

Worksheet: Verifying Trigonometric Identities

Verify each identity below.

1. $\cos x + \sin x \tan x = \sec x$

$$\cos x + \sin x \cdot \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$$

$$\cos x + \frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos x}$$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{\cos x} = \frac{1}{\cos x} = \sec x$$

2. $\sec x - \cos x = \tan x \sin x$

$$\frac{1}{\cos x} - \cos x$$

$$\frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{\cos x}$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos x} = \frac{\sin x}{1} \cdot \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \sin x \cdot \tan x$$

3. $\tan x \csc x \cos x = 1$

$$\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \cdot \frac{1}{\sin x} \cdot \cos x$$

$$\frac{\sin x \cos x}{\cos x \sin x} = 1$$

4. $\sin^2 \theta (1 + \cot^2 \theta) = 1$

$$\sin^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta \cot^2 \theta$$

$$\sin^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$$

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

or

$$\sin^2 \theta (\csc^2 \theta)$$

$$\sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta}$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = 1$$

5. $\frac{1}{\sin t - 1} + \frac{1}{\sin t + 1} = -2 \tan t \sec t$

$$= \frac{1(\sin t + 1) + 1(\sin t - 1)}{(\sin t - 1)(\sin t + 1)}$$

$$= \frac{\sin t + 1 + \sin t - 1}{\sin^2 t - \sin t + \sin t - 1}$$

$$= \frac{2 \sin t}{\sin^2 t - 1} = \frac{2 \sin t}{-\cos^2 t}$$

$$= \frac{2 \sin t}{-\cos t} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos t}$$

$$= -2 \tan t \sec t$$

6. $\frac{\sin t}{\csc t} + \frac{\cos t}{\sec t} = 1$

$$\frac{\sin t}{\frac{1}{\sin t}} + \frac{\cos t}{\frac{1}{\cos t}}$$

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