

HOMEWORK...

Worksheet - Ambiguous Case.pdf

Do questions #1, 2 & 4

MEMORIZE!!!

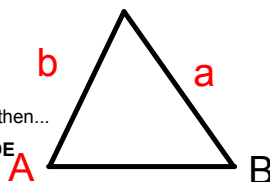
Criteria for the Ambiguous Case...

- Must be given SSA
- Given angle is acute
- $a < b$

*** If ALL 3 criteria are met, then...

CALCULATE THE ALTITUDE

$$\text{alt} = b \sin A$$



CASE 1: $a < \text{altitude}$; there is NO SOLUTION

CASE 2: $a = \text{altitude}$; there is ONE SOLUTION [Right Triangle]

CASE 3: $a > \text{altitude}$; this is the 'AMBIGUOUS CASE'...TWO SOLUTIONS

- 1) Acute Triangle (angle, θ , is found with Law of Sines)
- 2) Obtuse Triangle (angle is $180^\circ - \theta$)

Ambiguous Case Criteria...

- SSA
- angle give is acute
- $a < b$

$$alt = b \sin A$$

① $a < alt$
No Solution

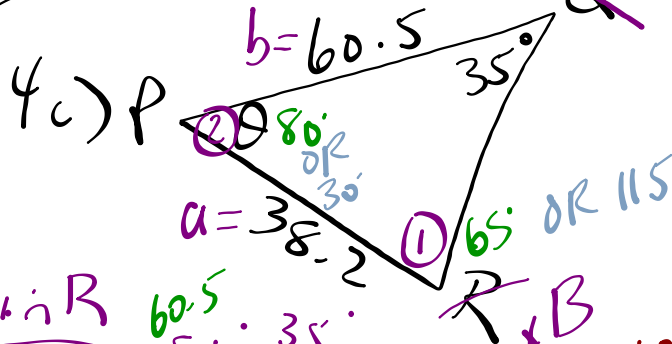
② $a = alt$
1 Solution

③ $a > alt$
*ambiguous
2 Solutions

Calc
Acute

$180 - \theta$
Obtuse

HW ???



$$\frac{60.5 \sin R}{60.5} = \frac{60.5 \sin 35^\circ}{60.5}$$

$$\sin^{-1} \sin R = \sin^{-1} (0.9084)$$

$$\angle R = 65^\circ$$

$$\angle P = 80^\circ$$

OR

$$\angle R = 180 - 65^\circ$$

$$\angle R = 115^\circ$$

$$\angle P = 30^\circ$$

- ✓ SSA
- ✓ acute
- ✓ $a < b$

$$\text{alt} = 60.5 \sin 35^\circ$$

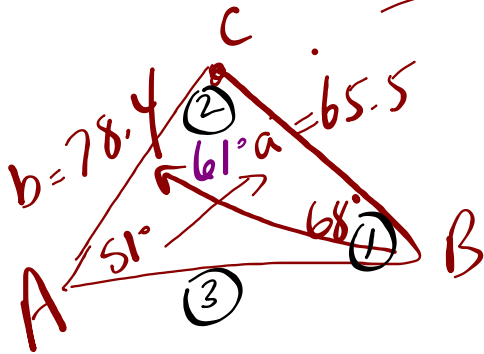
$$\text{alt} = 34.7$$

$$a \text{ vs alt}$$

$$38.2 > 34.7$$

*ambiguous

Do 5 a) Solve



* SSA
 ✓ acute
 ✓ $a < b$
 $alt = 78.4 \sin 51^\circ$
 $alt = 60.9$
 $a \text{ vs } alt$
 $65.5 > 60.9$
 * ambiguous

$$\frac{\sin B}{78.4} = \frac{\sin 51^\circ}{65.5}$$

$$\sin^{-1} \sin B = (0.9302)$$

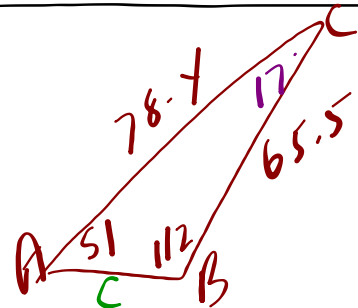
OR

$$\angle B = 68^\circ$$

$$\angle C = 61^\circ$$

$$\frac{c \sin 61^\circ}{\sin 61^\circ} = \frac{65.5 \sin 51^\circ}{\sin 51^\circ}$$

$$c = 73.7$$



$$\angle B = 180 - 68^\circ$$

$$\angle B = 112^\circ$$

$$\angle C = 17^\circ$$


$$\frac{c \sin 17^\circ}{\sin 17^\circ} = \frac{65.5 \sin 51^\circ}{\sin 51^\circ}$$

$$c = 24.6$$

The Ambiguous Case of the Law of Sines

Ambiguous Case Slide Show.ppt



am·big·u·ous  [am-big-yoo-uh s]  [Show IPA](#)

adjective

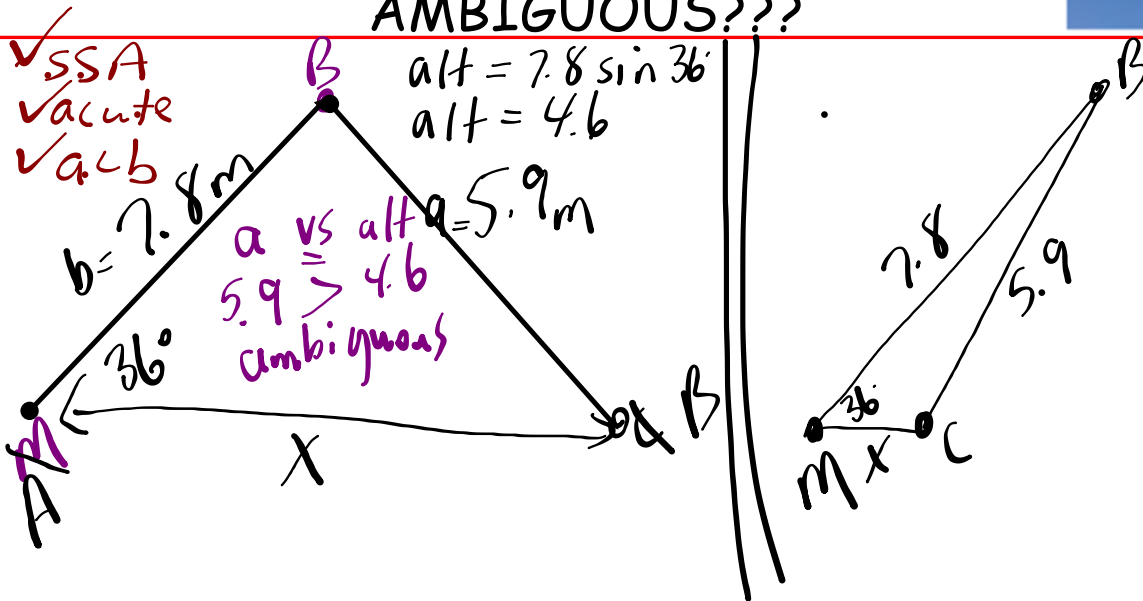
1. open to or having several possible meanings or interpretations; equivocal: *an ambiguous answer.*
2. *Linguistics* . (of an expression) exhibiting constructional homonymy; having two or more structural descriptions, as the sequence *Flying planes can be dangerous.*
3. of doubtful or uncertain nature; difficult to comprehend, distinguish, or classify: *a rock of ambiguous character.*
4. lacking clearness or definiteness; obscure; indistinct: *an ambiguous shape; an ambiguous future.*

Example 4: Solving a problem using the sine law

Martina and Carl are part of a team that is studying weather patterns. The team is about to launch a weather balloon to collect data. Martina's rope is 7.8 m long and makes an angle of 36.0° with the ground. Carl's rope is 5.9 m long. Assuming that Martina and Carl form a triangle in a vertical plane with the weather balloon, what is the distance between Martina and Carl, to the nearest tenth of a metre?



AMBIGUOUS???



Example 4: Solving a problem using the sine law

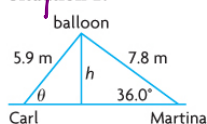
Martina and Carl are part of a team that is studying weather patterns. The team is about to launch a weather balloon to collect data. Martina's rope is 7.8 m long and makes an angle of 36.0° with the ground. Carl's rope is 5.9 m long. Assuming that Martina and Carl form a triangle in a vertical plane with the weather balloon, what is the distance between Martina and Carl, to the nearest tenth of a metre?



Sandra's Solution: Using the sine law and then the cosine law

Let h represent the height of the weather balloon.
Let θ represent the angle for Carl's rope.

Situation 1:



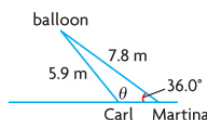
$$\sin 36.0 = \frac{h}{7.8}$$

$$7.8(\sin 36.0) = 7.8\left(\frac{h}{7.8}\right)$$

$$4.5847\dots = h$$

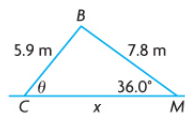
I drew the triangle.
I noticed that this is a SSA situation. I had to determine the height of the triangle to determine if this is an ambiguous case.

Situation 2:



Carl's rope is longer than the height and shorter than Martina's rope, so there are two possible triangles. I drew the second triangle.

Situation 1:



$$\frac{\sin \theta}{7.8} = \frac{\sin 36^\circ}{5.9}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{7.8 \sin 36^\circ}{5.9}$$

$$\sin \theta = 0.7770\dots$$

$$\theta = \sin^{-1}(0.7770\dots)$$

$$\theta = 50.9932\dots^\circ$$

I substituted the side lengths and angles (including θ) into the formula for the sine law and isolated θ .

$$\angle B = 180^\circ - 36.0^\circ - 50.9932\dots^\circ$$

$$\angle B = 93.0067\dots^\circ$$

The measures of the angles in a triangle sum to 180° .

$$x^2 = 5.9^2 + 7.8^2 - 2(5.9)(7.8) \cos 93.0067\dots^\circ$$

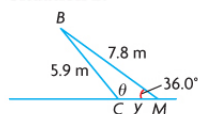
$$x^2 = 100.4777\dots$$

$$x = 10.0238\dots$$

I used the cosine law to determine the distance, x , between Martina and Carl. I substituted the known measurements into the cosine law.

In Situation 1, Martina and Carl are 10.0 m apart.

Situation 2:



$$\frac{\sin \theta}{7.8} = \frac{\sin 36^\circ}{5.9}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{7.8 \sin 36^\circ}{5.9}$$

$$\sin \theta = 0.7770\dots$$

$$\theta = \sin^{-1}(0.7770\dots)$$

$$\theta = 50.9932\dots^\circ$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ - 50.9932\dots^\circ$$

$$\theta = 129.0067\dots^\circ$$

I also considered the situation in which Carl is closer to Martina.

I used the sine law to determine θ .

I determined the measure of the supplementary angle, which is suitable for this situation.

The measures of the angles in a triangle sum to 180° .

$$\angle B = 180^\circ - 36.0^\circ - 129.0067\dots^\circ$$

$$\angle B = 14.9932\dots^\circ$$

$$y^2 = 5.9^2 + 7.8^2 - 2(5.9)(7.8) \cos 14.9932\dots^\circ$$

$$y^2 = 6.7433\dots$$

$$y = 2.5968\dots$$

I can use $\angle B$ in the cosine law to determine the distance, y , between Martina and Carl.
I substituted the measure of $\angle B$ and the given side lengths into the cosine law.

In the second situation, Martina and Carl are 2.6 m apart.
Martina and Carl are either 10.0 m apart or 2.6 m apart.

HOMEWORK...

* Quiz: Ambiguous
Criteria

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#5, ^{bcd}6, & 7

Test → Tues

Page 184: #7, 8, ~~11~~

Attachments

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