

Answer on Question #52550 – Math – Trigonometry

What is the actual value of $\arcsin(12/13) + \arcsin(4/5) + \arcsin(1)$. Show the process using $\arcsin x + \arcsin y$ formula?

Using formula for the first two it comes $\pi - \arcsin(56/65)$ then $+ \arcsin 1$ which is $\pi/2$. So the final result is $3\pi/2 - \arcsin(56/65)$. And if i don't write $\pi/2$ instead of $\arcsin 1$, then the result is $\pi - \arcsin(56/65) + \arcsin 1 = \pi + \arcsin(33/65)$ using formula for $\arcsin x - \arcsin y$. i m lil bit confused which one is correct ? is there any use of principal value

The calculator shows its approximately 210 degree , means its a third quadrant angle .

Normally we know $\arcsin x + \arcsin y = \arcsin [x\sqrt{1-y^2} + y\sqrt{1-x^2}]$. But if we use this , the answer comes $\arcsin(56/65) + \pi/2$, which does not match with the calculator result . So is there any regulation for $\arcsin x + \arcsin y$ formula and is it applicable for $(\arcsin x + \arcsin y) < \pi/2$????

Solution

$$\sin^{-1} x + \sin^{-1} y = \begin{cases} \sin^{-1} (x\sqrt{1-y^2} + y\sqrt{1-x^2}); & x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \text{ or } x^2 + y^2 > 1, xy < 0 \\ \pi - \sin^{-1} (x\sqrt{1-y^2} + y\sqrt{1-x^2}); & x^2 + y^2 > 1, 0 < x, y \leq 1 \\ -\pi - \sin^{-1} (x\sqrt{1-y^2} + y\sqrt{1-x^2}); & x^2 + y^2 > 1, -1 < x, y \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sin^{-1} \frac{12}{13} + \sin^{-1} \frac{4}{5} &= \left| \left(\frac{12}{13} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5} \right)^2 > 1, 0 < \frac{12}{13}, \frac{4}{5} \leq 1 \right| = \pi - \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{4}{5} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{12}{13} \right)^2} + \frac{12}{13} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{4}{5} \right)^2} \right) \\ &= \pi - \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{4}{13} + \frac{36}{65} \right) = \pi - \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{56}{65} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\pi - \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{56}{65} \right) + \sin^{-1} 1 = \frac{3\pi}{2} - \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{56}{65} \right) \approx 210^\circ.$$

But it really equals

$$\pi + \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{36}{65} \right) \approx 210^\circ.$$

So, you saw just trigonometric identity, not a mistake!