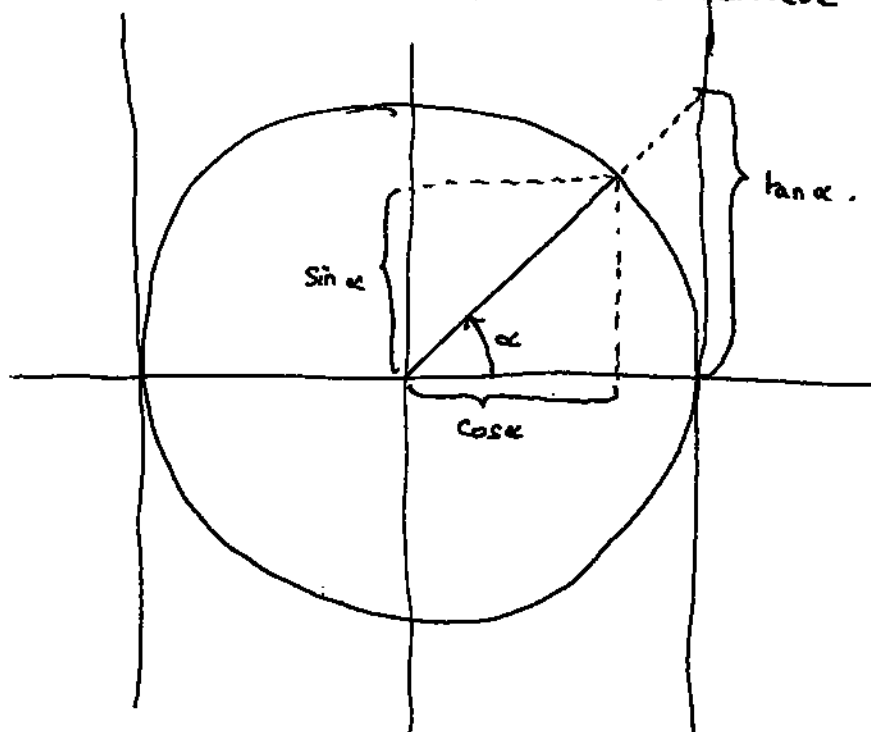


Table of values you should know concerning trigonometric functions;

angle	0	$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$
cos	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
sin	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	1
tan	0	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$	1	$\sqrt{3}$	$+\infty$

How to understand them, and to retrieve them?



You should mainly remember the angles:

$$\alpha = 0, \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{2} \quad (\text{ordered})$$

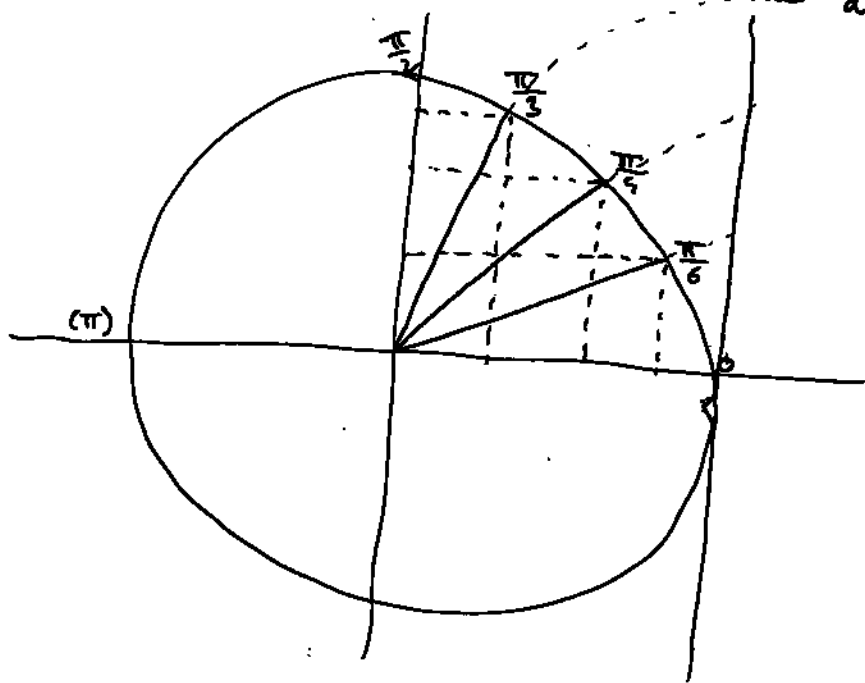
(because  $\frac{1}{6} < \frac{1}{4} < \frac{1}{3} < \frac{1}{2}$ ).

then the possible values for sin and cos:

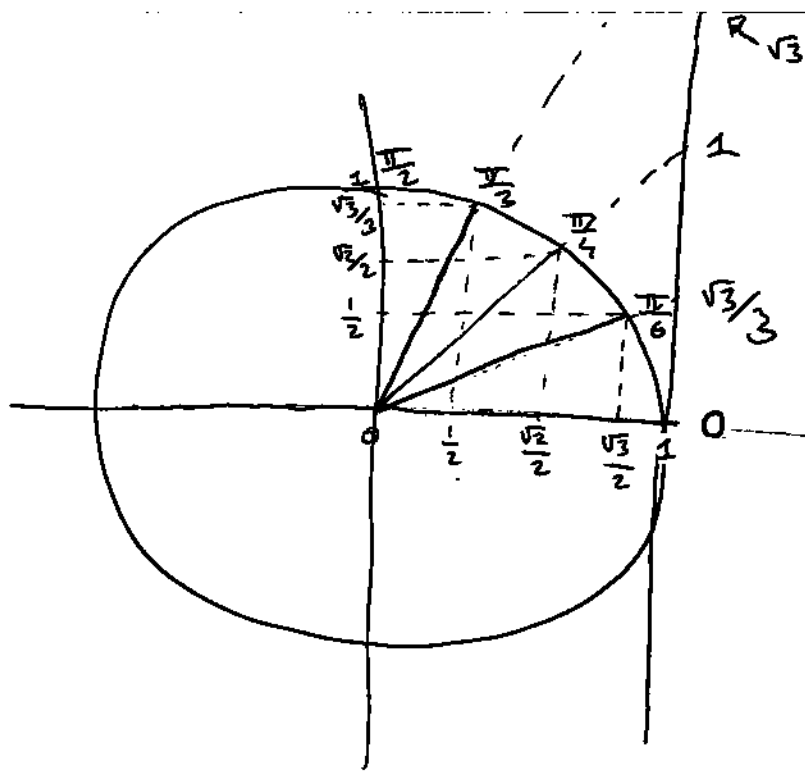
$$0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 1, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \quad (\text{ordered}).$$

and for tan:  $0, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}, 1, \sqrt{3}$ . (because  $1 < \sqrt{2} < \sqrt{3}$ ).

On the circle, you write the angles:



You project them on both axis, and you write  $0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 1$  in order:



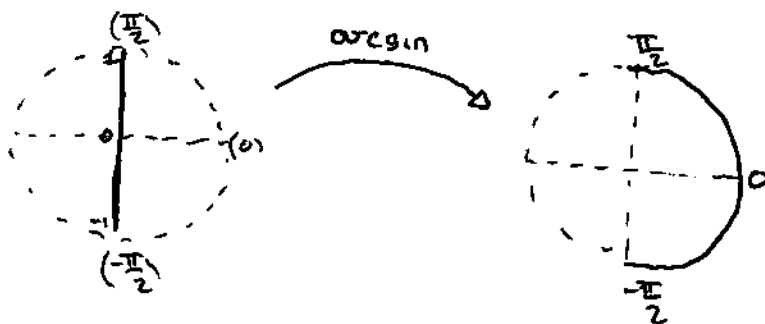
Do not be shy, and if you have to retrieve the value of a cosine or a sine, sketch this circle to help you.

Alternatively,  $\tan \alpha = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}$ , so you can find it back knowing  $\sin$  and  $\cos$ .

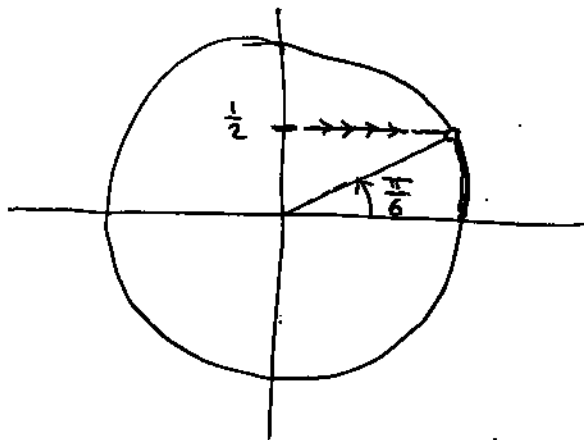
What about arcsin and arccos?

Sin: "angle"  $\rightsquigarrow$  "sin, read on vertical axis"

arcsin: "vertical axis"  $\rightsquigarrow$  "angle = length of arc"  
 $[-1, 1]$ .



So,  $\arcsin(\frac{1}{2})$  is read as follows:



and in general:

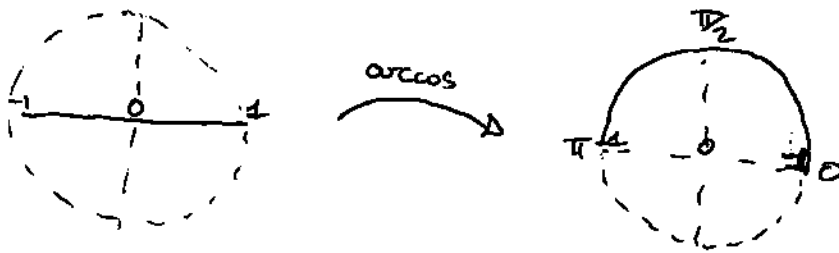
$$\begin{aligned} \arcsin(-1) &= -\frac{\pi}{2} \\ \arcsin(-\frac{1}{2}) &= -\frac{\pi}{6} \\ \arcsin(0) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \arcsin(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) &= \frac{\pi}{3} \\ \arcsin(1) &= \frac{\pi}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

cos: "angle"  $\xrightarrow{\quad}$  "horizontal axis"

arccos: "horizontal axis"  $\xrightarrow{\quad}$  "angle"  
axis  
[-1, 1]



and in general:

$$\arccos(-1) = \pi$$

$$\arccos\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = \pi - \frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

$$\arccos(0) = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\arccos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$\arccos(1) = 0$$

etc...