

Precalculus

Trig cofunction identities and angle-sum formulas

Todor Milev

2019

Outline

1 Cofunction identities

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- 1 Cofunction identities
- 2 Trigonometric Functions of Sums of Angles

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- 2 Trigonometric Functions of Sums of Angles
- 3 Double Angle Formulas

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Cofunction identities

Proposition (Cofunction identities)

$$\begin{array}{llll} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) & = & \cos \alpha & \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \alpha\right) & = & \cos \alpha \\ \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) & = & \sin \alpha & \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \alpha\right) & = & -\sin \alpha \end{array}$$

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- The proof each formula is broken into 4 cases depending on which quadrant contains α .

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- This makes a total of 4 formulas \times 4 cases per formula = 16 cases.

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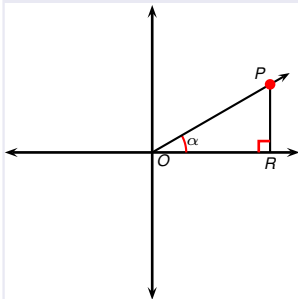
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- We show only a few of the cases.
- The proof provides intuition why the formulas are true.
- The Quadrant I part of the proof serves as a visual aid for memorization.
- There is an algebraically simpler (but theoretically advanced) way to prove the above identities through the angle sum formulas, derived in turn from Euler's formula (studied later/in another course).

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Part of Proof.



We are showing $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) = \cos \alpha$ when α is in quadrant I.

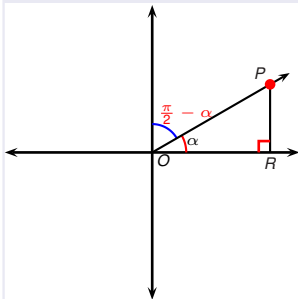


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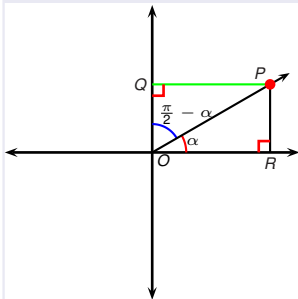


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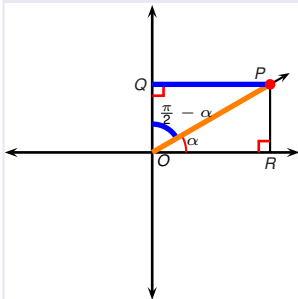


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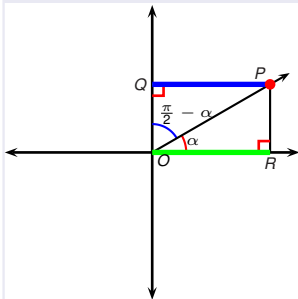


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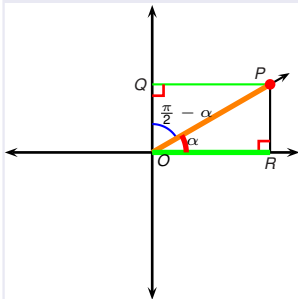


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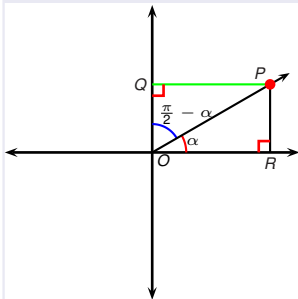


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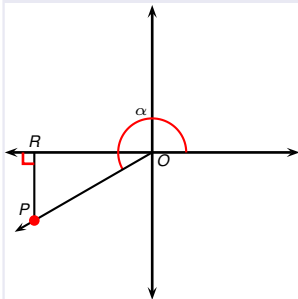


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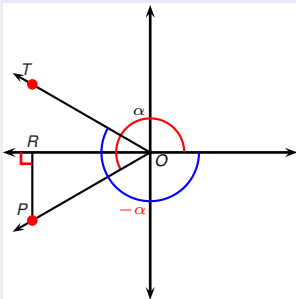


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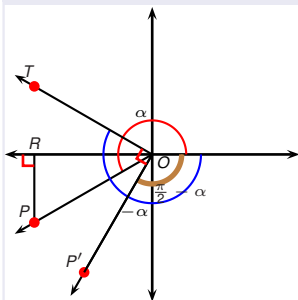


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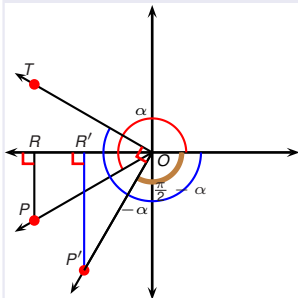


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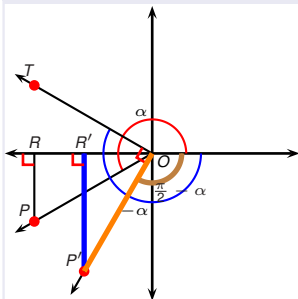


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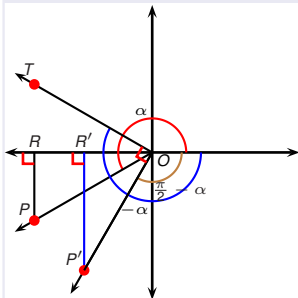


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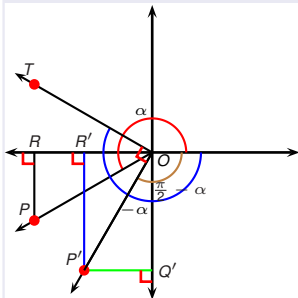


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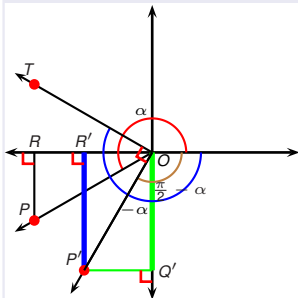


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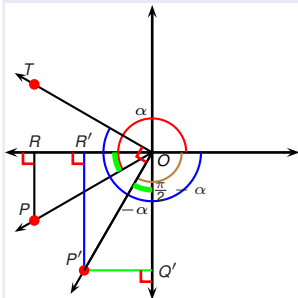


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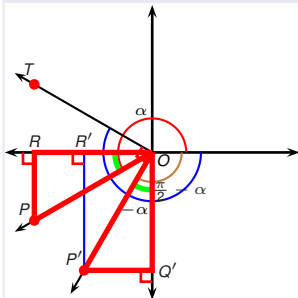
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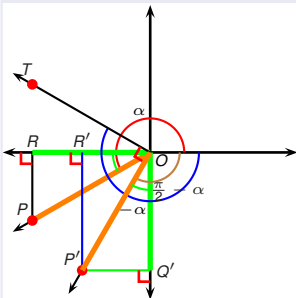


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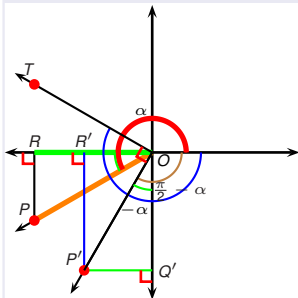


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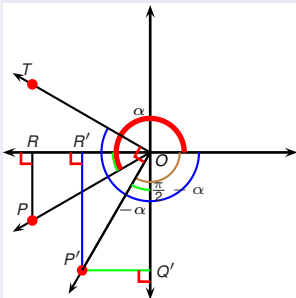


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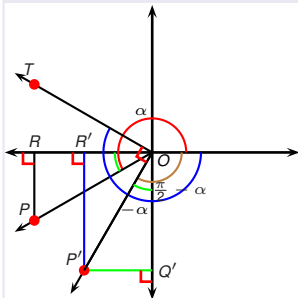


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as desired

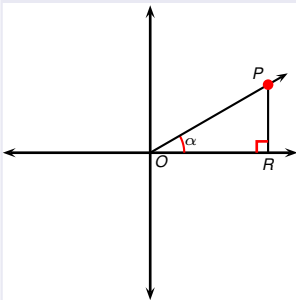


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We show $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \alpha\right) = -\sin \alpha$ when α is in Quadrant I.

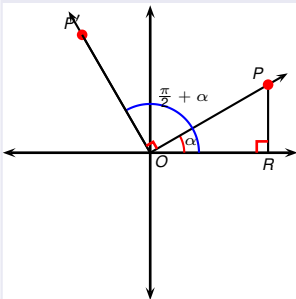


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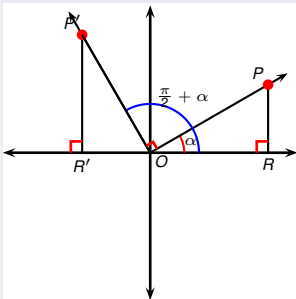


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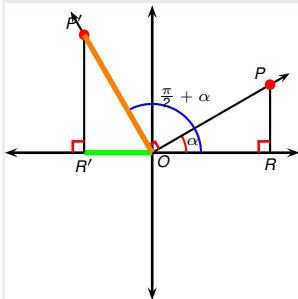


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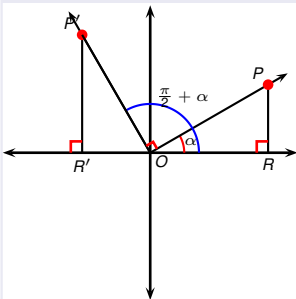


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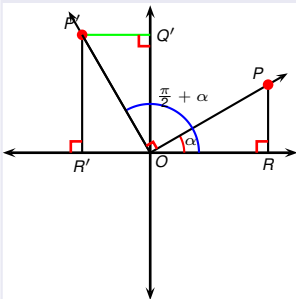


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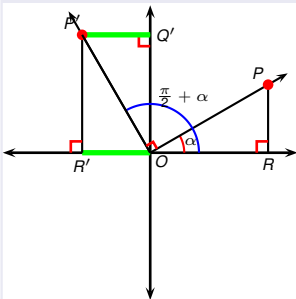


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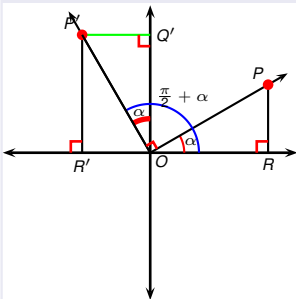


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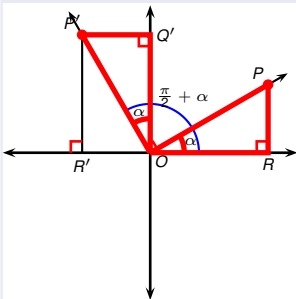


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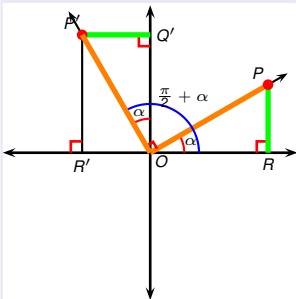


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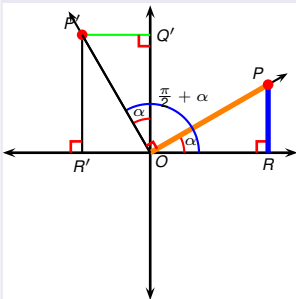
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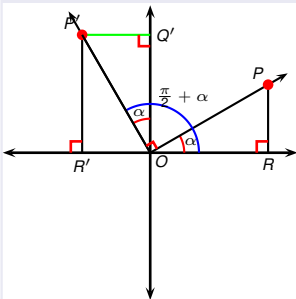
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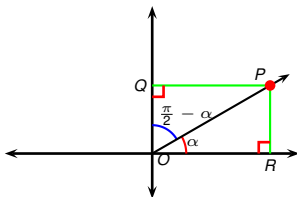
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Cofunction identities

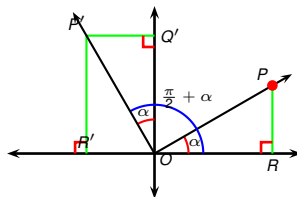
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To memorize the cofunction identities it suffices to memorize the Quadrant I case via the two diagrams below.



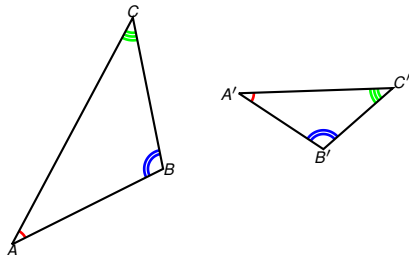
$$\begin{aligned}\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) &= \frac{|PQ|}{|OP|} \\ \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) &= \frac{|OQ|}{|OP|}\end{aligned}$$



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Definition (Similar triangles)

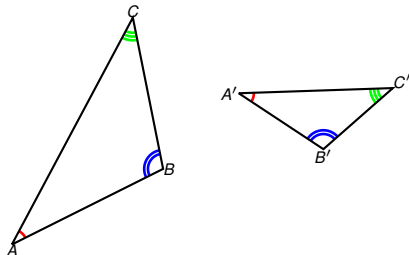
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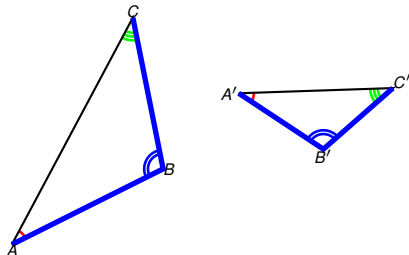
- The equal angles are assumed given in the same order for both triangles, that is, $\angle ABC = \angle A'B'C'$, $\angle BCA = \angle B'C'A'$, $\angle CAB = \angle C'A'B'$.



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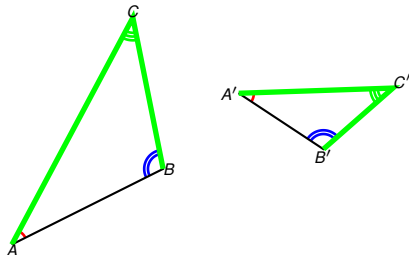
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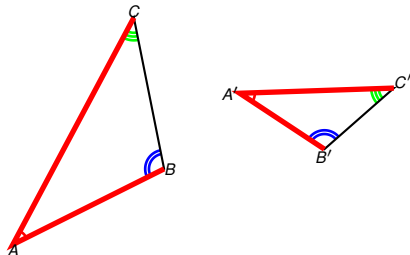
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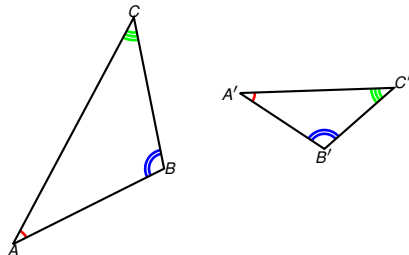


The following statement is proved in the subject of Euclidean (planar) geometry.

Theorem (Similar triangles have equal side ratios)

Let $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle A'B'C'$ be two similar triangles. Then the ratios of the lengths of the sides of the two triangles are equal, that is

$$\frac{|AB|}{|BC|} = \frac{|A'B'|}{|B'C'|} \quad \frac{|BC|}{|CA|} = \frac{|B'C'|}{|C'A'|} \quad \frac{|CA|}{|AB|} = \frac{|C'A'|}{|A'B'|}$$

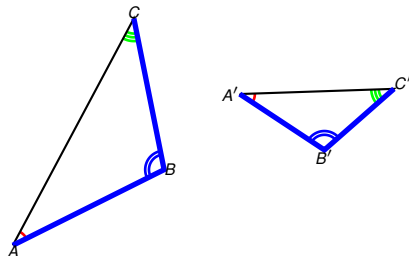


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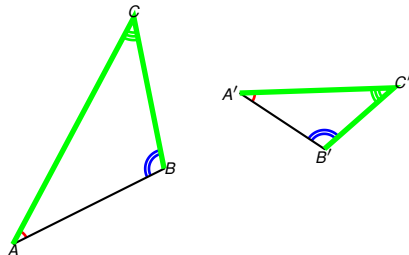


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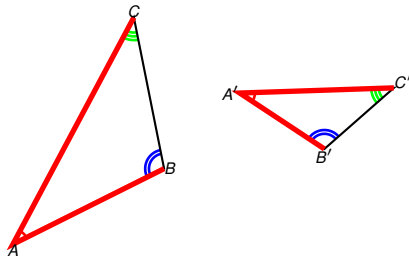


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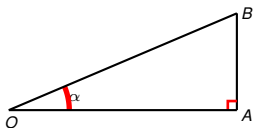


$\sin(\alpha + \beta)$, $\cos(\alpha + \beta)$ via $\sin \alpha$, $\sin \beta$, $\cos \alpha$, $\cos \beta$

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

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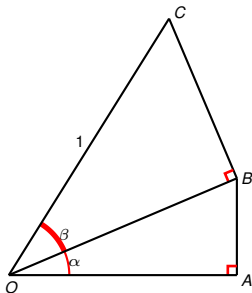
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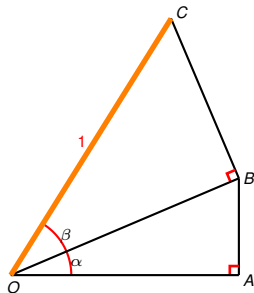
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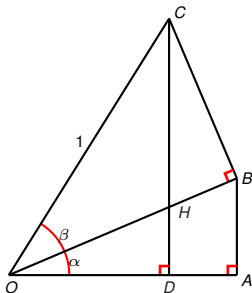
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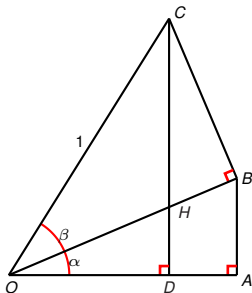
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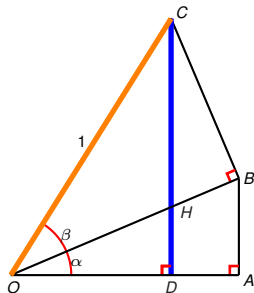
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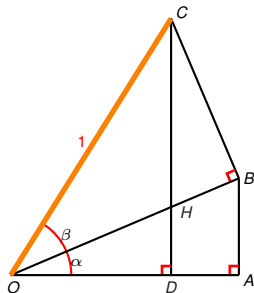
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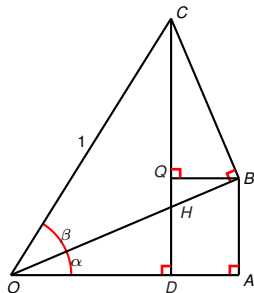
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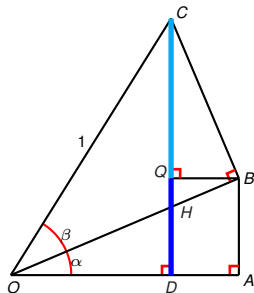
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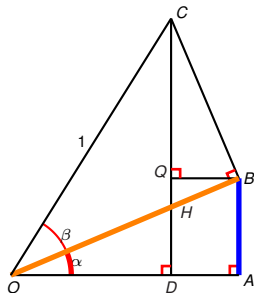
$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = ?$$

The diagram shows a triangle OCB with vertex O at the bottom left, C at the top, and B at the bottom right. A vertical line segment CD is drawn from C to the base OB at point D . A horizontal line segment QB is drawn from Q on CD to B . The angle α is at vertex O between OB and OC . The angle β is at vertex C between CB and CD . The height H is the vertical distance from Q to B . Right angle symbols are shown at D and B .

☐ *DABQ*

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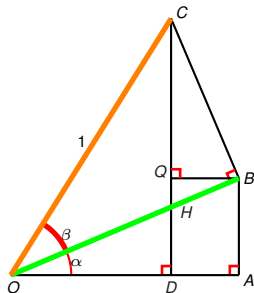
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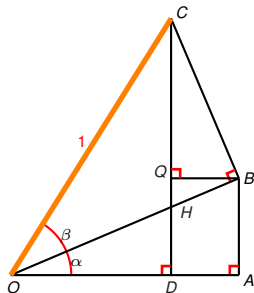


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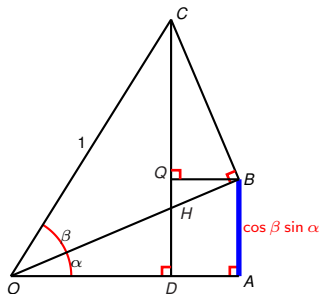


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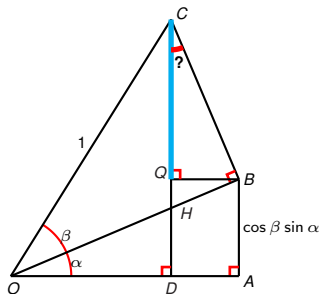


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 \sin(\alpha + \beta) &= \frac{|CD|}{|OC|} = |CD| \\
 &= |QD| + |CQ| \\
 &= \sin \alpha \cos \beta + ?
 \end{aligned}$$

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

$\sin(\alpha + \beta), \cos(\alpha + \beta)$ via $\sin \alpha, \sin \beta, \cos \alpha, \cos \beta$

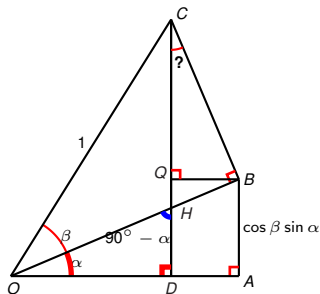


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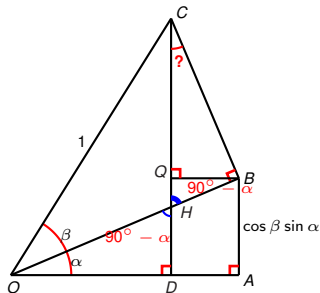
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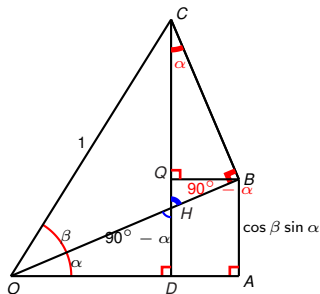


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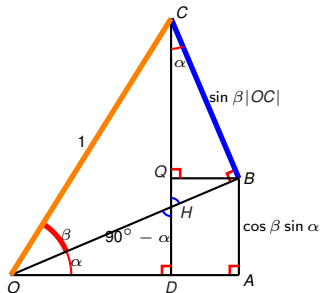
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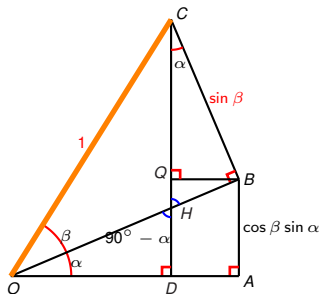


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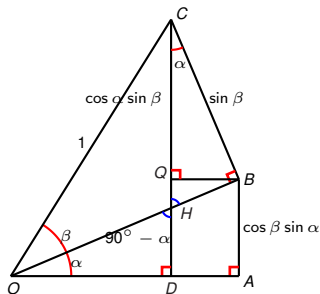
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[illegible]

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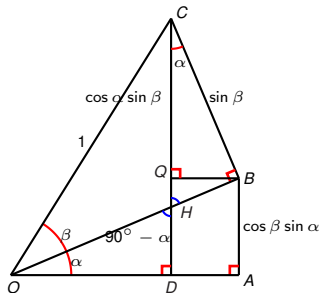


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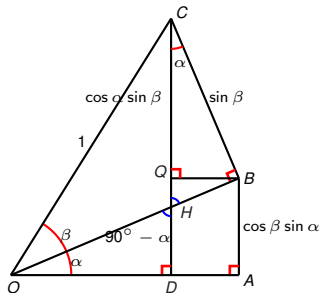
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Trig Functions of Sums and Differences of Angles

Theorem

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

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- We gave a geometric proof of the sum formulas when the two angles are acute and their sum is less than $\pi = 90^\circ$.

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- There is a theoretically more advanced (but algebraically simpler) proof using Euler's formula (to be studied later/in another course).

Trig Functions of Sums and Differences of Angles

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- There is a theoretically more advanced (but algebraically simpler) proof using Euler's formula (to be studied later/in another course).
- The difference formulas are a consequence of the sum formulas and the fact that \sin is an odd function and \cos is even.

Trig Functions of Differences of Angles

Example

Prove the identities

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

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

from the (already demonstrated) identities

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

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

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

$$= \sin \alpha \cos(-\beta) + \cos \alpha \sin(-\beta) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \cos \text{ is even ,} \\ \sin \text{ is odd} \end{array} \right.$$

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

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

$$= \cos \alpha \cos(-\beta) - \sin \alpha \sin(-\beta) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \cos \text{ is even ,} \\ \sin \text{ is odd} \end{array} \right.$$

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

Example

Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

$$\cos(105^\circ)$$

Example

Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

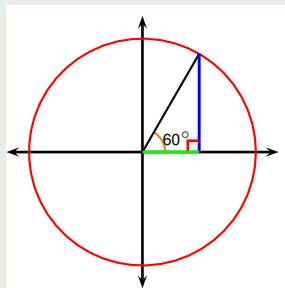
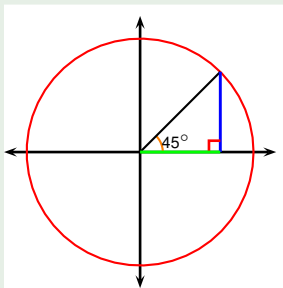
$$\cos(105^\circ) = \cos(45^\circ + 60^\circ)$$

Example

Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

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we know the trig
f-ns of 45° and 60°

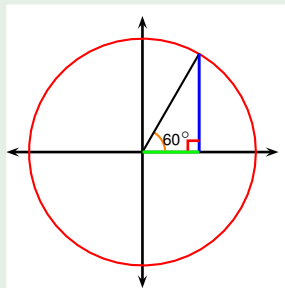
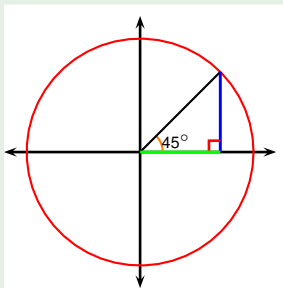


Example

Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

$$\cos(105^\circ) = \cos(45^\circ + 60^\circ) \\ = ?$$

we know the trig
f-ns of 45° and 60°
Angle sum f-la



Example

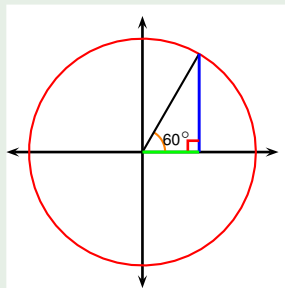
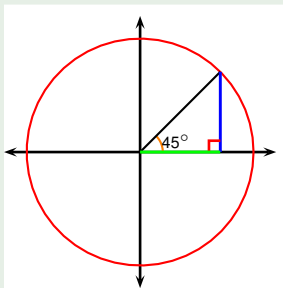
Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

$$\cos(105^\circ) = \cos(45^\circ + 60^\circ)$$

$$= \cos(45^\circ) \cos(60^\circ) - \sin(45^\circ) \sin(60^\circ)$$

we know the trig
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Angle sum f-la



Example

Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

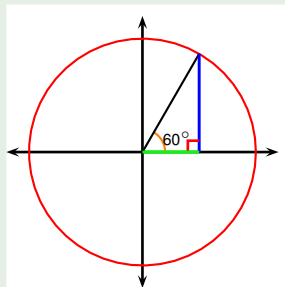
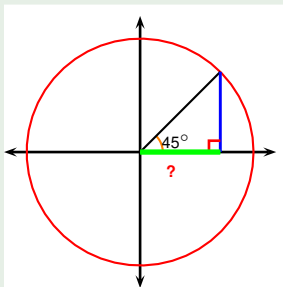
$$\cos(105^\circ) = \cos(45^\circ + 60^\circ)$$

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$$= ? \cdot ? - ? \cdot ?$$

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Angle sum f-la



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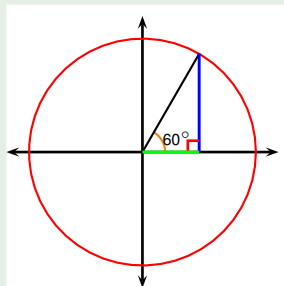
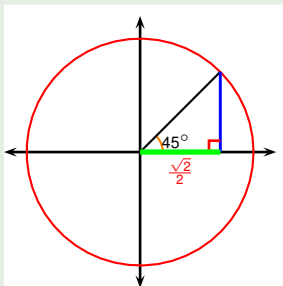
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Angle sum f-la



Example

Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

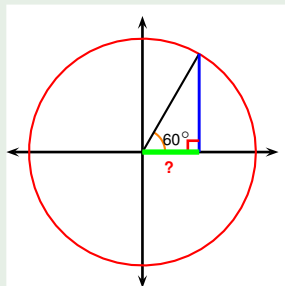
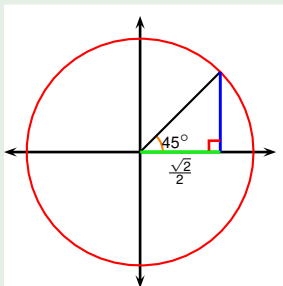
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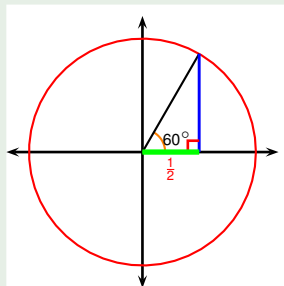
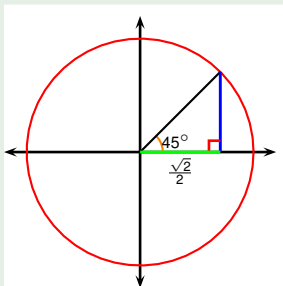
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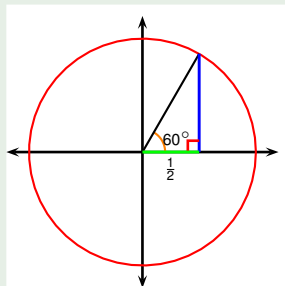
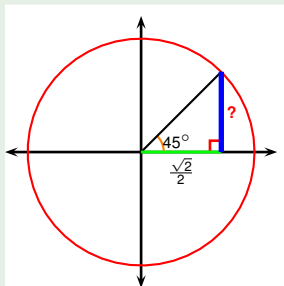
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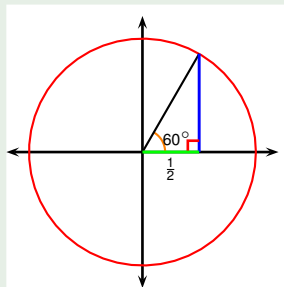
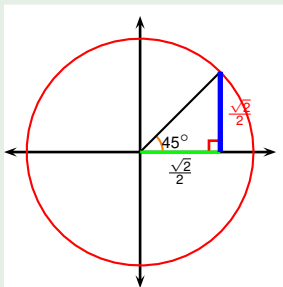
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$$= \cos(45^\circ) \cos(60^\circ) - \sin(45^\circ) \sin(60^\circ)$$

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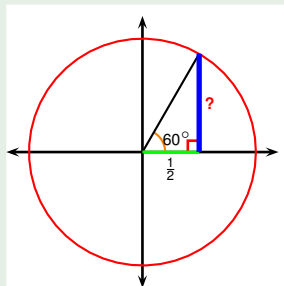
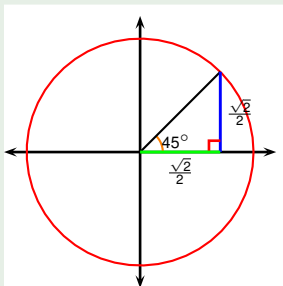
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we know the trig
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Angle sum f-la



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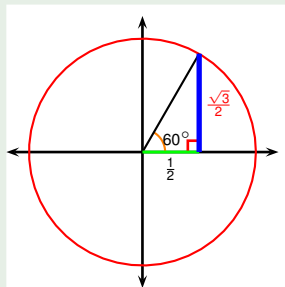
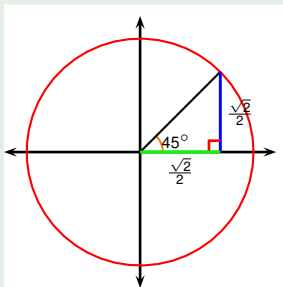
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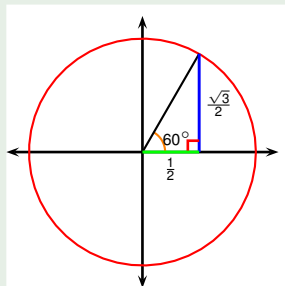
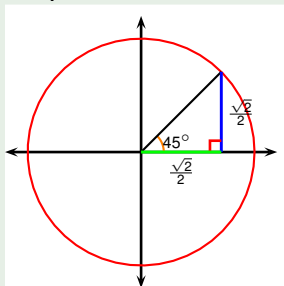
$$= \cos(45^\circ) \cos(60^\circ) - \sin(45^\circ) \sin(60^\circ)$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{6}}{4}$$

we know the trig
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Angle sum f-la



Example

Find the exact value of the trigonometric function using radicals.

$$\cos(105^\circ) = \cos(45^\circ + 60^\circ)$$

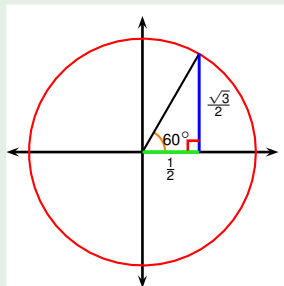
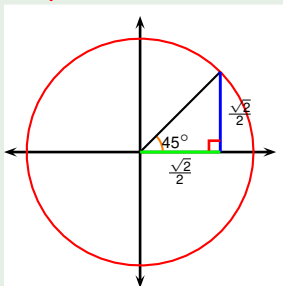
$$= \cos(45^\circ) \cos(60^\circ) - \sin(45^\circ) \sin(60^\circ)$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{6}}{4}$$

we know the trig
f-ns of 45° and 60°

Angle sum f-la



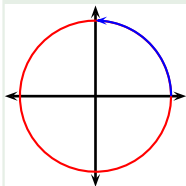
Example

Use the angle sum/difference formulas to simplify.

$$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$$

Example

Use the angle sum/difference formulas to simplify.



$$\begin{aligned}\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right) &= \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)\cos x + \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)\sin x \\ &= 0 \cdot \cos(x) + 1 \cdot \sin x \\ &= \sin x\end{aligned}$$

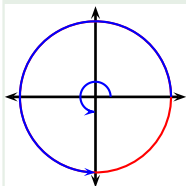
Example

Use the angle sum/difference formulas to simplify.

$$\cot \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right)$$

Example

Use the angle sum/difference formulas to simplify.



$$\begin{aligned}
 \cot \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right) &= \frac{\cos \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right)}{\sin \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right)} \\
 &= \frac{\cos \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} \right) \cos x - \sin \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} \right) \sin x}{\sin \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} \right) \cos x + \cos \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} \right) \sin x} \\
 &= \frac{0 \cdot \cos x - (-1) \sin x}{(-1) \cos x + 0 \cdot \sin x} \\
 &= \frac{-\cos x}{-\sin x} = -\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \\
 &= -\tan x
 \end{aligned}$$

Example

Show that $\tan(\pi + x) = \tan x$ using the angle sum formulas.

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$$\tan(\pi + x) = \frac{\sin(\pi + x)}{\cos(\pi + x)}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\tan(\pi + x) &= \frac{\sin(\pi + x)}{\cos(\pi + x)} \\ &= \frac{\sin \pi \cos x + \cos \pi \sin x}{\cos \pi \cos x - \sin \pi \sin x}\end{aligned}$$

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 &= \frac{? \cdot \cos x + ? \cdot \sin x}{? \cdot \cos x - ? \cdot \sin x}
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$$\begin{aligned}
 \tan(\pi + x) &= \frac{\sin(\pi + x)}{\cos(\pi + x)} \\
 &= \frac{\sin \pi \cos x + \text{red } \pi \sin x}{\cos \pi \cos x - \sin \pi \sin x} \\
 &= \frac{0 \cdot \cos x + \text{red } ? \cdot \sin x}{? \cdot \cos x - ? \cdot \sin x}
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 &= \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}
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as desired.

Proposition (\tan, \cot are π -periodic)

The tangent and cotangent functions are π -periodic, in other words,

$$\tan(\theta + \pi) = \tan \theta$$

$$\cot(\theta + \pi) = \cot \theta$$

Recall the angle sum formula $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$.

Example

Show that the Pythagorean identity $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ follows from the angle difference formula.

Recall the angle sum formula $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$.

Example

Show that the Pythagorean identity $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ follows from the angle difference formula.

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \cos 0 \\ &= \cos(\theta - \theta) \\ &= \cos \theta \cos \theta + \sin \theta \sin \theta \\ &= \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta, \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

Example

Prove the angle sum formula $\tan(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta}{1 - \tan \alpha \tan \beta}$.

$$\tan(\alpha + \beta) =$$

Example

Prove the angle sum formula $\tan(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta}{1 - \tan \alpha \tan \beta}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tan(\alpha + \beta) &= \frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}{\cos(\alpha + \beta)} \\
 &= \frac{(\sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta) \frac{1}{\cos \alpha \cos \beta}}{(\cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta) \frac{1}{\cos \alpha \cos \beta}} \\
 &= \frac{\frac{\sin \alpha \cancel{\cos \beta}}{\cos \alpha \cancel{\cos \beta}} + \frac{\cancel{\cos \alpha} \sin \beta}{\cancel{\cos \alpha} \cos \beta}}{\frac{\cancel{\cos \alpha} \cos \beta}{\cancel{\cos \alpha} \cos \beta} - \frac{\sin \alpha \sin \beta}{\cos \alpha \cos \beta}} \\
 &= \frac{\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} + \frac{\sin \beta}{\cos \beta}}{1 - \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} \cdot \frac{\sin \beta}{\cos \beta}} \\
 &= \frac{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta}{1 - \tan \alpha \tan \beta}
 \end{aligned}$$

Double angle formulas

Proposition (Double angle formulas)

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(2\alpha) &= 2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha \\ \cos(2\alpha) &= \cos^2 \alpha - \sin^2 \alpha \\ &= 2 \cos^2 \alpha - 1 \\ &= 1 - 2 \sin^2 \alpha\end{aligned}$$

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- The double angle formulas play a special role in integration.

Example

Derive the double-angle formulas.

$$\sin(2\alpha) =$$

$$\cos(2\alpha) =$$

Example

Derive the double-angle formulas.

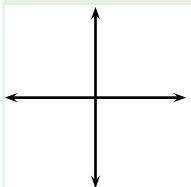
$$\begin{aligned}\sin(2\alpha) &= \sin(\alpha + \alpha) \\ &= \sin \alpha \cos \alpha + \cos \alpha \sin \alpha \\ &= 2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha\end{aligned}$$

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

Example

Using radicals, find the exact value of the trigonometric expression.

$$\cos 105^\circ$$

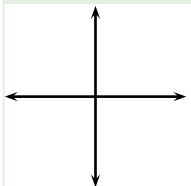


Recall the half angle formula $\cos \alpha = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos(2\alpha)}{2}}$.

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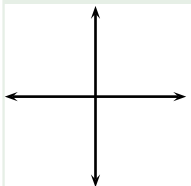


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$$\cos 105^\circ = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos(2 \cdot 105^\circ)}{2}}$$

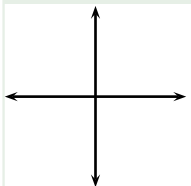


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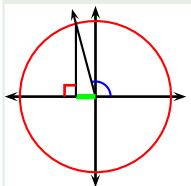


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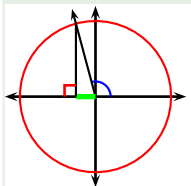


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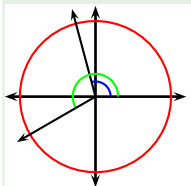


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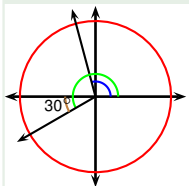


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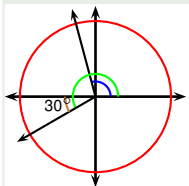


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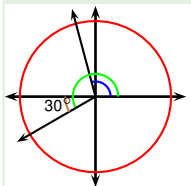


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 &= -\sqrt{\frac{1 - ?}{2}}
 \end{aligned}$$

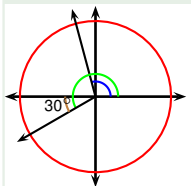


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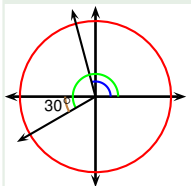


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 &= -\sqrt{\frac{1 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{2}} = -\sqrt{\frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{2 \cdot 2}}
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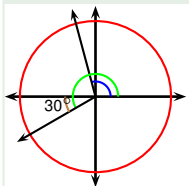


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 &= -\sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos(30^\circ)}{2}} \\
 &= -\sqrt{\frac{1 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{2}} = -\sqrt{\frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{2 \cdot 2}} \\
 &= -\frac{\sqrt{2 - \sqrt{3}}}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$



Proposition (Power-Reducing Formulas)

$$\sin^2 \alpha = \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \quad \cos^2 \alpha = \frac{1 + \cos(2\alpha)}{2}$$

Proof.



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$$\cos(2\alpha) = 1 - 2\sin^2 \alpha$$



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$$\begin{aligned}\cos(2\alpha) &= 1 - 2\sin^2 \alpha \\ \color{red}{2}\sin^2 \alpha &= 1 - \cos(2\alpha) \\ \sin^2 \alpha &= \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{\color{red}{2}}\end{aligned}$$



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$$\begin{aligned} \cos(2\alpha) &= 1 - 2\sin^2 \alpha & \cos(2\alpha) &= 2\cos^2 \alpha - 1 \\ 2\sin^2 \alpha &= 1 - \cos(2\alpha) \\ \sin^2 \alpha &= \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \end{aligned}$$



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$$\cos(2\alpha) = 2\cos^2 \alpha - 1$$

$$2\cos^2 \alpha - 1 = \cos(2\alpha)$$



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$$\sin^2 \alpha = \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \qquad \cos^2 \alpha = \frac{1 + \cos(2\alpha)}{2}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \cos(2\alpha) &= 1 - 2\sin^2 \alpha & \cos(2\alpha) &= 2\cos^2 \alpha - 1 \\ 2\sin^2 \alpha &= 1 - \cos(2\alpha) & 2\cos^2 \alpha &= 1 + \cos(2\alpha) \\ \sin^2 \alpha &= \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \end{aligned}$$



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$$\cos(2\alpha) = 1 - 2\sin^2 \alpha$$

$$2\sin^2 \alpha = 1 - \cos(2\alpha)$$

$$\sin^2 \alpha = \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2}$$

$$\cos(2\alpha) = 2\cos^2 \alpha - 1$$

$$2\cos^2 \alpha = 1 + \cos(2\alpha)$$

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Proposition (Power-Reducing Formulas)

$$\sin^2 \alpha = \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \qquad \cos^2 \alpha = \frac{1 + \cos(2\alpha)}{2}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \cos(2\alpha) &= 1 - 2\sin^2 \alpha & \cos(2\alpha) &= 2\cos^2 \alpha - 1 \\ 2\sin^2 \alpha &= 1 - \cos(2\alpha) & 2\cos^2 \alpha &= 1 + \cos(2\alpha) \\ \sin^2 \alpha &= \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} & \cos^2 \alpha &= \frac{1 + \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \end{aligned}$$



Corollary

$$\sin \alpha = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2}} \quad \cos \alpha = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos(2\alpha)}{2}}$$

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Corollary (Half-Angle Formulas)

$$\sin \left(\frac{\beta}{2} \right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos \beta}{2}} \quad \cos \left(\frac{\beta}{2} \right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos \beta}{2}}$$

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- The power reducing formulas are used to express $\sin^k \alpha$ and $\cos^k \alpha$ via lower powers of the sin and cos functions (applied to angles other than α).

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- The power reducing formulas are used to express $\sin^k \alpha$ and $\cos^k \alpha$ via lower powers of the sin and cos functions (applied to angles other than α).
- This technique will play a key role in integration (studied later/in another course).

Example

Rewrite $\sin^4 \alpha$ in terms of first powers of the cosines and sines of multiples of the angle α .

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Recall the formulas: $\sin^2 \beta = ?$, $\cos^2 \beta = ?$.

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Rewrite $\sin^4 \alpha$ in terms of first powers of the cosines and sines of multiples of the angle α .

$$\begin{aligned}\sin^4 \alpha &= \left(\sin^2 \alpha \right)^2 \\ &= \left(? \right)^2\end{aligned}$$

Recall the formulas: $\sin^2 \beta = \frac{1 - \cos(2\beta)}{2}$, $\cos^2 \beta = ?$.

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Rewrite $\sin^4 \alpha$ in terms of first powers of the cosines and sines of multiples of the angle α .

$$\begin{aligned}\sin^4 \alpha &= (\sin^2 \alpha)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \right)^2\end{aligned}$$

Recall the formulas: $\sin^2 \beta = \frac{1 - \cos(2\beta)}{2}$, $\cos^2 \beta = ?$.

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$$\begin{aligned} \sin^4 \alpha &= (\sin^2 \alpha)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left(? \right) \end{aligned}$$

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 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - 2\cos(2\alpha) + \frac{\cos(2 \cdot 2\alpha)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \right)
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 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - 2\cos(2\alpha) + \frac{\cos(2 \cdot 2\alpha)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{3}{2} - 2\cos(2\alpha) + \frac{\cos(4\alpha)}{2} \right)
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Recall the formulas: $\sin^2 \beta = \frac{1 - \cos(2\beta)}{2}$, $\cos^2 \beta = \frac{\cos(2\beta) + 1}{2}$.

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Rewrite $\sin^4 \alpha$ in terms of first powers of the cosines and sines of multiples of the angle α .

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 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - 2\cos(2\alpha) + \frac{\cos(2 \cdot 2\alpha) + 1}{2} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - 2\cos(2\alpha) + \frac{\cos(2 \cdot 2\alpha)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{3}{2} - 2\cos(2\alpha) + \frac{\cos(4\alpha)}{2} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{8} (3 - 4\cos(2\alpha) + \cos(4\alpha))
 \end{aligned}$$

Recall the formulas: $\sin^2 \beta = \frac{1 - \cos(2\beta)}{2}$, $\cos^2 \beta = \frac{\cos(2\beta) + 1}{2}$.

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