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## 7.2 <br> Finding Arc Measures <br> 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 $m \angle A O B<180^{\circ}$, then the circular arc is called a minor arc and is denoted by $\overparen{A B}$.


## 1 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 $\overparen{B C}$.
Verify your answers using trigonometry.
a.


Points
$A(0,0)$
$B(5,0)$
$C(4,3)$
b.


Points
$A(0,0)$
$B(5,0)$
$C(3,4)$
$\qquad$

### 7.2 Finding Arc Measures (continued)

1 EXPLORATION: Measuring Circular Arcs (continued)
c.

Points $A(0,0)$
$B(4,3)$
$C(3,4)$
d.


Points
$A(0,0)$
$B(4,3)$
$C(-4,3)$

## Communicate Your Answer

2. How are circular arcs measured?
3. Use dynamic geometry software to draw a circular arc with the given measure.
a. $30^{\circ}$
b. $45^{\circ}$
c. $60^{\circ}$
d. $90^{\circ}$
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$\qquad$

## Core Concepts

## Measuring Arcs

The measure of a minor arc is the measure of its central angle. The expression $m \overparen{A B}$ is read as "the measure of arc $A B$."

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 $180^{\circ}$.

$m \widehat{A D B}=360^{\circ}-50^{\circ}=310^{\circ}$

## 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:


$\odot A \cong \odot B$ if and only if $\overline{A C} \cong \overline{B D}$.
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### 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:


$\overparen{B C} \cong \overparen{D E}$ if and only if $\angle B A C \cong \angle D A E$.

## 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 $\overparen{J L}$ and it has a measure of $120^{\circ}$. The major arc is $\widehat{J K L}$ and its measure is $360^{\circ}-120^{\circ}=240^{\circ}$.


## Example \#2

Find the measure of each arc.
a. $\overparen{J L}$
b. $\overparen{K M}$
c. $\widehat{J L M}$
d. $\overparen{J M}$

a. $m \overparen{J L}=m \overparen{J K}+m \overparen{K L}=53^{\circ}+79^{\circ}=132^{\circ}$
b. $m \widehat{K M}=m \widehat{K L}+m \widehat{L M}=79^{\circ}+68^{\circ}=147^{\circ}$
c. $m \widehat{J M M}=m \overparen{J K}+m \overparen{K L}+m \overparen{L M}=53^{\circ}+79^{\circ}+68^{\circ}=200^{\circ}$
d. $m \overparen{J M}=360^{\circ}-200^{\circ}=160^{\circ}$
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### 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.

1. $\overparen{A B}$
2. $\overparen{A B C}$
3. $\overparen{A B D}$
4. $\overparen{B C}$
5. $\overparen{B A C}$
6. $\overparen{D A B}$

7. $\overparen{A D}$
8. $\overparen{C D}$
9. In $\odot E$ above, tell whether $\widehat{A B C} \cong \widehat{A D C}$. Explain why or why not.
10. In $\odot K$, find the measure of $\overparen{D E}$.

11. Find the value of $x$. Then find the measure of $\overparen{A B}$.

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## 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 $\overline{S Q}$ and $\overline{P R}$ are diameters.

1. $\overparen{Q R S}$
2. $\overparen{T S}$
3. $\overparen{T P S}$
4. $\overparen{P Q}$


In Exercises 5-7, tell whether the given arcs are congruent. Explain why or why not.
5. $\overparen{A C}$ and $\overparen{B D}$

6. $\overparen{N M}$ and $\overparen{O P}$

7. $\overparen{A B}$ and $\overparen{C D}$

8. The spokes on a bicycle wheel divide the wheel into congruent sections. What is the measure of each arc in this circle?
9. Find the measure of each arc.
a. $\overparen{A C}$
b. $\overparen{D A B}$



