

## 6.3 Trig equations II

ex: Solve  $2 \cos \frac{x}{2} - \sqrt{2} = 0$

a) over  $[0, 2\pi)$ 

b) all solutions

outline {  
 Step 1: Solve for cosine.  
 Step 2: Solve for the angle.  
 Step 3: Solve for  $x$ .

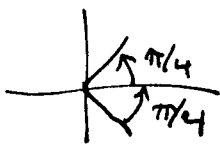
Step 1:  $2 \cos \frac{x}{2} = \sqrt{2}$

$$\cos \frac{x}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

Step 2: Let  $u = \frac{x}{2}$  (temporarily), so  $u = \text{angle}$ .

$$\cos u = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

{ Reference angle =  $45^\circ = \frac{\pi}{4}$  because  $\cos 45^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ .  
 Also, cosine is positive in QI and QIV.



so  $u = \pi/4$  or  $u = 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{7\pi}{4}$

All solutions:  $u = \frac{\pi}{4} + 2\pi n$  or  $u = \frac{7\pi}{4} + 2\pi n$ .  
 (angles)

Step 3:  $\frac{x}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4}$  or  $\frac{x}{2} = \frac{7\pi}{4}$

More generally:  $\frac{x}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4} + 2\pi n$  or  $\frac{x}{2} = \frac{7\pi}{4} + 2\pi n$

Solve for  $x$ :  $2\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = 2\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + 2\pi n\right)$  or  $2\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = 2\left(\frac{7\pi}{4} + 2\pi n\right)$

Answer b) All solutions:

$$x = \frac{\pi}{2} + 4\pi n \quad \text{OR} \quad x = \frac{7\pi}{2} + 4\pi n$$

Answer to a)

$$x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

~~$$x = \frac{7\pi}{2}$$~~

~~$$x = \frac{\pi}{2} + 4\pi = \frac{9\pi}{2}$$~~

~~$$x = \frac{7\pi}{2} + 8\pi = \frac{15\pi}{2}$$~~

ex Solve  $\cos 2x = \sin x$  over  $[0, 2\pi)$

Use:  $\cos 2x = 1 - 2\sin^2 x$  and substitute.

$$1 - 2\sin^2 x = \sin x$$

$$0 = 2\sin^2 x + \sin x - 1$$

Let  $u = \sin x$  temporarily.

$$2u^2 + u - 1 = 0$$

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

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

Use the zero-factor property

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \swarrow & & \searrow \\ \sin x + 1 = 0 & \text{OR} & 2\sin x - 1 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\sin x = -1$$

$$\boxed{x = \frac{3\pi}{2}}$$



$$\sin x = \frac{1}{2}$$

reference angle =  $\frac{\pi}{6}$

$\sin x$  is positive in QI and QII



$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} x = \pi/6 \\ x = 5\pi/6 \end{array}} \text{ or } (\pi - \pi/6)$$

ex: Solve  $2\cos^2\theta - 2\sin^2\theta + 1 = 0$

a) over  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ)$       b) all solutions

Use identities: Namely,  $\cos 2\theta = \cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta$

$$2(\cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta) + 1 = 0$$

$$2\cos 2\theta + 1 = 0$$

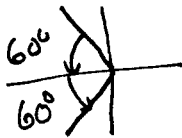
Step 1:  $2\cos 2\theta = -1$

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

Step 2: Let  $u = 2\theta$

$$\cos u = -\frac{1}{2}$$

{ Reference angle?  $\cos u' = \frac{1}{2}$  if  $u' = 60^\circ$   
 $\cos u$  is negative in QII and QIII.



$$u = 180^\circ - 60^\circ = 120^\circ$$

$$\text{or } u = 180^\circ + 60^\circ = 240^\circ$$

General answer:  $u = 120^\circ + 360^\circ n$   
 or  $u = 240^\circ + 360^\circ n$

Step 3:  $2\theta = 120^\circ + 360^\circ n$

OR  $2\theta = 240^\circ + 360^\circ n$

Multiply both sides by  $\frac{1}{2}$ :

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2}(120^\circ + 360^\circ n) = 60^\circ + 180^\circ n$$

$$\text{OR } \theta = \frac{1}{2}(240^\circ + 360^\circ n) = 120^\circ + 180^\circ n$$

Which of these are in  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ)$ ?

$$\{ 60^\circ, 120^\circ, 240^\circ, 300^\circ \}$$

$$52) \quad \sin \frac{x}{2} + \cos \frac{x}{2} = 1 \quad \text{Solve over } [0, 2\pi)$$

Replace  $\cos \frac{x}{2}$  with  $\pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}}$

$$\sin \frac{x}{2} \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}} = 1$$

$$\pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}} = 1 - \sin \frac{x}{2}$$

Square both sides BUT remember this may introduce extraneous solutions.

$$\left( \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}} \right)^2 = \left( 1 - \sin \frac{x}{2} \right)^2$$

$$1 - \sin^2 \frac{x}{2} = 1 - 2 \sin \frac{x}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}$$

$$0 = 2 \sin^2 \frac{x}{2} - 2 \sin \frac{x}{2}$$

$$0 = 2 \sin \frac{x}{2} \left( \sin \frac{x}{2} - 1 \right)$$

$$\sin \frac{x}{2} = 0$$

$$\text{OR } \sin \frac{x}{2} - 1 = 0$$

$$\sin u = 0$$

$$\frac{x}{2} = u = 0, \pi, 2\pi, 3\pi, \dots$$

$$\boxed{x = 0}, \quad \cancel{2\pi}, \quad \cancel{4\pi}, \quad \dots$$

$$\sin \frac{x}{2} = 1$$

$$\sin u = 1$$

$$\frac{x}{2} = u = \frac{\pi}{2}, \dots$$

$$\boxed{x = \pi}$$

Extraneous?

check:

$$\sin \frac{0}{2} + \cos \frac{0}{2} \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$

$$0 + 1 \stackrel{!}{=} 1$$

$$\text{check: } \sin \frac{\pi}{2} + \cos \frac{\pi}{2} \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$

$$1 + 0 \stackrel{!}{=} 1$$