

The inverse sine, cosine and Tangent functions

The Inverse sine function:

Sine function: $y = \sin x$ Domain: $-\infty < x < \infty$ Range: $-1 \leq y \leq 1$

Restricted domain: $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ Range: $-1 \leq y \leq 1$

Inverse Sin function: Interchange x and y .

$$x = \sin y$$

Domain: $-1 \leq x \leq 1$, Range: $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq y \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\therefore y = \sin^{-1} x$$

θ	$-\frac{\pi}{2}$	$-\frac{\pi}{3}$	$-\frac{\pi}{4}$	$-\frac{\pi}{6}$	0	$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$
$\sin \theta$	-1	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	1

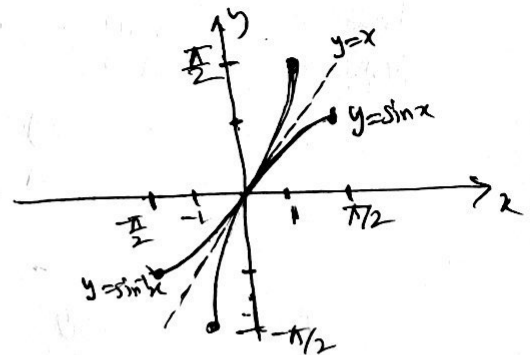
Ex: Find the exact value of $\sin^{-1} 1$.

Solⁿ: $\theta = \sin^{-1} 1$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = \sin \theta$$

$$\therefore \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$



Ex: Find the exact value of $\sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2})$

Solⁿ: $\theta = \sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2}) = -\sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2})$ [$\because \sin(-\theta) = -\sin \theta$]

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

$$\therefore \theta = -\frac{\pi}{6}$$

Since $\sin x$ and $\sin^{-1} x$ are inverse functions, so they follow the property $f(f^{-1}(x)) = x$ and $f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$.

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

Ex: $\sin^{-1}(\sin \frac{\pi}{8}) = \pi/8$

$$\sin^{-1}(\sin \frac{5\pi}{8}) = \sin^{-1}[\sin(\pi - \frac{3\pi}{8})] = \sin^{-1}[\sin(\frac{3\pi}{8})] = \frac{3\pi}{8}$$

Note: Here $\frac{5\pi}{8}$ is not in the interval $[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$.

The inverse cosine function:

Cosine function

$$y = \cos x$$

Domain: $-\infty < x < \infty$

Range: $-1 \leq y \leq 1$

Restricted domain: $0 \leq x \leq \pi$

Inverse cosine function

interchange x and y .

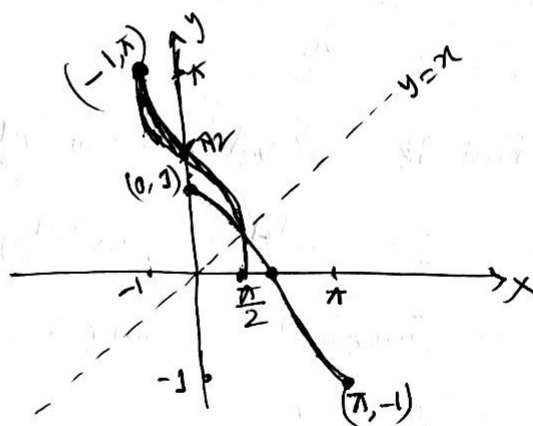
$$x = \cos y$$

Domain: $-1 \leq x \leq 1$

Range: $0 \leq y \leq \pi$

$$\therefore y = \cos^{-1} x$$

θ	$\cos \theta$
0	1
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$
$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$
$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	0
$\frac{2\pi}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{3\pi}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$
$\frac{5\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$
π	-1



Ex: Find the exact value of $\cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$

Soln: $\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) = \cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = \cos \frac{3\pi}{4}$$

$$\therefore \theta = \frac{3\pi}{4}$$

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

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

Ex: $\# \cos^{-1}\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{12}\right) = \frac{\pi}{12}$

$\# \cos^{-1}\left[\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right]$! Here the angle $-\frac{2\pi}{3}$ is not in the interval $[0, \pi]$. But cosine is even function, so $\cos\left(-\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = \cos \frac{2\pi}{3}$. and $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ lies in the interval $[0, \pi]$.

$$\therefore \cos^{-1}\left[\cos\left(-\frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right] = \cos^{-1}\left(\cos \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

$$\# \cos(\cos^{-1}\pi)$$

Because π is not in the interval $[-1, 1]$, the domain of $\cos^{-1}x$ is not defined, which means $\cos(\cos^{-1}\pi)$ is also not defined.

$\#$ Solve $3\sin^{-1}x = \pi$

Soln: Given $3\sin^{-1}x = \pi$

$$\Rightarrow \sin^{-1}x = \pi/3$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \sin \pi/3 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\therefore \text{The solution set is } \left\{ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right\}$$

The inverse tangent function:

tangent
function

$$y = \tan x$$

Domain: $-\infty < x < \infty$, x not equal to odd multiples of $\pi/2$

Range: $-\infty < y < \infty$

Restricted
domain: $-\frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$

Inverse
tangent
function

$$x = \tan y$$

$$\therefore y = \tan^{-1} x$$

Domain: $-\infty < x < \infty$, Range: $-\frac{\pi}{2} < y < \frac{\pi}{2}$

θ	$\tan \theta$
$-\frac{\pi}{2}$	undefined

$-\frac{\pi}{3}$	$-\sqrt{3}$
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$-\frac{\pi}{4}$	-1
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$-\frac{\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$
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0	0
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$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$
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$\frac{\pi}{4}$	1
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$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\sqrt{3}$
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$\frac{\pi}{2}$	undefined
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Ex: Find exact value of $\tan^{-1}(-\sqrt{3})$

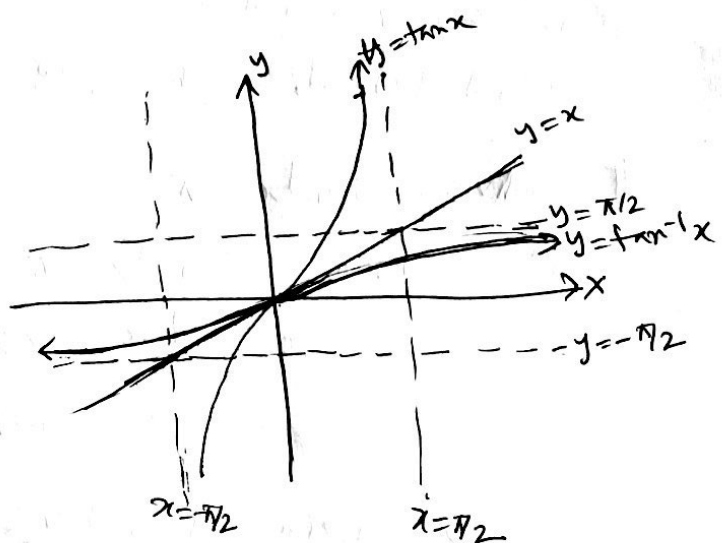
Soln: $\theta = \tan^{-1}(-\sqrt{3})$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta = -\sqrt{3} = \tan\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right)$$

$$\therefore \theta = -\frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\# \tan^{-1}(\tan x) = x \quad ; \quad -\frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\tan(\tan^{-1} x) = x \quad ; \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$



Ex1 Find the inverse function f^{-1} of $f(x) = 2\sin x - 1$,

$-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$. Find the range of f and the domain and range of f^{-1} .

Soln: Given $y = 2\sin x - 1$

To find f^{-1} let's interchange x and y and solve for y .

$$x = 2\sin y - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\sin y = x + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin y = \frac{x+1}{2} \quad \therefore y = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right)$$

Thus the inverse function is $f^{-1}(x) = \sin^{-1}\frac{x+1}{2}$

To find the range of f , solve $y = 2\sin x - 1$ for $\sin x$ and use the fact that $-1 \leq \sin x \leq 1$.

$$\therefore y = 2\sin x - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin x = \frac{y+1}{2}$$

$$\therefore -1 \leq \frac{y+1}{2} \leq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow -2 \leq y+1 \leq 2$$

$$\Rightarrow -3 \leq y \leq 1$$

\therefore The range of f is $\{y \mid -3 \leq y \leq 1\}$ or $[-3, 1]$.

Domain of f^{-1} is the range of $f = [-3, 1]$

Range of f^{-1} is the domain of $f = \left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$

Ex: Find the exact value of $\sin(\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2})$

Soln: Given $\sin(\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2})$

$$\text{let } \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2} = \theta$$

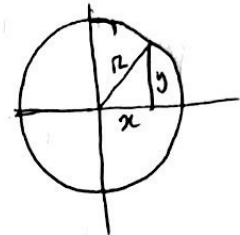
$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{y}{x}$$

$$\text{Here } x=2, y=1 \text{ and } r=\sqrt{5}$$

$$\text{We know } \sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\therefore \sin(\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2}) = \sin \theta = \frac{y}{r} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\therefore \sin(\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$



$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + y^2 &= r^2 \\ \Rightarrow r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ &= \sqrt{4+1} = \sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Find the exact value of $\cos[\sin^{-1}(-\frac{1}{3})]$

Soln: Given $\cos[\sin^{-1}(-\frac{1}{3})]$

$$\text{let } \theta = \sin^{-1}(-\frac{1}{3})$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin \theta = -\frac{1}{3} = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\text{Here } y=-1 \text{ and } r=3$$

$$\text{Now } x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = 9 - 1 = 8$$

$$\therefore x = \sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}, x > 0$$

$$\therefore \cos[\sin^{-1}(-\frac{1}{3})] = \cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}$$

$$\therefore \cos[\sin^{-1}(-\frac{1}{3})] = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}$$

Ex: $\tan[\cos^{-1}(\frac{1}{3})]$