

Find set of all possible values of a in $[-\pi, \pi]$ such that $\sqrt{\frac{1-\sin a}{1+\sin a}} \leq \sec a - \tan a$

Solution.

1. Rewrite the equation in the form

$$\sqrt{\frac{1-\sin a}{1+\sin a}} = \frac{1-\sin a}{\cos a} \quad (1)$$

2. Describe the set of allowed values of a .

$$\frac{1-\sin a}{1+\sin a} \geq 0, \quad (2)$$

$$1+\sin a \neq 0, \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{1-\sin a}{\cos a} \geq 0, \quad (4)$$

$$\cos a \neq 0. \quad (5)$$

3. Solve the equation (1).

Squaring both parts

$$\frac{1-\sin a}{1+\sin a} = \frac{(1-\sin a)^2}{(\cos a)^2},$$

taking out common multiple

$$(1-\sin a)\left(\frac{1-\sin a}{\cos^2 a} - \frac{1}{1+\sin a}\right) = 0,$$

and reducing to the same denominator

$$(1-\sin a)\left(\frac{1-\sin^2 a - \cos^2 a}{\cos^2 a(1+\sin a)}\right) = 0$$

we have

$$(1-\sin a) \cdot 0 = 0.$$

So, the values of a satisfying requirements (2)-(5) are solutions of the equation (1).

4. Solve (2)-(5).

We have

$$\sin a \neq -1 \Rightarrow a \neq -\frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k, k \in \mathbb{Z},$$

$$\cos a \neq 0 \Rightarrow a \neq \pm\frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k,$$

$$\cos a > 0 \Rightarrow a \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k, \frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k\right).$$

So,

$$a \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k, \frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi k\right).$$

5. Finally taking in mind that $a \in [-\pi, \pi]$ we get $k = 0$ and $a \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$.

Answer: $a \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$.