

5.1 (cont) Solving Trig Equations

Things to keep in mind

- trig identities • reference triangles/angles
- algebraic solving methods (factoring, quadratic formula, substitution, etc.)
- unit circle • parent graphs
- ~~graph~~ inverse trig functions • domain restrictions

Ex #6 Solve $\sin x + 2 = 3$ over the interval $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$.

$$\sin x + 2 = 3$$

$$\sin x = 1$$

$$x = \sin^{-1} 1$$

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

Ex #7 Solve $\tan^2 x + 3 = 0$ for $x \in [0, 2\pi]$.

$$\tan^2 x + 3 = 0$$

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

$$\tan x = \pm \sqrt{-3}$$

NO solution

Ex #8 Solve $2\cos^2x - \sqrt{3}\cos x = 0$
for $x \in [0^\circ, 360^\circ]$.

$$2\cos^2x - \sqrt{3}\cos x = 0$$

$$\cos x (2\cos x - \sqrt{3}) = 0$$

$$\cos x = 0$$

$$x = \cos^{-1} 0$$

$$\rightarrow x = 90^\circ$$

$$\rightarrow x = 270^\circ$$

$$2\cos x - \sqrt{3} = 0$$

$$2\cos x = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\cos x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$x = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)$$

$$x = 30^\circ, 330^\circ$$

$$x = 90^\circ, 270^\circ, 30^\circ, 330^\circ$$



Ex #9 Solve $\sin^2 x - \sin x = 2$.

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

$$\text{Let } y = \sin x.$$

$$y^2 - y - 2 = 0$$

$$(y - 2)(y + 1) = 0$$

$$y - 2 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad y + 1 = 0$$

$$y = 2$$

$$\sin x = 2$$

$$x = \sin^{-1} 2$$

no solution

$$y = -1$$

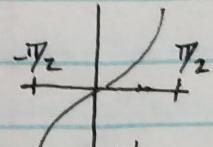
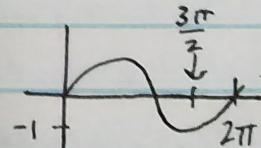
$$\sin x = -1$$

$$x = \sin^{-1}(-1)$$

$$x = -\frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi n$$

also
correct

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



EX #10 Solve $\cos^2 x + \cos x = \sin^2 x$. Give answer in radians.

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

$$\cos^2 x + \cos x = 1 - \cos^2 x$$

$$2\cos^2 x + \cos x - 1 = 0$$

$$\text{Let } y = \cos x.$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2y^2 + y - 1 &= 0 \\ (2y - 1)(y + 1) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$2y - 1 = 0$$

$$2y = 1$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\cos x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$x = \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3}$$

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

$$x = \frac{5\pi}{3} + 2\pi n$$

$$x = \pi + 2\pi n$$

$$y + 1 = 0$$

$$y = -1$$

$$\cos x = -1$$

$$x = \cos^{-1}(-1)$$

$$x = \pi$$

~~for~~

