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TRIGONOMETRIC EQUATIONS

DEFINITION

The equations involving trigonometric function of unknown angles are known as Trigonometric equations.

A solution of a trigonometric equation is the value of the unknown angle that satisfies the equation.

PERIODIC FUNCTION

A function f(x) is said to be periodic if there exists T>0 such that f(x+T)=f(x) for all x in the domain of definitions of f(x). If T is the smallest positive real number such that f(x+T)=f(x), then it is called the fundamental period (or) period of f(x)

| Function | Period |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| $\sin (ax + b)$, $\cos (ax + b)$, $\sec (ax + b)$, $\csc (ax + b)$ | 2π/a |
| $\tan (ax + b)$, $\cot (ax + b)$ | π / a |
| $ \sin (ax + b), \cos (ax + b) , \sec (ax + b) , \csc (ax + b) $ | π / a |
| $ \tan (ax + b) , \cot (ax + b) $ | $\pi/2a$ |

The period of sinx, cosec x, cos x, sec x is 2π and period of tan x, cot x, is π .

TRIGONOMETRICAL EQUATIONS WITH THEIR GENERAL SOLUTION

| Trigonometrical equation | | General solution |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| If $\sin \theta = 0$ | then | $\theta = n\pi$: $n \in I$ |
| If $\cos \theta = 0$ | then | $\theta = (n\pi + \pi/2) = (2n+1)\pi/2 : n \in I$ |
| If $\tan \theta = 0$ | then | $\theta = n\pi : n \in I$ |
| If $\sin \theta = 1$ | then | $\theta = 2n \pi + \pi/2 = (4n+1)\pi/2 : n \in I$ |
| If $\cos \theta = 1$ | then | $\theta = 2n \pi : n \in I$ |
| If $\sin \theta = \sin \alpha$ | then | $\theta = n \pi + (-1)^n \alpha$ where $\alpha \in [-\pi/2, \pi/2]$ |
| | | : n∈I |
| If $\cos \theta = \cos \alpha$ | then | $\theta = 2n \pi \pm \alpha$ where $\alpha \in (0, \pi]$: $n \in I$ |
| If $\tan \theta = \tan \alpha$ | then | $\theta = n \pi + \alpha \text{ where } \alpha \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2] : n \in I$ |
| If $\sin^2 \theta = \sin^2 \alpha$ | then | $\theta = n \pi \pm \alpha : n \in I$ |
| If $\cos^2 \theta = \cos^2 \alpha$ | then | $\theta = n \pi \pm \alpha : n \in I$ |
| If $\tan^2 \theta = \tan^2 \alpha$ | then | $\theta = n \pi \pm \alpha : n \in I$ |
| $ \left \begin{array}{c} \sin \theta = \sin \alpha \\ \text{If} \cos \theta = \cos \alpha \end{array} \right _{\star} $ | then | $\theta = 2 n \pi + \alpha : n \in I$ |
| $\left \begin{array}{c} \sin \theta = \sin \alpha \\ \text{If} & \tan \theta = \tan \alpha \end{array} \right _{\star}$ | then | $\theta = 2n \pi + \alpha : n \in I$ |
| $ \left \begin{array}{c} $ | then | $\theta = 2n \pi + \alpha : n \in I$ |

- * Every where in this chapter "n" is taken as an integer.
- * If α be the least positive value of θ which statisfy two given trigonometrical equations, then the general value of θ will be $2n\pi + \alpha$

GENERAL SOLUTION OF TRIGONOMETRICAL EQUATION $a\cos\theta + b\sin\theta = C$

To solve the equation a $\cos \theta + b \sin \theta = c$, substitute $a = r \cos \phi$, $b = r \sin \phi$ such that

$$r=\sqrt{a^2+b^2}$$
 , $\varphi=tan^{-1}\frac{b}{a}$

Substituting these values in the equation we have $r \cos \phi \cos \theta r \sin \phi \sin \theta = c$

$$cos \big(\theta - \phi\big) = \frac{c}{r} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad cos \big(\theta - \phi\big) = \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

If $\mid c \mid > \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, then the equation;

a cos θ + b sin θ = c has no solution

If $|c| \le \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, then take;

$$\frac{|c|}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}} = \cos \alpha \text{ , so that }$$

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

$$\Rightarrow$$
 $(\theta - \phi) = 2n\pi \pm \alpha$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 $\theta = 2n\pi \pm \alpha + \phi$

SOLUTIONS IN THE CASE OF TWO EQUATIONS ARE GIVEN

Two equations are given and we have to find the values of variable θ which may satisfy both the given equations, like

$$\cos \theta = \cos \alpha$$
 and $\sin \theta = \sin \alpha$

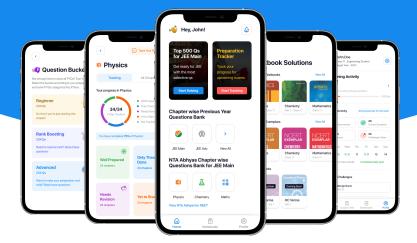
so the common solution is
$$\theta = 2n\pi + \alpha$$
, $n \in I$

Similarly,
$$\sin \theta = \sin \alpha$$
 and $\tan \theta = \tan \alpha$

so the common solution is,
$$\theta = 2 n \pi + \alpha$$
, $n \in I$

Rule: Find the common values of θ between 0 and 2π and then add $2\pi n$ to this common value





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