

[This worksheet assumes that you know the basic definitions of trigonometric functions in terms of sides of a right triangle.]

1. THEOREM (Pythagorean Identity) For any angle  $\theta$ ,  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ .

Sketch a right triangle  $\triangle ABC$  with right angle at  $C$ . Using standard convention, label the sides  $a, b$ , and  $c$ .

PROOF Let  $\triangle ABC$  be the right triangle defined above and let  $\theta = \angle A$ .

Then  $\sin \theta =$  \_\_\_\_\_ and  $\cos \theta =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (\*)

Also, from the Pythagorean Theorem, we have \_\_\_\_\_ .

Divide both sides by  $c^2$ : \_\_\_\_\_

i.e.  $\left(\frac{a}{c}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{b}{c}\right)^2 = 1$ .

Substitute the trig. functions from (\*): \_\_\_\_\_ . ■

2. THEOREM (Law of Sines). If  $\triangle ABC$  is any triangle, then  $\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$ .

[Sketch and label a general triangle.]

PROOF Let  $\triangle ABC$  be a triangle.

[Show  $\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b}$ . The proof for the other equality will be similar.]

In any triangle, there can be at most one non-acute angle. So either  $\angle A$  or  $\angle B$  must be an acute angle.

WLOG, assume that  $\angle A$  is acute.

**Case 1.**  $\angle B$  is acute.

[Sketch triangle ( $\angle A$  and  $\angle B$  both acute).]

Drop a perpendicular from  $C$  to  $\overleftrightarrow{AB}$  and call the foot  $D$ . By Lemma 4.8.6,  $A * D * B$ .

$$\sin A = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \Rightarrow CD = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad \text{and} \quad \sin B = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \Rightarrow CD = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$$

Therefore  $b \sin A = a \sin B$ .

Divide both sides by  $ab \Rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$

**Case 2.**  $\angle B$  is a right angle. [Finish Case 2 as homework. Note the definitions of  $\sin \theta$  and  $\cos \theta$  for special angles on p. 116.]

**Case 3.**  $\angle B$  is obtuse.

[Sketch triangle ( $\angle A$  is acute and  $\angle B$  is obtuse).]

Drop a perpendicular from  $C$  to  $\overleftrightarrow{AB}$  and call the foot  $D$ . Since  $\angle B$  is obtuse,  $A * B * D$ .

Note that  $\triangle BDC$  is a  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  with right angle at  $D$ .

Also  $\angle B = \angle ABC$  is obtuse and forms a  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  with  $\angle DBC$ , so they are  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$

Then  $\sin B = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  by the definition of  $\sin \theta$  for obtuse angles on p. 116.

$$\text{Therefore } \sin B = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \Rightarrow CD = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$$

$$\text{Using } \triangle ACD, \sin A = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \Rightarrow CD = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$$

Therefore  $b \sin A = a \sin B$ . Divide both sides by  $ab \Rightarrow \underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$

$$\text{In all three cases, } \frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b}.$$

$$\text{Similarly, it can be shown that } \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}.$$

