

Day 5 – Compound Angle Formulas

A **compound angle formula** is a trigonometric expression that depends on two or more angles. By using compound angle formulae, we can determine exact values of trig ratios that **are not multiples of special angles**. They will be expressed as the sum or difference of the special angles.

The compound angle, or addition and subtraction formulas are:

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

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

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

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

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

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

EX 1 – Show that the subtraction formula for sine is true for $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ and $y = \frac{\pi}{4}$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin(x - y) &= \sin x \cos y - \cos x \sin y \\ \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) &= \sin\frac{\pi}{2} \cos\frac{\pi}{4} - \cos\frac{\pi}{2} \sin\frac{\pi}{4} \\ &= (1)\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) - (0)\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{aligned} \quad \left| \quad \begin{aligned} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) &= \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ &= \sin\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

EX 2 - Determine an exact value for: $\cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi}{6}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \cos\frac{3\pi}{4} \cos\frac{\pi}{6} - \sin\frac{3\pi}{4} \sin\frac{\pi}{6} \\ &= -\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{-\left(\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2}\right)}{4} \end{aligned}$$

EX 3 - Determine the exact value for each of the following:

$$a) \cos 75^\circ = \cos(45^\circ + 30^\circ)$$

$$= \cos 45^\circ \cos 30^\circ - \sin 45^\circ \sin 30^\circ$$

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

$$= \frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}}{4}$$

$$b) \sin 15^\circ = \sin(45^\circ - 30^\circ)$$

$$= \sin 45^\circ \cos 30^\circ - \cos 45^\circ \sin 30^\circ$$

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

$$= \frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}}{4}$$

(WE KNOW $\cos 75^\circ = \sin 15^\circ$!!)

EX 4 - Use an appropriate compound angle formula to determine the exact value for: $\sin \frac{23\pi}{12}$

$$\frac{23\pi}{12} = 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{12} \quad \therefore \sin \frac{23\pi}{12} = -\sin \frac{\pi}{12} \quad \left[\frac{23\pi}{12} \text{ in Q4} \right]$$

$$\therefore \sin \frac{23\pi}{12} = -\sin \frac{\pi}{12} = -\sin \left(\frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$$

$$= - \left[\sin \frac{\pi}{3} \cos \frac{\pi}{4} - \cos \frac{\pi}{3} \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \right]$$

$$= - \left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right]$$

$$= - \left[\frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}}{4} \right] = \frac{\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{6}}{4}$$

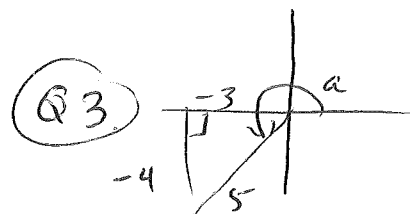
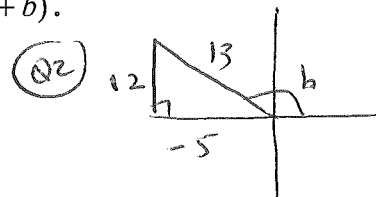
EX 5 - If $\sin a = -\frac{4}{5}$, $\pi \leq a \leq \frac{3\pi}{2}$ and $\cos b = -\frac{5}{13}$, $\frac{\pi}{2} \leq b \leq \pi$, evaluate $\tan(a+b)$.

$$\tan(a+b) = \frac{\tan a + \tan b}{1 - \tan a \tan b}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{4}{3} + \frac{12}{-5}}{1 - \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{12}{5}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{20 - 36}{15} \div \left[\frac{15 + 48}{15} \right]$$

$$= \frac{-16}{15} \times \frac{15}{63} = \frac{-16}{63}$$



EXTRA PRACTICE – COMPOUND ANGLE FORMULAS

1. Determine the value, using compound addition identities, of each of the following:

a) $\sin \frac{\pi}{12} = \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{6} \right)$

$$= \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \cos \frac{\pi}{6} - \cos \frac{\pi}{4} \sin \frac{\pi}{6}$$

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

$$= \frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}}{4}$$

b) $\cos 165^\circ = \cos (180 - 15)$

$$= -\cos 15$$

$$= - \left[\cos \left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{6} \right) \right]$$

$$= - \left[\cos \frac{\pi}{4} \cos \frac{\pi}{6} + \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \sin \frac{\pi}{6} \right]$$

$$= - \left[\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

$$= - \left[\frac{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2}}{4} \right]$$

2. Express as a single trigonometric function.

a) $\cos 2A \cos A - \sin 2A \sin A$

$$= \cos (2A + A)$$

$$= \cos (3A)$$

c) $\frac{\tan 2x + \tan 3x}{1 - \tan 2x \tan 3x}$

$$= \tan (2x + 3x)$$

$$= \tan (5x)$$

b) $\sin 5 \cos 2 - \sin 2 \cos 5$

$$= \sin (5 - 2)$$

$$= \sin 3$$

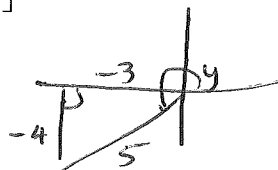
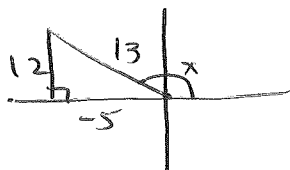
d) $\cos^2(x+y) + \sin^2(x+y)$

$$= \cos^2(x+y) - (x+y)$$

$$= \cos (0)$$

$$= 1$$

3. If x is in the interval $\left[\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi \right]$ and y is in the interval $\left[\pi, \frac{3\pi}{2} \right]$, and $\cos x = \frac{-5}{13}$, and $\tan y = \frac{4}{3}$, evaluate the following:



a) $\sin(x-y)$

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

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

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

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

b) $\cos(x+y)$

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

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

$$= \frac{15}{65} + \frac{48}{65}$$

$$= \frac{63}{65}$$

c) $\tan(x-y)$

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

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{-12}{5} \right) - \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)}{1 + \left(\frac{-12}{5} \right) \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{-12}{5} \right) - \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)}{1 + \left(\frac{-12}{5} \right) \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{56}{15}}{1 + \left(\frac{-12}{5} \right) \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{56}{15}}{\left[\frac{15-48}{15} \right]}$$

$$= \frac{-56}{-33} = \frac{56}{33}$$