



1. Right Triangles



2. "Law of Cosines"



(a) Side-Angle-Side (SAS)

$$a^{2} = b^{2} + c^{2} - 2bc \cos \alpha$$
$$b^{2} = a^{2} + c^{2} - 2ac \cos \beta$$
$$c^{2} = a^{2} + b^{2} - 2ab \cos \gamma$$

Double the product of the sides you know, then subtract that from the sum of the squares of the two sides, and then take the squareroot of the result.

(b) Side-Side-Side (SSS)

$$\alpha = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc} \right)$$
$$\beta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}{2ac} \right)$$
$$\gamma = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{a^2 + b^2 - c^2}{2ab} \right)$$

Answers:

1.  $\alpha = 14.852 \ b = 32.976 \ \gamma = 140.148$ 2.  $\alpha = 3.327 \ \beta = 2.872 \ \gamma = 80$ 3.  $\beta_1 = 111.178 \ b = 5.803 \ \gamma_1 = 28.822$ 4. No solutions  $\beta_1 = 85.642 \ b_1 = 6.954 \ \gamma_1 = 59.358$  $\beta_2 = 24.358 \ b_2 = 2.876 \ \gamma_2 = 120.642$  3. If you know 3 of the 6 arranged the other ways (Section 9.2: "Law of Sines")



- (a) Any 2 angles and the side in between the known angles (ASA)or 2 angles and a side (AAS/ASA/SAA): Only one solution possible.
- (b) 2 Angles, and NOT the side in between (ASS, SSA)...Zero, one or two solutions possible. Method: Find a  $\beta_1$ , then consider the possible  $\beta_2 = 180 - \beta_1$ 
  - i. No solutions if  $\sin \beta > 1$  or  $\sin \beta < -1$
  - ii. One solution if  $180-\alpha-\beta_2 \leq 0... \text{use } \beta_1$  as the unique solution
  - iii. Two solutions otherwise (you need to consider  $\beta_1$  to get  $c_1$  and  $\gamma_1$  and then consider  $\beta_2$  to find  $c_2$  and  $\gamma_2$

