Topic 3: Geometry and Trigonometry

Law of Sines and Cosines

- 1. A ship leaves port Q on a bearing of 045°. It sails a distance of 30 miles to point R. At R, the ship changes direction to a bearing of 115°. It sails a distance of 50 miles to reach point S. A second ship leaves port Q and sails directly to S.
 - (a) Find the distance ship 2 will travel

(4 marks)

(b) Find the bearing of the course taken by the second ship

(3 marks)

Mark scheme:

$$x^2 = 30^2 + 50^2 - 2(30)(50)\cos(70^\circ)$$

$$x^2 = 2373.93957 \dots$$

$$x = 48.7 \text{ km}$$
 (A1)

$$\frac{\sin Q}{50} = \frac{\sin 70^{\circ}}{48.7} \tag{A1}$$

$$Q = 074.7^{\circ} \tag{A1}$$

OR

$$\cos Q = \frac{30^2 + 48.7^2 - 50^2}{2(30)(48.7)} \tag{A1}$$

$$Q = 074.7^{\circ} \tag{A1}$$