

Section 6.3: Angles, Rotations, and Angle Measures

Reference Angles Suppose we want to find the trig values for the angle θ shown. Note that the acute angle (pink) has terminal side through (x, y) , and by symmetry the terminal side of θ passes through the point $(-x, y)$ (same y and opposite sign x).

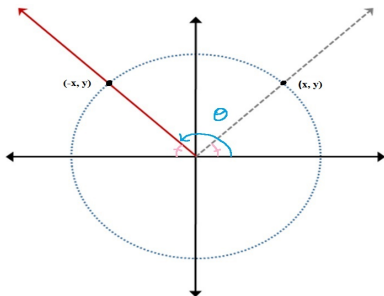
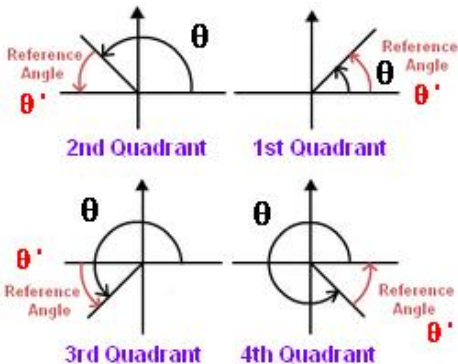


Figure: What is the connection between the trig values for θ and those for the acute angle in pink?

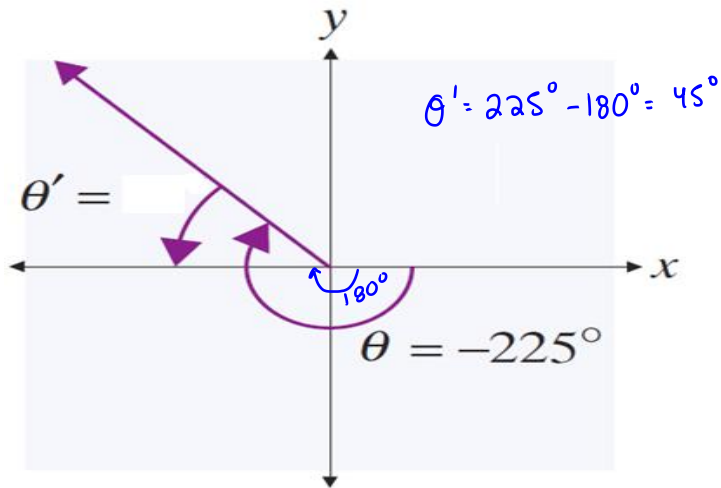
Reference Angles

Definition: Let θ be an angle in standard position. If θ is not a quadrantal angle, then the **reference angle** θ' associated with θ is the angle of measure $0^\circ < \theta' < 90^\circ$ between the terminal side of θ and the *nearest* part of the x-axis.



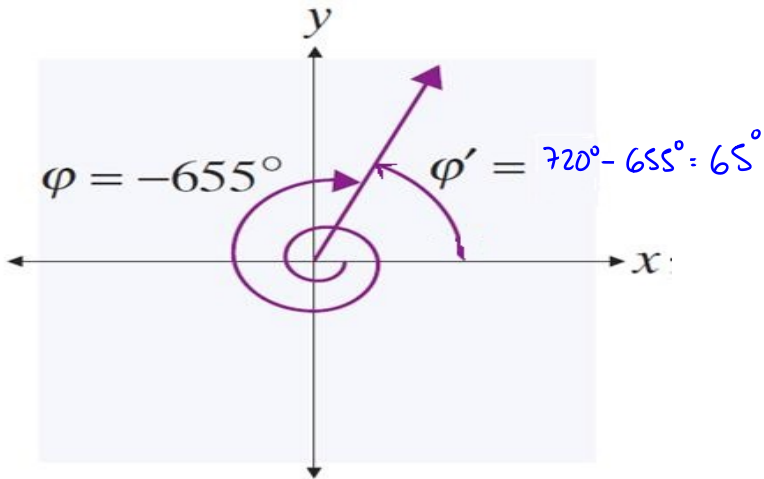
Example (a)

Determine the reference angle.



Example (b)

Determine the reference angle.



Question

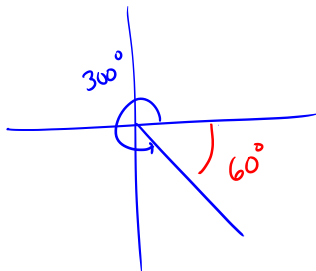
The reference angle for 300° is

(a) -60°

(b) 60°

(c) -30°

(d) 30°



Theorem on Reference Angles

Theorem: If θ' is the reference angle for the angle θ , then

$$\sin \theta' = |\sin \theta|, \quad \cos \theta' = |\cos \theta| \quad \& \quad \tan \theta' = |\tan \theta|.$$

Remark 1: The analogous relationships hold for the cosecant, secant, and cotangent.

Remark 2: This means that the trigonometric values for θ can differ at most by a sign (+ or -) from the values for θ' .

Example: Using Reference Angles

Find the exact value of

if $\theta = 135^\circ$ then $90^\circ < \theta < 180^\circ$

(a) $\sin(135^\circ)$

$$\sin(135^\circ) = \sin(45^\circ)$$

OR

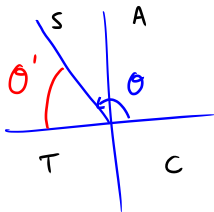
$$\sin(135^\circ) = -\sin(45^\circ)$$

we need to choose the right sign.

135° is a quad II angle

$$\sin(135^\circ) > 0$$

$$\sin(135^\circ) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$



$$\theta' = 180^\circ - 135^\circ = 45^\circ$$

$$\sin(45^\circ) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

Example: Using Reference Angles

Find the exact value of

$$\theta = 210^\circ \quad 180^\circ < \theta < 270^\circ$$

(b) $\cos(210^\circ)$

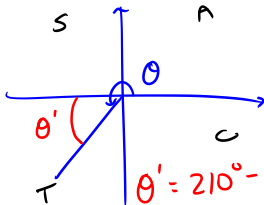
$$\cos(210^\circ) = \cos(30^\circ)$$

OR

$$\cos(210^\circ) = -\cos(30^\circ)$$

In quad III $\cos \theta < 0$

$$\cos(210^\circ) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$



$$\theta' = 210^\circ - 180^\circ = 30^\circ$$

$$\cos(30^\circ) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Question

Suppose θ is an angle such that $270^\circ < \theta < 360^\circ$ and its reference angle θ' satisfies

$$\cos \theta' = \frac{2}{3}.$$

↑
4th quadrant

The secant of θ ,

(a) $\sec \theta = \frac{3}{2}$, and I'm certain

(b) $\sec \theta = \frac{3}{2}$, but I'm not certain

(c) $\sec \theta = -\frac{3}{2}$, and I'm certain

(d) $\sec \theta = -\frac{3}{2}$, but I'm not certain



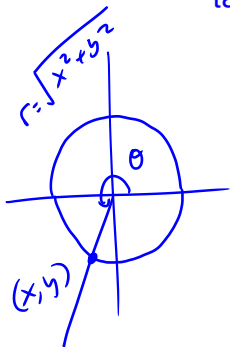
More New Trigonometric Identities

Quotient Identities: For any given θ for which both sides are defined

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} \quad \& \quad \cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}.$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r} \quad \cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} \quad \text{and} \quad \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{y/r}{x/r} = \frac{y}{r} \cdot \frac{r}{x} = \frac{y}{x} = \tan \theta$$



Example

Use the given information to determine the remaining trigonometric values of θ .

$$(a) \quad \sin \theta = \frac{1}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad \cos \theta = -\frac{\sqrt{15}}{4}$$

$$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} = \frac{4}{1} = 4 \qquad \sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta} = -\frac{4}{\sqrt{15}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{1/4}{-\sqrt{15}/4} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{15}}$$

$$\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta} = -\sqrt{15}$$

Question

Suppose we know that $\cos \theta = \frac{2}{\sqrt{13}}$ and $\cot \theta = -\frac{2}{3}$

Which of the following must be true?

(a) θ has terminal side in quadrant 4 ✓ $\cos \theta > 0$ $\cot \theta < 0$
I or IV II or IV

(b) $\sin \theta = -\frac{3}{\sqrt{13}}$ ✓ $\cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \Rightarrow \sin \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\cot \theta}$

(c) for reference angle θ' , $\tan \theta' = \frac{3}{2}$ ✓ $\cot \theta' = |\cot \theta| = \frac{2}{3}$

(d) All of the above are true.

(e) None of the above is true.