

Section 2: Differentiating trigonometric functions

Crucial points

1. Remember that the derivative results rely on measuring x in radians

Example: Differentiate $y = \sin x^\circ$

✗ Wrong $\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos x^\circ$

✓ Right $y = \sin \frac{\pi}{180} x, \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\pi}{180} \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{180} x \right) = \frac{\pi}{180} \cos x^\circ$