

Access to Science, Engineering and Agriculture:
Mathematics 1
MATH00030
Chapter 5 Solutions

1. (a) We will first use the fact that the sine function repeats every 2π .

$$\text{Thus } \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{3}\right) = \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{3} - 2\pi\right) = \sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right).$$

We can now use our table of common values and $\sin(-\theta) = -\sin(\theta)$ to obtain

$$\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = -\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}. \text{ Hence } \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{3}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}.$$

- (b) We will first use the fact that the cosine function repeats every 2π .

$$\text{Thus } \cos\left(\frac{11\pi}{6}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{11\pi}{6} - 2\pi\right) = \cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right).$$

We can now use our table of common values and $\cos(-\theta) = \cos(\theta)$ to obtain

$$\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}. \text{ Hence } \cos\left(\frac{11\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}.$$

- (c) Here we will first use the fact that the tangent function repeats every π .

$$\text{Thus } \tan\left(\frac{5\pi}{6}\right) = \tan\left(\frac{5\pi}{6} - \pi\right) = \tan\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right).$$

We can now use our table of common values and $\tan(-\theta) = -\tan(\theta)$ to

$$\text{obtain } \tan\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}. \text{ Hence } \tan\left(\frac{5\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

2. (a) Here we will first use $\sin(\theta) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$.

$$\text{We have } \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = \cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right).$$

Next we will use $\cos(-\theta) = \cos(\theta)$ and our table of common values to obtain

$$\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}. \text{ Hence } \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

- (b) Here we will first use $\cos(\theta) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$.

$$\text{We have } \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = \sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right).$$

Next we will use $\sin(-\theta) = -\sin(\theta)$ and our table of common values to obtain

$$\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}. \text{ Hence } \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

- (c) Here we will first use $\tan(\theta) = \cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$.

$$\text{We have } \tan\left(\frac{5\pi}{6}\right) = \cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{5\pi}{6}\right) = \cot\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right).$$

Next we will use $\cot(-\theta) = -\cot(\theta)$, the definition of cotangent and our table

of common values to obtain $\cot\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = -\cot\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = -\frac{1}{\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$.

Hence $\tan\left(\frac{5\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$.

3. (a) If we solve $a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos(A)$ for $\cos(A)$ we obtain $\cos(A) = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$

and on substituting for a , b and c , $\cos(A) = \frac{5^2 + 4^2 - 6^2}{2(5)(4)} = \frac{1}{8}$.

Hence $A \simeq 82.82^\circ$.

Next, on solving $b^2 = a^2 + c^2 - 2ac \cos(B)$ for $\cos(B)$, we obtain

$\cos(B) = \frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}{2ac}$ and on substituting for a , b and c ,

$\cos(B) = \frac{6^2 + 4^2 - 5^2}{2(6)(4)} = \frac{9}{16}$. Hence $B \simeq 55.77^\circ$.

Now, using the fact that the angles in a triangle sum to 180° , we have $C \simeq 180^\circ - 82.82^\circ - 55.77^\circ \simeq 41.41^\circ$.

- (b) If we solve $a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos(A)$ for $\cos(A)$ we obtain $\cos(A) = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$

and on substituting for a , b and c , $\cos(A) = \frac{5^2 + 3^2 - 5^2}{2(5)(3)} = \frac{3}{10}$.

Hence $A \simeq 72.54^\circ$.

Next, on solving $b^2 = a^2 + c^2 - 2ac \cos(B)$ for $\cos(B)$, we obtain

$\cos(B) = \frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}{2ac}$ and on substituting for a , b and c ,

$\cos(B) = \frac{5^2 + 3^2 - 5^2}{2(5)(3)} = \frac{3}{10}$. Hence we also have $B \simeq 72.54^\circ$.

Note that this also follows since the triangle is an isosceles triangle (it has two equal sides and hence two equal angles).

Now, using the fact that the angles in a triangle sum to 180° , we have $C \simeq 180^\circ - 72.54^\circ - 72.54^\circ \simeq 34.92^\circ$.

- (c) Using the sine rule in the form $\frac{\sin(A)}{a} = \frac{\sin(B)}{b}$, we obtain

$\frac{\sin(A)}{8} = \frac{\sin(44^\circ)}{10}$. Thus $\sin(A) = \frac{8 \sin(44^\circ)}{10} \simeq 0.5557$.

Hence $A \simeq 33.76^\circ$ or $A \simeq 180^\circ - 33.76^\circ = 146.24^\circ$. We now have to decide which of these values is correct. Suppose that $A \simeq 146.24^\circ$. Then the two angles we know add up to approximately $44^\circ + 146.24^\circ = 190.24^\circ$ and this is too many degrees for a triangle. Hence we now know that $A \simeq 33.76^\circ$.

Next, using the fact that the angles in a triangle sum to 180° , we have $C \simeq 180^\circ - 44^\circ - 33.76^\circ \simeq 102.24^\circ$.

Finally we will find c using the cosine rule in the form $c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos(C)$.

We have $c^2 \simeq 8^2 + 10^2 - 2(8)(10) \cos(102.24^\circ) \simeq 197.92$.

Thus $c \simeq \sqrt{197.92} \simeq 14.07$.

Note that in questions like this, where there are a series of calculations which depend on earlier ones, it is important to use full calculator accuracy in the intermediate calculations (even though the answers are only written down to a lower accuracy) since otherwise large rounding errors can occur.

(d) Using the sine rule in the form $\frac{\sin(A)}{A} = \frac{\sin(B)}{b}$, we obtain

$$\frac{\sin(A)}{7} = \frac{\sin(38^\circ)}{12}. \text{ Thus } \sin(A) = \frac{7 \sin(38^\circ)}{12} \simeq 0.3591.$$

Hence $A \simeq 21.05^\circ$ or $A \simeq 180^\circ - 21.05^\circ = 158.95^\circ$. We now have to decide which of these values is correct. Suppose that $A \simeq 158.95^\circ$. Then the two angles we know add up to approximately $38^\circ + 158.95^\circ = 196.95^\circ$ and this is too many degrees for a triangle. Hence we now know that $A \simeq 21.05^\circ$.

Next, using the fact that the angles in a triangle sum to 180° , we have $C \simeq 180^\circ - 38^\circ - 21.05^\circ \simeq 120.95^\circ$.

This time (to show a different method) we will find c using the sine rule in the form $\frac{c}{\sin(C)} = \frac{b}{\sin(B)}$. Hence $c = \frac{b \sin(C)}{\sin(B)} \simeq \frac{12 \sin(120.95^\circ)}{\sin(38^\circ)} \simeq 16.72$.

(e) In this case we can use the cosine rule in the form $a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos(A)$ to obtain $a^2 = 9^2 + 12^2 - 2(9)(12) \cos(133^\circ) \simeq 372.31$. Hence $a \simeq \sqrt{372.31} \simeq 19.30$.

Next, on solving $b^2 = a^2 + c^2 - 2ac \cos(B)$ for $\cos(B)$, we obtain

$$\cos(B) = \frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}{2ac} \text{ and on substituting for } a, b \text{ and } c,$$

$$\cos(B) \simeq \frac{19.30^2 + 12^2 - 9^2}{2(19.30)(12)} \simeq 0.9400. \text{ Hence } B \simeq 19.95^\circ.$$

Finally, using the fact that the angles in a triangle sum to 180° , we have $C \simeq 180^\circ - 133^\circ - 19.95^\circ \simeq 27.05^\circ$.

(f) In this case we can use the cosine in the form $a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos(A)$ to obtain $a^2 = 8^2 + 9^2 - 2(8)(9) \cos(70^\circ) \simeq 95.75$. Hence $a \simeq \sqrt{95.75} \simeq 9.79$.

Next, on solving $b^2 = a^2 + c^2 - 2ac \cos(B)$ for $\cos(B)$, we obtain

$$\cos(B) = \frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}{2ac} \text{ and on substituting for } a, b \text{ and } c,$$

$$\cos(B) \simeq \frac{9.79^2 + 9^2 - 8^2}{2(9.79)(9)} \simeq 0.6401. \text{ Hence } B \simeq 50.20^\circ.$$

Finally, using the fact that the angles in a triangle sum to 180° , we have $C \simeq 180^\circ - 70^\circ - 50.20^\circ \simeq 59.80^\circ$.

4. (a) Here we will use $\sin(A+B) = \sin(A) \cos(B) + \cos(A) \sin(B)$ with $A = \frac{\pi}{4}$ and $B = \frac{\pi}{6}$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{12}\right) &= \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi}{6}\right) \\ &= \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{3} + 1}{2\sqrt{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Here we will use $\sin(A - B) = \sin(A)\cos(B) - \cos(A)\sin(B)$ with $A = \frac{\pi}{6}$ and $B = \frac{\pi}{4}$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned}\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{12}\right) &= \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ &= \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) - \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= \frac{1 - \sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{2}}.\end{aligned}$$

- (c) Here we will use $\cos(A + B) = \cos(A)\cos(B) - \sin(A)\sin(B)$ with $A = \frac{\pi}{4}$ and $B = \frac{\pi}{3}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) &= \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi}{3}\right) \\ &= \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{1 - \sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{2}}.\end{aligned}$$

- (d) Here we will use $\tan(A - B) = \frac{\tan(A) - \tan(B)}{1 + \tan(A)\tan(B)}$ with $A = \frac{\pi}{3}$ and $B = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

$$\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{12}\right) = \frac{\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) - \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)}{1 + \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)} = \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{1 + (\sqrt{3})(1)} = \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{\sqrt{3} + 1}.$$

We can also simplify this as follows:

$$\frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{\sqrt{3} + 1} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{\sqrt{3} - 1} = \frac{3 - 2\sqrt{3} + 1}{3 - 1} = \frac{4 - 2\sqrt{3}}{2} = 2 - \sqrt{3}.$$

I will give full marks for $\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{12}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{\sqrt{3} + 1}$ however.

5. (a) Using $\sin^2(\theta) = \frac{1 - \cos(2\theta)}{2}$ with $\theta = \frac{\pi}{12}$, we have

$$\sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{12}\right) = \frac{1 - \cos\left(2 \times \frac{\pi}{12}\right)}{2} = \frac{1 - \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)}{2} = \frac{1 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{2} = \frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{4}.$$

Hence $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{12}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{4}}$.

(b) Using $\cos^2(\theta) = \frac{1 + \cos(2\theta)}{2}$ with $\theta = \frac{\pi}{8}$, we have

$$\cos^2\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \frac{1 + \cos\left(2 \times \frac{\pi}{8}\right)}{2} = \frac{1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)}{2} = \frac{1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{2} + 1}{2\sqrt{2}}.$$

$$\text{Hence } \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{2} + 1}{2\sqrt{2}}}.$$

(c) Using $\tan^2(\theta) = \frac{1 - \cos(2\theta)}{1 + \cos(2\theta)}$ with $\theta = \frac{\pi}{8}$, we have

$$\tan^2\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \frac{1 - \cos\left(2 \times \frac{\pi}{8}\right)}{1 + \cos\left(2 \times \frac{\pi}{8}\right)} = \frac{1 - \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)}{1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)} = \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} = \frac{\sqrt{2} - 1}{\sqrt{2} + 1}.$$

$$\text{Hence } \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{2} - 1}{\sqrt{2} + 1}}.$$

We can also simplify this as follows:

$$\frac{\sqrt{2} - 1}{\sqrt{2} + 1} = \frac{\sqrt{2} - 1}{\sqrt{2} + 1} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2} - 1}{\sqrt{2} - 1} = \frac{2 - 2\sqrt{2} + 1}{2 - 1} = 3 - 2\sqrt{2},$$

$$\text{so that } \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \sqrt{3 - 2\sqrt{2}}.$$

In fact this can be further simplified to $\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \sqrt{2} - 1$

(it is easy to see $(\sqrt{2} - 1)^2 = 3 - 2\sqrt{2}$ but not the other way around).

I will give full marks for $\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{2} - 1}{\sqrt{2} + 1}}$ however.