Trigonometric Identities





A trigonometric identity is a relation between trigonometric expressions which is true for all values of the variables (usually angles). There are a very large number of such identities. In this Section we discuss only the most important and widely used. Any engineer using trigonometry in an application is likely to encounter some of these identities.

Prerequisites

Before starting this Section you should

Learning Outcomes

On completion you should be able to ...

- have a basic knowledge of the geometry of triangles
- use the main trigonometric identities
- use trigonometric identities to combine trigonometric functions



1. Trigonometric identities

An identity is a relation which is always true. To emphasise this the symbol ' \equiv ' is often used rather than '='. For example, $(x+1)^2 \equiv x^2+2x+1$ (always true) but $(x+1)^2 = 0$ (only true for x = -1).



(a) Using the exact values, evaluate $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta$ for (i) $\theta = 30^{\circ}$ (ii) $\theta = 45^{\circ}$ [Note that $\sin^2 \theta$ means $(\sin \theta)^2$, $\cos^2 \theta$ means $(\cos \theta)^2$]

(b) Choose a non-integer value for θ and use a calculator to evaluate $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta$.





One way of proving the result in Key Point 12 is to use the definitions of $\sin \theta$ and $\cos \theta$ obtained from the circle of unit radius. Refer back to Figure 22 on page 23.

Recall that $\cos \theta = OQ$, $\sin \theta = OR = QP$. By Pythagoras' theorem

$$(OQ)^2 + (QP)^2 = (OP)^2 = 1$$

hence $\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$.

We have demonstrated the result (5) using an angle θ in the first quadrant but the result is true for any θ i.e. it is indeed an identity.

HELM (2008): Section 4.3: Trigonometric Identities



By dividing the identity $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta \equiv 1$ by (a) $\sin^2 \theta$ (b) $\cos^2 \theta$ obtain two further identities.

[Hint: Recall the definitions of $\csc \theta$, $\sec \theta$, $\cot \theta$.]



Key Point 13 introduces two further important identities.



Note carefully the addition sign in (6) but the subtraction sign in (7).

Further identities can readily be obtained from (6) and (7). Dividing (6) by (7) we obtain

$$\tan(A+B) \equiv \frac{\sin(A+B)}{\cos(A+B)} \equiv \frac{\sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B}$$

Dividing every term by $\cos A \ \cos B$ we obtain

$$\tan(A+B) \equiv \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$$

Replacing B by -B in (6) and (7) and remembering that $\cos(-B) \equiv \cos B$, $\sin(-B) \equiv -\sin B$ we find

$$\sin(A - B) \equiv \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A - B) \equiv \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$$





Using the identities $\sin(A - B) \equiv \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B$ and $\cos(A - B) \equiv \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$ obtain an expansion for $\tan(A - B)$:

Your solution
Answer
$\tan(A - B) \equiv \frac{\sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B}{\cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B}.$
Dividing every term by $\cos A \ \cos B$ gives
$\tan(A - B) \equiv \frac{\tan A - \tan B}{1 + \tan A \tan B}$

The following identities are derived from those in Key Point 13.





Amplitude modulation

Introduction

Amplitude Modulation (the AM in AM radio) is a method of sending electromagnetic signals of a certain frequency (signal frequency) at another frequency (carrier frequency) which may be better for transmission. Modulation can be represented by the multiplication of the carrier and modulating signals. To **demodulate** the signal the carrier frequency must be removed from the modulated signal.

Problem in words

(a) A single frequency of 200 Hz (message signal) is amplitude modulated with a carrier frequency of 2 MHz. Show that the modulated signal can be represented by the sum of two frequencies at $2 \times 10^6 \pm 200$ Hz

(b) Show that the modulated signal can be demodulated by using a locally generated carrier and applying a low-pass filter.

Mathematical statement of problem

(a) Express the message signal as $m = a \cos(\omega_m t)$ and the carrier as $c = b \cos(u_c t)$.

Assume that the modulation gives the product $mc = ab\cos(u_c t)\cos(\omega_m t)$.

Use trigonometric identities to show that

$$mc = ab\cos(\omega_c t)\cos(u_m t) = k_1\cos((\omega_c - u_m)t) + k_2\cos((\omega_c + u_m)t)$$

where k_1 and k_2 are constants.

Then substitute $\omega_c = 2 \times 10^6 \times 2\pi$ and $\omega_m = 200 \times 2\pi$ to calculate the two resulting frequencies.

(b) Use trigonometric identities to show that multiplying the modulated signal by $b\cos(u_c t)$ results in the lowest frequency component of the output having a frequency equal to the original message signal.

Mathematical analysis

(a) The message signal has a frequency of $f_m = 200$ Hz so $\omega_m = 2\pi f_c = 2\pi \times 200 = 400\pi$ radians per second.

The carrier signal has a frequency of $f_c = 2 \times 10^6$ Hz.

Hence $\omega_c = 2\pi f_c = 2\pi \times 2 \times 10^6 = 4 \times 10^6 \pi$ radians per second.

So $mc = ab\cos(4 \times 10^6 \pi t)\cos(400\pi t)$.

Key Point 13 includes the identity:

 $\cos(A+B) + \cos(A-B) \equiv 2\cos(A)\cos(B)$



Rearranging gives the identity:

$$\cos(A)\cos(B) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos(A+B) + \cos(A-B)) \tag{1}$$

Using (1) with $A = 4 \times 10^6 \pi t$ and $B = 400 \pi t$ gives

$$mc = ab(\cos(4 \times 10^{6}\pi t)\cos(400\pi t))$$

= $ab(\cos(4 \times 10^{6}\pi t + 400\pi t) + \cos(4 \times 10^{6}\pi t - 400\pi t))$
= $ab(\cos(4000400\pi t) + \cos(3999600\pi t))$

So the modulated signal is the **sum of two waves** with angular frequency of 4000400π and 3999600π radians per second corresponding to frequencies of $4000400\pi/(2\pi)$ and $39996000\pi/(2\pi)$, that is 2000200 Hz and 1999800 Hz i.e. $2 \times 10^6 \pm 200$ Hz.

(b) Taking identity (1) and multiplying through by $\cos(A)$ gives

$$\cos(A)\cos(A)\cos(B) \equiv \frac{1}{2}\cos(A)(\cos(A+B) + \cos(A-B))$$

SO

$$\cos(A)\cos(A)\cos(B) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos(A)\cos(A+B) + \cos(A)\cos(A-B))$$
⁽²⁾

Identity (1) can be applied to both expressions in the right-hand side of (2). In the first expression, using A + B instead of 'B', gives

$$\cos(A)\cos(A+B) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos(A+A+B) + \cos(A-A-B)) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos(2A+B) + \cos(B))$$

where we have used $\cos(-B) \equiv \cos(B)$.

Similarly, in the second expression, using A - B instead of 'B', gives

$$\cos(A)\cos(A-B) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos(2A-B) + \cos(B))$$

Together these give:

$$\cos(A)\cos(A)\cos(B) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos(2A+B)+\cos(B)+\cos(2A-B)+\cos(B))$$
$$\equiv \cos(B)+\frac{1}{2}(\cos(2A+B)+\cos(2A-B))$$

With $A = 4 \times 10^6 \pi t$ and $B = 400 \pi t$ and substituting for the given frequencies, the modulated signal multiplied by the original carrier signal gives

$$ab^{2}\cos(4\times10^{6}\pi t)\cos(4\times10^{6}\pi t)\cos(400\pi t) =$$
$$ab^{2}\cos(2\pi\times200t) + \frac{1}{2}ab^{2}(\cos(2\times4\times10^{6}\pi t + 400\pi t) + \cos(2\times4\times10^{6}\pi t - 400\pi t))$$

The last two terms have frequencies of $4\times10^6\pm200$ Hz which are sufficiently high that a low-pass filter would remove them and leave only the term

 $ab^2\cos(2\pi \times 200t)$

which is the original message signal multiplied by a constant term.

Interpretation

Amplitude modulation of a single frequency message signal (f_m) with a single frequency carrier signal (f_c) can be shown to be equal to the sum of two cosines with frequencies $f_c \pm f_m$. Multiplying the modulated signal by a locally generated carrier signal and applying a low-pass filter can reproduce the frequency, f_m , of the message signal.

This is known as double side band amplitude modulation.

Example 2 Obtain expressions for $\cos \theta$ in terms of the sine function and for $\sin \theta$ in terms of the cosine function.

Solution

Using (9) with $A = \theta$, $B = \frac{\pi}{2}$ we obtain $\cos\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \equiv \cos\theta \ \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) + \sin\theta \ \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \equiv \cos\theta \ (0) + \sin\theta \ (1)$ i.e. $\sin\theta \equiv \cos\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \equiv \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$ This result explains why the graph of $\sin\theta$ has exactly the same shape as the graph of $\cos\theta$ but it is shifted to the right by $\frac{\pi}{2}$. (See Figure 29 on page 28). A similar calculation using (6) yields the result

 $\cos\theta \equiv \sin\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{2}\right).$

Double angle formulae

If we put B = A in the identity given in (6) we obtain Key Point 15:







Substitute B = A in identity (7) in Key Point 13 on page 38 to obtain an identity for $\cos 2A$. Using $\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A \equiv 1$ obtain two alternative forms of the identity.

Your solution	
Answer Using (7) with $B \equiv A$	
$\cos(2A) \equiv (\cos A)(\cos A) - (\sin A)(\sin A)$	
$\therefore \cos(2A) \equiv \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$	(13)
Substituting for $\sin^2 A$ in (13) we obtain	
$\cos 2A \equiv \cos^2 A - (1 - \cos^2 A)$	
$\equiv 2\cos^2 A - 1$	(14)
Alternatively substituting for $\cos^2 A$ in (13)	
$\cos 2A \equiv (1 - \sin^2 A) - \sin^2 A$	
$\cos 2A \equiv 1 - 2\sin^2 A$	(15)



Use (14) and (15) to obtain, respectively, $\cos^2 A$ and $\sin^2 A$ in terms of $\cos 2A$.

Your solution	
Answer	1
From (14) $\cos^2 A \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2A).$	From (15) $\sin^2 A \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2A).$



Use (12) and (13) to obtain an identity for $\tan 2A$ in terms of $\tan A$.



Half-angle formulae

If we replace A by $\frac{A}{2}$ and, consequently 2A by A, in (12) we obtain

$$\sin A \equiv 2\sin\left(\frac{A}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{A}{2}\right) \tag{17}$$

Similarly from (13)

$$\cos A \equiv 2\cos^2\left(\frac{A}{2}\right) - 1. \tag{18}$$

These are examples of **half-angle formulae**. We can obtain a half-angle formula for $\tan A$ using (16). Replacing A by $\frac{A}{2}$ and 2A by A in (16) we obtain

$$\tan A \equiv \frac{2\tan\left(\frac{A}{2}\right)}{1-\tan^2\left(\frac{A}{2}\right)} \tag{19}$$

Other formulae, useful for integration when trigonometric functions are present, can be obtained using (17), (18) and (19) shown in the Key Point 16.





Sum of two sines and sum of two cosines

Finally, in this Section, we obtain results that are widely used in areas of science and engineering such as vibration theory, wave theory and electric circuit theory. We return to the identities (6) and (9)

$\sin(A+B)$	\equiv	$\sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$
$\sin(A-B)$	\equiv	$\sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B$

Adding these identities gives

$$\sin(A+B) + \sin(A-B) \equiv 2\sin A \cos B \tag{23}$$

Subtracting the identities produces

$$\sin(A+B) - \sin(A-B) \equiv 2\cos A\sin B \tag{24}$$

It is now convenient to let C = A + B and D = A - B so that

$$A = \frac{C+D}{2}$$
 and $B = \frac{C-D}{2}$

Hence (23) becomes

$$\sin C + \sin D \equiv 2\sin\left(\frac{C+D}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{C-D}{2}\right) \tag{25}$$

Similarly (24) becomes

$$\sin C - \sin D \equiv 2\cos\left(\frac{C+D}{2}\right)\sin\left(\frac{C-D}{2}\right)$$
(26)



Use (7) and (10) to obtain results for the sum and difference of two cosines.

Your solution Answer $\cos(A+B) \equiv \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B \text{ and } \cos(A-B) \equiv \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$ $\therefore \quad \cos(A+B) + \cos(A-B) \equiv 2 \cos A \cos B$ $\cos(A+B) - \cos(A-B) \equiv -2 \sin A \sin B$ Hence with C = A + B and D = A - B $\cos C + \cos D \equiv 2 \cos \left(\frac{C+D}{2}\right) \cos \left(\frac{C-D}{2}\right) \qquad (27)$ $\cos C - \cos D \equiv -2 \sin \left(\frac{C+D}{2}\right) \sin \left(\frac{C-D}{2}\right) \qquad (28)$

Summary

In this Section we have covered a large number of trigonometric identities. The most important of them and probably the ones most worth memorising are given in the following Key Point.



$$\cos^{2} \theta + \sin^{2} \theta \equiv 1$$

$$\sin 2\theta \equiv 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$\cos 2\theta \equiv \cos^{2} \theta - \sin^{2} \theta$$

$$\equiv 2 \cos^{2} \theta - 1$$

$$\equiv 1 - 2 \sin^{2} \theta$$

$$\sin(A \pm B) \equiv \sin A \cos B \pm \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A \pm B) \equiv \cos A \cos B \mp \sin A \sin B$$





A projectile is fired from the ground with an initial speed $u \text{ m s}^{-1}$ at an angle of elevation α° . If air resistance is neglected, the vertical height, y m, is related to the horizontal distance, x m, by the equation

 $y = x \tan \alpha - \frac{g x^2 \sec^2 \alpha}{2u^2}$ where $g \text{ m s}^{-2}$ is the gravitational constant.

[This equation is derived in HELM 34 Modelling Motion pages 16-17.]

(a) Confirm that y = 0 when x = 0:

Your solution

Answer

When y = 0, the left-hand side of the equation is zero. Since x appears in both of the terms on the right-hand side, when x = 0, the right-hand side is zero.

(b) Find an expression for the value of x other than x = 0 at which y = 0 and state how this value is related to the maximum range of the projectile:

Your solution

Answer

When y = 0, the equation can be written $\frac{gx^2 \sec^2 \alpha}{2u^2} - x \tan \alpha = 0$ If x = 0 is excluded from consideration, we can divide through by x and rearrange to give $\frac{gx \sec^2 \alpha}{2u^2} = \tan \alpha$ To make x the subject of the equation we need to multiply both sides by $\frac{2u^2}{g \sec^2 \alpha}$. Given that $1/\sec^2 \alpha \equiv \cos^2 \alpha$, $\tan \alpha \equiv \sin \alpha / \cos \alpha$ and $\sin 2\alpha \equiv 2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha$, this results in $2u^2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha = u^2 \sin 2\alpha$

This represents the maximum range.

(c) Find the value of x for which the value of y would be a maximum and thereby obtain an expression for the maximum height:

Your solution Answer If air resistance is neglected, we can assume that the parabolic path of the projectile is symmetrical about its highest point. So the highest point will occur at half the maximum range i.e. where $x = \frac{u^2 \sin 2\alpha}{2g}$ Substituting this expression for x in the equation for y gives

$$y = \left(\frac{u^2 \sin 2\alpha}{2g}\right) \tan \alpha - \left(\frac{u^2 \sin 2\alpha}{2g}\right)^2 \frac{g \sec^2 \alpha}{2u^2}$$

Using the same trigonometric identities as before,

 $y = \frac{u^2 \sin^2 \alpha}{g} - \frac{u^2 \sin^2 \alpha}{2g} = \frac{u^2 \sin^2 \alpha}{2g}$ This represents the maximum height.

(d) Assuming $u = 20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, $\alpha = 60^{\circ}$ and $g = 10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$, find the maximum value of the range and the horizontal distances travelled when the height is 10 m:

Your solution



Answer

Substitution of u = 20, $\alpha = 60$, g = 10 and y = 10 in the original equation gives a quadratic for x:

 $10 = 1.732x - 0.05x^2 \quad \text{or} \quad 0.05x^2 - 1.732x + 10 = 0$

Solution of this quadratic yields x = 7.33 or x = 27.32 as the two horizontal ranges at which y = 10. These values are illustrated in the diagram below which shows the complete trajectory of the projectile.



Exercises

- 1. Show that $\sin t \sec t \equiv \tan t$.
- 2. Show that $(1 + \sin t)(1 + \sin(-t)) \equiv \cos^2 t$.
- 3. Show that $\frac{1}{\tan \theta + \cot \theta} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta.$
- 4. Show that $\sin^2(A+B) \sin^2(A-B) \equiv \sin 2A \sin 2B$.

(Hint: the left-hand side is the difference of two squared quantities.)

- 5. Show that $\frac{\sin 4\theta + \sin 2\theta}{\cos 4\theta + \cos 2\theta} \equiv \tan 3\theta.$
- 6. Show that $\cos^4 A \sin^4 A \equiv \cos 2A$
- 7. Express each of the following as the sum (or difference) of 2 sines (or cosines)

(a)
$$\sin 5x \cos 2x$$
 (b) $8 \cos 6x \cos 4x$ (c) $\frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{1}{2}x \cos \frac{3}{2}x$

- 8. Express (a) $\sin 3\theta$ in terms of $\cos \theta$. (b) $\cos 3\theta$ in terms of $\cos \theta$.
- 9. By writing $\cos 4x$ as $\cos 2(2x)$, or otherwise, express $\cos 4x$ in terms of $\cos x$.

10. Show that
$$\tan 2t \equiv \frac{2\tan t}{2 - \sec^2 t}$$
.

11. Show that
$$\frac{\cos 10t - \cos 12t}{\sin 10t + \sin 12t} \equiv \tan t.$$

12. Show that the area of an isosceles triangle with equal sides of length x is $\frac{x^2}{2}\sin\theta$

where θ is the angle between the two equal sides. Hint: use the following diagram:





Answers

1.
$$\sin t \sec t \equiv \sin t \cdot \frac{1}{\cos t} \equiv \frac{\sin t}{\cos t} \equiv \tan t$$
.
2. $(1 + \sin t)(1 + \sin(-t)) \equiv (1 + \sin t)(1 - \sin t) \equiv 1 - \sin^2 t \equiv \cos^2 t$
3. $\frac{1}{\tan \theta + \cos \theta} \equiv \frac{1}{\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} + \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}} \equiv \frac{1}{\frac{\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta}{\sin \theta \cos \theta}} \equiv \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta} \equiv \sin \theta \cos \theta \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta$
4. Using the hint and the identity $x^2 - y^2 \equiv (x - y)(x + y)$ we have
 $\sin^2(A + B) - \sin^2(A - B) \equiv (\sin(A + B) - \sin(A - B))(\sin(A + B) + \sin(A - B))$
The first bracket gives
 $\sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B - (\sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B) \equiv 2 \cos A \sin B$
Similarly the second bracket gives $2 \sin A \cos B$.
Multiplying we obtain $(2 \cos A \sin A)(2 \cos B \sin B) \equiv \sin 2A \sin 2B$
5. $\frac{\sin 4\theta + \sin 2\theta}{\cos 4\theta + \cos 2\theta} \equiv \frac{2 \sin 3\theta \cos \theta}{2 \cos 3\theta \cos \theta} \equiv \frac{\sin 3\theta}{\cos 3\theta} \equiv \tan 3\theta$
6.
 $\cos^4 A - \sin^4 A \equiv (\cos A)^4 - (\sin A)^4 \equiv (\cos^2 A)^2 - (\sin^2 A)^2 \pm (\cos^2 A - \sin^2 A)(\cos^2 A + \sin^2 A) \pm \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A (\cos^2 A - \sin^2 A) (\cos^2 A - \sin^2 A) = \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A \equiv \cos 2A$
7. (a) Using $\sin A + \sin B \equiv 2 \sin \left(\frac{A + B}{2}\right) \cos \left(\frac{A - B}{2}\right)$
Clearly here $\frac{A + B}{2} = 5x$ $\frac{A - B}{2} = 2x$ giving $A = 7x$ $B = 3x$
 \therefore $\sin 5x \cos 2x \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\sin 7x + \sin 3x)$
(b) Using $\cos A + \cos B \equiv 2 \cos \left(\frac{A + B}{2}\right) \cos \left(\frac{A - B}{2}\right)$.
With $\frac{A + B}{2} = 6x$ $\frac{A - B}{2} = 4x$ giving $A = 10x$ $B = 2x$
 \therefore 8 cos 6x cos 4x \equiv 4(\cos 6x + \cos 2x)
(c) $\frac{1}{3} \sin \left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) \cos \left(\frac{3x}{2}\right) \equiv \frac{1}{6}(\sin 2x - \sin x)$

Answers

8.

(a)
$$\sin 3\theta = \sin(2\theta + \theta) = \sin 2\theta \cos \theta + \cos 2\theta \sin \theta$$

 $\equiv 2\sin \theta \cos^2 \theta + (\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta) \sin \theta$
 $\equiv 3\sin \theta (1 - \sin^2 \theta) - \sin^3 \theta \equiv 3\sin \theta - 4\sin^3 \theta$
(b) $\cos 3\theta = \cos(2\theta + \theta) \equiv \cos 2\theta \cos \theta - \sin 2\theta \sin \theta$
 $\equiv (\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta) \cos \theta - 2\sin \theta \cos \theta \sin \theta$
 $\equiv \cos^3 \theta - 3\sin^2 \theta \cos \theta$
 $\equiv \cos^3 \theta - 3(1 - \cos^2 \theta) \cos \theta$
 $\equiv 4\cos^3 \theta - 3\cos \theta$
9.
 $\cos 4x = \cos 2(2x) \equiv 2\cos^2(2x) - 1$
 $\equiv 2(2\cos^2 x - 1)^2 - 1$
 $\equiv 2(2\cos^2 x - 1)^2 - 1$
 $\equiv 2(4\cos^4 x - 4\cos^2 x + 1) - 1 \equiv 8\cos^4 x - 8\cos^2 x + 1.$
10. $\tan 2t \equiv \frac{2\tan t}{1 - \tan^2 t} \equiv \frac{2\tan t}{1 - (\sec^2 t - 1)} \equiv \frac{2\tan t}{2 - \sec^2 t}$
11. $\cos 10t - \cos 12t \equiv 2\sin 11t \sin t$ $\sin 10t + \sin 12t \equiv 2\sin 11t \cos(-t)$
 $\therefore \frac{\cos 10t - \cos 12t}{\sin 10t + \sin 12t} \equiv \frac{\sin t}{\cos(-t)} \equiv \frac{\sin t}{\cos t} \equiv \tan t$
12. The right-angled triangle ACD has area $\frac{1}{2}(CD)(AD)$
But $\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \frac{CD}{x}$ $\therefore CD = x\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$
 $\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \frac{AD}{x}$ $\therefore AD = x\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$
 \therefore area of $\Delta ACD = \frac{1}{2}x^2\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4}x^2\sin\theta$
 \therefore area of $\Delta ABC = 2 \times \operatorname{area}$ of $\Delta ACD = \frac{1}{2}x^2\sin\theta$