**Definition:** Trigonometry is the study of triangles. **Recall:** 1. A triangle is a shape with 3 angles and 3 sides.

2. The measures of the 3 angles add up to  $180^\circ$ 



A triangle with angles 87, 49, and 44

 $87^{\circ} + 49^{\circ} + 44^{\circ} = 180^{\circ}$ 

3. **Definition:** Two triangles are called *similar* to each other if one can be scaled (enlarged or reduced) to get the other.



4. Two triangles are similar if they have the same 3 angles. Note: If triangles share 2 angles, the  $3^{rd}$  must be the same because they add up to 180

**Example:** If we know that two angles on a triangle are  $90^{\circ}$  and  $32^{\circ}$  then what is the measure of the  $3^{rd}$  angle?

**Example:** Suppose that there are 2 triangles. Two of the angles of the first triangle are  $90^{\circ}$  and  $54^{\circ}$ . Two of the angles of the first triangle are  $90^{\circ}$  and  $36^{\circ}$ . Are the two triangles similar?

**Example:** Find the missing angles and sides of the triangles below.



**Observation:** The properties about triangles allow us to find missing measurements without having to measure them.