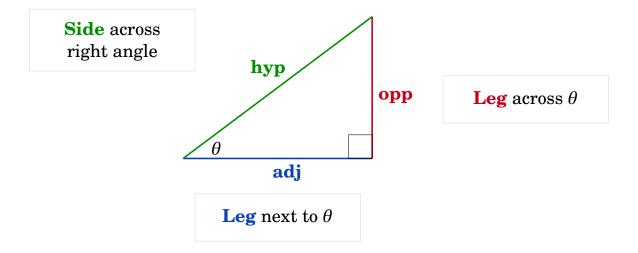
# **Trigonometric Ratios**

There are consistent ratios between the sides of right triangles with the same angle measurements.

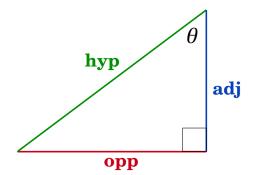
These values are known as trigonometric ratios. The three principal ratios are sine, cosine, and tangent.

## Labeling the sides of the right triangle

We take the **sine**, **cosine**, and **tangent** of an **acute angle** inside a right triangle. The sides are labeled relative to a reference angle we will name  $\theta$ .



A Pay careful attention to which angle is labeled because it affects which sides are opposite and adjacent.



## Defining Sine, Cosine, and Tangent

Trigonometric ratios relate specific sides of a right triangle with respect to a specific angle.

#### Sine

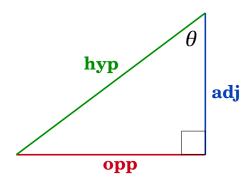
$$\sin\theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{hyp}}$$

#### Cosine

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\mathbf{adj}}{\mathbf{hyp}}$$

# **Tangent**

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{adj}}$$

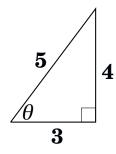


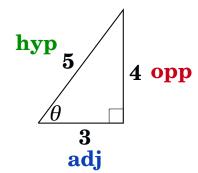
## <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Evaluating Trigonometric Functions

- **1** Label the sides of the triangle relative to the angle.
- 2 Plug in the appropriate side lengths for the specific ratio.
- **3** Evaluate or simplify the ratio.

### **Example 1:** Find the sine, cosine, and tangent of $\theta$ .

**1** Label the sides of the triangle relative to the reference angle,  $\theta$ .





**2** Plug in the appropriate side lengths for the specific ratio.

Sine

**Tangent** 

$$\sin\theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{hyp}} = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\mathbf{adj}}{\mathbf{hyp}} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{hyp}} = \frac{4}{5}$$
 $\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{adj}}{\mathbf{hyp}} = \frac{3}{5}$ 
 $\tan \theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{adj}} = \frac{4}{3}$ 

**3** Evaluate or simplify the ratio.

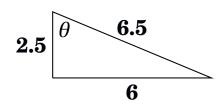
$$\sin\theta = \frac{4}{5} = 0.8$$

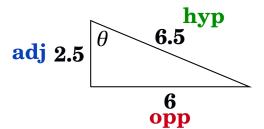
$$\cos\theta = \frac{3}{5} = 0.6$$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{4}{5} = 0.8 \qquad \qquad \cos\theta = \frac{3}{5} = 0.6 \qquad \qquad \tan\theta = \frac{4}{3} \approx 1.33$$

### **Example 2:** Find the sine, cosine, and tangent of $\theta$ .

**1** Label the sides of the triangle relative to the reference angle,  $\theta$ .





**2** Plug in the appropriate side lengths for the specific ratio.

Sine

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{hyp}} = \frac{6}{6.5}$$
  $\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{adj}}{\mathbf{hyp}} = \frac{2.5}{6.5}$   $\tan \theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{adj}} = \frac{6}{2.5}$ 

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\mathbf{adj}}{\mathbf{hyp}} = \frac{2.5}{6.5}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\mathbf{opp}}{\mathbf{adj}} = \frac{6}{2.5}$$

**3** Evaluate or simplify the ratio.

$$\sin\theta = \frac{6}{6.5} \approx 0.923 \qquad \qquad \cos\theta = \frac{2.5}{6.5} \approx 0.385 \qquad \qquad \tan\theta = \frac{6}{2.5} = 2.4$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{2.5}{6.5} \approx 0.385$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{6}{2.5} = 2.4$$

**6** SOH-CAH-TOA

This acronym can help you remember the definition of the ratios.

$$S = \frac{O}{H}$$

$$C = \frac{A}{H}$$

$$T = \frac{O}{A}$$