



# Hitchhiker's Guide To New Zealand



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Map of New Zealand



# History

- The thumb gesture was first used by Julius Caesar
  - Thumb down: Lift to Walhalla
  - Thumb up: No lift, better luck next time
- Hitchhikers' predecessors were jesters who hiked from court to court entertaining people
- Famous hitchhikers
  - Che Guevara hitched around South America after smashing his motorbike, and Alfred Hitch"hiker"cock



# Scientific Theories

- Probability:  $f(x) = 100\% - \varepsilon \mid t \rightarrow \infty$
- Chaos: A butterfly flapping its wings is beautiful even in New Zealand
- Fuzzy logic: If you hitchhike to both directions at the same time, you double your chances
- Etymology: By walking you would already be there ... or square
- Murphy's law: Always hope for rain and no lifts, then you will get loads of lifts and sunshine



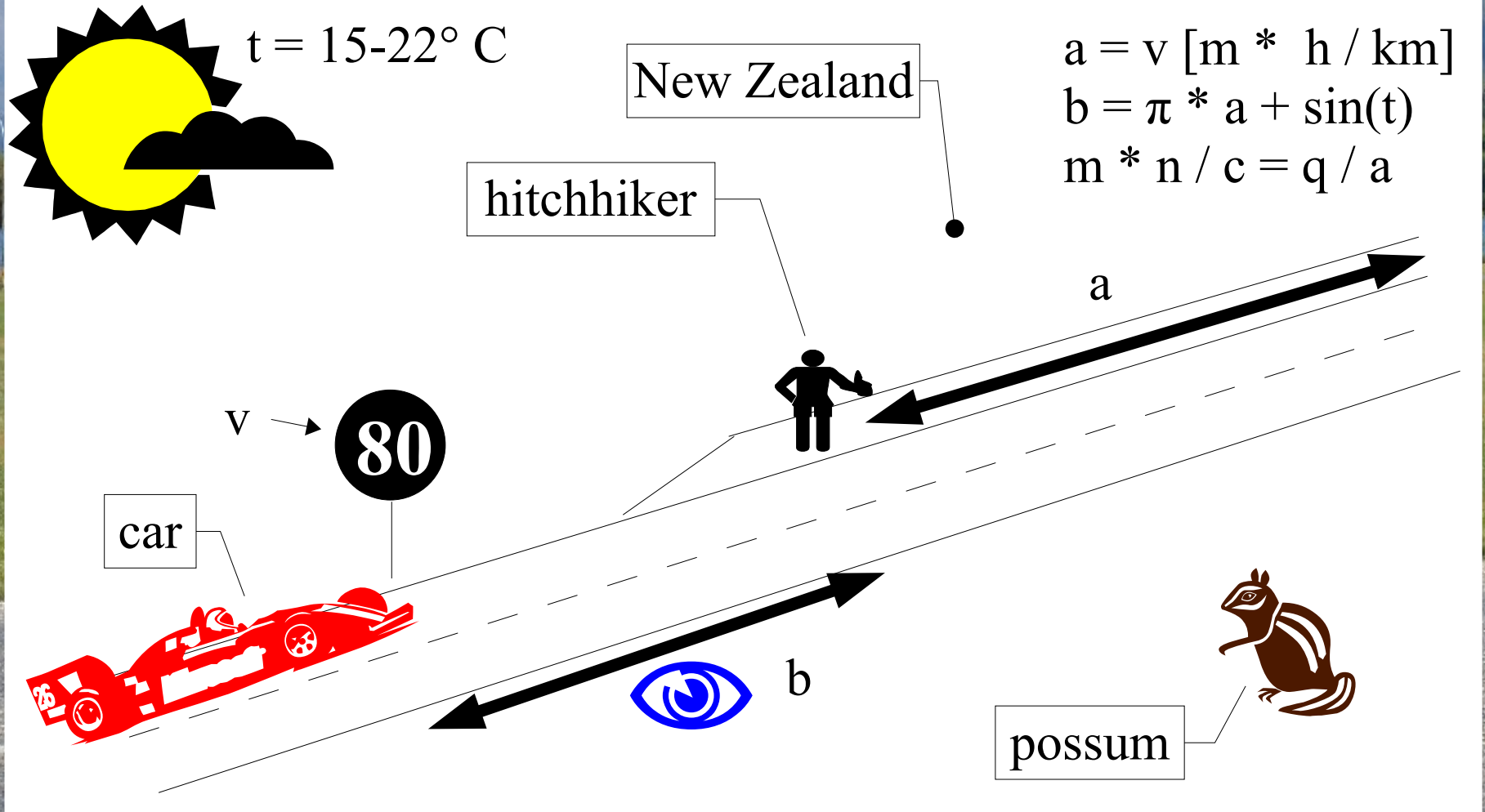
# Practice: Selecting a G-Spot<sup>(\*)</sup>

- Go to the outskirts of the town so that most cars are heading to your desired destination, and you are more likely to get a long-distance ride
- Good visibility and low speed limits will give the driver more time to make the decision
- Enough space for the car to stop safely
- Make sure that there are no open prison camps in vicinity, and avoid Hammer Springs

(\*) g = good



# Ideal Conditions



# Thumb Positioning



NB: Passing cars often make a U-turn and return for you, so don't show your middle finger to those who are not stopping immediately.



# Facial Expression





# Behaviour In The Car

- 1<sup>st</sup> sentence: "Hello, I'm going to [where]."
- 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence: "No, it took only [n] hours to get a ride and it's not even raining."
- 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence: Depends on what the driver says. Remember to speak a lot, this is the payment of your lift. You are entertaining the driver.
- Remember to take the front seat, this is not a taxi!
- Don't pick your nose or the driver's.



# Case Study

- Route 1: Cheviot (South island) – Picton – Wellington (North island) – Lake Taupo – Rotorua – Auckland
  - 3 days, 1180 km + 3-hour ferry trip
  - Average waiting time: 25 minutes
  - 7 lifts: Irish girl Ronja; middle-aged kiwi (= New Zealander) man who was visiting his mother; kiwi truck driver; Eritrean & Iraqi guys; kiwi John; middle-aged kiwi man; Maori Peter
- Flight Auckland – Queenstown, 1,5 hours



- Route 2: Queenstown (South island) – Arrowtown - Wanaka – Hokitika – Greymouth – Reefton – Hanmer Springs – Cheviot
  - 4 days, 885 km, average waiting time 25 minutes
  - 18 lifts: European guy; kiwi chef who had worked in Norway; two Brazilian guys; kiwi on a work drive; Italian snowboard instructor girl; mountain climber kiwiman; a UK man who had immigrated in NZ; a UK woman on a 12-day holiday trip; German-speaking sisters Heidi & Eva from Northern Italy; elderly kiwi man; elderly kiwi lady; kiwi truck driver going to work; kiwi woofers woman; Maori woman with 2 children; elderly kiwi couple; UK couple on a holiday trip; Oz (= Australian) couple on a honeymoon trip; kiwi soldier.



# Empiria

- Higher chances

- Subaru and Lada
- Lonely driver
- When/Where there is very little traffic
- Hot weather
- Woman driving without children

- Lower chances

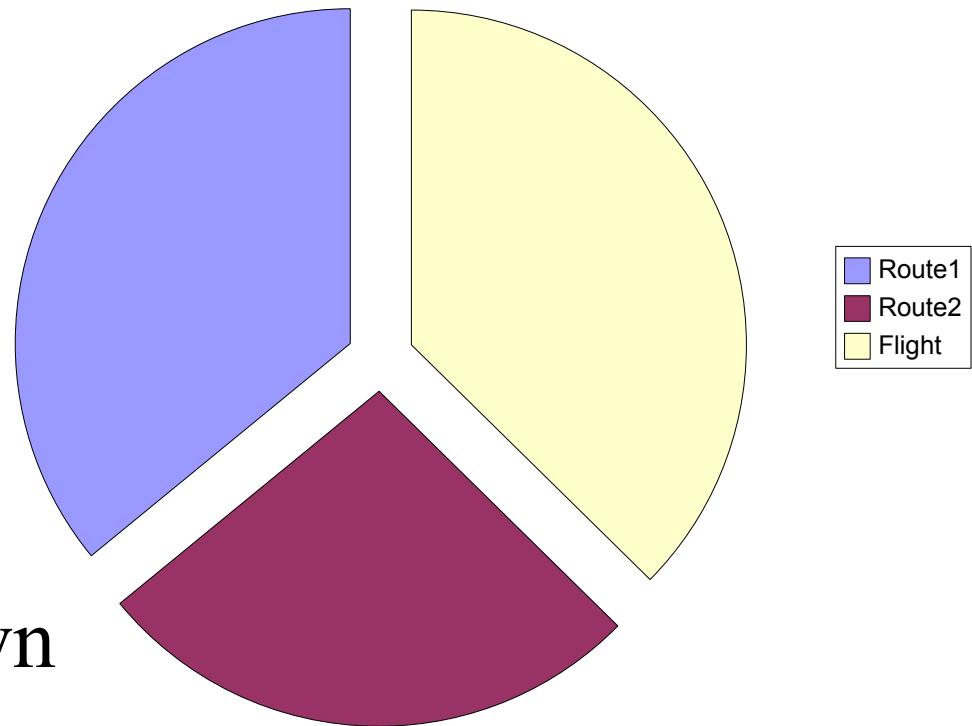
- Mercedes and BMW
- Driver has already some company
- Raining cats and dogs
- Man driving with his wife; they will never reach an agreement in time

**You only need one single car  
willing to give you a lift**



# Costs Per 2 Persons

- Hitchhiking, route 1:
  - 165 NZ\$ for hostel accomodation (3 nights)
  - 110\$ for ferry
- Hitchhiking, route 2:
  - 185\$ (4 nights)
  - 20\$ bus away from Hanmer Springs
- Auckland-Queenstown
  - 286\$ for flight



1 NZ\$ = 0.6 €



# Summa<sup>2</sup> Summarum

- Flying is the fastest and the cheapest way to travel
- Hitchhiking is a social thing rather than an effective or a cheap way of travelling
- NZ is a safe heaven for hitchhikers

We recommend hitchhiking

when travelling matters over reaching a destination



# Hitchhiking Aids (not THE disease)

- Pillow

- Go to sleep on the roadside and wait until someone begins to feel enough pity for you to give a lift



- Hair dryer & stop sign

- Point your hair dryer at the car approaching you
- Hide the hair dryer behind your back, block the road and show the stop sign
- When the car stops, ask for a ride





Thank you for your attention and  
Merry Xmas<sup>(\*)</sup> !!!



(\*) this was your Xmas present, we hope you liked it

Now it's your turn ...



... to hitchhike to visit us !!!

## Further reading

- Galactic edition: Hitchhikers Guide to The Galaxy
- Molvania specifics: [www.molvania.com](http://www.molvania.com)
- A great movie: [www.starwreck.com](http://www.starwreck.com) (irrelevant)
- More similar crap, literal rubbish, noises, waste of time, and photos from New Zealand at [paivisanteri.blogspot.com](http://paivisanteri.blogspot.com). See you!