

Tonight's Class:

• 6.3 Proving Identities

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When we prove identities:

- Step by step, use algebra and/or Basic Identities to change the way either the left-hand side (LHS) or the right-hand side (RHS) looks.
- Think of the "=" sign separating the LHS and RHS as a barrier. Don't take terms from one side of the equals sign to the other.
- When the LHS and the RHS look exactly the same, the identity is proven.

Strategies for Proofs

- Write each step directly below the previous one.
- Don't skip steps - aim to be CLEAR as possible.
- See if there's any factoring you can do, especially GCF or difference of squares.
- Don't cancel anything, unless you have identical factors on the top and bottom of an expression.
- If rational expressions are added/subtracted together, get a common denominator so you can combine the expressions and simplify.
- If possible, substitute known identities to simplify expressions.

If the LHS and RHS look as below, where they are almost reciprocals of each other, multiply one side, top and bottom, by the conjugate of the binomial. Then use a Pythagorean identity to simplify further.

$$\frac{\cos y}{1 - \sin y} = \frac{1 + \sin y}{\cos y} \cdot \frac{1 - \sin y}{1 - \sin y}$$

$$\frac{\cos y}{1 - \sin y} = \frac{1 - \sin^2 y}{\cos y (1 - \sin y)}$$

$$\frac{\cos y}{1 - \sin y} = \frac{\cos^2 y}{\cos y (1 - \sin y)}$$

$$\frac{\cos y}{1 - \sin y} = \frac{\cos y}{1 - \sin y}$$

Try these strategies to prove the identities on the following pages.

Prove

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

$$(\sin x + \cos x)(\sin x + \cos x)$$

$$\sin^2 x + \sin x \cos x + \cos x \sin x + \cos^2 x$$

$$\sin^2 x + 2\sin x \cos x + \cos^2 x$$

$$1 + 2\sin x \cos x$$

$$2. \tan^2 x \sin^2 x - \tan^2 x = -\sin^2 x$$

$$\tan^2 x (\sin^2 x - 1)$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x} (\sin^2 x - 1)$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x} \frac{(\cos^2 x)}{1}$$

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

$$-\sin^2 x$$

$$3. \sec^4 x = \tan^4 x + 2\tan^2 x + 1$$

$$\tan^4 x + 1 + 2\tan^2 x + 1$$

$$\tan^2 x (\tan^2 x + 1) + 1 (\tan^2 x + 1)$$

$$(\sec^2 x)(\sec^2 x)$$

$$\sec^4 x$$

$$4. (3 - 3\sin x)(3 + 3\sin x) = 9\cos^2 x$$

$$9 - 9\sin^2 x - 9\sin x + 9\sin x$$

$$9 - 9\sin^2 x$$

$$9(1 - \sin^2 x)$$

$$9\cos^2 x$$

$$(5xy)^2 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (x+3)^2 \\ \neq x^2 + 3^2 \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (4+3)^2 = 7^2 \\ = 49 \\ 4^2 + 3^2 \\ = 16 + 9 \neq 49 \end{array} \right.$$

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

$$\sin^2 \theta - 1 + \cos^2 \theta = 0$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} & 9 - 9\sin^2 x \\ & 9(1 - \sin^2 x) \\ & 9\cos^2 x \end{aligned}$$

What can help us get more comfortable with math questions?

- Do more of them
- Sleep on it

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**Your Turn**

Prove that  $\frac{\sin 2x}{\cos 2x + 1} = \tan x$  is an identity for all permissible values of  $x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{2\sin x \cos x}{2\cos^2 x + 1} = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \\ & \frac{\cancel{2}\sin x \cancel{\cos x}}{\cancel{2}\cos^2 x} = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \end{aligned}$$

Remember how we get common denominators when we add or subtract fractions:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{4}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{5} + \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{5}{5} \quad \text{LCD} = (5)(4) \\ & = \frac{8}{20} + \frac{15}{20} \\ & = \frac{23}{20} \end{aligned}$$

We use the same method to simplify identities that are rational expressions. This is often helpful when we try to prove an identity.

$$\begin{aligned} 5. \quad & \frac{1}{1+\cos x} + \frac{1}{1-\cos x} = 2\csc^2 x \\ & \frac{(1-\cos x)}{(1-\cos x)} \cdot \frac{1}{(1+\cos x)} + \frac{1}{(1-\cos x)} \cdot \frac{(1+\cos x)}{(1+\cos x)} \\ & \frac{1-\cos x + 1+\cos x}{(1-\cos x)(1+\cos x)} \\ & \frac{2}{1+\cos x-\cos x-\cos^2 x} \\ & \frac{2}{1-\cos^2 x} \\ & \frac{2}{\sin^2 x} \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot \frac{1}{\sin^2 x} \\ & \frac{2}{\sin^2 x} \end{aligned} \quad \csc x = \frac{1}{\sin x}$$

What is a conjugate? How does multiplying by it help?

- The conjugate of a binomial looks exactly like the binomial, except that the sign between the two terms is OPPOSITE from what it is in the original binomial.
- When we multiply an expression, top & bottom, by the conjugate of the binomial that is in the numerator or denominator, we are really multiplying by 1.
- The resulting expression can be written in a different form, by using a Pythagorean Identity.

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5.  $\frac{1}{1+\cos x} + \frac{1}{1-\cos x} = 2 \csc^2 x$

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6.  $\frac{\cos y}{1-\sin y} \cdot \frac{1+\sin y}{1+\sin y} = \frac{1+\sin y}{\cos y}$

$$\frac{\cos y (1+\sin y)}{1+\sin y - \sin y - \sin^2 y} = \frac{\cos y (1+\sin y)}{1-\sin^2 y} = \frac{\cos y (1+\sin y)}{\cos^2 y} = \frac{1+\sin y}{\cos y}$$


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7.  $2 \sec x = \frac{\cos x}{1+\sin x} + \frac{1+\sin x}{\cos x}$

$$2 \left( \frac{1}{\cos x} \right) = \frac{\cos x}{1+\sin x} \cdot \frac{\cos x}{\cos x} + \frac{1+\sin x}{\cos x} \cdot \frac{1+\sin x}{1+\sin x} = \frac{\cos^2 x + (1+\sin x)(1+\sin x)}{(1+\sin x)(\cos x)} = \frac{\cos^2 x + 1 + \sin x + \sin x + \sin^2 x}{(1+\sin x)(\cos x)} = \frac{1 + 1 + 2\sin x}{(1+\sin x)(\cos x)} = \frac{2+2\sin x}{(1+\sin x)(\cos x)} = \frac{2(1+\sin x)}{(1+\sin x)(\cos x)} = \frac{2}{\cos x}$$


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8.  $\frac{\sin x}{1+\cos x} = \frac{1-\cos x}{\sin x}$

$$\frac{\sin x}{1+\cos x} \cdot \frac{1-\cos x}{1-\cos x} = \frac{\sin x (1-\cos x)}{1-\cos^2 x} = \frac{\sin x (1-\cos x)}{1-\cos^2 x} = \frac{\sin x (1-\cos x)}{\sin^2 x} = \frac{1-\cos x}{\sin x}$$