

Lecture 20

MATH 0200

Trigonometric  
identities  
for  $\alpha$ ,  $-\alpha$   
and  $\pi - \alpha$

Trigonometric  
identities  
for  $\alpha$  and  
 $\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha$

Trigonometric  
identities  
involving  
 $2\pi$ -  
periodicity

# Lecture 20

## Trigonometric identities

MATH 0200

Dr. Boris Tselikhovskiy

# Outline

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MATH 0200

Trigonometric  
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for  $\alpha$ ,  $-\alpha$   
and  $\pi - \alpha$

1 Trigonometric identities for  $\alpha$ ,  $-\alpha$  and  $\pi - \alpha$

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2 Trigonometric identities for  $\alpha$  and  $\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha$

Trigonometric  
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involving  
 $2\pi$ -  
periodicity

3 Trigonometric identities involving  $2\pi$ -periodicity

# Trigonometric identities for $\alpha$ , $-\alpha$ and $\pi - \alpha$

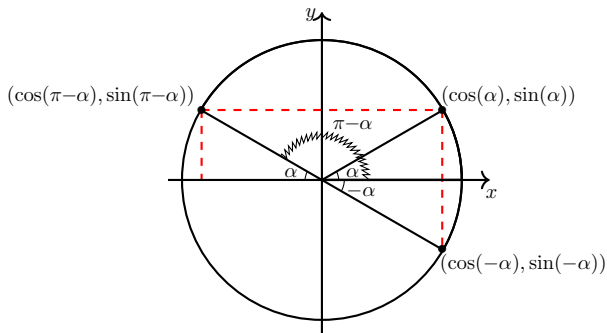
Lecture 20

MATH 0200

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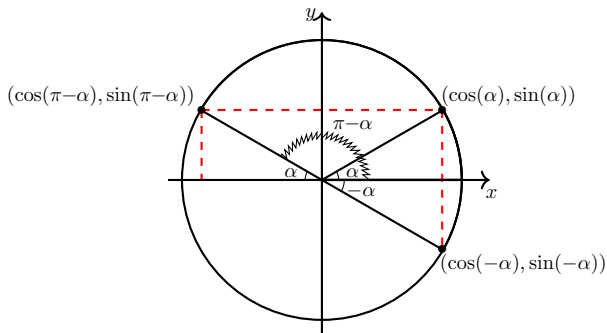
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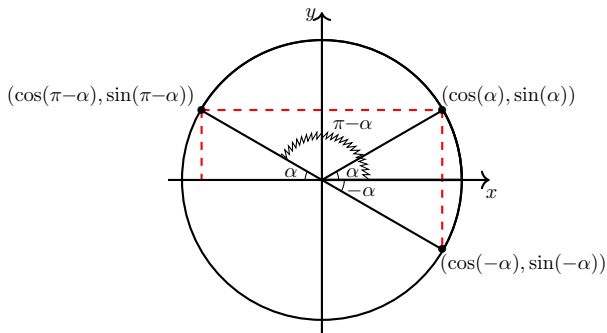
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- $\cos(\alpha) = \cos(-\alpha)$  and  $\cos(\pi - \alpha) = -\cos(\alpha)$ ;

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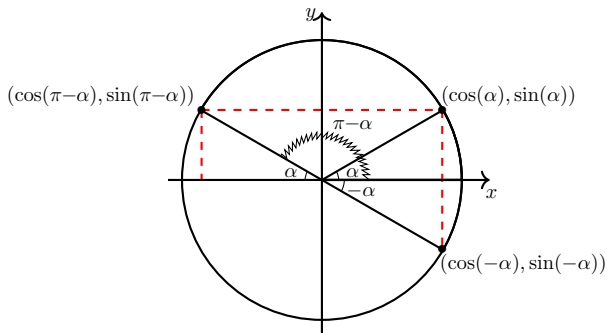
Lecture 20

MATH 0200

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- $\sin(\alpha) = \sin(\pi - \alpha)$  and  $\sin(-\alpha) = -\sin(\alpha)$ ;

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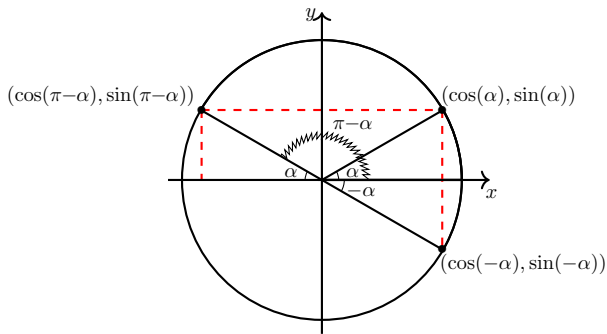
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MATH 0200

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- $\sin(\alpha) = \sin(\pi - \alpha)$  and  $\sin(-\alpha) = -\sin(\alpha)$ ;
- $\tan(-\alpha) = \frac{\sin(-\alpha)}{\cos(-\alpha)} = \frac{-\sin(\alpha)}{\cos(\alpha)} = -\tan(\alpha)$ ;

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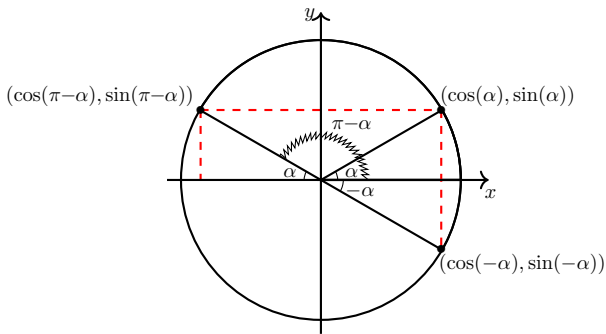
Lecture 20

MATH 0200

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- $\tan(\pi - \alpha) = \frac{\sin(\pi - \alpha)}{\cos(\pi - \alpha)} = \frac{\sin(\alpha)}{-\cos(\alpha)} = -\tan(\alpha)$ .



# Trigonometric identities for $\alpha$ and $\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha$

Lecture 20

MATH 0200

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Let's take a look at a right triangle (with angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha$  and  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ ).

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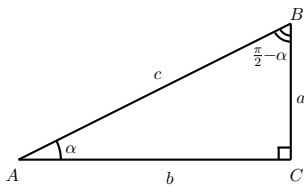
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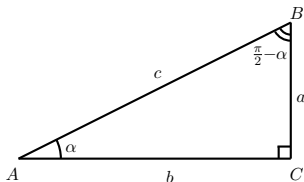
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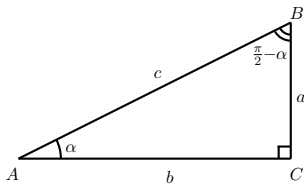
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We obtain the following identities.

- $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) = \frac{a}{c} = \sin(\alpha)$  and  $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) = \frac{b}{c} = \cos(\alpha)$ ;

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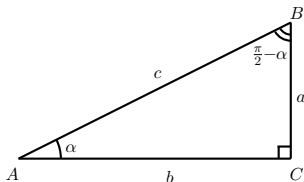
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- $\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right) = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right)}{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha\right)} = \frac{\cos(\alpha)}{\sin(\alpha)} = \cot(\alpha)$ .

## Question

Given that  $\cos(u) = -0.6$  and  $0 < \frac{\pi}{2} - u < \frac{\pi}{2}$ , find  $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right)$ .

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**Answer:** first we use the identity

$\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right) = \cos(u) = -0.6$  and then find

$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right) = \pm\sqrt{1 - \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right)} = \pm\sqrt{1 - (-0.6)^2} =$   
 $\pm\sqrt{1 - 0.36} = \pm\sqrt{0.64} = \pm 0.8$ . As  $0 < \frac{\pi}{2} - u < \frac{\pi}{2}$ , we choose  
the positive value  $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - u\right) = 0.8$ .

# Trigonometric identities involving $2\pi$ -periodicity

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## Remark

Notice that the radius corresponding to an angle  $\alpha$  is the same as the radius corresponding to angle  $\alpha + 2\pi n$  for any integer  $n$ .



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## Definition

A function  $f(x)$  is called **periodic** if it repeats its values at regular intervals:  $f(x) = f(x + P)$  for a constant  $P$  and all values of  $x$  in the domain. The smallest positive constant  $P$  for which this is the case is called the **period** of the function.

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The trigonometric functions  $\sin(x)$ ,  $\cos(x)$ ,  $\tan(x)$ ,  $\cot(x)$ ,  $\sec(x)$  and  $\csc(x)$  are periodic with period  $2\pi$ :

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- $\sin(x) = \sin(x + 2\pi)$ ;
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- $\sin(x) = \sin(x + 2\pi)$ ;
- $\cos(x) = \cos(x + 2\pi)$ ;
- $\tan(x) = \tan(x + 2\pi) \dots$

## Example

Find the smallest number  $\alpha$  larger than  $7\pi$  such that  $\tan(\alpha) = -1$ .

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Find the smallest number  $\alpha$  larger than  $7\pi$  such that  $\tan(\alpha) = -1$ .

We know that  $\tan\left(\frac{3\pi}{4} + n\pi\right) = -1$  and, therefore, need to find the smallest integer  $n$  with  $\frac{3\pi}{4} + n\pi > 7\pi$ . As  $\frac{3\pi}{4} + n\pi > 7\pi \Leftrightarrow \frac{3}{4} + n > 7 \Leftrightarrow n > 6.25$ , the smallest integer value of  $n$  satisfying the inequality is 7. The answer is  $\alpha = \frac{3\pi}{4} + 7\pi = \frac{31\pi}{4}$ .