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## addition and subtraction formulas for sine and cosine

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The rotation matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$  will be used to obtain the addition formulas for sine and cosine.

Recall that a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  can be rotated  $\theta$  radians in the counterclockwise direction by multiplying on the left by the rotation matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$ . Because rotating by  $\alpha + \beta$  radians is the same as rotating by  $\beta$  radians followed by rotating by  $\alpha$  radians, we obtain:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos(\alpha + \beta) & -\sin(\alpha + \beta) \\ \sin(\alpha + \beta) & \cos(\alpha + \beta) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \beta & -\sin \beta \\ \sin \beta & \cos \beta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta & -\cos \alpha \sin \beta - \sin \alpha \cos \beta \\ \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta & -\sin \alpha \sin \beta + \cos \alpha \cos \beta \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence,  $\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta$  and  $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$ .

Note that sine is an odd function and that cosine is an even function, <http://planetmath.org/Iei>. i.e.  $\sin(-x) = -\sin x$  and  $\cos(-x) = \cos x$ . These facts enable us to obtain the subtraction formulas for sine and cosine.

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

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