

## Section 5.2

Verifying Identities

### Fundamental Identities

#### Reciprocal Identities

$$\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$$

$$\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$$

$$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$$

#### Quotient Identities

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$$

$$\cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$$

#### Pythagorean Identities

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

$$\tan^2(\theta) + 1 = \sec^2(\theta)$$

$$1 + \cot^2(\theta) = \csc^2(\theta)$$

#### Negative Angle Identities

$$\sin(-\theta) = -\sin(\theta)$$

$$\tan(-\theta) = -\tan(\theta)$$

$$\sec(-\theta) = \sec(\theta)$$

$$\cos(-\theta) = \cos(\theta)$$

$$\cot(-\theta) = -\cot(\theta)$$

$$\csc(-\theta) = -\csc(\theta)$$

#### Complementary Identities

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

$$\cot(\theta) = \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$$

$$\csc(\theta) = \sec\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$$

## VERIFYING IDENTITIES

**Problem 1.** Verify that the following equation is an identity.

$$\sec \theta (\sin \theta + \cos \theta) = 1 + \tan \theta$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sec \theta (\sin \theta + \cos \theta) &= \sec \theta \sin \theta + \sec \theta \cos \theta \\ &= \frac{1}{\cos \theta} \sin \theta + \frac{1}{\cos \theta} \cos \theta \\ &= \tan \theta + 1 \quad \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2.** Verify that the following equation is an identity.

$$\frac{\tan^2 t}{\sec^2 t} = (1 + \cos t)(1 - \cos t)$$

Work LHS & RHS at same time!

diff of squares!

$$\frac{\tan^2 t}{\sec^2 t} = (1 + \cos t)(1 - \cos t)$$

$$\cancel{\cos^2 t} \cdot \frac{\sin^2 t}{\cancel{\cos^2 t}} = 1 - \cos^2 t \quad \leftarrow \text{Pythagorean theorem}$$

$$\sin^2 t = \sin^2 t \quad \checkmark$$

**Problem 3.** Verify that the following equation is an identity.

Pattern:  
 $(\sec x - \tan x)(\sec x + \tan x)$   
 $= \sec^2 x - \tan^2 x$   
 $= 1$

$\frac{\sec x + \tan x}{\sin x} = \frac{\csc x}{\sec x - \tan x}$

RHS  
 ↓

$$\frac{\csc x}{\sec x - \tan x} \times \frac{\sec x + \tan x}{\sec x + \tan x} = \frac{\csc x (\sec x + \tan x)}{\sec^2 x - \tan^2 x} \leftarrow 1$$

$$= \csc x (\sec x + \tan x)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sin x} (\sec x + \tan x)$$

$$= \frac{\sec x + \tan x}{\sin x} \quad \checkmark$$

↑  
 LHS

**Problem 4.** Verify that the following equation is an identity.

Pattern!  
 $(1 - \sin x)(1 + \sin x)$   
 $= 1 - \sin^2 x = \cos^2 x$

$\frac{1 + \sin x}{\cos x} = \frac{\cos x}{1 - \sin x}$

LHS  
 ↑

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

$$= \frac{\cancel{\cos x} (1 + \sin x)}{\cos^2 \cancel{x}}$$

$$= \frac{1 + \sin x}{\cos x} \quad \checkmark$$

↑  
 RHS

**Problem 5.** Verify  $\cot \theta + \tan \theta = \sec \theta \csc \theta$  is an identity.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} + \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} &= \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin \theta \cos \theta} + \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\sin \theta \cos \theta} && \text{Find common denominator} \\
 &= \frac{\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta}{\sin \theta \cos \theta} && \text{1 by Pythagorean} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sin \theta \cos \theta} && \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos \theta} \\
 &= \csc \theta \sec \theta \quad \checkmark && \text{RHS}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 6.** Verify the following equation is an identity.

Rewrite as  $\sin/\cos$  strategy

$$\frac{\cot \alpha + 1}{\cot \alpha - 1} = \frac{1 + \tan \alpha}{1 - \tan \alpha}$$

Work both LHS & RHS

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \alpha} \times \frac{\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha} + 1}{\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha} - 1} &= \frac{1 + \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}}{1 - \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}} \times \frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \alpha} && \text{Get rid of fractions} \\
 \frac{\cos \alpha + \sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha - \sin \alpha} &= \frac{\cos \alpha + \sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha - \sin \alpha} \quad \checkmark \\
 &&& \text{SAME!}
 \end{aligned}$$