

# Math 461 Lecture 23 10/26

Announcements:

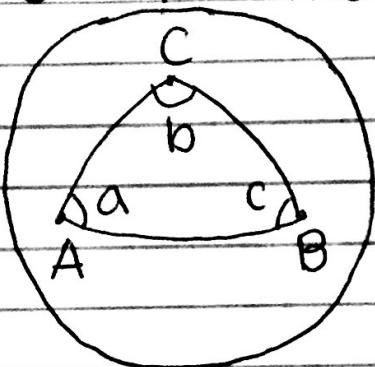
Homework 5 available.

Due at start of Wednesday's (10/31) class.

Midterm exams will be returned on Monday.

Last time:

$$a+b+c = \pi + \text{Area}(\triangle ABC)$$

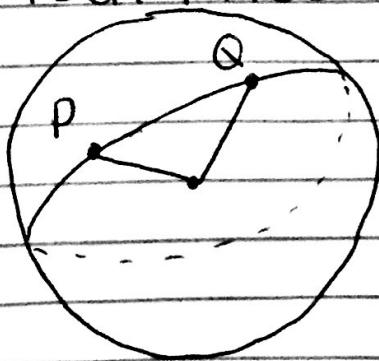


Today:

spherical cosine rule  $\Rightarrow$

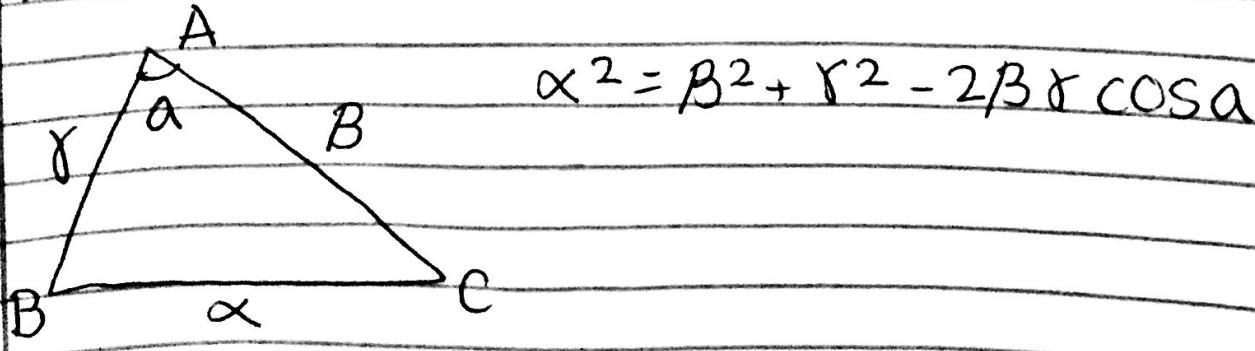
spherical triangle inequality  $\Rightarrow$

spherical lines give shortest paths



spherical cosine rule:

review Euclidean cosine rule:

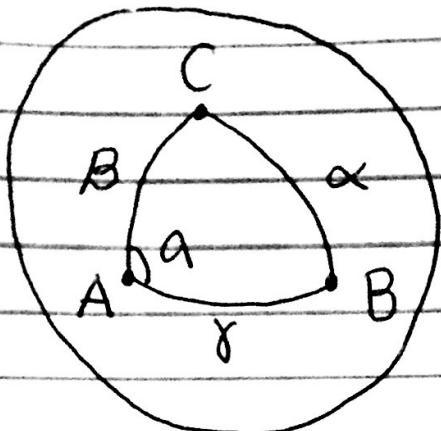


A hand-drawn diagram of a Euclidean triangle ABC. The interior angles are labeled  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  at vertices A, B, and C respectively. The side opposite angle  $\alpha$  is labeled 'a', the side opposite angle  $\beta$  is labeled 'b', and the side opposite angle  $\gamma$  is labeled 'c'. To the right of the triangle, the Euclidean cosine rule is written as  $\alpha^2 = \beta^2 + \gamma^2 - 2\beta\gamma \cos a$ .

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Spherical cosine rule:

$$\cos \alpha = \cos \beta \cos \gamma + \sin \beta \sin \gamma \cos a$$

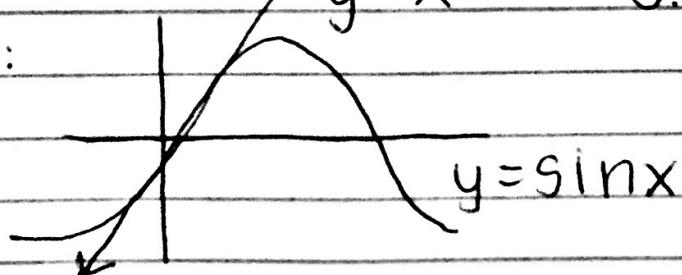


for  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  small  $\rightsquigarrow$   
can reduce to the  
Euclidean cosine rule

approximate  $\sin x \approx x$

taylor series:  $\sin x = \boxed{x} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} \dots$

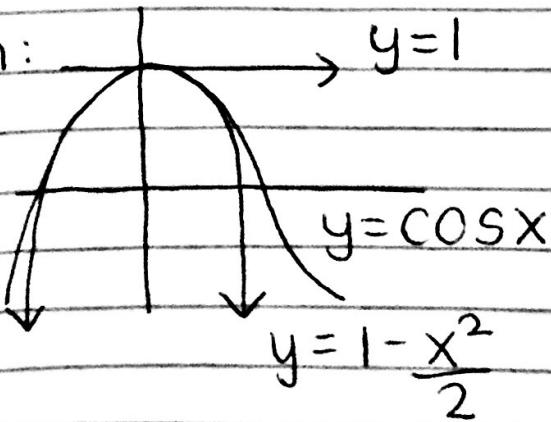
graph:



approximate  $\cos x \approx 1 - \frac{x^2}{2}$

taylor series:  $\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} \dots$

graph:



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For  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  small:

$$\cos \alpha = \cos \beta \cos \gamma + \sin \beta \sin \gamma \cos \alpha$$

$$1 - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \approx \left(1 - \frac{\beta^2}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\gamma^2}{2}\right) + \beta \gamma \cos \alpha$$

$$1 - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \approx 1 - \frac{\beta^2}{2} - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} + \frac{\beta^2 \gamma^2}{4} + \beta \gamma \cos \alpha$$

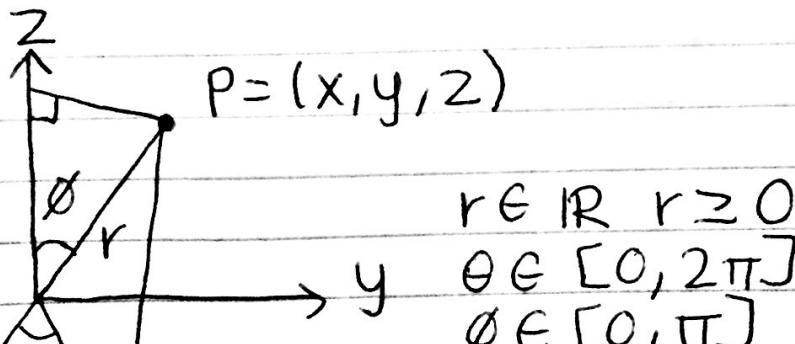
$\beta, \gamma$  very small

$$1 - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \approx -\frac{\beta^2}{2} - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} + \beta \gamma \cos \alpha$$

Multiply by -2

$$\alpha^2 \approx \beta^2 + \gamma^2 - 2\beta \gamma \cos \alpha \quad \checkmark$$

Spherical Polar coordinates: (233?)



$$(x, y, z) = (r \sin \phi \cos \theta, r \sin \phi \sin \theta, r \cos \phi)$$

we are working on  $S^2$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1, r=1$$

so for  $P \in S^2$

$$P = (\sin \phi \cos \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \phi)$$

PROOF OF SCR (spherical cosine rule):

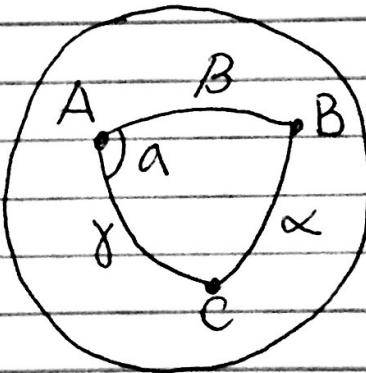
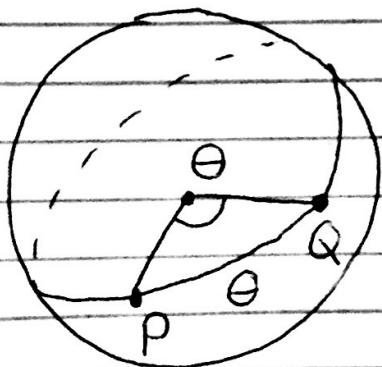
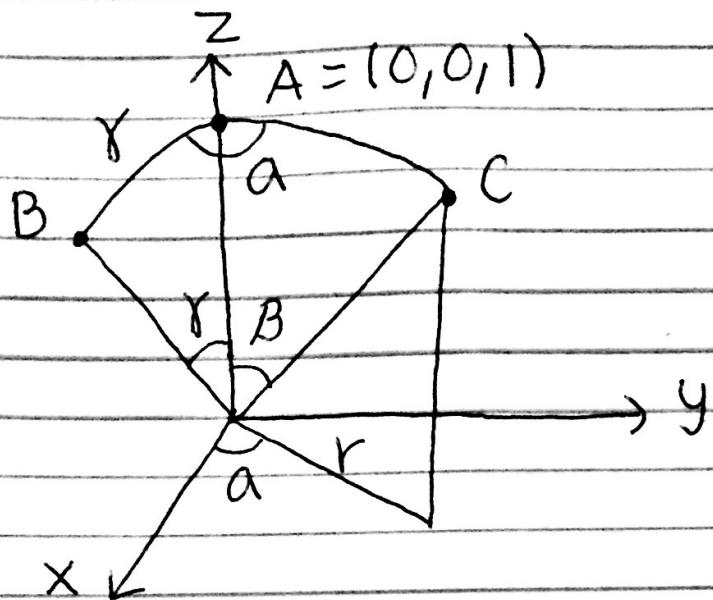
$$\cos \alpha = \cos \beta \cos \gamma + \sin \beta \sin \gamma \cos \alpha$$

choose spherical coordinates

we may assume while choosing coordinates appropriately that

$A = (0, 0, 1)$  and  $B$  lies in the  $xz$  plane

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$$A = (0, 0, 1)$$

$$B = (\sin \alpha, 0, \cos \alpha)$$

$$C = (\sin \beta \cos \alpha, \sin \beta \sin \alpha, \cos \beta)$$

spherical coordinates for A, B, C

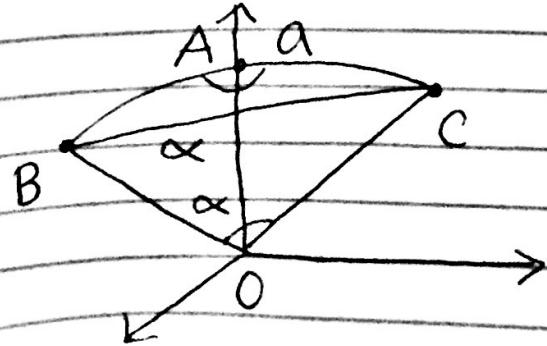
A:  $\theta$  undefined and  $\phi = 0$

B:  $\theta = 0$  and  $\phi = \alpha$

$$B = (\sin \alpha, 0, \cos \alpha)$$

C:  $\theta = \alpha$  and  $\phi = \beta$

$$C = (\sin \beta \cos \alpha, \sin \beta \sin \alpha, \cos \beta)$$

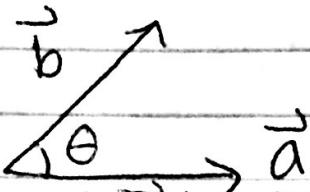


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$$\mathbf{B} = (\sin \delta, 0, \cos \delta)$$

$$\mathbf{C} = (\sin \beta \cos \alpha, \sin \beta \sin \alpha, \cos \beta)$$

there is some formula for  $\cos \alpha$   
recall:  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta$



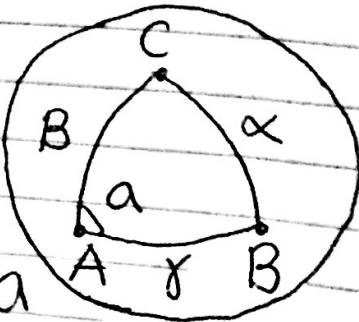
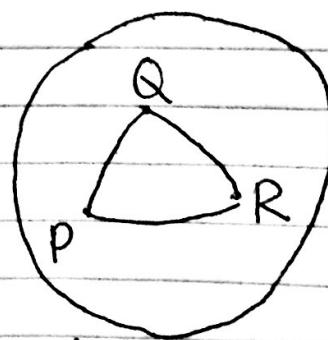
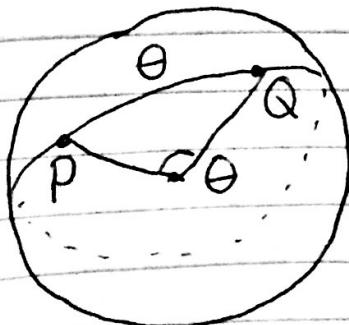
$$\overrightarrow{OB} \cdot \overrightarrow{OC} = |\overrightarrow{OB}| \cdot |\overrightarrow{OC}| \cos \alpha = (1)(1) \cos \alpha = \cos \alpha$$

$$\cos \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \alpha \\ 0 \\ \cos \delta \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \sin \beta \cos \alpha \\ \sin \beta \sin \alpha \\ \cos \beta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \sin \delta \sin \beta \cos \alpha + \cos \delta \cos \beta \quad \square$$

Spherical Triangle Inequality:

Spherical distance  $d(P, Q)$  is the length of shorter arc of spherical line through  $P$  and  $Q$  which is  $\theta$



$$d(P, R) \leq d(P, Q) + d(Q, R)$$

switch notation:

$$d(B, C) \leq d(B, A) + d(A, C)$$

spherical cosine rule:

$$\cos \alpha = \cos \beta \cos \delta + \sin \beta \sin \delta \cos \alpha$$

i.e.  $\alpha \leq \beta + \gamma$

question: what is  $\cos(\beta + \gamma)$ ?

$$\cos(\beta + \gamma) = \cos \beta \cos \gamma - \sin \beta \sin \gamma$$