

PROBLEM 2.3

$$l = 5420 \text{ ft}, w = 1510 \text{ ft}$$

$$A = l \cdot w$$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial l} = w, \quad \frac{\partial A}{\partial w} = l$$

$$\text{Max } \sigma_A = \pm 0.1 \text{ acre} = \pm 0.1 * 43560 = 4356 \text{ ft}^2$$

Let relative precision = $\frac{1}{N}$, then

$$\frac{1}{N} = \frac{1}{\frac{l}{\sigma_l}} = \frac{1}{\frac{w}{\sigma_w}}, \rightarrow \sigma_l = \frac{l}{N}, \quad \sigma_w = \frac{w}{N}$$

From the law of propagation of random errors,

$$\sigma_A^2 = \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial l}\right)^2 \cdot \sigma_l^2 + \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial w}\right)^2 \cdot \sigma_w^2$$

Substitute the values of σ_A , $\frac{\partial A}{\partial l}$, $\frac{\partial A}{\partial w}$, σ_l and σ_w in the above equation,

$$\rightarrow (4356)^2 = w^2 \cdot \frac{l^2}{N^2} + l^2 \cdot \frac{w^2}{N^2} = \frac{2 l^2 w^2}{N^2} \rightarrow N = 2657$$

$$\therefore \text{Relative precision at } 1\sigma \text{ level} \cong \frac{1}{2700}$$

