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Sine, Cosine and Area Rules

NCS Mathematics DVD Series



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Outcomes for this DVD

In this DVD we will:

1. Calculate the area of a triangle given an angle and the two adjacent sides. **Lesson 1**
2. Apply the Sine Rule for triangles to calculate an unknown side or an unknown angle of a given triangle. **Lesson 2**
3. Apply the Cosine Rule for triangles to calculate an unknown side or an unknown angle of a given triangle. **Lesson 3**
4. Apply the Sine and the Cosine rules to solve problems in 2-dimensions. **Lesson 4**

Lesson 1

The Area Rule



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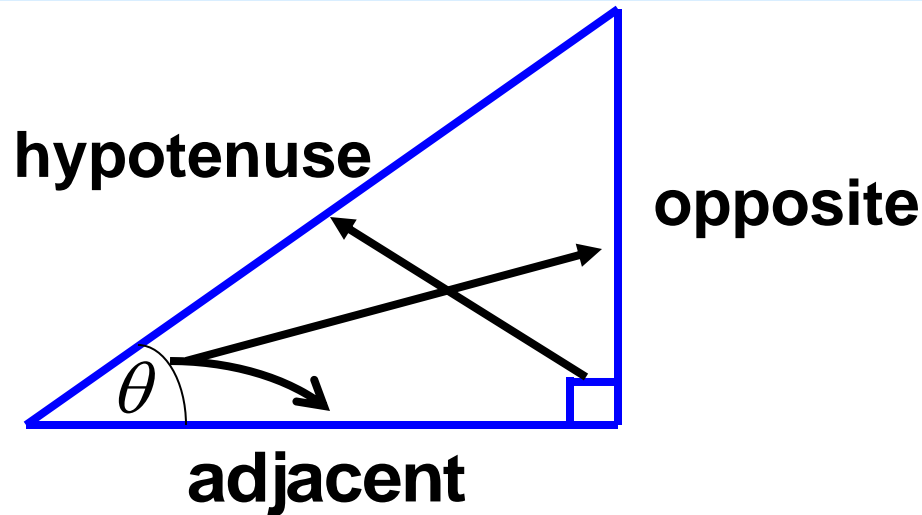
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Some basic definitions – a reminder

Trigonometric Ratios

In a right angled triangle, the 3 trigonometric ratios for an angle θ are defined as follows:



$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

The area formula of a triangle

Consider a non-right angled triangle ABC.

a , b and c are the sides opposite angles A , B and C respectively.

(This is the conventional way of labelling a triangle).

Draw the perpendicular, h , from C to BA .

$$\text{Area of } \Delta = \frac{1}{2} \text{ base} \times \text{height}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} c \times h \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

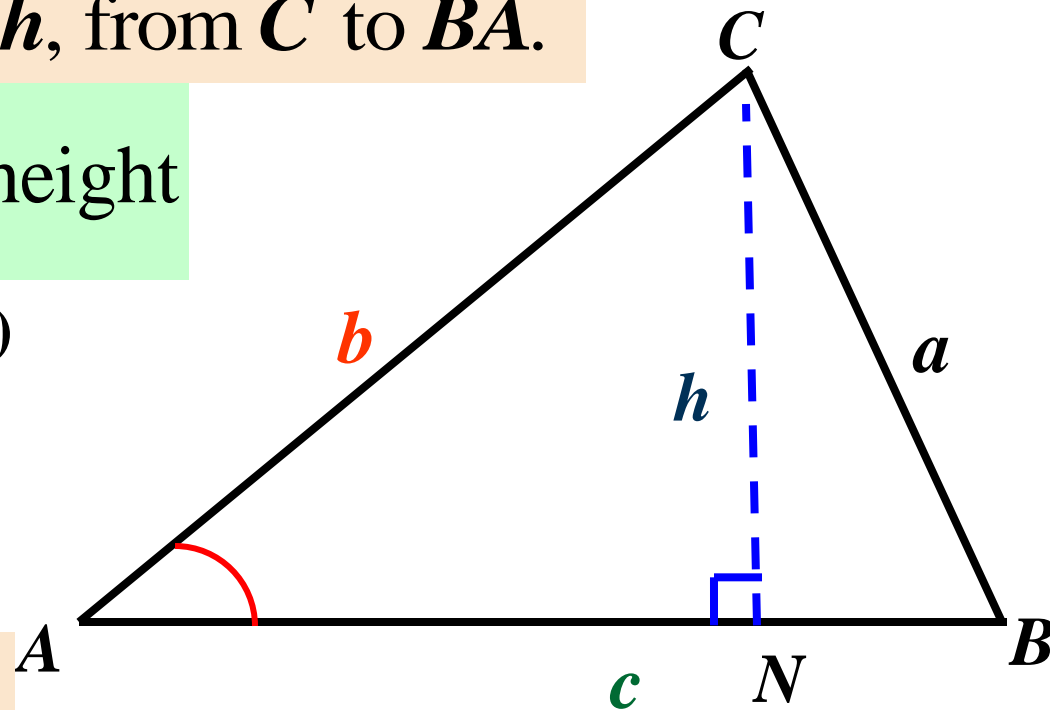
$$\text{In } \Delta ACN, \sin A = \frac{h}{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow b \sin A = h$$

Substituting for h in (1)

$$\Rightarrow \text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} c \times b \sin A$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} b c \sin A$$



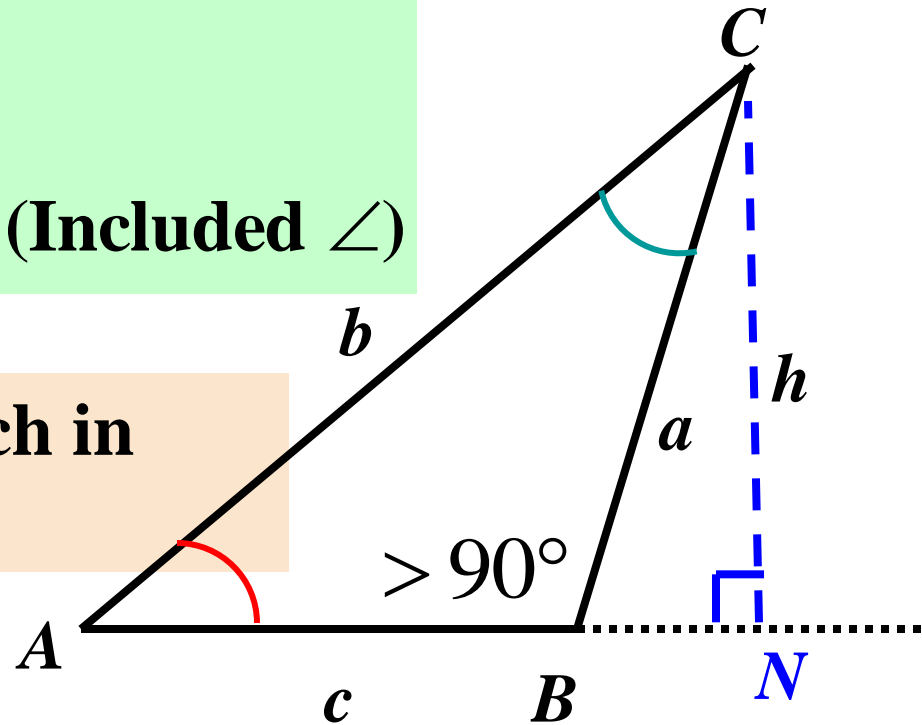
Different forms of the area formula

A similar argument gives the same formula for the area if $\angle B$ is obtuse i.e. $\angle B > 90^\circ$

The formula always uses

- 2 sides and the
- angle formed by those sides (Included \angle)

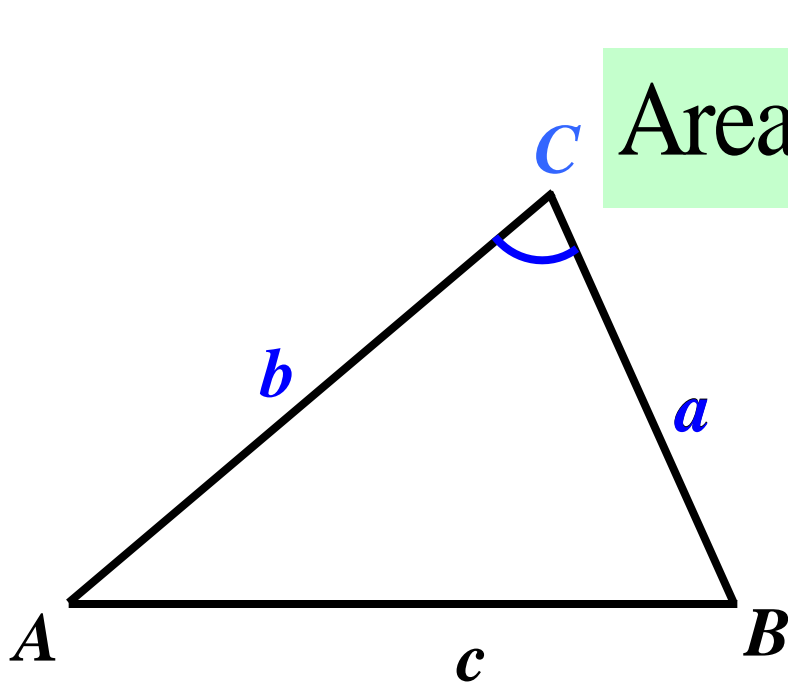
Any angle can be used as such in area formula, so



$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} ab \sin C = \frac{1}{2} bc \sin A = \frac{1}{2} ca \sin B$$

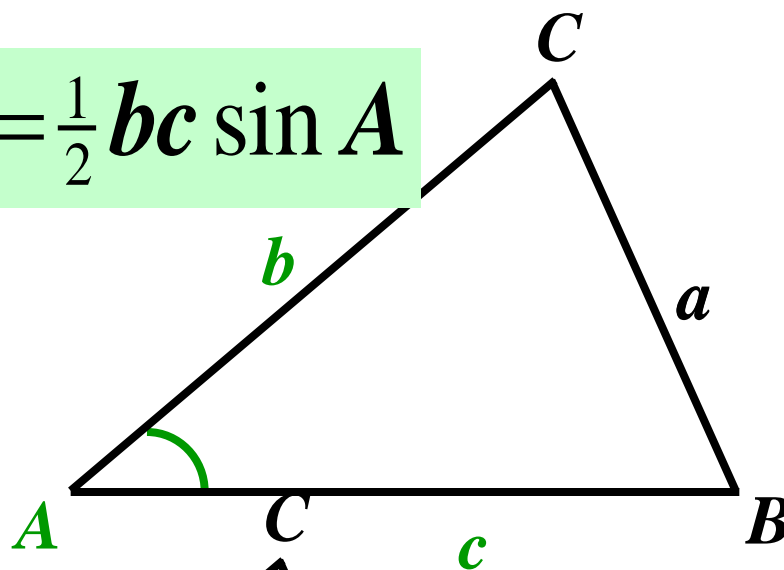
Three possible approaches to find the area of a triangle

Any angle can be used in the formula, so

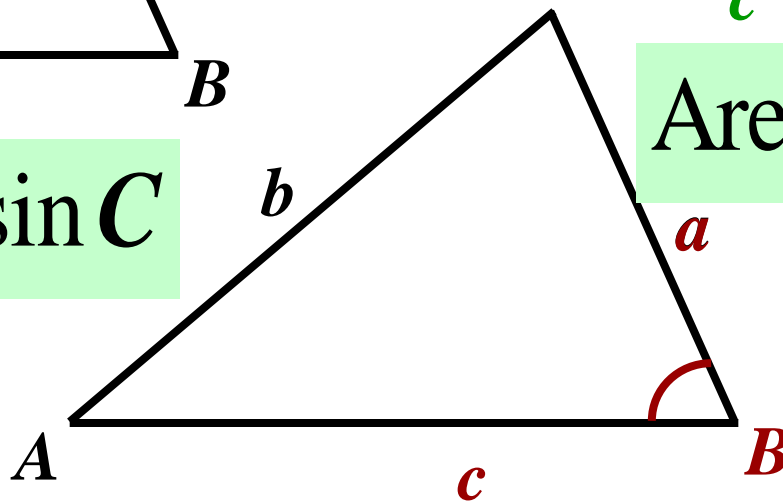


$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} bc \sin A$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} ab \sin C$$



$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} ca \sin B$$



The area of a triangle – Example 1

Find the area of $\triangle PQR$.

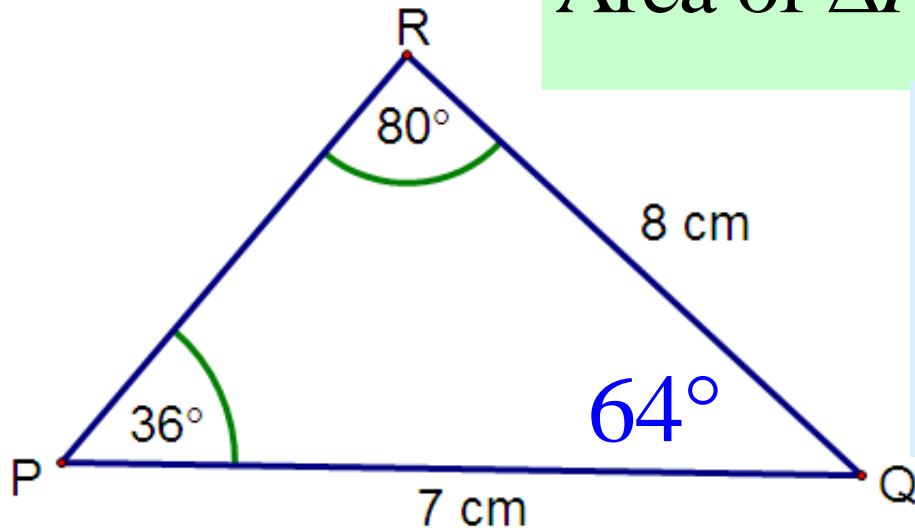
Solution: We must use the angle formed by the 2 sides with the given lengths.

We know PQ and RQ so use the included angle Q

$$\text{Area of } \triangle PQR = \frac{1}{2} \times QP \times QR \times \sin Q$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times 7 \times \sin 64^\circ \text{ cm}^2$$

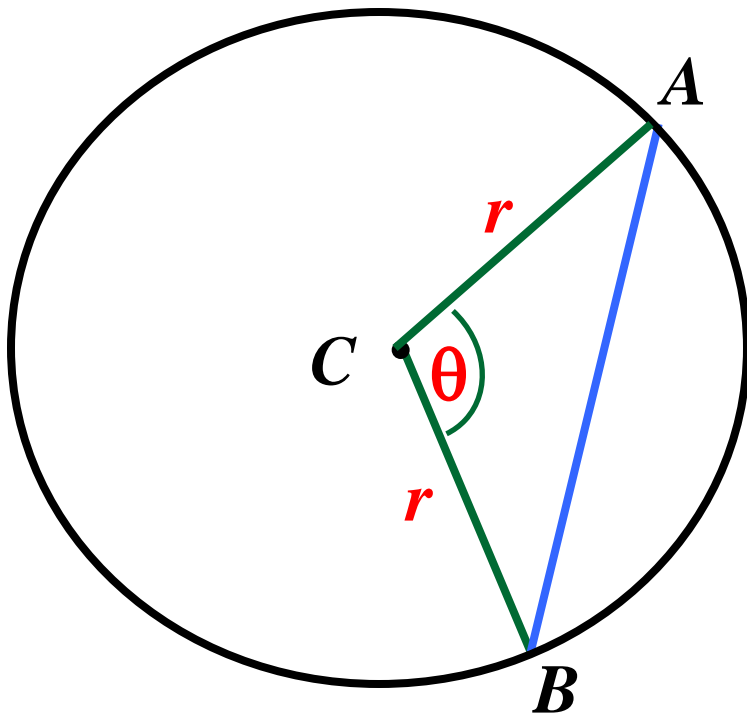
$$= 25,2 \text{ cm}^2$$



The area of a triangle – Example 2

Find the area of $\triangle ABC$.

A useful application of the area formula occurs when we have a triangle formed by 2 radii and a chord of a circle.



$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} (CA)(CB) \sin C$$

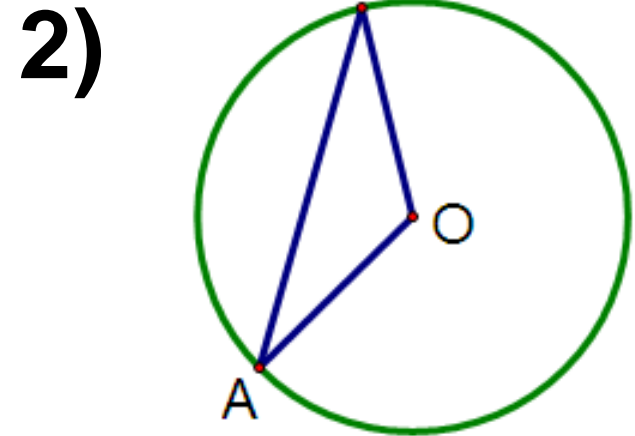
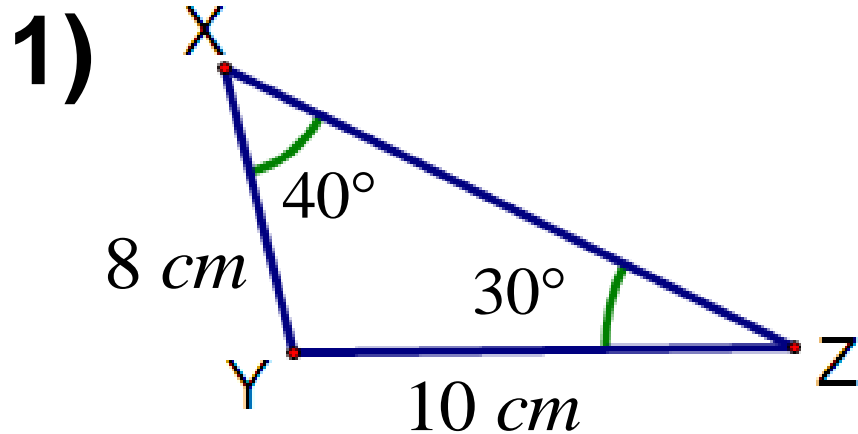
$$\text{But } CA = CB = r$$

$$\therefore \text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} r^2 \sin \theta$$

Tutorial 1: Area of a Triangle

Find the areas of the triangles shown in the diagrams.

Give your answers accurate to 2 decimal digits



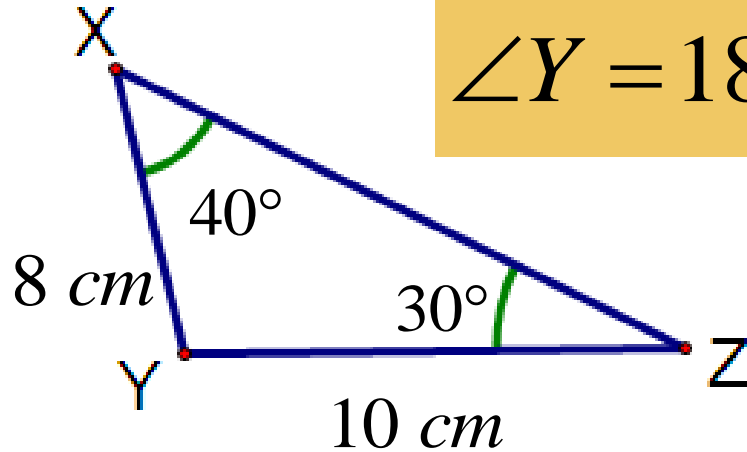
radius = 6 cm

$\angle AOB = 120^\circ$

PAUSE

- Do Tutorial 1
- Then View Solutions

Tutorial 1: Problem 1: Area of a Triangle: Solution



$$\angle Y = 180^\circ - (40^\circ + 30^\circ) = 110^\circ$$

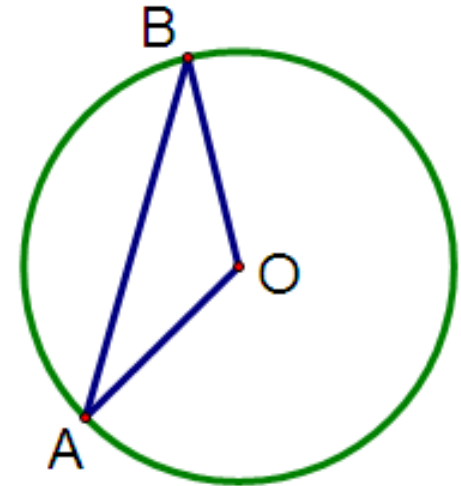
$$\begin{aligned} 1) \text{ Area } \triangle XYZ &= \frac{1}{2} \times XY \times YZ \times \sin Y \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \times z \times x \times \sin Y \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times 10 \times \sin(110^\circ) \text{ cm}^2 \\ &= 37,59 \text{ cm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Tutorial 1: Problem 2: Area of a Triangle: Solution

Given:

$$\text{radius} = 6 \text{ cm}$$

$$\angle AOB = 120^\circ$$



$$2) \text{ Area } \triangle AOB = \frac{1}{2} \times r^2 \times \sin O$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times (6 \text{ cm})^2 \times \sin 120^\circ$$

$$= 15,59 \text{ cm}^2$$

Lesson 2

The Sine Rule



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The Sine Rule for Triangles

One way to find unknown sides and angles in non - right angled triangles is by using the **Sine Rule**:

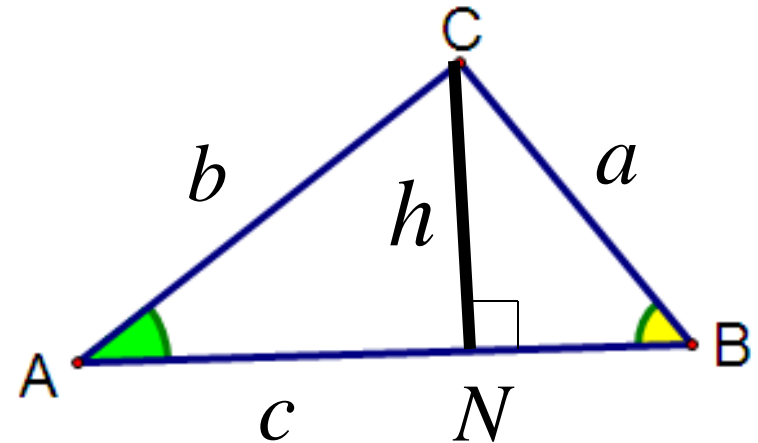
Suppose $\triangle ABC$ is a scalene triangle Drop $CN \perp AB$

$$\text{In } \triangle ACN, \sin A = \frac{h}{b}$$
$$\Rightarrow h = b \sin A$$

$$\text{In } \triangle BCN, \sin B = \frac{h}{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow h = a \sin B$$

$$\therefore b \sin A = a \sin B$$



$$\text{or } \frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b}$$

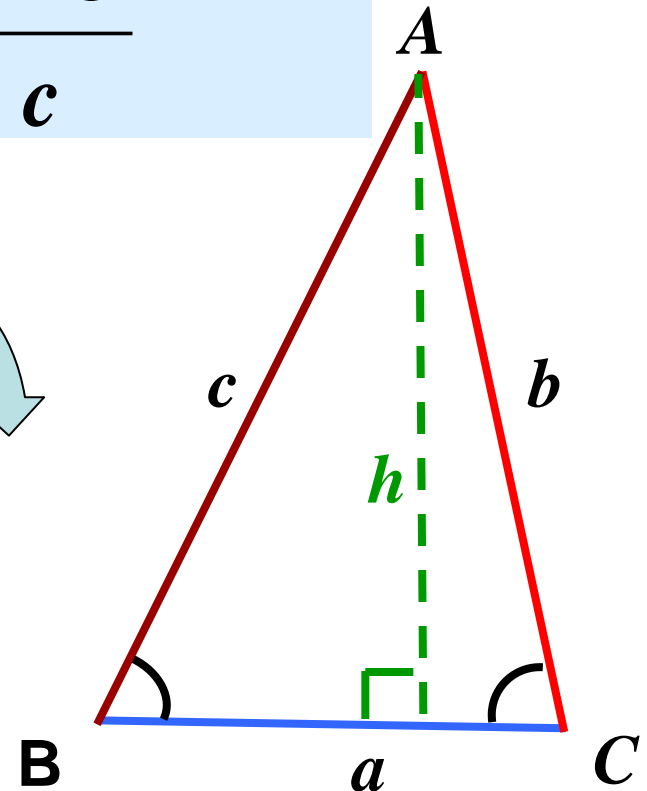
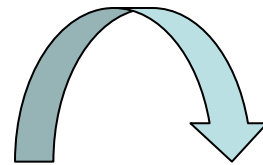
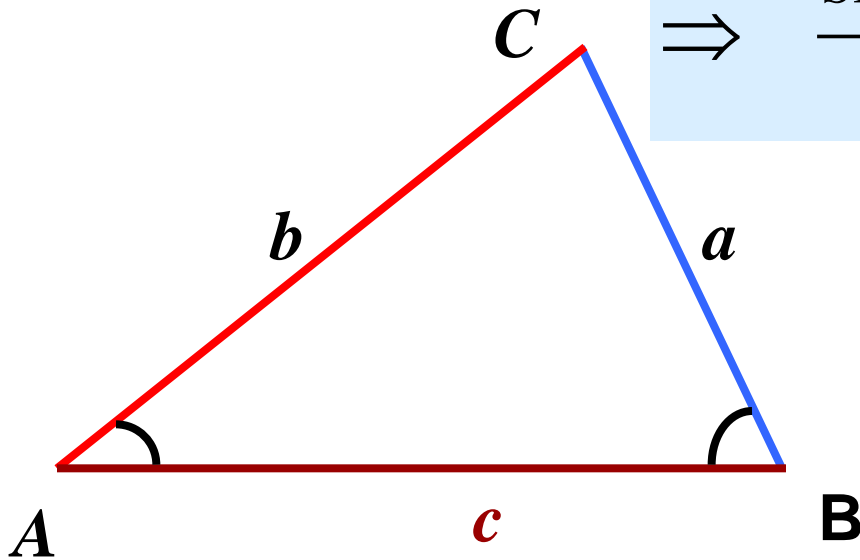
The Complete Sine Rule for Triangles

$\triangle ABC$ can be turned so that BC is the base.

We then get

$$\text{Now } h = c \sin B = b \sin C$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$$

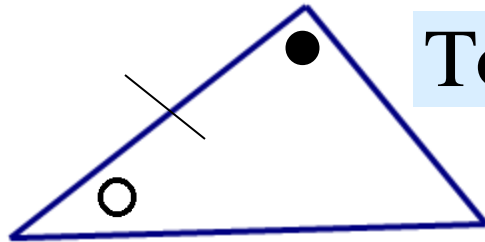


$$\text{So } \frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$$

When do we use the Sine Rule?

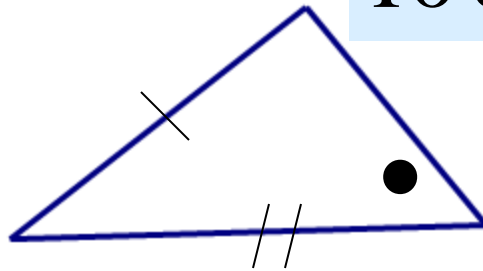
The sine rule can be used in a triangle when:

- Two angles and a side are given



To calculate second side

- Two sides and the non-included angle are given



To calculate second angle

Application of the Sine Rule - Example 1

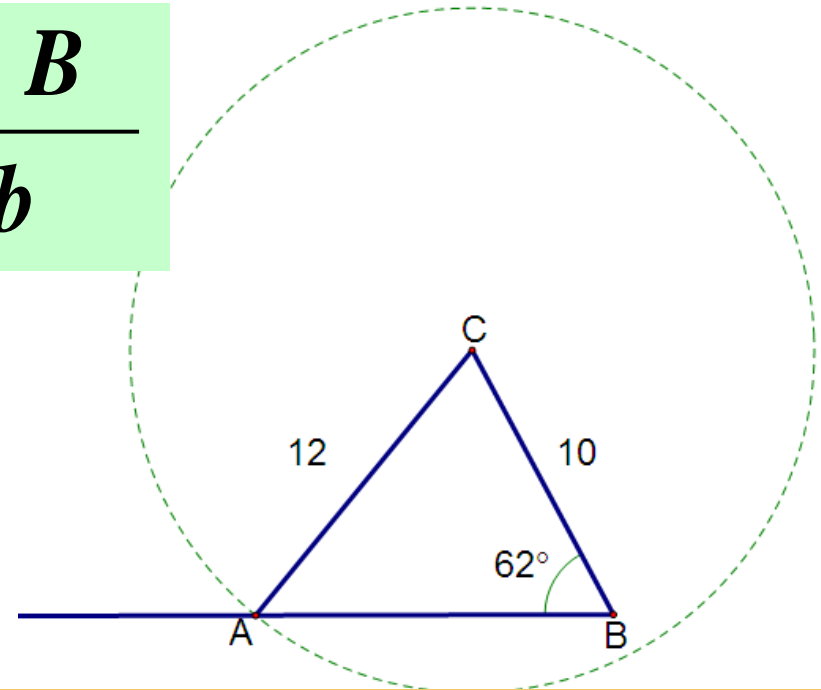
In $\triangle ABC$, find the size of angles A and C .

Solution: Use $\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b}$

$$\Rightarrow \sin A = \frac{a \sin B}{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin A = \frac{10 \sin 62^\circ}{12}$$

$$\Rightarrow \angle A = 47,4^\circ$$



$\angle A$ is opposite the shorter of the 2 given sides.

$\therefore \angle A < 62^\circ \Rightarrow \angle A$ must be an acute angle.

(Only one possibility as can be seen from sketch)

$$\text{Thus } \angle C = 180^\circ - 62^\circ - 47,4^\circ = 70,6^\circ$$

Application of the Sine Rule - Example 2

In $\triangle PQR$ it is given that:

$QR = 5$, $PR = 4$ and $\angle Q = 48^\circ$.

Determine $\angle P$.

$\angle P$ is opposite the longer of the 2 given sides.

$\therefore \angle P > 48^\circ \Rightarrow \angle P$ can be an acute or obtuse angle.

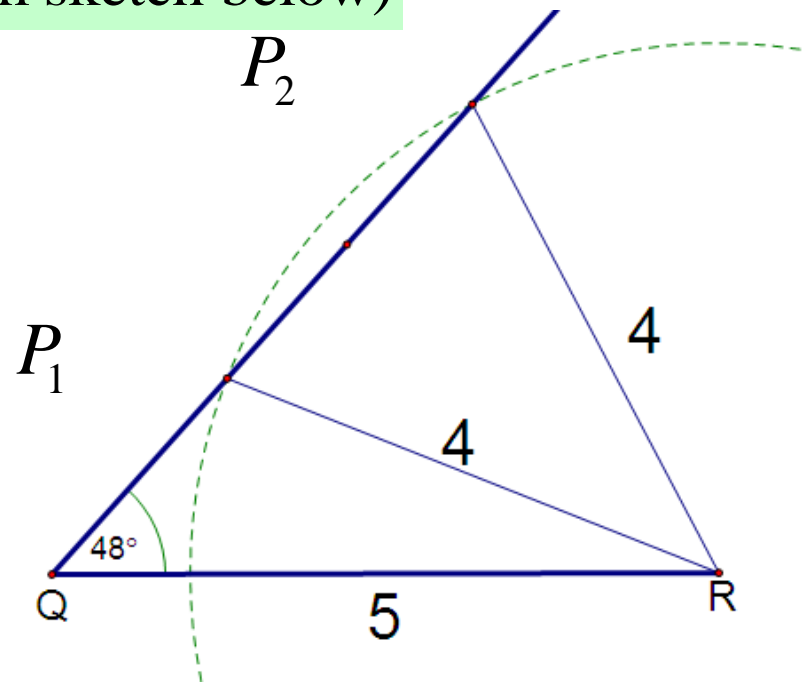
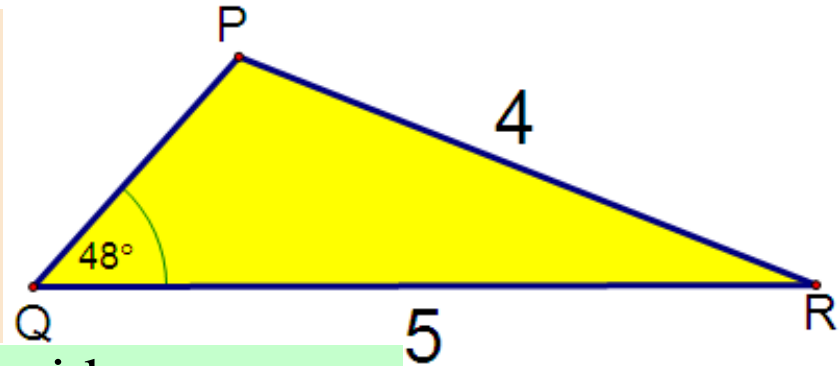
(\therefore Two possibilities as can be seen from sketch below)

Solution: Use $\frac{\sin Q}{q} = \frac{\sin P}{p}$

$$\Rightarrow \sin P = \frac{p \sin Q}{q} = \frac{5 \times \sin 48^\circ}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \angle P_2 = 68,3^\circ \text{ or}$$

$$\angle P_1 = 180^\circ - 68,3^\circ = 111,7^\circ$$



Application of the Sine Rule - Example 3

In $\triangle XYZ$, find the length XY .

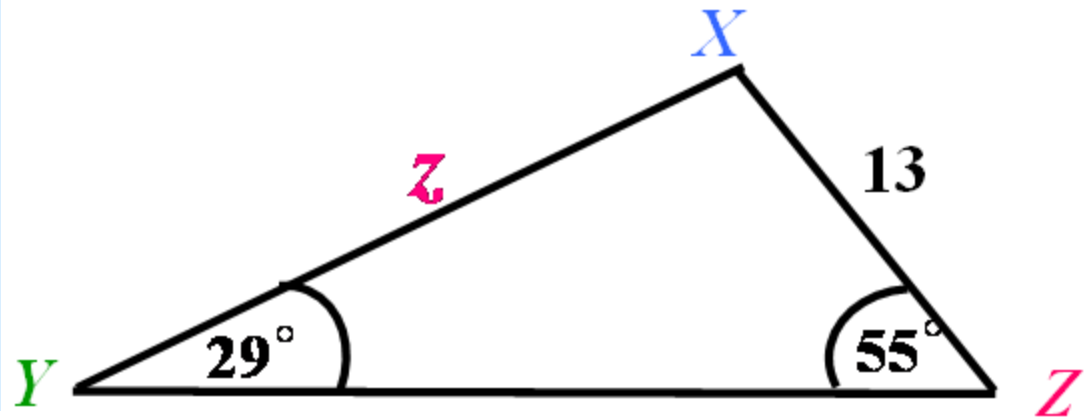
Solution: As the unknown is a side, we use the sine rule in its reciprocal form. The unknown side is then at the top.

$$\frac{z}{\sin Z} = \frac{y}{\sin Y}$$

$$\Rightarrow z = \frac{y \sin Z}{\sin Y}$$

$$\Rightarrow z = \frac{13 \sin 55^\circ}{\sin 29^\circ}$$

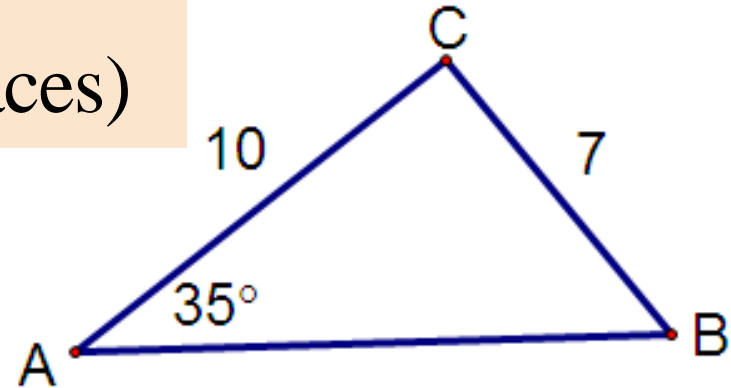
$$\Rightarrow z = 22,0$$



Tutorial 2: Sine Rule

1. In $\triangle ABC$, find $\angle B$.

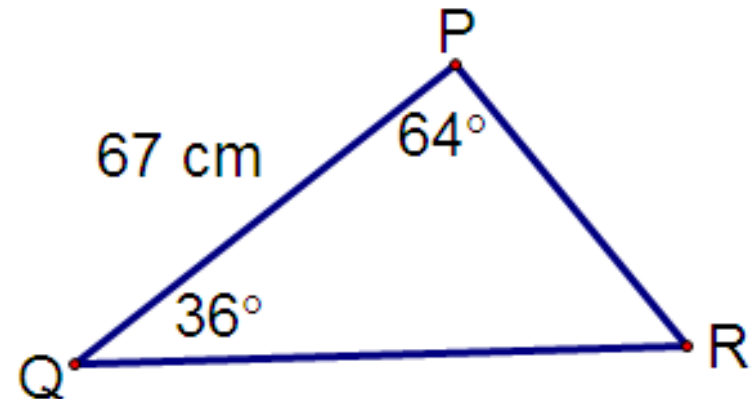
(Correct to two decimal places)



2. In $\triangle PQR$, find QR and the area of $\triangle PQR$

PAUSE DVD

- Do Tutorial 2
- Then View Solutions

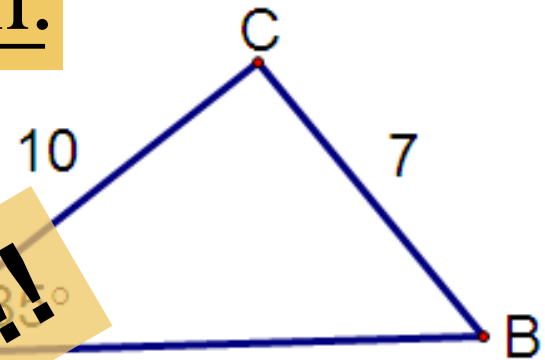


Tutorial 2: Problem 1: Sine rule: Solution

Find $\angle B$.

(2 decimal places)

Given:



$\angle B > 35^\circ \Rightarrow \angle B$ acute or obtuse

$$\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} \Rightarrow \frac{\sin 35^\circ}{7} = \frac{\sin B}{10}$$

$$\therefore \sin B = \frac{10 \sin 35^\circ}{7} \Rightarrow \angle B_1 = 55,02^\circ$$

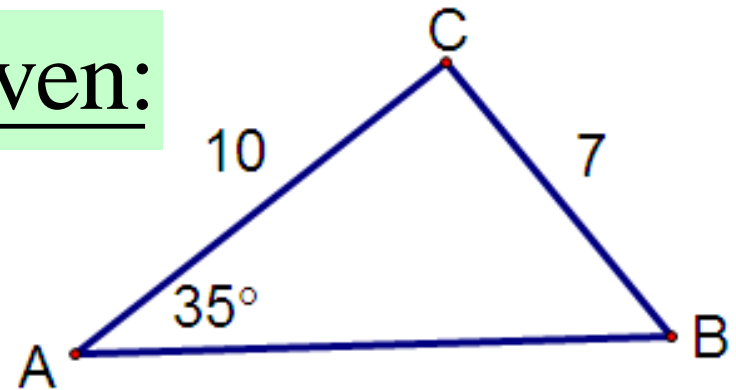
$$\text{or } \angle B_2 = 180^\circ - 55,02^\circ = 124,98^\circ$$

TWO POSSIBLE ANSWERS!!

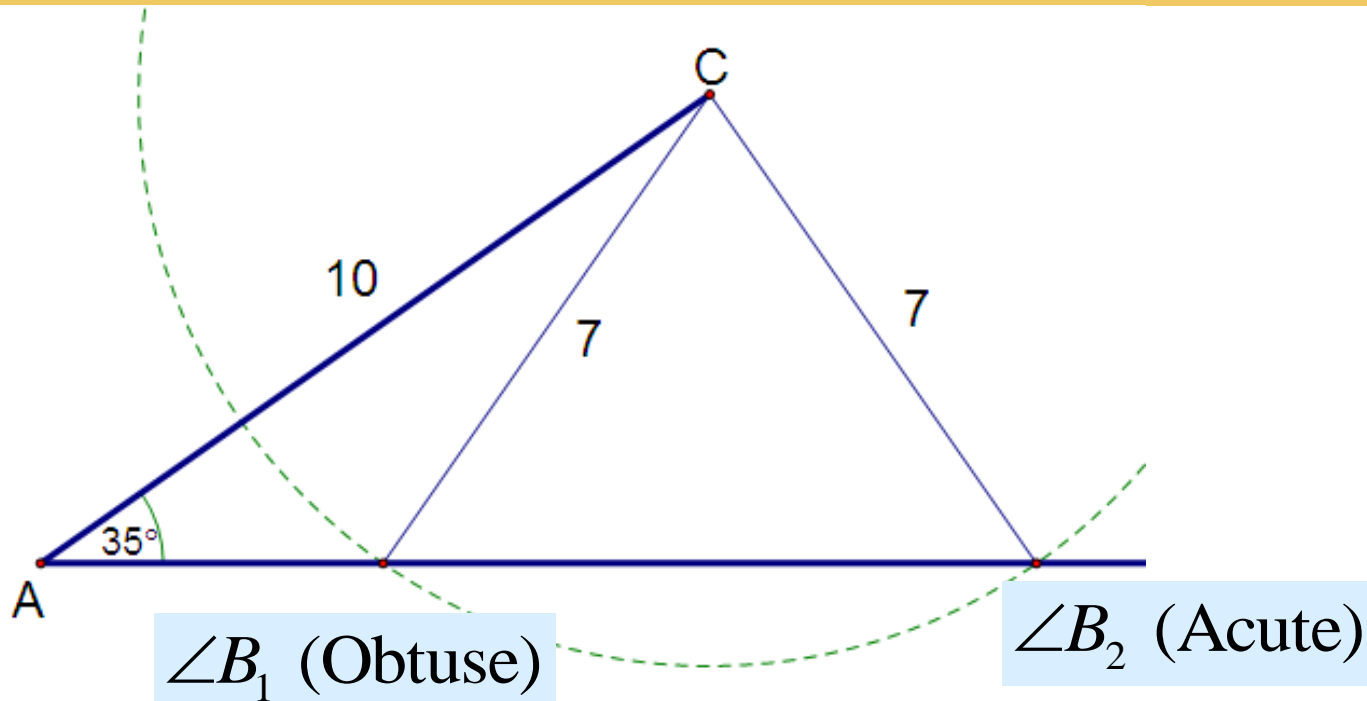
Tutorial 2: Problem 1: Why two solutions?

Obtained: $\angle B_1 = 55,02^\circ$
or $\angle B_2 = 124,98^\circ$

Given:



$\angle B > 35^\circ \Rightarrow \angle B$ acute or obtuse

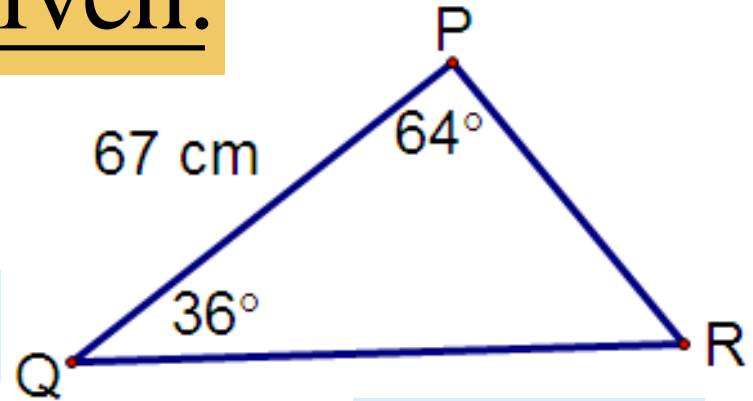


Tutorial 2: Problem 2: Sine rule: Solution

2. Find QR and the area of ΔPQR .

$$\frac{QR}{\sin 64^\circ} = \frac{67}{\sin 80^\circ}$$

Given:



$$\therefore QR = \frac{67 \sin 64^\circ}{\sin 80^\circ} = 61,15 \text{ cm}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area of } \Delta PQR &= \frac{1}{2} \times QP \times QR \times \sin 36^\circ \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \times 67 \times 61,15 \times \sin 36^\circ \\ &= 1\,204,09 \text{ cm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\angle R = 80^\circ$$

Lesson 3

The Cosine Rule



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The Cosine Rule for Triangles

The Cosine Rule for $\triangle ABC$ is given by:

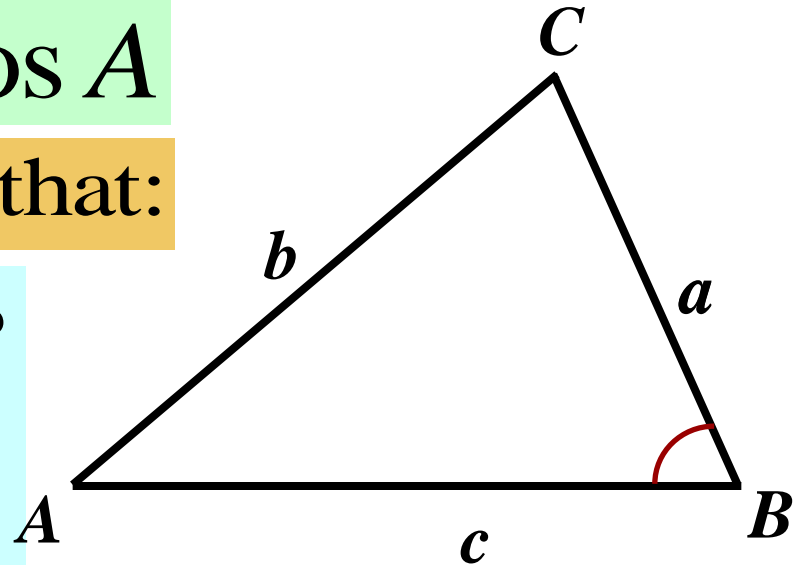
$$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

Symmetry also implies that:

$$b^2 = a^2 + c^2 - 2ac \cos B$$

or

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$$

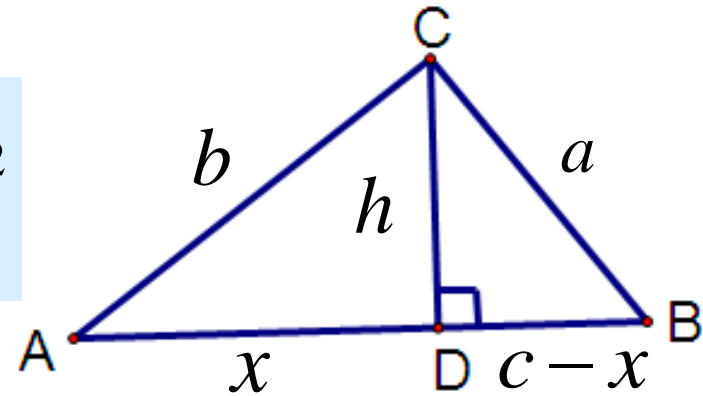


We use this form to find the third side when two sides and included angle are given.

Proof of the Cosine Rule

In $\triangle CAD$:

$$\cos A = \frac{x}{b} \text{ and } b^2 = x^2 + h^2$$



In $\triangle BCD$:

$$a^2 = h^2 + (c - x)^2 = h^2 + c^2 - 2cx + x^2$$

$$\therefore a^2 = (b^2 - x^2) + c^2 - 2c(b \cos A) + x^2$$

$$= b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

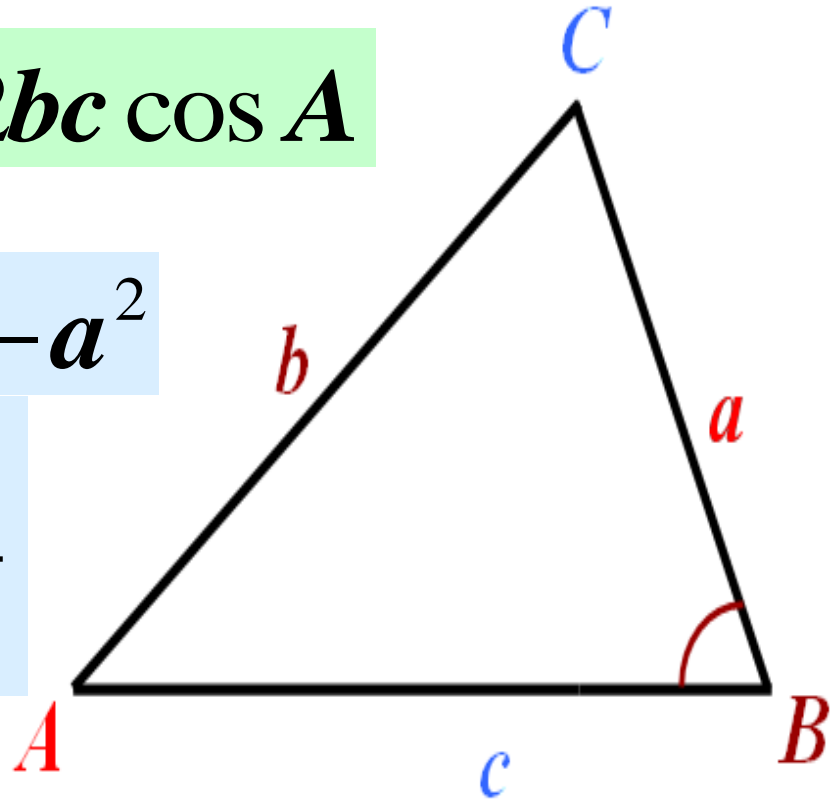
Proofs for symmetrical results are similar.

A second form of the Cosine Rule

$$\text{Know: } a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

$$\therefore 2bc \cos A = b^2 + c^2 - a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos A = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$$

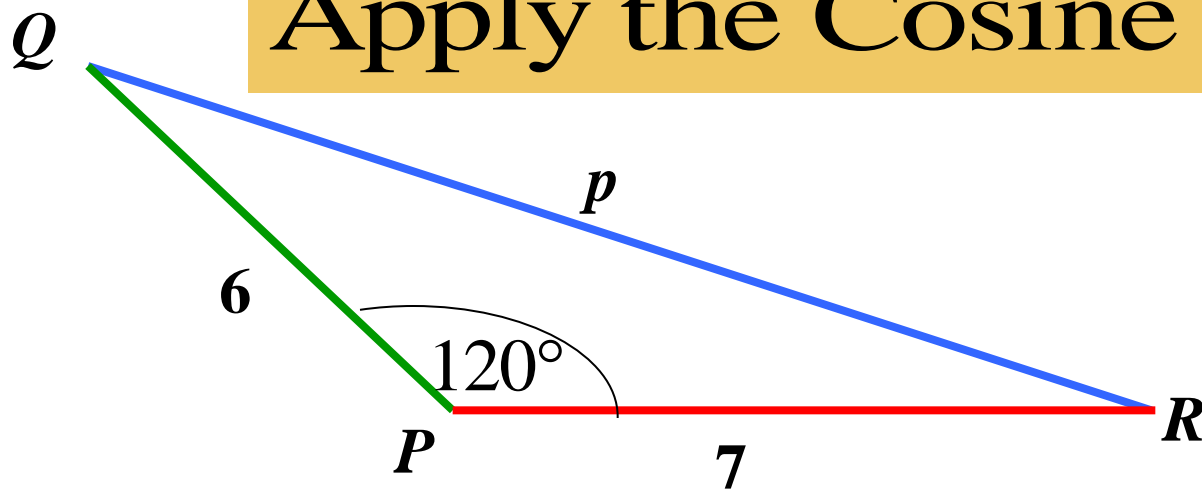


We use this form to find any angle of a triangle when we know all 3 sides.

Applications of the Cosine Rule - Example 1

Find p in the $\triangle PQR$

Apply the Cosine Rule



$$p^2 = q^2 + r^2 - 2qr \cos P$$

$$\therefore p^2 = 7^2 + 6^2 - 2(7)(6)\cos 120^\circ = 127$$

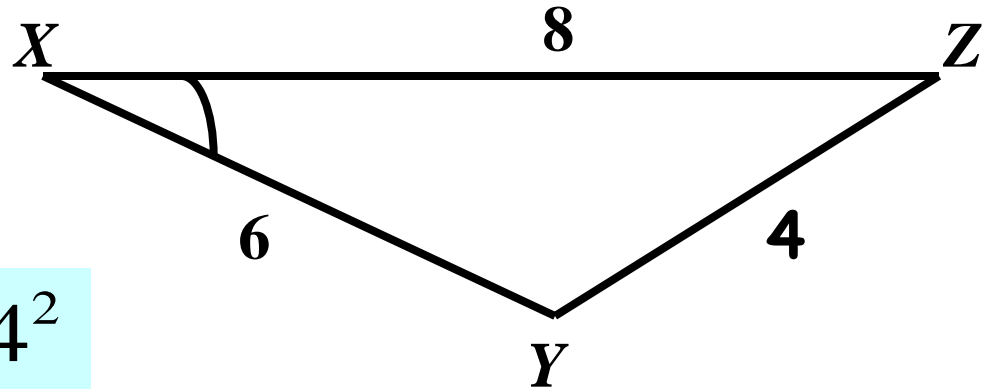
$$\therefore p = 11,3 \text{ (1 decimal accuracy)}$$

Applications of the Cosine Rule - Example 2

Find $\angle X$ in the $\triangle XYZ$

Solution: Use the Cosine Rule

$$\cos X = \frac{y^2 + z^2 - x^2}{2yz}$$



$$\Rightarrow \cos X = \frac{8^2 + 6^2 - 4^2}{2(8)(6)}$$

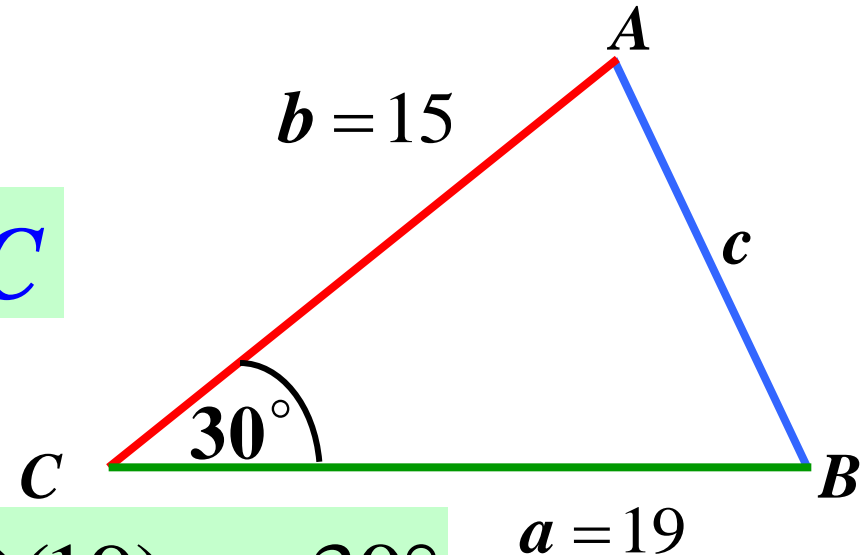
$$\Rightarrow X = 29,0^\circ \text{ (1 dec)}$$

Applications of the Cosine Rule – Example 3

Find side c and $\angle B$ in the given $\triangle ABC$.

Cosine rule:

$$c^2 = b^2 + a^2 - 2ba \cos C$$



$$\Rightarrow c^2 = 15^2 + 19^2 - 2(15)(19) \cos 30^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 9,61 \text{ (2 decimal places)}$$

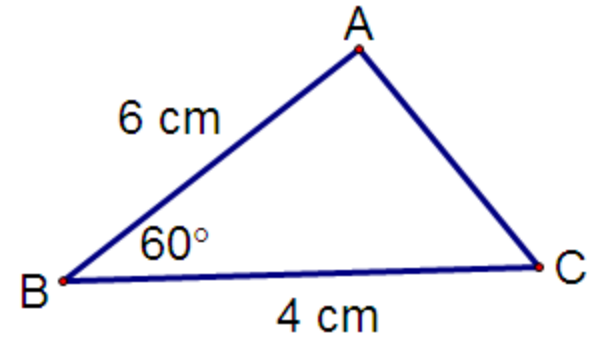
Sine rule:

$$\frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c} \Rightarrow \sin B = \frac{15 \sin 30^\circ}{9,61}$$

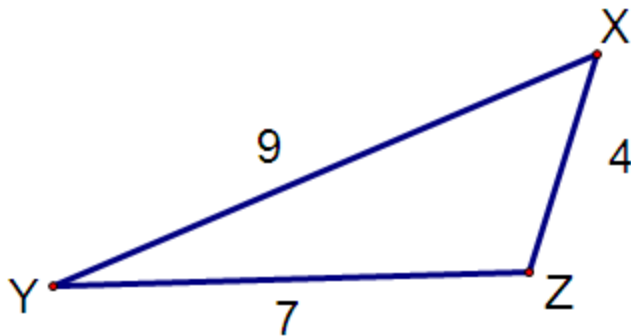
$$\Rightarrow B = 51,3^\circ \text{ (1 dec.)}$$

Tutorial 3: Cosine Rule

1. Given $\triangle ABC$ with $AB = 6$ cm; $BC = 4$ cm and $\angle ABC = 60^\circ$. Find AC correct to 2 decimal digits.



2. Find all the angles in $\triangle XYZ$, giving your answers to one decimal place accuracy.



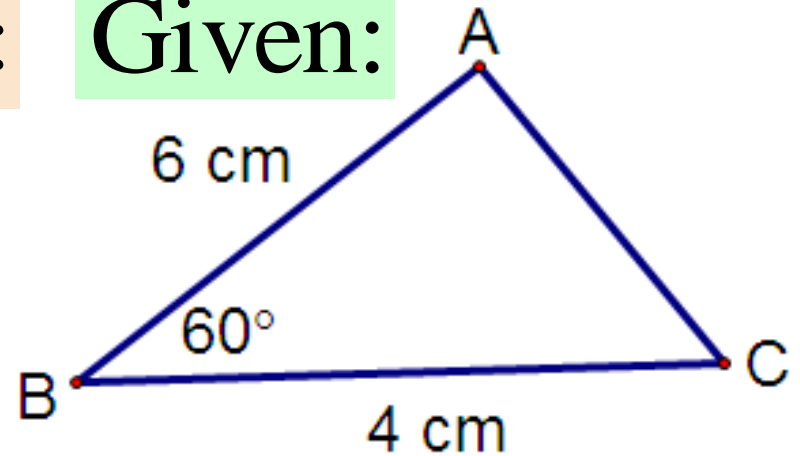
PAUSE DVD

- Do Tutorial 3
- Then View Solutions

Tutorial 3: Problem 1: Cosine Rule: Solution

Find AC (2 dec accuracy):

Given:



$$AC^2 = BC^2 + AB^2 - 2(BC)(AB)\cos \angle ABC$$

$$= 4^2 + 6^2 - 2(4)(6)\cos 60^\circ$$

$$= 28$$

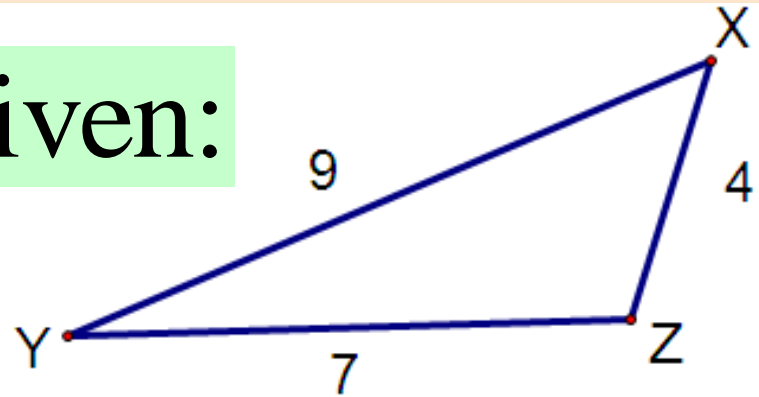
$$\therefore AC = \sqrt{28} = 5,29 \text{ cm}$$

Tutorial 3: Problem 2: Cosine Rule: Solution

Determine all angle measures of $\triangle XYZ$.

$$\cos X = \frac{y^2 + z^2 - x^2}{2yz}$$

Given:



$$\text{Hence } \cos X = \frac{4^2 + 9^2 - 7^2}{2(4)(9)} \Rightarrow X = 48,2^\circ$$

$$\text{Now } \frac{\sin X}{x} = \frac{\sin Y}{y} \Rightarrow \sin Y = \frac{y \sin X}{x} = \frac{4 \sin 48,2^\circ}{7}$$

$$\Rightarrow Y = 25,2^\circ$$

$$\text{Then } Z = 180^\circ - (X + Y) = 106,6^\circ$$

Lesson 4

Basic Applications: Problems in 2-D



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Problems in 2 – dimensions: Example 1

1. Points A and B are in the same horizontal plane as C , the foot of a vertical tower PC . $\angle B = 42^\circ$; $\angle PAC = 65^\circ$ and $AB = 25$ m. Calculate PC .

Sine rule:

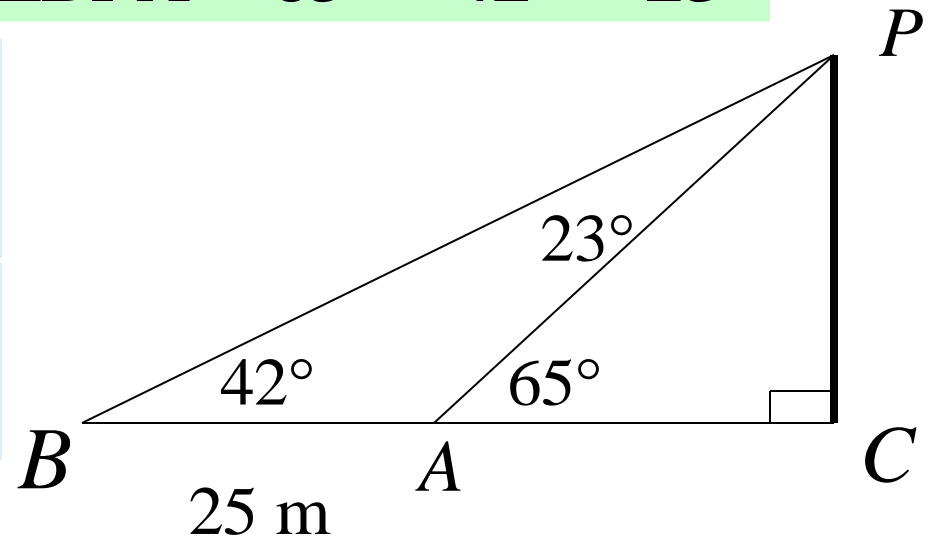
$$\angle BPA = 65^\circ - 42^\circ = 23^\circ$$

$$\frac{AP}{\sin 42^\circ} = \frac{25}{\sin 23^\circ}$$

$$\therefore AP = \frac{25 \sin 42^\circ}{\sin 23^\circ} = 42,81 \text{ m}$$

$$\sin 65^\circ = \frac{PC}{AP}$$

$$\therefore PC = AP \sin 65^\circ = 42,81 \sin 65^\circ = 38,8 \text{ m}$$



Problems in 2 – dimensions: Example 2

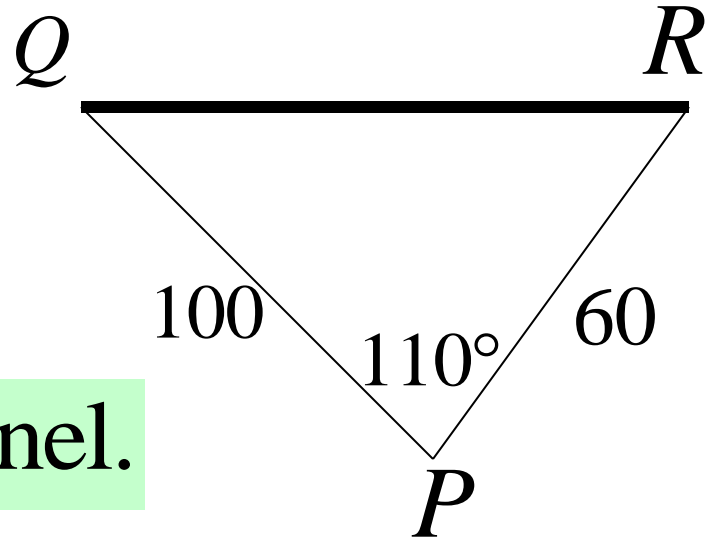
2. In the figure QR represents a proposed tunnel.
 Q and R are visible from a point P .

The three points are in the same plane.

Given:

$$QP = 100 \text{ m}; PR = 60 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{and } \angle QPR = 110^\circ$$



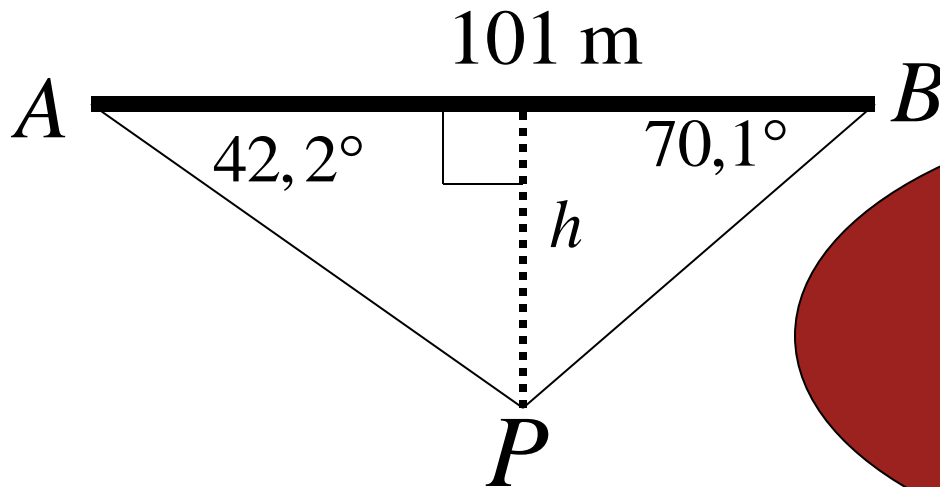
Calculate the length of tunnel.

$$QR^2 = 100^2 + 60^2 - 2(100)(60)\cos 110^\circ$$

$$\therefore QR = 133 \text{ m}$$

Tutorial 4: Part 1: Problems in 2-D

1. From the ends of a bridge AB , 101 metres long, the angles of depression of a point P on the ground directly under the bridge is $42,2^\circ$ and $70,1^\circ$. Find the height, h , of the bridge under this point.

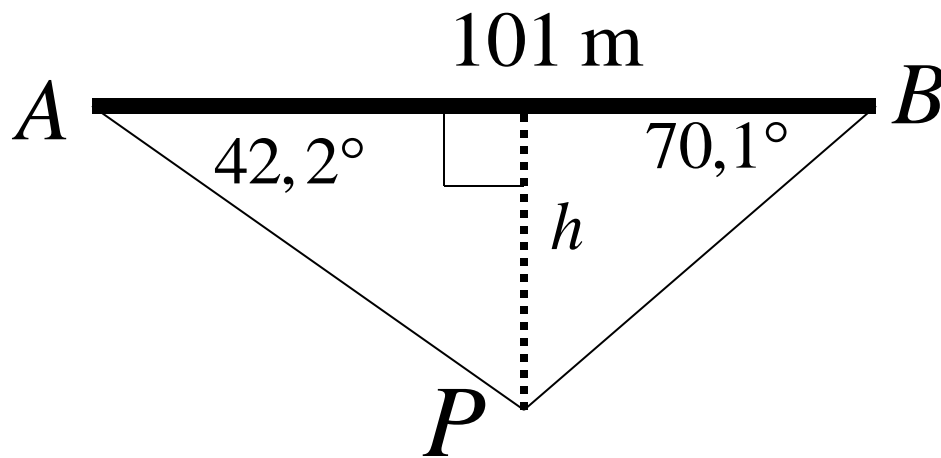


PAUSE DVD

- Do Tutorial 4 Part 1
- Then View Solutions

Tutorial 4: Part 1: Suggested Solution

Question: Find h



$$\angle APB = 180^\circ - (42,2^\circ + 70,1^\circ) = 67,7^\circ$$

$$\frac{AP}{\sin 70,1^\circ} = \frac{101}{\sin 67,7^\circ} \Rightarrow AP = \frac{101 \text{ m} \times \sin 70,1^\circ}{\sin 67,7^\circ}$$

$$\therefore AP = 102,65 \text{ m} \quad \text{But } \sin 42,2^\circ = \frac{h}{102,65}$$

$$\therefore h = 102,65 \times \sin 42,2^\circ = 68,95 \text{ m}$$

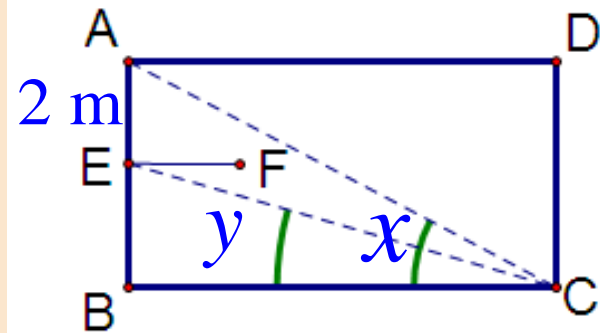
Tutorial 4: Part 2: Problems in 2-D

2. $ABCD$ is a wall of a room, AD being the line of the ceiling. EF is a picture rail, with E being directly below A .

$AE = 2$ metres; $\angle ACB = x$ and $\angle ECB = y$

(a) Prove that $EC = \frac{2 \cos x}{\sin(x - y)}$

(b) Find the length and height of the wall if $x = 33^\circ$ and $y = 20^\circ$



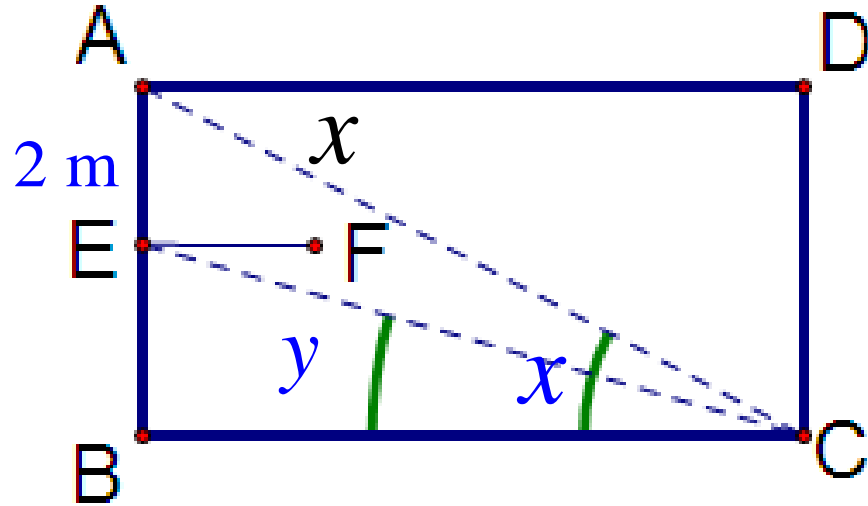
PAUSE DVD

- Do Tutorial 4 Part 2
- Then View Solutions

Tutorial 4: Part 2(a) Solution

2(a) Prove that

$$EC = \frac{2 \cos x}{\sin(x - y)}$$



Now $\angle ACE = x - y$ and $\angle CAD = x$

Hence, $\angle CAE = 90^\circ - x$

From $\triangle AEC$:

$$\frac{EC}{\sin(90^\circ - x)} = \frac{2}{\sin(x - y)}$$

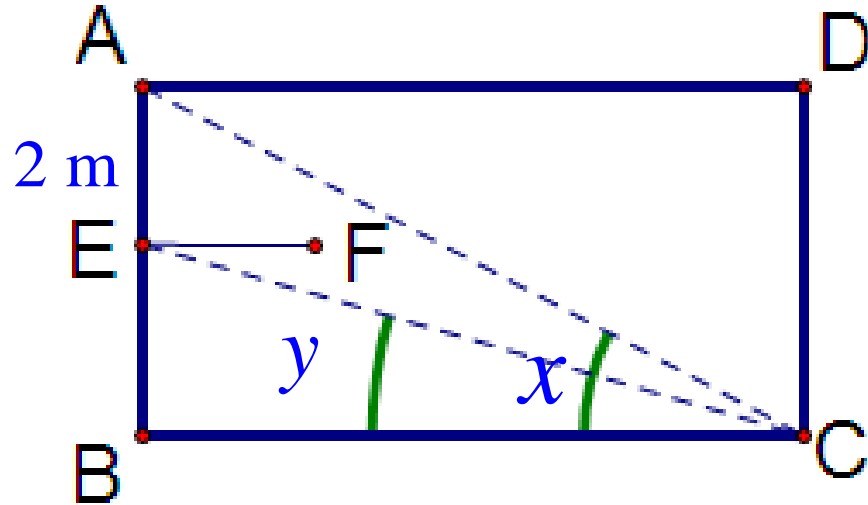
$$\therefore EC = \frac{2 \sin(90^\circ - x)}{\sin(x - y)} = \frac{2 \cos x}{\sin(x - y)}$$

Tutorial 4: Part 2: Length of room

Know:

$$EC = \frac{2 \cos x}{\sin(x - y)}$$

$$x = 33^\circ \text{ and } y = 20^\circ$$



$$EC = \frac{2 \cos 33^\circ}{\sin 13^\circ} = 7,46 \text{ m}$$

$$\cos y = \frac{BC}{EC} \Rightarrow BC = EC \times \cos y$$

$$\therefore \text{Length of room} = BC = 7,46 \text{ m} \times \cos 20^\circ \\ = 7,01 \text{ m}$$

End of the DVD on Sine, Cosine and Area Rules

REMEMBER!

- Consult text-books for additional examples.
- Attempt as many as possible other similar examples on your own.
- Compare your methods with those that were discussed in the DVD.
- Repeat this procedure until you are confident.
- Do not forget:

Practice makes perfect!