

Recall:

For any angle  $\theta$  in standard position, where the terminal arm passes through the point  $(x, y)$ :

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r} \quad \cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} \quad \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x} \quad \text{where: } r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

For angles in Q1 and Q2,

$$\sin \theta = \sin(180^\circ - \theta)$$

- ambiguous  
- two angles give  
the same value  
for sine

$$\cos \theta = -\cos(180^\circ - \theta)$$

or

$$-\cos \theta = \cos(180^\circ - \theta)$$

- unambiguous  
- all angles give unique  
values for cosine

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## Sine Law & Ambiguous Case

Apr. 27/2011

In the x-y plane, trig ratios are expressed in terms of x, y, and r.

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r} \quad \cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} \quad \text{where: } r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

Since  $\sin \theta$  is positive for both acute ( $0^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$ ) and obtuse ( $90^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$ ), there are two angles that yield the same answer for  $\sin \theta$ .

For example,

$$\begin{aligned} \sin 30^\circ &= 0.5 \\ \sin 150^\circ &= 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

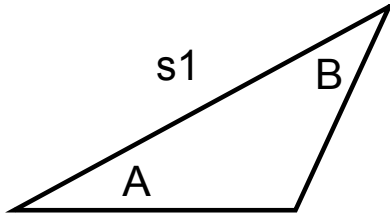
Given  $\sin \theta = 0.5$ , how can we choose between  $30^\circ$  and  $150^\circ$ ?

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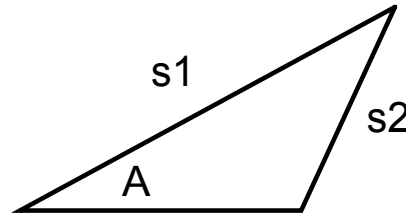
## Recall: The Sine Law

The sine law is generally used when we have an oblique (non-right) triangle and:

(a) two angles and the enclosed side (ASA)



(b) two sides and a non-enclosed angle (SSA)



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When we solve for any angle using the sine law, we must consider two possible angles, one acute and one obtuse.

Common sense will often allow us to determine which answer is appropriate. For example:

- interior angles must add to  $180^\circ$
- longer sides correspond to larger angles

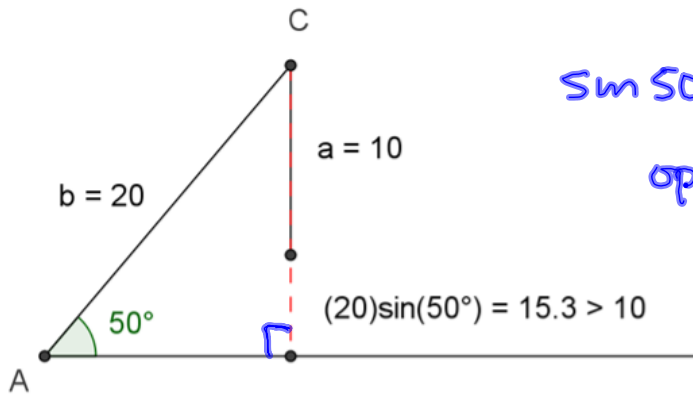
With SSA, it is possible to encounter three situations:

- no solution - a triangle cannot be formed from the data
- one solution - a single triangle is possible
- two solutions - two valid triangles can be formed

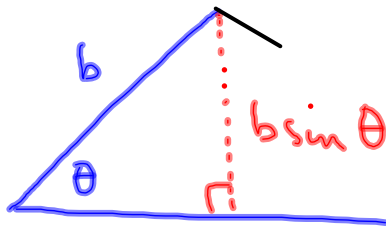
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For acute triangles ( $A < 90^\circ$ ):

Case 1:  $a < b \sin A$ , too short, no triangle



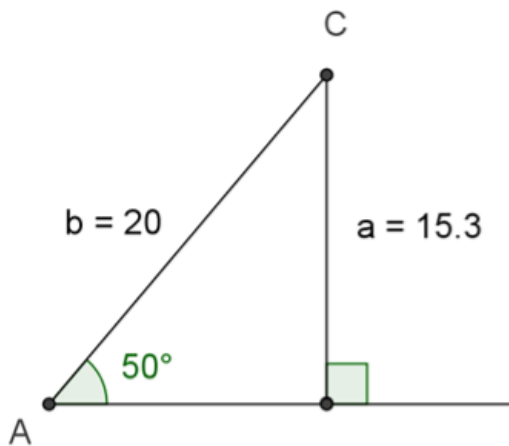
$$\sin 50^\circ = \frac{\text{opp}}{20}$$
$$\text{opp} = 20 \sin 50^\circ$$



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For acute triangles ( $A < 90^\circ$ ):

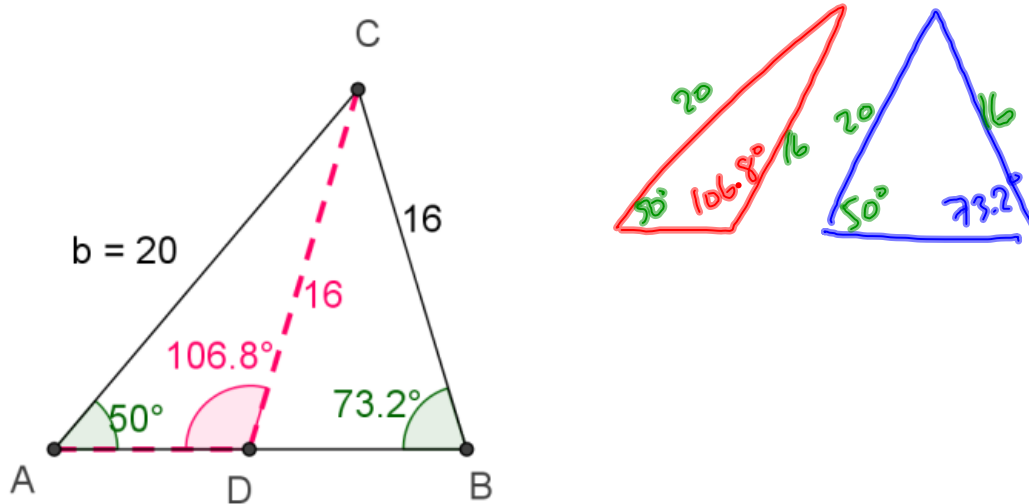
Case 2:  $a = b \sin A$ , right angle, one solution



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For acute triangles ( $A < 90^\circ$ ):

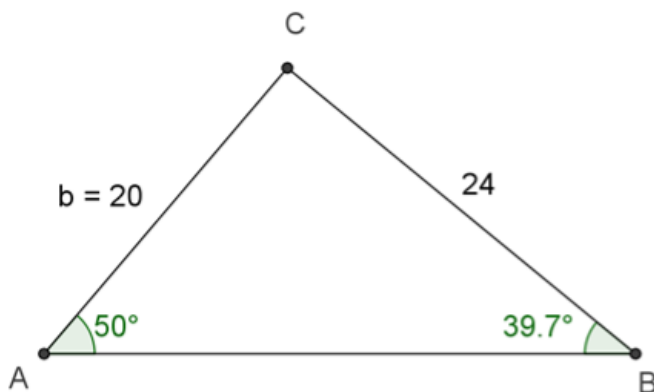
Case 3:  $a > b \sin A$  and  $a < b$ , two valid solutions



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For acute triangles ( $A < 90^\circ$ ):

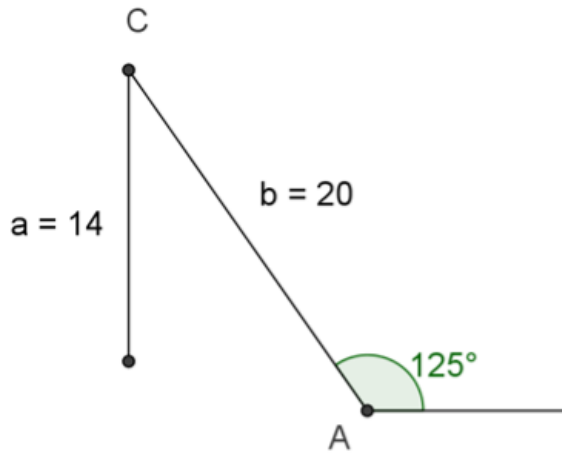
Case 4:  $a \geq b$ , one solution



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For obtuse triangles ( $A > 90^\circ$ ):

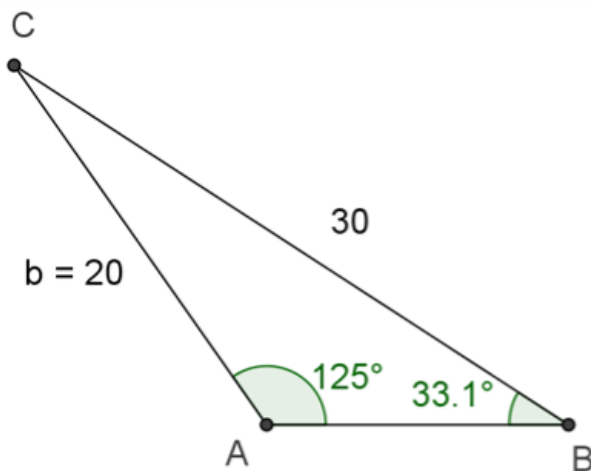
Case 1:  $a \leq b$ , too short, no triangle



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For obtuse triangles ( $A > 90^\circ$ ):

Case 2:  $a > b$ , one solution



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## Summary:

For acute triangles ( $A < 90^\circ$ ):

Case 1:  $a < b \sin A$ , too short, no solution

Case 2:  $a = b \sin A$ , right angle, one solution

Case 3:  $a > b \sin A$  and  $a < b$ , two valid solutions

Case 4:  $a \geq b$ , one solution

For obtuse triangles ( $A > 90^\circ$ ):

Case 1:  $a \leq b$ , too short, no solution

Case 2:  $a > b$ , one solution

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## Assigned Work:

✓ Review Ex. 1 & 2 from p.303  
p.308 # 1ace, 2ace, 3ceg, 4, 8, 13, 15

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(c)

$$\frac{\sin B}{66} = \frac{\sin 10.5^\circ}{25}$$

$$\sin B = \frac{66 \sin 10.5^\circ}{25}$$

$$B = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{66 \sin 10.5^\circ}{25} \right)$$

$$B = 28.757^\circ \quad \text{or} \quad B = 180^\circ - 28.757^\circ$$

$$B = 151.243^\circ \quad \checkmark$$

$$y = 180^\circ - 28.757^\circ - 10.5^\circ = 140.743^\circ \quad \text{not possible}$$

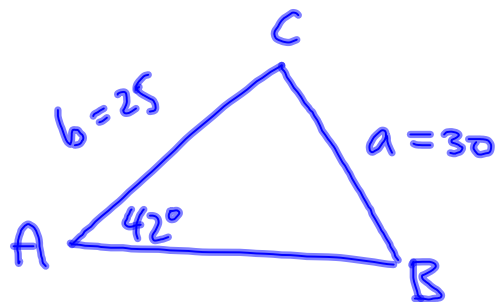
$$y = 180^\circ - 151.243^\circ - 10.5^\circ = 18.257^\circ \quad \checkmark$$

$$x = 180^\circ - 140.743^\circ = 39.257^\circ$$

$$x = 180^\circ - 18.257^\circ = 161.743^\circ \quad \checkmark$$

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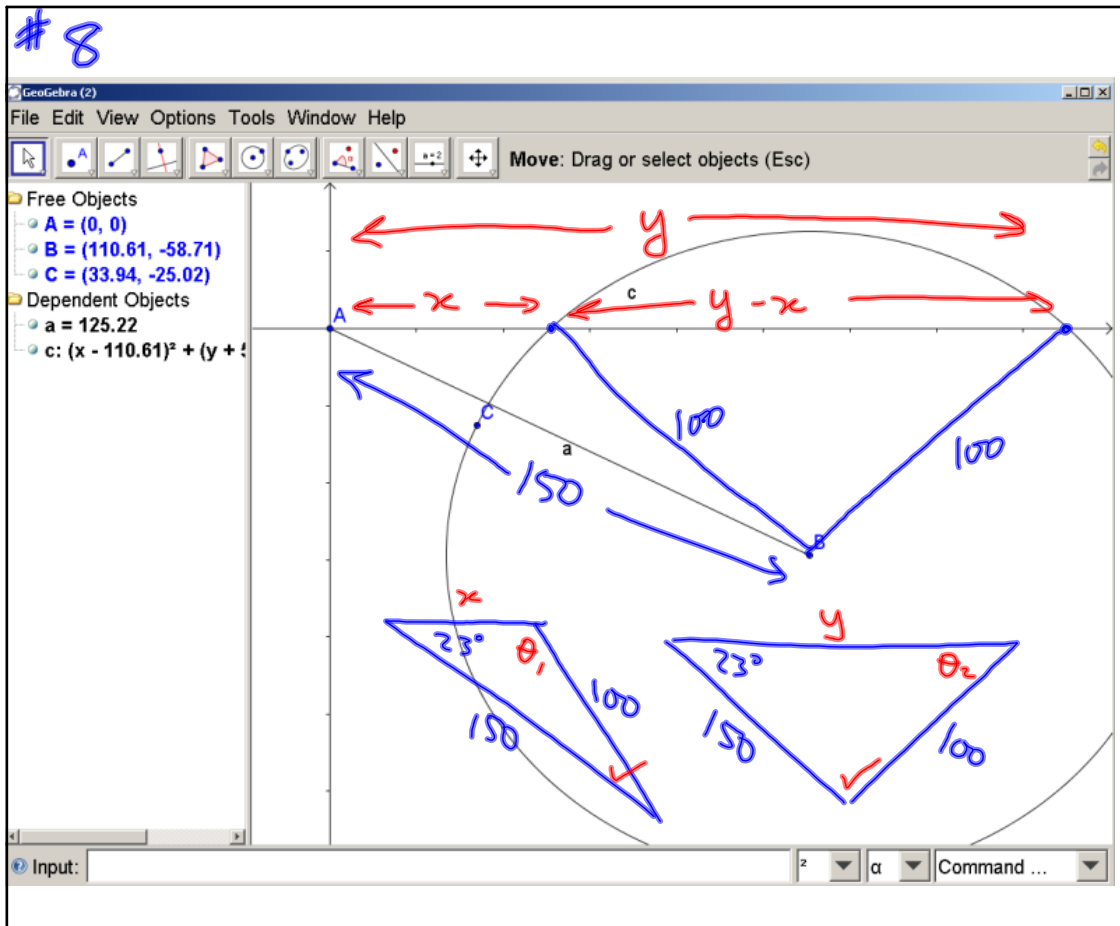
2(a)  $\triangle ABC$   $\angle A = 42^\circ$   $a = 30$   $b = 25$



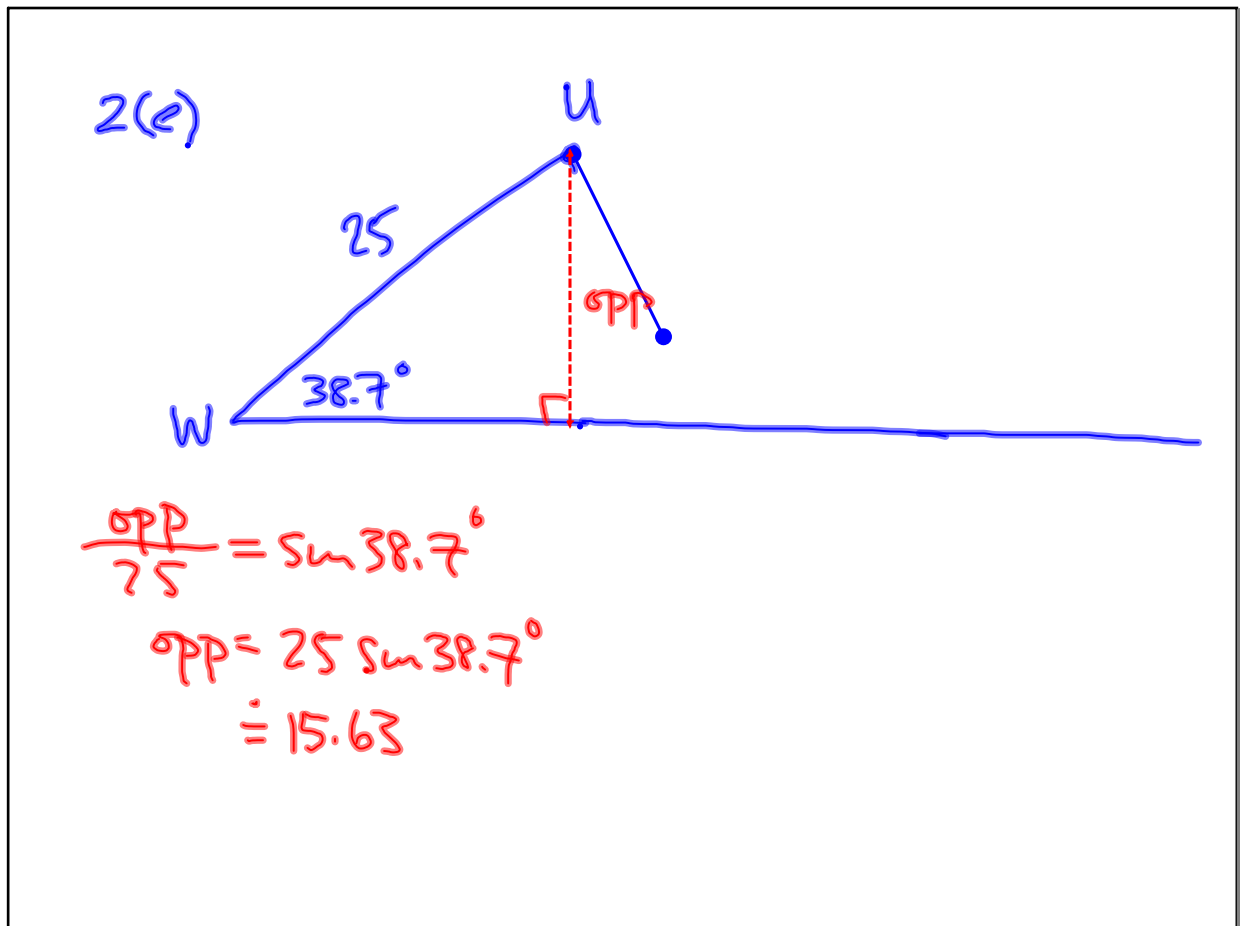
$a \geq b$   
one solution

$$\frac{\sin B}{25} = \frac{\sin 42^\circ}{30}$$

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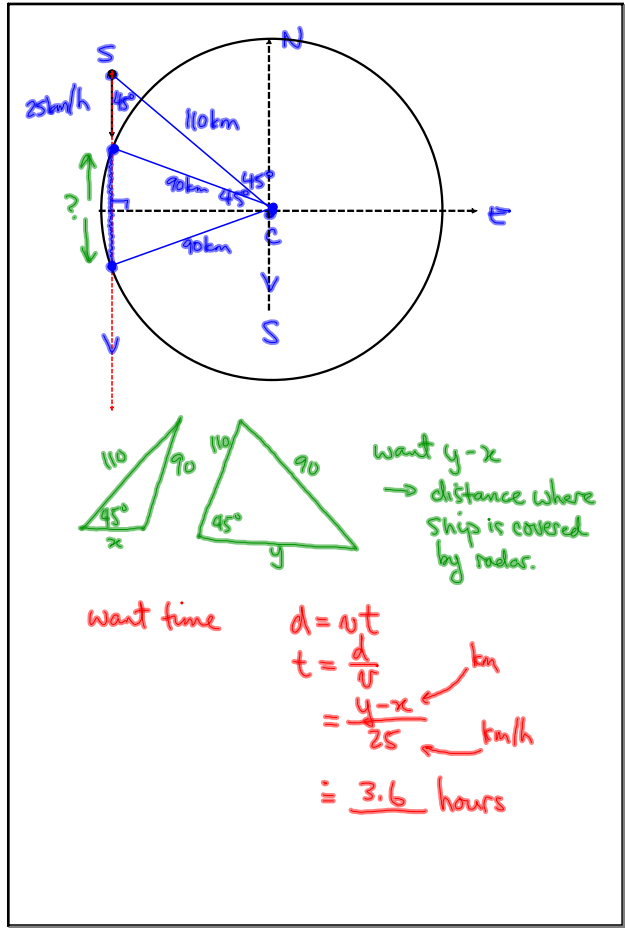


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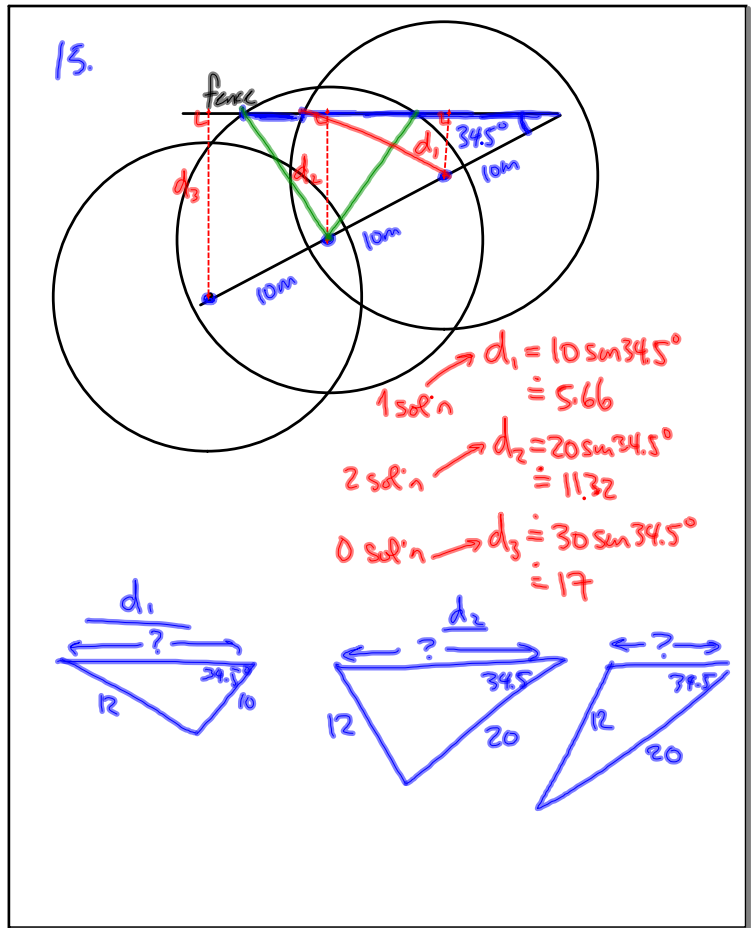


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Apr 29-10:32 AM



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