

Math 1060 ~ Trigonometry

11 Multiple Angle Identities

Learning Objectives

In this section you will:

- Learn the double and half angle identities for sine, cosine and tangent.
- Find trigonometric values of double and half angles.
- Verify identities involving double and half angles.
- Learn and apply the power reduction formulas for sine and cosine.
- Learn and apply product/sum formulas.

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

$$\sin 2u = 2 \sin u \cos u$$

$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$$

The double angle identities are easy to generate using the identities for the sum of two angles.

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(2\theta) &= \sin(\theta + \theta) \quad (\text{use sum formula/identity}) \\ &= \sin\theta \cos\theta + \cos\theta \sin\theta \\ &= 2\sin\theta \cos\theta\end{aligned}$$
$$\boxed{\sin(2\theta) = 2\sin\theta \cos\theta}$$

$$\tan(2\theta) = \tan(\theta + \theta)$$

$$= \frac{\tan\theta + \tan\theta}{1 - \tan\theta \tan\theta}$$
$$\boxed{\tan(2\theta) = \frac{2\tan\theta}{1 - \tan^2\theta}}$$

$$\cos(2\theta) = \cos(\theta + \theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \cos\theta \cos\theta - \sin\theta \sin\theta \\ &= \cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta\end{aligned}$$
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\cos(2\theta) = \cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta}$$

Note:

$$\text{because } \cos^2\theta = 1 - \sin^2\theta$$

$$\text{and } \sin^2\theta = 1 - \cos^2\theta$$

we get 2 other varieties of double angle identity for cosine

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned}\cos(2\theta) &= 1 - 2\sin^2\theta \\ \text{or } \cos(2\theta) &= 2\cos^2\theta - 1\end{aligned}}$$

Double Angle Identities: For all applicable angles θ ,

- $\sin(2\theta) = 2\sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)$
- $\cos(2\theta) = \begin{cases} \cos^2(\theta) - \sin^2(\theta) \\ 2\cos^2(\theta) - 1 \\ 1 - 2\sin^2(\theta) \end{cases}$
- $\tan(2\theta) = \frac{2\tan(\theta)}{1 - \tan^2(\theta)}$

Why do we need the double angle identities? Do they allow us to compute exact values of any angles?

- Simplify expressions.
- Solve equations with $2x$.

Ex 1: Solve this equation for values of x on the interval $[0, 2\pi)$.

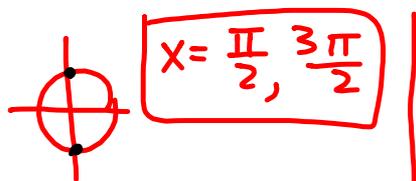
$$\sin(2x) + \cos(x) = 0$$

(use double angle identity)

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

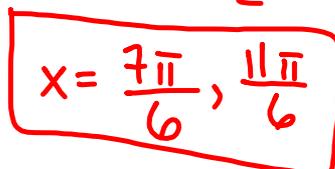
$$\cos x (2\sin x + 1) = 0$$

$$\cos x = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 2\sin x + 1 = 0$$


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

$$2\sin x = -1$$

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


$$x = \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{11\pi}{6}$$

Starting with two forms of the double angle identity for the cosine, we can generate half-angle identities for the sine and cosine.

①

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

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

②

$$\cos(2\theta) = 2\cos^2\theta - 1$$

$$\cos(2\theta) + 1 = 2\cos^2\theta$$

Power Reduction Formulas: For all angles θ ,

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

$$\sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \frac{1 - \cos\left(2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)\right)}{2}$$

$$\sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \frac{1 - \cos\theta}{2}$$

$$\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos\theta}{2}}$$

half-angle
identity

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

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

$$\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos\theta}{2}}$$

$$\tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{\frac{\frac{1 - \cos\theta}{2}}{\frac{1 + \cos\theta}{2}}}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos\theta}{1 + \cos\theta}}$$

Half Angle Formulas. For all applicable angles θ ,

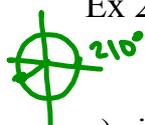
- $\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \pm\sqrt{\frac{1-\cos(\theta)}{2}}$

- $\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \pm\sqrt{\frac{1+\cos(\theta)}{2}}$

- $\tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \pm\sqrt{\frac{1-\cos(\theta)}{1+\cos(\theta)}}$

where the choice of \pm depends on the quadrant in which the terminal side of $\frac{\theta}{2}$ lies.

Ex 2: Use these identities to determine exact values.



a) $\sin(105^\circ) = \sin\left(\frac{210^\circ}{2}\right)$

$$= +\sqrt{\frac{1-\cos(210^\circ)}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{1-\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)}{2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1+\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{2}\right)\left(\frac{2}{2}\right)} = \sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{4}}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{\sqrt{2+\sqrt{3}}}{2}}$$

b) $\tan\left(\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) = \tan\left(\frac{\frac{7\pi}{6}}{2}\right)$

$$= \pm\sqrt{\frac{1-\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{6}\right)}{1+\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{6}\right)}}$$

$$= -\sqrt{\left(\frac{1-\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)}{1+\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)}\right)\left(\frac{2}{2}\right)}$$

$$= -\boxed{\sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2-\sqrt{3}}}}$$

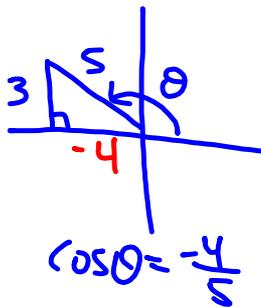
Ex 3: If θ is an obtuse angle and $\sin \theta = \frac{3}{5}$, find the exact value of these using double/half angle identities.

a) $\sin(2\theta)$

$$= 2 \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{-4}{5} \right) \left(\frac{3}{5} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-24}{25}$$



b) $\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2}}$

$$= \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \frac{-4}{5}}{2}}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{\frac{\frac{1}{5}}{2}} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{10}}$$

$$\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}}$$

which is it, + or -?

$$0 < \theta < \pi$$

$$0 < \frac{\theta}{2} < \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{\theta}{2} \text{ in } Q1$$

\Rightarrow choose +

\Rightarrow choose +

c) $\tan(2\theta)$

$$\tan(2\theta) = \frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 - \tan^2 \theta}$$

$$= \frac{2 \left(\frac{-3}{4} \right)}{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{4} \right)^2} = \frac{\left(\frac{-3}{2} \right)}{\left(\frac{16}{16} - \frac{9}{16} \right)}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{-3 \cancel{16}}{2}}{16 - 9} = \frac{-24}{7}$$

Ex 4: Evaluate $\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{12}\right)$ in two ways, using the half-angle identity and using the difference identity.

① using half-angle id.

$$\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{\frac{7\pi}{6}}{2}\right)$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{6}\right)}{2}}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{1 + (-\sqrt{3}/2)}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2}{2}\right)}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{\frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{4}}$$

$$\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2 - \sqrt{3}}}{2}$$

which is it, + or - ?

$$\boxed{\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) = \frac{-\sqrt{2 - \sqrt{3}}}{2}}$$



② using difference id.

$$\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{(9-2)\pi}{12}\right)$$

$$= \cos\left(\frac{9\pi}{12} - \frac{2\pi}{12}\right)$$

$$= \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{6}\right)$$

$$= \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$$

$$+ \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$$

$$= \frac{-\sqrt{2}}{2} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{-\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2}}{4}}$$