

Solving Trig Equations with the Pythagorean Identities (3.12) HW

For questions #1-6, find the solutions in the interval $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$. Then, find an expression that represents ALL solutions.

1. $\csc^2 \theta + \csc \theta - 2 = 0$

4. $2 \cos^2 \theta + 3 \sin \theta - 3 = 0$

2. $2 \sin^2 \theta = 2 + \cos \theta$

5. $\csc^2 \theta + \cot \theta = 1$

3. $\sec^2 \theta + 2 \tan \theta = 0$

6. $\sqrt{2} \cos \theta \sin \theta = \sin \theta$

In questions #8 and 9, write an expression that represents all zero(s) of the given function.

7. $f(x) = \sin^2 x + \cos x + 1$

8. $g(\theta) = 1 + \tan^2 \theta$

9. Let $f(x) = \sec^2 x$. Find an expression for all input values that yield an output value of 1 for this function.

10. Which one of the following is equivalent to $(\sin \theta + \cos \theta)^2 + (\sin \theta - \cos \theta)^2$?

- A) 1
- B) 2
- C) $-2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$
- D) $4 \sin \theta \cos \theta$

11. Which one of the following is equivalent to $(2 + \tan \theta)^2 + (1 - 2 \tan \theta)^2$?

- A) 5
- B) $-5 \tan \theta$
- C) $5 \sec^2 \theta$
- D) $-5 \csc^2 \theta$

12. Which one of the following is equivalent to $(2 - \csc \theta)(2 + \csc \theta)$?

- A) $5 + \cot^2 \theta$
- B) $3 - \cot^2 \theta$
- C) $-4 \cot^2 \theta$
- D) $\cot^2 \theta - 5$

The way we write our answer when asked for “all solutions” is weird. The point of #13 and #14 is to make sure we understand how to interpret these answers.

13. Sharon solves a trigonometric equation and states “All solutions are of the form $\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3} + \pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{6} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.” What are the four smallest positive values of θ that solve Sharon’s equation?

14. Sujay solves a trigonometric equation and states “All solutions are of the form $\theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2} k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.” Find all values of θ in the interval $-\pi \leq \theta < \pi$ that are solutions to Sujay’s equation.

Solving Trig Equations with the Pythagorean Identities (3.12) HW Solutions

- $\csc^2 \theta + \csc \theta - 2 = 0$
 $(\csc \theta + 2)(\csc \theta - 1) = 0$
 $\csc \theta + 2 = 0$ or $\csc \theta - 1 = 0$
 $\csc \theta = -2$ or $\csc \theta = 1$
 θ is a third or fourth quadrant angle with reference angle $\frac{\pi}{6}$ or θ corresponds with a point on the unit circle with a $\frac{1}{y}$ value of 1.
The solutions in $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ are $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{6}$ or $\theta = \frac{11\pi}{6}$ or $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$.
All solutions are of the form $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{6} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{11\pi}{6} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- $2(1 - \cos^2 \theta) = 2 + \cos \theta$
 $2 - 2\cos^2 \theta = 2 + \cos \theta$
 $0 = 2\cos^2 \theta + \cos \theta$
 $0 = (\cos \theta)(2\cos \theta + 1)$
 $\cos \theta = 0$ or $2\cos \theta + 1 = 0$
 $\cos \theta = 0$ or $\cos \theta = -\frac{1}{2}$
 θ corresponds with a point on the unit circle with x value 0 or θ is a second or third quadrant angle with reference angle $\frac{\pi}{3}$.
The solutions in $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ are $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ or $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ or $\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}$ or $\theta = \frac{4\pi}{3}$.
All solutions are of the form $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{4\pi}{3} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
This can be stated more concisely as $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{4\pi}{3} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- $(1 + \tan^2 \theta) + 2\tan \theta = 0$
 $\tan^2 \theta + 2\tan \theta + 1 = 0$
 $(\tan \theta + 1)(\tan \theta + 1) = 0$
 $\tan \theta + 1 = 0$
 $\tan \theta = -1$
 θ is a second or fourth quadrant angle with reference angle $\frac{\pi}{4}$.
The solutions in $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ are $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4}$ or $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{4}$.
All solutions are of the form $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
This can be stated more concisely as $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4} + \pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- $2(1 - \sin^2 \theta) + 3\sin \theta - 3 = 0$
 $-2\sin^2 \theta + 3\sin \theta - 1 = 0$
 $2\sin^2 \theta - 3\sin \theta + 1 = 0$
 $(2\sin \theta - 1)(\sin \theta - 1) = 0$
 $2\sin \theta - 1 = 0$ or $\sin \theta - 1 = 0$
 $\sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}$ or $\sin \theta = 1$
 θ is a first or second quadrant angle with a reference angle of $\frac{\pi}{6}$ or θ corresponds with a point on the unit circle with y value 1.
The solutions in $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ are $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$ or $\theta = \frac{5\pi}{6}$ or $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$.
All solutions to this equation are of the form $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{5\pi}{6} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- $(1 + \cot^2 \theta) + \cot \theta = 1$
 $\cot^2 \theta + \cot \theta = 0$
 $(\cot \theta)(\cot \theta + 1) = 0$
 $\cot \theta = 0$ or $\cot \theta + 1 = 0$

$$\cot \theta = 0 \text{ or } \cot \theta = -1$$

θ corresponds the points on the unit circle with $\frac{x}{y}$ values of 0 (i.e. an x value of 0) or θ is a second or fourth quadrant angle with reference angle $\frac{\pi}{4}$.

$$\text{The solutions in } 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi \text{ are } \theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ or } \theta = \frac{3\pi}{2} \text{ or } \theta = \frac{3\pi}{4} \text{ or } \theta = \frac{7\pi}{4}$$

All solutions to this equation are of the form $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

This can be stated more concisely as $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4} + \pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$6. \sqrt{2} \cos \theta \sin \theta - \sin \theta = 0$$

$$(\sin \theta)(\sqrt{2} \cos \theta - 1) = 0$$

$$\sin \theta = 0 \text{ or } \sqrt{2} \cos \theta - 1 = 0$$

$$\sin \theta = 0 \text{ or } \cos \theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

θ corresponds with a point on the unit circle with y value 0 or θ is a first or fourth quadrant angle with reference angle $\frac{\pi}{4}$.

$$\text{The solutions in } 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi \text{ are } \theta = 0 \text{ or } \theta = \pi \text{ or } \theta = \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ or } \theta = \frac{7\pi}{4}.$$

All solutions to this equation are of the form $\theta = 0 + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \pi + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

This can be stated more concisely as $\theta = \pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$ or $\theta = \frac{7\pi}{4} + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$7. \sin^2 \theta + \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$(1 - \cos^2 \theta) + \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$-\cos^2 \theta + \cos \theta + 2 = 0$$

$$\cos^2 \theta - \cos \theta - 2 = 0$$

$$(\cos \theta + 1)(\cos \theta - 2) = 0$$

$$\cos \theta + 1 = 0 \text{ or } \cos \theta - 2 = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = -1 \text{ or } \cos \theta = 2$$

$\cos \theta = 2$ is impossible as the output of cosine will never be lower than -1 (x -values on the unit circle are never lower than -1).

$$\cos \theta = -1$$

θ corresponds with a point on the unit circle with x value -1

The only zero in the interval $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ is $\theta = \pi$

All zeros of this function are of the form $\theta = \pi + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$8. 1 + \tan^2 \theta = 0$$

$$\sec^2 \theta = 0$$

$$(\sec \theta)(\sec \theta) = 0$$

$$\sec \theta = 0$$

This is impossible as secant can never have an output value of zero ($\frac{1}{x}$ is never going to be zero).

The given function has no zeros.

$$9. \sec^2 x = 1$$

$$\sec^2 x - 1 = 0$$

$$(\sec x - 1)(\sec x + 1) = 0$$

$$\sec x - 1 = 0 \text{ or } \sec x + 1 = 0$$

$$\sec x = 1 \text{ or } \sec x = -1$$

x corresponds with a point on the unit circle with $\frac{1}{x}$ value 1 or x corresponds with a point on the unit circle with $\frac{1}{x}$ value -1 .

$x = 0 + 2\pi k$ or $x = \pi + 2\pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

This can be stated more concisely as $x = \pi k$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 10. & (\sin \theta + \cos \theta)^2 + (\sin \theta - \cos \theta)^2 \\
 & (\sin^2 \theta + 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta) + (\sin^2 \theta - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta) \\
 & (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta + 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) + (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) \\
 & (1 + 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) + (1 - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) \\
 & 1 + 1 + 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta - 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad = 2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 11. & (2 + \tan \theta)^2 + (1 - 2 \tan \theta)^2 \\
 & (4 + 4 \tan \theta + \tan^2 \theta) + (1 - 4 \tan \theta + 4 \tan^2 \theta) \\
 & 5 + 5 \tan^2 \theta \\
 & 5(1 + \tan^2 \theta) \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad = 5 \sec^2 \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 12. & (2 - \csc \theta)(2 + \csc \theta) \\
 & 4 - \csc^2 \theta \\
 & 4 - (1 + \cot^2 \theta) \\
 & 4 - 1 - \cot^2 \theta \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad = 3 - \cot^2 \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 13. & \theta = \frac{2\pi}{3} + \pi k \text{ represents the solution set } \theta \in \left\{ \dots, -\frac{4\pi}{3}, -\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3}, \frac{8\pi}{3}, \dots \right\} \\
 & \theta = \frac{7\pi}{6} + 2\pi k \text{ represents the solution set } \theta \in \left\{ \dots, -\frac{17\pi}{6}, -\frac{5\pi}{6}, \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{19\pi}{6}, \frac{31\pi}{6}, \dots \right\} \\
 & \text{The four smallest positive solutions are } \left\{ \frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{3}, \frac{8\pi}{3} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 14. & \theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2}(2) = \frac{\pi}{3} + \pi \text{ is outside the given interval} \\
 & \theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2}(1) = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{2\pi}{6} + \frac{3\pi}{6} = \frac{5\pi}{6} \\
 & \theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2}(0) = \frac{\pi}{3} \\
 & \theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2}(-1) = \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{2\pi}{6} - \frac{3\pi}{6} = -\frac{\pi}{6} \\
 & \theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2}(-2) = \frac{\pi}{3} - \pi = \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{3\pi}{3} = -\frac{2\pi}{3} \\
 & \theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{2}(-3) = \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{3\pi}{2} = \frac{2\pi}{6} - \frac{9\pi}{6} = -\frac{7\pi}{6} \text{ is outside the given interval} \\
 & \text{The solutions inside the interval } -\pi \leq \theta < \pi \text{ are } -\frac{2\pi}{3}, -\frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{\pi}{3}, \text{ and } \frac{5\pi}{6}.
 \end{aligned}$$