

5.1b Start of Identities

Learn these now

Reciprocal Identities

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

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

Pythagorean Identities:

$$\sin^2(t) + \cos^2(t) = 1$$

$$\tan^2(t) + 1 = \sec^2(t)$$

$$1 + \cot^2(t) = \csc^2(t)$$

Opposite Angle Identities

$$\sin(-t) = -\sin(t)$$

$$\cos(-t) = \cos(t)$$

$$\tan(-t) = -\tan(t)$$

$$\csc(-t) = -\csc(t)$$

$$\sec(-t) = \sec(t)$$

$$\cot(-t) = -\cot(t)$$

Example 1: Simplify: $\cot(-t)\sec(-t)$

Here's another set of identities:

Periodicity

The sine and cosine functions are periodic functions. That means that there is some number p such that $f(x + p) = f(x)$. The number p is the period of the function. So

$$\begin{array}{lll} \sin(t + 2\pi) = \sin(t) & \text{more generally} & \sin(t + 2k\pi) = \sin(t) \\ \cos(t + 2\pi) = \cos(t) & & \cos(t + 2k\pi) = \cos(t) \end{array}$$

for all real numbers t and all integers k .

The tangent and cotangent functions are also periodic functions. However, these functions repeat themselves when $p = \pi$. So

$$\begin{array}{lll} \tan(t + \pi) = \tan(t) & \text{more generally} & \tan(t + k\pi) = \tan(t) \\ \cot(t + \pi) = \cot(t) & & \cot(t + k\pi) = \cot(t) \end{array}$$

for all real numbers t and all integers k .

Note: the period for the sine and cosine functions is 2π while the period for the tangent and cotangent functions is π .

The secant and cosecant functions are the reciprocal functions, so they will follow the same periodicity rules as sine and cosine.

$$\begin{array}{l} \sec(t + 2\pi k) = \sec(t) \\ \csc(t + 2\pi k) = \csc(t) \end{array} \quad \text{for all real numbers } t \text{ and all integers } k.$$

Example 2: Simplify: $\frac{1 + \tan(t - \pi)}{1 + \cot(t + 2\pi)}$

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Example 3: Suppose that $\csc(x) = \frac{4}{3}$ and that $0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$. Compute $\cot(x - 74\pi)$.

Example 4: Simplify.

$$\frac{\sin(t + 6\pi)\csc(t - 2\pi)}{\cot(t + \pi) + \tan(t + 2\pi)}$$

Example 5: Find the equivalent: $\frac{\sec^2 x - 1}{\sec^2 x}$.

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Example 6: Find the equivalent: $\frac{1}{1-\cos\theta} + \frac{1}{1+\cos\theta}$