

## Section 6.4: Radian Measure

Recall that one *radian* is the measure of a central that subtends an arclength of one in a unit circle.

### Converting Between Degrees & Radians

Since  $360^\circ = 2\pi$  rad, we get the following conversion factors:

$$1^\circ = \frac{\pi}{180} \text{ rad} \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \text{ rad} = \left(\frac{180}{\pi}\right)^\circ$$

**Remark:** If an angle doesn't have the degree symbol  $^\circ$  next to it, it is assumed to be in radians!

## Question

If  $\theta$  is an angle of  $-90^\circ$ , then in radians

(a)  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$-90 \cdot \frac{\pi}{180} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

(b)  $\theta = -\pi$

(c)  $\theta = -\frac{2}{\pi}$

(d)  $\theta = -\frac{\pi}{2}$

(e) there's no such thing as a negative angle

## Question

If  $\theta$  is an angle of measure 2, then

(a)  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{90}$

$$\left(2 \cdot \frac{180}{\pi}\right)^\circ = \frac{360}{\pi}^\circ$$

(b)  $\theta = \frac{360^\circ}{\pi}$

(c)  $\theta = \frac{360}{\pi}$

(d)  $\theta = \frac{\pi^\circ}{90}$

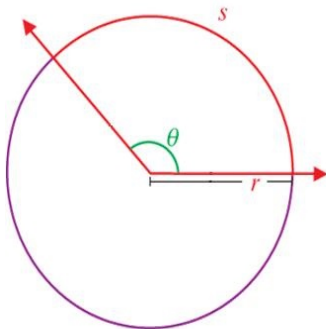
(e) there's no way to know if the given measure is degrees or radians

## Arc Length Formula

Given a circle of radius  $r$ , the length  $s$  of the arc subtended by the (positive) central angle  $\theta$  (**in radians**) is given by

$$s = r\theta.$$

The area of the resulting sector is  $A_{\text{sector}} = \frac{1}{2}r^2\theta$ .



## Motion on a Circle: Angular & Linear Speed

**Definition: (angular speed)** If an object moves along the arc of a circle through a central angle  $\theta$  in the time  $t$ , the angular speed is denoted by  $\omega$  (lower case omega) and is defined by

$$\omega = \frac{\theta}{t} = \frac{\text{angle moved through}}{\text{time}}.$$

**Definition: (linear speed)** If the circle has radius  $r$ , then the distance traveled is the arclength  $s = r\theta$ . The linear speed is denoted by  $\nu$  (lower case nu) and is defined by

$$\nu = \frac{s}{t} = \frac{r\theta}{t} = r\omega.$$

Note that this is distance ( $s$ ) per unit time ( $t$ ).

## Example

A flywheel with a 5 inch radius is rotating at a rate of 2 rotations per minute. What is the linear speed of a point on the rim of the wheel in inches per minute? How far does that point on the rim travel in 30 seconds?

$$\text{Linear speed } v = \frac{s}{t} = \frac{r\theta}{t} = r\omega$$

We know that  $r = 5$  in. The angular speed is given as  $\omega = 2$  rotations per minute.

$$1 \text{ rotation} = 2\pi \text{ radians so}$$

$$2 \text{ rotations} = 2(2\pi) = 4\pi \text{ radians}$$

$$\text{So } \omega = 4\pi \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{min}}$$

The linear speed

$$v = r\omega = (8 \text{ in}) \left( 4\pi \frac{1}{\text{min}} \right) = 20\pi \frac{\text{in}}{\text{min}}$$

Distance = rate times time

We have  $v = 20\pi \frac{\text{in}}{\text{min}}$  and a time  $t = \frac{1}{2} \text{ min}$

Calling the distance  $s$

$$s = vt = 20\pi \frac{\text{in}}{\text{min}} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} \text{ min} \right) = 10\pi \text{ in}$$

## Question

A wheel with a 30 cm radius rotates at a rate of 3 radians/sec. What is the linear speed of a point on its rim, in cm per second?

(a)  $\frac{1}{10}$  cm/sec

(b) 10 cm/sec

(c) 33 cm/sec

(d) 90 cm/sec

(e) can't be determined without more information

$$v = r\omega$$

$$r = 30 \text{ cm}, \quad \omega = 3 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{sec}}$$

$$v = 30 \text{ cm} \left( 3 \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{sec}} \right) = 90 \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{sec}}$$



## Notes on Units

Remember that the formulas for

arclength, sector area, angular speed, & linear speed

are for an angle in **radians**. An angle in degrees must be converted to radians before applying any of these formulas.

**Radians as *units*:** We mentioned that radian measure is not a unit in the traditional sense. This is clear from the relationship

$$s = r\theta.$$

The lengths  $s$  and  $r$  would have the same units making

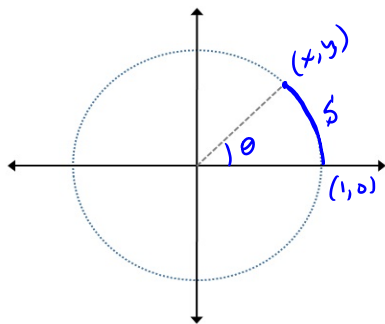
$$\theta = \frac{s}{r} \text{ unitless.}$$

Note then that the units for angular speed are *per time*. For example,  $x$  per second, or  $y$  per hour.

## Section 6.5: Trigonometric Functions of a Real Variable and Their Graphs

Let  $s$  be **any real number**. Then we can equate an arc of the unit circle with  $s$  and consider the point  $(x, y)$  determined by  $s$ . Since the radius  $r = 1$ , the angle  $\theta = s$ . Hence

$$\sin s = y, \quad \cos s = x, \quad \text{and} \quad \tan s = \frac{y}{x}, \quad \text{when } x \neq 0.$$



# Properties of Sine and Cosine

We can deduce some properties from the unit circle interpretation. One property is **periodicity**.

**Definition:** A function  $f$  is said to be **periodic** if there exists a positive constant  $p$  such that

$$f(x + p) = f(x)$$

for every  $x$  in the domain of  $f$ . The smallest such number  $p$  is called the **fundamental period** of the function  $f$ .

Recall that  $f(x + p)$  corresponds to a horizontal shift— $p$  units to the left for  $p > 0$ . Since  $f(x + p) = f(x)$ , the shifted graph must be indistinguishable from the unshifted graph.

## Graph of a Periodic Function

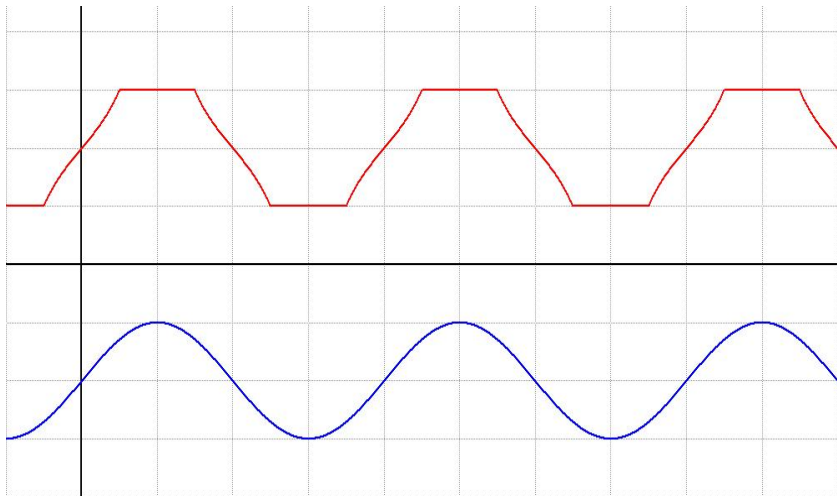


Figure: The profile of a periodic function repeats every  $p$  units.

## Periodicity of Sine and Cosine

The sine and cosine function are periodic with fundamental period  $2\pi$ . That is

$$\cos(s + 2\pi) = \cos s \quad \text{and} \quad \sin(s + 2\pi) = \sin s \quad \text{for all real } s.$$

