# **7.2** Finding Arc Measures For use with Exploration 7.2

### **Essential Question** How are circular arcs measured?

A **central angle** of a circle is an angle whose vertex is the center of the circle. A *circular arc* is a portion of a circle, as shown below. The measure of a circular arc is the measure of its central angle.

If  $m \angle AOB < 180^\circ$ , then the circular arc is called a **minor arc** and is denoted by AB.



## **EXPLORATION:** Measuring Circular Arcs

#### Go to BigIdeasMath.com for an interactive tool to investigate this exploration.

Work with a partner. Use dynamic geometry software to find the measure of  $\widehat{BC}$ . Verify your answers using trigonometry.



#### 7.2 Finding Arc Measures (continued)



## Communicate Your Answer

**2.** How are circular arcs measured?

**3.** Use dynamic geometry software to draw a circular arc with the given measure.

a.	30°	b.	45°
c.	60°	d.	90°



## Core Concepts

#### **Measuring Arcs**

The **measure of a minor arc** is the measure of its central angle. The expression  $\widehat{mAB}$  is read as "the measure of arc *AB*."

The measure of the entire circle is  $360^{\circ}$ . The **measure of a major arc** is the difference of  $360^{\circ}$  and the measure of the related minor arc. The measure of a semicircle is  $180^{\circ}$ .



Date

 $\widehat{mADB} = 360^\circ - 50^\circ = 310^\circ$ 

#### Notes:

### Postulates

#### **Arc Addition Postulate**

The measure of an arc formed by two adjacent arcs is the sum of the measures of the two arcs.

Notes:



### Theorems

#### **Congruent Circles Theorem**

Two circles are congruent circles if and only if they have the same radius.

Notes:



### 7.2 Practice (continued)

#### **Congruent Central Angles Theorem**

In the same circle, or in congruent circles, two minor arcs are congruent if and only if their corresponding central angles are congruent.

Notes:



 $\widehat{BC} \cong \widehat{DE}$  if and only if  $\angle BAC \cong \angle DAE$ .

#### **Similar Circles Theorem**

All circles are similar.

Notes:

## Worked-Out Examples

#### Example #1

#### Name the minor arc and find its measure. Then name the major arc and find its measure.

The minor arc is  $\widehat{JL}$  and it has a measure of 120°. The major arc is  $\widehat{JKL}$  and its measure is  $360^{\circ} - 120^{\circ} = 240^{\circ}$ .



#### Example #2

Find the measure of each arc.

a.  $\widehat{JL}$ 

**b.**  $\widehat{KM}$ 

c. JLM

**d**. *JM* 



**a.** 
$$mJL = mJK + mKL = 53^{\circ} + 79^{\circ} = 132^{\circ}$$
  
**b.**  $m\widehat{KM} = m\widehat{KL} + m\widehat{LM} = 79^{\circ} + 68^{\circ} = 147^{\circ}$   
**c.**  $m\widehat{JLM} = m\widehat{JK} + m\widehat{KL} + m\widehat{LM} = 53^{\circ} + 79^{\circ} + 68^{\circ} = 200^{\circ}$   
**d.**  $m\widehat{JM} = 360^{\circ} - 200^{\circ} = 160^{\circ}$ 

Name

### 7.2 Practice (continued)

## **Practice A**

In Exercises 1–8, identify the given arc as a *major arc*, *minor arc*, or *semicircle*. Then find the measure of the arc.



- **9.** In  $\bigcirc E$  above, tell whether  $\widehat{ABC} \cong \widehat{ADC}$ . Explain why or why not.
- **10.** In  $\bigcirc K$ , find the measure of  $\widehat{DE}$ .



**11.** Find the value of x. Then find the measure of  $\widehat{AB}$ .



# **Practice B**

In Exercises 1–4, identify the given arc as a *major arc*, *minor arc*, or *semicircle*. Then find the measure of the arc of  $\odot U$  if  $\overline{SQ}$  and  $\overline{PR}$  are diameters.



In Exercises 5–7, tell whether the given arcs are congruent. Explain why or why not.



- **10.** A water sprinkler covers the area shown in the figure. It moves through the covered area at a rate of about 5° per second.
  - **a.** What is the measure of the arc covered by the sprinkler?
  - **b.** When the sprinkler starts at the far left position, how long will it take for the sprinkler to reach the far right position?

