

These identities are not extremely difficult to prove, but let's set that aside and understand what is going on.

The set of functions on an interval  $[a, b]$  has a version of dot product, called inner product

Let  $f(t)$  and  $g(t)$  be two functions defined on  $[a, b]$   
Their inner product is

$$f \cdot g = \langle f, g \rangle = \int_a^b f(t)g(t) dt$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Compare: } \vec{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n) \\ \vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \end{array} \quad \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i \right\}$$

Two functions are called orthogonal on  $[a, b]$  if  $f \cdot g = 0$

$$\text{That is, } f, g \text{ orthogonal} \iff \int_a^b f(t)g(t) dt = 0$$

So we are saying

$$\langle \cos mt, \cos nt \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \\ \pi & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$$

$$\langle \sin mt, \sin nt \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \\ \pi & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$$

$$\langle \cos mt, \sin nt \rangle = 0 \text{ always.}$$

Where the fundamental period is  $2\pi$ .