

3.1 Basic Identities

Remark: Equations come in three flavors

(1) Inconsistent equation (or impossible equation)

$$x+2 = x \quad \text{Solution} = \text{empty set}$$

(2) Conditional equation

$$x+2 = 11 \quad \text{Solution set} = \{9\}$$

(3) Identity

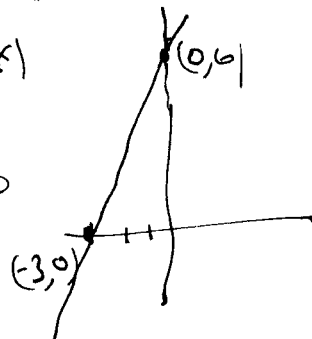
$$2(x+3) = 2x+6$$

Solution = all real numbers

Another way to look at identities:

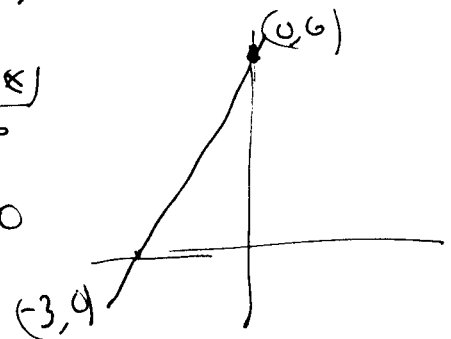
$$f(x) = 2(x+3)$$

x	f(x)
0	6
1	8
2	10



$$g(x) = 2x+6$$

x	g(x)
0	6
1	8
2	10



The two functions, f and g , are really the same function.

Pythagorean identities

$$\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$$

$$\tan^2 x + 1 = \sec^2 x$$

$$\cot^2 x + 1 = \csc^2 x$$

Reciprocal Identities

$$\csc x = \frac{1}{\sin x}$$

$$\sec x = \frac{1}{\cos x}$$

$$\cot x = \frac{1}{\tan x}$$

Quotient Identities

$$\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$$

$$\cot x = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$$

Odd and Even Identities

$$\sin(-x) = -\sin x$$

$$\cos(-x) = \cos x$$

$$\tan(-x) = -\tan x$$

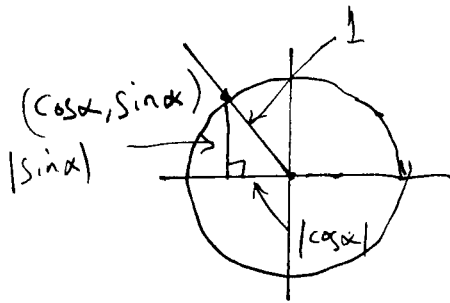
sine is a odd function

cosine is an even function

tangent is an odd function

Why are these true? [How to derive these.]

Why is $\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$ true?



Reciprocal identities? True by definition

Quotient identities?

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{x}{r}$$

$$\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} = \frac{\frac{y}{r}}{\frac{x}{r}} = \frac{y}{x} = \tan \alpha$$

$$= \frac{y}{x} = \tan \alpha$$

Likewise $\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{x/r}{y/r} = \frac{x}{y} = \cot \alpha$

Other pythagorean identities?

$$\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1 \quad \text{Divide by } \cos^2 \alpha:$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 \alpha}{\cos^2 \alpha} + \frac{\cos^2 \alpha}{\cos^2 \alpha} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \alpha}$$

$$\left(\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}\right)^2 + 1 = \left(\frac{1}{\cos \alpha}\right)^2$$

$$\tan^2 \alpha + 1 = \sec^2 \alpha$$

Likewise :

$$\frac{\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha}{\sin^2 \alpha} = \frac{1}{\sin^2 \alpha}$$

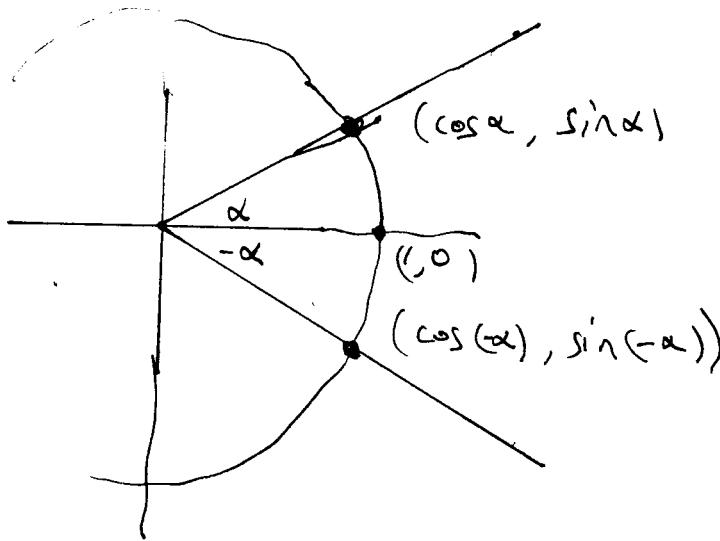
$$1 + \left(\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sin \alpha}\right)^2$$

$$1 + \cot^2 \alpha = \csc^2 \alpha$$

Even/odd?

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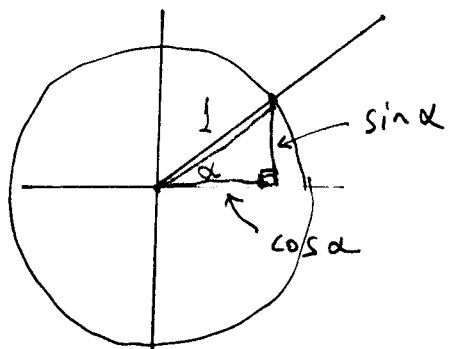


Same x-coordinate
Opposite y-coordinate

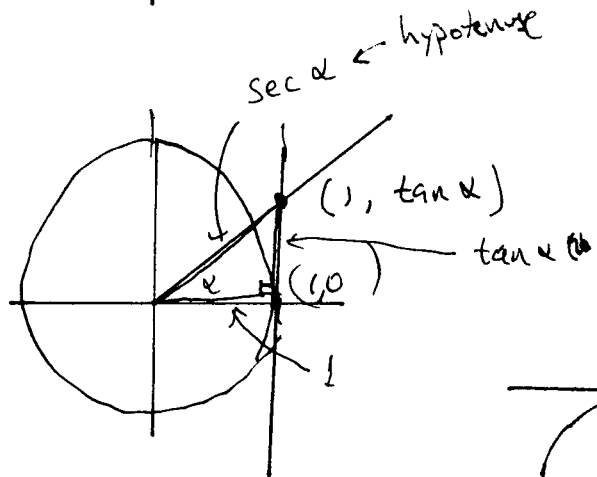
$$\text{So } \cos(-\alpha) = \cos \alpha$$
$$\sin(-\alpha) = -\sin \alpha$$

$$\tan(-\alpha) = \frac{\sin(-\alpha)}{\cos(-\alpha)} = \frac{-\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} = -\tan \alpha$$

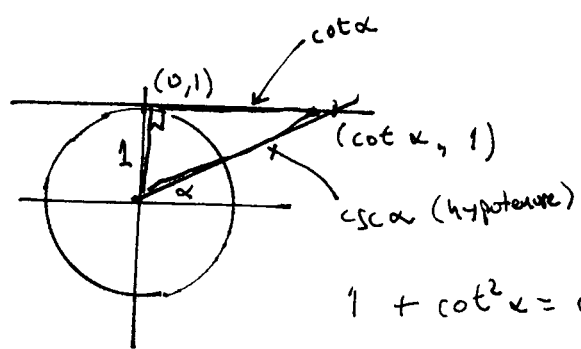
A way to visualize the Pythagorean identities



$$\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1 \leftarrow \text{hypotenuse}$$



$$\tan^2 \alpha + 1 = \sec^2 \alpha$$



$$1 + \cot^2 \alpha = \csc^2 \alpha$$

Remark: There is a lot of redundancy in the six trig functions.

ex: Given that $\tan \alpha = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$. Find the value of the other five.
 α in QI and

$$\cot \alpha = \frac{1}{\tan \alpha} = \frac{2}{1} = \boxed{2}$$

Use $\tan^2 \alpha + 1 = \sec^2 \alpha$

$$\sec^2 \alpha = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 1 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{4}{4} = \frac{5}{4}$$

$$\sec \alpha = \pm \sqrt{\frac{5}{4}} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} = \begin{cases} \boxed{\frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}} \leftarrow \text{QI} \\ \text{or } \cancel{-\frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}} \end{cases}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{1}{\sec \alpha} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}/2} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} = \boxed{\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5}}$$

Use $\tan \alpha = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}$ so $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}}$

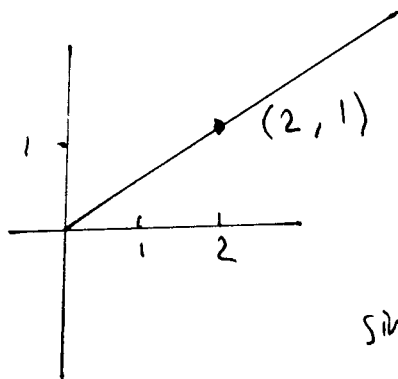
$$\sin \alpha = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = \boxed{\frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}}$$

$$\csc \alpha = \frac{1}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{1}{1/\sqrt{5}} = \boxed{\sqrt{5}}$$

Now let's do the same problem geometrically.

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ex Given that $\tan \alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ and α in QI find the other five.



Take $x=2$, $y=1$

$$\text{so } r = \sqrt{2^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{5}$$

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\csc \alpha = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{1}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\sec \alpha = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\cot \alpha = \frac{2}{1}$$

ex.

Given that $\cos \alpha = \cos \alpha$ find the other five trig functions, given that α is in QI.

That is, express the other trig functions in terms of $\cos \alpha$.

$$\cos \alpha = \boxed{\cos \alpha}$$

$$\sec \alpha = \boxed{\frac{1}{\cos \alpha}}$$

Use $\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$ to solve for $\sin \alpha$:

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

$$\sin \alpha = \pm \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \alpha} = \begin{cases} \boxed{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \alpha}} \\ \text{or} \\ -\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \alpha} \end{cases} \leftarrow \alpha \text{ is in QI}$$

$$\csc \alpha = \frac{1}{\sin \alpha} = \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \alpha}}}$$

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha} = \boxed{\frac{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \alpha}}{\cos \alpha}}$$

$$\cot \alpha = \frac{1}{\tan \alpha} = \boxed{\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \alpha}}}$$

Simplify

$$\begin{aligned} 33) \quad \sin(y) + \sin(-y) &= \sin y + [-\sin y] \\ &= \sin y - \sin y = \boxed{0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 38) \quad (1 - \cos(-\alpha)) (1 + \cos(\alpha)) \\ &= (1 - \cos \alpha) (1 + \cos \alpha) \\ &= 1^2 - (\cos \alpha)^2 = 1 - \cos^2 \alpha = \boxed{\sin^2 \alpha} \end{aligned}$$

because $\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$

so $\sin^2 \alpha = 1 - \cos^2 \alpha$

or $\cos^2 \alpha = 1 - \sin^2 \alpha$