

# Precalculus

## Additional trigonometric identity exercises

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Proving the following identities is a good exercise.

$$\textcircled{1} \sin \theta \cot \theta = \cos \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{2} (\sin \theta + \cos \theta)^2 = 1 + \sin(2\theta).$$

$$\textcircled{3} \sec \theta - \cos \theta = \tan \theta \sin \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{4} \tan^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta = \tan^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{5} \cot^2 \theta + \sec^2 \theta = \tan^2 \theta + \csc^2 \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{6} 2 \csc(2\theta) = \sec \theta \csc \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{7} \tan(2\theta) = \frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 - \tan^2 \theta}.$$

$$\textcircled{8} \frac{1}{1 - \sin \theta} + \frac{1}{1 + \sin \theta} = 2 \sec^2 \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{9} \tan \alpha + \tan \beta = \frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}{\cos \alpha \cos \beta}.$$

$$\textcircled{10} \tan(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta}{1 - \tan \alpha \tan \beta}.$$

$$\textcircled{11} \sin(3\theta) + \sin \theta = 2 \sin(2\theta) \cos \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{12} \cos(3\theta) = 4 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{13} 1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{14} 1 + \csc^2 \theta = \cot^2 \theta.$$

$$\textcircled{15} 2 \cos^2(2x) = 2 \sin^4 \theta + 2 \cos^4 \theta - \sin^2(2\theta).$$

$$\textcircled{16} \frac{1 + \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{1 - \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)} = \tan \theta + \sec \theta.$$

Here we explicitly permit the use of the Pythagorean identities and the double angle f-las:

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

## Example

Prove the trigonometric identity.

$$(\sin \theta + \cos \theta)^2 = 1 + \sin(2\theta)$$

We need to transform both sides to the same expression. In this case, we choose to transform the left hand side to the right:

$$\begin{aligned}(\sin \theta + \cos \theta)^2 &= \sin^2 \theta + 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta & \left| \begin{array}{l} (A + B)^2 = \\ A^2 + 2AB + B^2 \end{array} \right. \\ &= 1 + \sin(2\theta)\end{aligned}$$

Recall the formulas

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(\alpha + \beta) &= \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta \\ \cos(\alpha + \beta) &= \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta.\end{aligned}$$

## Example

Express  $\sin(3x)$  and  $\cos(3x)$  via  $\cos x$  and  $\sin x$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(3x) &= \sin(x + 2x) \\ &= \sin x \cos(2x) + \cos x \sin(2x) \\ &= \sin x (\cos^2 x - \sin^2 x) + \cos x (2 \sin x \cos x) \\ &= \sin x \cos^2 x - \sin^3 x + 2 \sin x \cos^2 x \\ &= 3 \sin x \cos^2 x - \sin^3 x \\ \cos(3x) &= \cos(x + 2x) \\ &= \cos x \cos(2x) - \sin x \sin(2x) \\ &= \cos x (\cos^2 x - \sin^2 x) - \sin x (2 \sin x \cos x) \\ &= \cos^3 x - \cos x \sin^2 x - 2 \cos x \sin^2 x \\ &= \cos^3 x - 3 \cos x \sin^2 x\end{aligned}$$

## Example

Prove the identity  $\tan \theta + \sec \theta = \frac{1 + \tan(\frac{\theta}{2})}{1 - \tan(\frac{\theta}{2})}$

All angles here are multiples of  $\frac{\theta}{2}$ , so set  $\varphi = \frac{\theta}{2}$ ,  $\theta = 2\varphi$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tan(2\varphi) + \sec(2\varphi) &= \frac{\sin(2\varphi)}{\cos(2\varphi)} + \frac{1}{\cos(2\varphi)} \\
 &= \frac{\sin(2\varphi) + 1}{\cos(2\varphi)} \\
 &= \frac{2 \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + \sin^2 \varphi + \cos^2 \varphi}{\cos^2 \varphi - \sin^2 \varphi} \\
 &= \frac{(\cos \varphi + \sin \varphi)^2}{(\cos \varphi - \sin \varphi)(\cancel{\cos \varphi + \sin \varphi})} \\
 &= \frac{(\cos \varphi + \sin \varphi) \frac{1}{\cos \varphi}}{(\cos \varphi - \sin \varphi) \frac{1}{\cos \varphi}} = \frac{1 + \frac{\sin \varphi}{\cos \varphi}}{1 - \frac{\sin \varphi}{\cos \varphi}} \\
 &= \frac{1 + \tan \varphi}{1 - \tan \varphi}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 A^2 + 2AB + B^2 \\
 &= (A + B)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 A^2 - B^2 &= \\
 &= (A - B)(A + B)
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired.