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INTRODUCTION TO TRIGONOMETRY

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Complete Study Material for CBSE Class 10 (2025-

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FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT TRIGONOMETRY

Did You Know?

 **Ancient Origins:** The word 'trigonometry' comes from Greek: 'tri' (three) + 'gon' (sides) + 'metron' (measure). It literally means "measurement of triangles"!

IN Indian Contribution: Aryabhata (476-550 CE) was the first to use the concept of sine (jya) in his work Aryabhatiyam. The word "sine" comes from the Sanskrit word "jya"!

 **Astronomy Connection:** Early astronomers used trigonometry to calculate distances to stars and planets. Ancient Egyptians and Babylonians used basic trigonometry to build pyramids and study celestial bodies!

 **Architecture & Engineering:** The world's tallest buildings, longest bridges, and most complex structures are designed using trigonometry. Engineers use it to calculate forces, angles, and stability!

 **Modern Technology:** Your GPS, smartphone, computer graphics, video games, and even music synthesis use trigonometry! Every 3D animation you see uses trigonometric calculations!

 **Wave Motion:** Sound waves, light waves, ocean waves, and electromagnetic waves are all described using trigonometric functions (sine and cosine waves)!

 **Music & Sound:** Musical notes are sine waves! When you hear music, your ears are detecting trigonometric functions. Sound engineers use trigonometry to create perfect acoustics!

 **Space Missions:** NASA uses trigonometry to calculate rocket trajectories, satellite positions, and planetary orbits. The Mars rover landing used complex trigonometric calculations!

 **Art & Design:** Artists use trigonometry to create perspective in paintings. Computer graphics designers use it to create 3D models and animations!

 **Communication:** Radio waves, WiFi, Bluetooth, and all wireless communication technologies are based on trigonometric principles!

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CHAPTER OVERVIEW

Chapter	Introduction to Trigonometry (Chapter 8)
Weightage	12 marks (As per CBSE marking scheme 2025-26)
Difficulty Level	Medium to High
Expected Questions	2-3 questions (2 marks, 3 marks, or 5 marks)
Time Required	15-20 minutes in exam
Prerequisites	Right triangles, Pythagoras Theorem, Ratios, Square roots

Topics Covered:

1. **Trigonometric Ratios - Definition**
2. **Relationships between Ratios**
3. **Trigonometric Ratios of Standard Angles (0° , 30° , 45° , 60° , 90°)**

4. Trigonometric Identities

5. Applications in Problem Solving

 **IMPORTANT NOTE - CBSE 2025-26:**

This chapter is HIGH WEIGHTAGE - 12 marks!

Focus on: **Trigonometric Ratios, Standard Angles Table, and Trigonometric Identities**

Must Memorize: All 6 trigonometric ratios and values for 0° , 30° , 45° , 60° , 90°

SECTION 1: UNDERSTANDING RIGHT TRIANGLES

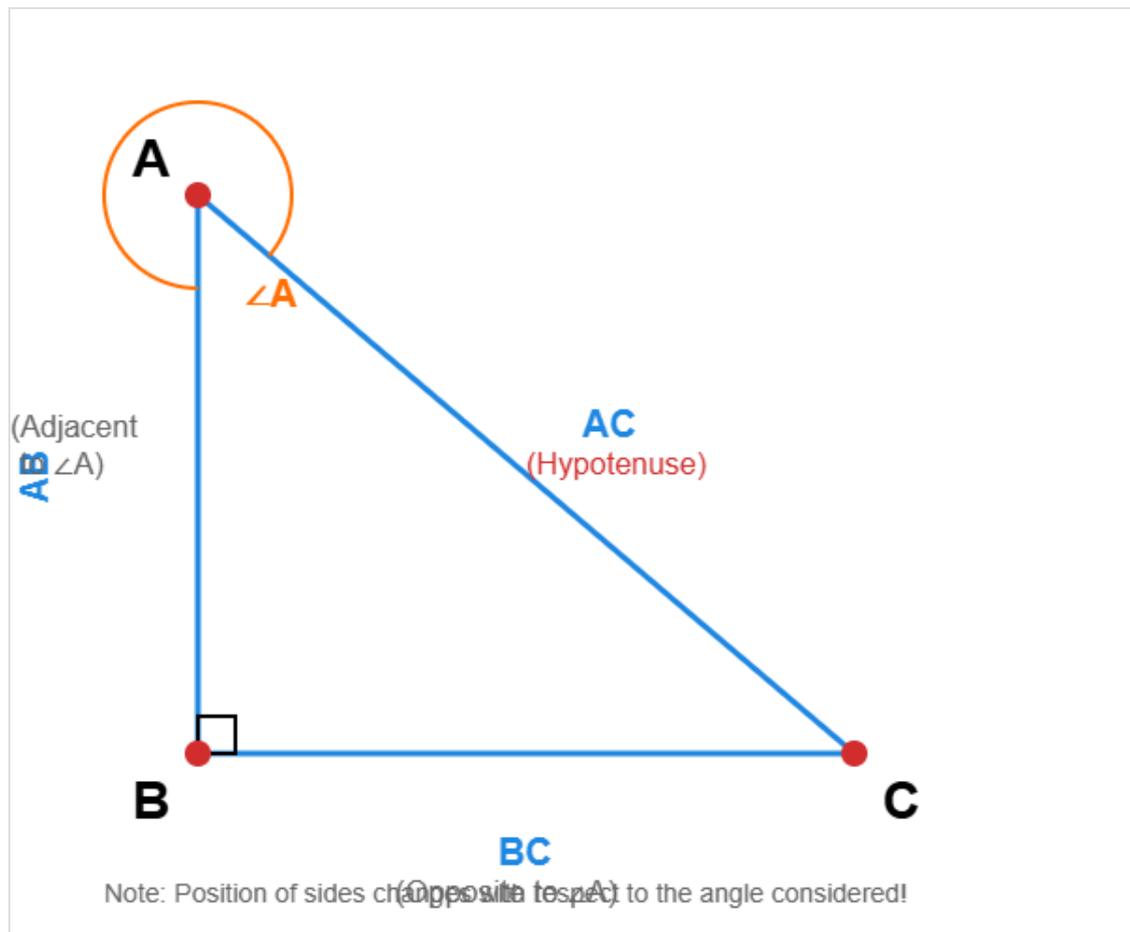
What is a Right Triangle?

Right Triangle: A triangle with one angle equal to 90°

- **Hypotenuse:** The longest side (opposite to 90° angle)
- **Perpendicular (Opposite):** Side opposite to the angle being considered
- **Base (Adjacent):** Side next to the angle being considered (not hypotenuse)

Important: The position of perpendicular and base changes based on which angle you're considering!

Right Triangle ABC with Angle A



🔑 Key Understanding:

- ✓ Hypotenuse is **ALWAYS** opposite the 90° angle
- ✓ **Opposite side changes** based on which acute angle you consider
- ✓ **Adjacent side changes** based on which acute angle you consider
- ✓ For angle A: Opposite = BC, Adjacent = AB
- ✓ For angle C: Opposite = AB, Adjacent = BC

SECTION 2: TRIGONOMETRIC RATIOS

THE SIX TRIGONOMETRIC RATIOS

For angle A in a right triangle ABC (right-angled at B):

$$\sin A = \text{Perpendicular/Hypotenuse} = BC/AC$$

$$\cos A = \text{Base/Hypotenuse} = AB/AC$$

$$\tan A = \text{Perpendicular/Base} = BC/AB$$

Reciprocal Ratios:

$$\operatorname{cosec} A = 1/\sin A = \text{Hypotenuse/Perpendicular} = AC/BC$$

$$\sec A = 1/\cos A = \text{Hypotenuse/Base} = AC/AB$$

$$\cot A = 1/\tan A = \text{Base/Perpendicular} = AB/BC$$

 **Memory Trick: "Some People Have - Curly Brown Hair - Through Proper Brushing"**

Some People Have → **Sin** = **P**erpendicular/**H**ypotenuse

Curly Brown Hair → **Cos** = **B**ase/**H**ypotenuse

Through Proper Brushing → **Tan** = **P**erpendicular/**B**ase

Important Relationships

RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIPS

$$\operatorname{cosec} A = 1/\sin A \quad \sec A = 1/\cos A \quad \cot A = 1/\tan A$$

$$\sin A = 1/\operatorname{cosec} A \quad \cos A = 1/\sec A \quad \tan A = 1/\cot A$$

QUOTIENT RELATIONSHIPS

$$\tan A = \sin A/\cos A \quad \cot A = \cos A/\sin A$$

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💡 **Important Notes:**

- ✓ **sin A and cos A are always ≤ 1** (since hypotenuse is longest)
- ✓ **sec A and cosec A are always ≥ 1**
- ✓ tan A and cot A can be any value
- ✓ $\sin^2 A$ means $(\sin A)^2$, NOT $\sin(A^2)$
- ✓ These ratios depend **ONLY** on the angle, not on the size of triangle

TYPE 1: Finding All Ratios from One Ratio

Example 1: If $\sin A = 3/5$, find all other trigonometric ratios of angle A.

Solution:

Given: $\sin A = 3/5$

This means: Perpendicular/Hypotenuse = $3/5$

So, Perpendicular = $3k$, Hypotenuse = $5k$ (where $k > 0$)

Step 1: Find Base using Pythagoras theorem

$$\text{Base}^2 = \text{Hypotenuse}^2 - \text{Perpendicular}^2$$

$$\text{Base}^2 = (5k)^2 - (3k)^2$$

$$\text{Base}^2 = 25k^2 - 9k^2$$

$$\text{Base}^2 = 16k^2$$

$$\text{Base} = 4k$$

Step 2: Find all ratios

$$\sin A = 3/5 \text{ (given)}$$

$$\cos A = \text{Base/Hypotenuse} = 4k/5k = \mathbf{4/5}$$

$$\tan A = \text{Perpendicular/Base} = 3k/4k = \mathbf{3/4}$$

$$\text{cosec } A = 1/\sin A = \mathbf{5/3}$$

$$\sec A = 1/\cos A = \mathbf{5/4}$$

$$\cot A = 1/\tan A = \mathbf{4/3}$$

Answer: $\cos A = 4/5$, $\tan A = 3/4$, $\text{cosec } A = 5/3$, $\sec A = 5/4$, $\cot A = 4/3$

Example 2: If $\tan \theta = 12/5$, find $\sin \theta$ and $\cos \theta$.

Solution:

Given: $\tan \theta = 12/5$

This means: Perpendicular/Base = $12/5$

So, Perpendicular = $12k$, Base = $5k$

Find Hypotenuse:

$$\text{Hypotenuse}^2 = (12k)^2 + (5k)^2$$

$$\text{Hypotenuse}^2 = 144k^2 + 25k^2$$

$$\text{Hypotenuse}^2 = 169k^2$$

$$\text{Hypotenuse} = 13k$$

Therefore:

$$\sin \theta = \text{Perpendicular/Hypotenuse} = 12k/13k = \mathbf{12/13}$$

$$\cos \theta = \text{Base/Hypotenuse} = 5k/13k = \mathbf{5/13}$$

Answer: $\sin \theta = 12/13$, $\cos \theta = 5/13$

Example 3: If $\cot A = 7/8$, evaluate: (i) $(1+\sin A)(1-\sin A)/(1+\cos A)(1-\cos A)$,
(ii) $\cot^2 A$

Solution:

Given: $\cot A = 7/8$

Base = $7k$, Perpendicular = $8k$

Hypotenuse = $\sqrt{(7k)^2 + (8k)^2} = \sqrt{49k^2 + 64k^2} = \sqrt{113k^2} = k\sqrt{113}$

$\sin A = 8k/(k\sqrt{113}) = 8/\sqrt{113}$

$\cos A = 7k/(k\sqrt{113}) = 7/\sqrt{113}$

(i) $(1+\sin A)(1-\sin A)/(1+\cos A)(1-\cos A)$

Using $(a+b)(a-b) = a^2 - b^2$:

Numerator = $1 - \sin^2 A$

Denominator = $1 - \cos^2 A$

= $(1 - \sin^2 A)/(1 - \cos^2 A)$

= $\cos^2 A/\sin^2 A$ [Using identity: $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$]

= $\cot^2 A$

= $(7/8)^2$

= **49/64**

(ii) $\cot^2 A$

$\cot^2 A = (7/8)^2 =$ **49/64**

Answer: (i) 49/64, (ii) 49/64

SECTION 3: TRIGONOMETRIC RATIOS OF STANDARD ANGLES

Why These Angles?

The angles 0° , 30° , 45° , 60° , and 90° are called **standard angles** because:

- ✓ They can be constructed using compass and ruler
- ✓ Their trigonometric ratios have exact values (not approximations)
- ✓ They are most commonly used in applications
- ✓ They form the basis for calculating other angles

Derivation of Standard Angles

1. Trigonometric Ratios of 45°

Consider an isosceles right triangle:

In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$, $\angle A = \angle C = 45^\circ$

Therefore, $AB = BC$ (sides opposite equal angles)

Let $AB = BC = a$

By Pythagoras theorem:

$$AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 = a^2 + a^2 = 2a^2$$

$$AC = a\sqrt{2}$$

For angle 45° :

$$\sin 45^\circ = BC/AC = a/(a\sqrt{2}) = 1/\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}/2$$

$$\cos 45^\circ = AB/AC = a/(a\sqrt{2}) = 1/\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}/2$$

$$\tan 45^\circ = BC/AB = a/a = 1$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} 45^\circ = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\sec 45^\circ = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\cot 45^\circ = 1$$

2. Trigonometric Ratios of 30° and 60°

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Consider an equilateral triangle:

$\triangle ABC$ where $AB = BC = CA = 2a$, and all angles = 60°

Draw altitude AD from A to BC

AD bisects BC , so $BD = DC = a$

Also, $\angle BAD = \angle CAD = 30^\circ$

In $\triangle ABD$: $AB = 2a$, $BD = a$

By Pythagoras: $AD^2 = AB^2 - BD^2 = 4a^2 - a^2 = 3a^2$

$AD = a\sqrt{3}$

For angle 30° :

$$\sin 30^\circ = BD/AB = a/(2a) = 1/2$$

$$\cos 30^\circ = AD/AB = (a\sqrt{3})/(2a) = \sqrt{3}/2$$

$$\tan 30^\circ = BD/AD = a/(a\sqrt{3}) = 1/\sqrt{3} = \sqrt{3}/3$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} 30^\circ = 2$$

$$\sec 30^\circ = 2/\sqrt{3} = 2\sqrt{3}/3$$

$$\cot 30^\circ = \sqrt{3}$$

For angle 60° :

$$\sin 60^\circ = AD/AB = (a\sqrt{3})/(2a) = \sqrt{3}/2$$

$$\cos 60^\circ = BD/AB = a/(2a) = 1/2$$

$$\tan 60^\circ = AD/BD = (a\sqrt{3})/a = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} 60^\circ = 2/\sqrt{3} = 2\sqrt{3}/3$$

$$\sec 60^\circ = 2$$

$$\cot 60^\circ = 1/\sqrt{3} = \sqrt{3}/3$$

3. Trigonometric Ratios of 0° and 90°

Understanding through limiting cases:

As angle $A \rightarrow 0^\circ$:

- Perpendicular $\rightarrow 0$
- Base \rightarrow Hypotenuse

Therefore: $\sin 0^\circ = 0$, $\cos 0^\circ = 1$, $\tan 0^\circ = 0$

As angle $A \rightarrow 90^\circ$:

- Perpendicular \rightarrow Hypotenuse
- Base $\rightarrow 0$

Therefore: $\sin 90^\circ = 1$, $\cos 90^\circ = 0$, $\tan 90^\circ = \text{not defined}$

TRIGONOMETRIC TABLE - MUST MEMORIZE!

Angle (A)	0°	30°	45°	60°	90°
sin A	0	1/2	1/√2	√3/2	1
cos A	1	√3/2	1/√2	1/2	0
tan A	0	1/√3	1	√3	Not defined
cosec A	Not defined	2	√2	2/√3	1
sec A	1	2/√3	√2	2	Not defined
cot A	Not defined	√3	1	1/√3	0

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EASY TRICKS TO REMEMBER THE TABLE:

Method 1: Fraction Pattern for sin and cos

For sin: $0^\circ, 30^\circ, 45^\circ, 60^\circ, 90^\circ \rightarrow \sqrt{0/2}, \sqrt{1/2}, \sqrt{2/2}, \sqrt{3/2}, \sqrt{4/2}$

= $0, 1/2, 1/\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}/2, 1$

For cos: REVERSE of sin!

$90^\circ, 60^\circ, 45^\circ, 30^\circ, 0^\circ \rightarrow \sqrt{4/2}, \sqrt{3/2}, \sqrt{2/2}, \sqrt{1/2}, \sqrt{0/2}$

= $1, \sqrt{3}/2, 1/\sqrt{2}, 1/2, 0$

Method 2: Hand Trick

For sin: Count fingers from 0° (0) to 90° (4), divide by 2, take square root!

- $0^\circ \rightarrow \sqrt{(0/4)} = 0$
- $30^\circ \rightarrow \sqrt{(1/4)} = 1/2$
- $45^\circ \rightarrow \sqrt{(2/4)} = 1/\sqrt{2}$
- $60^\circ \rightarrow \sqrt{(3/4)} = \sqrt{3}/2$
- $90^\circ \rightarrow \sqrt{(4/4)} = 1$

Method 3: Observations

- $\sqrt{\sin 30^\circ} = \cos 60^\circ = 1/2$
- $\sqrt{\sin 60^\circ} = \cos 30^\circ = \sqrt{3}/2$
- $\sqrt{\sin 45^\circ} = \cos 45^\circ = 1/\sqrt{2}$
- $\sqrt{\tan 45^\circ} = \cot 45^\circ = 1$
- $\sqrt{\tan 30^\circ} = \cot 60^\circ = 1/\sqrt{3}$
- $\sqrt{\tan 60^\circ} = \cot 30^\circ = \sqrt{3}$

Applications of Standard Angles

Example 4: Evaluate: $\sin 60^\circ \cos 30^\circ + \sin 30^\circ \cos 60^\circ$

Solution:

$$\sin 60^\circ \cos 30^\circ + \sin 30^\circ \cos 60^\circ$$

$$= (\sqrt{3}/2) (\sqrt{3}/2) + (1/2) (1/2)$$

$$= 3/4 + 1/4$$

$$= \mathbf{4/4 = 1}$$

Answer: 1

Example 5: Evaluate: $2 \tan^2 45^\circ + \cos^2 30^\circ - \sin^2 60^\circ$

Solution:

$$2 \tan^2 45^\circ + \cos^2 30^\circ - \sin^2 60^\circ$$

$$= 2(1)^2 + (\sqrt{3}/2)^2 - (\sqrt{3}/2)^2$$

$$= 2(1) + 3/4 - 3/4$$

$$= 2 + 0$$

$$= \mathbf{2}$$

Answer: 2

Example 6: If $\sin(A-B) = 1/2$, $\cos(A+B) = 1/2$, $0^\circ < A+B \leq 90^\circ$, $A > B$, find A and B.

Solution:

$$\text{Given: } \sin(A-B) = 1/2$$

$$\text{From table: } \sin 30^\circ = 1/2$$

$$\text{Therefore: } \mathbf{A - B = 30^\circ} \dots (1)$$

$$\text{Given: } \cos(A+B) = 1/2$$

$$\text{From table: } \cos 60^\circ = 1/2$$

$$\text{Therefore: } \mathbf{A + B = 60^\circ} \dots (2)$$

Adding equations (1) and (2):

$$(A-B) + (A+B) = 30^\circ + 60^\circ$$

$$2A = 90^\circ$$

$$A = 45^\circ$$

Substituting in (2):

$$45^\circ + B = 60^\circ$$

$$B = 15^\circ$$

Answer: $A = 45^\circ$, $B = 15^\circ$

Example 7: In $\triangle ABC$, right-angled at B, $AB = 5$ cm and $\angle ACB = 30^\circ$. Find BC and AC.

Solution:

Given: $AB = 5$ cm, $\angle C = 30^\circ$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$

For angle $C = 30^\circ$:

$$\tan 30^\circ = AB/BC$$

$$1/\sqrt{3} = 5/BC$$

$$BC = 5\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}$$

Now, using Pythagoras theorem:

$$AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$$

$$AC^2 = 5^2 + (5\sqrt{3})^2$$

$$AC^2 = 25 + 75$$

$$AC^2 = 100$$

$$AC = 10 \text{ cm}$$

Alternative method using $\sin 30^\circ$:

$$\sin 30^\circ = AB/AC$$

$$1/2 = 5/AC$$

$$AC = 10 \text{ cm } \checkmark$$

Answer: $BC = 5\sqrt{3}$ cm, $AC = 10$ cm

SECTION 4: TRIGONOMETRIC IDENTITIES

What is an Identity?

An **identity** is an equation that is TRUE for ALL values of the variable.

A **trigonometric identity** is an equation involving trigonometric ratios that is true for all values of the angle(s) for which the ratios are defined.

THE THREE FUNDAMENTAL TRIGONOMETRIC IDENTITIES

Identity 1: $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$

Identity 2: $1 + \tan^2 A = \sec^2 A$

Identity 3: $1 + \cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A$

Proof of Identity 1: $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$

Proof:

Consider right triangle ABC with $\angle B = 90^\circ$

By Pythagoras theorem:

$$AB^2 + BC^2 = AC^2$$

Dividing both sides by AC^2 :

$$AB^2/AC^2 + BC^2/AC^2 = AC^2/AC^2$$

$$(AB/AC)^2 + (BC/AC)^2 = 1$$

But $AB/AC = \cos A$ and $BC/AC = \sin A$

Therefore: **$\cos^2 A + \sin^2 A = 1$**

Or: **$\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$** ✓

Proof of Identity 2: $1 + \tan^2 A = \sec^2 A$

Proof:

Start with: $AB^2 + BC^2 = AC^2$

Dividing both sides by AB^2 :

$$AB^2/AB^2 + BC^2/AB^2 = AC^2/AB^2$$

$$1 + (BC/AB)^2 = (AC/AB)^2$$

But $BC/AB = \tan A$ and $AC/AB = \sec A$

Therefore: **$1 + \tan^2 A = \sec^2 A$** ✓

Proof of Identity 3: $1 + \cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A$

Proof:

Start with: $AB^2 + BC^2 = AC^2$

Dividing both sides by BC^2 :

$$AB^2/BC^2 + BC^2/BC^2 = AC^2/BC^2$$

$$(AB/BC)^2 + 1 = (AC/BC)^2$$

But $AB/BC = \cot A$ and $AC/BC = \operatorname{cosec} A$

Therefore: $\cot^2 A + 1 = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A$

Or: $1 + \cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A \checkmark$

 **DERIVED FORMS - Very Useful!**

From Identity 1: $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$

- $\sin^2 A = 1 - \cos^2 A$
- $\cos^2 A = 1 - \sin^2 A$
- $\sin A = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 A}$
- $\cos A = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 A}$

From Identity 2: $1 + \tan^2 A = \sec^2 A$

- $\tan^2 A = \sec^2 A - 1$
- $\sec^2 A - \tan^2 A = 1$
- $\tan A = \sqrt{\sec^2 A - 1}$
- $\sec A = \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 A}$

From Identity 3: $1 + \cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A$

- $\cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A - 1$
- $\operatorname{cosec}^2 A - \cot^2 A = 1$
- $\cot A = \sqrt{\operatorname{cosec}^2 A - 1}$
- $\operatorname{cosec} A = \sqrt{1 + \cot^2 A}$

TYPE 1: Proving Identities

Example 8: Prove that: $\sec A (1 - \sin A)(\sec A + \tan A) = 1$

Solution:

$$\text{LHS} = \sec A (1 - \sin A) (\sec A + \tan A)$$

$$= \sec A (1 - \sin A) \times (\sec A + \tan A)$$

$$= (1/\cos A) (1 - \sin A) \times (1/\cos A + \sin A/\cos A)$$

$$= (1/\cos A) (1 - \sin A) \times (1 + \sin A)/\cos A$$

$$= (1/\cos^2 A) \times (1 - \sin A) (1 + \sin A)$$

$$= (1/\cos^2 A) \times (1 - \sin^2 A) \quad [\text{Using } (a-b)(a+b) = a^2 - b^2]$$

$$= (1/\cos^2 A) \times \cos^2 A \quad [\text{Using } \sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1]$$

$$= 1$$

$$= \text{RHS } \checkmark$$

Hence Proved

Example 9: Prove that: $(\operatorname{cosec} \theta - \cot \theta)^2 = (1 - \cos \theta)/(1 + \cos \theta)$

Solution:

$$\text{LHS} = (\operatorname{cosec} \theta - \cot \theta)^2$$

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

$$= [(1 - \cos \theta)/\sin \theta]^2$$

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

$$= (1 - \cos \theta)^2/(1 - \cos^2 \theta) \quad [\text{Using } \sin^2 \theta = 1 - \cos^2 \theta]$$

$$= (1 - \cos \theta)^2/[(1 - \cos \theta)(1 + \cos \theta)]$$

$$= (1 - \cos \theta)/(1 + \cos \theta)$$

$$= \text{RHS } \checkmark$$

Hence Proved

Example 10: Prove that: $(\sin A + \cos A)^2 + (\sin A - \cos A)^2 = 2$

Solution:

$$\text{LHS} = (\sin A + \cos A)^2 + (\sin A - \cos A)^2$$

Expanding using $(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$ and $(a-b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2$:

$$= (\sin^2 A + 2\sin A \cos A + \cos^2 A) + (\sin^2 A - 2\sin A \cos A + \cos^2 A)$$

$$= \sin^2 A + \cos^2 A + \sin^2 A + \cos^2 A + 2\sin A \cos A - 2\sin A \cos A$$

$$= 2\sin^2 A + 2\cos^2 A$$

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

$$= 2(1) \quad [\text{Using } \sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1]$$

$$= 2$$

$$= \text{RHS } \checkmark$$

Hence Proved

TYPE 2: Simplification Using Identities

Example 11: Express $\sin A$, $\sec A$ and $\tan A$ in terms of $\cot A$.

Solution:

We know: $1 + \cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A$

Finding $\sin A$:

$$\operatorname{cosec}^2 A = 1 + \cot^2 A$$

$$1/\sin^2 A = 1 + \cot^2 A$$

$$\sin^2 A = 1/(1 + \cot^2 A)$$

$$\sin A = 1/\sqrt{1 + \cot^2 A}$$

Finding $\sec A$:

We know: $\tan A = 1/\cot A$

Also: $\sec^2 A = 1 + \tan^2 A$

$$\sec^2 A = 1 + 1/\cot^2 A$$

$$\sec^2 A = (\cot^2 A + 1)/\cot^2 A$$

$$\sec A = \sqrt{1 + \cot^2 A}/\cot A$$

Finding $\tan A$:

$$\tan A = 1/\cot A$$

Answer:

$$\sin A = 1/\sqrt{1 + \cot^2 A}$$

$$\sec A = \sqrt{1 + \cot^2 A}/\cot A$$

$$\tan A = 1/\cot A$$

Example 12: If $3 \cot A = 4$, check whether $(1 - \tan^2 A)/(1 + \tan^2 A) = \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$ or not.

Solution:

$$\text{Given: } 3 \cot A = 4$$

$$\text{Therefore: } \cot A = 4/3$$

$$\text{This means: Base/Perpendicular} = 4/3$$

$$\text{So, Base} = 4k, \text{ Perpendicular} = 3k$$

$$\text{Hypotenuse} = \sqrt{(16k^2 + 9k^2)} = 5k$$

$$\tan A = 3/4, \sin A = 3/5, \cos A = 4/5$$

$$\text{LHS} = (1 - \tan^2 A)/(1 + \tan^2 A)$$

$$= [1 - (3/4)^2]/[1 + (3/4)^2]$$

$$= [1 - 9/16]/[1 + 9/16]$$

$$= [7/16]/[25/16]$$

$$= 7/25$$

$$\text{RHS} = \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$$

$$= (4/5)^2 - (3/5)^2$$

$$= 16/25 - 9/25$$

$$= 7/25$$

$$\text{Since LHS} = \text{RHS} = 7/25$$

Answer: YES, the equation is correct ✓



PREVIOUS YEARS' BOARD QUESTIONS

2 MARK QUESTIONS

Q1. If $\sin A = 3/4$, calculate $\cos A$ and $\tan A$. (2020)

Solution:

$$\text{Given: } \sin A = 3/4$$

$$\text{Perpendicular} = 3k, \text{ Hypotenuse} = 4k$$

$$\text{Base} = \sqrt{(\text{Hypotenuse}^2 - \text{Perpendicular}^2)}$$

$$\text{Base} = \sqrt{(16k^2 - 9k^2)} = \sqrt{7k^2} = k\sqrt{7}$$

$$\cos A = \text{Base}/\text{Hypotenuse} = k\sqrt{7}/4k = \sqrt{7}/4$$

$$\tan A = \text{Perpendicular}/\text{Base} = 3k/(k\sqrt{7}) = 3/\sqrt{7} \text{ or } 3\sqrt{7}/7$$

$$\text{Answer: } \cos A = \sqrt{7}/4, \tan A = 3/\sqrt{7}$$

Q2. Evaluate: $2 \tan^2 45^\circ + \cos^2 30^\circ - \sin^2 60^\circ$ (2021)

Solution:

$$= 2(1)^2 + (\sqrt{3}/2)^2 - (\sqrt{3}/2)^2$$

$$= 2 + 3/4 - 3/4$$

$$= \mathbf{2}$$

Answer: 2

Q3. If $15 \cot A = 8$, find $\sin A$ and $\sec A$. (2022)

Solution:

Given: $15 \cot A = 8$

$$\cot A = 8/15$$

Base = $8k$, Perpendicular = $15k$

$$\text{Hypotenuse} = \sqrt{(64k^2 + 225k^2)} = 17k$$

$$\sin A = 15k/17k = \mathbf{15/17}$$

$$\sec A = 17k/8k = \mathbf{17/8}$$

Answer: $\sin A = 15/17$, $\sec A = 17/8$

3 MARK QUESTIONS

Q4. Prove that: $(\cos A/1-\tan A) + (\sin A/1-\cot A) = \sin A + \cos A$ (2023)

Solution:

$$\text{LHS} = (\cos A/1-\tan A) + (\sin A/1-\cot A)$$

$$= \cos A/(1 - \sin A/\cos A) + \sin A/(1 - \cos A/\sin A)$$

$$= \cos A/[(\cos A - \sin A)/\cos A] + \sin A/[(\sin A - \cos A)/\sin A]$$

$$= \cos^2 A/(\cos A - \sin A) + \sin^2 A/(\sin A - \cos A)$$

$$= \cos^2 A/(\cos A - \sin A) - \sin^2 A/(\cos A - \sin A)$$

$$= (\cos^2 A - \sin^2 A)/(\cos A - \sin A)$$

$$= (\cos A - \sin A)(\cos A + \sin A)/(\cos A - \sin A)$$

$$= \cos A + \sin A$$

$$= \sin A + \cos A$$

$$= \text{RHS } \checkmark$$

Hence Proved

Q5. If $\tan(A+B) = \sqrt{3}$ and $\tan(A-B) = 1/\sqrt{3}$, $0^\circ < A+B \leq 90^\circ$, $A > B$, find A and B.
(2024)

Solution:

Given: $\tan(A+B) = \sqrt{3}$

From table: $\tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}$

Therefore: $A + B = 60^\circ \dots (1)$

Given: $\tan(A-B) = 1/\sqrt{3}$

From table: $\tan 30^\circ = 1/\sqrt{3}$

Therefore: $A - B = 30^\circ \dots (2)$

Adding (1) and (2):

$$2A = 90^\circ$$

$$A = 45^\circ$$

From (1): $45^\circ + B = 60^\circ$

$$B = 15^\circ$$

Answer: $A = 45^\circ$, $B = 15^\circ$

5 MARK QUESTIONS

Q6. Prove that: $(\sin \theta - 2\sin^3\theta)/(2\cos^3\theta - \cos \theta) = \tan \theta$ (2022)

Solution:

$$\text{LHS} = (\sin \theta - 2\sin^3\theta)/(2\cos^3\theta - \cos \theta)$$

Taking $\sin \theta$ common in numerator and $\cos \theta$ in denominator:

$$= \sin \theta(1 - 2\sin^2\theta)/[\cos \theta(2\cos^2\theta - 1)]$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now, } 1 - 2\sin^2\theta &= 1 - \sin^2\theta - \sin^2\theta \\ &= \cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta \\ &= \cos^2\theta - (1 - \cos^2\theta) \\ &= 2\cos^2\theta - 1\end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

$$= \sin \theta(2\cos^2\theta - 1)/[\cos \theta(2\cos^2\theta - 1)]$$

$$= \sin \theta/\cos \theta$$

$$= \tan \theta$$

$$= \text{RHS } \checkmark$$

Hence Proved

⚠️ COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID:

✗ Mistake 1: Confusing reciprocal and quotient relations

- Wrong: $\tan A = \cos A / \sin A$
- Correct: $\tan A = \sin A / \cos A$
- **Remember:** Tan = Top/Touch (Perpendicular/Base)

✗ Mistake 2: Not memorizing the standard angle table

- This table is CRUCIAL - you MUST memorize it!
- Practice writing it 20 times before exam

✗ Mistake 3: Identity confusion

- Wrong: $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 2$
- Correct: $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$
- Wrong: $1 + \tan^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A$
- Correct: $1 + \tan^2 A = \sec^2 A$

✗ Mistake 4: Calculation with $\sqrt{\quad}$

- Wrong: $1/\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}$
- Correct: $1/\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}/2$ (rationalize!)
- Wrong: $(\sqrt{3}/2)^2 = 3/2$
- Correct: $(\sqrt{3}/2)^2 = 3/4$

✗ Mistake 5: Forgetting to rationalize denominators

- Wrong: Final answer = $1/\sqrt{3}$
- Correct: Rationalize = $\sqrt{3}/3$
- Always rationalize unless question says otherwise

✗ Mistake 6: Using calculator values instead of exact values

- Wrong: $\sin 30^\circ = 0.5$
- Correct: $\sin 30^\circ = 1/2$ (keep in fraction form)

- Use exact values from table, not decimals!

✗ **Mistake 7:** Pythagoras theorem errors

- Wrong: Base = Hypotenuse + Perpendicular
- Correct: Hypotenuse² = Base² + Perpendicular²

✗ **Mistake 8:** Not simplifying final answer

- Always simplify fractions: $\frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$
- Always simplify radicals: $\sqrt{50} = 5\sqrt{2}$

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100 EXAM STRATEGY & TIME MANAGEMENT

Question Type	Marks	Time	Strategy
Finding one ratio from another	2	2-3 min	Draw triangle, use Pythagoras, find all sides, calculate ratio
Evaluating standard angles	2	2 min	Use memorized table values, simplify carefully
Simple identity proof	3	4-5 min	Take LHS or RHS, use identities, show all steps clearly
Angle finding problems	3	3-4 min	Match with table values, form equations, solve
Complex identity proof	5	7-8 min	Convert to sin/cos, use all three identities, simplify step-by-step
Application problems	3-5	5-7 min	Draw diagram, identify ratios, apply formulas, verify answer

Time Allocation Tips:

- **Read carefully:** Identify what's given and what to find (30 sec)
- **For identities:** Decide which side (LHS/RHS) is easier to simplify
- **Show ALL steps:** Even small steps get marks!
- **Use standard table:** Don't calculate $\sin 45^\circ$ - use $1/\sqrt{2}$ directly
- **Box final answer:** Make it clearly visible
- **Verify if time permits:** Substitute values to check identities
- **Practice speed:** Solve 50+ problems before exam

IMPORTANT FORMULAS - QUICK REFERENCE

1. SIX TRIGONOMETRIC RATIOS

$$\sin A = P/H \quad \cos A = B/H \quad \tan A = P/B$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} A = H/P \quad \sec A = H/B \quad \cot A = B/P$$

2. RECIPROCAL RELATIONS

$$\sin A = 1/\operatorname{cosec} A \quad \cos A = 1/\sec A \quad \tan A = 1/\cot A$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} A = 1/\sin A \quad \sec A = 1/\cos A \quad \cot A = 1/\tan A$$

3. QUOTIENT RELATIONS

$$\tan A = \sin A/\cos A \quad \cot A = \cos A/\sin A$$

4. THREE FUNDAMENTAL IDENTITIES

$$\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$$

$$1 + \tan^2 A = \sec^2 A$$

$$1 + \cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A$$

5. DERIVED FORMS

$$\sin^2 A = 1 - \cos^2 A \quad \cos^2 A = 1 - \sin^2 A$$

$$\tan^2 A = \sec^2 A - 1 \quad \sec^2 A - \tan^2 A = 1$$

$$\cot^2 A = \operatorname{cosec}^2 A - 1 \quad \operatorname{cosec}^2 A - \cot^2 A = 1$$



STANDARD ANGLES TABLE (MEMORIZE!)

Angle	0°	30°	45°	60°	90°
sin	0	1/2	1/√2	√3/2	1
cos	1	√3/2	1/√2	1/2	0
tan	0	1/√3	1	√3	∞
cosec	∞	2	√2	2/√3	1
sec	1	2/√3	√2	2	∞
cot	∞	√3	1	1/√3	0



LAST MINUTE REVISION CHECKLIST

Theory to Remember:

- All 6 trigonometric ratios - definitions
- Standard angles table - write 20 times!
- Three fundamental identities - write 10 times!
- Reciprocal and quotient relations
- How to derive one ratio from another
- Pythagoras theorem application

Quick Checks Before Writing Answer:

- Did I write the formula first?
- Are my standard angle values correct?
- Did I rationalize the denominator?
- Did I simplify square roots?
- Have I shown all steps?
- Is final answer boxed/highlighted?
- Did I verify using both sides (for identities)?

Common Question Types:

- Find all ratios if one ratio is given
- Evaluate expressions using standard angles
- Prove trigonometric identities
- Find angles using table values
- Express one ratio in terms of another
- Solve right triangle problems
- Simplify trigonometric expressions

Before Exam:

- Practice 100+ problems (minimum!)

- Solve last 5 years' board questions
- Time yourself - 2-8 min per question
- Memorize table - test yourself 10 times
- Revise all three identities and proofs
- Go through common mistakes list
- Practice identity proofs (20+ problems)
- Review all example problems



EXPERT TIPS FOR SCORING FULL MARKS

How to Score 100% in Trigonometry:

- **1. Memorize perfectly:** Standard angles table must be at your fingertips
- **2. Formula first:** Always write the formula before substituting
- **3. Show ALL working:** Every single step matters for marks
- **4. Draw diagrams:** For word problems, draw right triangle
- **5. Rationalize always:** Unless specifically told not to
- **6. Simplify completely:** Don't leave $\sqrt{32}$, write $4\sqrt{2}$
- **7. For identities:** Show clear progression from one side to other
- **8. Use correct notation:** $\sin^2 A$ not $(\sin A)^2$
- **9. Box final answer:** Make it stand out clearly
- **10. Verify if time permits:** Substitute values to check
- **11. Practice daily:** 30 minutes minimum for 30 days
- **12. Learn from mistakes:** Maintain error log

PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR SELF-ASSESSMENT

Section A: 2 Marks Questions

1. If $\sin A = 4/5$, find $\cos A$ and $\tan A$.
2. Evaluate: $\sin^2 30^\circ + \cos^2 30^\circ$
3. If $\tan \theta = 1/\sqrt{3}$, find the value of $\operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta - \sec^2 \theta$.
4. Evaluate: $(\cos 45^\circ)/(\sec 30^\circ + \operatorname{cosec} 30^\circ)$
5. If $5 \tan \theta = 4$, find $(5 \sin \theta - 3 \cos \theta)/(5 \sin \theta + 2 \cos \theta)$

Section B: 3 Marks Questions

6. Prove that: $\sin^2 A/(1 - \cos A) = 1 + \cos A$
7. If $\sec \theta + \tan \theta = p$, show that $\sin \theta = (p^2 - 1)/(p^2 + 1)$
8. Evaluate: $(\tan 60^\circ + 1)/(\tan 60^\circ - 1)$
9. If $\sin(A + B) = 1$ and $\cos(A - B) = 1$, find A and B .
10. Express $\tan A$ in terms of $\sin A$.

Section C: 5 Marks Questions

11. Prove that: $\sqrt{[(1 + \sin A)/(1 - \sin A)]} = \sec A + \tan A$
12. Prove that: $(1 + \tan^2 A)/(1 + \cot^2 A) = (1 - \tan A)/(1 - \cot A)^2 = \tan^2 A$
13. Prove that: $(\sin A - \cos A + 1)/(\sin A + \cos A - 1) = 1/(\sec A - \tan A)$
14. If $\cos \theta + \sin \theta = \sqrt{2} \cos \theta$, show that $\cos \theta - \sin \theta = \sqrt{2} \sin \theta$
15. Prove that: $(\operatorname{cosec} A - \sin A)(\sec A - \cos A) = 1/(\tan A + \cot A)$



ADDITIONAL PRACTICE - MIXED QUESTIONS

Practice Q1: Prove that: $(1 + \cot A - \operatorname{cosec} A)(1 + \tan A + \sec A) = 2$

Hint: Expand and use identities $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$

Practice Q2: If $\tan A + \sin A = m$ and $\tan A - \sin A = n$, show that $m^2 - n^2 = 4\sqrt{mn}$

Hint: Use $(a + b)^2 - (a - b)^2 = 4ab$

Practice Q3: In a right triangle ABC, right-angled at B, if $\tan A = 1/\sqrt{3}$, find the value of:

- (i) $\sin A \cos C + \cos A \sin C$
- (ii) $\cos A \cos C - \sin A \sin C$

Hint: First find angle A from table, then find angle C

Practice Q4: Prove that: $\sin^6 A + \cos^6 A = 1 - 3\sin^2 A \cos^2 A$

Hint: Use $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)^3 - 3ab(a + b)$

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