

### **Notes (5.1)---Law of Sines**

Objective: You will be able to understand the proof of the Law of Sines and will be able to use the formula to solve a variety of problems.

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The **Law of Sines** states the ratio of the sine of an angle to the length its opposite angle is the same for all three angles.

In any  $\triangle ABC$  with angles  $A, B$ , and  $C$  opposite sides  $a, b$ , and  $c$  respectively, the following equation is true:

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

We can use the **Law of Sines** to solve triangles when given \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

We can also, use **Law of Sines** to solve triangles when given \_\_\_\_\_. However, we need to watch out for the **ambiguous case**.

Ex 1: Solve  $\triangle ABC$ :  $A = 50^\circ$ ,  $B = 62^\circ$ ,  $a = 4$ .

Ex 2: Solve  $\triangle ABC$ :  $B = 82^\circ$ ,  $b = 17$ ,  $c = 15$ .

Ex 3: Solve  $\triangle ABC$ :  $C = 36^\circ$ ,  $b = 17$ ,  $c = 16$ .

Ex 4: Solve  $\triangle ABC$ :  $A = 36^\circ$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 7$

Ex 5: A satellite passes over two tracking stations,  $A$  and  $B$ , 100 km apart. When the satellite is between the two stations the angle of elevation at the stations are measured as  $84.5^\circ$  and  $88.2^\circ$  respectively. What is the distance the satellite and station  $A$ ? How high is the satellite of the ground?

*Now you try.* 😊

To find the distance across a river, a surveyor chooses point  $A$  and  $B$ , which are 200 ft. apart on one side of the river. She chooses a reference point  $C$  on the opposite side of the river and finds that  $\angle BAC = 82^\circ$  and  $\angle ABC = 52^\circ$ . Find the distance across the river.