

# M16600 Lecture Notes

## Section 6.6: Inverse Trigonometric Functions

■ **Section 6.6** exercises, page 481: #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 22, 23, 25, 27, 31, 33, 59, 61, 65, 64, 67.

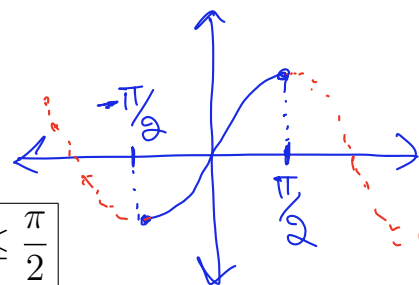
### GOALS

- Compute the values of the **inverse trigonometric functions**, e.g.,  $\sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2})$ ,  $\cos^{-1}(0)$ ,  $\tan^{-1}(\sqrt{3})$ , etc.
- Compute or simplify expressions such as  $\tan(\sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{3}))$ ,  $\cos(\tan^{-1}x)$ , etc.
- Compute derivatives and integrals involving inverse trigonometric functions.

In this section, we explore the inverse functions of trigonometric functions. The functions  $\sin(x)$ ,  $\cos(x)$ ,  $\tan(x)$  are **not one-to-one** over their domains. However, if we restrict their domains, they will be one-to-one on the restricted domain. We then can find their inverse functions.

◇ **Inverse Sine Function.** Notation:  $\sin^{-1}(x)$  or  $\arcsin(x)$

$\sin \theta$  is one-to-one for  $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Thus, we have



$$\boxed{(\sin x)^{-1}} \quad \sin^{-1} x = \theta \iff \sin \theta = x \quad \text{for } -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$$

**Note:**  $\sin^{-1}x \neq \frac{1}{\sin x}$   $\sin : [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}] \rightarrow [-1, 1] \Rightarrow \sin^{-1} : [-1, 1] \rightarrow [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$

*Example 1:* Evaluate (a)  $\sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2})$  (b)  $\tan(\arcsin \frac{1}{3})$

$$(a) \quad \sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2}) = \theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2} \quad , \quad -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{6} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$(b) \quad \tan(\sin^{-1} \frac{1}{3})$$

$$\text{Let } \sin^{-1} \frac{1}{3} = \theta$$

$$= \tan \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin \theta = \frac{1}{3} = \frac{P}{H}$$

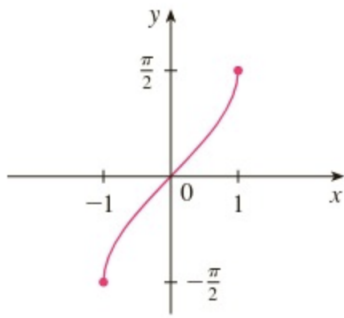
$$P=1, H=3, \quad B^2 = H^2 - P^2$$

$$= 3^2 - 1^2 = 8$$

$$P^2 + B^2 = H^2$$

$$\Rightarrow B = \sqrt{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta = \frac{P}{B} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tan(\sin^{-1} \frac{1}{3}) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$$



**FIGURE 4**  
 $y = \sin^{-1}x = \arcsin x$

$$\sin^{-1}(-x) = -\sin^{-1}x$$

$$\sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\sin^{-1}\frac{1}{2} = -\frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$\sin^{-1}(\sin x) = x \quad \text{for } -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\sin(\sin^{-1}x) = x \quad \text{for } -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

◇ **Inverse Cosine Function.** Notation:  $\cos^{-1}(x)$  or  $\arccos(x)$

$$\cos^{-1}x = \theta \iff \cos \theta = x \quad \text{for } 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$$

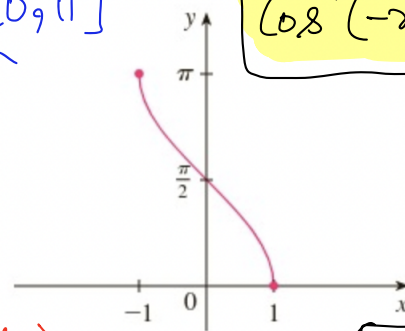
$$\cos^{-1}: [-1, 1] \rightarrow [0, \pi]$$

$$\cos: [0, \pi] \rightarrow [-1, 1]$$

$$\cos^{-1}(\cos x) = x \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \pi$$

$$\cos(\cos^{-1}x) = x \quad \text{for } -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$\cos^{-1}(-x) = \pi - \cos^{-1}x$$



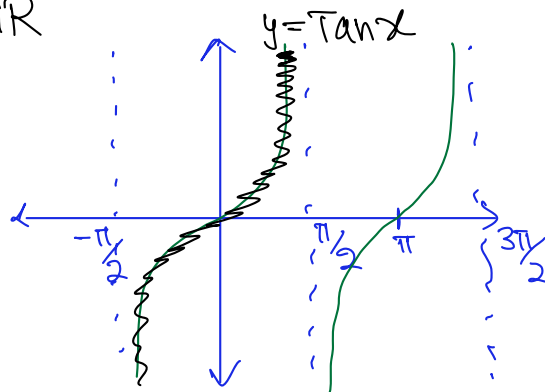
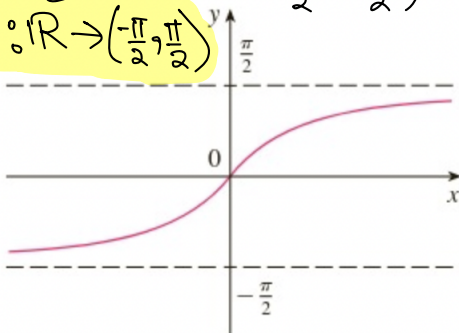
◇ **Inverse Tangent Function.** Notation:  $\tan^{-1}(x)$  or  $\arctan(x)$

$$\tan^{-1}(-x) = -\tan^{-1}x$$

$$\tan^{-1}x = \theta \iff \tan \theta = x \quad \text{for } -\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\tan: \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\tan^{-1}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$



$$\begin{aligned} \cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) &= \pi - \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) \\ &= \pi - \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{5\pi}{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) &= -\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) \\ &= -\frac{\pi}{3} \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2:** Evaluate (a)  $\cos^{-1}(-1)$  and (b)  $\arctan(\sqrt{3})$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \cos^{-1}(-1) &= \pi - \cos^{-1}(1) \\ &= \pi - 0 = \pi \end{aligned}$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(\sqrt{3}) = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\tan^{-1}(-1) = -\tan^{-1}(1) = -\frac{\pi}{4}$$

Example 3: Simplify the expression  $\cos(\tan^{-1}(x))$

$$\text{Let } Q = \tan^{-1} x \Rightarrow \tan Q = \frac{x}{1} = \frac{P}{B}$$

$$\cos(\tan^{-1} x) = \cos Q = \frac{B}{H}$$

$$P = x, B = 1$$

$$P^2 + B^2 = H^2$$

$$x^2 + 1^2 = H^2 \Rightarrow H = \sqrt{x^2 + 1}$$

$$H = \pm \sqrt{x^2 + 1} \rightarrow \text{Reject } -\sqrt{x^2 + 1}$$

$$\cos Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$$

### Derivative and Integral Formulas Involving Inverse Trigonometric Functions

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin^{-1}(x)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan^{-1}(x)) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\cos^{-1}(x)) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = \sin^{-1}(x) + C$$

$$\int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \tan^{-1}(x) + C$$

$$\int -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = \cos^{-1}(x) + C$$

Example 4: Differentiate

$$(a) H(x) = 2 \tan^{-1}(x) + \arcsin(2x^2) + \cos^{-1}(\tan x)$$

$$H'(x) = 2 \frac{d}{dx}[\tan^{-1}(x)] + \frac{d}{dx}[\sin^{-1}(2x^2)] + \frac{d}{dx}[\cos^{-1}(\tan x)]$$

$$= \frac{2}{1+x^2} + \frac{4x}{\sqrt{1-4x^4}} + \frac{-\sec^2 x}{\sqrt{1-\tan^2 x}}$$

$$u = 2x^2 \Rightarrow du/dx = 4x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\sin^{-1}(2x^2)] = \frac{d}{du}[\sin^{-1}u] \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} \times 4x = \frac{4x}{\sqrt{1-4x^4}}$$

$$(b) f(x) = x \arctan(\sqrt{x})$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(x) \tan^{-1} \sqrt{x} + x \frac{d}{dx}(\tan^{-1} \sqrt{x})$$

$$= \tan^{-1} \sqrt{x} + x \frac{d}{du}(\tan^{-1} u) \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$= \tan^{-1} \sqrt{x} + x \left( \frac{1}{1+(\sqrt{x})^2} \right) \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

$$= \tan^{-1} \sqrt{x} + \frac{\sqrt{x}}{2(1+x)}$$

$$\int -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = -\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx$$

$$= -[\sin^{-1} x + C]$$

$$= -\sin^{-1} x - C$$

$$\sin^{-1} x + \cos^{-1} x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$z = \tan x \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dx} = \sec^2 x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\cos^{-1}(z)] = \frac{d}{dz}[\cos^{-1}(z)] \frac{dz}{dx}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-z^2}} \times \sec^2 x$$

Example 5: Evaluate

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = \sin^{-1} x + C \quad \text{and} \quad \int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \tan^{-1} x + C$$

(a)  $\int \frac{1}{15\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx$

$$= \frac{1}{15} \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = \frac{1}{15} \sin^{-1} x + C$$

(b)  $\int \frac{3}{1+x^2} dx$

$$= 3 \int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = 3 \tan^{-1} x + C$$

(c)  $\int \frac{\sec^2 x}{\sqrt{1-\tan^2 x}} dx$

$$u = \tan x \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} = \sec^2 x$$

$$I = \int \frac{\sec^2 x dx}{\sqrt{1-\tan^2 x}}$$

$$\Rightarrow du = \sec^2 x dx$$

$$= \int \frac{du}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} = \sin^{-1}(u) + C$$

$$= \sin^{-1}(\tan x) + C$$

(d)  $\int_0^1 \frac{x}{1+x^4} dx$ . **Note:** Evaluate all expressions into real numbers for your final answer.

$$u = x^2$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) = 2x$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2x \Rightarrow du = 2x dx \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} du = x dx$$

$$I = \int_0^1 \frac{\boxed{x dx}}{1+x^4} = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} \frac{du}{1+u^2}$$

Don't forget  
to change the  
limits!

$$= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} \frac{du}{1+u^2} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{du}{1+u^2} = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1}(u) \Big|_0^1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\tan^{-1}(1) - \tan^{-1}(0)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\pi}{4} - 0 \right] = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{8}$$