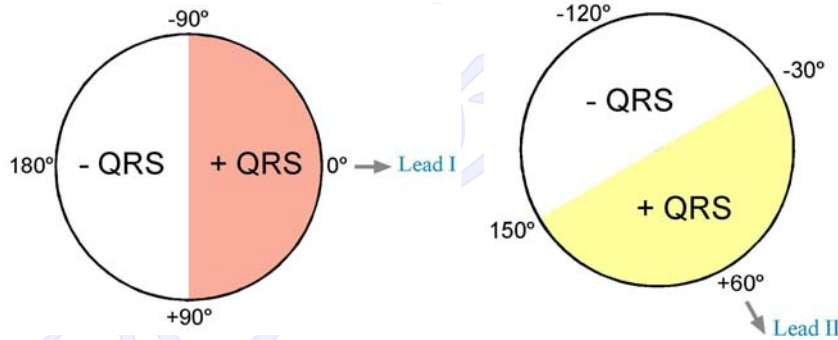


It is only necessary to examine the QRS complexes in leads I and II to determine whether the QRS axis is normal or deviated to the left or the right; a precise calculation of the QRS axis is not required in clinical interpretation of the ECG.

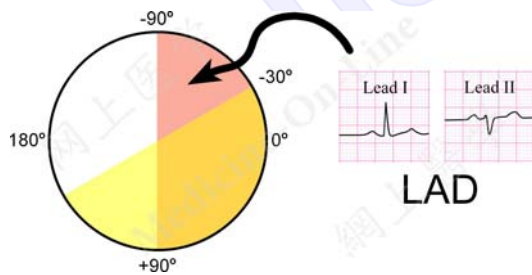
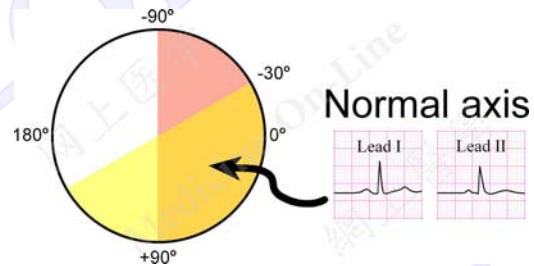
It has been explained in a previous section that a current flowing in the direction of a recording electrode (an ECG lead) registers a positive deflection and a current



flowing away registers a negative deflection. Therefore, the QRS in lead I would be positive if the QRS current flows in the direction of lead I and negative if away.

Similarly the QRS in lead II would be positive if the QRS axis points in the direction of lead II and negative if away.

By overlapping the two circles representing leads I and II, it can be seen that the QRS axis is between +90° and -30° and normal if the QRS is positive both in lead I and lead II.



QRS axis is between -30° and -90° or deviated to the left (left axis deviation or LAD) if the QRS is positive in lead I but negative in lead II.

QRS axis is between +90° and +150° or deviated to the right (right axis deviation or RAD) if the QRS is negative in lead I but positive in lead II.

