

# L4 - Solving with Identities

May-12-15  
10:28 AM

Quest 11 • 1 hour  
• 20 marks  
• Non-Calc

## Unit 11: Trigonometric Identities Lesson 4 Solving Equations with Identities

(Unit 9)

- We have solved trigonometric equations before (Chapter 4). Sometimes, for more complex equations we will need to use identities to simplify an equation to only one trigonometric function.
- We can verify answers on our calculator, or by substitution.  
eg.  $0 \leq x < 2\pi$  or  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- We are again solving over a specified domain, or asked for a general solution.
- ✳ Always check for npv's (or check by substitution).  
• State npv's first!



Ex. 1: Solve each equation algebraically over the domain  $0 \leq x < 2\pi$ .

a)  $\cos 2x + 1 - \cos x = 0$  \*no npv's

$$2\cos^2 x - 1 + 1 - \cos x = 0$$

$$2\cos^2 x - \cos x = 0$$

$$\cos x(2\cos x - 1) = 0$$

$\cos x = 0$        $\cos x = \frac{1}{2}$  adj hyp  
      

$x = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$        $x = \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3}$

b)  $1 - \cos^2 x = 3\sin x - 2$  \*no npv's


$$\sin^2 x = 3\sin x - 2$$

$$\sin^2 x - 3\sin x + 2 = 0$$

let  $a = \sin x$

$$a^2 - 3a + 2 = 0$$

$$(a-2)(a-1) = 0$$

$\sin x = 2$  opp hyp →  $\sin x = 1$   
 → No Solution      

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

Ex. 2: Solve the equation  $\cos^2 x = \cot x \sin x$  algebraically in the domain  $0^\circ \leq x < 360^\circ$ . Verify your answer.

\* npv's:  $\sin x \neq 0 \rightarrow x \neq 0, 180, 360^\circ$


$$\cos^2 x = \frac{\cos x \cdot \sin x}{\sin x}$$

$$\cos^2 x = \cos x$$

$$\cos^2 x - \cos x = 0$$

$$\cos x(\cos x - 1) = 0$$

$\cos x = 0$        $\cos x = 1$  npv! (extraneous)

       $x = 90^\circ, 270^\circ$        $x = 90^\circ, 270^\circ$

Ex. 3: Solve the equation  $\sin 2x = \sqrt{2} \cos x$  algebraically. Give the general solution expressed in radians.


$$2 \sin x \cos x = \sqrt{2} \cos x \quad * \text{ no npv's}$$

$$2 \sin x \cos x - \sqrt{2} \cos x = 0$$

$$\cos x (2 \sin x - \sqrt{2}) = 0$$

$\downarrow$


$\cos x = 0$



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

$\downarrow$

$\sin x = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$  opp  
hyp



$\theta_r = \frac{\pi}{4}$

$x = \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{3\pi}{4}$

General:


$x = \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$x = \frac{\pi}{4} + 2\pi n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$x = \frac{3\pi}{4} + 2\pi n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

Ex. 4: Algebraically solve  $2 \sin x = 7 - 3 \csc x$ . Give general solutions expressed in radians.

$$(2 \sin x = 7 - 3 \cdot \frac{1}{\sin x}) \sin x \quad * \text{ npv's: } \sin x \neq 0$$



$x = 0, \pi, 2\pi, \dots$

$$2 \sin^2 x = 7 \sin x - 3$$

$$2 \sin^2 x - 7 \sin x + 3 = 0$$

let  $a = \sin x$

$$2a^2 - 7a + 3 = 0$$

$$(2a - 6)(2a - 1) = 0$$

$$(a - 3)(2a - 1) = 0$$

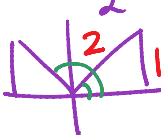
$\downarrow$

$\sin x = 3$  opp  
hyp

$\rightarrow$  No Solution

$\downarrow$

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



$\theta_r = \frac{\pi}{6}$

not npv's...

$x = \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}$

General:

$x = \frac{\pi}{6} + 2\pi n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$x = \frac{5\pi}{6} + 2\pi n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

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Ex. 2: Solve the equation  $\cos^2 x = \cot x \sin x$  algebraically in the domain  $0^\circ \leq x < 360^\circ$ . Verify your answer.

Ex. 3: Solve the equation  $\sin 2x = \sqrt{2} \cos x$  algebraically. Give the general solution expressed in radians.

Ex. 4: Algebraically solve  $2 \sin x = 7 - 3 \csc x$ . Give general solutions expressed in radians.

L4 Worksheet

## Unit 11: Trigonometric Identities

### Lesson 4 Solving Equations with Identities

- We have solved trigonometric equations before (Chapter 4). Sometimes, for more complex equations we will need to use identities to simplify an equation to only one trigonometric function.
- We can verify answers on our calculator, or by substitution.
- We are again solving over a specified domain, or asked for a general solution.
- Always check for npv's (or check by substitution).

Ex. 1: Solve each equation algebraically over the domain  $0 \leq x < 2\pi$ .

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