

10.2 Law of Cosines

LAW OF COSINES

SSS \rightarrow find angle

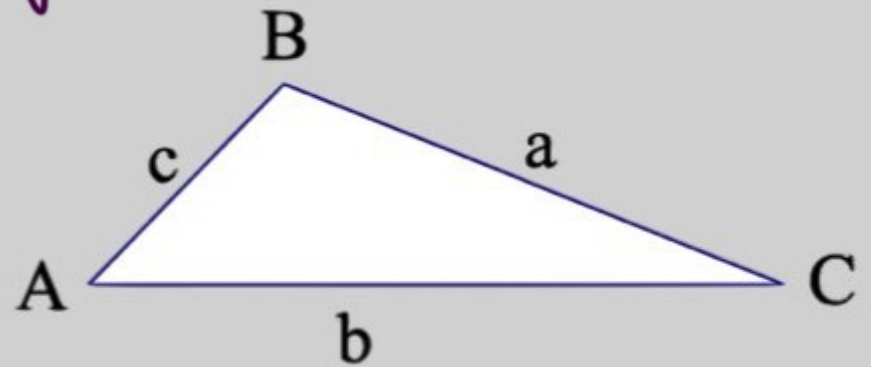
SAS \rightarrow find side

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$$



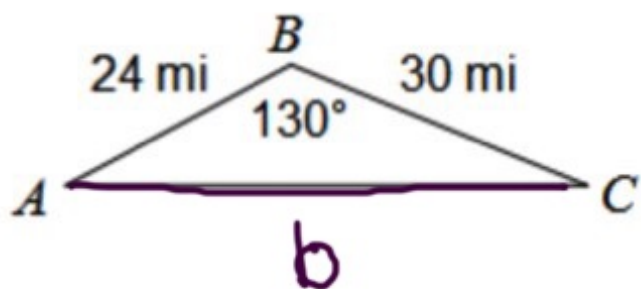
opposite angle/side are on

opposite sides of the equation



*you will always
be solving for one
of these

N. Find AC.



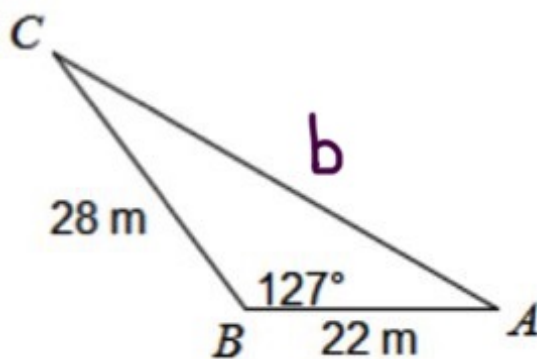
$$b^2 = 24^2 + 30^2 - 2(24)(30)\cos 130^\circ$$

Plug into calculator on
a single line

$$\sqrt{b^2} = \sqrt{2401.61}$$

$$b = 49.01 \text{ mi}$$

O. Find AC.

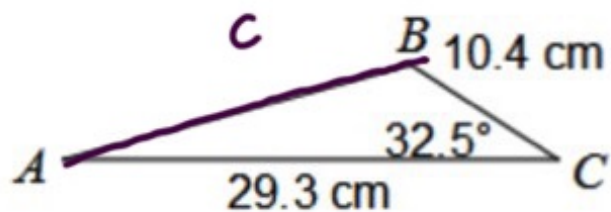


$$b^2 = 28^2 + 22^2 - 2(28)(22)\cos 127^\circ$$

$$\sqrt{b^2} = \sqrt{2009.44}$$

$$b = 44.83$$

P. Find AB.

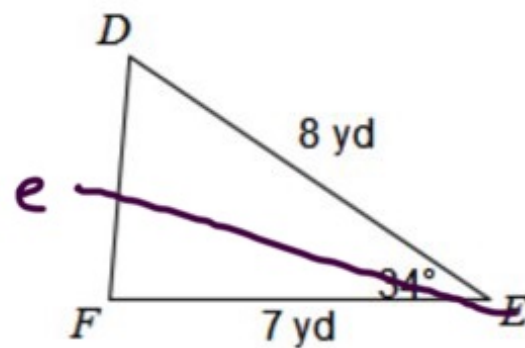


$$C^2 = 10.4^2 + 29.3^2 - 2(29.3)(10.4)\cos 32.5^\circ$$

$$\sqrt{C^2} = \sqrt{452.65}$$

$$C = 21.28 \text{ cm}$$

Q. Find DF.

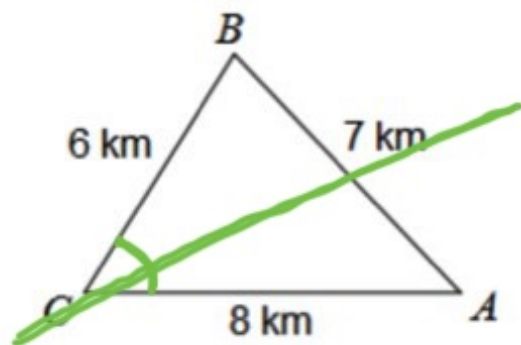


$$e^2 = 7^2 + 8^2 - 2(7)(8)\cos 34^\circ$$

$$\sqrt{e^2} = \sqrt{20.15}$$

$$e = 4.49 \text{ yd}$$

R. Find $m\angle C$.



$$7^2 = 6^2 + 8^2 - 2(6)(8)\cos C$$

$$49 = 100 - 96 \cos C$$

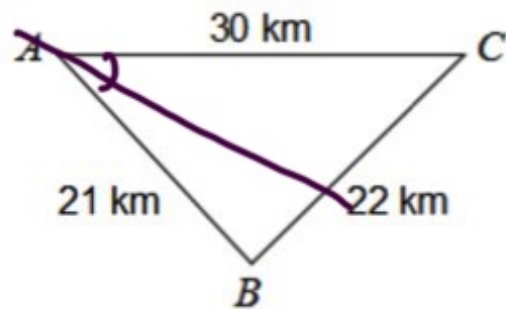
-100 -100

$$\frac{-51}{-96} = \frac{-96 \cos C}{-96}$$

$$\cos^{-1}(\cos C) = \cos^{-1}(0.531)$$

$$C = 58^\circ$$

S. Find $m\angle A$.



$$22^2 = 21^2 + 30^2 - 2(21)(30)\cos A$$

$$484 = 1341 - 1260 \cos A$$

-1341 -1341

$$\frac{-857}{-1260} = \frac{-1260 \cos A}{-1260}$$

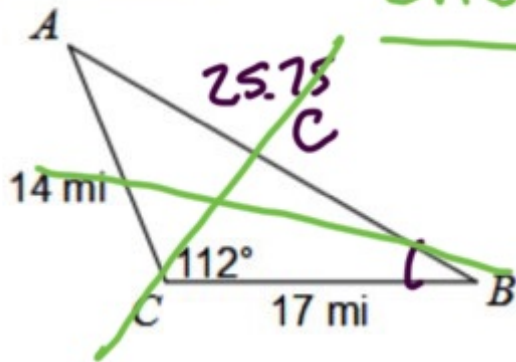
$$\cos^{-1}(\cos C) = \cos^{-1}(0.68)$$

$$C = 47^\circ$$

EXAMPLE

Use the Law of Sines AND the Law of Cosines to find each measure indicated. If there is not enough information, write NEI.

T. Find $m\angle B$.



SAS \rightarrow use cosines to find c

$$c^2 = 14^2 + 17^2 - 2(14)(17)\cos 112^\circ$$
$$\sqrt{c^2} = \sqrt{663.61}$$

$$c = 25.75 \text{ mi}$$

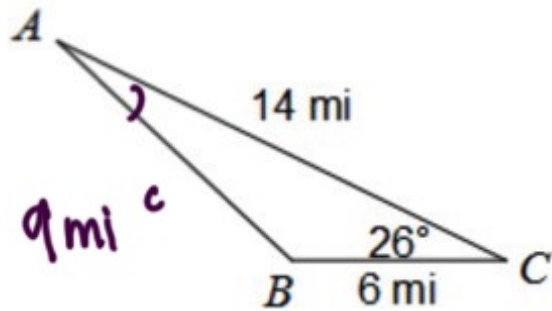
Use sines to find $\angle B$

$$\frac{14 \sin B}{14} = \frac{\sin 112^\circ}{25.75} \cdot 14$$

$$\sin^{-1}(\sin B) = \sin^{-1}(0.504)$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{B = 30^\circ}$$

U. Find $m\angle A$.



$$c^2 = 6^2 + 14^2 - 2(6)(14) \cos 26^\circ$$

$$\sqrt{c^2} = \sqrt{81.00}$$

$$c = 9 \text{ mi}$$

$$\frac{6}{1} \cdot \frac{\sin A}{6} = \frac{\sin 26^\circ}{9} \cdot \frac{6}{1}$$

$$\cancel{\sin}(\sin A) = \overset{\sin}{(0.292)}$$

$$\boxed{A = 17^\circ}$$

LAW OF SINES

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

Find side

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

Find angle

LAW OF COSINES

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$$

Use when:

ASA } Find side
AAS }

SSA → find angle

Use when:

SSS → find angle

SAS → find side