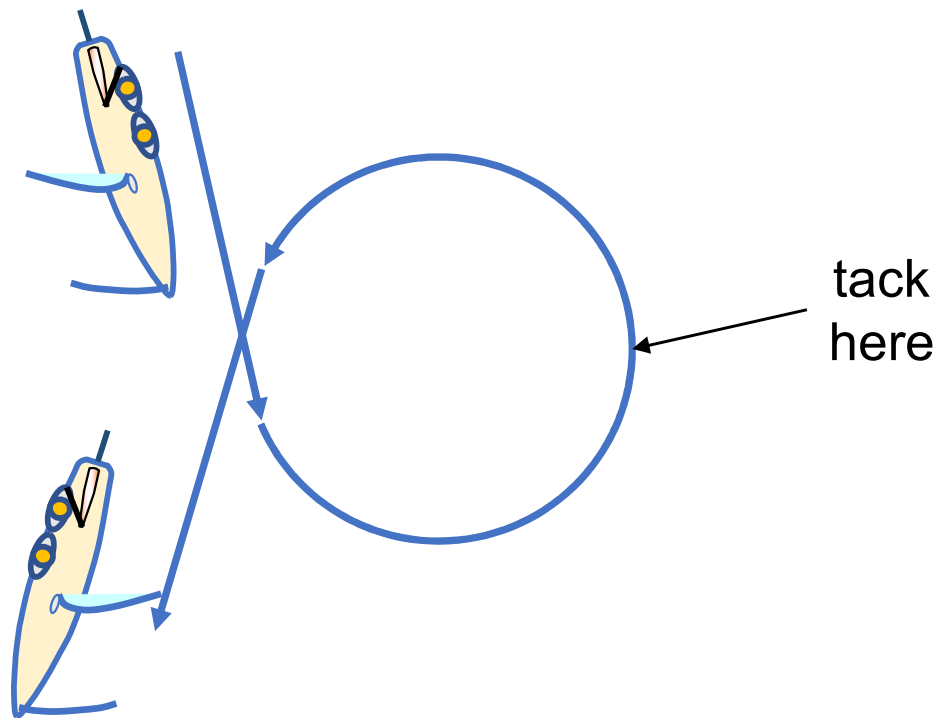
- very quickly:
 - let the main out
 - straighten tiller
 - move to other side
 - release old jib sheet and sheet in jib on the other side (the wind will flip the jib)

Important: the boom moves fast,
keep your head down!



In high winds => the chicken jibe

In very high winds, a jibe can be quite violent. If you're not comfortable doing a jibe, but need to, do the "chicken jibe".

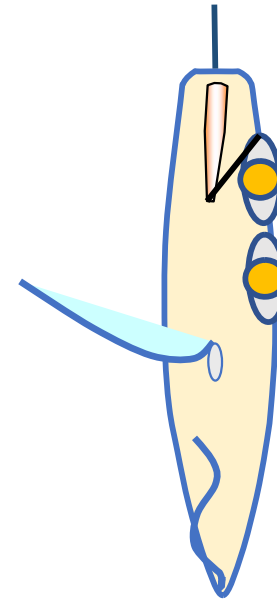


Beware – the uncontrolled jibe

- you are sailing downwind
- (the jib is flapping because it is shielded by the main)
- suddenly the wind shifts just a little bit

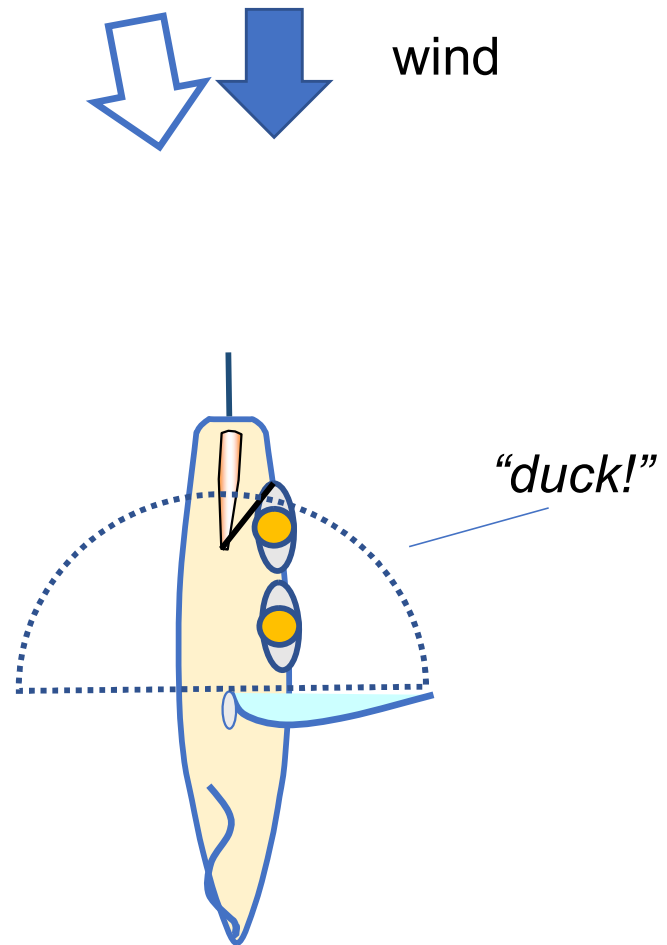


wind

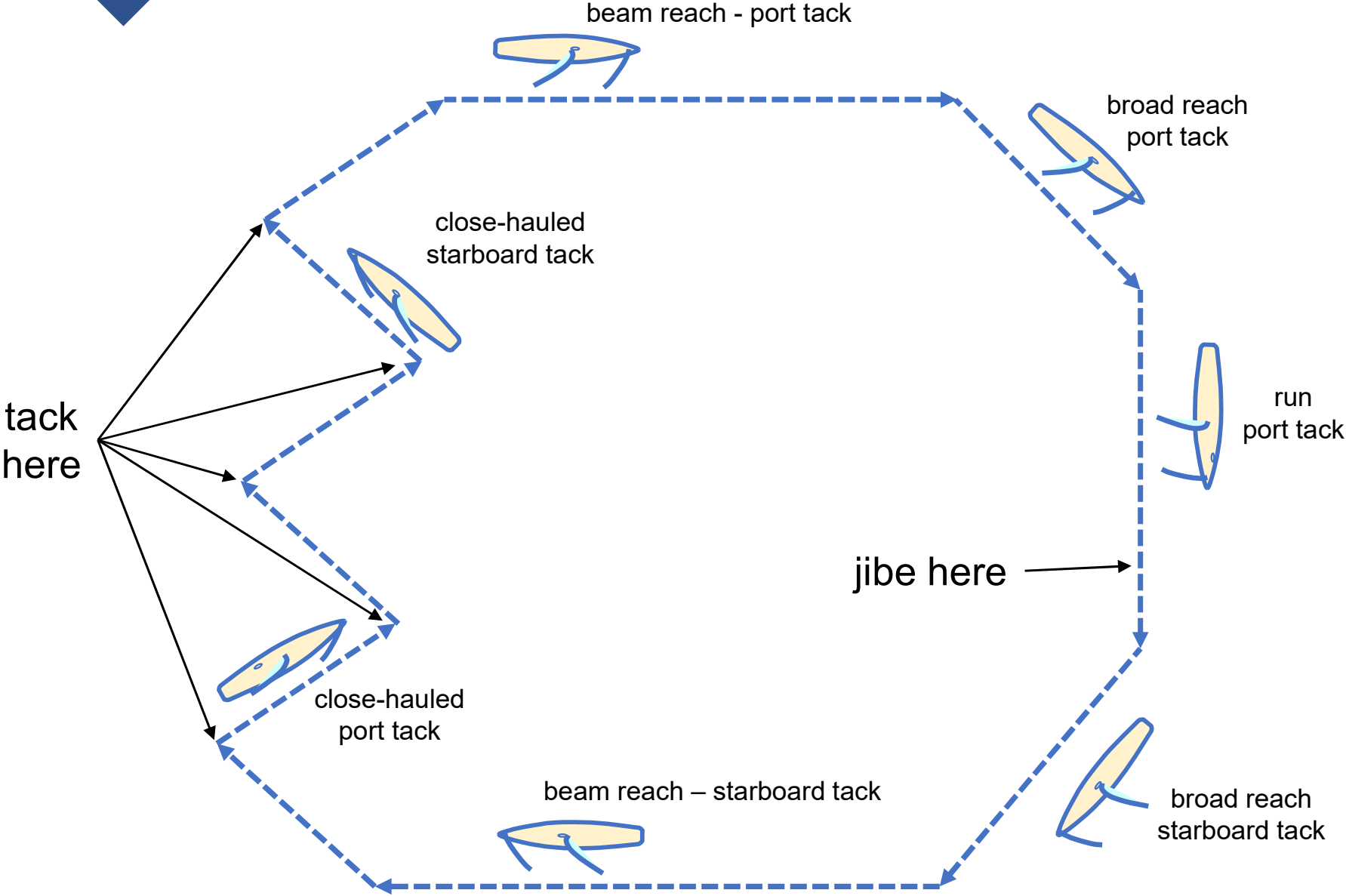


Beware – the uncontrolled jibe

- you are sailing downwind
 - (the jib is flapping because it is shielded by the main)
 - suddenly the wind shifts just a little bit
 - it catches the leech of the main
 - slamming the main and boom across the boat
 - can cause serious injury or toss someone overboard
- ⇒ when sailing downwind
- be aware of the possibility of an uncontrolled jibe
 - keep your head below the level of the boom
 - if it starts to go, yell “duck”



Sailing a closed course



beam reach - port tack

broad reach port tack

close-hauled starboard tack

run port tack

tack here

jibe here

close-hauled port tack

beam reach - starboard tack

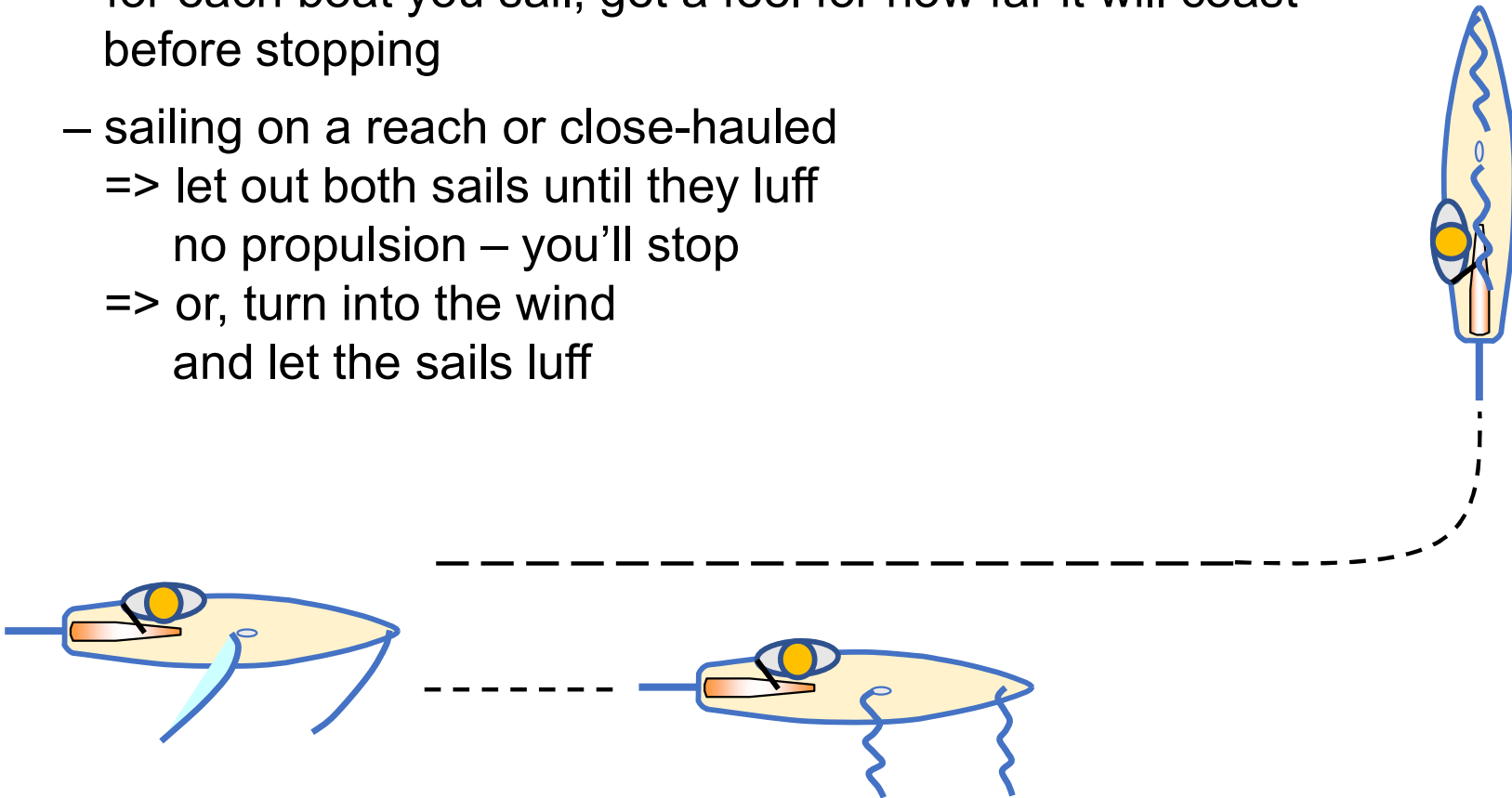
broad reach starboard tack

Stopping

- learn to stop the boat where you want
- critical for docking, man-overboard
- for each boat you sail, get a feel for how far it will coast before stopping

Stopping

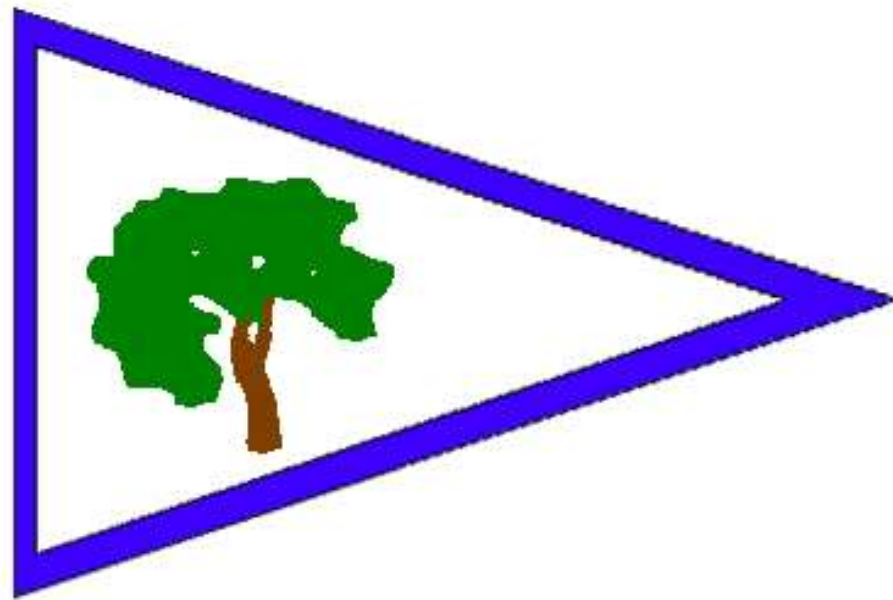
- learn to stop the boat where you want
 - **critical** for docking, man-overboard
 - for each boat you sail, get a feel for how far it will coast before stopping
- sailing on a reach or close-hauled
=> let out both sails until they luff
no propulsion – you'll stop
=> or, turn into the wind
and let the sails luff



Learning small boat sailing

Racing

- There's no better (and quicker) way to get comfortable handling a sailboat than to try racing.
- TPSC participates in monthly Victory races on the bay.
- 4 classes; all skill levels.
- Maybe crew for a more experienced sailor.
- After checkout, contact our racing chief (Fred MacDougall)



part 7



Ropes & knots

- knots you should know:
 - cleat hitch
 - bowline
 - figure-eight
 - clove hitch
 - reef (square) knot
- many how-to apps and videos

Cleat hitch

to attach a line to the boat
(halyards, sheets, ...)

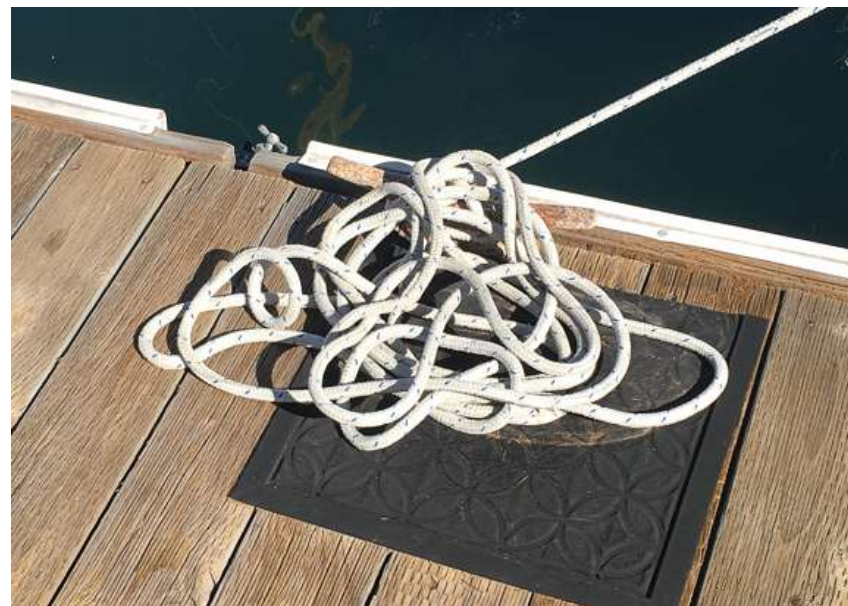
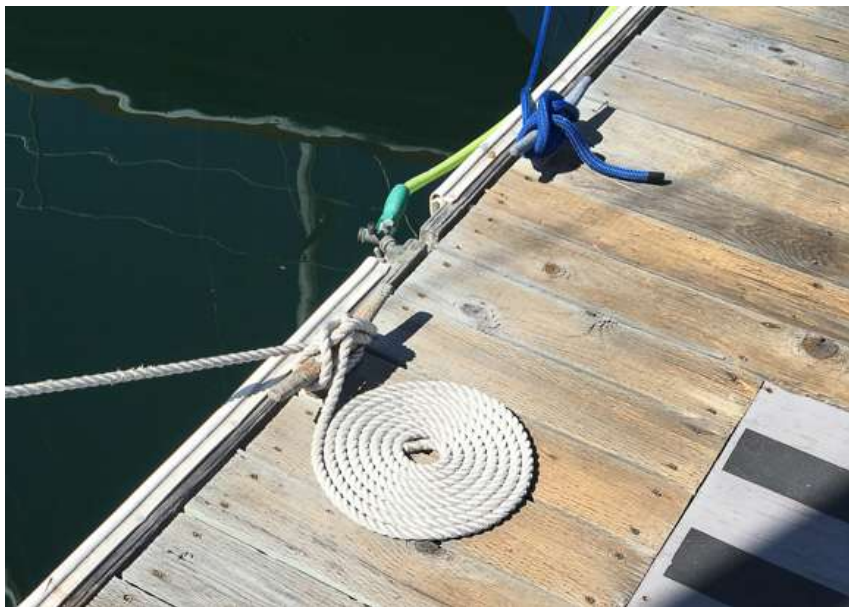
to tie boat to dock

won't jam and easily removed

(“hitch”: knot to tie a line to an object;
e.g., taut line hitch, anchor hitch, rolling hitch, ...)



note: you have two lines under and one over



Bowline

to make a loop at the end of a line
that won't slip
and is easily undone

very useful – not just for boats



then pull it tight

Figure 8 knot

a stopper knot at the end of a line

prevents the line which passes through a block
from slipping back through the block



looks sort of like a figure eight

Clove hitch

to quickly attach a line to a pole or bar

relies on friction
may slip under load!



Reef knot

a.k.a. square knot

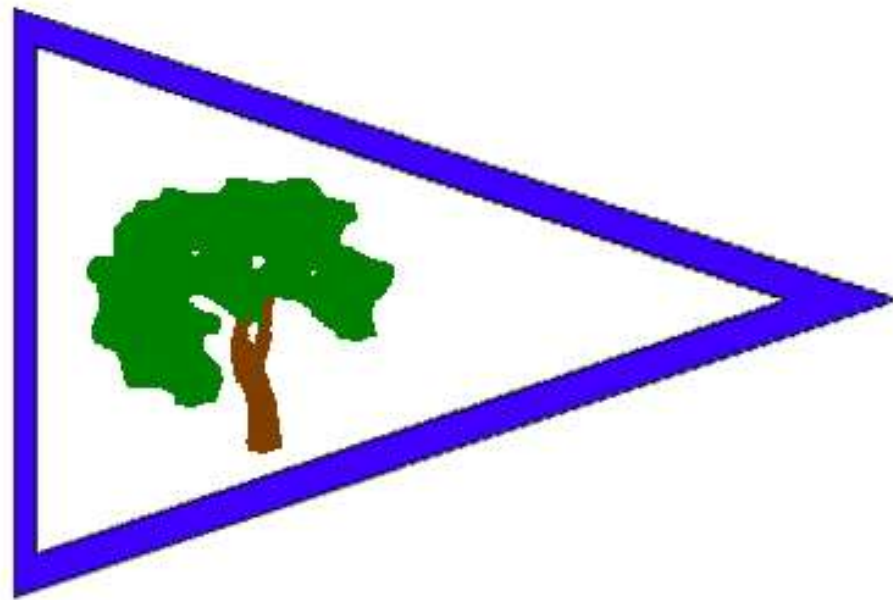
- Used for reefing a sail,
tying packages, tying shoelaces, ...
i.e., when there's friction against an object
- Do not use for tying two lines together!
it can collapse under load
- For joining two lines look up “bends”
e.g., sheet bend, fisherman's knot, ashley bend,
zeppelin bend, carrick bend, ...



Summary (6-7)

We covered:

- Tacking & jibing
- Stopping
- Knots



part 8

Rules & safety

- **CA Boater Card program**
- **Required equipment**
- **Signs and signals**
- **Meeting another boat**

Safety

Basic principles:

- avoid injury**
- avoid collisions**
- avoid damage**

California Boater Card

- website: <https://www.californiaboatercard.com>
for information on how to get the card
- online safety course and test
- program overseen by CA State Parks
Division of Boating and Waterways
- TPSC requires that you take the course and get the card
before becoming a member
- CA requires that all boaters have the card

Required equipment

The Coast Guard requires:

- a life jacket for each person on board
 - must be easily accessible
 - show everyone where the jackets are
 - must be worn by anyone under 13
- a throw-able flotation device
 - must be readily accessible
- fire extinguisher
- sound signal (horn, whistle, ...)
- proper lights when sailing between sunset and sunrise
- a distress signal (flares, distress flag, flashlight, ...)

The TPSC boats also have

- paddle, bucket, sponge, anchor, tool box, gas tank

=> do an inventory check each time you go out

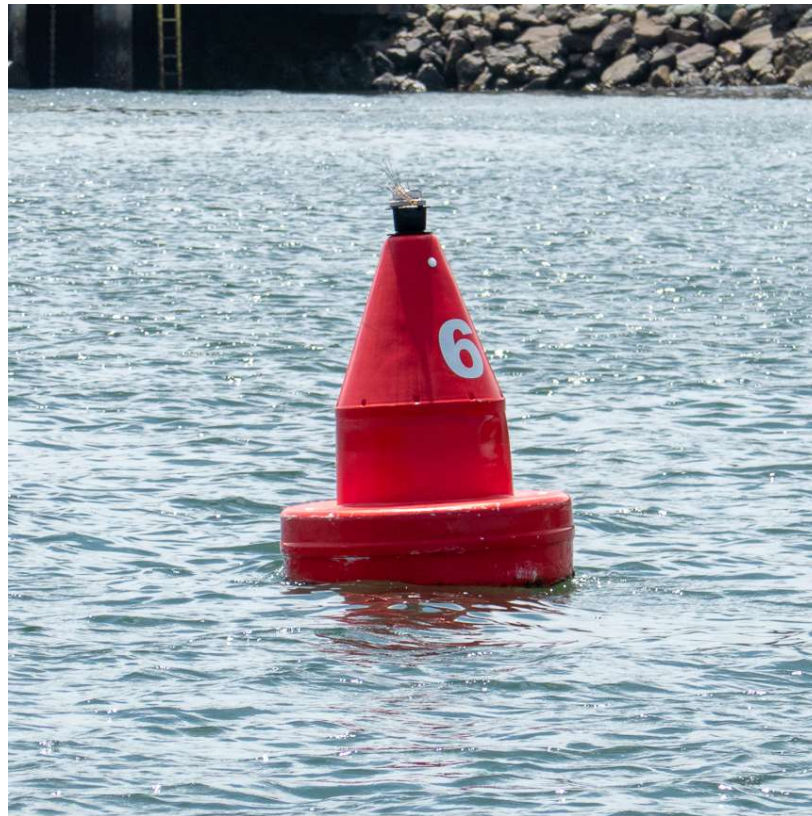
Buoys, channel marks, navigation aids

- very important in San Diego Bay
- marks provide information about
 - location of a safe channel
 - hazards
 - traffic control
- learn the most basic marks:
 - channel marks, warnings
- Pay attention to warning signs (diamond shaped; on buoy or post)
 - e.g., "danger"



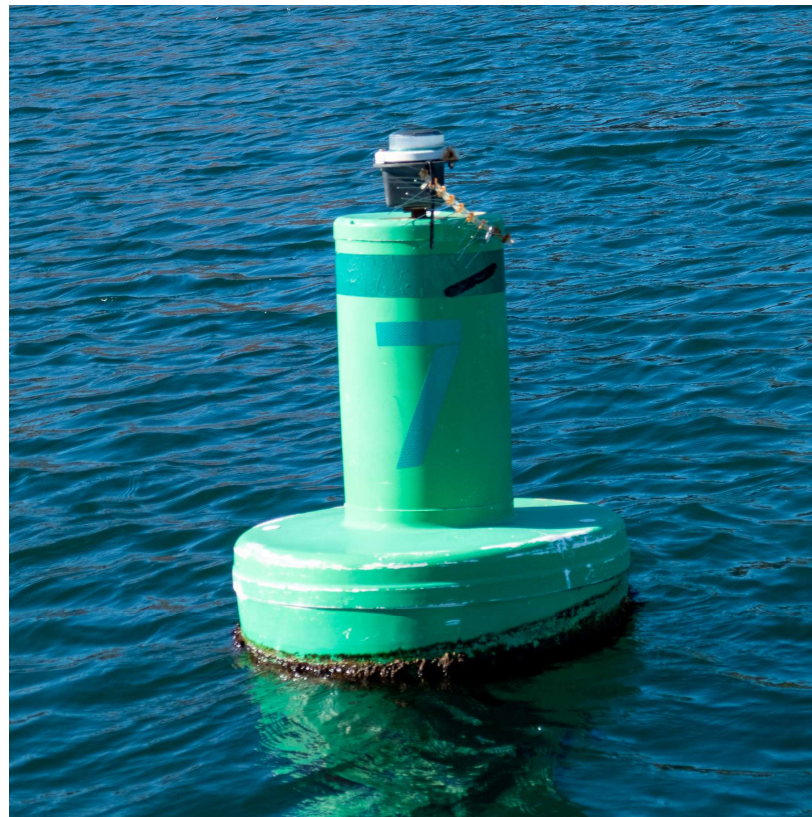
red buoys

- even numbered
- mark the right side (starboard) of a channel when sailing inland from the sea (mnemonic: “red right return”)
- may be pointy (“nun” buoys)



green buoys

- odd numbered
- mark the left (port) side of a channel when sailing inland from the sea
- cylindrical shape (“can” buoys)



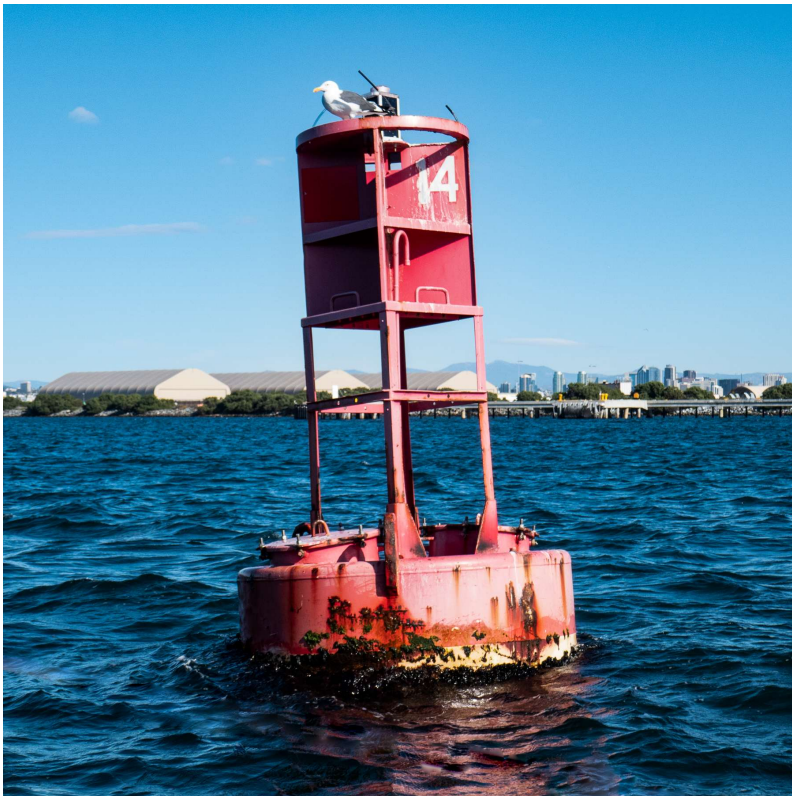


to ocean
←

inland
→

marked channel
(entrance to Shelter Island basin)

larger buoys marking the channel in the middle of the bay



Daymarks

daymarks are signs giving navigation information

- can be mounted on land or on a piling
- this one is a channel mark (red, even number, triangular)

(across the channel it would be green, odd number, and square)



Warnings



slow – no wake



speed limit



yellow ball or buoy marks an anchorage
or swimming area – use extreme caution!

Meeting another boat

Some observations:

- the rules refer to the “**stand-on**” vessel and the “**give-way**” vessel
- the stand-on vessel should hold its course and allow the give-way vessel to maneuver around it (except to avoid a collision)

Meeting another boat

More observations (important):

- do not assume:
 - the other guy is looking where he's going
 - that he's sober
 - that he knows the rules

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=> if a collision seems possible, signal your intentions by turning well in advance

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=> if a collision seems possible, signal your intentions by turning well in advance

=> Be generous, be kind

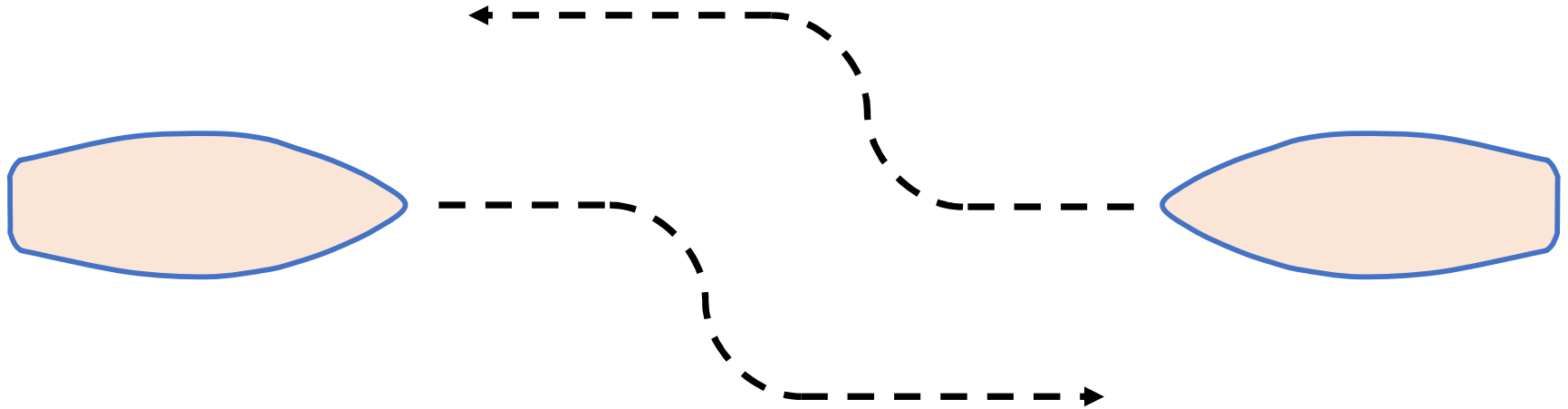
Order of precedence (who is the stand-on boat and who is give-way)

(essentially based on maneuverability)

- anything anchored, moored, disabled
- large ships in a channel
- large ships, generally
- human-powered craft (kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, ...)
- sail boats
- motor boats
- personal watercraft (jet-skis, ...)

(a sail boat with its motor running is a motor boat
– even with sails up)

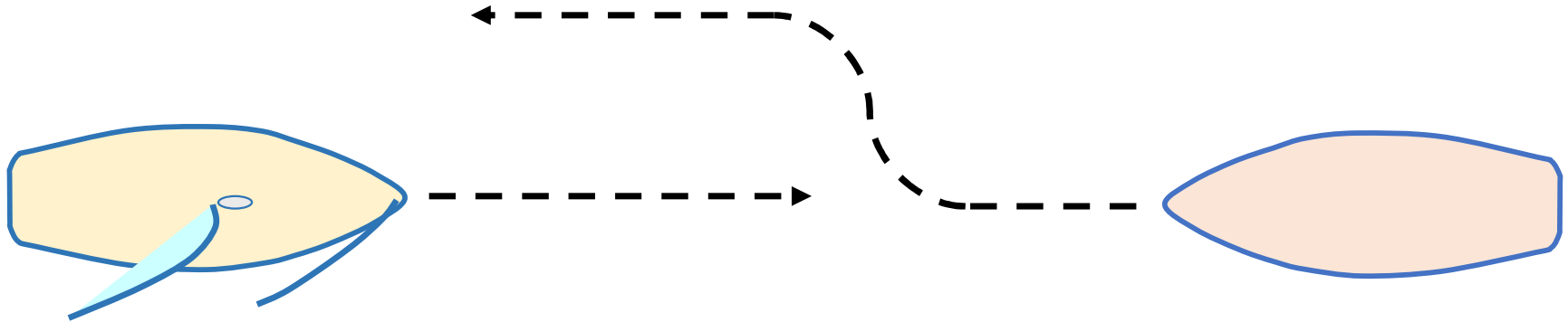
motor boats meeting head-on



The usual custom is to pass port-to-port

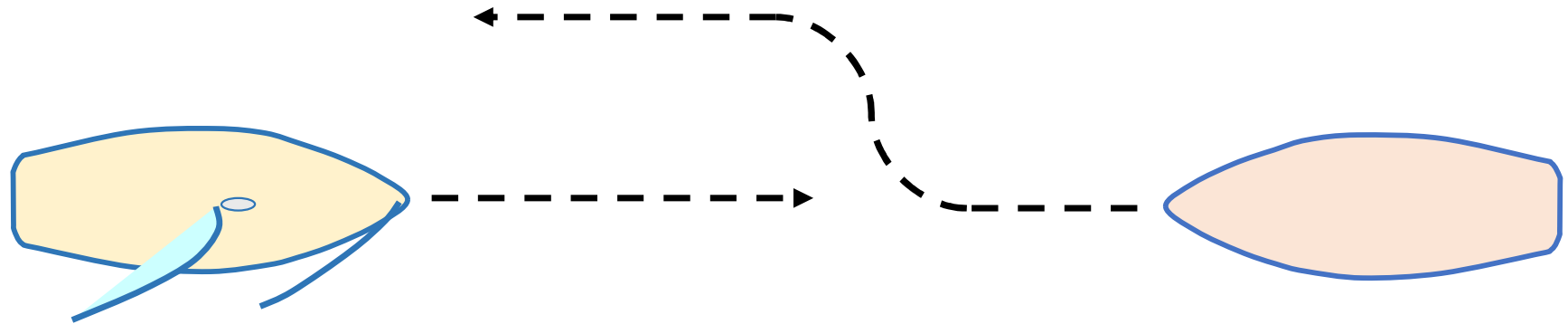
sailboat and motor boat meeting head-on

how the rules say it should happen

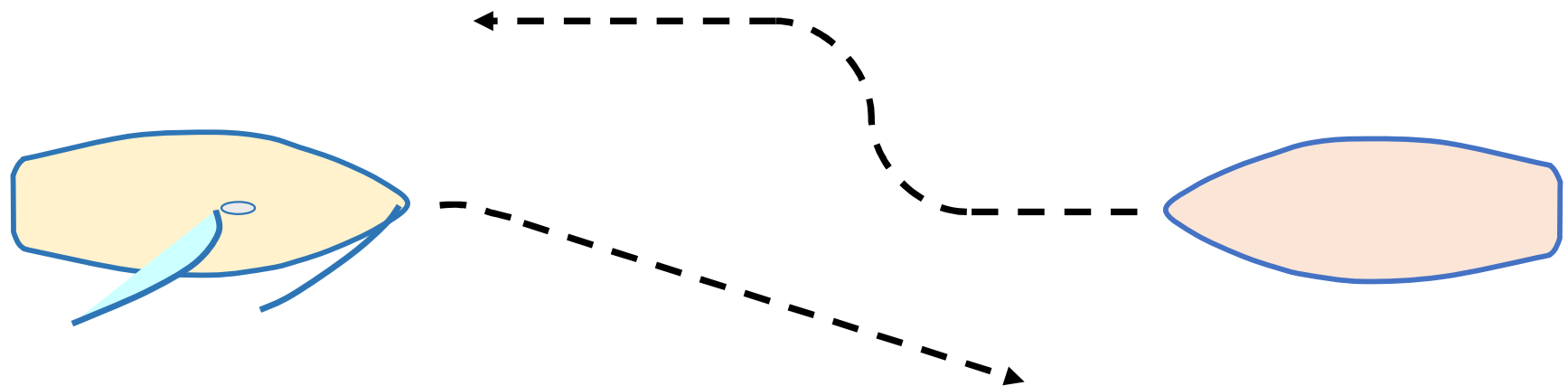


sailboat and motor boat meeting head-on

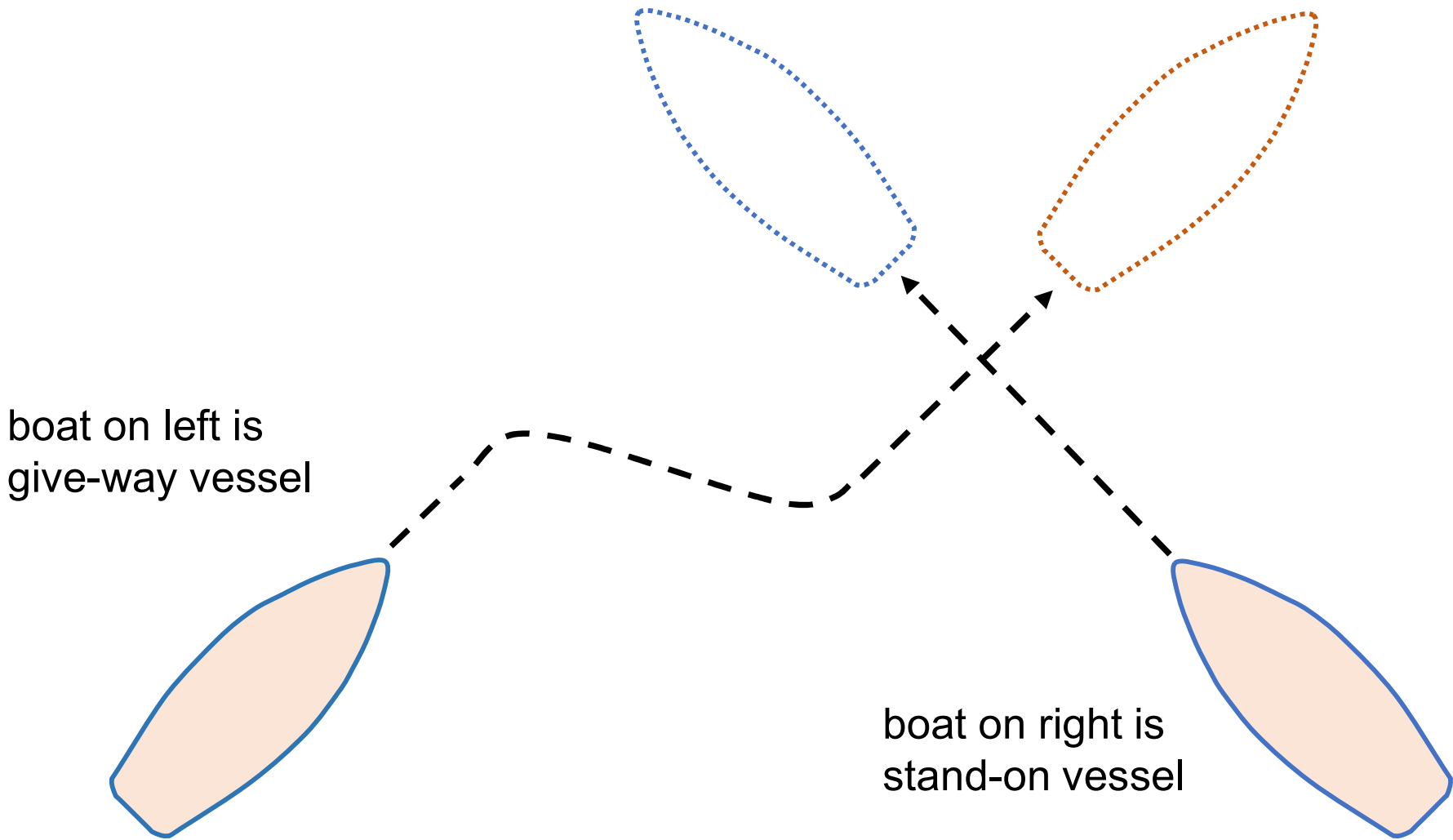
how the rules say it should happen



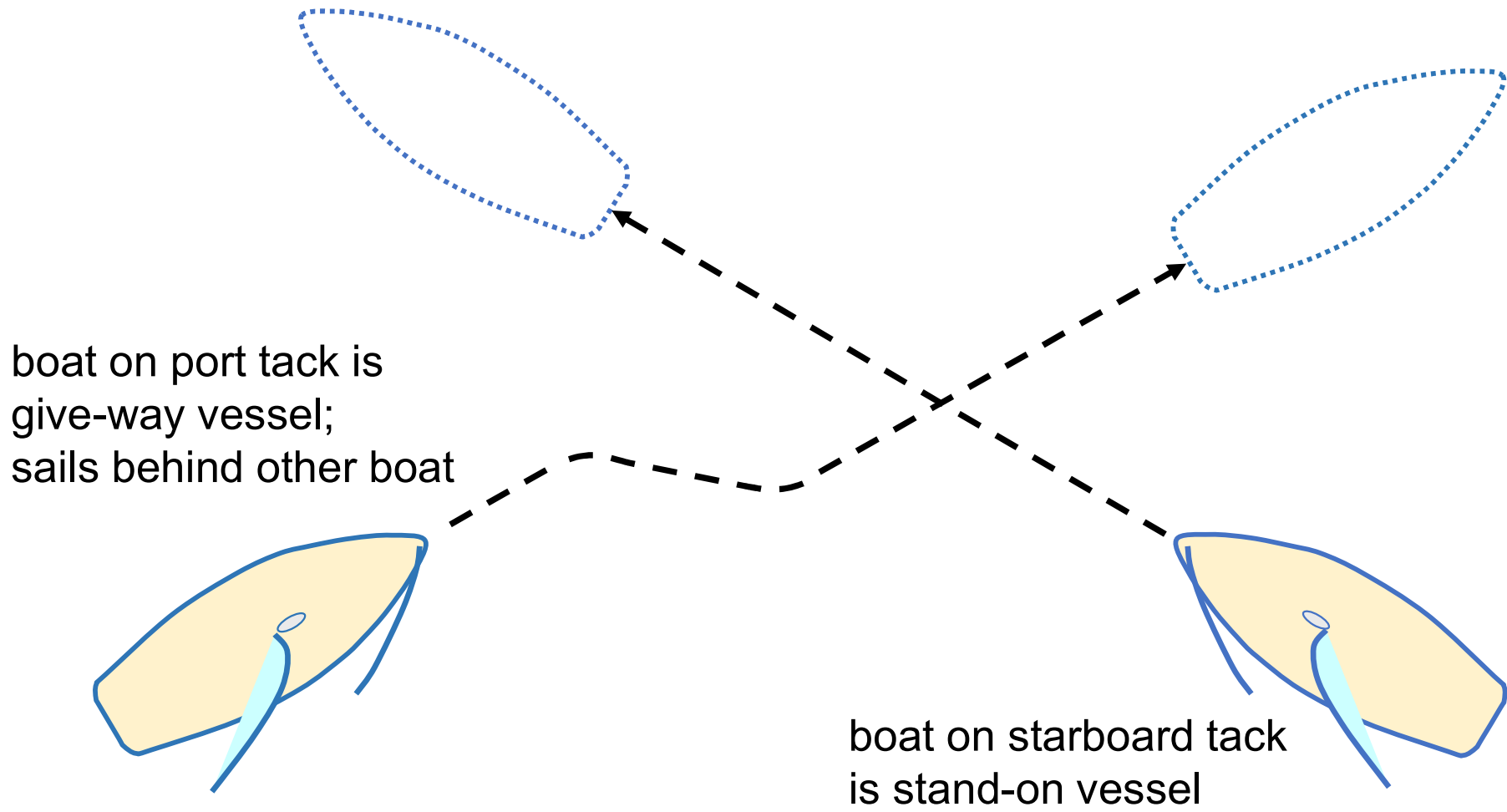
wise move for sailboat is to bear off a bit



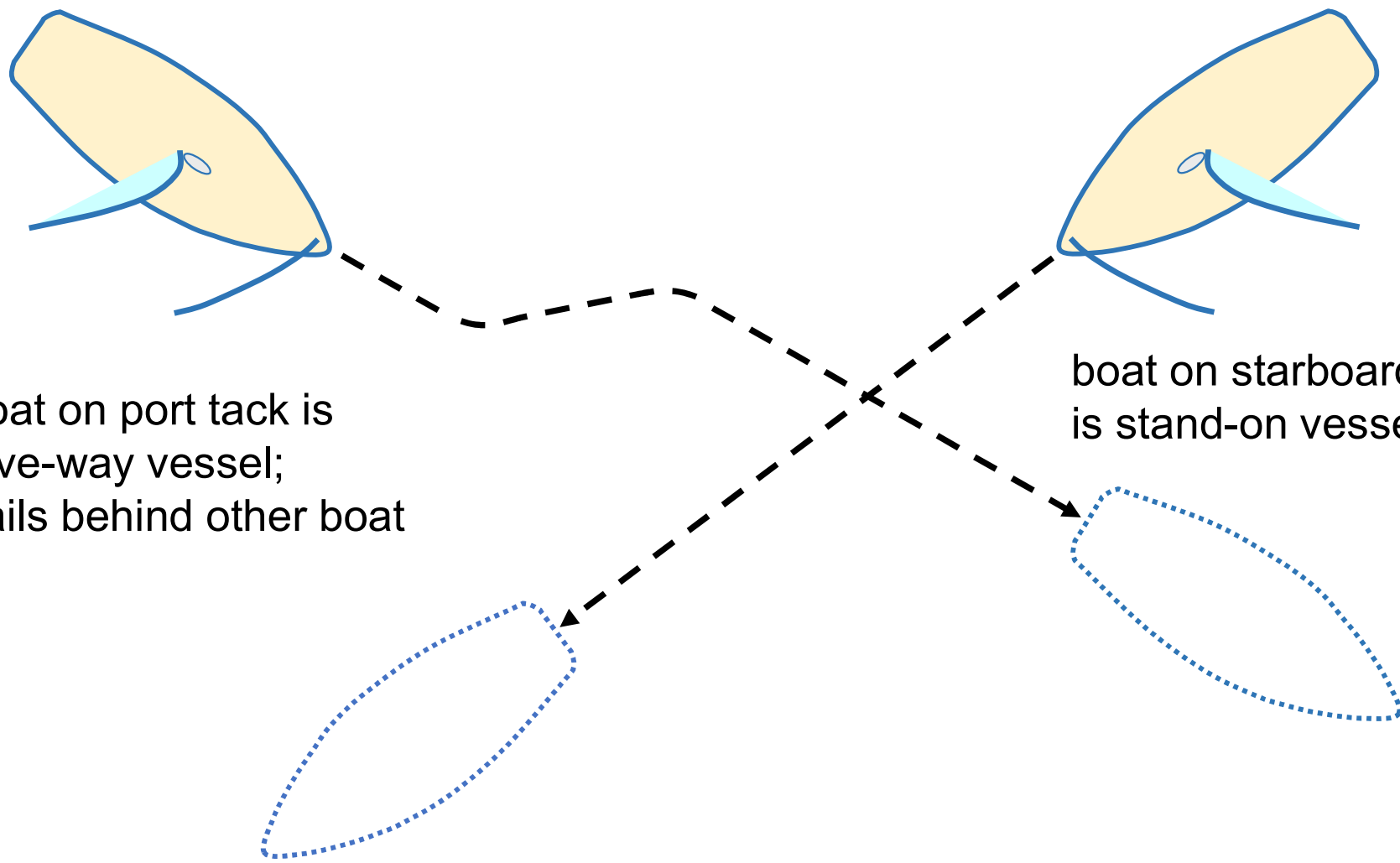
motor boats on a crossing path



sailboats head-on or crossing (upwind or downwind)



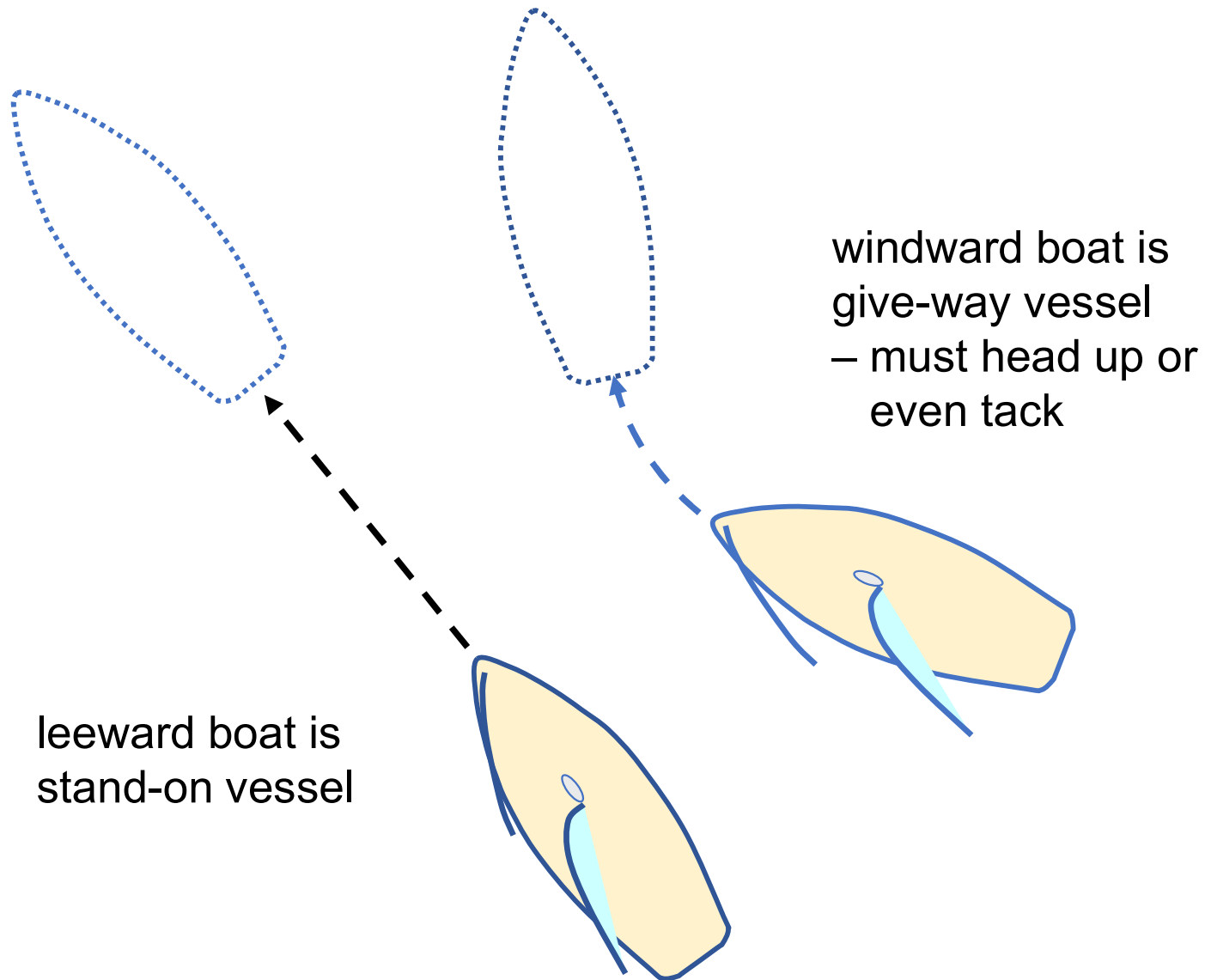
sailboats head-on or crossing (upwind or downwind)



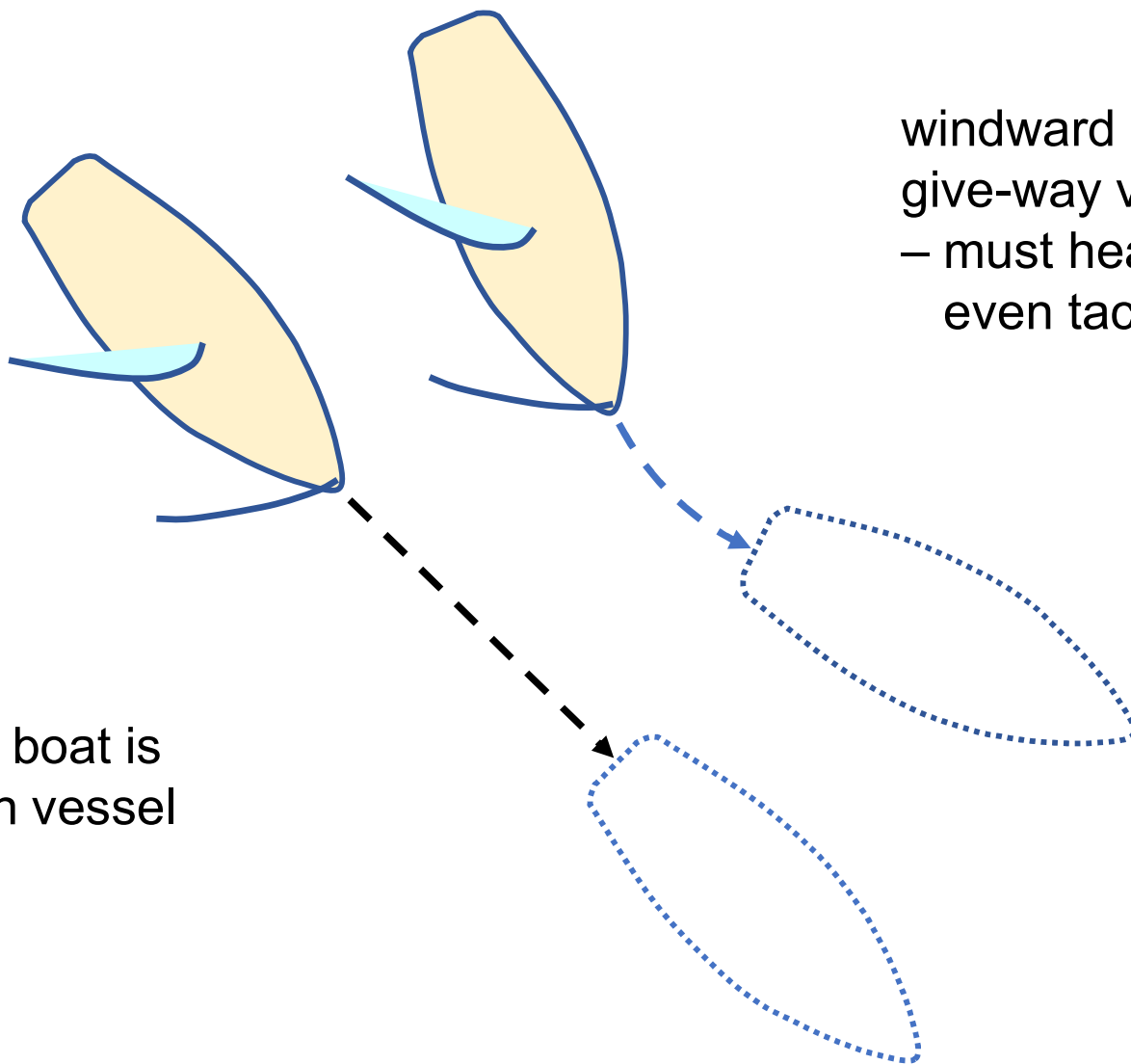
boat on port tack is
give-way vessel;
sails behind other boat

boat on starboard tack
is stand-on vessel

sailboats crossing on the same tack (upwind or downwind)



sailboats crossing on the same tack (upwind or downwind)

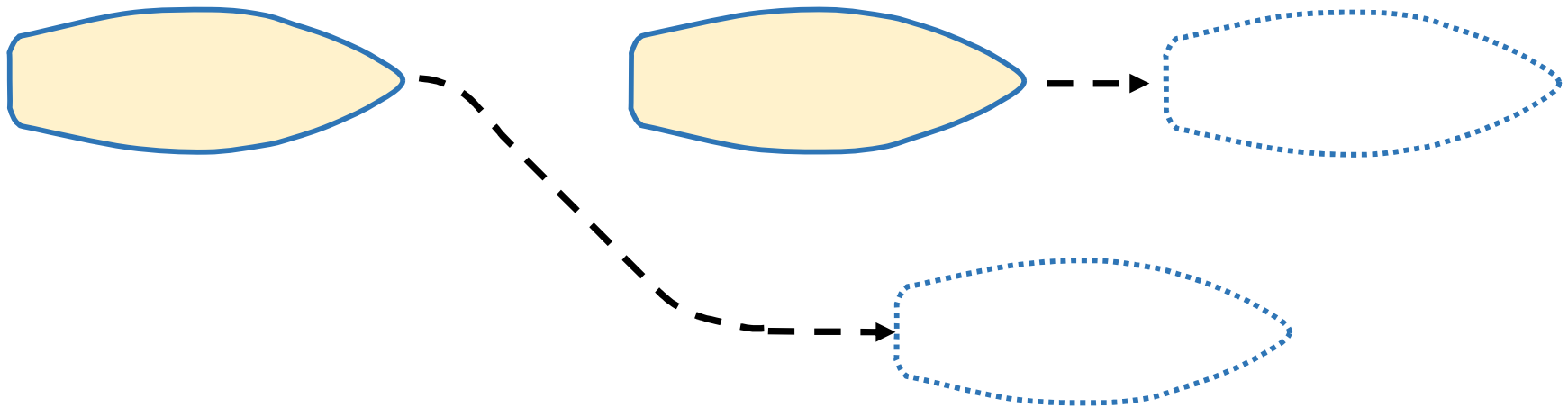


windward boat is
give-way vessel
– must head up or
even tack

leeward boat is
stand-on vessel

one boat overtaking another (motor or sail)

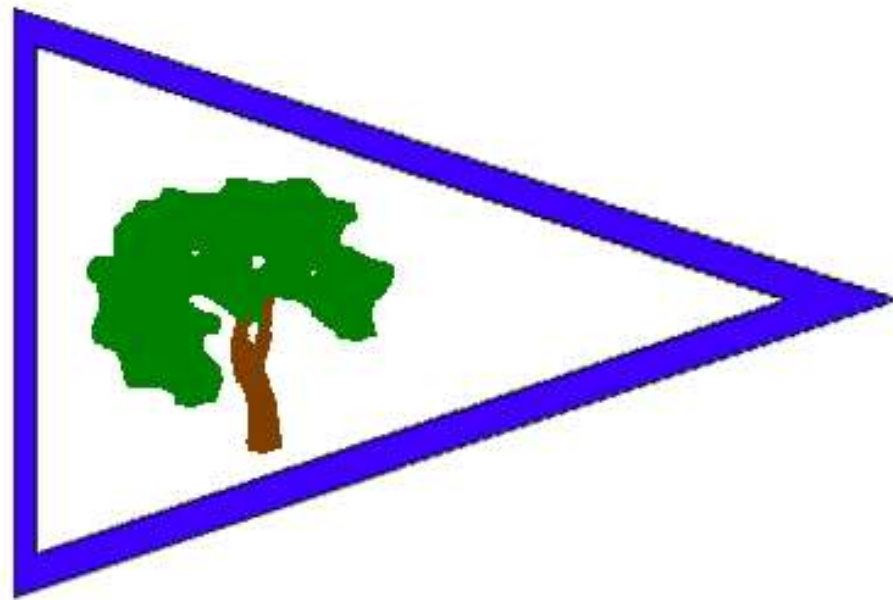
overtaken boat is stand-on vessel



overtaking boat is give-way vessel

Big boats in San Diego Bay

- There's a channel down the middle of San Diego Bay
 - marked by red and green buoys
 - dredged deep enough for large ships
- Small boats can sail outside of the channel
- Always know whether you are in the channel
 - check the buoys
 - keep a lookout for large ships
- 5 horn blasts (•••••) mean “you are in my way”
 - look around to check whether it's meant for you
 - get out of the channel a.s.a.p.
- Tug boats and tour boats don't stay in the channel
 - be aware of them



part 9



Local knowledge

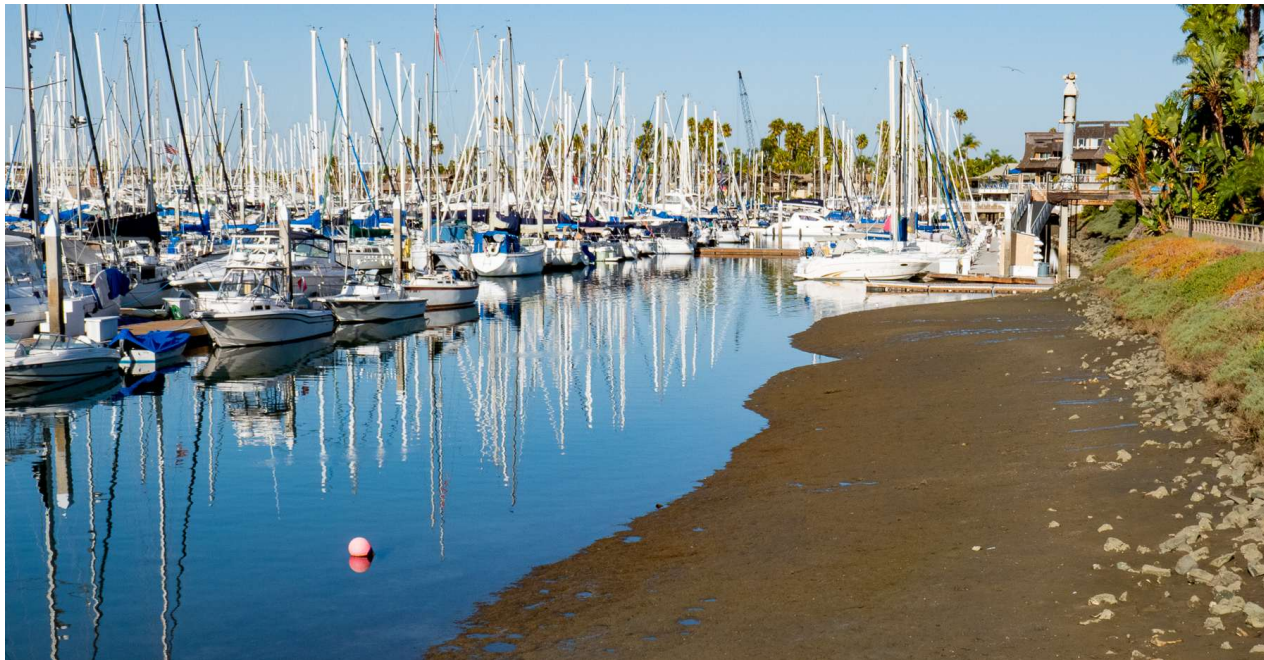
- winds
- tides
- a brief tour of San Diego Bay

winds

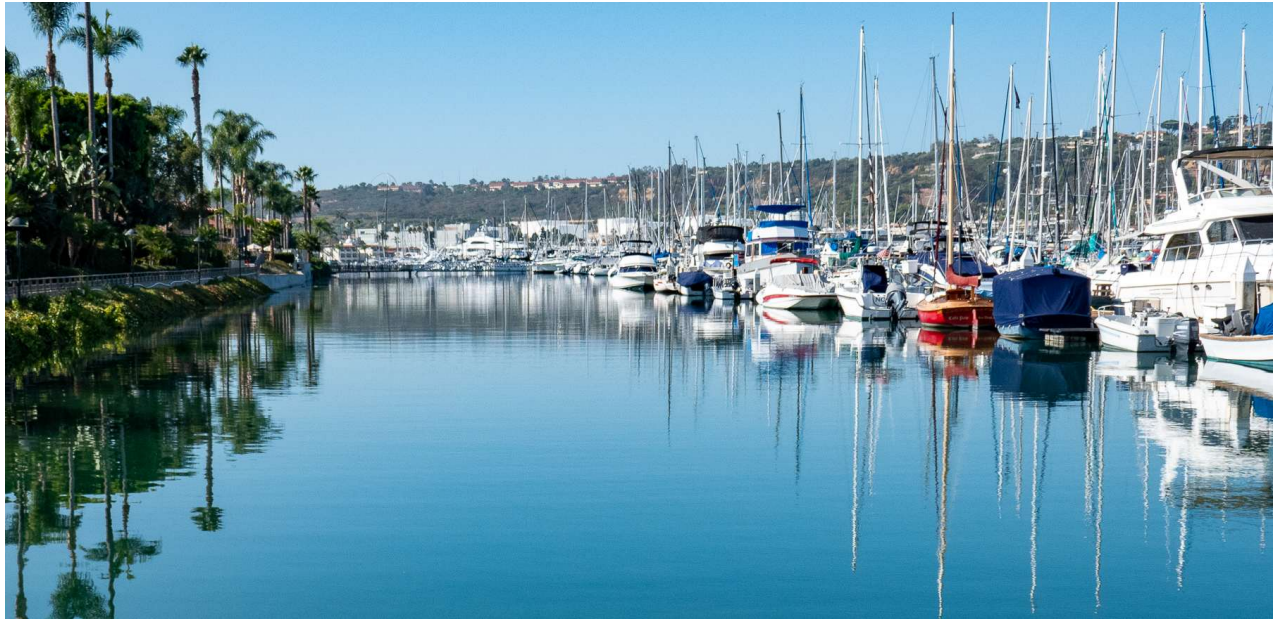
- winds are generally from the west to north-west
- San Diego winds are relatively light
 - more than 12-14 mph is rare
 - small white-caps at this wind speed
- usually calm-to-light before noon and after 6:00 pm
- check National Weather Service website
 - go to *weather.gov* and enter *san diego, ca* for forecast at SD airport
 - for details, click *hourly weather forecast* at bottom

tides

- two high and two low tides each day
 - 6-7 hours from high to low (or low to high)
- number is relative to m.l.l.t.
(mean-low-low-tide)
 - this is the depth given on charts
- largest swing around new and full moon
 - occasionally as much as 9 feet
(at entrance to Shelter Island basin)
- many tide apps
- current can be as much as 2 knots in SD Bay
 - sometimes not enough wind to move boat against it
 - greatest current at and south of Ballast Point
- before going out, check tide and wind forecast!

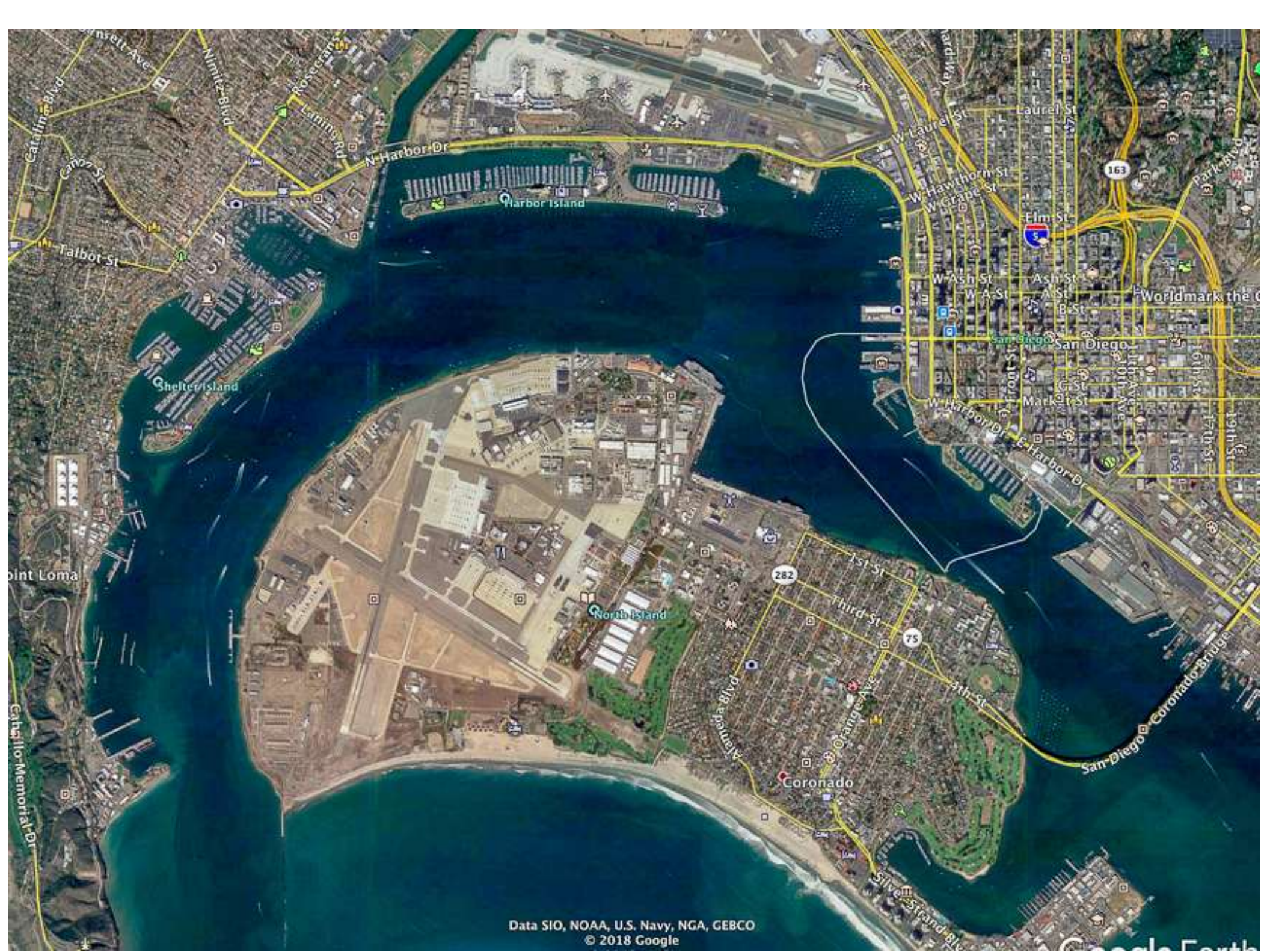


+6.7' to -0.8'; a 7.5' swing



Sights Around San Diego Bay



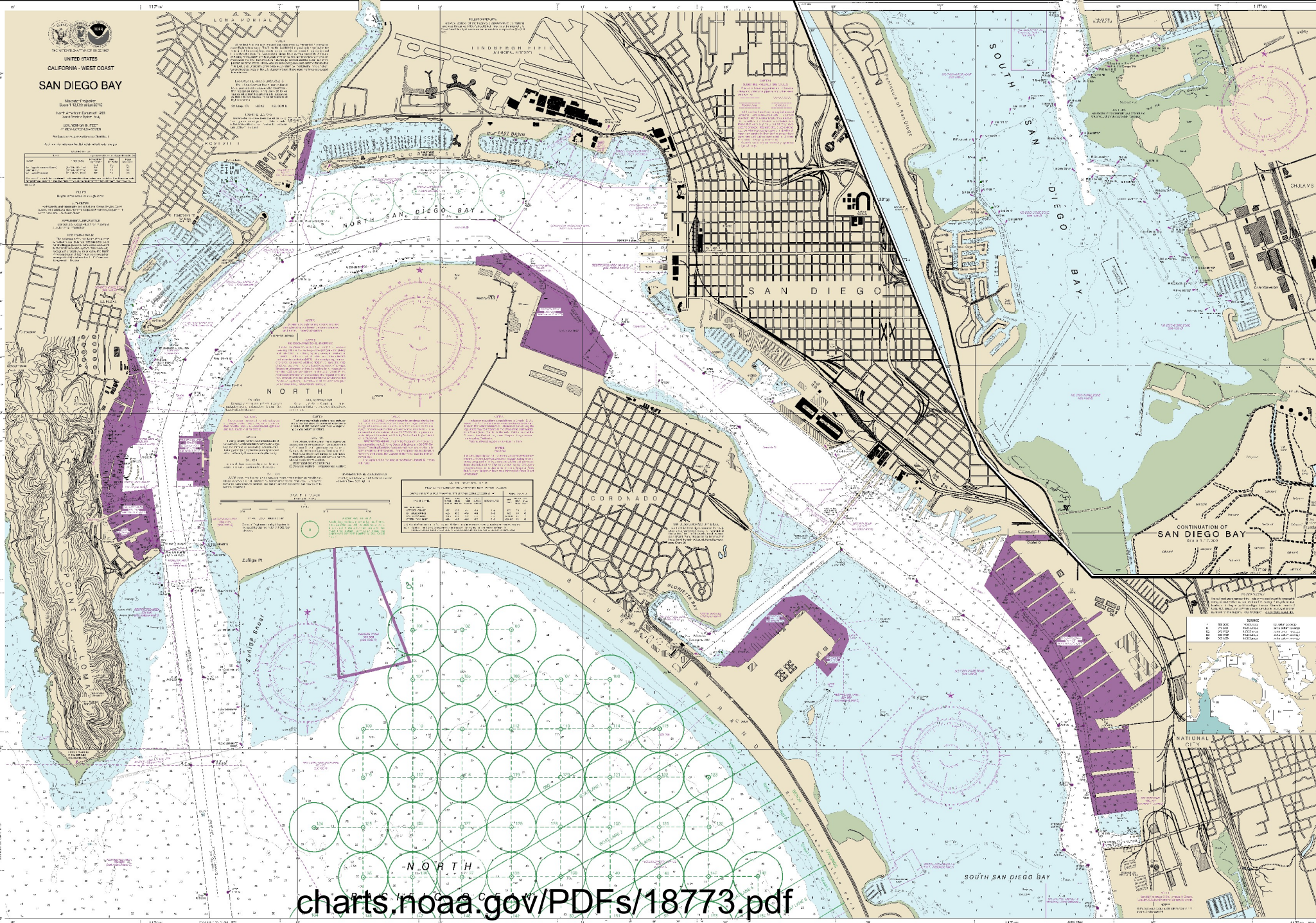


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Google Earth







UNITED STATES
CALIFORNIA - WEST COAST
SAN DIEGO BAY

Table with 2 columns: Name, Description. Lists various navigational aids and buoys.

REMARKS:
1. THIS CHART IS A REVISION OF CHART NO. 18773, PUBLISHED IN 1998.
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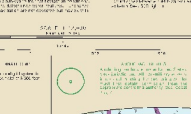


Table with 2 columns: Name, Description. Lists various navigational aids and buoys.

CONTINUATION OF
SAN DIEGO BAY
Scale 1:50,000

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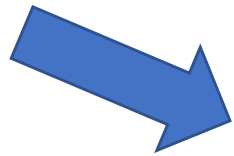
charts.noaa.gov/PDFs/18773.pdf

This chart was drafted as a PDF (Portable Document Format) file. It is a digital representation of the original chart and is not intended to be used as a substitute for the original chart. The chart is a revision of Chart No. 18773, published in 1998. It is a revision of Chart No. 18773, published in 1998. It is a revision of Chart No. 18773, published in 1998.

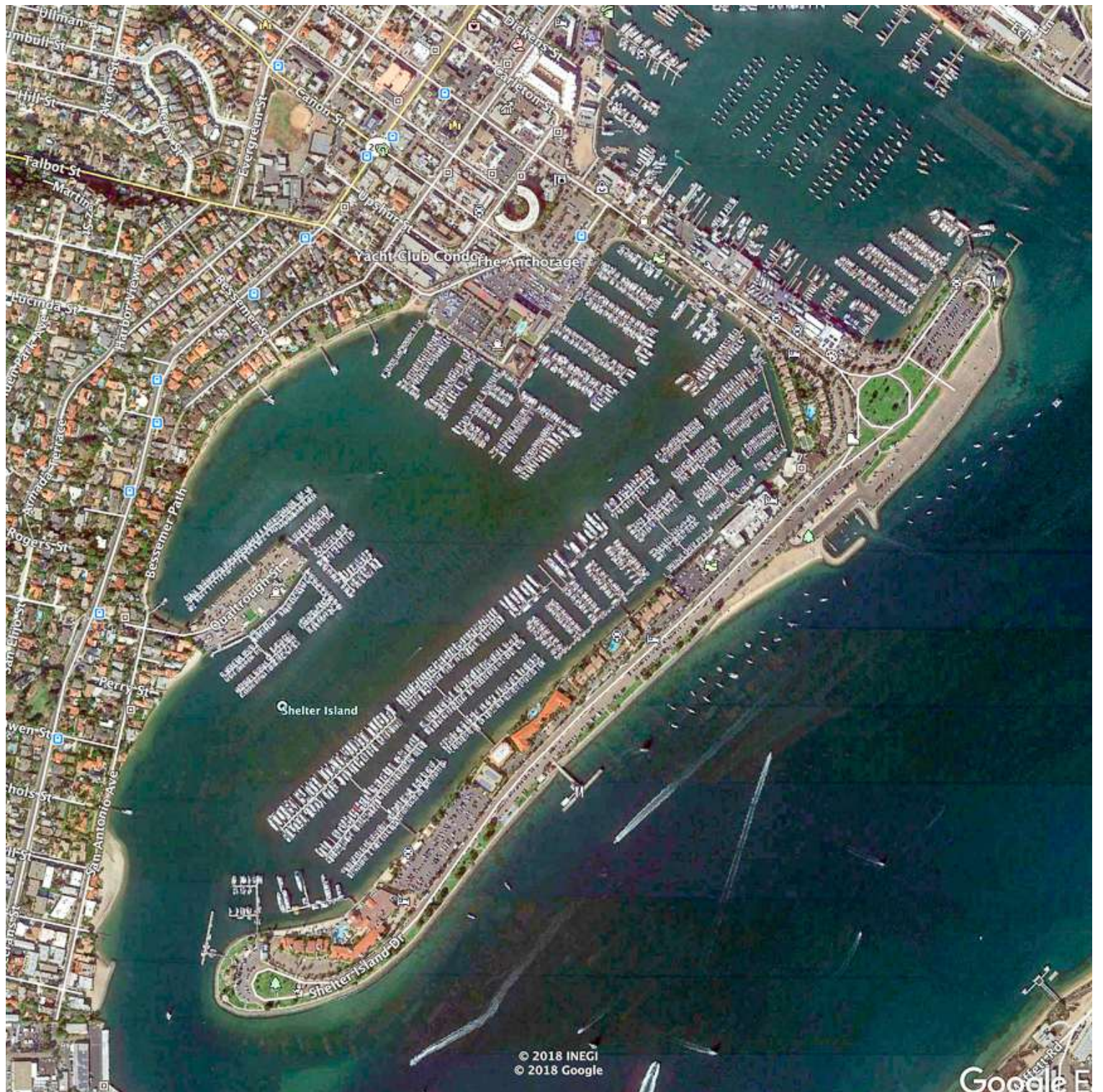


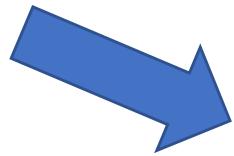
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Go



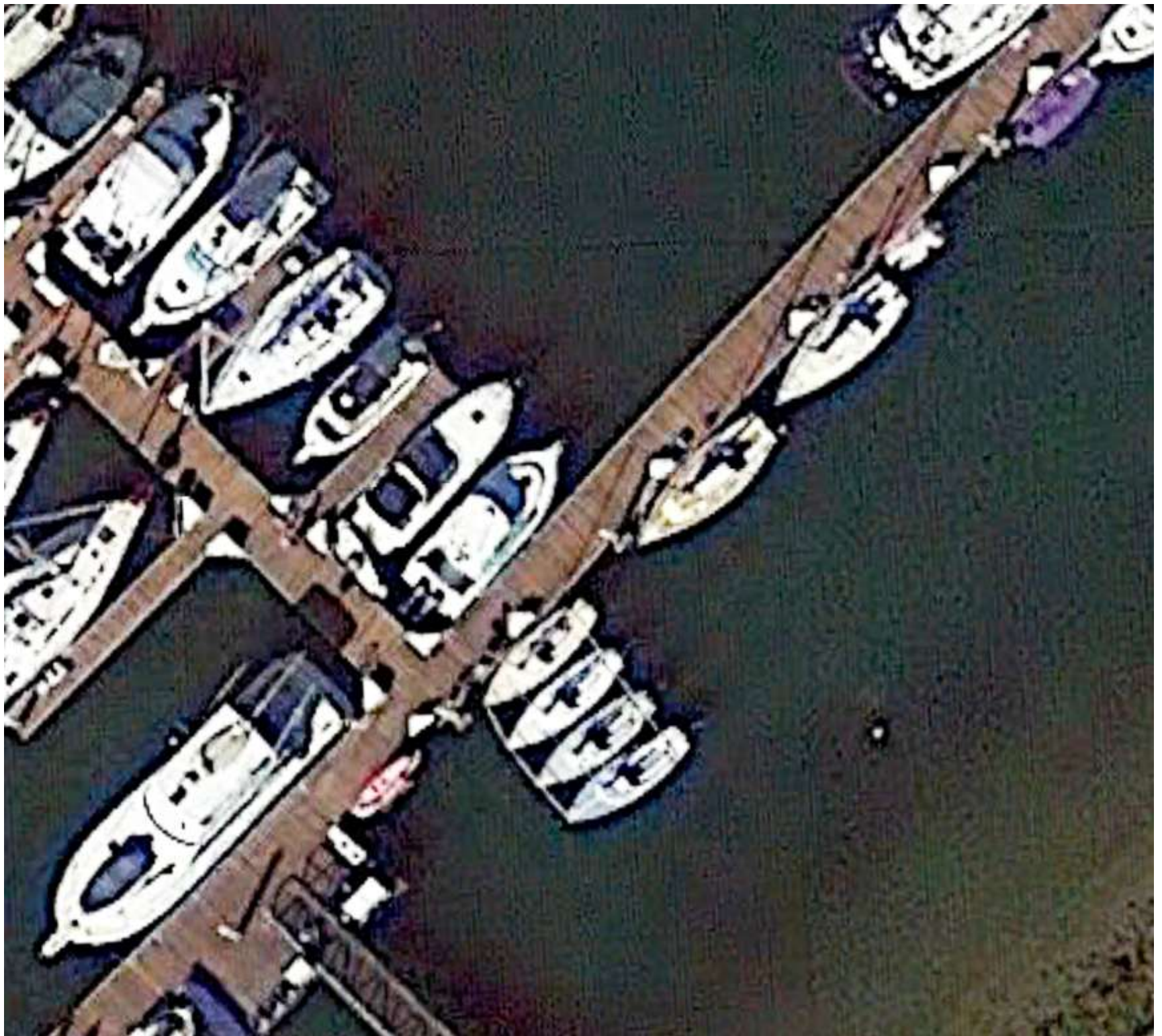
prevailing
wind





prevailing
wind

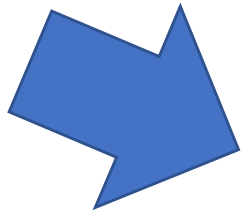




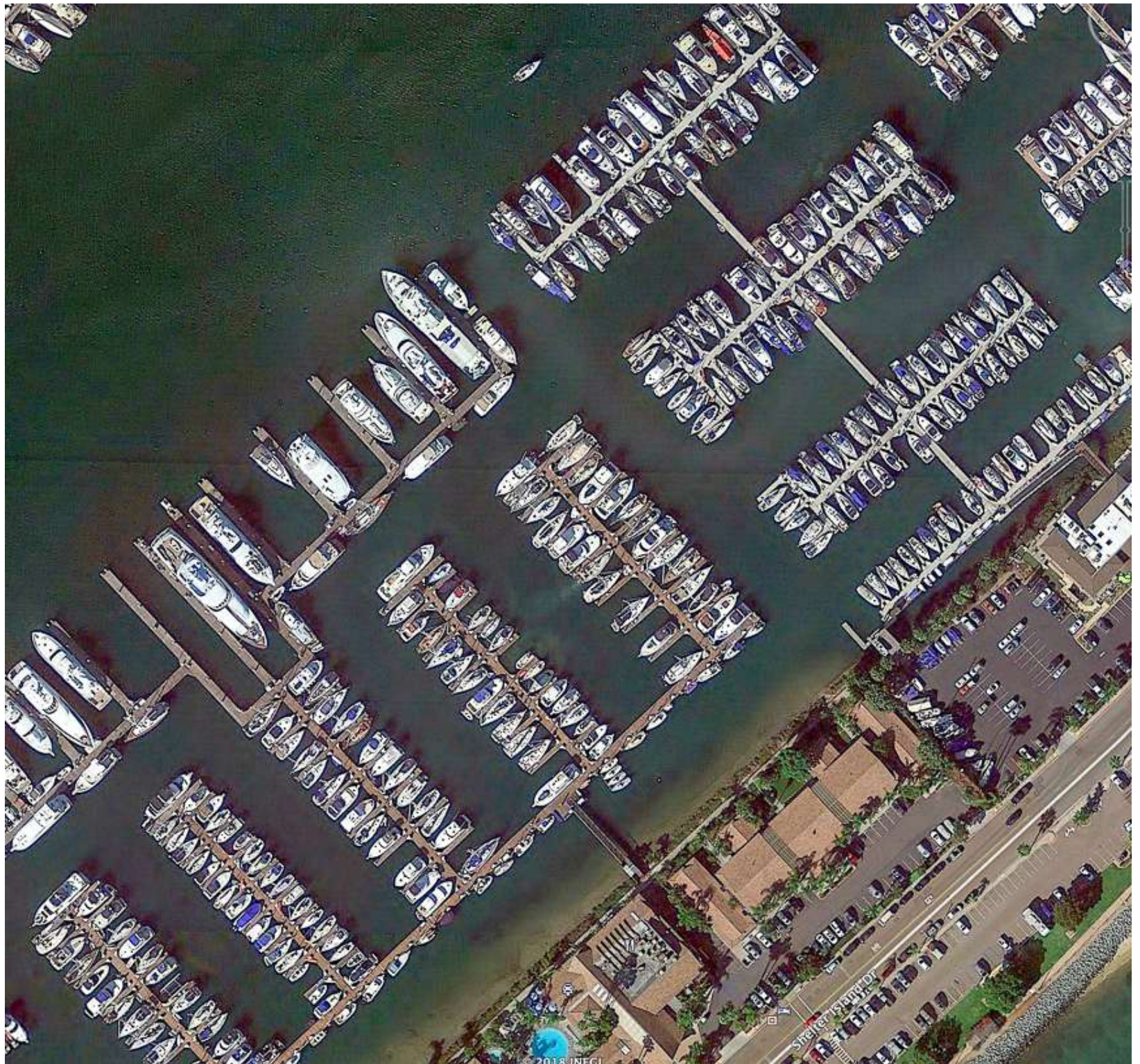






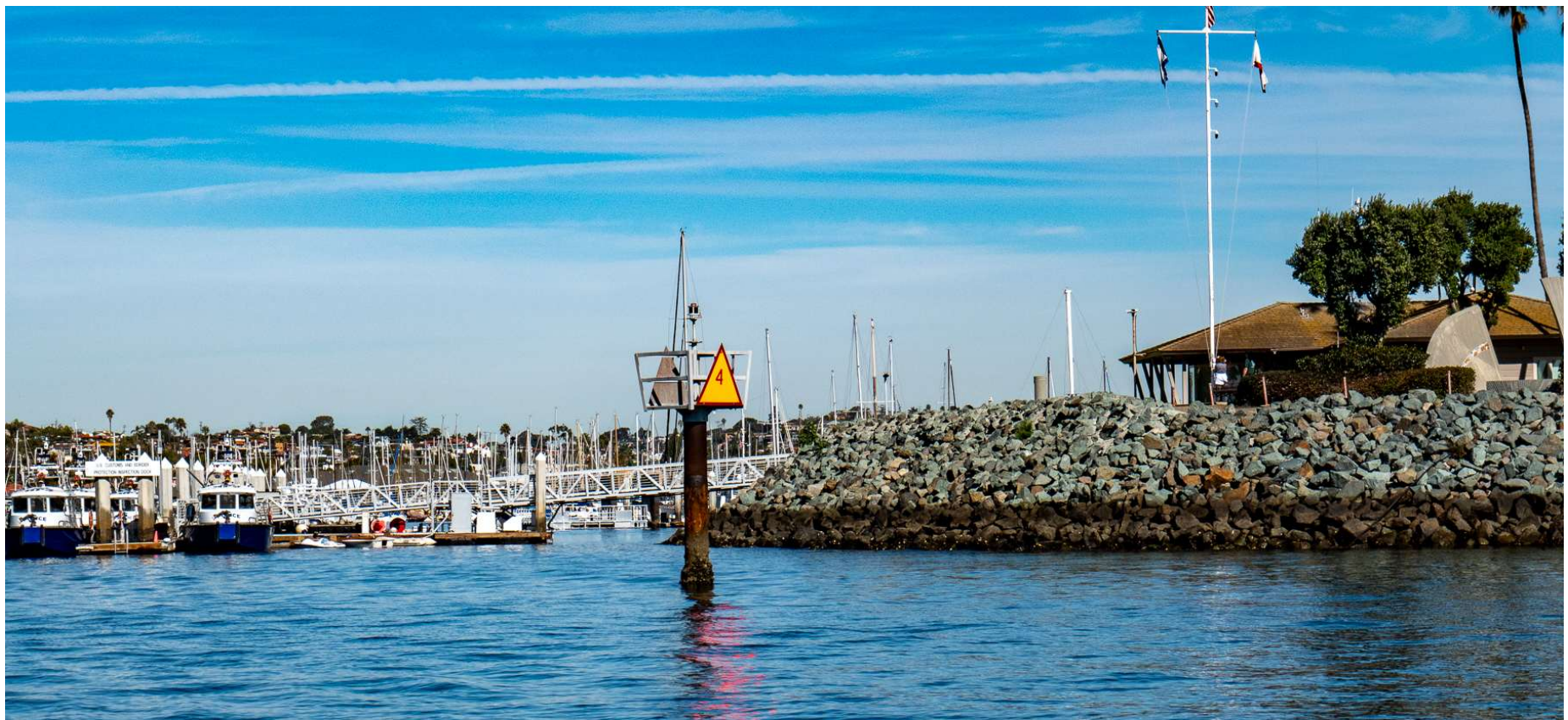


prevailing
wind





































































Thank you for sticking with it

Sail fast

Sail safe

Enjoy yourself

Join the club

