

Inverse Circular Functions

Inverse Circular Functions

The sine function $\sin: R \rightarrow R$ given by $y = \sin x$ is not one-to-one and onto. In fact, $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right)$ and there is no $x \in R$ for which $\sin x = 2$. To make it bijective, we restrict the domain and co-domain as sine:

$$\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \rightarrow [-1, 1].$$

Now, the function $y = \sin x$ is invertible and its inverse is $x = \sin^{-1} y$. It is also written as $y = \sin^{-1} x$, known as an inverse trigonometric function or inverse circular function. Similarly, other inverse circular functions, $\cos^{-1} x$, $\tan^{-1} x$, $\cot^{-1} x$, $\sec^{-1} x$ and $\operatorname{cosec}^{-1} x$ can be defined.

Formulas for Inverse Functions

I.

$$i. f(f^{-1}(x)) = x$$

$$ii. \sin^{-1}(\sin x) = x; \sin(\sin^{-1} y) = y; -\pi/2 \leq x \leq \pi/2 \\ -1 \leq y \leq 1$$

$$iii. \cos^{-1}(\cos x) = x; \cos(\cos^{-1} y) = y; 0 \leq x \leq \pi - \\ 1 \leq y \leq 1$$

$$iv. \tan^{-1}(\tan x) = x; \tan(\tan^{-1} y) = y; -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, y \in R$$

$$v. \cot^{-1}(\cot x) = x; \cot(\cot^{-1} y) = y; 0 < x < \pi; x \neq \pi/2, y \leq -1, y \geq 1$$

$$vi. \sec^{-1}(\sec x) = x; \sec(\sec^{-1} y) = y; 0 \leq x \leq \pi; x \neq \pi/2, y \leq -1, y \geq 1$$

$$vii. \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(\operatorname{cosec} x) = x; \operatorname{cosec}(\operatorname{cosec}^{-1} y) = y; -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, x \neq 0, y \leq -1, y \geq 1$$

II.

$$i. \sin^{-1}(-x) = -\sin^{-1} x \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$ii. \cos^{-1}(-x) = \pi - \cos^{-1} x \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

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

$$iv. \cot^{-1}(-x) = \pi - \cot^{-1}(x) \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

$$v. \sec^{-1}(-x) = \pi - \sec^{-1}(x) \quad |x| \geq 1$$

$$vi. \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(-x) = -\operatorname{cosec}^{-1}(x) \quad |x| \geq 1$$

$$III. \quad i. \sin^{-1} x = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$ii. \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$iii. \cos^{-1} x = \sec^{-1} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$iv. \sec^{-1} x = \cos^{-1} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\text{v. } \tan^{-1} x = \cot^{-1} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\text{vi. } \cot^{-1} x = \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{x}, \text{ for any numerical value } x$$

IV.

$$\text{i. } \sin^{-1} x + \cos^{-1} x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\text{ii. } \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} x + \sec^{-1} x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\text{iii. } \cot^{-1} x + \tan^{-1} x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\text{iv. } \sin^{-1} x + \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

for any numerical value x

V.

i.

$$\begin{aligned} \tan^{-1} x + \tan^{-1} y &= \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x+y}{1-xy} \right) \text{ if } xy < 1 \\ &= \pi + \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x+y}{1-xy} \right) \text{ if } xy > 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ii. } \tan^{-1} x - \tan^{-1} y = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x-y}{1+xy} \right) = \cot^{-1} \left(\frac{1+xy}{x-y} \right)$$

$$\text{iii. } \cot^{-1} x + \cot^{-1} y = \cot^{-1} \left(\frac{xy-1}{y+x} \right) = \tan^{-1} \frac{x+y}{xy-1}$$

$$\text{iv. } \sin^{-1} x \pm \sin^{-1} y = \sin^{-1} \{x\sqrt{1-y^2} \pm y\sqrt{1-x^2}\}$$

$$\text{v. } \cos^{-1} \pm \cos^{-1} y = \cos^{-1} \{xy \mp \sqrt{1-x^2} \sqrt{1-y^2}\}$$

VI.

$$\text{i. } 2 \tan^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} \frac{2x}{1+x^2} = \cos^{-1} \frac{1-x^2}{1+x^2} = \tan^{-1} \frac{2x}{1-x^2}$$

$$\text{ii. } 2 \sin^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} \{2x\sqrt{1-x^2}\}$$

$$\text{iii. } 2 \cos^{-1} x = \cos^{-1} (2x^2 - 1)$$

VII.

$$\text{i. } 3 \sin^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} (3x - 4x^3) \quad 3 \cos^{-1} x = \cos^{-1} (4x^3 - 3x)$$

$$\text{ii. } 3 \tan^{-1} x = \tan^{-1} \frac{3x - x^3}{1 - 3x^2}$$

$$\text{iii. } 3 \cot^{-1} x = \cot^{-1} \frac{x^3 - 3x}{3x^2 - 1}$$

VIII.

i.

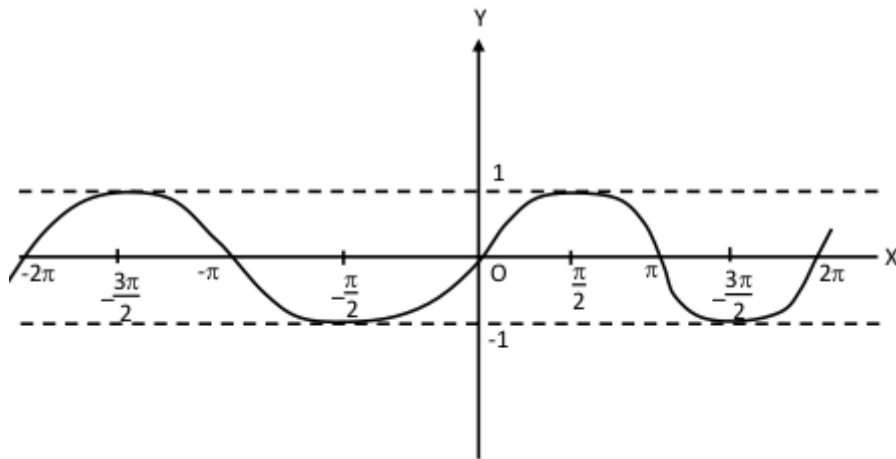
$$\begin{aligned} \sin^{-1} x &= \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \cos^{-1} \sqrt{1-x^2} \\ &= \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \\ &= \cot^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} = \sec^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{ii. } \cos^{-1} x &= \sin^{-1} \sqrt{1-x^2} = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} = \sec^{-1} \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \cot^{-1} \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}\end{aligned}$$

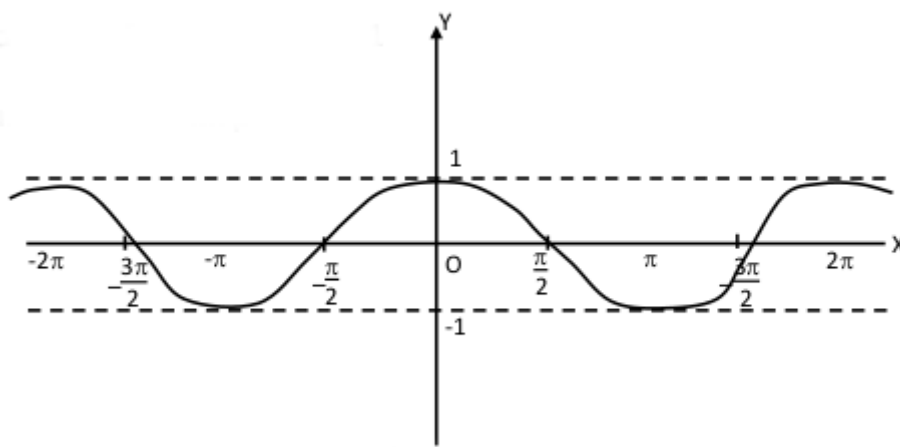
$$\begin{aligned}\text{iii. } \tan^{-1} x &= \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} \right) \\ &= \cos^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} = \sec^{-1} \sqrt{1+x^2} = \cot^{-1} \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1+x^2}}{x}\end{aligned}$$

Graphs of Trigonometric Functions

i. $y = \sin x$: It is defined $\forall x \in R$ and $-1 \leq \sin x \leq 1$ i.e., $y \in [-1, 1]$ and periodic with period 2π .

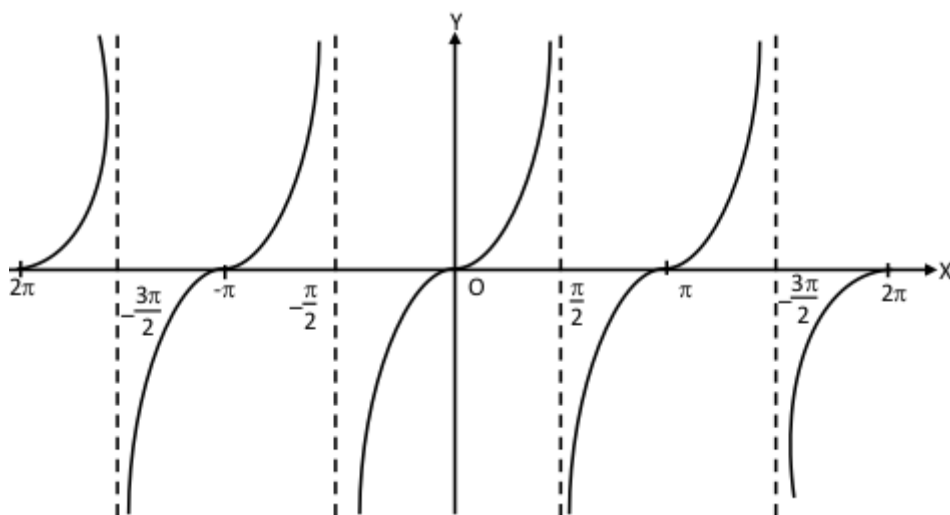


ii. $y = \cos x$: It is defined $\forall x \in R$ and $-1 \leq \cos x \leq 1$ i.e., $y \in [-1, 1]$ and period 2π



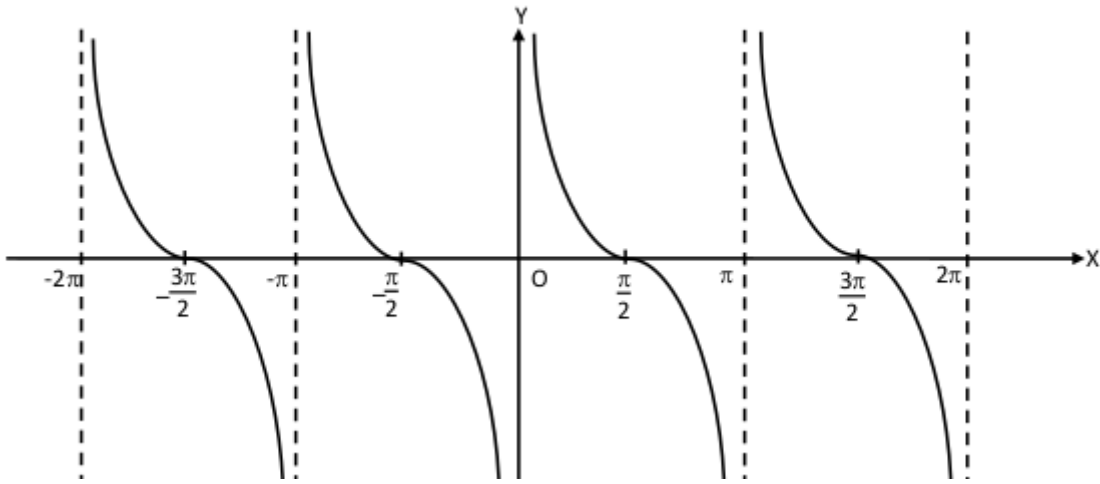
iii. $y = \tan x$: It is defined for $x \in R \setminus \left\{ (2n+1)\frac{\pi}{2}, n \in I \right\}$ because $\tan x$ is not defined if $\cos x = 0$

i.e. $x = n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2} = (2n+1)\frac{\pi}{2}, n \in I$ and $-4 < \tan x < 4$ i.e., $y \in R$ and periodic with period π .

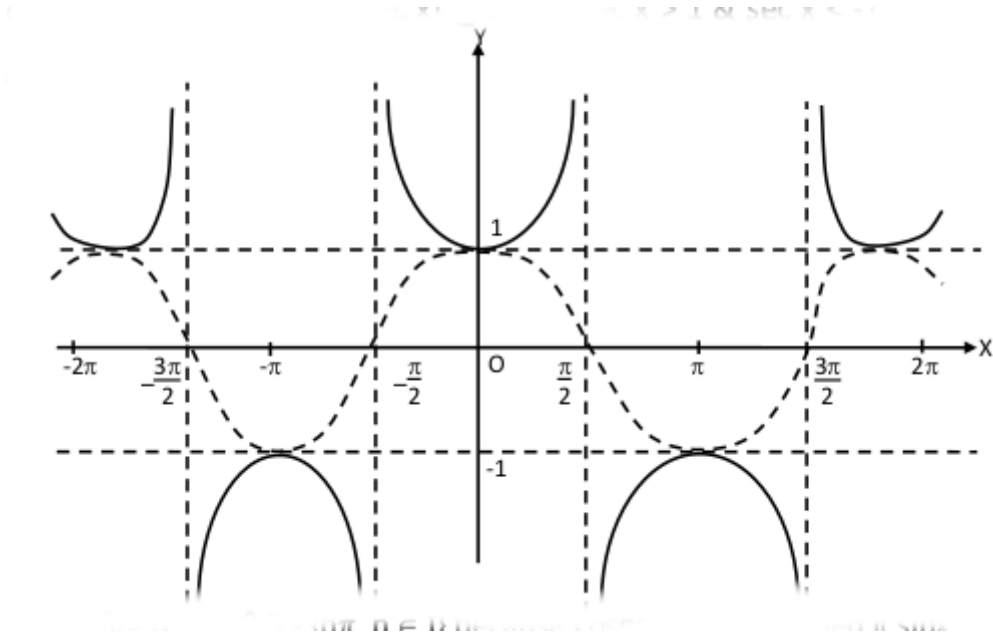


iv. $y = \cot x$: It is defined for $x \in R - \{n\pi, n \in I\}$ because $\cot x$ is not defined if $\sin x = 0$

i.e. $x = n\pi, n \in I$ and $-4 < \cot x < 4$ i.e., $y \in R$ and periodic with period π .



v. $y = \sec x$: It is defined $\forall x \in R - \left\{ (2n + 1)\frac{\pi}{2}, n \in I \right\}$ because $\sec x$ is not defined if $\cos x = 0$
i.e. $x = n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2} = (2n + 1)\frac{\pi}{2}$ and $|\sec x| \geq 1$ is i.e., $\sec x \geq 1$ & $\sec x \leq -1$ and periodic with period 2π .



vi. $y = \operatorname{cosec} x$: it is defined $\forall x \in R - \{n\pi, n \in I\}$ because $\operatorname{cosec} x$ is not defined if $\sin x = 0$
i.e., $x = n\pi, n \in I$ and $|\operatorname{cosec} x| \geq 1$ is e., $\operatorname{cosec} x \geq 1$ & $\operatorname{cosec} x \leq -1$ and periodic with period 2π

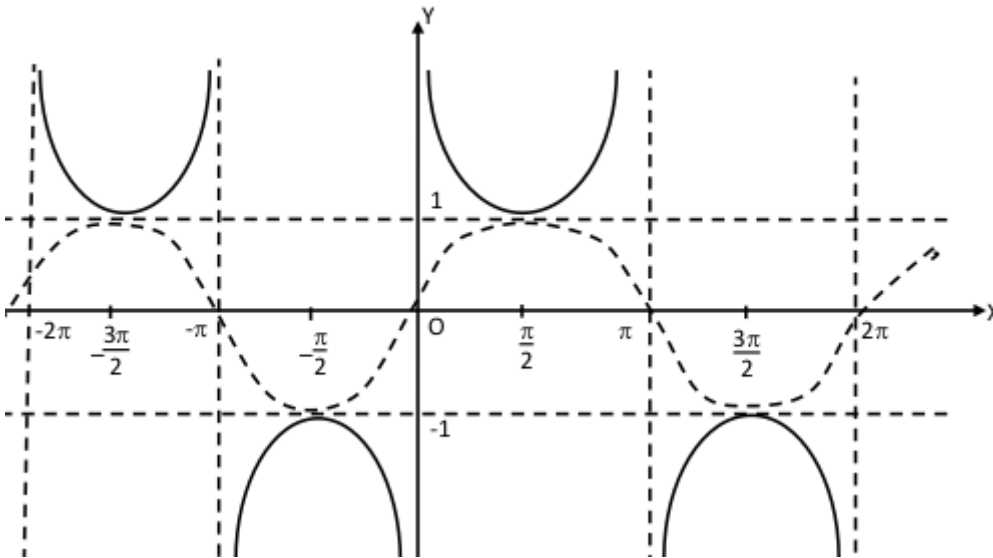


Table for Domain/Range

Function f(x)	Domain	Range
$y = \sin^{-1}x$	$[-1, 1]$	$[-\pi/2, \pi/2]$
$y = \cos^{-1}x$	$[-1, 1]$	$[0, \pi]$
$y = \tan^{-1}x$	$(-\infty, +\infty)$	$(-\pi/2, \pi/2)$
$y = \cot^{-1}x$	$(-\infty, +\infty)$	$(0, \pi)$
$y = \sec^{-1}x$	$(-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$	$[0, \pi] - \{\pi/2\}$
$y = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1}x$	$(-\infty, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$	$[-\pi/2, \pi/2] - \{0\}$