## "SINE, COSINE, AND TANGENT: THE UNIT CIRCLE" answers

Full solutions are available in the video.

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Label cos 170° and sine 170° on the unit circle. Predict whether cos 170° and sin 170° are positive or negative.





cos 170° is negative (slightly less negative than -1), sin 170° is positive (slightly bigger than 0)

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Find cos 90° and sin 90°.
         Find cos 0 and sin 0.
         Find cos 180° and sin 180°.
         Find cos 360° and sin 360°.
         Find \cos(2\pi \operatorname{rad}) and \sin(2\pi \operatorname{rad}).
        Answers:
\cos 90^{\circ} = 0,
                           \sin 90^{\circ} = 1
                           \sin 0 = 0
\cos 0 = 1.
cos 180° = -1,
                           \sin 180^{\circ} = 0
\cos 360^{\circ} = 1
                           \sin 360^{\circ} = 0
\cos(2\pi \, rad) = 1
                           sin(2\pi rad) = 0
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What is tan 0? What is tan 90°? What is tan 180°? Answers:

 $\tan 0 = 0$ ,  $\tan 90^\circ =$  undefined,  $\tan 180^\circ = 0$ 

Suppose  $\theta$  is an acute angle.

When  $\theta$  increases, does  $\cos \theta$  increase or decrease? When  $\theta$  increases, does  $\sin \theta$  increase or decrease? When  $\theta$  increases, does  $\tan \theta$  increase or decrease? Answers:

When  $\theta$  increases,  $\cos \theta$  decreases.

When  $\theta$  increases, sin  $\theta$  increases.

When  $\theta$  increases, tan  $\theta$  increases.

What is the range of outputs of  $\cos \theta$ ?What is the range of outputs of  $\sin \theta$ ?What is the range of outputs of  $\tan \theta$ ?Answers:The range of outputs of  $\cos \theta$  is:  $-1 \le \cos \theta \le 1$ The range of outputs of  $\sin \theta$  is:  $-1 \le \sin \theta \le 1$ The range of outputs of  $\tan \theta$  is:  $-\infty \le \tan \theta \le +\infty$ 

Your friend Bob tells you that he knows that  $\cos(30^\circ) = \frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ , and that  $\sin(30^\circ) = \frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ but he can't remember which one equals  $\frac{1}{2}$  and which one equals  $\sqrt{3}/2$ . Which is which? Answers: We would predict from the unit circle that  $\cos 30^\circ > \sin 30^\circ$ . Therefore:

$$\cos 30^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}$$
  $\sin 30^\circ = \frac{1}{2}$ 

What are cos(60°) and sin(60°)? Answers:

We would predict from the unit circle that  $\sin 30^\circ > \cos 30^\circ$ . We would also predict that the coordinates for a 30° angle should be symmetric with the coordinates for a 60° angle (because 60° is the same distance from the *y*-axis that 30° is from the *x*-axis). Therefore:

$$\cos 60^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$
  $\sin 60^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ 

What do you predict about cos(45°) and sin(45°)? Answer:

From the unit circle, we would predict that  $\cos(45^\circ) = \sin(45^\circ)$ . (It turns out that  $\cos 45^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$  and  $\sin 45^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ .) Problem:

Consider an acute angle  $\theta$ . (a) Prove that SOH CAH TOA implies that  $\cos \theta$  represents an x-coordinate on the unit circle, and that  $\sin \theta$  represents a y-coordinate on the unit circle. (b) Prove that SOH CAH TOA implies that  $\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$ .



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## SUMMARY

unit circle: <u>a circle with radius 1</u>

unit circle interpretations:

## $\cos \theta = x$ -coordinate of the point on the unit circle at an angle of $\theta$ counterclockwise from the positive x-axis

 $\sin \theta = y$ -coordinate of the point on the unit circle at an angle of  $\theta$  counterclockwise from the positive x-axis

 $\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$ 

$\cos 0 = \underline{1}$	sin 0 = <u>0</u>	tan 0 = <u>0</u>
$\cos 90^\circ = 0$	sin 90° = <u>1</u>	tan 90° = <u>undefined</u>
cos 180° = <u>-1</u>	sin 180° = <u>0</u>	tan 180° = <u>0</u>
cos (2π rad) = <u>1</u>	sin (2π rad) = <u>0</u>	tan (2π rad) = <u>0</u>

Suppose  $\theta$  is an acute angle. When you increase  $\theta$ , cos  $\theta$  gets smaller. When you increase  $\theta$ , sin  $\theta$  gets bigger. When you increase  $\theta$ , tan  $\theta$  gets bigger.

> The range of outputs of  $\cos \theta$  is:  $-1 \le \cos \theta \le 1$ The range of outputs of  $\sin \theta$  is:  $-1 \le \sin \theta \le 1$ The range of outputs of  $\tan \theta$  is:  $-\infty \le \tan \theta \le +\infty$

$$\cos 30^{\circ} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \qquad \sin 30^{\circ} = \frac{1}{2}$$
$$\cos 45^{\circ} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \qquad \sin 45^{\circ} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \qquad \tan 45^{\circ} = 1$$
$$\cos 60^{\circ} = \frac{1}{2} \qquad \sin 60^{\circ} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

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