Trigonometric Functions Review

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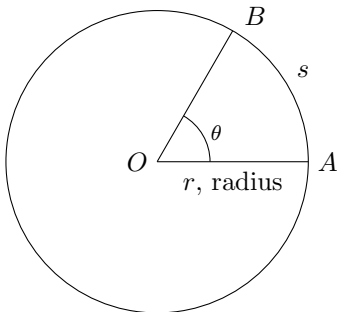
1 Basics

radian and degree

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They are the unit of angle. And the standard unit is radian.

- 1 radian is defined as the angle subtended from the center of a circle which intercepts an arc equal in length to the radius of the circle.

- 360 degree is one complete revolution.

Using radian measure, we have the relation, $s = \theta r$.

π

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π is defined as the ratio of a circle's circumference C to its diameter d. So $C = \pi d = 2\pi r$. A right angle is $\pi/2 = 90$ degree.

trigonometric function

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Given a right triangle, an angle x in radian measure. For this angle x, define the opposite side to be the side opposite to x, with length a, define the adjacent side to be the side between x and the right angle, with length b, and the hypotenuse side to be the side opposite to the right angle, with length c, then
$\sin(x) = a/c$, $\cos(x) = b/c$, and $\tan(x) = a/b$; then $\csc(x) = 1/\sin(x)$, $\sec(x) = 1/\cos(x)$ and $\cot(x) = 1/\tan(x)$.
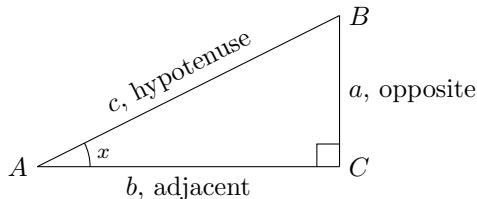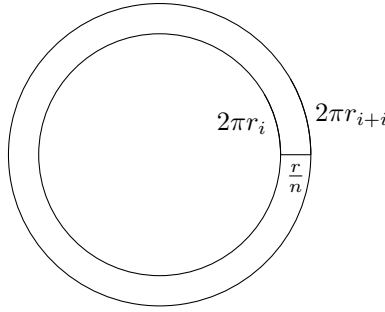
2 Conclusions

area of circle

Using limit and squeeze theorem, we separate the area of a circle into n number of annulus. Now the area of circle with radius r, A satisfies the following:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{r}{n}\left(2\pi\frac{r(i+1)}{n}\right) > A > \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{r}{n}\left(2\pi\frac{ri}{n}\right)$$

Above inequality is reduced to

$$\pi r^2 \frac{n+1}{n} > A > \pi r^2 \frac{n-1}{n}$$

Then by squeeze theorem (for series not functions), $\lim_{n\to\infty} A = A = \pi r^2$.

Similar idea can be used to find the area of a sector. For a sector of radius r and angle θ, its area is $\frac{1}{2}\theta r^2$. A linear function of θ.

We can also plug in the formula for arc length $s = \theta r$ and above becomes $\frac{1}{2}\theta s$, which is quite similar to the one for triangle.

Pythagorean Theorem

Theorem 2.1. *In any right triangle with sides of lengths a and b, and hypotenuse of length c, we have $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.*

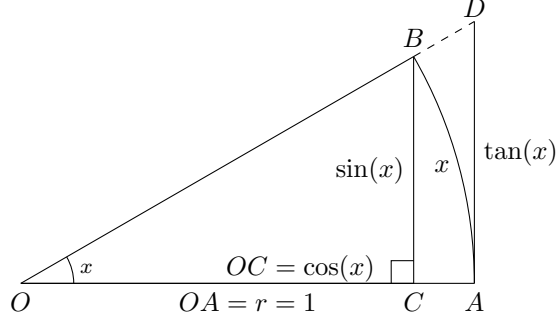*Proof.* We can put four triangles of the same size into the following square.

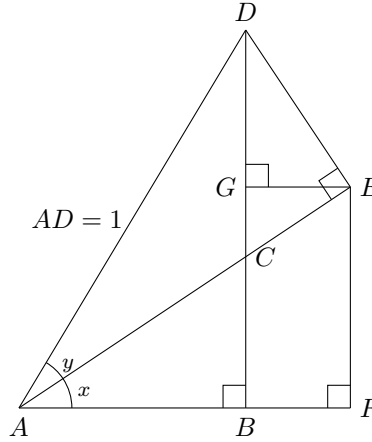$\square$
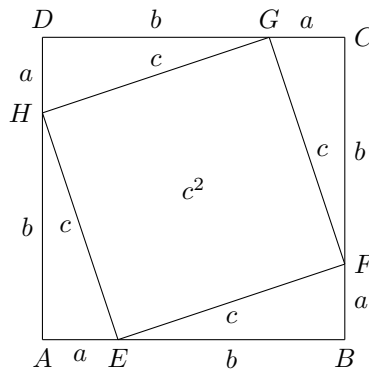
Proposition 2.2. $\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x) = 1$

some simple relations

- for any triangle with sides of length a, b, and c: $a + b > c$, $b + c > a$, and $c + a > b$

- when x is close to 0, we have $\sin(x) < x < \tan(x)$

- $\tan(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)}$

- $\sin(x + 2\pi) = \sin(x)$, $\cos(x + 2\pi) = \cos(x)$

- $\sin(-x) = -\sin(x)$, $\cos(-x) = \cos(x)$, $\tan(-x) = -\tan(x)$

- $\sin(x + \pi) = -\sin(x)$, $\cos(x + \pi) = -\cos(x)$

- $\sin(x + \pi/2) = \cos(x)$, $\cos(x + \pi/2) = -\sin(x)$

$\sin(x + y)$ and $\cos(x + y)$

From above figure, we can write the following:

$$DB = \sin(x + y) = DG + GB = DG + EF$$
$$AB = \cos(x + y) = AF - AB = AF - EG$$
$$\angle CDE = \angle CAB = x$$
$$DE = AD\sin(y) = \sin(y),\, DG = DE\cos(x) = \sin(y)\cos(x),\, EG = DE\sin(x) = \sin(y)\sin(x)$$
$$AE = AD\cos(y) = \cos(y),\, EF = AE\sin(x) = \cos(y)\sin(x),\, AF = AE\cos(x) = \cos(y)\cos(x)$$
$$\sin(x + y) = \sin(x)\cos(y) + \cos(x)\sin(y)$$
$$\cos(x + y) = \cos(x)\cos(y) - \sin(x)\sin(y)$$

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other formulas

$$\tan(x+y) = \frac{\sin(x+y)}{\cos(x+y)} = \frac{\sin(x)\cos(y) + \cos(x)\sin(y)}{\cos(x)\cos(y) - \sin(x)\sin(y)}$$
$$= \frac{\tan(x) + \tan(y)}{1 - \tan(x)\tan(y)}$$
$$\sin(x-y) = \sin(x+(-y)) = \sin(x)\cos(y) - \cos(x)\sin(y)$$
$$\cos(x-y) = \cos(x+(-y)) = \cos(x)\cos(y) + \sin(x)\sin(y)$$
$$\tan(x-y) = \tan(x+(-y)) = \frac{\tan(x) - \tan(y)}{1 + \tan(x)\tan(y)}$$
$$\sin(2x) = \sin(x+x) = 2\sin(x)\cos(x) = \frac{2\sin(x)\cos(x)}{\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x)} = \frac{2\tan(x)}{1 + \tan^2(x)}$$
$$\cos(2x) = \cos(x+x) = \cos^2(x) - \sin^2(x) = \frac{\cos^2(x) - \sin^2(x)}{\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x)} = \frac{1 - \tan^2(x)}{1 + \tan^2(x)}$$
$$\tan(2x) = \tan(x+x) = \frac{2\tan(x)}{1 - \tan^2(x)}$$

half-angle formulas

use the identity:

$$\cos(2x) = 2\cos^2(x) - 1 = 1 - 2\sin^2(x)$$
$$\cos(x) = 2\cos^2(x/2) - 1 = 1 - 2\sin^2(x/2)$$

then solve this quadratic equation we have

$$\sin(x/2) = \sqrt{\frac{\cos(x) + 1}{2}} \ \text{ or } \ -\sqrt{\frac{\cos(x) + 1}{2}}$$
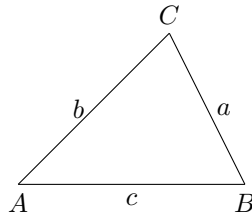$$\cos(x/2) = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos(x)}{2}} \ \text{ or } \ -\sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos(x)}{2}}$$

where the sign can be determined using the quadrant of the half-angle.

Law of sines

Theorem 2.3. *For any triangle $\triangle ABC$ with sides of length a, b, c, we have the following:*

$$\frac{a}{\sin(\angle A)} = \frac{c}{\sin(\angle C)} = \frac{b}{\sin(\angle B)}$$

The proof uses the fact that the area of this triangle $S = \frac{1}{2}c \cdot b \sin \angle A = \frac{1}{2}c \cdot a \sin \angle B$

Theorem 2.4. *For any triangle $\triangle ABC$ with sides of length a, b, c, we have the following:*

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab\cos\angle C$$
$$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc\cos\angle A$$
$$b^2 = c^2 + a^2 - 2ca\cos\angle B$$

Proof. Notice that $c = a\cos\angle B + b\cos\angle A$, we multiply this by c and obtain

$$c^2 = ac\cos\angle B + bc\cos\angle A$$

Do this for all three sides and we have

$$a^2 = ac\cos\angle B + ab\cos\angle C$$
$$b^2 = bc\cos\angle A + ba\cos\angle C$$
$$c^2 = ca\cos\angle B + cb\cos\angle A$$

And the rest part of the proof is obvious. $\qquad\square$

3 Extensions

With $y = \sin(x)$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}$, we define $x = \arcsin(y)$ where $y \in [-1, 1]$ and range $x \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$. Similarly we can define the following:

- $y = \arcsin(x)$ where $x \in [-1, 1]$ and $y \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$

- $y = \arccos(x)$ where $x \in [-1, 1]$ and $y \in [0, \pi]$

- $y = \arctan(x)$ where $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $y \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$

We have the following result:

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
\sin(\arcsin(x)) = x & \cos(\arcsin(x)) = \sqrt{1-x^2} & \sin(\arccos(x)) = \sqrt{1-x^2} \\
\sin(\arccos(x)) = \sqrt{1-x^2} & \cos(\arccos(x)) = x & \tan(\arccos(x)) = \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} \\
\sin(\arctan(x)) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} & \cos(\arctan(x)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} & \tan(\arctan(x)) = x
\end{array}
$$

We have the following result:

$$\arcsin(-x) = -\arcsin(x)$$
$$\arccos(-x) = \pi - \arccos(x)$$
$$\arctan(-x) = -\arctan(x)$$
$$\arccos(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arcsin(x)$$
$$\arctan(\frac{1}{x}) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arctan(x), x > 0$$
$$\arctan(\frac{1}{x}) = -\frac{\pi}{2} - \arctan(x), x < 0$$

hyperbolic functions

Using exponential function e^x we define:

$$\sinh(x) = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2} = \frac{e^{2x} - 1}{2e^x} = \frac{1 - e^{-2x}}{2e^{-x}}$$

$$\cosh(x) = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} = \frac{e^{2x} + 1}{2e^x} = \frac{1 + e^{-2x}}{2e^{-x}}$$

$$\tanh(x) = \frac{\sinh(x)}{\cosh(x)} = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} = \frac{e^{2x} - 1}{e^{2x} + 1}$$

relation between hyperbolic functions

Using exponential function e^x we define:

$$\sinh(-x) = -\sinh(x)$$

$$\cosh(-x) = \cosh(x)$$

$$\cosh^2(x) - \sinh^2(x) = 1$$

$$\cosh(x) + \sinh(x) = e^x$$

$$\cosh(x) - \sinh(x) = e^{-x}$$

$$\sinh(x + y) = \sinh(x)\cosh(y) + \cosh(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$\cosh(x + y) = \cosh(x)\cosh(y) + \sinh(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$\operatorname{arcsinh}(x) = \ln(\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}})$$

$$\operatorname{arcCosh}(x) = \ln(\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x^2 - 1}})$$

4   Exercises

show that $\frac{\sin(x)}{x} \to 1$ as $x \to 0$.

show that $\frac{1 - \cos(x)}{0.5x^2} \to 1$ as $x \to 0$.

show that $\frac{\tan(x)}{x} \to 1$ as $x \to 0$.