

Task. Prove

$$\cot(a - b) - \tan(a - b) = \frac{2 \sin 2a}{\sin 2a + \sin 2b}$$

Proof. This identity is not correct. For instance let $a = \frac{\pi}{3}$ and $b = \frac{\pi}{6}$. Then

$$a - b = \frac{\pi}{6},$$

$$\cot(a - b) = \sqrt{3}, \quad \tan(a - b) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}},$$

$$\sin 2a = \sin \frac{2\pi}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \quad \sin 2b = \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2},$$

so

$$\cot(a - b) - \tan(a - b) = \sqrt{3} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{3 - 1}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}},$$

while

$$\frac{2 \sin 2a}{\sin 2a + \sin 2b} = \frac{2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = 1 \neq \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

Notice that the left hand side can be simplified as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \cot(a - b) - \tan(a - b) &= \frac{\cos(a - b)}{\sin(a - b)} - \frac{\sin(a - b)}{\cos(a - b)} = \frac{\cos^2(a - b) - \sin^2(a - b)}{\sin(a - b) \cos(a - b)} = \\ &= \frac{2 \cos 2(a - b)}{2 \sin(a - b) \cos(a - b)} = \frac{2 \cos 2(a - b)}{2 \sin(a - b) \cos(a - b)} = \\ &= \frac{2 \cos 2(a - b)}{\sin 2(a - b)} = 2 \cot 2(a - b). \end{aligned}$$