

2.2A Trigonometric Ratios of Any Angle

In Mathematics 1201, you applied the primary trigonometric ratios to angles between 0° and 90° . We will now explore angles between 0° and 360° using coordinates and reference angles.

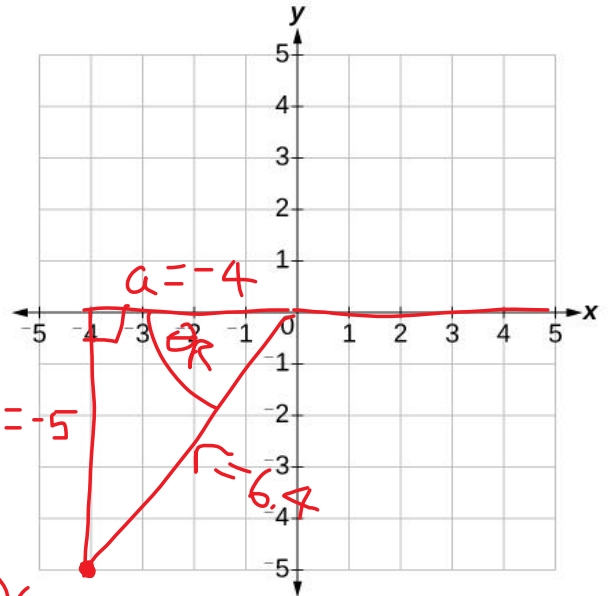
Example 1:

- (A) Plot the given point $P(-4, -5)$.
What quadrant does this point lie in?

Q III

- (B) Construct the corresponding angle in standard position.

- (C) Drop a perpendicular to the x -axis creating a right triangle. Which value represents the adjacent side? Which value represents the opposite side?



- (D) How can you determine the exact length of the hypotenuse?

Pythagorean Theorem

$$(-4)^2 + (-5)^2 = r^2 \quad \sqrt{r^2} = \sqrt{41}$$

$$16 + 25 = r^2 \quad r = 6.4$$

$$41 = r^2$$

- (E) State the cosine, sine and tangent ratios associated with the angle.

$$\cos \theta = \frac{-4}{6.4} \quad \sin \theta = \frac{-5}{6.4} \quad \tan \theta = \frac{-5}{-4}$$

$$\cos \theta = -0.6250 \quad \sin \theta = -0.7813 \quad \tan \theta = 1.2500$$

- (F) What determines the sign of the ratio? Explain your reasoning.

The adjacent and opposite sides determine the sign of the ratio. The terminal arm, r , will always be positive.

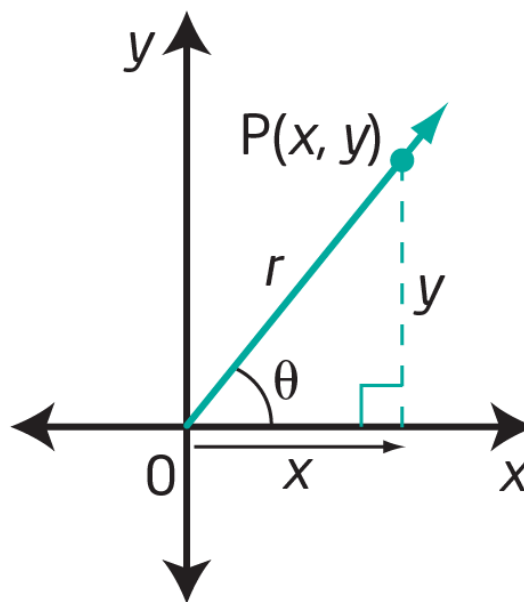
In Section 2.1, we learned the relationship between an **angle in standard position** and its corresponding **reference angle**. We then looked at the trigonometric ratios of special angles in the first quadrant. In this section we will explore trigonometric ratios of any angle and how they relate to a reference angle and the angle in standard position.

Finding Trigonometric Ratios of Any Angle, θ

Suppose θ is any angle in standard position, and $P(x, y)$ is any point on its terminal arm at a distance r from the origin.

Then by Pythagorean Theorem:

$$\begin{aligned}r^2 &= x^2 + y^2 \\ \sqrt{r^2} &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}\end{aligned}$$



You can then use a reference angle to determine the three primary trigonometric ratios in terms of x , y , and r .

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

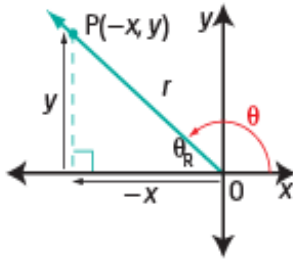
$$\tan \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$$

The following chart summarizes the signs of the trigonometric ratios in each quadrant.

Quadrant II
 $90^\circ < \theta < 180^\circ$

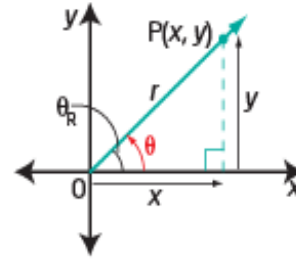
$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \frac{y}{r} & \cos \theta &= \frac{-x}{r} & \tan \theta &= \frac{y}{-x} \\ \sin \theta &> 0 & \cos \theta &< 0 & \tan \theta &< 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\theta = 180^\circ - \theta_R$$

Quadrant I
 $0^\circ < \theta < 90^\circ$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \frac{y}{r} & \cos \theta &= \frac{x}{r} & \tan \theta &= \frac{y}{x} \\ \sin \theta &> 0 & \cos \theta &> 0 & \tan \theta &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

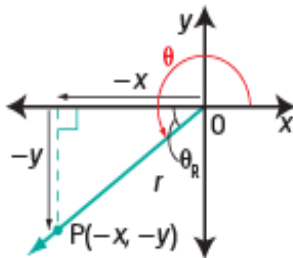


$$\theta = \theta_R$$

Why is r always positive?

Quadrant III
 $180^\circ < \theta < 270^\circ$

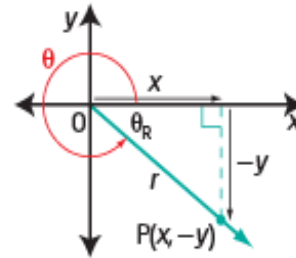
$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \frac{-y}{r} & \cos \theta &= \frac{-x}{r} & \tan \theta &= \frac{-y}{-x} \\ \sin \theta &< 0 & \cos \theta &< 0 & \tan \theta &> 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\theta = 180^\circ + \theta_R$$

Quadrant IV
 $270^\circ < \theta < 360^\circ$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \frac{-y}{r} & \cos \theta &= \frac{x}{r} & \tan \theta &= \frac{-y}{x} \\ \sin \theta &< 0 & \cos \theta &> 0 & \tan \theta &< 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\theta = 360^\circ - \theta_R$$

Example 2:

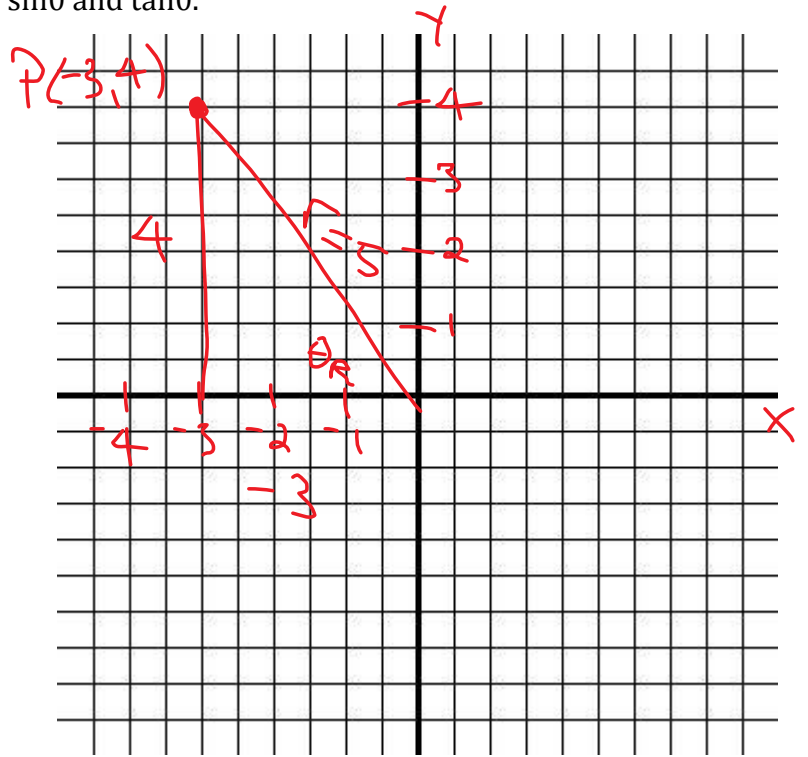
The point $P(-3, 4)$ lies on the terminal arm of an angle, θ , in standard position. Determine the exact trigonometric ratio for $\cos\theta$, $\sin\theta$ and $\tan\theta$.

Pythagorean Triples
3-4-5 triangle

$$\cos\theta = -\frac{3}{5}$$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{4}{-3} = -\frac{4}{3}$$

**Example 3:**

The point $P(-8, -15)$ lies on the terminal arm of an angle, θ , in standard position. Determine the exact trigonometric ratio for $\cos\theta$, $\sin\theta$ and $\tan\theta$.

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{(-8)^2 + (-15)^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{64 + 225}$$

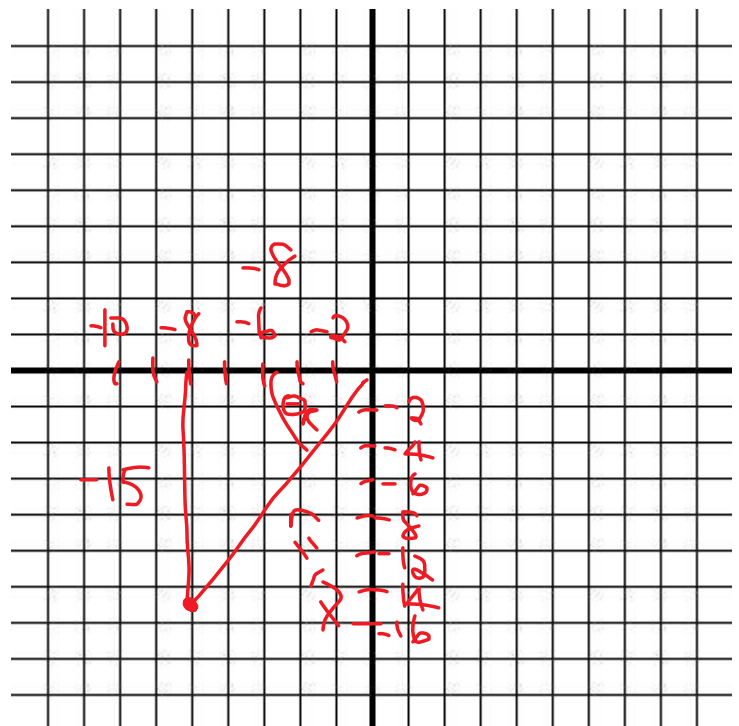
$$r = \sqrt{289}$$

$$r = 17$$

$$\cos\theta = -\frac{8}{17}$$

$$\sin\theta = -\frac{15}{17}$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{-15}{-8} = \frac{15}{8}$$

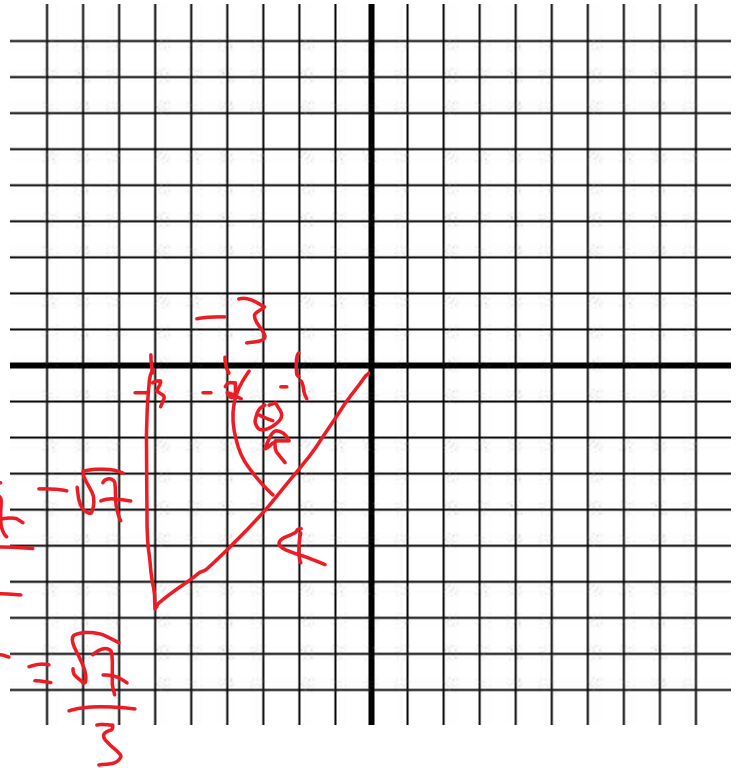


Example 4:

Suppose θ is an angle in standard position with terminal arm in quadrant III and $\cos\theta = -\frac{3}{4}$. What are the exact values of $\sin\theta$ and $\tan\theta$?

$$\begin{aligned} \cos\theta &= -\frac{3}{4} \quad a && h \\ x^2 + y^2 &= r^2 \\ (-3)^2 + y^2 &= (4)^2 \\ 9 + y^2 &= 16 \\ y^2 &= 16 - 9 \\ y^2 &= 7 \\ \sqrt{y^2} &= \sqrt{7} \\ y &= \sqrt{7} \end{aligned}$$

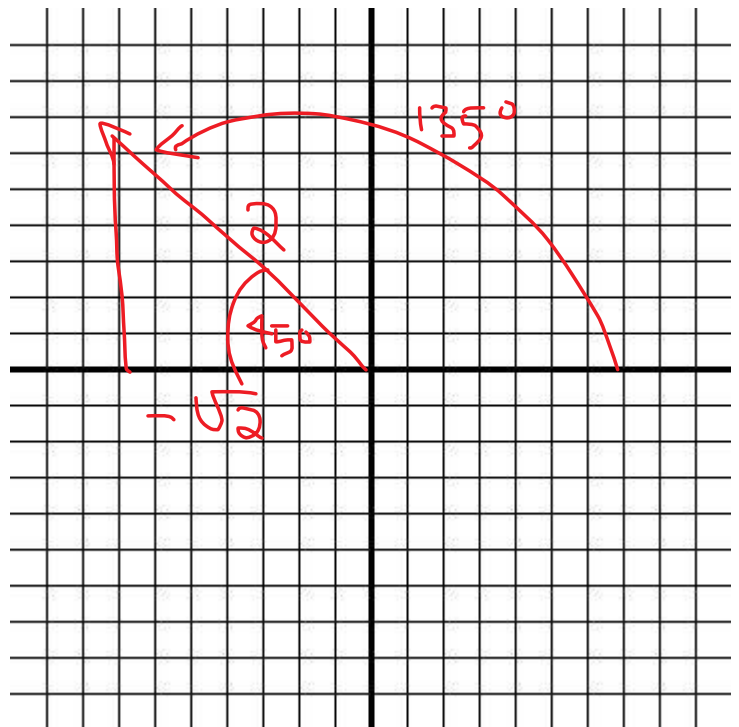
$$\begin{aligned} \sin\theta &= \frac{-\sqrt{7}}{4} \\ \tan\theta &= \frac{-\sqrt{7}}{-3} = \frac{\sqrt{7}}{3} \end{aligned}$$

**Example 5:**

Determine the exact value of $\cos 135^\circ$.

$$\theta_R = 180^\circ - 135^\circ = 45^\circ$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos 45^\circ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \quad \frac{\text{adj}}{\text{hyp}} \\ \cos 135^\circ &= -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

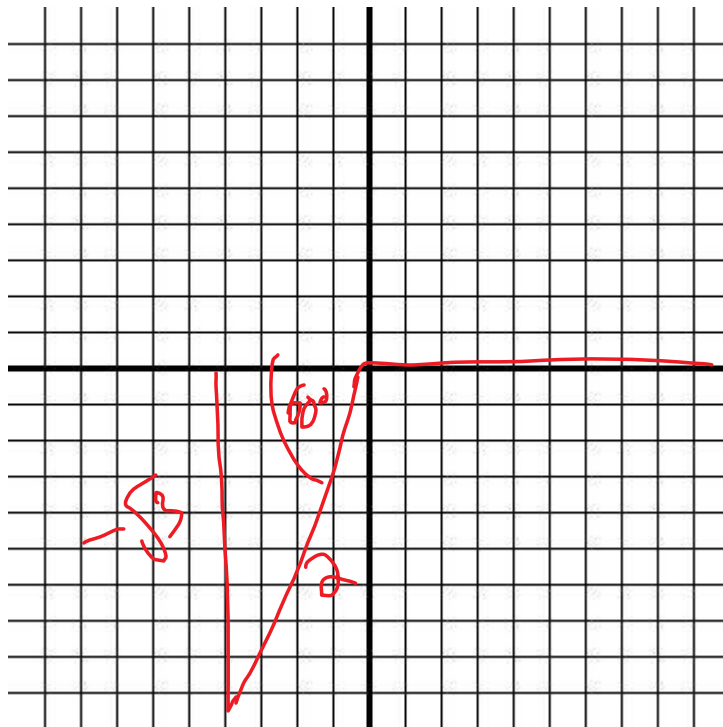


Example 6:

Determine the exact value of $\sin 240^\circ$.

$$\sin 60^\circ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{opp} \\ \text{hyp} \end{array}$$

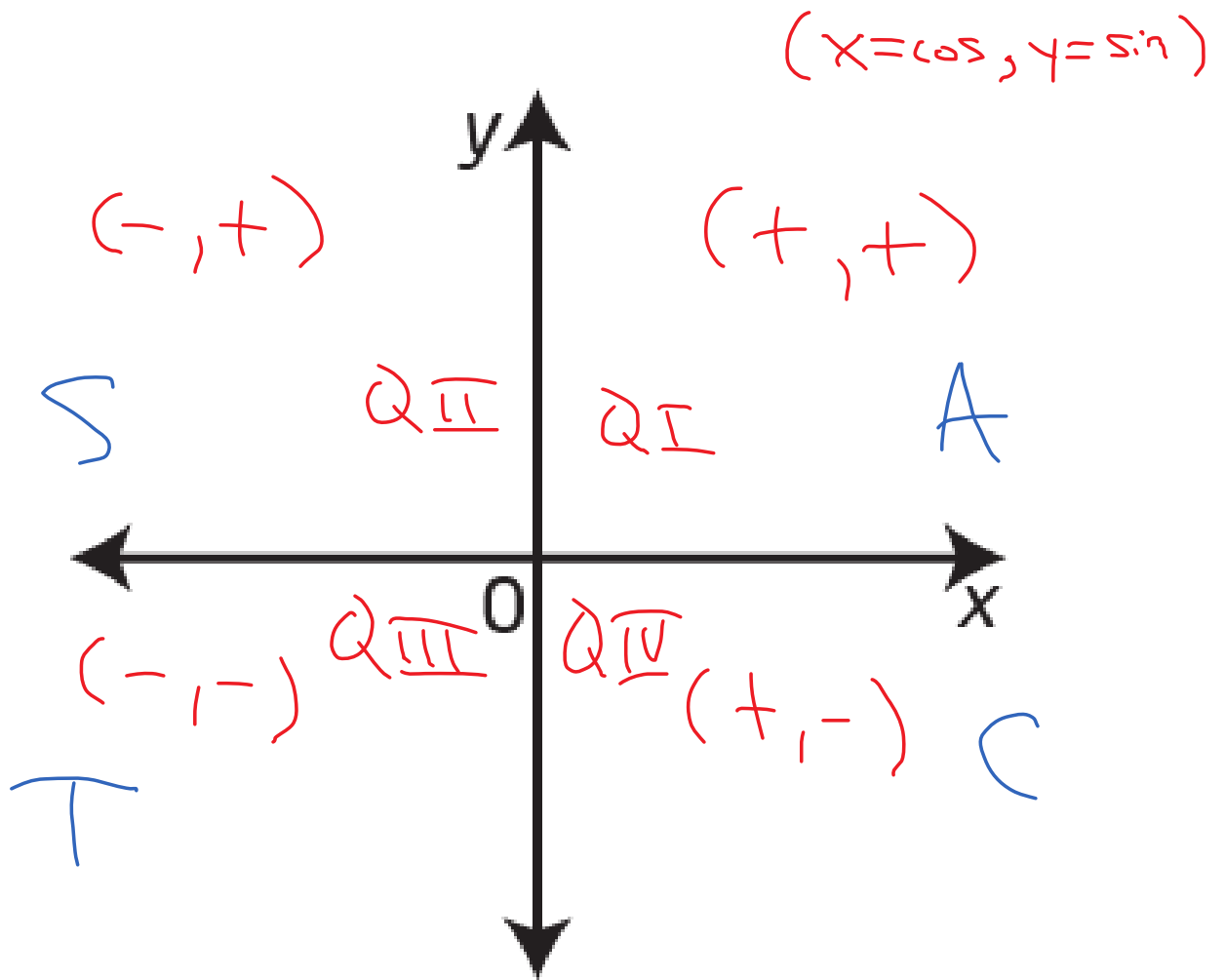
$$\sin 240^\circ = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$



This process can be simplified to make it much easier to understand ~~what~~^{the} underlying idea. Ignoring the radius, r , notice that cosine corresponds only to values on the x -axis and sine corresponds only to values on the y -axis. So it's best to simply think:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \cos \\ y &= \sin \end{aligned}$$

So any quadrant where the x -axis is positive, all cosine ratios will be positive. Any quadrant where the x -axis is negative, all cosine ratios will be negative. The same holds true for the y -axis and sine.



Complete the following table. For the $\tan\theta$ column, remember from Section 2.1 that:

$$\tan\theta = \frac{\sin\theta}{\cos\theta} = \frac{y}{x}$$

Quadrant	$\cos\theta$	$\sin\theta$	$\tan\theta$
I	+	+	$\frac{+}{+} = +$
II	-	+	$\frac{+}{-} = -$
III	-	-	$\frac{-}{-} = +$
IV	+	-	$\frac{-}{+} = -$

Solving for Angles Given the Sine, Cosine or Tangent Ratios

- Step 1: Determine which quadrants the solution(s) will be in by looking at the sign, + or -, of the given ratio.
- Step 2: Solve for the reference angle.
- Step 3: Determine the measure of the related angle in standard position. The use of a diagram may be very useful here.

Example 7:

Solve for θ .

(A) $\sin\theta = 0.5, 0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 360^\circ$

$$\theta_R = \sin^{-1}(0.5)$$

$$\theta_R = 30^\circ$$

Q I $\theta = \theta_R \therefore \theta = 30^\circ$

Q II $\theta = 180^\circ - \theta_R = 180^\circ - 30^\circ = 150^\circ$

(B) $\cos\theta = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 360^\circ$

$$\theta_R = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

$$\theta_R = 30^\circ$$

Q II $\theta = 180^\circ - \theta_R = 180^\circ - 30^\circ = 150^\circ$

Q III $\theta = 180^\circ + \theta_R = 180^\circ + 30^\circ = 210^\circ$

(C) $\cos\theta = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 180^\circ$

$$\theta_R = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$

$$\theta_R = 45^\circ$$

Q II $\theta = 180^\circ - 45^\circ = 135^\circ$

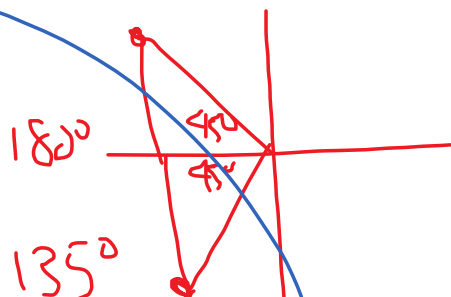
~~Q III $\theta = 180^\circ + 45^\circ = 225^\circ$~~

$$x = \cos \quad y = \sin$$

-	+ ✓	+	+ ✓
-	-	+	-

-	+ ✓	+	+
-	- ✓	+	-

-	+ ✓	+	+
-	- ✓	+	-



Example 8:

Given $\cos\theta = -0.6753$, where $0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 360^\circ$, determine the measure of θ , to the nearest tenth of a degree.

$$\theta_R = \cos^{-1}(0.6753)$$

$$\theta_R = 48^\circ$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ - 48^\circ = 132^\circ$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ + 48^\circ = 228^\circ$$

-	+	+	+
-	+	+	+
-	-	+	-
-	-	+	-

Example 9:

Determine the measure of θ to the nearest degree for each ratio, where $0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 360^\circ$.

(A) $\cos\theta = 0.9912$

$$\theta_R = \cos^{-1}(0.9912)$$

$$\theta_R = 8^\circ$$

Q I: $\theta = \theta_R \quad \theta = 8^\circ$

Q IV: $\theta = 360^\circ - 8^\circ = 352^\circ$

-	+	+	+
-	+	+	+
-	-	+	-
-	-	+	-

(B) $\sin\theta = -0.3781$

$$\theta_R = \sin^{-1}(0.3781) = 22^\circ$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ + 22^\circ = 202^\circ$$

$$\theta = 360^\circ - 22^\circ = 338^\circ$$

$$(C) \cos\theta = -0.0746$$

$$\theta_R = \cos^{-1}(0.0746) = 86^\circ$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ - 86^\circ = 94^\circ$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ + 86^\circ = 266^\circ$$

$$(D) \sin\theta = 0.4557$$

$$\theta_R = \sin^{-1}(0.4557) = 27^\circ$$

$$\theta = \theta_R = 27^\circ$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ - 27^\circ = 153^\circ$$