```
% Homework 7, Problem 3
% Will McClain
% EGR 101-01
% Due: 3/28/23
clear;clc;close all; % housekeeping
% law of cosines
% c^2 = a^2+b^2-2abcos(C)
% D = sqrt(L1^2+L2^2-2*L1*L2.*cos(pi-alpha rads-beta rads))
% law of sines
% \sin(A) / a = \sin(B) / b
% sin(beta rads)./L2 = sin(alpha rads)./L1
% beta rads = asin(sin(alpha rads).*L2./L1)
% D formula
% D = sqrt(L1^2+L2^2-2*L1*L2.*cos(pi-alpha rads-asin(sin(alpha rads).*L2./L1)))
% alpha goes from full extended at alpha=0 to fully retracted at alpha=pi
alpha_rads = linspace(0, pi, 1000);
% constants
L1 = 1;
L2 = 0.5;
% the secret formuler
D = \operatorname{sqrt}(L1^2+L2^2-2*L1*L2.*\cos(\operatorname{pi-alpha\_rads-asin}(\sin(\operatorname{alpha\_rads}).*L2./L1)));
% plot it lmao
plot(alpha rads, D);
title("Piston distance vs. \alpha angle, L 1 = 1ft, L 2 = 0.5ft");
xlabel("\alpha (rad)");
ylabel("D (ft)");
```