

Exemplar Problem

Trigonometric Functions

21. If $\cos(\theta + \phi) = m \cos(\theta - \phi)$, then prove that $\tan \theta = \frac{(1 - m)}{(1 + m)} \cot \phi$

[Hint: Express $\cos(\theta + \phi)/\cos(\theta - \phi) = m/1$ and apply Componendo and Dividendo] Solution:

According to the question,

$$\cos(\theta + \phi) = m \cos(\theta - \phi)$$

$$\therefore \frac{\cos(\theta + \phi)}{\cos(\theta - \phi)} = \frac{m}{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\cos(\theta - \phi)}{\cos(\theta + \phi)} = \frac{1}{m}$$

Applying componendo – dividendo, we get,

$$\frac{\cos(\theta - \phi) + \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\cos(\theta - \phi) - \cos(\theta + \phi)} = \frac{1 + m}{1 - m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\cos(\theta - \phi) + \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\cos(\theta - \phi) - \cos(\theta + \phi)} = \frac{1 + m}{1 - m}$$

From transformation formula, we know that,

$$\cos(A + B) + \cos(A - B) = 2 \cos A \cos B$$

$$\cos(A - B) - \cos(A + B) = 2 \sin A \sin B$$

$$\frac{2 \cos \theta \cos \phi}{2 \sin \theta \sin \phi} = \frac{1 + m}{1 - m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{\sin \theta \sin \phi} = \frac{1 + m}{1 - m}$$

Since, $\frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} = \cot \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \cot \theta \cot \phi = \frac{1 + m}{1 - m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1 - m}{1 + m}\right) \cot \phi = \frac{1}{\cot \theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta = \left(\frac{1 - m}{1 + m}\right) \cot \phi$$