

Solving Trig Equations using Sum & Difference Identities Notes

Ex.1 - Solve:

$$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + x\right) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

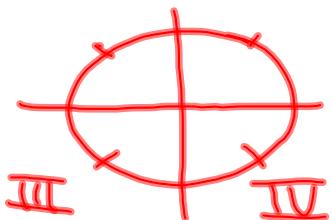


$$(\cos\frac{\pi}{2})\cos x - (\sin\frac{\pi}{2})\sin x = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

- ① expand
- ② substitute
; Simplify
- ③ solve

$$-\sin x = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

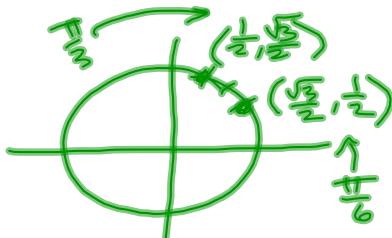
$$\sin x = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$



$$x = \frac{5\pi}{4}, \frac{7\pi}{4}$$

Ex.2 - Solve:

$$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6} + x\right) + \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} + x\right) = 0$$



$$(\cos\frac{\pi}{6})\cos x - (\sin\frac{\pi}{6})\sin x + (\sin\frac{\pi}{3})\cos x + (\cos\frac{\pi}{3})\sin x = 0$$

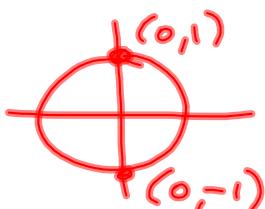
$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\cos x - \frac{1}{2}\sin x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\cos x + \frac{1}{2}\sin x = 0$$

$$2\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\cos x\right) = 0$$

$$\sqrt{3}\cos x = 0$$

$$\cos x = 0$$

$$x = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$$



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Ex.3 - Solve:

$$\sin(\pi - x) = \sqrt{2} - \sin x$$

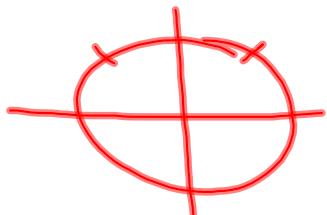


$$\cancel{(\sin \pi) \cos x - (\cos \pi) \sin x} = \sqrt{2} - \sin x$$

$$- (-1) \cdot \sin x$$

$$\sin x = \sqrt{2} - \cancel{\sin x}$$

$$+ \sin x \quad + \cancel{\sin x}$$



$$2 \sin x = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\sin x = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{3\pi}{4}$$

Ex.4 - Solve:

$$\cos\left(x + \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) = 2 \sin^2 x - 3$$



$$\cancel{\cos x \cdot (\cos \frac{3\pi}{2})} - \sin x \cdot \cancel{(\sin \frac{3\pi}{2})} = 2 \sin^2 x - 3$$

↑ ↓
-1

$$\sin x = 2 \sin^2 x - 3$$

$$0 = 2 \sin^2 x - \sin x - 3$$

$$0 = (2 \sin x - 3)(\sin x + 1)$$

$$\cancel{\sin x = \frac{3}{2}}$$

N/A

$$\sin x = -1$$

$$x = \frac{3\pi}{2}$$