

4.7 Inverse Trigonometric Functions

1st Hr

Recall that in order for a function to have an inverse function, it must be one-to-one (it must pass the Horizontal Line Test). Therefore, in order for the function, $y = \sin x$ to have an inverse, we must restrict the domain.

When restricting the domain to $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$, the following properties hold.

On the interval $\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$:

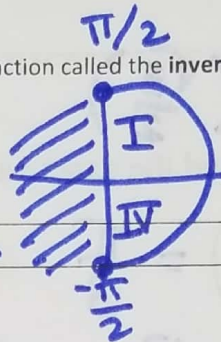
- $y = \sin x$ is increasing.
- The range of $y = \sin x$ is $[-1, 1]$.
- $y = \sin x$ is one-to-one.

* inverse graphs are in textbook Pg. 378-380

So, restricting the domain of $y = \sin x$ to $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ gives a unique function called the **inverse sine function** denoted by

$y = \arcsin x$ or $y = \sin^{-1} x$

find θ between $-\pi/2$ to $\pi/2$



Definition of Inverse Sine Function

The **inverse sine function** is defined by

$$y = \arcsin x \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \sin y = x$$

where $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ and $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq y \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$. The domain of $y = \arcsin x$ is $[-1, 1]$, and the range is $\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$.

The notation $\sin^{-1} x$ is consistent with the inverse function notation $f^{-1}(x)$.

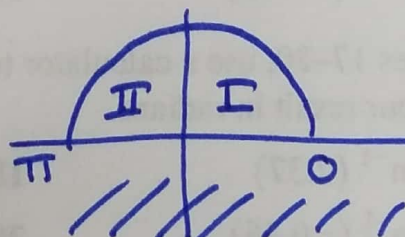
Note that $\sin^{-1} x$ means the inverse sine function and does not mean $\frac{1}{\sin x}$.

The $\arcsin x$ notation is read as “the arcsine of x ” and comes from the association of a central angle with its intercepted *arc length* on a unit circle. In other words, $\arcsin x$ means the angle (or arc) whose sine is x . **Both notations, $\arcsin x$ and $\sin^{-1} x$, mean the same thing and are commonly used in mathematics to find an angle.**

When restricting the domain to $0 \leq x \leq \pi$, the following properties hold.

On the interval $[0, \pi]$:

- $y = \cos x$ is decreasing.
- The range of $y = \cos x$ is $[-1, 1]$.
- $y = \cos x$ is one-to-one.



So, restricting the domain of $y = \cos x$ to $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ gives a unique function called the **inverse cosine function** denoted by

$y = \arccos x$ or $y = \cos^{-1} x$

Similarly, you can define an **inverse tangent function** by restricting the domain of $y = \tan x$ to the interval

$$\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right).$$

Definitions of the Inverse Trigonometric Functions

Function

Domain

Range

$y = \arcsin x$ if and only if $\sin y = x$

$-1 \leq x \leq 1$

$$-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq y \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$y = \arccos x$ if and only if $\cos y = x$

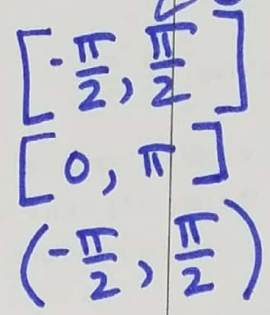
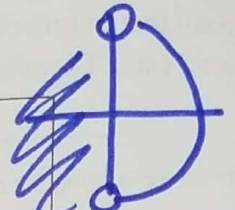
$-1 \leq x \leq 1$

$$0 \leq y \leq \pi$$

$y = \arctan x$ if and only if $\tan y = x$

$-\infty < x < \infty$

$$-\frac{\pi}{2} < y < \frac{\pi}{2}$$



$$\arcsin\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

In Exercises 1–12, find the exact value.

looking for θ in the correct restrictions that has a certain value.

1. $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{3}$

2. $\sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$

3. $\tan^{-1} 0 = 0$

4. $\cos^{-1} 1$

5. $\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{3}$

6. $\tan^{-1} 1$

7. $\tan^{-1}(-1) = -\frac{\pi}{4}$

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

$\sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$

9. $\sin^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = -\frac{\pi}{4}$

10. $\tan^{-1}(-\sqrt{3})$

11. $\cos^{-1} 0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$

12. $\sin^{-1} 1$

HW #2-12 even

In Exercises 13–16, use a calculator to find the approximate value. Express your answer in degrees.

13. $\sin^{-1}(0.362)$

14. $\arcsin 0.67$

15. $\tan^{-1}(-12.5)$

16. $\cos^{-1}(-0.23)$

In Exercises 17–20, use a calculator to find the approximate value. Express your result in radians.

17. $\tan^{-1}(2.37)$

18. $\tan^{-1}(22.8)$

19. $\sin^{-1}(-0.46)$

20. $\cos^{-1}(-0.853)$