

<insert class>Trigonometry

T Yeung

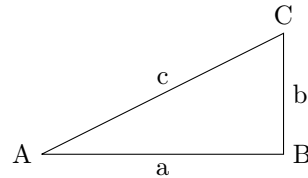
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1 Motive

We learned about $\sin \theta$, $\cos \theta$ and $\tan \theta$ as well as some trigonometric identities in form 2 & 3.

However, we have restricted ourselves to talk about them for $0 \leq \theta \leq 90^\circ$.

This restriction is due to the previous definition that you learnt about trigonometric identities that it's the ratio of two sides in a **triangle**, for example, $\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opposite side}}{\text{adjacent side}}$.



It turns out that this is an unnecessary restriction. We can extend our definition of $\sin \theta$, $\cos \theta$ and $\tan \theta$ to any real number θ (positive or negative).

2 Signs of Trigonometric Functions

Consider the below circle with radius 1, and an angle α rotating anticlockwise from positive x-axis:

We define $\sin \alpha$ and $\cos \alpha$ to be the y-coordinate and x-coordinate of P respectively (and ignore $\tan \alpha$ for now). We can observe several interesting properties of this definition regarding the sign of the trigonometric functions.

1. For $0 < \alpha < 90^\circ$, the values for $\sin \alpha$, $\cos \alpha$ are exactly the **same (including the sign)** as our previous definitions because the radius of the circle is 1.
2. For $90^\circ < \alpha < 180^\circ$, the values for $\cos \alpha$ becomes negative, while $\sin \alpha$ remains positive.
3. For $180^\circ < \alpha < 270^\circ$, both the values for $\sin \alpha$ and $\cos \alpha$ become negative.
4. For $270^\circ < \alpha < 360^\circ$, the value for $\sin \alpha$ is negative and the value for $\cos \alpha$ is positive.
5. For $\alpha > 360^\circ$, what will happen?
6. For $\alpha < 0^\circ$, what will happen?

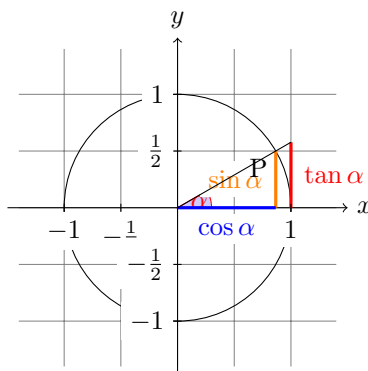


Figure 1: Signs of Trigonometric Functions

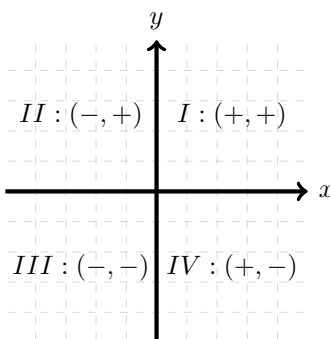
Do we need to remember these facts? No, because it's just about the signs of x-coordinate and y-coordinate in different quadrants.

Since $\sin \alpha$ is only concerned with y-coordinate, so we can look at the sign of y-coordinate. In other words, it is positive in the I and II quadrant and negative in the III and IV quadrant.

This means that $\sin \alpha$ is positive if $0^\circ < \alpha < 180^\circ$. and negative if $180^\circ < \alpha < 360^\circ$

Since $\cos \alpha$ is only concerned with x-coordinate, so we can look at the sign of x-coordinate. In other words, it is positive in the I and IV quadrant and negative in the II and III quadrant. This means that $\cos \alpha$ is positive if $0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ or $270^\circ < \alpha < 360^\circ$ and negative if $90^\circ < \alpha < 270^\circ$.

For $\tan \alpha = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}$, as we already know the sign of $\sin \alpha$ and $\cos \alpha$ in all quadrants, we also know the sign of $\tan \alpha$. $\tan \alpha$ is positive in I and IV quadrant and negative in II and III quadrant.

Figure 2: (sign of $\cos \theta$, sign of $\sin \theta$)

3 Values of trigonometric functions

Then we move on to find the value of $\sin \alpha$ where $\alpha = 120^\circ$ as an example. We draw a line with length 1 making an angle of 120° with the positive x-axis like so:

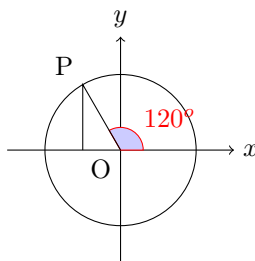


Figure 3: P has the coordinate $(\sin 120^\circ, \cos 120^\circ)$

The coordinate of P is $(\cos 120^\circ, \sin 120^\circ)$ by definition. We can find the value of it by considering the right angled triangle in the II quadrant.

Since the radius of the circle is 1 and the angle that OP makes with the negative x-axis is 60° . We find that $\cos 120^\circ = -\cos 60^\circ$ and $\sin 120^\circ = \sin 60^\circ$

Based on the given coordinates, let's try to find the following values.

Question 1. Find the values of $\sin 60^\circ$, $\cos 60^\circ$ and $\tan 60^\circ$.

Question 2. Find the values of $\sin 120^\circ$, $\cos 120^\circ$ and $\tan 120^\circ$.

Question 3. Find the values of $\sin 240^\circ$, $\cos 240^\circ$ and $\tan 240^\circ$.

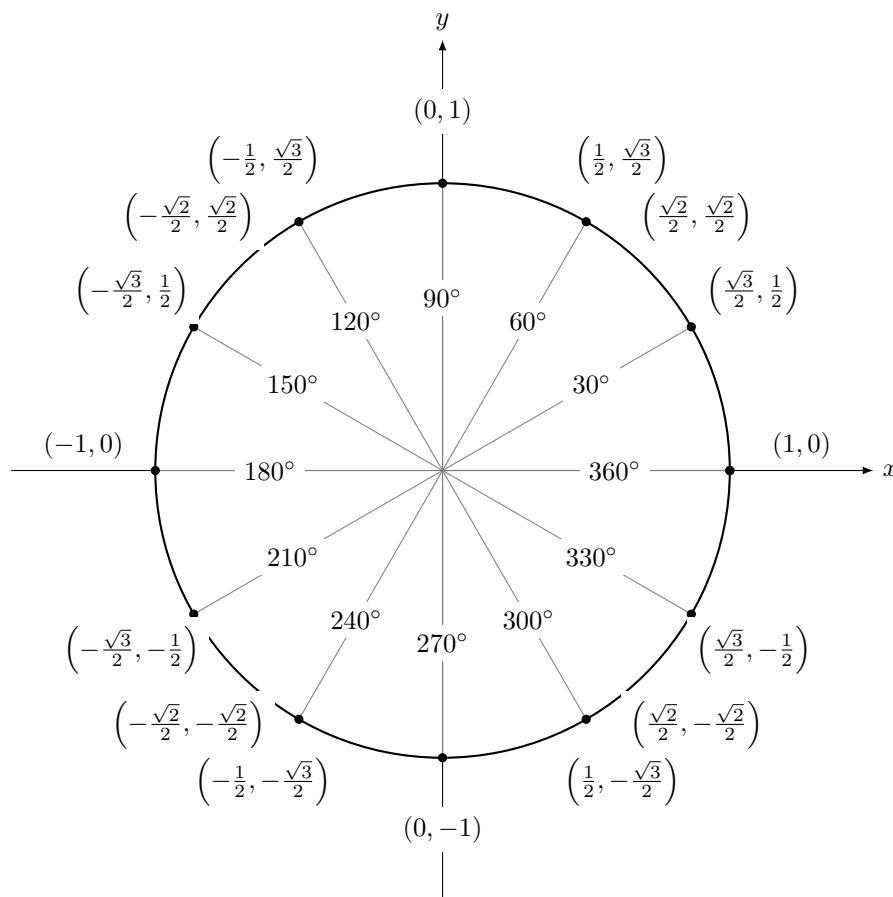
Question 4. Find the values of $\sin 390^\circ$, $\cos 390^\circ$ and $\tan 390^\circ$.

Question 5. Find the values of $\sin 600^\circ$, $\cos 600^\circ$ and $\tan 600^\circ$.

Question 6. Find the values of $\sin -30^\circ$, $\cos -30^\circ$ and $\tan -30^\circ$.

Question 7. Find the values of $\sin 180^\circ$, $\cos 180^\circ$ and $\tan 180^\circ$.

Question 8. Find the values of $\sin 90^\circ$, $\cos 90^\circ$ and $\tan 90^\circ$.



We now consider more arbitrary angles.

Question 9. Given that $\sin 49^\circ = 0.754$ correct to 3 significant figures, find the values of $\sin 229^\circ$, $\cos 229^\circ$ and $\tan 229^\circ$.

Question 10. Given that $\sin 29^\circ = 0.485$ correct to 3 significant figures, find the values of $\sin(-29^\circ)$, $\cos(-29^\circ)$ and $\tan(-29^\circ)$. Verify the two trigonometric identities that you learnt in the past holds for : $\tan(-29^\circ) = \frac{\sin(-29^\circ)}{\cos(-29^\circ)}$ and $\sin^2(-29^\circ) + \cos^2(-29^\circ) = 1$

4 Problems of type $\sin(90^\circ/180^\circ/270^\circ \pm \theta)$

To kick off this chapter, let me present to you one identity that may seem shocking at first:

$$\sin(\theta + 90^\circ) = \cos(\theta)$$

To see why this is true, we only consider $0 < \theta < 90^\circ$ first. Then $\theta + 90^\circ$ lies in the II quadrant.

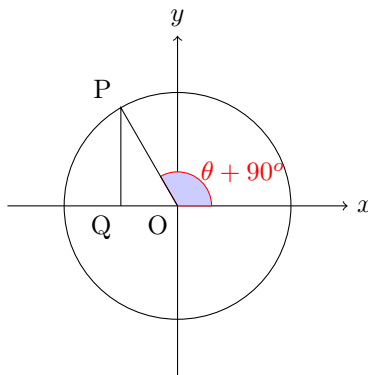


Figure 4: P has coordinate $(\cos(\theta + 90^\circ), \sin(\theta + 90^\circ))$

By doing some angle chasing, we find that $\angle OPQ = \theta$ and hence the $OQ = \sin \theta$, which means the y-coordinate of $P = \sin(\theta + 90^\circ)$ is actually just $\cos \theta$ in disguise. Note that we have discussed in previous sections that $\sin(\theta + 90^\circ)$ will be positive since $\theta + 90^\circ$ is in the II quadrant.

Although this derivation only proves that the identity is true for $0^\circ < \theta < 90^\circ$, **the identity is actually true for all θ** . This is because of the symmetry that lies in trigonometric functions. Hence, when we treat expression of the form $\sin(90^\circ/180^\circ/270^\circ \pm \theta)$ and we want to simplify it, we can always **assume θ is in the I quadrant** and derive a simpler expression from the original one.

If we consider the x-coordinate of P instead, you will see that since $OQ = \sin \theta$ and $\cos(\theta + 90^\circ)$ lies in the negative x-axis, we get another identity $\cos(\theta + 90^\circ) = -\sin \theta$.

Question 11. Simplify $\sin(\theta + 180^\circ)$, $\cos(\theta + 180^\circ)$ and $\tan(\theta + 180^\circ)$.

Question 12. Simplify $\sin(\theta + 270^\circ)$, $\cos(\theta + 270^\circ)$ and $\tan(\theta + 270^\circ)$.

Question 13. Simplify $\sin(\theta - 90^\circ)$, $\cos(\theta - 90^\circ)$ and $\tan(\theta - 90^\circ)$.

Question 14. Simplify $\sin(\theta - 90^\circ)$, $\cos(\theta - 90^\circ)$ and $\tan(\theta - 90^\circ)$.

Question 15. Simplify $\frac{\sin(270^\circ - \theta)}{\cos(180^\circ - \theta)}$

Question 16. Simplify $\tan(270^\circ + \theta) \cos(180^\circ + \theta)$

Question 17. Simplify $\frac{2 - 2\cos^2(270^\circ - \theta)}{\sin(180^\circ + \theta) \tan(270^\circ - \theta)}$

Question 18. Find the value of $\cos 1^\circ + \cos 2^\circ + \dots + \cos 179^\circ$

Question 19. Find the value of $\tan 91^\circ \cdot \tan 179^\circ + \tan 92^\circ \cdot \tan 178^\circ + \tan 93^\circ \cdot \tan 177^\circ + \dots + \tan 179^\circ \cdot \tan 91^\circ$

Question 20. Given that $\cos(270^\circ + \theta) = -0.6$ and $\cos \theta > 0$, find the values of $\sin \theta$, $\cos \theta$ and $\tan \theta$.

Question 21. Given that $\tan(180^\circ - \theta) = 3$, find the values of $\sin \theta$, $\cos \theta$ and $\tan \theta$

Question 22. Given that $\cos(360^\circ - \theta) = \frac{2}{5}$, find the value of $\frac{4 \sin 210^\circ \cdot \cos(-\theta)}{1 + \tan^2(180^\circ + \theta)}$

Question 23. α , β and θ are the interior angles of a triangle with $\alpha + \beta = 90^\circ$. Prove the following identities:

- (a) $\sin \alpha - \cos \beta = \cos \theta$
- (b) $\tan \alpha \tan \beta - \tan(\theta)2 = 0$
- (c) $\sin \alpha = \sin \beta \tan(\theta - \beta)$
- (d) $\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos 2\theta = 0$

5 Solving trigonometric equations

If we want to solve for x such that $\sin x = -0.6$, we first need to find out which quadrant does x lie in. In this case, only quadrant III and IV are possible since $\sin x$ is negative. Then we can draw the circle that we've already been very familiar with to find the value of x .

We first deal with the angle in quadrant III, we consider the right-angled triangle OQP first (and ignore the signs first), we find that $\angle QOP = \sin^{-1}(0.6)$ and hence $x = 180^\circ + \angle QOP = 216.869^\circ$. Then we consider the angle in quadrant IV (not drawn in the figure), by angle chasing you will be able to find that $\theta = 360^\circ - \sin^{-1}(0.6) = 323.1^\circ$

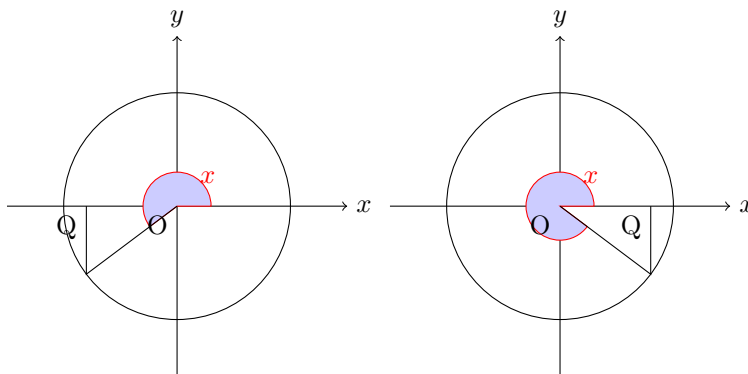


Figure 5: Two solutions to the equation

Question 24. If $\cos x = 0.2$, find x , where $0^\circ \leq x \leq 360^\circ$.

Question 25. Solve $4 \cos x = 1$, where $0^\circ \leq x \leq 360^\circ$.

Question 26. Solve $5 \tan x = -3$, where $0^\circ \leq x \leq 360^\circ$.

Question 27. Solve $\sqrt{3} \cos x = -1$, where $0^\circ < x < 180^\circ$.

Question 28. Solve $-3 \tan x = 7$, where $0^\circ \leq x < 360^\circ$.

Question 29. Without using a calculator, find θ for each of the following, where $0^\circ < \theta < 360^\circ$.

- (a) $\tan \theta = \tan 42^\circ$
- (b) $\cos \theta = -\cos 87^\circ$
- (c) $\sin \theta = \cos 1^\circ$
- (d) $\cos \theta = -\sin 63^\circ$