

## Section 1: Modulus and argument

### Crucial points

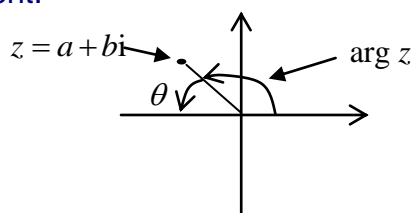
1. **Be very careful when you find the argument of a complex number**

Always decide first which quadrant the complex number is in, and

remember that when you have worked out the value of  $\arctan \frac{y}{x}$  on your

calculator, this will only be correct for complex numbers in the first and fourth quadrant. For the second quadrant, you need to add  $\pi$ , and for the third quadrant you need to subtract  $\pi$ . It's a good idea to make a rough sketch of the number on an Argand diagram, so you can 'see' the argument.

E.g.



$$\arg z = \pi - \theta,$$

$$\text{where } \theta = \arctan\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$$

2. **Use the modulus-argument form correctly**

Remember that the modulus-argument form of a complex number must be of the form  $r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$ , with  $r$  positive.