

Trigonometric function identities

Our Favorite (capitol 'F') trig identities are

1. (*symmetries*)

$$\sin(-\theta) = -\sin(\theta), \quad \text{and} \quad \cos(-\theta) = \cos(\theta)$$

2. (*pythagorean identity*)

$$\sin^2(\theta) + \cos^2(\theta) = 1$$

3. (*angle addition formulas*)

$$\sin(\theta + \phi) = \sin(\theta) \cos(\phi) + \sin(\phi) \cos(\theta), \quad \text{and} \quad \cos(\theta + \phi) = \cos(\theta) \cos(\phi) - \sin(\theta) \sin(\phi)$$

Using what we know about the relation between points on the unit circle and the functions $\sin(\theta)$ and $\cos(\theta)$, explain/prove the first two identities. Draw pictures.

Trigonometric function identities

For the following problems, use the three basic identities (symmetries, pythagorean, angle addition) to prove the given equalities.

- $\tan(x + y) = \frac{\tan x + \tan y}{1 - \tan x \tan y}$.
- $\sin(x/2) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos x}{2}}$.
- $\cos 3x = \cos^3 x - 3 \cos x \sin^2 x$.
- $\sin 3x = 3 \cos^2 x \sin x - \sin^3 x$.
- $\sin^2 A \cot^2 A = (1 - \sin A)(1 + \sin A)$.
- $\tan B = \frac{\cos B}{\sin B \cot^2 B}$.
- $\frac{\tan V \cos V}{\sin V} = 1$.
- $\sin E \cot E + \cos E \tan E = \sin E + \cos E$.
- $\frac{1}{\sec^2 x} + \frac{1}{\csc^2 x} - 1 = 0$.
- $\frac{\sec A - 1}{\sec A + 1} + \frac{\cos A - 1}{\cos A + 1} = 0$.
- $\sin V(1 + \cot^2 V) = \csc V$.
- $\frac{\sin(\pi/2 - w)}{\cos(\pi/2 - w)} = \cot w$.
- $\sec(\pi/2 - z) = \frac{1}{\sin z}$.
- $1 + \tan^2(\pi/2 - x) = \frac{1}{\cos^2(\pi/2 - x)}$.
- $\frac{\sin A}{\csc A} + \frac{\cos A}{\sec A} = 1$.
- $\frac{\sec B}{\cos B} - \frac{\tan B}{\cot B} = 1$.
- $\frac{1}{\csc^2 w} + \sec^2 w + \frac{1}{\sec^2 w} = 2 + \frac{\sec^2 w}{\csc^2 w}$.
- $\sec^4 V - \sec^2 V = \frac{1}{\cot^4 V} + \frac{1}{\cot^2 V}$.
- $\sin^4 x + \cos^2 x = \cos^4 x + \sin^2 x$.
- $\tan 3\alpha = \frac{3 \tan \alpha - \tan^3 \alpha}{1 - 3 \tan^2 \alpha}$.
- $\cot(\alpha/2) = \frac{\sin \alpha}{1 - \cos \alpha}$.
- $\cos(\pi/6 - x) + \cos(\pi/6 + x) = \sqrt{3} \cos x$.
- $\sin(\alpha + \beta) \sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin^2 \alpha - \sin^2 \beta$.
- $\sin(\pi/3 - x) + \sin(\pi/3 + x) = \sqrt{3} \cos x$.
- $\cos(\pi/4 - x) - \cos(\pi/4 + x) = \sqrt{2} \sin x$.
- $2 \sin \alpha \cos \beta = \sin(\alpha + \beta) + \sin(\alpha - \beta)$.
- $2 \sin \alpha \sin \beta = \cos(\alpha - \beta) - \cos(\alpha + \beta)$.

More fun with trigonometric function identities

For the following problems, use the three identities above to prove the given equalities.

- $\cos 2\theta = 2 \sin(\pi/4 + \theta) \sin(\pi/4 - \theta).$
- $(1/2) \sin 2A = \frac{\tan A}{1 + \tan^2 A}.$
- $\cot(x/2) = \frac{1 + \cos x}{\sin x}.$
- $\sin 2B(\cot B + \tan B) = 2.$
- $\frac{1 - \tan^2 \theta}{1 + \tan^2 \theta} = \cos 2\theta.$
- $1 + \cos 2A = \frac{2}{1 + \tan^2 A}.$
- $\tan 2x \tan x + 2 = \frac{\tan 2x}{\tan x}.$
- $\csc A \sec A = 2 \csc 2A .$
- $\cot x = \frac{\sin 2x}{1 - \cos 2x}.$
- $1 - \sin A = \left(\sin \frac{A}{2} - \cos \frac{A}{2} \right)^2 .$
- $\cos^4 A = \frac{2 \cos 2A + \cos^2 2A + 1}{4}.$
- $\frac{\sin A + \sin B}{\sin A - \sin B} = \frac{\tan \left(\frac{A+B}{2} \right)}{\tan \left(\frac{A-B}{2} \right)}.$
- $\frac{\sin \alpha + \sin 3\alpha}{\cos \alpha + \cos 3\alpha} = \tan 2\alpha.$
- $\frac{\cos 2A}{1 + \sin 2A} = \frac{\cot A - 1}{\cot A + 1}.$
- $\frac{\cos A + \sin A}{\cos A - \sin A} = \frac{1 + \sin 2A}{\cos 2A}.$
- $\cot \alpha - \cot \beta = \frac{\sin(\beta - \alpha)}{\sin \alpha \sin \beta}.$
- $\tan \theta \csc \theta \cos \theta = 1.$
- $\cos^2 \theta = \frac{\cot^2 \theta}{1 + \cot^2 \theta}.$
- $\frac{1 - \sin A}{1 + \sin A} = (\sec A - \tan A)^2.$
- $(\tan A - \cot A)^2 + 4 = \sec^2 A + \csc^2 A.$
- $\cos B \cos(A + B) + \sin B \sin(A + B) = \cos A.$
- $\frac{\tan A - \sin A}{\sec A} = \frac{\sin^3 A}{1 + \cos A}.$
- $\frac{2 \tan^2 A}{1 + \tan^2 A} = 1 - \cos 2A.$
- $\tan 2A = \tan A + \frac{\tan A}{\cos 2A}.$
- $\sin 2A = \frac{2 \tan A}{1 + \tan^2 A}.$
- $\frac{4 \sin A}{1 - \sin^2 A} = \frac{1 + \sin A}{1 - \sin A} - \frac{1 - \sin A}{1 + \sin A}.$
- $\tan A + \sin A = \frac{\csc A + \cot A}{\csc A \cot A}.$