

### Section 5.3 (Double-Angle, Power-Reducing, and Half-Angle Formulas)

In this section, we continue to use sum formulas to look at other basic identities

#### Double-Angle Formulas

$$\begin{aligned} \sin 2\theta &= \sin(\theta + \theta) = && = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ \cos 2\theta &= \cos(\theta + \theta) = && = \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta \\ \tan 2\theta &= \tan(\theta + \theta) = && = \frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 - \tan^2 \theta} \end{aligned}$$

Example: If  $\sin \theta = 4/5$  and  $\theta$  lies in quadrant II, find the exact value of the following...

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

#### Study Tip

The 2 that appears in each of the double-angle expressions cannot be pulled to the front and written as a coefficient.

**Incorrect!**

$$\begin{aligned} \cancel{\sin 2\theta} &= \cancel{2} \sin \theta \\ \cancel{\cos 2\theta} &= \cancel{2} \cos \theta \\ \cancel{\tan 2\theta} &= \cancel{2} \tan \theta \end{aligned}$$

Example: Find the exact value of  $\cos^2 15^\circ - \sin^2 15^\circ$

There are three forms of the double angle formula for  $\cos 2\theta$ . Using the Pythagorean identity,  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ , we can derive (sometimes it is helpful to express in terms of just one trigonometric function) ...

$$\cos 2\theta = \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta - (1 - \cos^2 \theta) = \cos^2 \theta - 1 + \cos^2 \theta = 2 \cos^2 \theta - 1$$

$$\cos 2\theta = \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta$$

(Optional) Example: Verify the identity  $\sin 3\theta = 3 \sin \theta - 4 \sin^3 \theta$

#### Power-Reducing Formulas

$$\cos 2\theta = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta \Rightarrow$$

(-- solve for  $\sin^2 \theta$  --)

$$\Rightarrow \sin^2 \theta = \frac{1 - \cos 2\theta}{2}$$

$$\cos 2\theta = 2 \cos^2 \theta - 1 \Rightarrow$$

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

$$\tan^2 \theta = \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} =$$

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

Example: Write an equivalent expression for  $\sin^4 x$  that doesn't contain powers of trig. functions greater than 1

*Half-Angle Formulas*

$$\sin \frac{\alpha}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos \alpha}{2}}$$

$$\cos \frac{\alpha}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos \alpha}{2}}$$

$$\tan \frac{\alpha}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos \alpha}{1 + \cos \alpha}}$$

(The  $\pm$  symbol indicates that you determine the sign based on where the half-angle lies)

Example: Use  $\cos 210^\circ = -\sqrt{3}/2$  to find the exact value of  $\cos 105^\circ$

**Study Tip**

The  $\frac{1}{2}$  that appears in each of the half-angle formulas cannot be pulled to the front and written as a coefficient.

**Incorrect!**

~~$$\sin \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sin \theta$$~~

~~$$\cos \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \cos \theta$$~~

~~$$\tan \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \tan \theta$$~~

Some alternate forms of  $\tan (\alpha/2)$  don't require us to determine sign

Example: See example 6 (pg. 613) and verify the identity  $\tan \theta = \frac{\sin 2\theta}{1 + \cos 2\theta}$

These examples lead to the other forms of the tangent half-angle formula

$$\tan \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{1 - \cos \alpha}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{\sin \alpha}{1 + \cos \alpha}$$

(Optional) Example: Verify the identity  $\tan \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{\sec \alpha}{\sec \alpha \csc \alpha + \csc \alpha}$