

# Lesson 2 – Solving Angles of Triangles

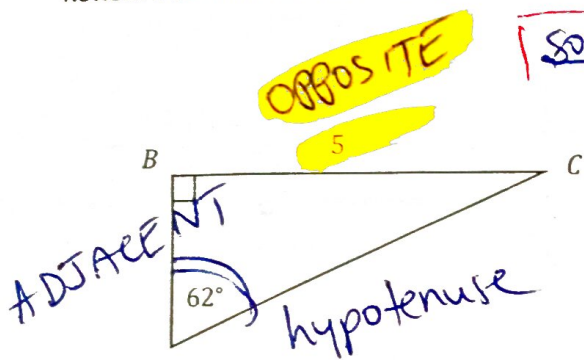
**Goal:**

- Given a right-angle triangle with 2 sides, you can determine the measure of the two acute angles. (Can be applied to contextualized problems)
- Understands that trig operators have a reverse operator (just like add/subtract) that will transform a ratio of sides to an angle between 0° and 90°.

**New Terminology:**

- Inverse

Review: Determine the two missing side lengths of each triangle. Use cosine, sine, and tangent all at least once.



$$\sin(62^\circ) = \frac{5}{AC}$$

$$AC \cdot \sin(62^\circ) = 5$$

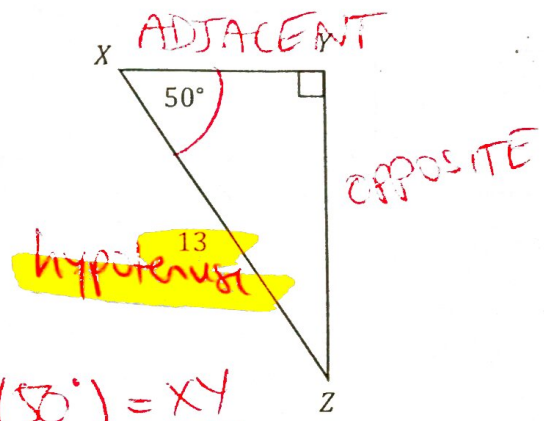
$$AC = \frac{5}{\sin(62^\circ)}$$

$$= 5.7$$
  

$$\tan(62^\circ) = \frac{5}{AB}$$

$$AB = \frac{5}{\tan 62^\circ}$$

$$= 2.7$$



$$\cos(50^\circ) = \frac{XY}{13}$$

$$XY = 13 \cos 50^\circ$$

$$= 8.4$$
  

$$\sin(50^\circ) = \frac{YZ}{13}$$

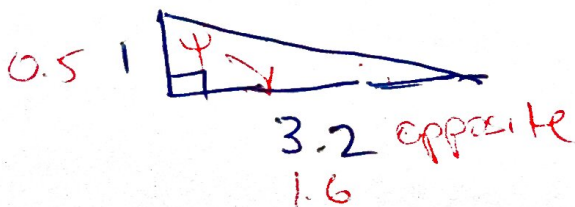
$$YZ = 13 \sin 50^\circ = 10.0$$

Review: In your own words what does  $\tan \psi = 3.2$  mean?

↓ "psi"

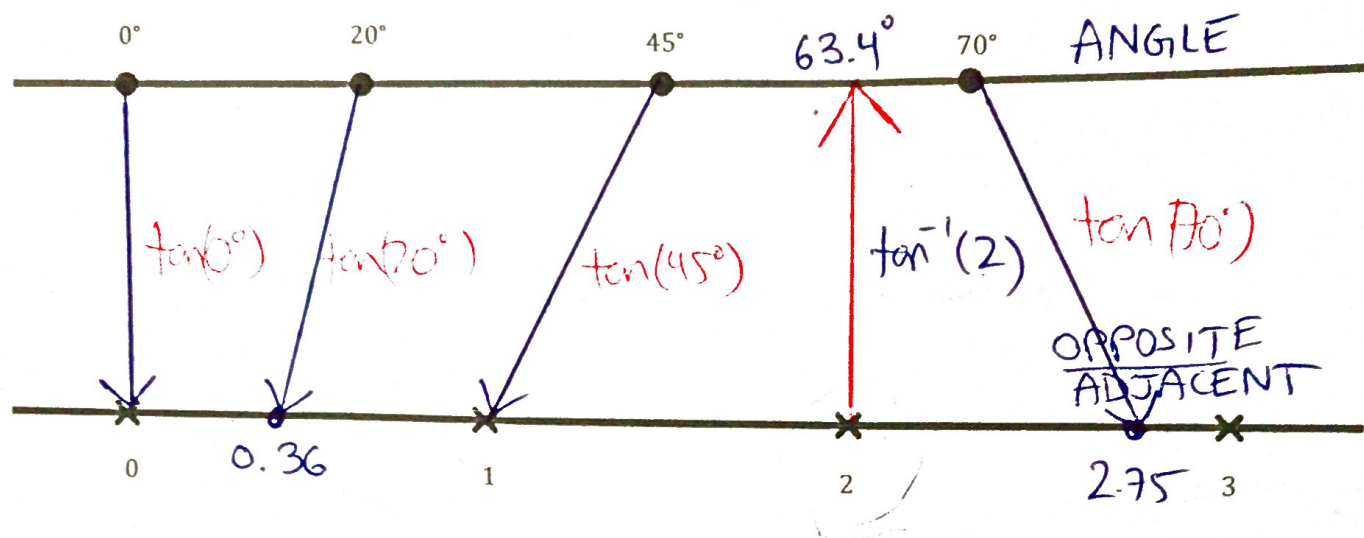
Opposite is 3.2 x as large as adjacent

$$\frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}} = \frac{3.2}{1} = \tan \psi$$



Remember that yesterday we looked at how we can relate the angle and the ratios (proportions) of sides to each other using our trig operators.

Practice: Use the "tangent" operator on the following numbers  $0^\circ, 20^\circ, 45^\circ, 70^\circ$  and illustrate the connection



We can easily find the ratio of a given angle, but what if we want to go backward and determine the angle of a given ratio?

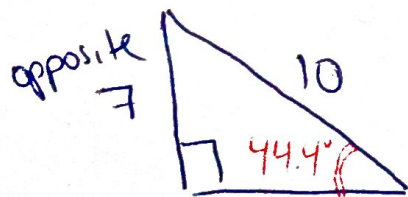
Answer: use inverse trig operators

$$\begin{aligned} \cancel{\tan}^{-1}(\cancel{\tan} 20^\circ) &= \cancel{\tan}^{-1}(0.36) \\ \text{inverse} \quad 20^\circ &= \tan^{-1}(0.36) \\ &= \text{arc tan}(0.36) \end{aligned}$$

Example: What does the following represent?

$$\arcsin\left(\frac{7}{10}\right)$$

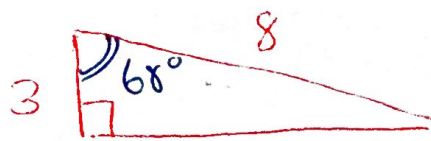
← opposite  
← hypotenuse



$$\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{10}\right) = 44.4^\circ$$

$$\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{8}\right)$$

← adjacent  
← hypotenuse

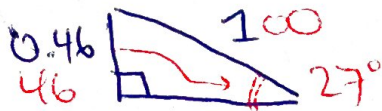


$$\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{8}\right) = 68^\circ$$

Practice: What does the following represent?

$$\sin^{-1}(0.46) = 27^\circ$$

$$\frac{0.46}{1} = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}} = \frac{46}{100}$$



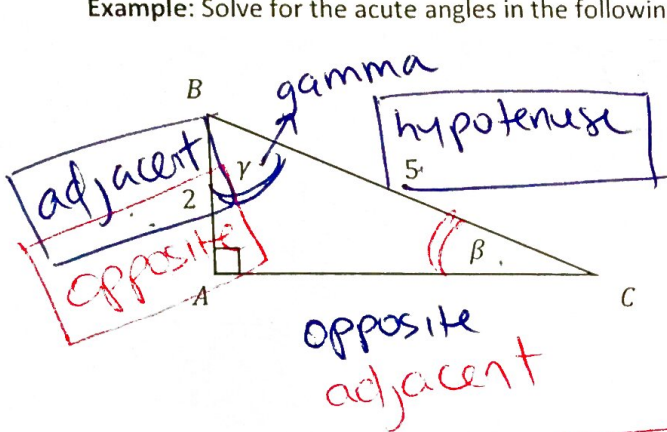
$$\arctan(2.3)$$

$$\frac{2.3}{1} = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}} = \frac{23}{10}$$



$$\tan^{-1}(2.3) = 66^\circ$$

Example: Solve for the acute angles in the following triangle



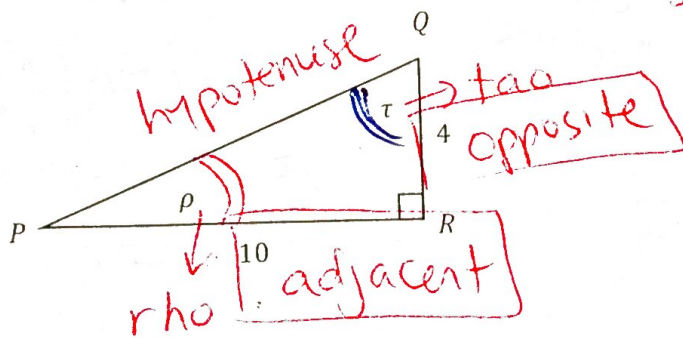
$$\boxed{\text{soh}} \quad \boxed{\text{cah}} \quad \boxed{\text{toa}}$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{2}{5} \Rightarrow \boxed{\gamma = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = 66.4^\circ}$$

$$\sin \beta = \frac{2}{5} \Rightarrow \boxed{\beta = \arcsin\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = 23.6^\circ}$$

$$\star \beta = 90^\circ - 66.4^\circ = 23.6^\circ \checkmark$$

Practice: Solve for the acute angles in the following triangle



$$\boxed{\text{soh}} \quad \boxed{\text{cah}} \quad \boxed{\text{toa}}$$

$$\tan \rho = \frac{4}{10}$$

$$\rho = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{10}\right) = 21.8^\circ$$

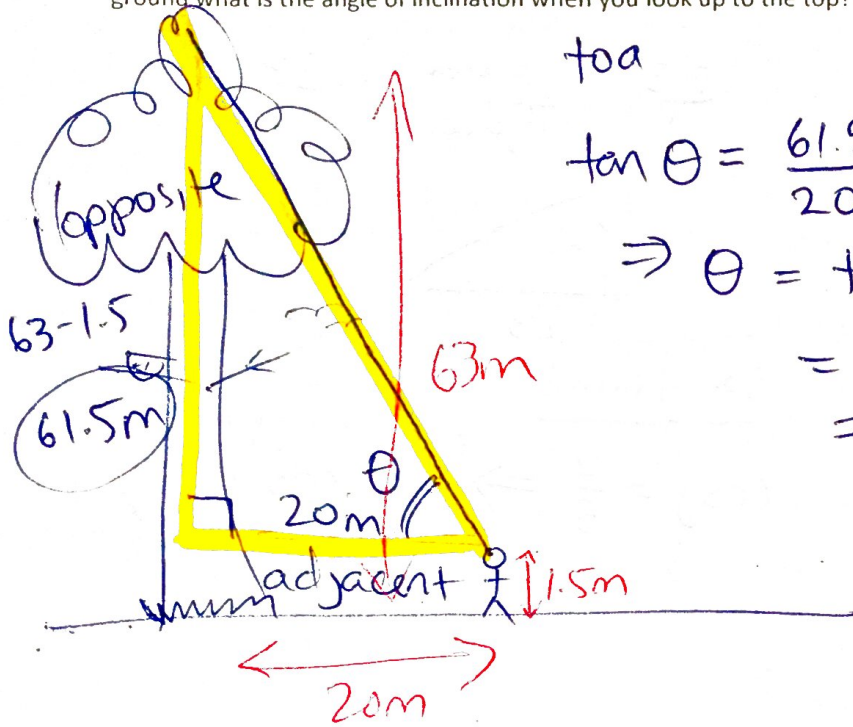
$$\tau = 90^\circ - 21.8^\circ = 68.2^\circ$$

$$\tan \tau = \frac{10}{4}$$

$$\tau = \arctan\left(\frac{10}{4}\right) = 68.2^\circ$$



Example: A tree stands 63 m tall and you are standing 20 m from the base of the tree. If your eyes are 1.5 m above the ground what is the angle of inclination when you look up to the top?

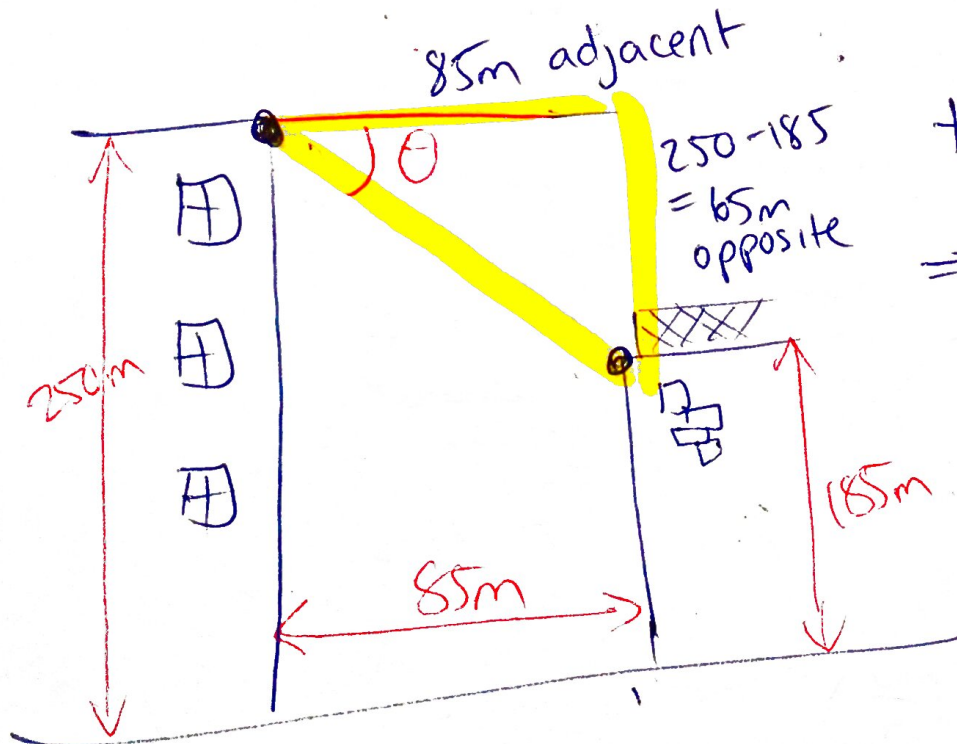


toa

$$\tan \theta = \frac{61.5}{20}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{61.5}{20} \right) = \underline{\underline{72^\circ}}$$

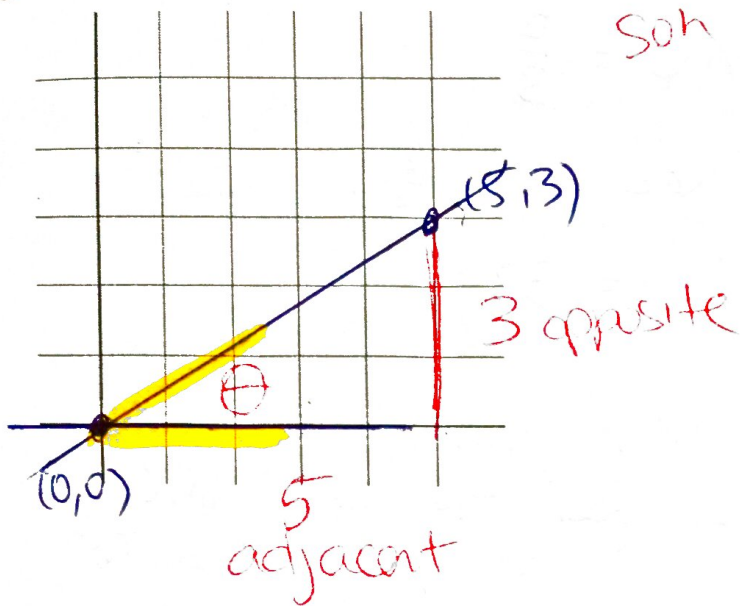
Practice: Two buildings are separated by 85 m. The shorter building is 185 m tall and the taller building is 250 m tall. What is the angle of declination from the tall building to the short building?



$$\tan \theta = \frac{65}{85}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \arctan \left( \frac{65}{85} \right) = \underline{\underline{37.4^\circ}}$$

Discuss: Determine the angle between the line through (0,0) and (5,3) and the x-axis?

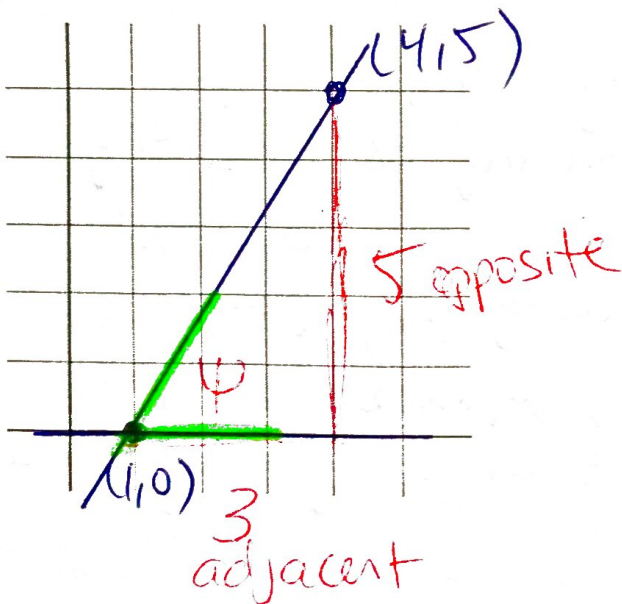


soh cah (too)

$$\tan \theta = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{3}{5}\right) \\ = 31^\circ$$

Discuss: Determine the angle between the line through (1,0) and (4,5) and the x-axis?

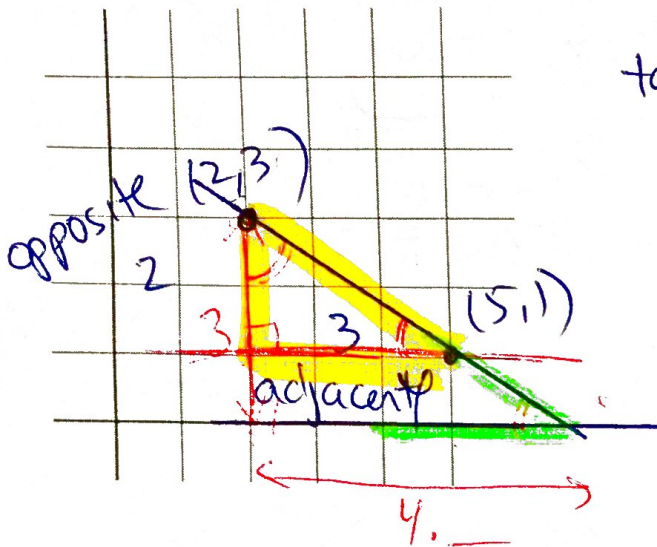


soh cah (too)

$$\tan \psi = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$\psi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{5}{3}\right) \\ = 59^\circ$$

Discuss: Determine the angle between the line through (2,3) and (5,1) and the x-axis?



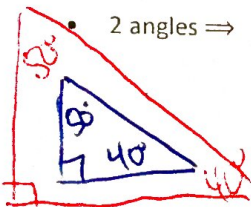
$$\tan \phi = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) = 33.7^\circ$$

★ in general the angle between the line thru (0,0) and (x,y) and the x-axis is  $\tan^{-1} \left( \frac{y}{x} \right)$  → opposite → adjacent

SUMMARY: We know that a right-angle triangle will have 3 distinct sides and 2 acute angles. The minimal amount of information we need is TWO THINGS!

- 2 sides ⇒ Find missing side using Pythagoras  
Find acute angles arc trig OR inverse trig
- 1 side and 1 angle ⇒ Find missing angle by subtracting 90°  
Find missing sides ~~the~~ using trig operators
- 2 angles ⇒ Find missing sides is impossible  
Can find ratio of sides using trig operator



Assigned Problems: 3.1 page 107 – 112: # 4, 5, 6b, 7a, 8, 11, 13a, 19

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3.2 page 120 – 123: # 3, 5, 6ac, 12, 13

15:

Key Ideas on page 107 and 119