
P2 Chapter 7: Trigonometric Equations

Addition Formulae

Addition Formulae

Addition Formulae allow us to deal with a sum or difference of angles.

$$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$$

$$\sin(A - B) = \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A + B) = \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A - B) = \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$$

$$\tan(A + B) = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$$

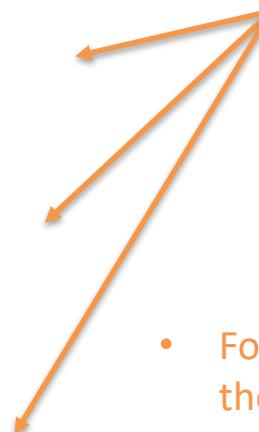
$$\tan(A - B) = \frac{\tan A - \tan B}{1 + \tan A \tan B}$$

Do I need to memorise these?

They're all technically in the formula booklet, but you REALLY want to eventually memorise these (particularly the *sin* and *cos* ones).

How to memorise:

First notice that for all of these the first thing on the RHS is the same as the first thing on the LHS!



- For sin, the operator in the middle is the same as on the LHS.
- For cos, it's the opposite.
- For tan, it's the same in the numerator, opposite in the denominator.

- For sin, we mix sin and cos.
- For cos, we keep the cos's and sin's together.

Common Student Error

Why is $\sin(A + B)$ not just $\sin(A) + \sin(B)$?

Because *sin* is a function, not a quantity that can be expanded out like this. It's a bit like how $(a + b)^2 \not\equiv a^2 + b^2$.
We can easily disprove it with a counterexample.

Addition Formulae

Now can you reproduce them without peeking at your notes?

$$\sin(A + B) \equiv$$

?

$$\sin(A - B) \equiv$$

?

$$\cos(A + B) \equiv$$

?

$$\cos(A - B) \equiv$$

?

$$\tan(A + B) \equiv$$

?

$$\tan(A - B) \equiv$$

?

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Addition Formulae

Now can you reproduce them without peeking at your notes?

$$\sin(A + B) \equiv \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$$

$$\sin(A - B) \equiv \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A + B) \equiv \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A - B) \equiv \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$$

$$\tan(A + B) \equiv \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$$

$$\tan(A - B) \equiv \frac{\tan A - \tan B}{1 + \tan A \tan B}$$

How to memorise:

First notice that for all of these the first thing on the RHS is the same as the first thing on the LHS!

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Proof of $\sin(A + B) \equiv \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$

(Not needed for exam)

1: Suppose we had a line of length 1 projected an angle of $A + B$ above the horizontal.

Then the length of $XY = \sin(A + B)$

It would seem sensible to try and find this same length in terms of A and B individually.

2: We can achieve this by forming two right-angled triangles.

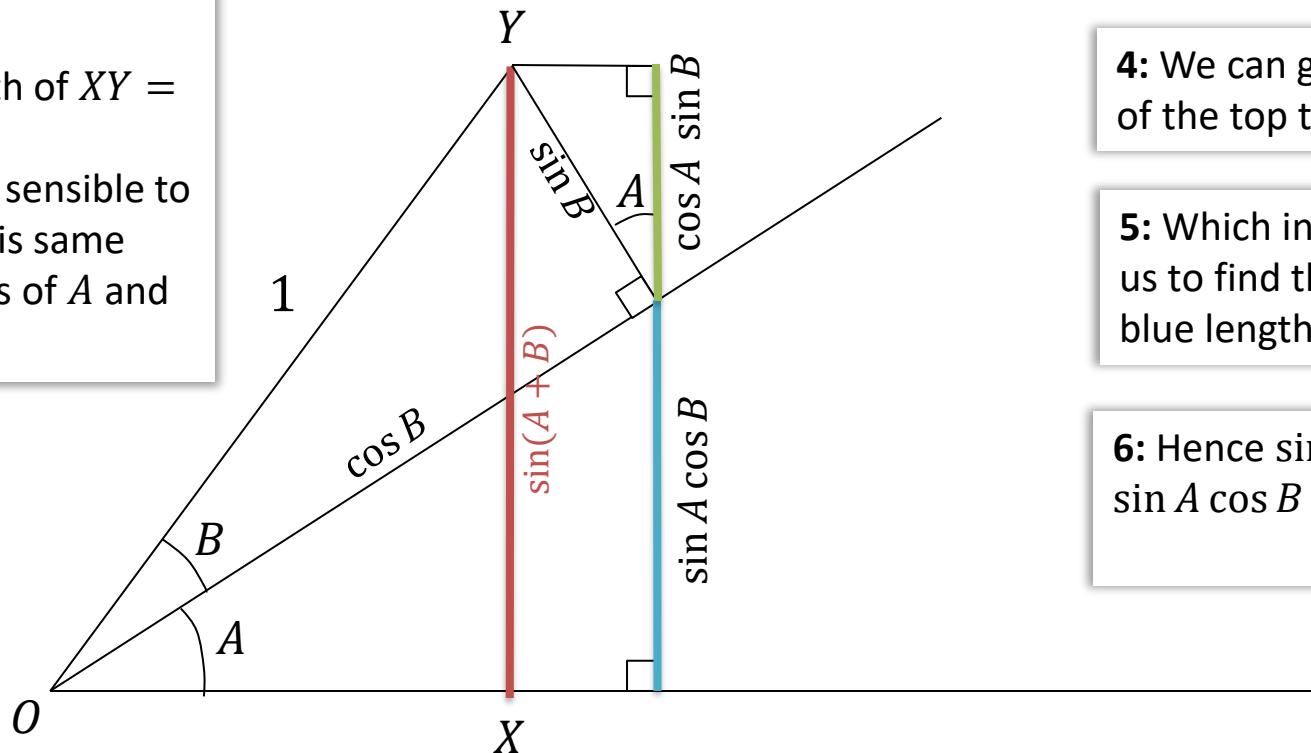
3: Then we're looking for the combined length of these two lines.

4: We can get the lengths of the top triangle...

5: Which in turn allows us to find the green and blue lengths.

6: Hence $\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$

□



Proof of other identities

Can you think how to use our geometrically proven result

$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$ to prove the identity for $\sin(A - B)$?

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(A - B) &= ? \\ &= ? \\ &= ?\end{aligned}$$

What about $\cos(A + B)$? (Hint: what links *sin* and *cos*?)

$$\begin{aligned}\cos(A + B) &= ? \\ &= ? \\ &= ?\end{aligned}$$

Proof of other identities

Can you think how to use our geometrically proven result

$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$ to prove the identity for $\sin(A - B)$?

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(A - B) &= \sin(A + (-B)) \\&= \sin(A) \cos(-B) + \cos(A) \sin(-B) \\&= \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B\end{aligned}$$

What about $\cos(A + B)$? (Hint: what links *sin* and *cos*?)

$$\begin{aligned}\cos(A + B) &= \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - (A + B)\right) = \sin\left(\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - A\right) + (-B)\right) \\&= \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - A\right) \cos(-B) + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - A\right) \sin(-B) \\&= \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B\end{aligned}$$

Proof of other identities

Edexcel C3 Jan 2012 Q8

- (a) Starting from the formulae for $\sin(A+B)$ and $\cos(A+B)$, prove that

$$\tan(A+B) = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B} \quad (4)$$

?

Proof of other identities

Edexcel C3 Jan 2012 Q8

- (a) Starting from the formulae for $\sin(A+B)$ and $\cos(A+B)$, prove that

$$\tan(A+B) = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B} \quad (4)$$

$$\tan(A+B) = \frac{\sin(A+B)}{\cos(A+B)} = \frac{\sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sin A}{\cos A} + \frac{\sin B}{\cos B}}{1 - \frac{\sin A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B}}$$

$$= \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$$

M1A1

M1

A1 *

The important thing is that you explicitly show the division of each term by $\cos A \cos B$.

Examples

Q Given that $2 \sin(x + y) = 3 \cos(x - y)$ express $\tan x$ in terms of $\tan y$.

?

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Using your formulae:

$$2 \sin x \cos y + 2 \cos x \sin y = 3 \cos x \cos y + 3 \sin x \sin y$$

We need to get $\tan x$ and $\tan y$ in there. Dividing by $\cos x \cos y$ would seem like a sensible step:

$$2 \tan x + 2 \tan y = 3 + 3 \tan x \tan y$$

Rearranging:

$$\tan x = \frac{3 - 2 \tan y}{2 - 3 \tan y}$$

Exercise 7.1

Pearson Pure Mathematics Year 2/AS

Page 49

Homework Exercise

- 1 In the diagram $\angle BAC = \beta$, $\angle CAF = \alpha - \beta$ and $AC = 1$. Additionally lines AB and BC are perpendicular.

a Show each of the following:

- i $\angle FAB = \alpha$
- ii $\angle ABD = \alpha$ and $\angle ECB = \alpha$
- iii $AB = \cos \beta$
- iv $BC = \sin \beta$

b Use $\triangle ABD$ to write an expression for the lengths

- i AD
- ii BD

c Use $\triangle BEC$ to write an expression for the lengths

- i CE
- ii BE

d Use $\triangle FAC$ to write an expression for the lengths

- i FC
- ii FA

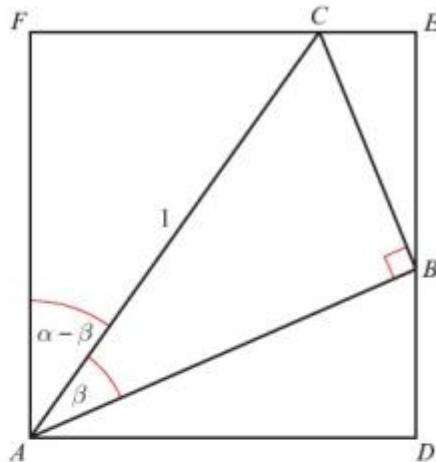
e Use your completed diagram to show that:

- i $\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \cos \alpha \sin \beta$
- ii $\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \alpha \sin \beta$

- 2 Use the formulae for $\sin(A - B)$ and $\cos(A - B)$ to show that

$$\tan(A - B) \equiv \frac{\tan A - \tan B}{1 + \tan A \tan B}$$

- 3 By substituting $A = P$ and $B = -Q$ into the addition formula for $\sin(A + B)$, show that $\sin(P - Q) \equiv \sin P \cos Q - \cos P \sin Q$.



Homework Exercise

- 4 A student makes the mistake of thinking that $\sin(A + B) \equiv \sin A + \sin B$.
Choose non-zero values of A and B to show that this identity is not true.

Watch out This is a common mistake. One counter-example is sufficient to disprove the statement.

- 5 Using the expansion of $\cos(A - B)$ with $A = B = \theta$, show that $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta \equiv 1$.
- 6 a Use the expansion of $\sin(A - B)$ to show that $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \cos \theta$.
b Use the expansion of $\cos(A - B)$ to show that $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \sin \theta$.
- 7 Write $\sin\left(x + \frac{\pi}{6}\right)$ in the form $p \sin x + q \cos x$ where p and q are constants to be found.
- 8 Write $\cos\left(x + \frac{\pi}{3}\right)$ in the form $a \cos x + b \sin x$ where a and b are constants to be found.

Homework Exercise

9 Express the following as a single sine, cosine or tangent:

a $\sin 15^\circ \cos 20^\circ + \cos 15^\circ \sin 20^\circ$

b $\sin 58^\circ \cos 23^\circ - \cos 58^\circ \sin 23^\circ$

c $\cos 130^\circ \cos 80^\circ - \sin 130^\circ \sin 80^\circ$

d
$$\frac{\tan 76^\circ - \tan 45^\circ}{1 + \tan 76^\circ \tan 45^\circ}$$

e $\cos 2\theta \cos \theta + \sin 2\theta \sin \theta$

f $\cos 4\theta \cos 3\theta - \sin 4\theta \sin 3\theta$

g $\sin \frac{1}{2}\theta \cos 2\frac{1}{2}\theta + \cos \frac{1}{2}\theta \sin 2\frac{1}{2}\theta$

h
$$\frac{\tan 2\theta + \tan 3\theta}{1 - \tan 2\theta \tan 3\theta}$$

i $\sin(A+B)\cos B - \cos(A+B)\sin B$

j $\cos\left(\frac{3x+2y}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{3x-2y}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{3x+2y}{2}\right)\sin\left(\frac{3x-2y}{2}\right)$

10 Use the addition formulae for sine or cosine to write each of the following as a single trigonometric function in the form $\sin(x \pm \theta)$ or $\cos(x \pm \theta)$, where $0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$

a $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\sin x + \cos x)$

b $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\cos x - \sin x)$

c $\frac{1}{2}(\sin x + \sqrt{3} \cos x)$

d $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\sin x - \cos x)$

11 Given that $\cos y = \sin(x+y)$, show that $\tan y = \sec x - \tan x$.

12 Given that $\tan(x-y) = 3$, express $\tan y$ in terms of $\tan x$.

Homework Exercise

- 13 Given that $\sin x(\cos y + 2 \sin y) = \cos x(2 \cos y - \sin y)$, find the value of $\tan(x + y)$.

Hint First multiply out the brackets.

- 14 In each of the following, calculate the exact value of $\tan x$.

a $\tan(x - 45^\circ) = \frac{1}{4}$

b $\sin(x - 60^\circ) = 3 \cos(x + 30^\circ)$

c $\tan(x - 60^\circ) = 2$

- 15 Given that $\tan\left(x + \frac{\pi}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{2}$, show that $\tan x = 8 - 5\sqrt{3}$. (3 marks)

- 16 Prove that

$$\cos \theta + \cos\left(\theta + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) + \cos\left(\theta + \frac{4\pi}{3}\right) = 0$$

You must show each stage of your working. (4 marks)

Challenge

This triangle is constructed from two right-angled triangles T_1 and T_2 .

- a Find expressions involving x, y , A and B for:

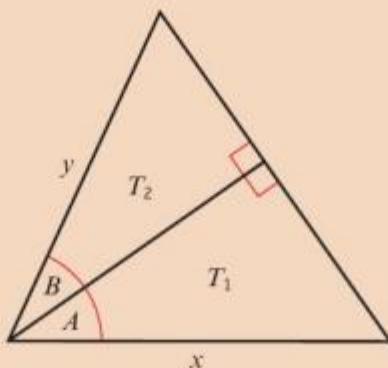
i the area of T_1

ii the area of T_2

iii the area of the large triangle.

- b Hence prove that

$$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$$



Hint For part a your expressions should all involve **all four** variables. You will need to use the formula $\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2}ab \sin \theta$ in each case.

Homework Answers

1 a i $(\alpha - \beta) + \beta = \alpha$. So $\angle FAB = \alpha$.

ii $\angle FAB = \angle ABD$ (alternate angles)

$\angle CBE = 90^\circ - \alpha$, so $\angle BCE = 90^\circ - (90^\circ - \alpha) = \alpha$.

iii $\cos \beta = \frac{AB}{1} \Rightarrow AB = \cos \beta$

iv $\sin \beta = \frac{BC}{1} \Rightarrow BC = \sin \beta$

b i $\sin \alpha = \frac{AD}{\cos \beta} \Rightarrow AD = \sin \alpha \cos \beta$

ii $\cos \alpha = \frac{BD}{\cos \beta} \Rightarrow BD = \cos \alpha \cos \beta$

c i $\cos \alpha = \frac{CE}{\sin \beta} \Rightarrow CE = \cos \alpha \sin \beta$

ii $\sin \alpha = \frac{BE}{\sin \beta} \Rightarrow BE = \sin \alpha \sin \beta$

d i $\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \frac{FC}{1} \Rightarrow FC = \sin(\alpha - \beta)$

ii $\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \frac{FA}{1} \Rightarrow FA = \cos(\alpha - \beta)$

e i $FC + CE = AD$, so $FC = AD - CE$

$\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \cos \alpha \sin \beta$

ii $AF = DB + BE$

$\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \alpha \sin \beta$

2 $\tan(A - B) = \frac{\sin(A - B)}{\cos(A - B)} = \frac{\sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B}$

$$= \frac{\sin A \cos B}{\cos A \cos B} - \frac{\cos A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B}$$

$$= \frac{\cos A \cos B}{\cos A \cos B} - \frac{\cos A \cos B}{\sin A \sin B} = \frac{\tan A - \tan B}{1 + \tan A \tan B}$$

3 $\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$

$\sin(P + (-Q)) = \sin P \cos(-Q) + \cos P \sin(-Q)$

$\sin(P - Q) = \sin P \cos Q - \cos P \sin Q$

4 Example: with $A = 60^\circ$, $B = 30^\circ$,

$$\sin(A + B) = \sin 90^\circ = 1; \sin A + \sin B = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \neq 1$$

[You can find examples of A and B for which the statement is true, e.g. $A = 30^\circ$, $B = -30^\circ$, but one counter-example shows that it is not an identity.]

5 $\cos(\theta - \theta) \equiv \cos \theta \cos \theta + \sin \theta \sin \theta$
 $\Rightarrow \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta \equiv 1$ as $\cos 0 = 1$

6 a $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) \equiv \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \cos \theta - \cos \frac{\pi}{2} \sin \theta$
 $\equiv (1) \cos \theta - (0) \sin \theta = \cos \theta$

b $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) \equiv \cos \frac{\pi}{2} \cos \theta - \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \sin \theta$
 $\equiv (0) \cos \theta - (1) \sin \theta = \sin \theta$

7 $\sin\left(x + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \sin x \cos \frac{\pi}{6} + \cos x \sin \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \cos x$

8 $\cos\left(x + \frac{\pi}{3}\right) = \cos x \cos \frac{\pi}{3} - \sin x \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{1}{2} \cos x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin x$

9 a $\sin 35^\circ$ **b** $\sin 35^\circ$ **c** $\cos 210^\circ$ **d** $\tan 31^\circ$
e $\cos \theta$ **f** $\cos 7\theta$ **g** $\sin 3\theta$ **h** $\tan 5\theta$
i $\sin A$ **j** $\cos 3x$

10 a $\sin\left(x + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$ or $\cos\left(x - \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$ **b** $\cos\left(x + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$

c $\sin\left(x + \frac{\pi}{3}\right)$ or $\cos\left(x - \frac{\pi}{6}\right)$ **d** $\sin\left(x - \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$

Homework Answers

11 $\cos y = \sin x \cos y + \sin y \cos x$

Divide by $\cos x \cos y \Rightarrow \sec x = \tan x + \tan y$,
so $\tan y = \sec x - \tan x$

12 $\frac{\tan x - 3}{3 \tan x + 1}$

13 2

14 a $\frac{5}{3}$ b $\sqrt{3}$ c $-\left(\frac{8 + 5\sqrt{3}}{11}\right)$

15 $\frac{\tan x + \sqrt{3}}{1 - \sqrt{3} \tan x} = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow (2 + \sqrt{3}) \tan x = 1 - 2\sqrt{3}$, so

$$\tan x = \frac{1 - 2\sqrt{3}}{2 + \sqrt{3}} = \frac{(1 - 2\sqrt{3})(2 - \sqrt{3})}{1} = 8 - 5\sqrt{3}$$

16 Write θ as $\left(\theta + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) - \frac{2\pi}{3}$ and $\theta + \frac{4\pi}{3}$ as $\left(\theta + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) + \frac{2\pi}{3}$.

Use the addition formulae for cos and simplify.

Challenge

a i Area = $\frac{1}{2}ab \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}x(y \cos B)(\sin A) = \frac{1}{2}xy \sin A \cos B$

ii Area = $\frac{1}{2}ab \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}y(x \cos A)(\sin B) = \frac{1}{2}xy \cos A \sin B$

iii Area = $\frac{1}{2}ab \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}xy \sin(A + B)$

b Area of large triangle = area T_1 + area T_2

$$\frac{1}{2}xy \sin(A + B) = \frac{1}{2}xy \sin A \cos B + \frac{1}{2}xy \cos A \sin B$$

$$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$$