

## 6.2 Trig Equations I

ex: a) Solve  $\sqrt{2} \cos \theta - 1 = 0$   
over the interval  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ)$ .

b) ... for all solutions

$$\sqrt{2} \cos \theta - 1 = 0$$

$$\sqrt{2} \cos \theta = 1$$

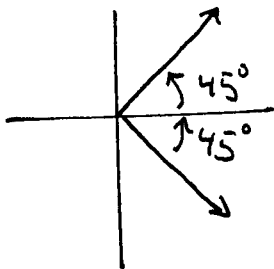
$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

What is the reference angle?

$$\theta' = 45^\circ$$

Where is  $\cos \theta$  positive?

Q I and Q IV



Answers to a)  $\theta = \boxed{45^\circ}$  or  $\theta = 360^\circ - 45^\circ = \boxed{315^\circ}$ .

b) All solutions:  $\theta = 45^\circ + 360^\circ n$  or  $\theta = 315^\circ + 360^\circ n$  where  $n$  is any integer.

(For example, if  $n = -1$ ,  $\theta = 315^\circ + 360^\circ(-1) = -45^\circ$ )

ex:  $\sin \theta = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

a) Solve for  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ)$

{Reference angle? For what  $\theta'$  is  $\sin \theta' = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ ?  $\theta' = 60^\circ$   
{In which quadrants is  $\sin \theta$  negative? Q III, Q IV.



$$\theta = 180^\circ + 60^\circ = \boxed{240^\circ}$$

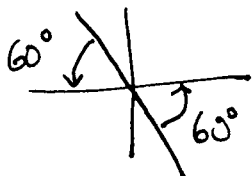
$$\theta = 360^\circ - 60^\circ = \boxed{300^\circ}$$

b) All solutions  
 $\theta = 240^\circ + 360^\circ n$  or  
 $\theta = 300^\circ + 360^\circ n$

ex: Solve  $\tan \theta = \sqrt{3}$

a) ... over  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ)$

Reference angle?  $\tan \theta' = \sqrt{3}$  if  $\theta' = 60^\circ$   
 Quadrants where tan is negative? Q II, Q IV.



$$\theta = 180^\circ - 60^\circ = 120^\circ \quad \text{or}$$

$$\theta = 360^\circ - 60^\circ = 300^\circ$$

b) ... for all solutions

$$\theta = 120^\circ + 360^\circ n \quad \text{or}$$

$$\theta = 300^\circ + 360^\circ n$$

Note: Combined, this is  $\theta = 120^\circ + 180^\circ n$ .  
 [optimal]

ex [Solving by factoring] Solve over  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ)$ ,

$$\begin{array}{l} \cos \theta \cot \theta = -\cos \theta \\ + \cos \theta \quad + \cos \theta \end{array}$$

Add  $\cos \theta$  to both sides

$$\cos \theta \cot \theta + \cos \theta = 0$$

Factor out  $\cos \theta$ :

$$\cos \theta (\cot \theta + 1) = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = 0$$

OR

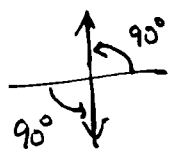
$$\cot \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$\cot \theta = -1$$

Take reciprocal of both sides:

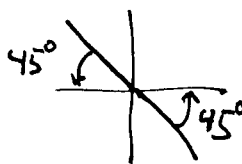
$$\tan \theta = \frac{1}{-1}$$

$$\tan \theta = -1$$



$$\theta = \boxed{90^\circ}$$

$$\text{or } \theta = \boxed{270^\circ}$$



$$\tan \theta' = 1 \text{ so } \theta' = 45^\circ$$

tan is negative in Q II or IV

$$\theta = \boxed{135^\circ} \quad \text{or} \quad \theta = \boxed{315^\circ}$$

ex:  $3 \sin^2 x - \sin x - 2 = 0$  over  $[0, 2\pi)$

Can we factor this? It's hard to see,

So let  $u = \sin x$  (temporarily);

$$3u^2 - u - 2 = 0 \quad \text{Yes, we can factor this}$$

Scratch work:

(1)  $ac = 3(-2)$   
 $= -6$

(2) 

$p, q$	$p+q$
$-6, 1$	$-5$
$-3, 2$	$-1$

→ (3) split the middle term:

$$3u^2 - 3u + 2u - 2 = 0$$

(4) Factor by grouping:

$$(3u^2 - 3u) + (2u - 2) = 0$$

$$3u(u-1) + 2(u-1) = 0$$

$$(3u+2)(u-1) = 0$$

Replace  $u$  with  $\sin x$ :

$$(3\sin x + 2)(\sin x - 1) = 0$$

$$3\sin x + 2 = 0$$

OR  $\sin x - 1 = 0$

$$\sin x = 1$$

$$3\sin x = -2$$

$$\sin x = -\frac{2}{3}$$



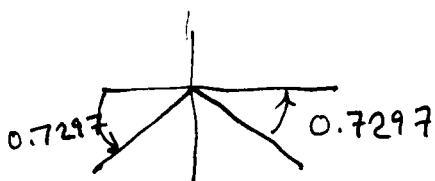
$$x = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad [90^\circ]$$

$$\approx 1.57$$

Reference angle?  $\sin \theta' = \frac{2}{3}$

$$\text{So } \theta' = \sin^{-1} \frac{2}{3} = 0.7297$$

Quadrants?  $QIII$  or  $QIV$



$$x = \pi + 0.7297 = \boxed{3.8713}$$

OR  $x = 2\pi - 0.7297 = \boxed{5.5535}$