

Trigonometry, McKeague, 6th edition
 Homework Proof

5.3 #53

Prove: $\frac{1-\tan x}{1+\tan x} = \frac{1-\sin(2x)}{\cos(2x)}$.

Start with:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1-\tan x}{1+\tan x} \\ &= \frac{1 - \left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right)}{1 + \left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right)} = \frac{\frac{\cos x}{\cos x} - \left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right)}{\frac{\cos x}{\cos x} + \left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right)} = \frac{\frac{\cos x - \sin x}{\cos x}}{\frac{\cos x + \sin x}{\cos x}} \\ &= \frac{\cos x - \sin x}{\cos x} \cdot \frac{\cos x}{\cos x + \sin x} \\ &= \frac{\cos x - \sin x}{\cos x + \sin x} \end{aligned}$$

Now this is a problem. I don't have any identities to use here.

I need squares to get some possibilities for identities.

One way to make squares is multiple by the conjugate.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\cos x - \sin x}{\cos x + \sin x} \cdot \left(\frac{\cos x - \sin x}{\cos x - \sin x} \right) \quad \text{The "fancy one" keeps the expression equivalent still.} \\ &= \frac{\cos^2 x - 2 \sin x \cos x + \sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x - \sin^2 x} \quad \text{The result of FOILING. Note all the squares and identities.} \\ &= \frac{1 - 2 \sin x \cos x}{\cos(2x)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\frac{1-\tan x}{1+\tan x} = \frac{1-\sin(2x)}{\cos(2x)}$.