College Trigonometry

George Voutsadakis¹

¹Mathematics and Computer Science Lake Superior State University

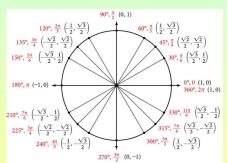
LSSU Math 131

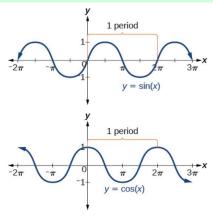
- Periodic Functions
 - Graphs of the Sine and Cosine Functions
 - Graphs of the Other Trigonometric Functions
 - Inverse Trigonometric Functions

Subsection 1

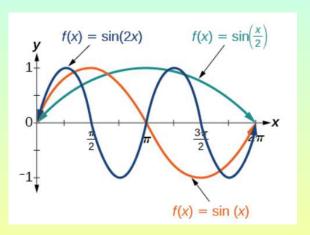
Graphs of the Sine and Cosine Functions

Period of the Sine or Cosine Function





How Horizontal Stretches and Compressions Affect Period



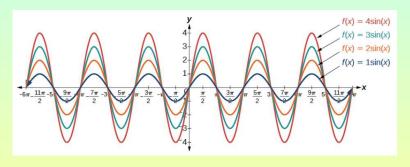
The period of $f(x) = A \sin(Bx)$ or $f(x) = A \cos(Bx)$ is $T = \frac{2\pi}{|B|}$.

Identifying the Period of a Sine or Cosine Function

- Determine the period of the function $f(x) = \sin(\frac{\pi}{6}x)$. $\sin x$ has period 2π .
 - f(x) is a horizontal stretch of $\sin x$ by a factor of $\frac{1}{\frac{\pi}{6}} = \frac{6}{\pi}$. So its period is

$$2\pi \cdot \frac{6}{\pi} = 12.$$

How Vertical Stretches and Compressions Affect Amplitude

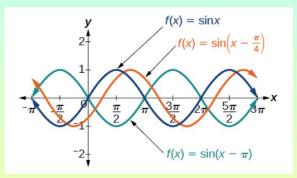


The amplitude of $f(x) = A \sin(Bx)$ or $f(x) = A \cos(Bx)$ is |A|.

Identifying the Amplitude of a Sine or Cosine Function

- (a) Which transformation is applied in passing from $\sin x$ to $f(x) = -4 \sin x$?
- (b) What is the amplitude of the sinusoidal function $f(x) = -4\sin(x)$?
- (a) We apply:
 - a vertical reflection (around the x-axis);
 - a vertical stretch by a factor of 4.
- (b) The amplitude of f(x) is |-4| = 4.

Phase Shift of a Function



The phase shift of $f(x) = A \sin(Bx - C) + D$ or $f(x) = A \cos(Bx - C) + D$ can be found by rewriting as

$$f(x) = A \sin \left(B \left(x - \frac{C}{B} \right) \right) + D \text{ or } f(x) = A \cos \left(B \left(x - \frac{C}{B} \right) \right) + D.$$

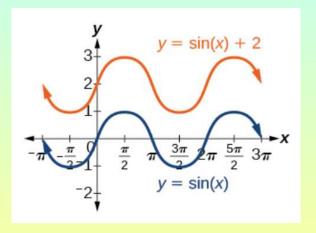
So it is equal to $\frac{C}{R}$.

Identifying the Phase Shift of a Function

- Determine the direction and magnitude of the phase shift for
 - $f(x) = \sin\left(x + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) 2.$
 - f(x) is obtained by $\sin x$ by applying
 - a horizontal shift left by $\frac{\pi}{6}$;
 - a vertical shift down by 2.

Thus, the phase shift is $-\frac{\pi}{6}$.

Vertical Shift of a Function



The vertical shift of $f(x) = A \sin(Bx - C) + D$ or $f(x) = A \cos(Bx - C) + D$ is D.

Identifying the Vertical Shift of a Function

- Determine the direction and magnitude of the vertical shift for $f(x) = \cos(x) 3$.
 - f(x) is obtained by $\cos x$ by applying a vertical shift down by 3.

Multiple Transformations

Given a sinusoidal function in the form

$$f(x) = A\sin(Bx - C) + D,$$

identify the amplitude, the period, the phase shift and the midline.

- Determine the amplitude as |A|.
- Determine the period as $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|}$.
- Determine the phase shift as $\frac{C}{B}$.
- Determine the midline as y = D.

Identifying the Variations of a Sinusoidal Function

Determine the midline, amplitude, period and phase shift of the function $y = 3\sin(2x) + 1$.

We have:

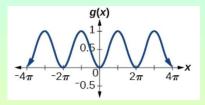
• Midline: y = 1.

• Amplitude: |A|=3. • Period: $P=\frac{2\pi}{|B|}=\frac{2\pi}{2}=\pi$.

• Phase Shift: $\frac{C}{R} = 0$.

Identifying the Equation from a Graph

Determine the formula for the cosine function



Follow one-by-one the features to determine A, B, C, D in the form $y = A \sin(Bx - C) + D$ or $y = A \cos(Bx - C) + D$.

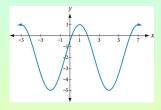
Here I follow sine:

- Amplitude: $|A| = \frac{1}{2}$.
- Period: $P = 2\pi$. So B = 1.
- Phase Shift: $\frac{C}{B} = \frac{\pi}{2}$. So $C = \frac{\pi}{2}$.
- Midline: $y = \frac{1}{2}$. So $D = \frac{1}{2}$.

We conclude that $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}\sin(x - \frac{\pi}{2}) + \frac{1}{2}$.

Identifying the Equation from a Graph

Determine the equation for the sinusoidal function



Follow one-by-one the features to determine A, B, C, D in the form $y = A \sin(Bx - C) + D$ or $y = A \cos(Bx - C) + D$. I follow cosine:

- Amplitude: |A| = 3.
- Period: $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = 6$. So $B = \frac{\pi}{3}$.
- Phase Shift: $\frac{C}{B} = 1$. So $C = \frac{\pi}{3}$.
- Midline: y = -2. So D = -2.

We conclude that $f(x) = 3\cos(\frac{\pi}{3}x - \frac{\pi}{3}) - 2$.

Graphing and Identifying the Amplitude and Period

• Sketch a graph of $f(x) = -2\sin(\frac{\pi x}{2})$.

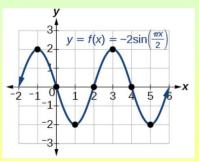
Find the amplitude, period, phase shift and vertical shift:

• Amplitude: |A| = 2.

• Period: $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 4$.

• Phase Shift: $\frac{C}{B} = 0$.

• Vertical Shift: D = 0.



Graphing a Transformed Sinusoid

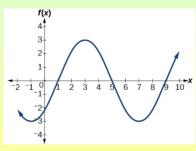
• Sketch a graph of $f(x) = 3\sin(\frac{\pi}{4}x - \frac{\pi}{4})$. Find the amplitude, period, phase shift and vertical shift:

• Amplitude: |A| = 3.

• Period: $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 8$.

• Phase Shift: $\frac{C}{B} = \frac{\frac{\pi}{4}}{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 1$.

Vertical Shift: D = 0.



Identifying the Properties of a Sinusoidal Function

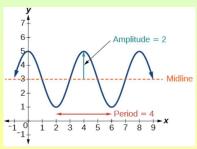
• Given $y = -2\cos(\frac{\pi}{2}x + \pi) + 3$, determine the amplitude, period, phase shift and vertical shift. Then graph the function. We find the features:

• Amplitude: |A| = 2.

• Period: $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 4$.

• Phase Shift: $\frac{C}{B} = \frac{-\pi}{\frac{\pi}{2}} = -2$.

• Vertical Shift: D = 3.

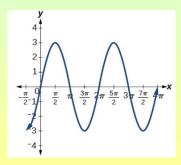


Finding the Vertical Component of Circular Motion

A point rotates around a circle of radius 3 centered at the origin.
 Sketch a graph of the y-coordinate of the point as a function of the angle of rotation.

The y-coordinate for the unit circle is $y = \sin x$. Since the circle has radius 3, we get

$$f(x) = 3\sin x.$$

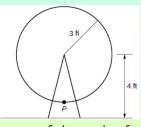


Finding the Vertical Component of Circular Motion

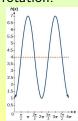
 A circle with radius 3 ft is mounted with its center 4 ft off the ground.

The point closest to the ground is labeled P, as shown in the figure.

Sketch a graph of the height above the ground of P as the circle is rotated.



Then find a function that gives the height in terms of the angle of rotation.

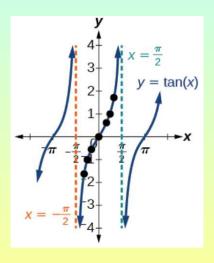


- Amplitude: |A| = 3.
- Period: $P = 2\pi$. So B = 1.
- Phase Shift: $\frac{C}{B} = \pi$. So $C = \pi$.
- Vertical Shift: D = 1. $f(x) = 3\cos(x - \pi) + 1$.

Subsection 2

Graphs of the Other Trigonometric Functions

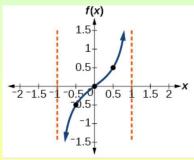
The Graph of Tangent



Sketching a Compressed Tangent

- Sketch a graph of one period of the function $y = 0.5 \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right)$. The given function is obtained by $y = \tan x$ by:
 - A horizontal compression by a factor of $\frac{2}{\pi}$;
 - A vertical compression by a factor of 0.5.

So its graph is the one shown below.



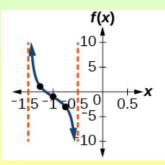
Graphing One Period of a Shifted Tangent Function

- Given the function $y = A \tan (Bx C) + D$:
 - Identify the vertical stretching/compressing factor, |A|.
 - Identify B and determine the period, $P = \frac{\pi}{|B|}$.
 - Identify C and determine the phase shift, $\frac{\dot{C}}{B}$.
 - Draw the graph of

$$y = A \tan(Bx)$$

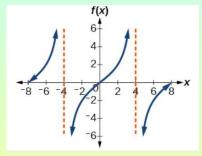
shifted to the right by $\frac{C}{B}$ and up by D.

- Graph one period of the function $y = -2\tan(\pi x + \pi) 1$. We have:
 - Vertical stretch by a factor of |A| = 2.
 - Period $P = \frac{\pi}{|B|} = \frac{\pi}{\pi} = 1$.
 - Phase Shift $\frac{C}{B} = \frac{-\pi}{\pi} = -1$.
 - Vertical shift D = -1.



Identifying the Graph of a Stretched Tangent

• Find a formula for the function graphed in

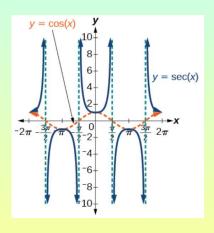


We want to identify A, B, C and D in $y = A \tan(Bx - C) + D$:

- Vertical stretch: A = 2.
- Period: $\frac{\pi}{|B|} = 8$. So $B = \frac{\pi}{8}$.
- Phase shift: $\frac{C}{R} = 0$. So C = 0.
- Vertical shift: D = 0.

Thus, $y = 2 \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{8}x\right)$.

The Graph of Secant

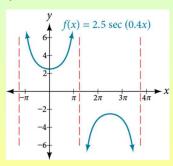


Graphing a Variation of the Secant Function

• Graph one period of $f(x) = 2.5 \sec (0.4x)$.

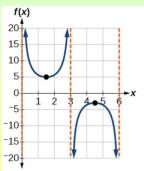
We have:

- Vertical stretch by a factor of |A| = 2.5.
- Period $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{2}{5}} = 5\pi$.
- Phase Shift $\frac{C}{B} = 0$;
- Vertical shift D=0.



Graphing a Variation of the Secant Function

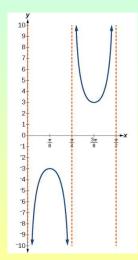
- Graph one period of $y = 4 \sec(\frac{\pi}{3}x \frac{\pi}{2}) + 1$. We have:
 - Vertical stretch by a factor of |A| = 4.
 - Period $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{\pi}{3}} = 6$.
 - Phase Shift $\frac{C}{B} = \frac{\frac{\pi}{2}}{\frac{\pi}{3}} = \frac{3}{2}$.
 - Vertical shift D = 1.



Graphing a Variation of the Cosecant Function

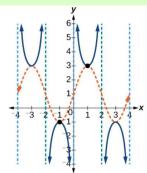
• Graph one period of $f(x) = -3\csc(4x)$. We have:

- Vertical stretch by a factor of |A| = 3.
- Period $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = \frac{2\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{2}$.
- Phase Shift $\frac{C}{B} = 0$.
- Vertical shift D = 0.

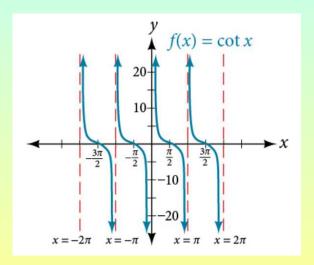


Graphing a Transformed Cosecant

- Sketch a graph of $y = 2\csc(\frac{\pi}{2}x) + 1$. We have:
 - Vertical stretch by a factor of |A| = 2.
 - Period $P = \frac{2\pi}{|B|} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 4$.
 - Phase Shift $\frac{C}{B} = 0$.
 - Vertical shift D = 1.



The Graph of Cotangent

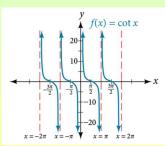


Graphing Variations of the Cotangent Function

• Determine the stretching factor, period, and phase shift of $y = 3 \cot(4x)$, and then sketch a graph.

We have:

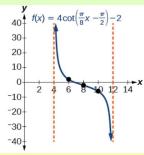
- Vertical stretch by a factor of |A| = 3.
- Period $P = \frac{\pi}{|B|} = \frac{\pi}{4}$.
- Phase Shift $\frac{C}{B} = 0$.
- Vertical shift D = 0.



Graphing a Modified Cotangent

• Sketch a graph of one period of the function $f(x) = 4 \cot \left(\frac{\pi}{8}x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) - 2$. We have:

- Vertical stretch by a factor of |A| = 4.
- Period $P = \frac{\pi}{|B|} = \frac{\pi}{\frac{\pi}{8}} = 8$.
- Phase Shift $\frac{C}{B} = \frac{\frac{\pi}{2}}{\frac{\pi}{8}} = 4$.
- Vertical shift D = -2.



Subsection 3

Inverse Trigonometric Functions

Things to Recall about Inverse Functions

- Only one-to-one functions (that is, functions passing the horizontal line test) have inverses.
- If f is a 1-1 function, f^{-1} denotes its inverse function.
- The key relation between inverse functions is that

$$y = f(x)$$
 if and only if $x = f^{-1}(y)$.

That is the roles of input and output values are interchanged.

- Consequently domains and ranges are also interchanged.
- For x in the domain of f and y in the domain of f^{-1} we have:

$$f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$$
 and $f(f^{-1}(y)) = y$.

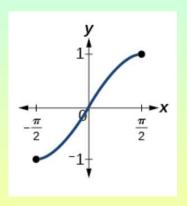
• The graphs of y = f(x) and $y = f^{-1}(x)$ are symmetric with respect to y = x.

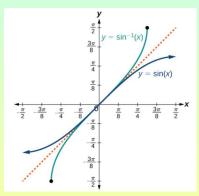
Writing a Relation for an Inverse Function

• Given $\sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{12}\right)\approx 0.96593$, write a relation involving the inverse sine. Since roles of input and output are switched:

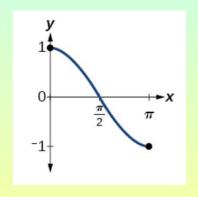
$$\sin^{-1}(0.96593) \approx \frac{5\pi}{12}.$$

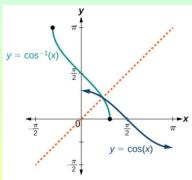
Inverse Sine



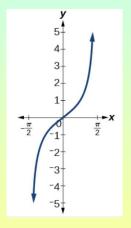


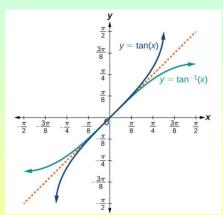
Inverse Cosine





Inverse Tangent





Evaluating Inverse Trigonometric Functions

Evaluate each of the following.

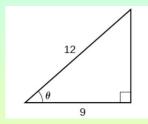
•
$$\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{6}$$
 (since $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{1}{2}$).
• $\sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) = -\frac{\pi}{4}$ (since $\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$).
• $\cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = \frac{5\pi}{6}$ (since $\cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$).
• $\tan^{-1}\left(1\right) = \frac{\pi}{4}$ (since $\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 1$).

Evaluating the Inverse Sine on a Calculator

Evaluate sin⁻¹ (0.97) using a calculator.
 I included this to emphasize that we should check the MODE so that we calculate in degrees or radians as intended.

Applying the Inverse Cosine to a Right Triangle

• Solve the triangle in the figure for the angle θ .



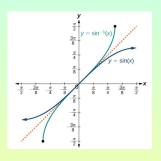
We have

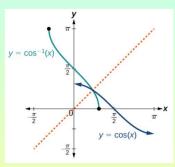
$$\cos\theta = \frac{9}{12} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

Therefore,

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \approx 41.41^{\circ}.$$

Using Inverse Trigonometric Functions





Evaluate the following:

(a)
$$\sin^{-1}(\sin(\frac{\pi}{3})) = \sin^{-1}(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) = \frac{\pi}{3}$$
.

(b)
$$\sin^{-1}(\sin(\frac{2\pi}{3})) = \sin^{-1}(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) = \frac{\pi}{3}$$
.

(c)
$$\cos^{-1}(\cos(\frac{2\pi}{3})) = \cos^{-1}(-\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$
.

(d)
$$\cos^{-1}(\cos(-\frac{\pi}{3})) = \cos^{-1}(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{\pi}{3}$$
.

Composition of an Inverse Sine with a Cosine

• Evaluate $\sin^{-1}(\cos(\frac{13\pi}{6}))$. We have

$$\sin^{-1}\left(\cos\left(\frac{13\pi}{6}\right)\right) = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{3}.$$

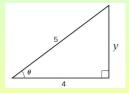
Composition of a Sine with an Inverse Cosine

• Find an exact value for $\sin(\cos^{-1}(\frac{4}{5}))$.

Set
$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{5}\right)$$
.

This yields $\cos \theta = \frac{4}{5}$.

So we get:



Use the Pythagorean Theorem to find $y = \sqrt{5^2 - 4^2} = \sqrt{9} = 3$.

Now we get $\sin(\cos^{-1}(\frac{4}{5})) = \sin \theta = \frac{3}{5}$.

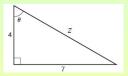
Composition of a Sine with an Inverse Tangent

Find an exact value for $\sin(\tan^{-1}(\frac{\ell}{4}))$.

Set
$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{4}\right)$$
.

This yields $\tan \theta = \frac{7}{4}$.

So we get:



Use the Pythagorean Theorem to find $z = \sqrt{7^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{65}$.

Now we get $\sin(\tan^{-1}(\frac{7}{4})) = \sin \theta = \frac{7}{\sqrt{65}}$.

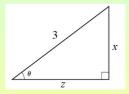
Cosine of the Inverse Sine of an Expression

• Find a simplified expression for $\cos\left(\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)\right)$ for $-3 \le x \le 3$.

Set
$$\theta = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)$$
.

This yields $\sin \theta = \frac{x}{3}$.

So we get:



Use the Pythagorean Theorem to find $z = \sqrt{3^2 - x^2} = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$.

Now we get $\cos(\sin^{-1}(\frac{x}{3})) = \cos\theta = \frac{\sqrt{9-x^2}}{3}$.