

Precalculus: Analytic Trigonometry

5.1: Fundamental Identities

Basic Trigonometric Identities

Reciprocal Identities

$$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \quad \sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta} \quad \cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{1}{\csc \theta} \quad \cos \theta = \frac{1}{\sec \theta} \quad \tan \theta = \frac{1}{\cot \theta}$$

Quotient Identities

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} \quad \cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$$

Pythagorean Identities

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

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

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

Cofunction Identities

$$\sin \theta = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) \quad \cos \theta = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) \quad \tan \theta = \cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$$

$$\csc \theta = \sec\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) \quad \sec \theta = \csc\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) \quad \cot \theta = \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$$

Odd-Even Identities

Odd Functions

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

$$\csc(-x) = -\csc x$$

Even Functions

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

$$\sec(-x) = \sec x$$

Odd Functions

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

$$\cot(-x) = -\cot x$$

Example 1: **Pythagorean Identities**

Convert $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$ to $\cot^2 x + 1 = \csc^2 x = \frac{1}{\sin^2 x}$

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

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

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

Example 2: Simplifying Factoring and Using Identities

a) $\sin^3 x + \sin x \cos^2 x$

$$\sin x (\underbrace{\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x}_=1) = \boxed{\sin x}$$

b) $1 - 2\sin x + \sin^2 x$ let $u = \sin x$

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

$$(u-1)(u-1) = (u-1)^2$$

$$\boxed{(\sin x - 1)^2}$$

c) $\cos^4 x - 2\cos^2 x + 1$ let $u = \cos^2 x$

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

$$= (\underbrace{\cos^2 x - 1}_{\downarrow})^2$$

$$= (-\sin^2 x)^2 = \boxed{\sin^4 x}$$

Example 3: Simplifying by Expanding and Using Identities

Simplify the expression $\frac{(\sec x + 1)(\sec x - 1)}{\sin^2 x}$

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

$$\frac{\tan^2 x}{\sin^2 x} = \tan^2 x \left(\frac{1}{\sin^2 x}\right) = \frac{\cancel{\sin^2 x}}{\cos^2 x} \left(\frac{1}{\cancel{\sin^2 x}}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} = \boxed{\sec^2 x}$$

Example 4: Simplifying by Combining Fractions and Using Identities

Simplify the expression $\frac{\cos x}{1 - \sin x} - \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$ L.C.D: $(1 - \sin x)(\cos x)$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x}{\cos x(1 - \sin x)} - \frac{\sin x(1 - \sin x)}{\cos x(1 - \sin x)} = \frac{\cos^2 x - (\sin x - \sin^2 x)}{\cos x(1 - \sin x)}$$

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

$$= \boxed{\sec x}$$

Example 5: Simplify each expression.

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

$\cos x \sec x$

$\cancel{\cos x} \left(\frac{1}{\cancel{\cos x}} \right) = \boxed{1}$

b) $\sec^2(-x) - \tan^2(-x)$

$\sec^2(-x) = (\sec(-x))^2$
 $= (\sec x)^2 = \sec^2 x$

$\tan^2(-x) = (\tan(-x))^2$
 $= (-\tan x)^2 = \tan^2 x$

$\sec^2 x - \tan^2 x$

$= \boxed{1}$

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

Example 6: **Solving a Trigonometric Equation**

Find all values of x in the interval $[0, 2\pi)$ that solve the equation.

a) $2 \cos x + \sqrt{3} = 0$

b) $\sin^2 x - 2 \sin x = 0$

c) $\frac{\cos^3 x}{\sin x} = \cot x$

Example 7: **Solving a Trigonometric Equation by Factoring**

Find all solutions to the trigonometric equation

a) $2 \sin^2 x + \sin x = 1$

$$1. \tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \quad \tan^2 x = \frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x}$$

$$2. \frac{1}{\csc x} = \sin x \quad \frac{1}{\cos x} = \sec x \quad \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = \cot x$$

$$3. \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$$

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{array}{r} \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x - 1 = 0 \\ -\sin^2 x \quad \quad \quad -\sin^2 x \\ \hline \cos^2 x - 1 = -\sin^2 x \end{array}$$