

Let $f(x) = \tan x$. A $(\frac{\pi}{3}, \sqrt{3})$ is a point that lies on the graph of

a) Given that $\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$ find $f'(x)$

b) Show that $f'(\frac{\pi}{3}) = 4$

c) Find the equation of the normal to the curve $y = f(x)$ at the point A

d) Show that the normal crosses the y axis at $\sqrt{3} + \frac{\pi}{12}$

a) $f(x) = \tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$

This is a quotient so we need to use the Quotient Rule

$$f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{h(x)g'(x) - h'(x)g(x)}{[h(x)]^2}$$

$$g(x) = \sin x \Rightarrow g'(x) = \cos x$$

$$h(x) = \cos x \Rightarrow h'(x) = -\sin x$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\cos x \cos x - (-\sin x)\sin x}{[\cos x]^2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x}$$

From the formula booklet, we know
 $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x \equiv 1$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x}$$

You may write this answer as

$$f'(x) = \sec^2 x$$

b) $f'(\frac{\pi}{3}) = \frac{1}{(\cos \frac{\pi}{3})^2}$

$$\cos \frac{\pi}{3} = \cos 60^\circ = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$f'(\frac{\pi}{3}) = \frac{1}{(\frac{1}{2})^2} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{4}} = 4$$

c) Gradient of the tangent = 4

$$\text{Gradient of normal} = -\frac{1}{\text{gradient of tangent}}$$

$$\text{Gradient of the normal} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

Equation of the normal

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}x + c$$

$$\left(\frac{\pi}{3}, \sqrt{3}\right)$$

When $x = \frac{\pi}{3}, y = \sqrt{3}$

$$\sqrt{3} = -\frac{1}{4}\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) + c$$

$$\sqrt{3} = -\frac{\pi}{12} + c$$

$$\sqrt{3} + \frac{\pi}{12} = c$$

Equation of the normal

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}x + \sqrt{3} + \frac{\pi}{12}$$

d) Hence the y intercept = $\sqrt{3} + \frac{\pi}{12}$