

# Trigonometric equations

## Equation of the Form $a \cos \theta + b \sin \theta = c$

$$a = r \sin \alpha, \quad b = r \cos \alpha \Rightarrow r^2 = a^2 + b^2, \quad \alpha = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)$$

$$r \cos \alpha \sin \theta + r \sin \alpha \cos \theta = c$$

$$r \sin(\theta + \alpha) = c$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{b}{r}, \quad \sin \alpha = \frac{a}{r}$$

$$\sin(\theta + \alpha) = \frac{c}{r} \Rightarrow \text{Sol is only possible if } \frac{|c|}{r} \leq 1$$

Solve  $\sin x + \sqrt{3} \cos x = \sqrt{2}$ .

$$a = 1, \quad b = \sqrt{3}, \quad c = \sqrt{2}$$

$$r^2 = a^2 + b^2 = 4$$

$$r \cos \alpha = 1, \quad r \sin \alpha = \sqrt{3} \Rightarrow$$

$$r = 2$$

$$r \cos \alpha \sin x + r \sin \alpha \cos x = \sqrt{2}$$

$$r \sin(\alpha + x) = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\sin(\alpha + x) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{r} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\alpha = \tan^{-1}(\sqrt{3})$$

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

$$\sin(\alpha + x) = \sin \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\sin x = \sin \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow x = n\pi + (-1)^n \alpha$$

$$\alpha + x = n\pi + (-1)^n \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$x = n\pi + (-1)^n \frac{\pi}{4} - \alpha$$

$$x = n\pi + (-1)^n \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{3}$$

sec  $x + \tan x = \sqrt{3}$ , where  $0 \leq x \leq 3\pi$ .

$$1 + \sin x = \sqrt{3} \cos x \Rightarrow \sqrt{3} \cos x - \sin x = 1$$

$$a = \sqrt{3}, \quad b = -1, \quad c = 1$$

$$\sqrt{3} = r \sin \alpha, \quad -1 = r \cos \alpha$$

$$r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = 2$$

$$\frac{|c|}{r} = \frac{1}{2} < 1$$

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{-1}$$

$$r \sin \alpha \cos x + r \cos \alpha \sin x = 1$$

$$r \sin(x + \alpha) = 1$$

$$\sin(x + \alpha) = \frac{1}{r} = \frac{1}{2} = \sin \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$x + \alpha = n\pi + (-1)^n \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$x = n\pi + (-1)^n \frac{\pi}{6} - \alpha = n\pi + (-1)^n \frac{\pi}{6} - \frac{2\pi}{3}$$



for  $n=1$   $\cdot x = \pi - \frac{\pi}{6} - \frac{2\pi}{3} = \frac{\pi}{6}$ .

for  $n=2$   $x = 2\pi + \frac{\pi}{6} - \frac{2\pi}{3} = \frac{9\pi}{6} = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ .

for  $n=3$   $x = 3\pi - \frac{\pi}{6} - \frac{2\pi}{3} = \frac{13\pi}{6}$ .

### Equation of the Form

$$a_0 \sin^n x + a_1 \sin^{n-1} x \cos x + a_2 \sin^{n-2} x \cos^2 x + \dots + a_n \cos^n x = 0,$$

$(a \sin x + b \cos x)^n$

divide by  $\cos^n x$ .  $\rightarrow$  convert the equation into a polynomial in  $\tan x$ .

$$a_0 \tan^n x + a_1 \tan^{n-1} x + a_2 \tan^{n-2} x + \dots + a_n = 0.$$

Solve using polynomial rules.

$$5 \sin^2 x - 7 \sin x \cos x + 16 \cos^2 x = 4.$$

divide by  $\cos^2 x$ .

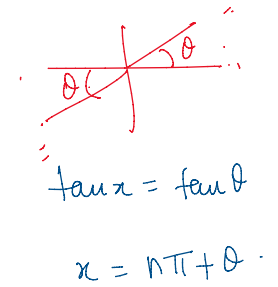
$$5 \tan^2 x - 7 \tan x + 16 = 4 \sec^2 x.$$

$$5 \tan^2 x - 7 \tan x + 16 = 4(\tan^2 x + 1)$$

$$\tan^2 x - 7 \tan x + 12 = 0.$$

$$(\tan x - 3)(\tan x - 4) = 0.$$

$$\tan x = 3, 4. \quad x = n\pi + \arctan(3), n\pi + \arctan(4)$$



### Equation of the Form

$$R(\sin kx, \cos nx, \tan mx, \cot lx) = 0.$$

use the multiple angle identities.

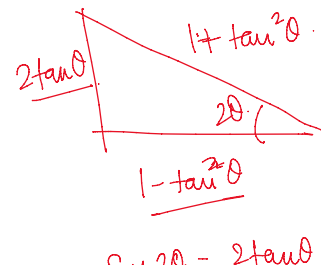
$$\sin 2\theta, \tan 2\theta$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 - \tan^2 \theta}$$



2 sin x cos x

$$\frac{1 - \tan^2 \theta}{1 + \tan^2 \theta}$$

$$\frac{1 - \tan^2 \theta}{1 + \tan^2 \theta}$$

$$\sin 2\theta = \frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 + \tan^2 \theta}$$

$$\cos 2\theta = \frac{1 - \tan^2 \theta}{1 + \tan^2 \theta}$$

$$(\cos x - \sin x) \left( 2 \tan x + \frac{1}{\cos x} \right) + 2 = 0$$

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

$$\sin x = \frac{2 \tan x/2}{1 + \tan^2 x/2}$$

$$\left( \frac{1 - 2 \tan x/2 - \tan^2 x/2}{1 + \tan^2 x/2} \right) \left( \frac{4 \tan x/2}{1 - \tan^2 x/2} + \frac{1 + \tan^2 x/2}{1 - \tan^2 x/2} \right) + 2 = 0$$

$$\tan x = \frac{2 \tan x/2}{1 - \tan^2 x/2}$$

$$\tan x/2 = t$$

$$\left( \frac{1 - 2t - t^2}{1 + t^2} \right) \left( \frac{4t + 1 + t^2}{1 - t^2} \right) + 2 = 0$$

$$-t^4 - 2t^3 + t^2 - 4t^3 - 8t^2 + 4t - t^2 - 2t + 1 + 2(1 - t^4) = 0$$

$$-3t^4 - 6t^3 - 8t^2 + 2t + 3 = 0$$

$$3t^4 + 6t^3 + 8t^2 - 2t - 3 = 0$$

$$(3t^4 + 8t^2 - 3) + (6t^3 - 2t) = 0$$

$$(3t^4 + 9t^2 - t^2 - 3) + 2t(3t^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$[3t^2(t^2 + 3) - 1(t^2 + 3)] + 2t(3t^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$(t^2 + 3)(3t^2 - 1) + 2t(3t^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$(3t^2 - 1)(t^2 + 3 + 2t) = 0$$

$$(3t^2 - 1)(t^2 + 2t + 3) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow t = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l} t=0 & -3 \\ t=1 & 12 \end{array} \quad \text{LHS} \quad \textcircled{1}$$

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

$$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \rightarrow (\sqrt{3}t - 1)$$

$$\tan x/2 = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} = \tan \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}$$

$$x/2 = n\pi + \frac{\pi}{6}, n\pi + \frac{5\pi}{6}$$

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

### Equation of the Form

$$R(\sin x + \cos x, \sin x \cdot \cos x) = 0$$

$$(\sin x + \cos x)^2 = \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x + 2 \sin x \cos x$$

$$(\sin x + \cos x)^2 = 1 + 2 \sin x \cos x$$

$$\sin x + \cos x = t$$

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

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

$$\boxed{\sin x + \cos x = t} \quad \sin x \cos x = \frac{t^2 - 1}{2}$$

$$t - 2\sqrt{2} \left( \frac{t^2 - 1}{2} \right) = 0$$

$$t - \sqrt{2}t^2 + \sqrt{2} = 0$$

$$\sqrt{2}t^2 - t - \sqrt{2} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad t = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{9}}{2\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1 \pm 3}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$t = \frac{4}{2\sqrt{2}}, \frac{-2}{2\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow \boxed{t = \sqrt{2}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}$$

Find the number of integral values of  $k$  for which equation  $7 \cos x + 5 \sin x = 2k + 1$  has at least one solution.

Solve  $2 \sin^2 x - 5 \sin x \cos x - 8 \cos^2 x = -2$ .

Solve the equation  $(1 - \tan \theta)(1 + \sin 2\theta) = 1 + \tan \theta$ .