

L2 – 4.4 Compound Angle Formulas

MHF4U

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Compound angle: an angle that is created by adding or subtracting two or more angles.

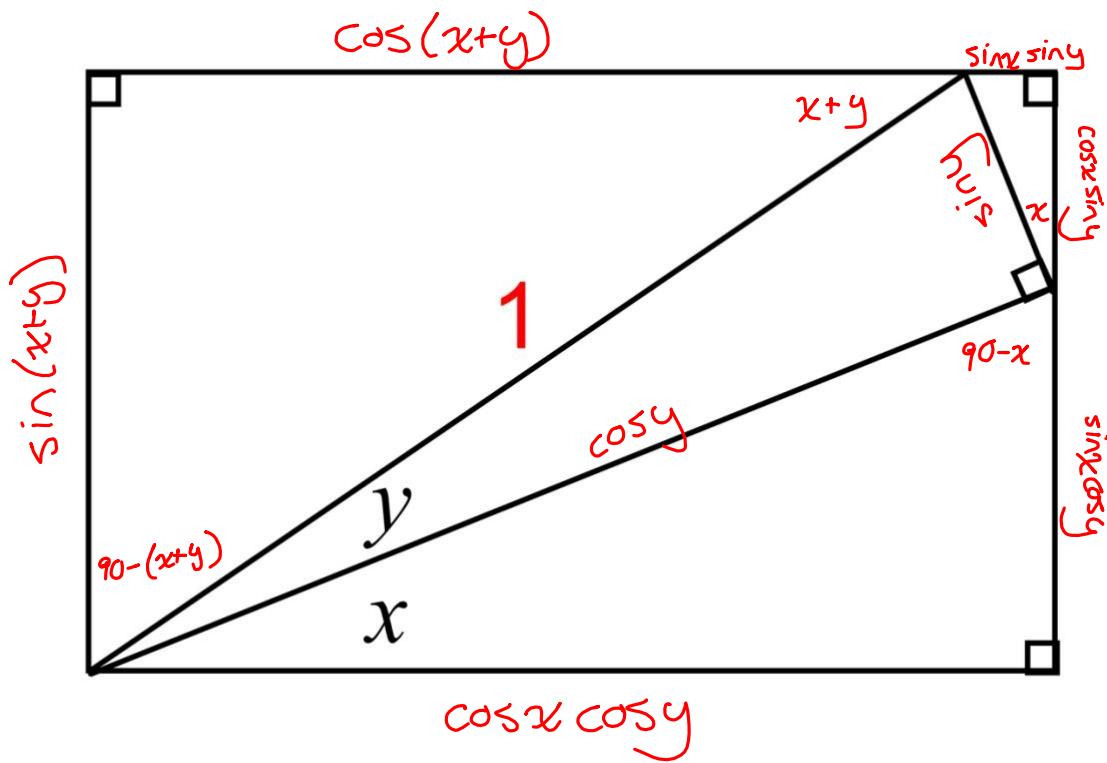
Part 1: Proof of $\cos(x - y)$

Normal algebra rules do not apply:

$$\cos(x - y) \neq \cos x - \cos y$$

So what does $\cos(x - y) = ?$

Using the diagram below, label all angles and sides:



$$\cos(x + y) = \cos x \cos y - \sin x \sin y$$

$$\sin(x + y) = \sin x \cos y + \cos x \sin y$$

Part 2: Proofs of other compound angle formulas

Even/Odd Properties

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

$$\sin(-x) = -\sin x$$

Example 1: Prove $\cos(x - y) = \cos x \cos y + \sin x \sin y$

LS

$$\begin{aligned} &= \cos(x - y) \\ &= \cos[x + (-y)] \\ &= \cos x \cos(-y) - \sin x \sin(-y) \\ &= \cos x \cos y - \sin x (-\sin y) \\ &= \cos x \cos y + \sin x \sin y \end{aligned}$$

RS

$$= \cos x \cos y + \sin x \sin y$$

LS = RS

Example 2:

a) Prove $\sin(x - y) = \sin x \cos y - \cos x \sin y$

LS

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sin(x - y) \\ &= \sin x \cos(-y) + \cos x \sin(-y) \\ &= \sin x \cos y + \cos x (-\sin y) \\ &= \sin x \cos y - \cos x \sin y \end{aligned}$$

RS

$$= \sin x \cos y - \cos x \sin y$$

LS = RS

Compound Angle Formulas

$$\sin(x + y) = \sin x \cos y + \cos x \sin y$$

$$\sin(x - y) = \sin x \cos y - \cos x \sin y$$

$$\cos(x + y) = \cos x \cos y - \sin x \sin y$$

$$\cos(x - y) = \cos x \cos y + \sin x \sin y$$

$$\tan(x + y) = \frac{\tan x + \tan y}{1 - \tan x \tan y}$$

$$\tan(x - y) = \frac{\tan x - \tan y}{1 + \tan x \tan y}$$

Part 3: Determine Exact Trig Ratios for Angles other than Special Angles

By expressing an angle as a sum or difference of angles in the special triangles, exact values of other angles can be determined.

Example 3: Use compound angle formulas to determine exact values for

a) $\sin \frac{\pi}{12}$

$$\sin \frac{\pi}{12} = \sin \left(\frac{4\pi}{12} - \frac{3\pi}{12} \right)$$

$$= \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$$

$$= \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{3} \right) \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right) - \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{3} \right) \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}-1}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

b) $\tan \left(-\frac{5\pi}{12} \right)$

$$\tan \left(-\frac{5\pi}{12} \right) = -\tan \left(\frac{5\pi}{12} \right)$$

$$= -\tan \left(\frac{2\pi}{12} + \frac{3\pi}{12} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{\tan \left(\frac{2\pi}{12} \right) + \tan \left(\frac{3\pi}{12} \right)}{1 - \tan \left(\frac{2\pi}{12} \right) \tan \left(\frac{3\pi}{12} \right)}$$

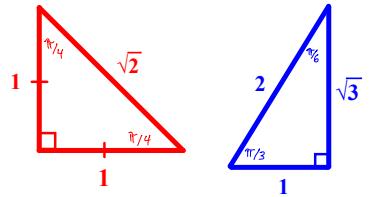
$$= -\frac{\tan \left(\frac{\pi}{6} \right) + \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right)}{1 - \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{6} \right) \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right)}$$

$$= -\frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + 1}{1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}}$$

$$= -\frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}}$$

$$= -\frac{\frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}}{\frac{\sqrt{3}-1}{\sqrt{3}}}$$

$$= -\frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}-1}$$



Part 4: Use Compound Angle Formulas to Simplify Trig Expressions

Example 4: Simplify the following expression

$$\cos \frac{7\pi}{12} \cos \frac{5\pi}{12} + \sin \frac{7\pi}{12} \sin \frac{5\pi}{12}$$

$$= \cos \left(\frac{7\pi}{12} - \frac{5\pi}{12} \right)$$

$$= \cos \frac{2\pi}{12}$$

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

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Part 5: Application

Example 5: Evaluate $\sin(a + b)$, where a and b are both angles in the second quadrant; given $\sin a = \frac{3}{5}$ and $\sin b = \frac{5}{13}$

Start by drawing both terminal arms in the second quadrant and solving for the third side.

$$\sin(a + b) = \sin a \cos b + \cos a \sin b$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)\left(-\frac{12}{13}\right) + \left(-\frac{4}{5}\right)\left(\frac{5}{13}\right)$$

$$= -\frac{36}{65} - \frac{20}{65}$$

$$= -\frac{56}{65}$$

