

circular functions, trig refresher

- Let's define sine and cosine and other trig functions explicitly in terms of unit circle instead of triangles. Given any negative or positive real number, we can rotate anti-clockwise (for positive) and find a point on the circle. The y co-ordinate of that point is called sine and x co-ordinate is called cosine. This way of defining the functions makes it much clearer than the triangle way. Notice that this maps a real number to $[-1, 1]$.
- Once we've defined sine and cosine as above, we'll define tan and cos in terms of these:
 - $\tan = \frac{\sin}{\cos}$
 - $\cotangent(cot) = \frac{\cos}{\sin}$
 - $\csc = \frac{1}{\sin}$
 - $\sec = \frac{1}{\cos}$
- This definition also gives us familiar results like $\sin 0$ and $\sin \pi/2$ etc easily (as opposed to when defined with triangles)
- Measuring in radians, we can also think of the inputs as just lengths along the unit circle. This also happens to be the same as angles.
- [Sum/difference formulas of trig and their proofs, done easy](#) (the following image is just copy pasted from the link → the proof is so nicely done i want to preserve this even if they take down that pdf).

We will prove the following trigonometric identities.

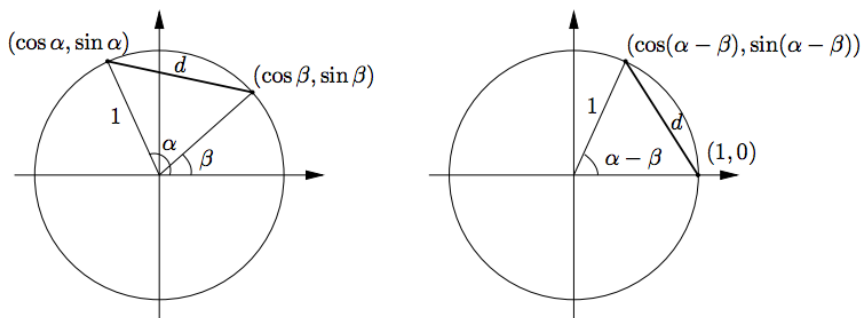
$$\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \cos \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \alpha \sin \beta$$

Proof. Consider two angles α and β . The distance d in the following two unit circles are equal.



From the first one we obtain

$$d = \sqrt{(\cos \alpha - \cos \beta)^2 + (\sin \alpha - \sin \beta)^2}.$$

From the second one we obtain

$$d = \sqrt{(\cos(\alpha - \beta) - 1)^2 + (\sin(\alpha - \beta) - 0)^2}.$$

From these two expressions for d , we can deduce

$$\begin{aligned} d^2 &= d^2 \\ (\cos \alpha - \cos \beta)^2 + (\sin \alpha - \sin \beta)^2 &= (\cos(\alpha - \beta) - 1)^2 + (\sin(\alpha - \beta) - 0)^2 \\ \cos^2 \alpha - 2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta + \cos^2 \beta + \sin^2 \alpha - 2 \sin \alpha \sin \beta + \sin^2 \beta &= \cos^2(\alpha - \beta) - 2 \cos(\alpha - \beta) + 1 + \sin^2(\alpha - \beta) \\ (\cos^2 \alpha + \sin^2 \alpha) - 2(\cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \alpha \sin \beta) + (\cos^2 \beta + \sin^2 \beta) &= (\cos^2(\alpha - \beta) + \sin^2(\alpha - \beta)) - 2 \cos(\alpha - \beta) + 1 \\ 2 - 2(\cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \alpha \sin \beta) &= 2 - 2 \cos(\alpha - \beta). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\boxed{\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \alpha \sin \beta.}$$

Replacing β by $-\beta$ gives us

$$\cos(\alpha - (-\beta)) = \cos \alpha \cos(-\beta) + \sin \alpha \sin(-\beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta.$$

Then,

$$\boxed{\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta.}$$

Now let's replace α by $\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha$ to get

$$\cos(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha + \beta) = \cos(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha) \cos \beta - \sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha) \sin \beta.$$

Since we know that

$$\sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha) = \cos \alpha, \quad \cos(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha) = \sin \alpha, \quad \text{and} \quad \cos(\frac{\pi}{2} - (\alpha - \beta)) = \sin(\alpha - \beta)$$

we can conclude that

$$\boxed{\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta - \cos \alpha \sin \beta.}$$

Finally, by replacing β by $-\beta$ we obtain

$$\sin(\alpha - (-\beta)) = \sin \alpha \cos(-\beta) - \cos \alpha \sin(-\beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta.$$

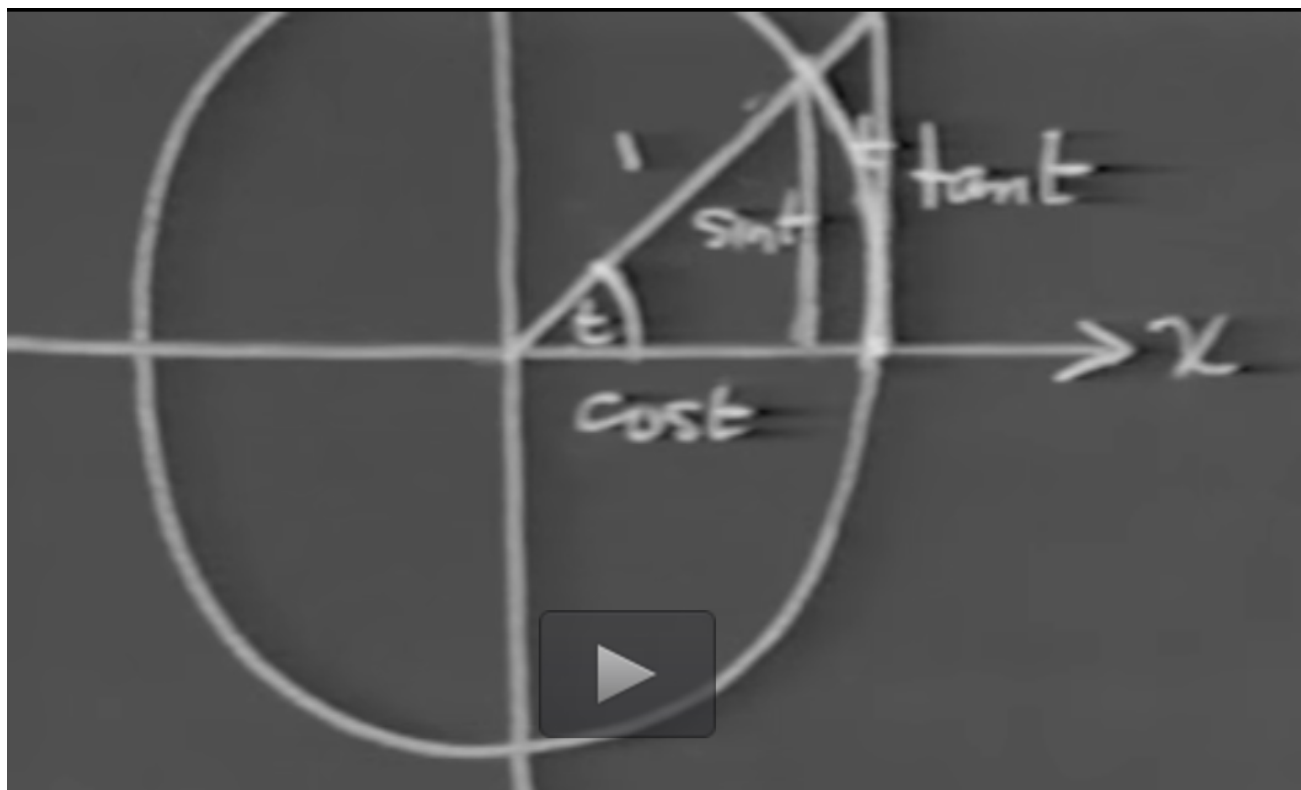
Then,

$$\boxed{\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta.}$$

□

Gilles Cazalais. Typeset with L^AT_EX on June 12, 2006.

• $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x}:$



- the inner triangle has smaller area than the outer triangle. the area of the arc t is inbetween the areas of the two triangles. Hence:
 - $\frac{\sin(t)\cos(t)}{2} < \frac{t}{2\pi}\pi < \frac{\tan(t)}{2}$. Dividing by $\sin(t)$, we get:
 $\cos(t) < \frac{t}{\sin(t)} < \frac{1}{\cos(t)}$.
 - The right and left terms tend to 1 as $t \rightarrow 0$, so the sandwiched term tends to 0 too.
 - Hence $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1$.
 - Also, $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1-\cos(t)}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1-\cos^2(t)}{t(1+\cos(t))} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(t)}{t} \frac{\sin(t)}{1+\cos(t)} = 1 * 0 = 0$.
- Using the above, two results and using the definition of limits, we can easily show that $\frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) = \cos(x)$.
- Using the above and the fact that $\cos(x) = \sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - x)$, we can show that $\frac{d}{dx} \cos(x) = -\sin(x)$.
Using sine and cosine, we can easily find the derivatives of all other basic trig functions using quotient rules and the recipes we've seen before!
- Obviously,
 - $\int \cos(u) du = \sin(u) + C$ and
 - $\int \sin(u) du = -\cos(u) + C$
- For two functions to be equal, they should have the same domains. We can define a new function $s_0(x)$ which is $\sin(x)$, but defined over $[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$. We do this because to have an inverse function, we need to make our original function one-to-one.
- Using the fact that the derivative of the inverse of a function is the reciprocal of its derivative, we can show that:

$$y = \sin^{-1}(x) \text{ and so } x = \sin(y)$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \cos(y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\cos(y)}$$

and so

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

and because $\cos^{-1}(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \sin^{-1}(x)$,

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

- See how the integral of a non-trig function is an inverse trig function:

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