

## After watching the video, Law of Sines, complete the following problems.

 Draw, as best you can, a triangle with side b=10, side c = 3, and angle C = 11°. Compute measures of angles A and B and length of side a. (NOTE: There are actually TWO such triangles!)



 $\frac{3}{\sin 11} = \frac{a}{\sin 28.5}$  $a = \frac{3 \cdot \sin 28.5}{\sin 11}$  $a \approx 7.5$ 





2. We have a triangle with side a = 100, and angle  $A = 50^{\circ}$ . Find a value of b for which there are two triangles (as in example 1). Find a value of b for which there are *no* possible triangles.

There are many answers to this question. If  $b < 100/\sin 50^\circ$ , there will be two possible triangles. If  $b > 100/\sin 50^\circ$ , there are no possible triangles.

- 3. The Law of Cosines is used to find missing angle measures and lengths of sides in any triangle. The Law of Cosines states:  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2 2ac\cos C$ 
  - a. What happens to the Law of Cosines in the case of a right triangle, if angle C is the right angle?

The result is the Pythagorean Theorem.



b. -2ab cos C can be thought of an "adjustment" to the Pythagorean Theorem. If angle C is obtuse, how does the length of side c compare to the length of side c in a right triangle?

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If angle C is obtuse, then the cosine of the angle will be negative. This means that negative 2ab is multiplied by a negative value giving a positive value. Side c will then be the length of  $a^2 + b^2$  plus some additional length.





c. If angle C is acute, how does the length of side c compare to the length of side c in a right triangle?



If angle C is acute, then the cosine of the angle will be positive. This means that negative 2ab is multiplied by a positive value resulting in a negative value. Side c will then be the length of  $a^2 + b^2$  minus some length.

4. Two planes are refueling at the same time. The distance from plane A to the refueling plane is 100 ft. The distance from plane B to the refueling plane is 150ft. The angle that the separates the two planes receiving fuel is approximately 45°. How far apart are plane A and plane B?



