

This thesis introduces, compares and connects five various definitions of sine and cosine; elementary school definition by means of ratios of side lengths of right triangles, secondary school definition by means of the coordinates of points on the unit circle and higher education definition by means of power series, by means of angle addition and subtraction theorems and a limit and by means of Euler's formula. Furthermore, the thesis comments on the definitions of sine and cosine presented in elementary education and secondary education textbooks. Besides, the thesis mentions some applications of sine and cosine and it gives also a brief look at the history of trigonometry.