

Trigonometry

Proof



AS-Level

Sine and Cosine Rule

A-Level

Small Angle Approximations

Solving Trigonometry Equations

Trigonometric Proof

1. Show that the equation $2\sin x = \frac{4\cos x - 1}{\tan x}$ can be expressed in the form $6\cos^2 x - \cos x - 2 = 0$ (3)
2. Show that the equation $3\sin^2 x + 7\sin x = \cos^2 x - 4$ can be written in the form $4\sin^2 x + 7\sin x + 3 = 0$ (2)
3. Prove that $\cos 4x = 8\cos^4 x - 8\cos^2 x + 1$ (4)
4. Prove $\frac{\sin x}{1 + \cos x} = \tan \frac{x}{2}$ (4)
5. Prove that $\frac{1}{\sin 2x} - \frac{\cos 2x}{\sin 2x} = \tan x$ (3)
6. Use the identity $\cos(A + B) = \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B$, to show that $\cos 2A = 1 - 2\sin^2 A$ (2)
7. Prove that $\cos x - \cos(x - \frac{\pi}{3}) \equiv \cos(x + \frac{\pi}{3})$ (3)
8. Prove that $\cos x \equiv 2\cos^2 \frac{x}{2} - 1$ (2)
9. Prove that $\frac{1 + \cos x}{1 - \cos x} \equiv \cot^2 \frac{x}{2}$ (2)
10. Use the identities $\sin(A + B)$ and $\sin(A - B)$ to prove that $\sin P - \sin Q = 2 \cos \frac{P+Q}{2} \sin \frac{P-Q}{2}$ (4)
11. Prove that for all real values of x , $\cos(x + 30) + \sin x = \cos(x - 30)$ (4)

Mark Scheme

1.

$2\sin x \tan x = 4\cos x - 1$ $2\sin x \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = 4\cos x - 1$ $2\sin^2 x = 4\cos^2 x - \cos x$	M1
$2(1 - \cos^2 x) = \cos x (4\cos x - 1)$	M1
$2 - 2\cos^2 x = 4\cos^2 x - \cos x$ $6\cos^2 x - \cos x - 2 = 0$	M1

2.

$3\sin^2 x + 7\sin x = \cos^2 x - 4$ $3\sin^2 x + 7\sin x = 1 - \sin^2 x - 4$	M1
$4\sin^2 x + 7\sin x + 3 = 0$	M1

3.

$\cos 4x = \cos 2(2x)$ $= 2\cos^2 2x - 1$	M1
$= 2(2\cos^2 x - 1)^2 - 1$	M1
$= 2(2\cos^2 x - 1)(2\cos^2 x - 1) - 1$ $= 2(4\cos^4 x - 2\cos^2 x - 2\cos^2 x + 1) - 1$ $= 2(4\cos^4 x - 4\cos^2 x + 1) - 1$	M1
$= 8\cos^4 x - 8\cos^2 x + 2 - 1$ $= 8\cos^4 x - 8\cos^2 x + 1$	M1

4.

$\frac{\sin x}{1+\cos x} = \frac{2\sin\frac{x}{2}\cos\frac{x}{2}}{1+2\cos^2\frac{x}{2}-1}$	M1
$= \frac{2\sin\frac{x}{2}\cos\frac{x}{2}}{2\cos^2\frac{x}{2}}$	M1
$= \frac{\sin\frac{x}{2}}{\cos\frac{x}{2}}$	M1
$= \tan\frac{x}{2}$	

5.

$\frac{1}{\sin 2x} - \frac{\cos 2x}{\sin 2x} = \frac{1-\cos 2x}{\sin 2x}$	M1
$= \frac{1-(1-2\sin^2 x)}{2\sin x \cos x}$ $= \frac{2\sin^2 x}{2\sin x \cos x}$	M1
$= \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$ $= \tan x$	M1

6.

$\cos(A + B) = \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B$ Let $B = A$ $\cos(A + A) = \cos A \cos A - \sin A \sin A$ $\cos 2A = \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$	M1
$= 1 - \sin^2 A - \sin^2 A$ $= 1 - 2\sin^2 A$	M1



7.

$(LHS) = \cos x - (\cos x \cos \frac{\pi}{3} + \sin x \sin \frac{\pi}{3})$	M1
$= \cos x - \frac{1}{2} \cos x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin x$	M1
$= \frac{1}{2} \cos x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin x$	
$= \cos x \cos \frac{\pi}{3} - \sin x \sin \frac{\pi}{3}$	
$= \cos(x + \frac{\pi}{3})$	

8.

$\cos 2A \equiv 2\cos^2 A - 1$ let $A = \frac{x}{2}$	M1
$\cos x \equiv 2 \cos^2 \frac{x}{2} - 1$	M1

9.

$(LHS) = \frac{1 + (2\cos^2 \frac{x}{2})}{2\sin^2 \frac{x}{2}}$	M1
$= \cot^2 \frac{x}{2}$	M1

10.

$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$ $\sin(A - B) = \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B$	M1
$\sin(A + B) - \sin(A - B) = 2 \cos A \sin B$ let $P = A + B$ (1) $Q = A - B$ (2)	M1
$(1) + (2) \rightarrow 2A = P + Q \rightarrow A = \frac{P+Q}{2}$ $(1) - (2) \rightarrow 2B = P - Q \rightarrow B = \frac{P-Q}{2}$	M1
$\sin P - \sin Q = 2 \cos \frac{P+Q}{2} \sin \frac{P-Q}{2}$	M1

11.

$(LHS) = \cos x \cos 30 - \sin x \sin 30 + \sin x$	M1
$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos x - \frac{1}{2} \sin x + \sin x$	M1
$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos x + \frac{1}{2} \sin x$	
$= \cos x \cos 30 + \sin x \sin 30$	M1
$= \cos(x - 30)^\circ$ (RHS)	M1



Solving Trig Equations



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Solving Trigonometry Equations

Trigonometric Proof

1. Solve the equation $\sec x = 5$, giving all the values of x in the interval $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$ in radians to two decimal places. (3)
- b. Show that the equation $\tan^2 x = 3\sec x + 9$ can be written as $\sec^2 x - 3\sec x - 10 = 0$ (2)
- c. Solve the equation $\tan^2 x = 3\sec x - 10 = 0$ (4)

2. $f(x) = 12 \cos x - 4 \sin x$
 Given that $f(x) = R \cos(x + \alpha)$, where $R \geq 0$ and $0 \leq \alpha \leq 90$.
 - a. Find the value of R and the value of α . (4)
 - b. Hence solve the equation, $12\cos x - 4 \sin x = 7$, for $0 \leq x \leq 360$, giving your answers to one decimal place. (5)
 - c. Write down the minimum value of $12\cos x - 4\sin x$. (1)
 - d. Find to two decimal places, the smallest positive value of x for which this minimum value occurs (2)

- 3a. Prove that $\operatorname{cosec}^4 \theta - \cot^4 \theta = \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta + \cot^2 \theta$ (2)
- b. Solve for $90^\circ < \theta < 180^\circ$, $\operatorname{cosec}^4 \theta - \cot^4 \theta = 2 - \cot \theta$ (5)

4. Solve $\operatorname{cosec}^2 2x - \cot 2x = 1$ for $0 \leq x \leq 180$. (7)

- 5a. Prove that $\frac{1}{\sin 2x} - \frac{\cos 2x}{\sin 2x} = \tan x$ (4)
- b. Hence, or otherwise, show that $\tan 15 = 2 - \sqrt{3}$ (3)
- c. Solve $\operatorname{cosec} 4x - \cot 4x = 1$, for $0 < x < 360$. (5)

6. Solve for $2\cot^2 3x = 7 \operatorname{cosec} 3x - 5$, $0 \leq x \leq 180$ (10)

- 7a. Starting from the formulae for $\sin(A + B)$ and $\cos(A + B)$, prove that $\tan(A + B) = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$ (4)
- b. Deduce that $\tan\left(x + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{1 + \sqrt{3} \tan x}{\sqrt{3} - \tan x}$ (3)
- c. Hence, or otherwise, solve $1 + \sqrt{3} \tan x = (\sqrt{3} - \tan x) \tan(\pi - x)$ (6)

- 8a. Express $3 \cos \theta + 4 \sin \theta$ in the form $R \cos(\theta - \alpha)$, where $R > 0$ and $0 < \alpha < \frac{\pi}{2}$. (4)
- b. Given that the function f is defined by $f(\theta) \equiv 1 - 3 \cos 2\theta - 4 \sin 2\theta$, $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$, $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$, state the range of f . (2)
- c. Solve the equation $f(\theta) = 0$. (6)
- d. Find the coordinates of the turning points of the curve with equation $y = \frac{2}{3 \cos x + 4 \sin x} +$ in the interval $[0, 2\pi]$. (3)

- 9a. Express $\tan 2x$ in terms of $\tan x$ and hence solve, for $0 < x < 180$, the equation $\tan 2x \tan x = 8$. (5)
- b. Given that β is the acute angle such that $\beta = \frac{6}{7}$, find the exact value of
 - i. $\operatorname{cosec} \beta$ (1)
 - ii. $\cot^2 \beta$ (1)

- 10a. Use the identity for $\cos(A + B)$ to prove that $4\cos(x + 60)\cos(x + 30) = \sqrt{3} - 2\sin 2x$. (4)
- b. Hence, find the exact value of $4\cos(82.5)\cos(52.5)$. (2)
- c. Solve for $0 < x < 90$, the equation $4\cos(82.5)\cos(52.5)$ (2)
- d. Given that there are no values of θ which satisfy the equation $4\cos(x + 60)\cos(x + 30) = k$, determine the set of values of the constant k . (2)



Mark Scheme

1a.

$\sec x = 5$ $\frac{1}{\cos x} = \frac{1}{5}$	M1
$\cos x = 0.2$	M1
$x = 1.37, 4.91$	M1

1b.

$\tan^2 x = 3\sec x + 9$ $\sec^2 x - 1 = 3\sec x + 9$	M1
$\sec^2 x - 3\sec x - 10 = 0$	M1

1c.

$(\sec x - 5)(\sec x + 2) = 0$	M1
$\sec x = 5, -2$	M1
$\cos x = 0.2, -0.5$	M1
$x = 1.37, 4.91, 2.09, 4.19$	M1

2a.

$R \cos \alpha = 12$ $R \sin \alpha = 4$	M1
$R^2 = 12^2 + 4^2$ $R = \sqrt{160}$	M1
$\tan \alpha = \frac{4}{12}$	M1
$\alpha = 18.43$	M1

2b.

$\cos(x + 18.43) = \frac{7}{\sqrt{160}}$	M1
$x + 18.43 = 56.4^\circ$	M1
$360 - 56.4 = 303.60^\circ$	M1
$x = 38.0^\circ$	M1
$x = 285.2^\circ$	M1

2c.

Minimum value is $-\sqrt{160}$	M1
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2d.

$\cos(x + 18.43) = -1$	M1
$x = 161.57^\circ$	M1

3a.

$\operatorname{cosec}^4 \theta - \cot^4 \theta = (\operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta - \cot^2 \theta)(\operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta + \cot^2 \theta)$ $1 + \cot^2 \theta = \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta$	M1
$= (\operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta - \cot^2 \theta)$	M1



3b.

$\operatorname{cosec}^2\theta - \cot^2\theta = 2 - \cot\theta$	M1
$1 + \cot^2\theta + \cot^2\theta = 2 - \cot\theta$ $2\cot^2\theta + \cot\theta = 0$	M1
$(2\cot\theta - 1)(\cot\theta + 1) = 0$	M1
$\cot\theta = \frac{1}{2}$ $\cot\theta = -1$	M1
$\theta = 135$	M1

4.

$\operatorname{cosec}^2 2x - \cot 2x = 1$ (using $\operatorname{cosec}^2 2x = 1 + \cot^2 2x$)	M1
$1 + \cot^2 2x - \cot 2x = 1$ $\cot^2 2x - \cot 2x = 0$	M1
$\cot 2x(\cot 2x - 1) = 0$	M1
$\cot 2x = 0$ $\tan 2x \rightarrow \infty$	M1
$x = 90, 270$	M1
$\cot 2x = 1$ $\tan 2x = 1$	M1
$2x = 45, 225$ $x = 22.5, 112.5$	M1
$x = 22.5, 45, 112.5, 135$	

5a.

$\frac{1}{\sin 2x} - \frac{\cos 2x}{\sin 2x} = \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{\sin 2x}$	M1
$= \frac{2\sin^2 x}{2\sin x \cos x}$	M1
$= \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$	M1
$= \tan x$	M1

5b.

$\tan 15 = \frac{1}{\sin 30} - \frac{\cos 30}{\sin 30}$	M1
$\tan 15 = \frac{1}{0.5} - \frac{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{0.5}$	M1
$= 2 - \sqrt{3}$	M1

5c.

$\tan 2x = 1$	M1
$2x = 45$ $x = 22.5, 202.5$	M1 M1
$2x = 45 + 180$ $x = 112.5, 292.5$	M1 M1
$x = 22.5, 112.5, 202.5, 292.5$	

6.

$\cot^2(3x) = \operatorname{cosec}^2(3x) - 1$	M1
$2\cot^2(3x) = 7\operatorname{cosec}(3x) - 5$	M1
$2\operatorname{cosec}^2(3x) - 7\operatorname{cosec}(3x) + 3 = 0$ $(2\operatorname{cosec} 3x - 1)(\operatorname{cosec} 3x - 3) = 0$	M1
$2\operatorname{cosec} 3x - 1 \rightarrow$ no solution	M1
$\operatorname{cosec} 3x - 3 \rightarrow \operatorname{cosec} 3x = 3$	M1
$\frac{1}{\sin 3x} = \frac{1}{3}$	M1

$x = 6.5$ $x = 53.5$	M1 M1
$x = 126.5$ $x = 173.5$	M1 M1

7a.

$\tan(A + B) = \frac{\sin(A+B)}{\cos(A+B)} = \frac{\sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B}$	M1
$= \frac{\frac{\sin A}{\cos A} + \frac{\sin B}{\cos B}}{1 - \frac{\sin A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B}}$	M1
(divide by $\div \cos A \cos B$)	M1
$= \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$	M1

7b.

$\tan\left(x + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{\tan x + \tan \frac{\pi}{6}}{1 - \tan x \tan \frac{\pi}{6}}$	M1
$= \frac{\tan x + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}}{1 - \tan x \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}}$	M1
$= \frac{\sqrt{3} \tan x + 1}{\sqrt{3} - \tan x}$	M1

7c.

$\tan\left(x + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \tan(\pi - x)$	M1
$x + \frac{\pi}{6} = \pi - x$	M1
$x = \frac{5}{12}\pi$	M1
$\tan\left(x + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \tan(2\pi - x)$	M1
$x + \frac{\pi}{6} = 2\pi - x$	M1
$x = \frac{11}{12}\pi$	M1

8a.

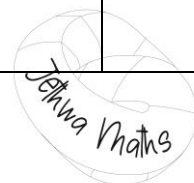
$3\cos \theta + 4\sin \theta = R\cos \theta \cos \alpha + R\sin \theta \sin \alpha$	M1
$R\cos \alpha = 3$ $R\sin \alpha = 4$	M1
$R = \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5$	M1
$\tan \alpha = \frac{4}{3}$ $\alpha = 0.927$	M1
$3\cos \theta + 4\sin \theta = 5 \cos(\theta - 0.927)$	

8b.

$-4 \leq f(\theta) \leq 6$	M1
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8c.

$1 - 5\cos(2\theta - 0.9273) = 0$	M1
$\cos(2\theta - 0.9273) = \frac{1}{5}$	M1
$2\theta - 0.9273 = 1.3694$ $2\theta = 2.2967$ $\theta = 1.15$	M1
$2\theta - 0.9273 = 2\pi - 1.3694$ $2\theta = 5.8410$ $\theta = 2.92$	M1



8d.

$y = \frac{2}{5\cos(x-0.9273)}$	M1
Turning Point: $y = \frac{2}{5}$ when $x - 0.9273 = 0$ $x = 0.9273$	M1
$y = -\frac{2}{5}$ when $x - 0.9273 = \pi$ $x = 4.07$	M1
Turning Points: $(0.93, \frac{2}{5}), (4.07, -\frac{2}{5})$	

9a.

$\tan 2x = \frac{2 \tan x}{1 - \tan^2 x}$	M1
$\tan^2 x = \frac{4}{5}$	M1
$\tan x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{4}{5}}$	M1
$x = 41.8$	M1
$x = 138.2$	M1

9bi.

$\frac{7}{6}$	M1
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9bii.

$\operatorname{cosec}^2 x = 1 + \cot^2 x$ $\cot x = \frac{13}{36}$	M1
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10a.

$\cos(x+60) = \cos x \cos 60 - \sin x \sin 60$ $\cos(x+30) = \cos x \cos 30 - \sin x \sin 30$	M1
$\cos(x+60)\cos(x+30) = (\cos x \cos 60 - \sin x \sin 60)(\cos x \cos 30 - \sin x \sin 30)$ $= \cos^2 x \cos 60 \cos 30 + \sin^2 x \sin 60 \sin 30 - \cos x \sin x \cos 60 \sin 30 - \sin x \cos x \sin 60 \cos 30$ $= \cos^2 x \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \sin^2 x \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \cos x \sin x - \frac{3}{4} \cos x \sin x$ $= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} (\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x) - \cos x \sin x$ $= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} - \sin x \cos x$	M1
$4\cos(x+60)\cos(x+30) = 4(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} - \cos x \sin x) = \sqrt{3} - 4 \cos x \sin x$ $4 \cos x \sin x = 2 \sin 2x$	M1
$= \sqrt{3} - 2 \sin 2x$	M1

10b.

$x = 22.5$	M1
$4\cos(82.5)\cos(52.5) = \sqrt{3} - 2 \sin 2(22.5) = \sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}$	M1

10c.

$x = 10.7$	M1
$x = 79.3$	M1



10d.

Critical values of $\sin 2x = -1$ and 1	M1
Therefore, $k > \sqrt{3} + 2$ $k < \sqrt{3} - 2$	M1



Small Angle Approximations



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Trigonometric Proof

1. Show that, for a small angle θ , where θ is measured in radians, (3)

$$1 + \cos \theta - 3\cos^2 \theta \approx -1 + \frac{5}{2}\theta^2$$

2. Use small angle approximations to estimate the solution of the equation $\frac{\cos^{\frac{1}{2}} \theta}{1 + \sin \theta} = 0.825$, if θ is small enough to neglect terms in θ^3 or above. (4)

- 3a. Given that θ is small, use the small angle approximation of $\cos \theta$ to show that

$$4 \cos \theta + \cos^2(2\theta) \approx 5 - 6\theta^2 + 4\theta^4 \quad (3)$$

- b. Hence find an approximation of $4 \cos \theta + \cos^2(2\theta)$ when $\theta = 3^\circ$ (2)

- c. Calculate the percentage error in your approximation (1)

Mark Scheme

1.

$1 + (1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2}) - (3[1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2}]^2)$	M1
$= 1 + (1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2}) - 3(1 - \theta^2 + \frac{\theta^2}{4})$	M1
$= 1 + 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2} - 3 + 3\theta^2 - \frac{3\theta^2}{4}$	M1
As θ is very small, we can ignore the higher order terms, therefore, $1 + \cos \theta - 3\cos^2 \theta \approx -1 + \frac{5}{2}\theta^2$	M1

2.

$\frac{1 - \frac{1}{8}\theta^2}{1 + \theta} = 0.825$	M1
$0.125\theta^2 + 0.825\theta - 0.175 = 0$	M1
$\theta = 0.206$ or -6.81	M1
As θ must be small, $\theta = 0.206$	M1

3a.

$4 \cos \theta + \cos^2(2\theta) \approx 4(1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2}) + (1 - \frac{(2\theta)^2}{2})^2$	M1
$\approx 4 - 2\theta^2 + (1 - 2\theta)^2$	M1
$\approx 4 - 2\theta^2 + 1 - 4\theta^2 + 4\theta^4$	M1
$\approx 5 - 6\theta^2 + 4\theta^4$	M1

3b.

$3^0 = \frac{3}{180} \times \pi^2 = \frac{1}{60} \pi^2$ $5 - 6(\frac{1}{60} \pi^2) + 4(\frac{1}{60} \pi^2)^4$ $= 4.983580724$	M1
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3c.

$4\cos(\frac{1}{60}\pi) + \cos^2(\frac{1}{30}\pi) = 4.983591939$	M1
% error = $\frac{4.983591939 - 4.983580724}{4.983591939} \times 100$	M1
% error = 2.25×10^{-4} % (to 3 significant figures)	M1

