

Given $\tan(A) = (3/4)$, $0 < A < (\pi/2)$ and $\cos(B) = (5/13)$, $(3\pi/2) < B < 2\pi$ determine $\cos(2A)$

Solution

Let find $\cos A$. We will use formula:

$$1 + \tan^2 \alpha = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \alpha}$$

$$\cos^2 \alpha = \frac{1}{1 + \tan^2 \alpha}$$

$$\cos^2 A = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{9}{16}} = \frac{1}{\frac{16+9}{16}} = \frac{16}{25}$$

$$\cos A = \pm \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\text{If } 0 < A < \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ then } \cos A = \frac{4}{5}$$

Let find $\sin A$

We will use the formula:

$$\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$$

$$\sin^2 A = 1 - \cos^2 A = 1 - \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 = \frac{25 - 16}{25} = \frac{9}{25}$$

$$\sin A = \pm \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\text{If } 0 < A < \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ then } \sin A = \frac{3}{5}$$

Let find $\cos 2A$

We will use the formula:

$$\cos 2\alpha = \cos^2 \alpha - \sin^2 \alpha$$

$$\cos 2A = \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^2 = \frac{16}{25} - \frac{9}{25} = \frac{7}{25}$$

$$\text{Answer } \cos 2A = \frac{7}{25}$$

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