

Day 9: Half Angle Formulas

Compound Angle Formulas	Double Angle Formulas	Half Angle Formulas
$\sin(a \pm b) = \sin a \cos b \pm \sin b \cos a$	$\sin(2a) = 2\sin a \cos a$	$\sin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos x}{2}}$ *the +/- depends on the quadrant
$\cos(a \pm b) = \cos a \cos b \mp \sin a \sin b$	$\cos(2a) = \cos^2 a - \sin^2 a$ $= 2\cos^2 a - 1$ $= 1 - 2\sin^2 a$	$\cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos x}{2}}$ *the +/- depends on the quadrant
$\tan(a \pm b) = \frac{\tan a \pm \tan b}{1 \mp (\tan a)(\tan b)}$	$\tan(2a) = \frac{2\tan a}{1 - \tan^2 a}$	$\tan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = \frac{1 - \cos x}{\sin x} = \frac{\sin x}{1 + \cos x}$

Example 1: Prove $\frac{1 - \cos x}{\sin x} = \frac{\sin x}{1 + \cos x}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{LS} &= \frac{1 - \cos x}{\sin x} \cdot \frac{1 + \cos x}{1 + \cos x} \\
 &= \frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{\sin x (1 + \cos x)} = \frac{\sin^2 x}{\sin x (1 + \cos x)} = \frac{\sin x}{1 + \cos x} = \text{RS} \\
 &\quad \text{QED } \text{13}
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 2: Use the half angle formula $\cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos x}{2}}$ to evaluate $\cos 15^\circ$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \cos\left(\frac{30^\circ}{2}\right) &= \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos 30^\circ}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{2}} \quad \text{← multiply by } 2 \\
 &= \sqrt{\frac{2 + \sqrt{3}}{4}} \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3}}}{\sqrt{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3}}}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3: Find the exact value of $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{12}\right)$.

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

Example 4: Use the half angle formulas to find the exact value of the following:

Q2

$$\text{a) } \cos(157.5^\circ) = \cos\left(\frac{315}{2}\right)$$

$$= -\sqrt{\frac{1+\cos(315)}{2}}$$

$$= -\sqrt{\frac{1+\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}{2}} = -\sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{2}}{4}} = -\frac{\sqrt{2+\sqrt{2}}}{2}$$

$$\text{b) } \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \tan\left(\frac{\frac{\pi}{4}}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1-\cos\frac{\pi}{4}}{\sin\frac{\pi}{4}}$$

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

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

Practice: Use the half angle formulas to find the exact value of the following.

a. $\sin(67.5^\circ)$

$$= \sin\left(\frac{135}{2}\right)$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1-\cos 135}{2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1+\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{2}}{4}}$$

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

b. $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{\frac{\pi}{4}}{2}\right)$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1+\cos\frac{\pi}{4}}{2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1+\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}{2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{2}}{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{2+\sqrt{2}}}{2}$$

c. $\tan(157.5^\circ)$ Q2

$$= \tan\left(\frac{315}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1-\cos 315}{\sin 315}$$

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

$$= -\sqrt{2}+1$$

d. $\sin\left(\frac{11\pi}{12}\right) = \sin\frac{\pi}{12}$ Q2

$$= \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}/2\right)$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1-\cos\frac{\pi}{6}}{2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{4}}$$

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

e. $\cos(-112.5^\circ)$ Q3

$$= \cos\left(-\frac{225}{2}\right)$$

$$= -\sqrt{\frac{1+\cos(-225)}{2}}$$

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

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

f. $\sin(202.5^\circ)$ Q3

$$= -\sin(22.5)$$

$$= -\sin\left(\frac{45}{2}\right)$$

$$= -\sqrt{\frac{1-\cos 45}{2}}$$

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

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