

Section 7.1

Oblique Triangles and the Law of Sines

CONGRUENCY

Congruence Axioms

SAS Side-Angle-Side	If two sides and the included angle of one triangle are equal to two sides and the included angle of another triangle, then the triangles are congruent.
ASA Angle-Side-Angle	If two angles and the included side of one triangle are equal to two angles and the included side of a second triangle, then the triangles are congruent.
SSS Side-Side-Side	If three sides of one triangle are equal to three sides of a second triangle, then the triangles are congruent.

In this section we will learn how to solve *oblique* triangles. An oblique triangle is a triangle that is *not* a right triangle. With right triangles given any 2 pieces of information (not *both* angles) then we can find all other possible sides and angles. We would like to be able to do the same with oblique triangles.

Law of Sines

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

LAW OF SINES PROBLEMS

Problem 1. Solve for triangle ABC if $A = 28.8^\circ$, $C = 102.6^\circ$, and $c = 25.3$ in.

Problem 2. Kurt Daniels wishes to measure the distance across the Gasconade River. He determines that $C = 117.2^\circ$, $A = 28.8^\circ$, and $b = 75.6$ ft. Find the distance a across the river.

Problem 3. The bearing of a lighthouse from a ship was found to be N 52° W. After the ship sailed 5.8 km due south, the new bearing was N 23° W. Find the distance to, to the nearest kilometer, between the ship and the lighthouse at each location.

AREA OF A TRIANGLE

Area of a Triangle

The area of a triangle ABC is given by any one of the following formulas:

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2}bc \sin A, \quad \text{Area} = \frac{1}{2}ab \sin C, \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Area} = \frac{1}{2}ac \sin B$$

Problem 4. Find the area of a triangle DEF where $f = 9.0$ ft, $d = 12$ ft and $E = 127^\circ$.

Problem 5. Find the area of a triangle ABC if $B = 58^\circ 10'$, $a = 32.5$ cm, and $C = 73^\circ 30'$.