

Trig. Equations Needing Identities

June 2015

Question 7

4 marks

Solve the following equation algebraically over the interval  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

$$\cos 2\theta - 3\sin\theta - 2 = 0$$

$$1 - 2\sin^2\theta - 3\sin\theta - 2 = 0$$

$$2\sin^2\theta + 3\sin\theta + 1 = 0$$

$$(2\sin\theta + 1)(\sin\theta + 1) = 0$$

$$\sin\theta = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \sin\theta = -1$$

$$\theta = \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{11\pi}{6}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

January 2015

Question 7

4 marks

Solve the following equation algebraically for  $x$ , where  $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$ .

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

$$2(1 - \sin^2 x) = -3\sin x$$

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

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

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

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

$$\sin x = 2$$

no solutions

$$x = \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{11\pi}{6}$$

June 2014

Question 36

1 mark

Explain the error that was made when solving the following equation:

$$\sin 2\theta = \cos \theta, \text{ where } \theta \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\sin 2\theta = \cos \theta$$

$$2\sin\theta \cos\theta = \cos\theta$$

$$\frac{2\sin\theta \cos\theta}{\cos\theta} = \frac{\cos\theta}{\cos\theta}$$

$$2\sin\theta = 1$$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{6} + 2k\pi, \frac{5\pi}{6} + 2k\pi, k \in \mathbb{I}$$

Do NOT Divide out  $\cos\theta$ .

you are then missing all the answers where  $\cos\theta = 0$ .

Instead you should factor!

January 2014

Question 7

4 marks

Solve the following equation over the interval  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

$$2 \cos 2\theta - 1 = 0$$

$$2(1 - 2\sin^2 \theta) - 1 = 0$$

$$2 - 4\sin^2 \theta - 1 = 0$$

$$-4\sin^2 \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$\sin^2 \theta = +\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\sin \theta = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}, \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{11\pi}{6}$$

June 2013

Question 7

4 marks

Solve the following equation algebraically where  $180^\circ \leq \theta \leq 360^\circ$ .

$$2 \sin^2 \theta + 5 \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$2(1 - \cos^2 \theta) + 5 \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$2 - 2\cos^2 \theta + 5 \cos \theta + 1 = 0$$

$$2\cos^2 \theta - 5 \cos \theta - 3 = 0$$

$$(2\cos \theta + 1)(\cos \theta - 3) = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\cos \theta = 3$$

NO SOLUTIONS

$$\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{4\pi}{3}$$

$$\theta = 120^\circ, 240^\circ$$