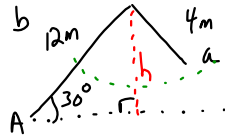


§4-3 The Ambiguous Case of the Law of Sines

Example 1 (p177)

Given each SSA situation for  $\triangle ABC$ , determine how many triangles are possible.

a)  $\angle A = 30^\circ$ ,  $a = 4\text{m}$ ,  $b = 12\text{m}$



No triangle can be formed

Find the height:

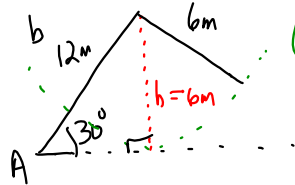
$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}}$$

$$\sin 30^\circ = \frac{h}{12\text{m}}$$

$$h = 12\text{m} \sin 30^\circ$$

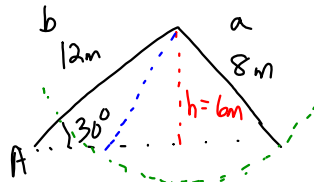
$$h = 6\text{m}$$

b)  $\angle A = 30^\circ$ ,  $a = 6\text{m}$ ,  $b = 12\text{m}$



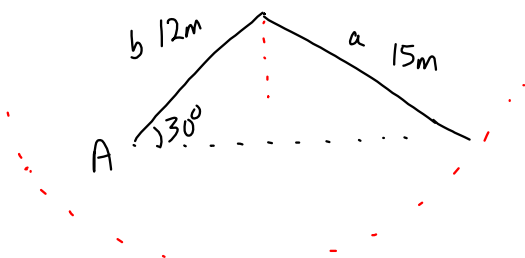
Only 1 triangle can be formed

c)  $\angle A = 30^\circ$ ,  $a = 8\text{m}$ ,  $b = 12\text{m}$



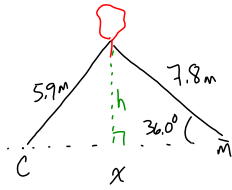
Two triangles can be formed

d)  $\angle A = 30^\circ$ ,  $a = 15\text{m}$ ,  $b = 12\text{m}$



Only 1 triangle can be formed.

Example 2 (p170)



SSA → caution!

No Δ?  
1 Δ?  
2 Δ?

Find the height:

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}}$$

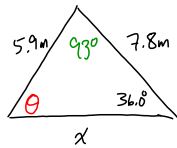
$$\sin 36.0^\circ = \frac{h}{7.8\text{m}}$$

$$h = 4.5847 \dots$$

Since Carl's rope is 5.9m:

$$7.8\text{m} > 5.9\text{m} > h$$

There are two possible triangles



$$\frac{\sin \theta}{7.8} = \frac{\sin 36.0}{5.9}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{7.8 \sin 36.0}{5.9}$$

$$\theta = 51.0^\circ$$

Your calculator only gives you the primary angle.



$$180^\circ - 51.0^\circ = 129.0^\circ$$

secondary angle

$$\frac{5.9}{\sin 36.0^\circ} = \frac{x}{\sin 93^\circ}$$

$$x = \frac{5.9 \sin 93^\circ}{\sin 36^\circ}$$

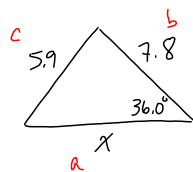
$$x = 10.0\text{m}$$

$$\frac{5.9}{\sin 36.0^\circ} = \frac{x}{\sin 15^\circ}$$

$$x = \frac{5.9 \sin 15^\circ}{\sin 36.0^\circ}$$

$$x = 2.6\text{m}$$

Alternatively



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

$$(5.9)^2 = x^2 + (7.8)^2 - 2(x)(7.8) \cos 36.0$$

$$34.81 = x^2 + 60.84 - 12.6x$$

① put in standard form ⇒ solve with Q formula

OR  
② Graph LS and RS and find intersection points.

→ If there is no solution ⇒ no Δ

1 solution ⇒ 1 Δ

2 solutions ⇒ 2 Δ

Solutions must be positive

TO DO

① Read over summary (p182)

② p183/4, 5, 6, 8-11 (12 + 13)