

You only need one inverse trigonometric operation, say  $\sin^{-1}$ :

- $\cos^{-1} x = \frac{\pi}{2} - \sin^{-1} x$ ;
- $\tan^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \right)$ ;
- $\cot^{-1} x = \frac{\pi}{2} - \tan^{-1} x = \frac{\pi}{2} - \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \right)$ ;
- $\sec^{-1} x = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)$ ;
- $\csc^{-1} x = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)$ .

Another important fact is that

$$\cos(\sin^{-1} x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2};$$

using this (and  $\sin(\sin^{-1} x) = x$ ), you can get an expression for any trigonometric operation applied to an inverse sine. Combined with the rules in the earlier list above, along with the cofunction identities ( $\cos(\pi/2 - \theta) = \sin \theta$  etc), you can get an expression for any trigonometric operation applied to any inverse trigonometric operation.

For example, what is  $\cot(\sec^{-1} x)$ ? It is

$$\begin{aligned} \cot(\sec^{-1} x) &= \cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right) = \tan\left(\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right) = \frac{\sin\left(\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right)}{\cos\left(\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right)} \\ &= \frac{1/x}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^2}} = \frac{1/x}{\sqrt{\frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2}}} = \frac{1/x}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}/|x|} = \frac{|x|}{x\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} = \frac{|x|\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}{x(x^2 - 1)}. \end{aligned}$$

(If  $x > 0$ , then this simplifies to  $\sqrt{x^2 - 1}/(x^2 - 1)$ .) This is about as complicated as it can get.