

12/17

Lesson 5-2b: Trigonometric Functions of Real Numbers II**Objectives**

Students will...

- Be able to use a calculator to evaluate trigonometric functions (both radians and degree)
- Be able to know and apply the even-odd properties of trigonometric functions.

Trigonometric Functions

The concept of trigonometric functions can be defined in terms of the unit circle. The **definition of trigonometric functions** is as follows:

$$\cos t = x$$

$$\sin t = y$$

$$\tan t = \frac{y}{x} \quad (x \neq 0)$$

$$\sec t = \frac{1}{\cos t} = \frac{1}{x} \quad (x \neq 0)$$

$$\csc t = \frac{1}{\sin t} = \frac{1}{y} \quad (y \neq 0)$$

$$\cot t = \frac{1}{\tan t} = \frac{x}{y} \quad (y \neq 0)$$

Evaluating Trigonometric Functions

The previous definitions of trigonometric functions are only helpful to us if t happens to be one of the values on the unit circle. Consider for example, $\cos \frac{\pi}{7}$

Since $\frac{\pi}{7}$ is not on the unit circle, we would have to use a calculator to evaluate this function.

One thing to keep in mind is that trigonometric functions can be evaluated using both degrees and radians. It is **CRUCIAL** that the calculator is in the right mode. For most calculators, DEG=Degrees, and RAD=Radians.

So, going back to our problem, since $\frac{\pi}{7}$ is a radian value (no deg sign), we need to put our calculator in radian mode.

$$\cos \frac{\pi}{7} \approx 0.9$$

Try doing these problems. Note that they are all in radians.

$$\sin \frac{\pi}{5} \approx$$

$$\tan \frac{7\pi}{9} \approx$$

$$\cos \frac{6\pi}{31} \approx$$

$$\tan \frac{11\pi}{8} \approx$$

$$\sin \frac{7\pi}{5} \approx$$

Now, let's try a couple problems in degree mode.

$$\sin 33^\circ \approx$$

$$\cos 67^\circ \approx$$

$$\tan 0.889^\circ \approx$$

Also, remember that $\sec t = \frac{1}{\cos t}$, $\csc t = \frac{1}{\sin t}$, and $\cot t = \frac{1}{\tan t}$

$$\text{Thus, } \csc 67^\circ = \frac{1}{\sin 67} \approx$$

and

$$\sec \frac{\pi}{8} = \frac{1}{\cos \pi/8} \approx$$

Try these. Make sure you're in the right mode.

$$\cot \frac{\pi}{19} \approx$$

$$\csc 65.98^\circ \approx$$

$$\sec \frac{27\pi}{16} \approx$$

Even-Odd Properties

Consider the following.

$$\sin \frac{\pi}{3} =$$

$$\sin \left(-\frac{\pi}{3} \right) = \sin(\quad) =$$

Now, what about...

$$\cos \frac{\pi}{3} =$$

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

Turns out, these results can be generalized.

Even-Odd Properties:

$$\cos(-t) =$$

$$\sin(-t) =$$

$$\tan(-t) =$$

$$\csc(-t) =$$

$$\sec(-t) =$$

$$\cot(-t) =$$

Examples

Use the Even-Odd Properties to evaluate the following.

$$\sin \left(-\frac{\pi}{6} \right) =$$

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

$$\cot \left(-\frac{5\pi}{6} \right) =$$

$$\csc \left(-\frac{2\pi}{3} \right) =$$

$$\tan \left(-\frac{11\pi}{6} \right) =$$

$$\sec \left(-\frac{\pi}{2} \right) =$$