

## Exemplar Problem

### Trigonometric Functions

4. If  $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{4}{5}$  and  $\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \frac{5}{13}$ , where  $\alpha$  lie between 0 and  $\pi/4$ , find value of  $\tan 2\alpha$

[Hint: Express  $\tan 2\alpha$  as  $\tan(\alpha + \beta + \alpha - \beta)$ ]

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = 4/5 \dots(i)$$

We know that,

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

Therefore,

$$\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2(\alpha + \beta)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sqrt{1 - (4/5)^2} = 3/5 \dots(ii)$$

Also,

$$\sin(\alpha - \beta) = 5/13 \text{ \{given\}} \dots(iii)$$

we know that,

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

Therefore,

$$\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2(\alpha - \beta)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos(\alpha - \beta) = \sqrt{1 - (5/13)^2} = 12/13 \dots(iv)$$

Therefore,

$$\tan 2\alpha = \tan(\alpha + \beta + \alpha - \beta)$$

We know that,

$$\begin{aligned} \tan(x + y) &= \frac{\tan x + \tan y}{1 - \tan x \tan y} \\ &= \frac{\tan(\alpha + \beta) + \tan(\alpha - \beta)}{1 - \tan(\alpha + \beta) \tan(\alpha - \beta)} \\ \therefore \tan 2\alpha &= \frac{\frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}{\cos(\alpha + \beta)} + \frac{\sin(\alpha - \beta)}{\cos(\alpha - \beta)}}{1 - \frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}{\cos(\alpha + \beta)} \times \frac{\sin(\alpha - \beta)}{\cos(\alpha - \beta)}} \\ \Rightarrow \tan 2\alpha &= \frac{\frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta) \cos(\alpha - \beta) + \sin(\alpha - \beta) \cos(\alpha + \beta)}{\cos(\alpha + \beta) \cos(\alpha - \beta)}}{1 - \frac{\sin(\alpha + \beta) \sin(\alpha - \beta)}{\cos(\alpha + \beta) \cos(\alpha - \beta)}} \end{aligned}$$

From equation i, ii, iii and iv we have,

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow \tan 2\alpha &= \frac{\frac{3}{5} + \frac{5}{12}}{1 - \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{5}{12}} \\
&= \frac{\frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{12}}{1 - \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{5}{12}} \\
&= \frac{\frac{9+5}{12}}{1 - \frac{15}{48}} \\
\Rightarrow \tan 2\alpha &= \frac{14}{12 \left( \frac{33}{48} \right)} \\
&= \frac{56}{33}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\tan 2\alpha = 56/33$