

Precalculus. Law of Cosine I

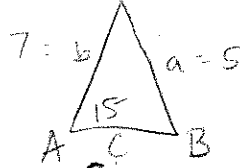
Determine if you would use Law of Sine or Law of Cosine. If you are using Law of Sine, determine the number of solutions.

① $a=5$ $b=7$ $c=8$ SSS

Law of Cosine

② $A=15^\circ$ $a=5$ $b=7$ ASS

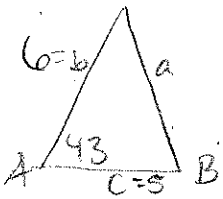
$b \sin(A) = 7 \sin(15) = 1.81 < 5 < 7$



Two Solutions
Law of Sine

③ $A=43^\circ$ $b=6$ $c=5$ SAS

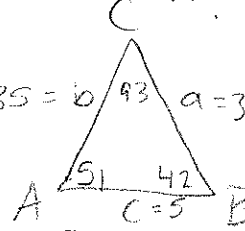
Law of Cosine



④ $A=51^\circ$ $B=42^\circ$ $c=5$ ASA

Law of Sine: (1 sol)

$3.35 = b$ $a = 3.89$ $\frac{\sin(43)}{5} = \frac{\sin(41)}{b}$ $\frac{\sin(43)}{5} = \frac{\sin(51)}{a}$
 $b = \frac{5 \sin(41)}{\sin(43)}$ $a = \frac{5 \sin(51)}{\sin(43)}$
 3.35 3.89

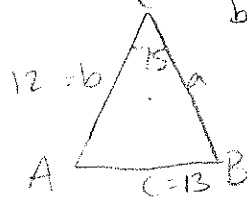


⑤ $a=10$ $b=5$ $c=5\sqrt{3}$ SSS

Law of Cosine

⑥ $C=75^\circ$ $b=12$ $c=13$ ASS

$b \sin(C) = 12 \sin(75) = 11.59 < 13 > 12$

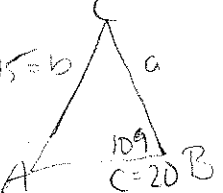


Law of Sine
1 solution

⑦ $B=109^\circ$ $b=15$ $c=20$ ASS

Law of Sine

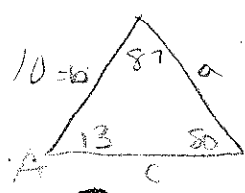
No Solution



⑧ $C=13^\circ$ $C=87^\circ$ $b=10$ ASA

Law of Sine

1 solution

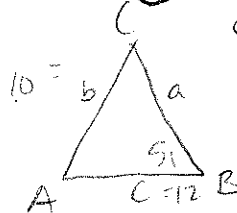


⑨ $a=15$ $b=7$ $c=12$ SSS

Law of Cosine

⑩ $B=51^\circ$ $c=12$ $b=10$ Law of Sines

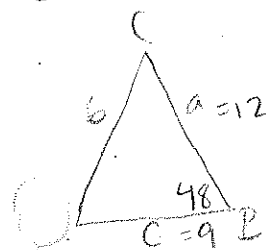
$c \sin(B) = 12 \sin(51) = 9.33 < 10 < 12$



2 solutions

⑪ $B=48^\circ$ $c=9$ $a=12$ SAS

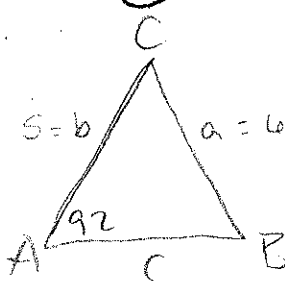
Law of Cosine



⑫ $A=92^\circ$ $a=6$ $b=5$ ASS

Law of Sines

1 solution



Pre-calculus Law of Cosine 2

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

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

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

Solve using Law of Cosine.

1) $a = 5$ $b = 7$ $c = 8$

$$5^2 = 7^2 + 8^2 - 2(7)(8) \cos(A)$$

$$25 = 49 + 64 - 112 \cos(A)$$

$$25 = 113 - 112 \cos(A)$$

$$-88 = -112 \cos(A)$$

$$\frac{11}{14} = \cos(A)$$

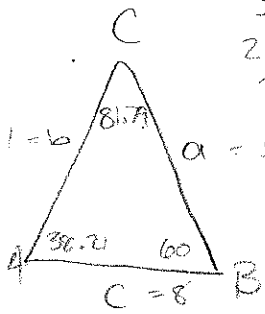
$$A = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{11}{14}\right) \approx 38.21$$

$$\frac{\sin(38.21)}{5} = \frac{\sin(B)}{7}$$

$$B = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{7 \sin(38.21)}{5}\right)$$

$$\approx 60$$

$$180 - 60 - 38.21$$



2) $A = 43^\circ$ $b = 6$ $c = 5$

$$a^2 = 6^2 + 5^2 - 2(6)(5) \cos(43)$$

$$a^2 = 36 + 25 - 60 \cos(43)$$

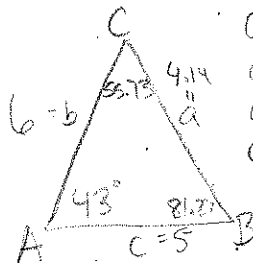
$$a^2 = 61 - 60 \cos(43)$$

$$a = \sqrt{61 - 60 \cos(43)} \approx 4.14$$

$$\frac{\sin(43)}{4.14} = \frac{\sin(B)}{6}$$

$$B = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{6 \sin(43)}{4.14}\right)$$

$$\approx 81.27$$



$$180 - 43 - 81.27$$

3) $a = 10$ $b = 5$ $c = 5\sqrt{3}$

$$(5\sqrt{3})^2 = 10^2 + 5^2 - 2(10)(5) \cos(C)$$

$$75 = 100 + 25 - 100 \cos(C)$$

$$75 = 125 - 100 \cos(C)$$

$$-50 = -100 \cos(C)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \cos(C)$$

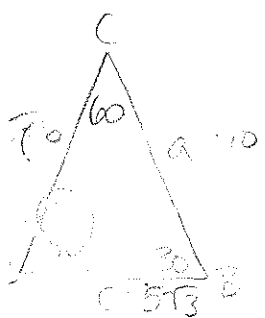
$$C = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 60$$

$$\frac{\sin(60)}{5\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\sin(A)}{10}$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{10 \sin(60)}{5\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

$$= 90$$

$$180 - 60 - 90$$



4) $a = 15$ $b = 7$ $c = 12$

$$12^2 = 15^2 + 7^2 - 2(15)(7) \cos(C)$$

$$144 = 225 + 49 - 210 \cos(C)$$

$$144 = 274 - 210 \cos(C)$$

$$-130 = -210 \cos(C)$$

$$\frac{13}{21} = \cos(C)$$

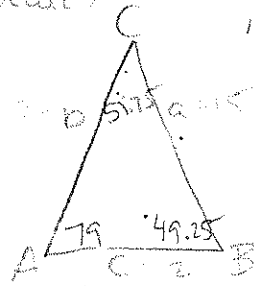
$$C = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{13}{21}\right) \approx 51.75$$

$$\frac{\sin(51.75)}{12} = \frac{\sin(A)}{15}$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{15 \sin(51.75)}{12}\right)$$

$$\approx 79$$

$$180 - 79 - 51.75$$



5) $B = 48^\circ$ $c = 9$ $a = 12$

$$b^2 = 12^2 + 9^2 - 2(12)(9) \cos(48)$$

$$b^2 = 144 + 81 - 216 \cos(48)$$

$$b^2 = 225 - 216 \cos(48)$$

$$b = \sqrt{225 - 216 \cos(48)}$$

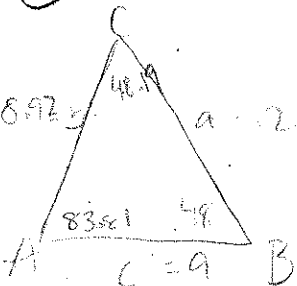
$$\approx 8.97$$

$$\frac{\sin(48)}{8.97} = \frac{\sin(A)}{12}$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{12 \sin(48)}{8.97}\right)$$

$$\approx 83.81$$

$$180 - 83.81 - 48$$

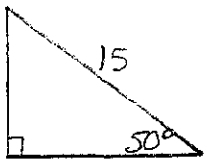


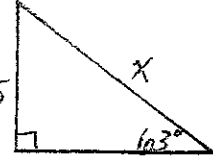
Answer Key

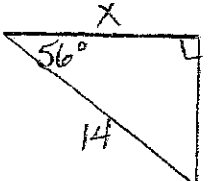
1. Write the six Trig Ratios of a right triangle.

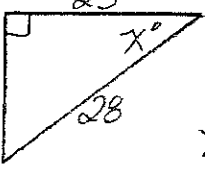
$\sin(\theta) = \frac{O}{H}$ b) $\cos(\theta) = \frac{A}{H}$ c) $\tan(\theta) = \frac{O}{A}$ d) $\csc(\theta) = \frac{H}{O} = \frac{1}{\sin(\theta)}$ e) $\sec(\theta) = \frac{H}{A} = \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)}$ f) $\cot(\theta) = \frac{A}{O} = \frac{1}{\tan(\theta)}$

2. Find the missing parts of each right triangle.

a)  $\sin(50) = \frac{x}{15}$
 $15 \sin(50) = x$
 $11.49 = x$

b)  $\sin(63) = \frac{5}{x}$
 $x = \frac{5}{\sin(63)}$
 $x = 5.61$

c)  $\cos(56) = \frac{x}{14}$
 $14 \cos(56) = x$
 $7.83 = x$


d)  $\cos(x) = \frac{25}{28}$
 $x = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{25}{28}\right)$
 $x = 26.77^\circ$

3. Solve each of the following triangles.

a) If $\sin \theta = \frac{3}{5}$, find $\tan \theta$
 $3^2 + x^2 = 5^2$
 $x^2 = 5^2 - 3^2$
 $x^2 = 16$
 $x = 4$
 $\tan(\theta) = \frac{3}{4}$

b) If $\tan \theta = \frac{3}{2}$, find $\csc \theta$
 $(\frac{3}{2})^2 + 2^2 = H^2$
 $3 + 4 = H^2$
 $7 = H^2$
 $H = \sqrt{7}$
 $\csc(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{7}}{3}$

c) If $\cot \theta = \frac{4}{5}$, find the $\sec \theta$
 $\frac{4}{5} = \frac{A}{O}$
 $4^2 + 5^2 = H^2$
 $16 + 25 = H^2$
 $41 = H^2$
 $H = \sqrt{41}$
 $\sec(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{41}}{4}$

d) If $\cos \theta = \frac{4}{5}$, find $\sin \theta$

 NOT possible.
 Hypotenuse must be longest side

4. How many solutions? (answer the following questions)

a) What are the four types of triangles (using triangle shortcuts) that have only one triangle possible.

SSS, SAS, ASA, AAS

b) Given an S-S-A triangle what condition(s) create:

• 2 possible triangles

0 sol

• 1 possible triangle

1 sol.

• No possible triangle

2 sol.

	Given angle $\geq 90^\circ$	Given angle $< 90^\circ$
opp \leq adj		adj $\sin(\text{angle}) > opp$
opp $>$ adj		adj $\sin(\text{angle}) < opp < adj$
		adj $\sin(\text{angle}) < opp < adj$

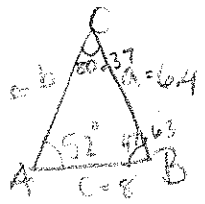
Law of Cosine, Law of Sine!

Name: _____

HW 10

Solve each of the following triangles. Show all set-ups.

1. $A = 52^\circ$ $b = 6$ $c = 8$ SAS



$$a^2 = 6^2 + 8^2 - 2(6)(8)\cos(52)$$

$$a^2 = 36 + 64 - 96\cos(52)$$

$$a^2 = 100 - 96\cos(52)$$

$$a = 7.100 - 96\cos(52)$$

$$a = 6.4$$

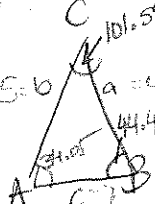
$$\frac{\sin(52)}{6.4} = \frac{\sin(B)}{6}$$

$$B = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{6\sin(52)}{6.4}\right)$$

$$B = 47.63$$

$$C = 80.37$$

2. $a = 4$ $b = 5$ $c = 7$ SSS



$$101.54 = 4^2 + 5^2 - 2(4)(5)\cos(C)$$

$$49 = 16 + 25 - 40\cos(C)$$

$$49 = 41 - 40\cos(C)$$

$$8 = -40\cos(C)$$

$$-2 = \cos(C)$$

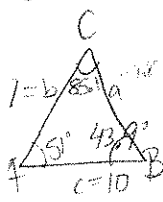
$$C = \cos^{-1}(-2/5) = 101.54$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{4\sin(101.54)}{7}\right)$$

$$A = 34.05^\circ$$

$$B = 44.41^\circ$$

3. $b = 7$ $c = 10$ $A = 51^\circ$ SAS



$$a^2 = 7^2 + 10^2 - 2(7)(10)\cos(51)$$

$$a^2 = 49 + 100 - 140\cos(51)$$

$$a^2 = 149 - 140\cos(51)$$

$$a = 7.8$$

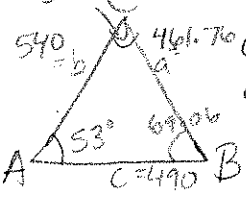
$$\frac{\sin(51)}{7.8} = \frac{\sin(C)}{10}$$

$$C = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{10\sin(51)}{7.8}\right)$$

$$C = 85.1$$

$$B = 43.9$$

4. $A = 53^\circ$ $b = 540$ $c = 490$ SAS



$$a^2 = 540^2 + 490^2 - 2(540)(490)\cos(53)$$

$$a^2 = 531700 - 529200\cos(53)$$

$$a = 461.76$$

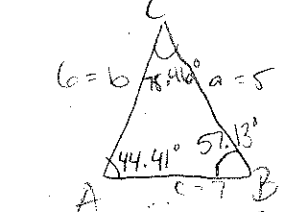
$$\frac{\sin(53)}{461.76} = \frac{\sin(B)}{540}$$

$$B = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{540\sin(53)}{461.76}\right)$$

$$B = 69.06$$

$$C = 57.94$$

5. $a = 5$ $b = 6$ $c = 7$ SSS



$$7^2 = 5^2 + 6^2 - 2(5)(6)\cos(C)$$

$$49 = 61 - 60\cos(C)$$

$$-12 = -60\cos(C)$$

$$1/5 = \cos(C)$$

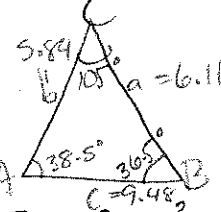
$$C = \cos^{-1}(1/5) = 78.46^\circ$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{5\sin(78.46)}{7}\right)$$

$$A = 44.41^\circ$$

$$B = 57.13^\circ$$

6. $C = 105^\circ$ $a = 6.11$ $b = 5.84$ SAS



$$c^2 = 6.11^2 + 5.84^2 - 2(6.11)(5.84)\cos(105)$$

$$c^2 = 71.44 - 71.36\cos(105)$$

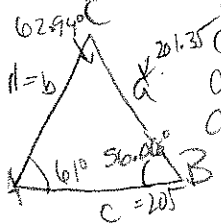
$$c = 9.48$$

$$\frac{\sin(105)}{9.48} = \frac{\sin(A)}{6.11}$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{6.11\sin(105)}{9.48}\right) = 38.5^\circ$$

$$B = 120^\circ$$

7. $A = 61^\circ$ $b = 191$ $c = 205$ SAS



$$a^2 = 191^2 + 205^2 - 2(191)(205)\cos(61)$$

$$a^2 = 78506 - 78310\cos(61)$$

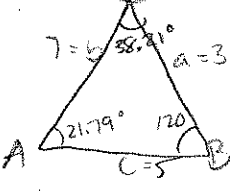
$$a = 201.35$$

$$\frac{\sin(61)}{201.35} = \frac{\sin(B)}{191}$$

$$B = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{191\sin(61)}{201.35}\right) = 56.06$$

$$C = 62.94$$

8. $a = 3$ $b = 7$ $c = 5$ SSS



$$5^2 = 3^2 + 7^2 - 2(3)(7)\cos(C)$$

$$25 = 58 - 42\cos(C)$$

$$-33 = -42\cos(C)$$

$$11/14 = \cos(C)$$

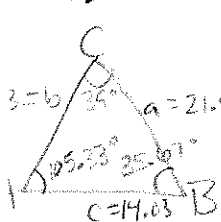
$$C = \cos^{-1}(11/14) = 38.21^\circ$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{3\sin(38.21)}{5}\right)$$

$$A = 21.79^\circ$$

$$B = 120^\circ$$

9. $b = 13$ $a = 21.5$ $C = 39^\circ$ SAS



$$c^2 = 21.5^2 + 13^2 - 2(21.5)(13)\cos(39)$$

$$c^2 = 631.25 - 559\cos(39)$$

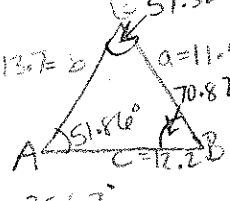
$$c = 14.03$$

$$\frac{\sin(39)}{14.03} = \frac{\sin(B)}{13}$$

$$B = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{13\sin(39)}{14.03}\right) = 35.67$$

$$A = 105.33$$

10. $a = 11.4$ $b = 13.7$ $c = 12.2$ SSS



$$12.2^2 = 11.4^2 + 13.7^2 - 2(11.4)(13.7)\cos(C)$$

$$148.84 = 317.65 - 312.36\cos(C)$$

$$-168.81 = -312.36\cos(C)$$

$$0.54 = \cos(C)$$

$$C = \cos^{-1}(0.54) = 57.32^\circ$$

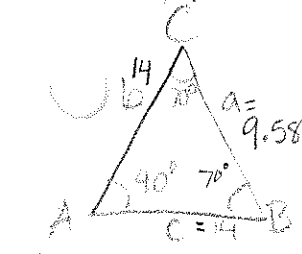
$$\frac{\sin(57.32)}{12.2} = \frac{\sin(A)}{11.4}$$

$$A = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{11.4\sin(57.32)}{12.2}\right)$$

$$A = 51.86^\circ$$

$$B = 70.82^\circ$$

11. $A = 40^\circ$ $C = 70^\circ$ $c = 14$ AAS



$$B = 70^\circ$$

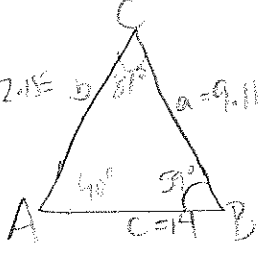
$$\frac{\sin(70)}{14} = \frac{\sin(A)}{a}$$

$$a = \frac{14\sin(40)}{\sin(70)} = 9.58$$

$$\frac{\sin(70)}{14} = \frac{\sin(B)}{b}$$

$$b = \frac{14\sin(59)}{\sin(70)} = 12.15$$

12. $A = 40^\circ$ $B = 59^\circ$ $c = 14$ ASA



$$C = 81^\circ$$

$$\frac{\sin(81)}{14} = \frac{\sin(A)}{a}$$

$$a = \frac{14\sin(40)}{\sin(81)} = 9.11$$

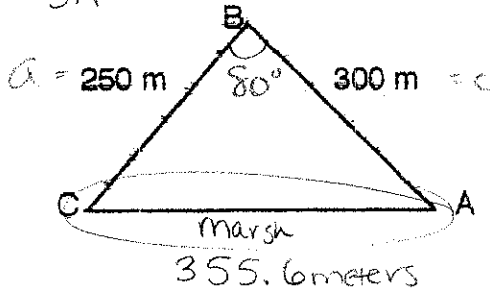
$$\frac{\sin(81)}{14} = \frac{\sin(B)}{b}$$

$$b = \frac{14\sin(59)}{\sin(81)} = 12.15$$

Name Key

Trig Analysis Law of Sine/ Law of Cosine Word Problems

1. To approximate the length of a marsh, a surveyor walks 300 meters from point A to point B, then turns 80° and walks 250 meters to point C. Approximate the length of the marsh. SAS



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

$$b^2 = 250^2 + 300^2 - 2(250)(300) \cos(80)$$

$$b^2 = 62500 + 90000 - 150000 \cos(80)$$

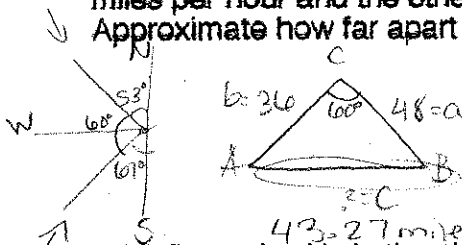
$$b^2 = 152500 - 150000 \cos(80)$$

$$b = \sqrt{152500 - 150000 \cos(80)}$$

$$b \approx 355.6 \text{ meters}$$

12.3 = 36

2. Two ships leave a port at 9 am. One travels at a bearing of 53° west of north at 12 miles per hour and the other travels bearing 67° west of south at 16 miles per hour. Approximate how far apart they are at noon that day. SAS



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

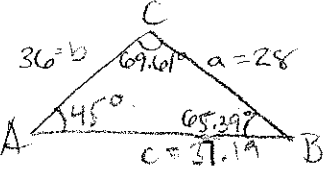
$$c^2 = 48^2 + 36^2 - 2(48)(36) \cos(60)$$

$$c^2 = 2304 + 1296 - 3456 \cos(60)$$

$$c = \sqrt{3600 - 3456 \cos(60)}$$

$$c \approx 43.27 \text{ miles}$$

3. A flower bed is in the shape of an obtuse triangle. One angle is 45° , the side opposite is 28 feet, and another side is 36 feet. Find the remaining angles and side. ASS

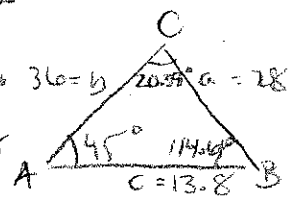


$$b \sin(A) = 36 \sin(45) = 25.46 < 28 < 36 \quad \text{2 Solutions}$$

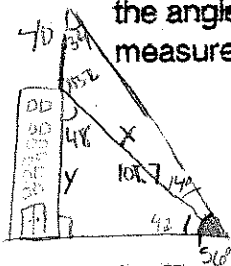
$$\frac{\sin(45)}{28} = \frac{\sin(B)}{36} \rightarrow \angle B = 65.39^\circ$$

$$180 - 45 - 65.39 \rightarrow \angle C = 69.61^\circ$$

$$\frac{\sin(45)}{28} = \frac{\sin(69.61)}{c} \rightarrow c = 37.19$$



4. A 40 foot television antenna stands on top of a building. From a point on the ground, the angles of elevation to the top and bottom of the antenna, respectively have measurements of 56° and 42° . How tall is the building?



$$\frac{\sin(14)}{44} = \frac{\sin(34)}{x}$$

$$x = \frac{44 \sin(34)}{\sin(14)}$$

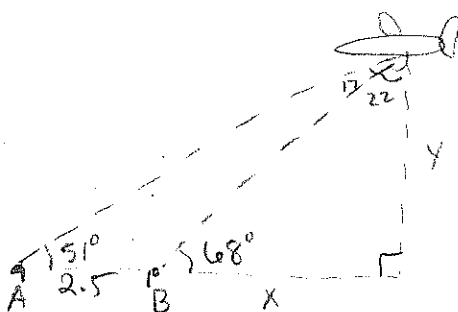
$$x = 101.7$$

$$\sin(42) = \frac{y}{101.7}$$

$$101.7 \sin(42) = y$$

$$68.05 \text{ feet} = y$$

5. The angles of elevation to an airplane from two points A and B on level ground are 51° and 68° , respectively. The points A and B are 2.5 miles apart, and the airplane is east of both points in the same vertical plane. Find the altitude of the airplane.



$$\tan(51) = \frac{y}{x+2.5} \rightarrow (x+2.5) \tan(51) = y$$

$$\tan(68) = \frac{y}{x} \rightarrow x \tan(68) = y$$

$$x \tan(68) = x \tan(51) + 2.5 \tan(51)$$

$$x \tan(68) - x \tan(51) = 2.5 \tan(51)$$

$$x (\tan(68) - \tan(51)) = 2.5 \tan(51)$$

$$x = \frac{2.5 \tan(51)}{\tan(68) - \tan(51)}$$

$$x = 2.49$$

$$2.49 \tan(68) = y$$

$$6.16 = y$$

Altitude: 6.16 miles