

## Trigonometric Function Differentiation

(1)  $f(x) = \sin x$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x \cosh + \cos x \sinh - \sin x}{h} && \sin(a+b) = \sin a \cos b + \cos a \sin b \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x(\cosh-1) + \cos x \sinh}{h} && \text{Take } \sin x \text{ as a common factor} \\
 &= (\sin x) \left[ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cosh-1}{h} \right] + (\cos x) \left[ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sinh}{h} \right] \\
 &= (\sin x)(0) + (\cos x)(1) = \cos x
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x) = \sin x \Rightarrow f'(x) = \cos x$$

(2)  $f(x) = \cos x$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x+h) - \cos x}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x \cosh - \sin x \sinh - \cos x}{h} && \cos(a+b) = \cos a \cos b - \sin a \sin b \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x(\cosh-1) - \sin x \sinh}{h} && \text{Take } \cos x \text{ as a common factor} \\
 &= (\cos x) \left[ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cosh-1}{h} \right] - (\sin x) \left[ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sinh}{h} \right] \\
 &= (\cos x)(0) - (\sin x)(1) = -\sin x
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x) = \cos x \Rightarrow f'(x) = -\sin x$$

(3)  $f(x) = \tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$

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

$$f(x) = \tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \Rightarrow f'(x) = \sec^2 x$$

$$(4) f(x) = \sec x = \frac{1}{\cos x}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{(\cos x)(0) - 1(-\sin x)}{(\cos x)^2} = \frac{\sin x}{\cos^2 x} = \frac{1}{\cos x} \cdot \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \sec x \tan x$$

$$f(x) = \sec x = \frac{1}{\cos x} \Rightarrow f'(x) = \sec x \tan x$$

$$(5) f(x) = \csc x = \frac{1}{\sin x}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{(\sin x)(0) - 1(\cos x)}{(\sin x)^2} = \frac{-\cos x}{\sin^2 x} = \frac{-1}{\sin x} \cdot \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = -\csc x \cot x$$

$$f(x) = \csc x = \frac{1}{\sin x} \Rightarrow f'(x) = -\csc x \cot x$$

$$(6) f(x) = \cot x = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{(\sin x)(\sin x) - (\cos x)(\cos x)}{(\sin x)^2} = \frac{-\cos^2 x - \sin^2 x}{\sin^2 x} = \frac{-1}{\sin^2 x} = -\csc^2 x$$

$$f(x) = \cot x = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} \Rightarrow f'(x) = -\csc^2 x$$

The table below provides a summary for the basic trigonometric derivatives:

Function	Derivative
$f(x) = \sin x$	$f'(x) = \cos x$
$f(x) = \cos x$	$f'(x) = -\sin x$
$f(x) = \tan x$	$f'(x) = \sec^2 x$
$f(x) = \sec x$	$f'(x) = \sec x \tan x$
$f(x) = \cot x$	$f'(x) = -\csc^2 x$
$f(x) = \csc x$	$f'(x) = -\csc x \cot x$

**Example 1:** Find  $\frac{d}{d\varphi}(\varphi - \sin \varphi)(1 + \cos \varphi)$

Putting  $u = \varphi - \sin \varphi$ ,  $v = 1 + \cos \varphi$

Then  $u' = 1 - \cos \varphi$ ,  $v' = -\sin \varphi$

From the formula  $\frac{d}{d\varphi}(uv) = u'v + uv'$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\varphi}[(\varphi - \sin \varphi)(1 + \cos \varphi)] &= (1 - \cos \varphi)(1 + \cos \varphi) + (\varphi - \sin \varphi)(-\sin \varphi) \\ &= 1 - \cos^2 \varphi - \varphi \sin \varphi + \sin^2 \varphi \\ &= 2 \sin^2 \varphi - \varphi \sin \varphi \quad \left[ \text{using } 1 - \cos^2 \varphi = \sin^2 \varphi \right] \end{aligned}$$

**Note:** if you multiply the brackets out and then differentiate you get

$\frac{d}{d\varphi}(\varphi - \sin \varphi)(1 + \cos \varphi) = \frac{d}{d\varphi}(\varphi + \varphi \cos \varphi - \sin \varphi - \sin \varphi \cos \varphi)$  which involves using the product formula twice, on  $\varphi \cos \varphi$  and  $\sin \varphi \cos \varphi$

**Example 2:** Differentiate the function  $r = \frac{\sin t}{t}$

$u = \sin t$ ,  $v = t \Rightarrow u' = \cos t$ ,  $v' = 1$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{u'v - uv'}{v^2} = \frac{\cos t \times t - \sin t \times 1}{t^2} = \frac{t \cos t - \sin t}{t^2}$$