

Question 4

(25 marks)

$A(0, 0)$, $B(6.5, 0)$ and $C(10, 7)$ are three points on a circle.

(a) Find the equation of the circle.

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$$

$$(0, 0) \Rightarrow 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + c = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{c = 0}$$

$$(6.5, 0) \Rightarrow 42.25 + 0 + 13g + 0 + 0 = 0$$

$$\therefore \boxed{g = -3.25}$$

$$(10, 7) \Rightarrow 100 + 49 + 2(-3.25)(10) + 2f(7) + 0 = 0$$

$$\therefore 84 + 14f = 0$$

$$\boxed{f = -6}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{x^2 + y^2 - 6.5x - 12y = 0}$$

(b) Find $|\angle BCA|$. Give your answer in degrees, correct to 2 decimal places.

$$\text{Slope } BC = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{7 - 0}{10 - 6.5} = 2$$

$$\text{Slope } CA = \frac{0 - 7}{0 - 10} = \frac{7}{10}$$

$$\tan \theta = \pm \frac{m_1 - m_2}{1 + m_1 m_2}$$

$$= \pm \frac{2 - \frac{7}{10}}{1 + (2)\left(\frac{7}{10}\right)} = \pm \frac{13}{24}$$

$$\therefore \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{13}{24} = \boxed{28.44^\circ}$$

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