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addition and subtraction formulas for tangent

 ${\bf Canonical\ name} \quad {\bf Addition And Subtraction Formulas For Tangent}$

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The addition formula for tangent will be achieved via brute from the addition formulas for sine and cosine.

$$\tan(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}{\cos(\alpha + \beta)}$$

$$= \frac{\sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta}{\cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \cdot \frac{\cos \beta}{\cos \beta} + \frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \cdot \frac{\sin \beta}{\cos \beta}}{\frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \cdot \frac{\cos \beta}{\cos \beta} - \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \cdot \frac{\sin \beta}{\cos \beta}}$$

$$= \frac{\tan \alpha \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \tan \beta}{1 \cdot 1 - \tan \alpha \tan \beta}$$

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

Note that tan is an odd function, http://planetmath.org/lei.e. tan(-x) = -tan x. This fact enables us to obtain the subtraction formula for tangent.

$$\tan(\alpha - \beta) = \tan(\alpha + (-\beta)) = \frac{\tan\alpha + \tan(-\beta)}{1 - \tan\alpha \tan(-\beta)} = \frac{\tan\alpha - \tan\beta}{1 + \tan\alpha \tan\beta}$$