

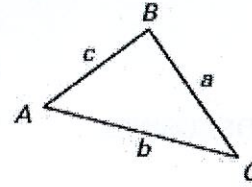
13.6 The Law of Cosines GUIDED NOTES

If  $\triangle ABC$  has sides of length  $a, b,$  and  $c$  as shown, then:

$$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

$$b^2 = a^2 + c^2 - 2ac \cos B$$

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



THE LAW OF COSINES

\*A, B, C represent angles and a, b, c represent sides

To solve a triangle when given two (2) sides and one angle:

- 1) Use Nsolve and the Law of Cosines to find side #3 and angle #2.
- 2) Use  $180 - \angle 1 - \angle 2$  to find angle #3.

$$C = 180 - 62 - 75$$

$$C = 43^\circ$$

1)

$A = 62^\circ, b = 56, c = 40$

$$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

$$a^2 = (56)^2 + (40)^2 - 2(56)(40) \cos(62^\circ)$$

$$b^2 = a^2 + c^2 - 2ac \cos B$$

$$(40)^2 = (51.31)^2 + (40)^2 - 2(51.31)(40) \cos B$$

$$a = 51.31$$

$$B = 75^\circ$$

2)

$B = 100^\circ, a = 12, c = 13$

$$b^2 = 12^2 + 13^2 - 2(12)(13) \cos(100^\circ)$$

$$12^2 = 19.16^2 + 13^2 - 2(19.16)(13) \cos(A^\circ)$$

$$b = 19.16$$

$$A = 38^\circ$$

$$C = 180 - 100 - 38$$

$$C = 42^\circ$$

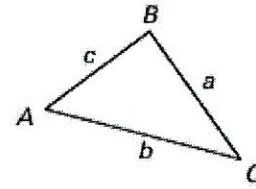
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**THE LAW OF COSINES**



\*A, B, C represent angles and a, b, c represent sides

To solve a triangle when given three (3) sides:

- 1) Use Nsolve and the Law of Cosines to find angles #1 and #2.
- 2) Use  $180 - \angle 1 - \angle 2$  to find angle #3.

3)

$$a = 39, b = 14, c = 27$$

$$39^2 = 14^2 + 27^2 - 2(14)(27)\cos(A^\circ) \quad \boxed{A = 142^\circ}$$

$$14^2 = 39^2 + 27^2 - 2(39)(27)\cos(B^\circ) \quad \boxed{B = 13^\circ}$$

$$C = 180 - A - B \quad C = 180 - 142 - 13$$

$$\boxed{C = 25^\circ}$$

4)

$$a = 19, b = 21, c = 13$$

$$19^2 = 21^2 + 13^2 - 2(21)(13)\cos(A^\circ) \quad \boxed{A = 63^\circ}$$

$$21^2 = 19^2 + 13^2 - 2(19)(13)\cos(B^\circ) \quad \boxed{B = 80^\circ}$$

$$C = 180 - A - B \quad C = 180 - 63 - 80$$

$$\boxed{C = 37^\circ}$$