

Section 6.3 Trigonometric Functions of Any Angle

Defining the trig functions using the Cartesian Coordinate System:

Let θ be an angle in standard position. Let (x, y) be any point P that lies on the terminal side of θ and let r be the distance from the origin to the point P :

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

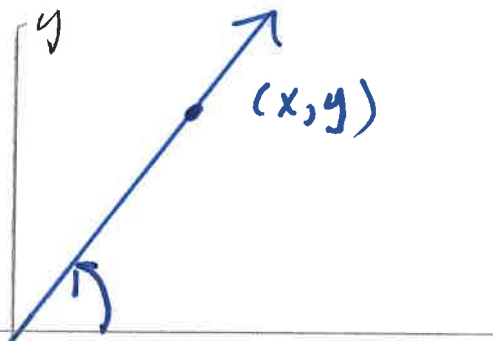
$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

$$\csc \theta = \frac{r}{y}$$

$$\sec \theta = \frac{r}{x}$$

$$\cot \theta = \frac{x}{y}$$

$\cos \theta$ is positive
in the 1st and
4th quadrants

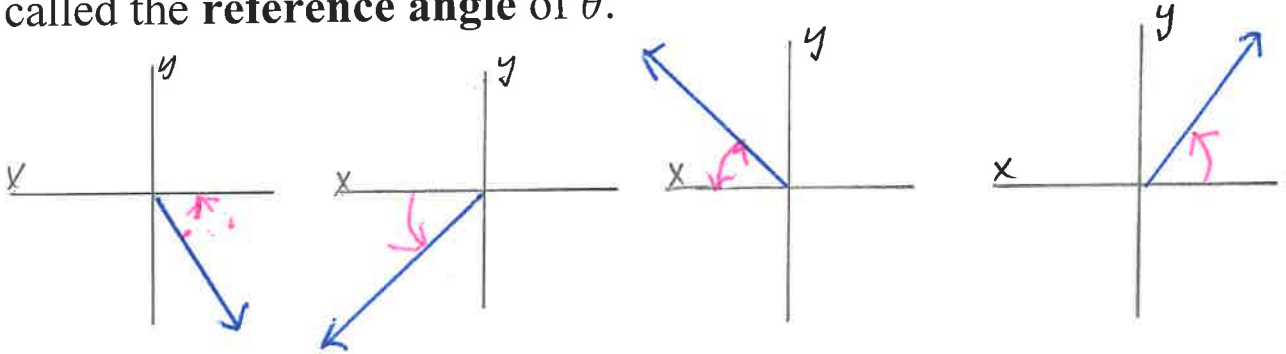


$\sin \theta$ is positive
in the 1st and
2nd quadrants

$\tan \theta$ is positive
in the 1st and
third quadrants

Definition:

Given an angle θ in standard position. The acute angle that is formed using the terminal side of θ and the x -axis is called the **reference angle** of θ .



To find the value of a trigonometric function of any angle θ you can determine the function value for the reference angle θ_r and then affix the appropriate sign ($-$, $+$) depending on the quadrant in which θ lies.

Think About It:

What angles will have the same sine as the angle whose measure is 80° ? What angles will have the same cosine as the angle whose measure is 80° ?

To find the value of a trigonometric function of any angle θ you can determine the function value for the reference angle θ_r and then affix the appropriate sign ($-$, $+$) depending on the quadrant in which θ lies.

Evaluate the following trigonometric expressions without a calculator:

$$\sin 135^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

reference angle
is 45°

$$\cos(-150^\circ) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

reference angle
is 30°


$$\tan \frac{13\pi}{6} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

reference angle
is 30° or $\frac{\pi}{6}$


$$\sec \frac{7\pi}{4} = \sqrt{2}$$

reference angle
is $\frac{\pi}{4}$ or 45°

$$\cos 103\pi = -1$$

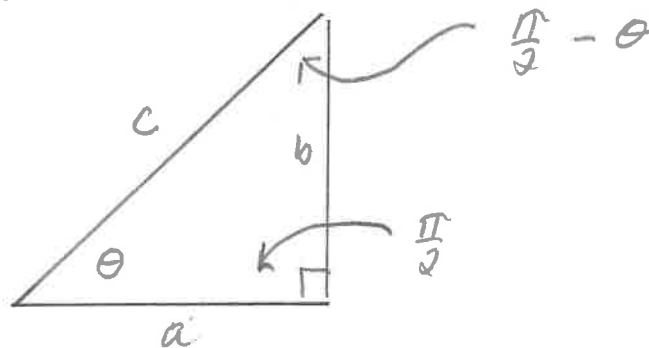
reference angle
is 0° . 
 $103\pi = 51(2\pi) + \pi$

$$\sin\left(-\frac{23\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$-\frac{23\pi}{4} = -\frac{16\pi}{4} - \frac{7\pi}{4}$
 $= -4\pi - \frac{7\pi}{4}$, 
reference angle is $\frac{\pi}{4}$

Complimentary Angles are angles whose sum is a right angle. In other words, the compliment of the angle θ is the angle $\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta$.

Investigate the relationship between the sine and cosine of complimentary angles:



Cofunction Identities:

$$\cos \theta = \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) ; \quad \csc \theta = \sec \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) ; \quad \cot \theta = \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)$$

$$\sin \theta = \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) , \quad \tan \theta = \cot \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)$$

Reciprocal Identities:

$$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} ; \quad \sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta} ; \quad \cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$$

Quotient Identities:

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} ; \quad \cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$$