

A New Proof of the Formulae for Right-Angled Spherical Triangles.

By Professor JOHN JACK.

It is assumed that the sines of the sides are proportional to the sines of the opposite angles.

ACB (Fig. 9) is a spherical Δ , with C a right angle.

Produce AC, AB to D and E so that $AD = AE = \frac{\pi}{2}$.

Draw the great \odot DEF and produce CB to meet it in F.

Then F is the pole of AD and A the pole of DF.

Then sides and angles of ABC are $a \quad b \quad c \quad A \quad B$
 BEF are $\frac{\pi}{2} - A \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - c \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - a \quad B \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - b$.

$$\therefore \frac{\sin a}{\sin A} = \frac{\sin b}{\sin B} = \frac{\sin c}{1} \quad \dots \quad \text{I.}$$

and $\frac{\sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - A)}{\sin B} = \frac{\sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - c)}{\sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - b)} = \frac{\sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - a)}{1}$

that is $\frac{\cos A}{\sin B} = \frac{\cos c}{\cos b} = \frac{\cos a}{1} \quad \dots \quad \text{II.}$

and $\therefore \frac{\cos B}{\sin A} = \frac{\cos c}{\cos a} = \frac{\cos b}{1} \quad \dots \quad \text{III.}$

by interchange of a, A and b, B .

$\therefore \left. \begin{aligned} \sin a &= \sin c \sin A \\ \sin b &= \sin c \sin B \end{aligned} \right\} \text{from I.} \quad \dots \quad 1.$

and $\left. \begin{aligned} \cos A &= \cos a \sin B \\ \cos B &= \cos b \sin A \end{aligned} \right\} \text{from II., III.} \quad \dots \quad 2.$

and $\cos c = \cos a \cdot \cos b \quad \text{from II. or III.} \quad \dots \quad 3.$

From 2 $\cos A \cos B = \cos a \cos b \sin A \sin B$
 $\therefore \cot A \cot B = \cos a \cos b = \cos c \quad \text{by 3} \quad \dots \quad 4.$

Again $\sin c = \frac{\sin b}{\sin B} \quad \text{by I.}$

$\cos c = \frac{\cos A \cos b}{\sin B} \quad \text{by II.} \quad \text{Divide}$

$$\therefore \left. \begin{aligned} \tan c &= \frac{\tan b}{\cos A} & \therefore \tan b &= \tan c \cos A \\ & & \text{and } \tan a &= \tan c \cos B \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \dots \quad 5$$

Again $\sin a = \frac{\sin b \sin A}{\sin B}$ by I.
 and $\cos a = \frac{\cos A}{\sin B}$ by II. Divide
 $\therefore \tan a = \tan A \sin b$
 so $\tan b = \tan B \sin a$ } 6.

Note on Napier's Rules.

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Denote the parts b A c B a of $\triangle ABC$ (Fig. 9)
 by 1 2 3 4 5
 then the parts corresponding of the $\triangle BEF$, namely,

$$\frac{\pi}{2} - c, B, \frac{\pi}{2} - a, \frac{\pi}{2} - b, \frac{\pi}{2} - A$$

will be denoted by $\frac{\pi}{2} - 3, 4, \frac{\pi}{2} - 5, \frac{\pi}{2} - 1, \frac{\pi}{2} - 2$.

Now a third \triangle can similarly be derived from this second, a fourth from the third, and a fifth from the fourth. But when the process is applied to the fifth, the first \triangle is obtained. Hence only 5 \triangle s can be obtained, which are the following :—

1	2	3	4	5
$\frac{\pi}{2} - 3$	4	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 5$	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 1$	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 2$
5	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 1$	2	3	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 4$
$\frac{\pi}{2} - 2$	3	4	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 5$	1
$\frac{\pi}{2} - 4$	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 5$	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 1$	2	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 3$
1	2	3	4	5

where the mid-column contains the hypotenuse, the two next to it contain the angles, and the extreme columns the sides of the several right-angled triangles.