

Section 6.5

Solutions and Hints

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for the book:

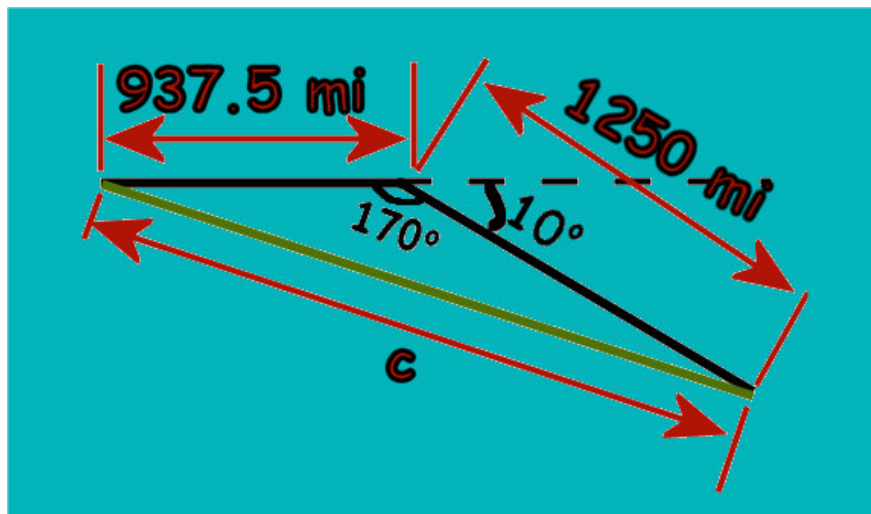
Precalculus, Mathematics for Calculus 4th Edition
by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin and Saleem Watson.

31. A pilot flies in a straight path for 1 hour and 30 minutes. She then makes a course correction heading 10° to the right of her original course and flies 2 hours in the new direction. If she maintains a constant speed of 625 miles per hour, how far is she from her original position?

First notice the distance she flew in the original direction = $625 * 1.5 = 937.5$ miles.

The distance along the altered course = $625 * 2 = 1250$ miles.

This would result in a picture as follows:



To find c we simply apply the Law of Cosines:

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cdot \cos(C), \quad \text{with } a = 937.5, \quad b = 1250 \text{ and } C = 170^\circ$$

$$c^2 = (937.5)^2 + (1250)^2 - 2 \cdot 937.5 \cdot 1250 \cdot \cos(170^\circ)$$

$$c^2 \cong 4\,749\,549.421$$

$$c \cong \mathbf{2179.34 \text{ miles}}$$

