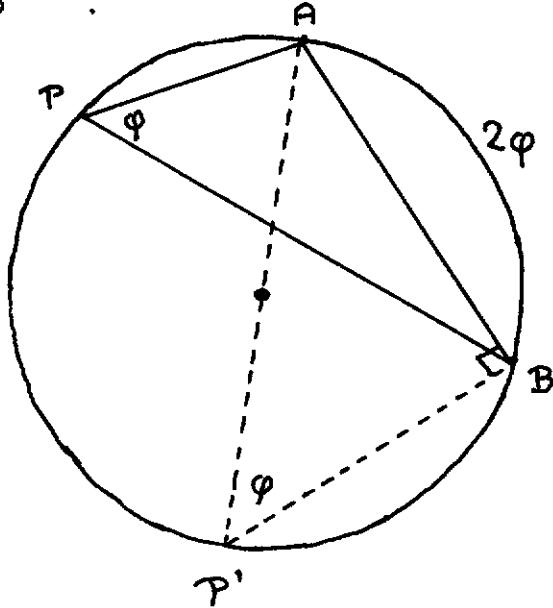


The formula for $\sin(\alpha+\beta)$

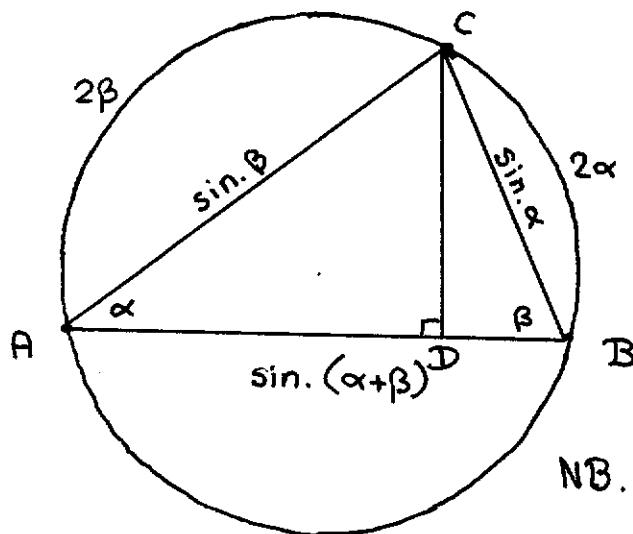
About circles we use the following

Lemma Let arc AB of a circle with diameter d subtend at the centre an angle of 2φ . Then

- (i) at any point P on the remainder of the periphery it subtends an angle of φ , and
- (ii) the length of chord AB equals $d \cdot \sin \varphi$.



[By choosing $P=P'$ such that AP' is a diameter, we make $\angle ABP'$ a right angle and thus see $AB = d \cdot \sin \varphi$.] For the rest of this note we choose $d=1$.



$$\text{NB. } 2\alpha + 2\beta = 2(\alpha + \beta).$$

With the angles at A and B equal to α and β respectively, we have according to our lemma

$$BC = \sin.\alpha \quad AC = \sin.\beta \quad AB = \sin.(\alpha+\beta)$$

and now observe, with CD the altitude on AB

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sin.(\alpha+\beta) \\
 &= AB \\
 &= AD + DB \\
 &= AC \cdot \cos.\alpha + BC \cdot \cos.\beta \\
 &= \sin.\beta \cdot \cos.\alpha + \sin.\alpha \cdot \cos.\beta
 \end{aligned}$$

which establishes the addition formula for $\sin.(\alpha+\beta)$ for $0 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq \pi/2$.

Austin 10 Sep. 1996

prof.dr. Edsger W. Dijkstra

Department of Computer Sciences
The University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX 78712-1188, USA