

# Field of Complex Numbers

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# Outline

- 1 Complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$
- 2 The square root of a complex number
- 3 Roots of Unity
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# Complex numbers

**Problem:** The equation

$$x^2 = -4,$$

does not have a solution in  $\mathbb{R}$ , that's to say the field of real numbers has a obvious flaw. that's reason to extend the set of real number to an other set, where the previous equation does have a solution.

Idea: We will imagine that there exists a non-real number  $i$  such that  $i^2 = -1$  then

$$x^2 = -4 \Leftrightarrow x = 2i \notin \mathbb{R} \text{ and } x = -2i \notin \mathbb{R}$$

which admits two different roots.

# Construction the set of complex numbers

We consider the set  $\mathbb{C}$  defined by

$$\mathbb{C} = \{(a, b) : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\},$$

provided by two laws: for all  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $(c, d) \in \mathbb{C}$

$$(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d), \quad (a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac - bd, ad + bc).$$

So  $(\mathbb{C}, +, \cdot)$  is commutative field, because

- ①  $+$  is commutative, associative,  $(0, 0)$  addition identity and  $(-a, -b)$  the inverse element to  $(a, b)$ , and
- ②  $\cdot$  is commutative, associative and the multiplication distributive over the addition.  $(1, 0)$  is multiplication identity. the inverse element of  $(a, b)$  is  $(\frac{a}{a^2 + b^2}, \frac{-b}{a^2 + b^2})$

For  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{C} : (a, b) = (a, 0) + (0, 1)(b, 0)$ ,

we accept that there is an identification between  $(a, 0) \in \mathbb{C} \equiv a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

And we put  $i = (0, 1)$  so

$$i^2 = (0, 1) \cdot (0, 1) = (-1, 0),$$

by identification we have:  $(-1, 0) \equiv -1$ , then  $i^2 = -1$  Therefore

$$(a, b) = (a, 0) + (0, 1)(b, 0) = a + ib \in \mathbb{C}$$

# Conjugate

## Definition

If  $a, b$  are real and  $z = a + ib$ , then the complex number,  $\bar{z} = a - ib$  is called the conjugate of  $z$ .  $a$  and  $b$  are the real part and imaginary part of  $z$ , respectively.

we shall occasionally write  $a = \operatorname{Re}(z)$ ;  $b = \operatorname{Im}(z)$

## Theorem

*If  $z$ , and  $w$  are complex, then*

- ①  $\overline{z + w} = \bar{z} + \bar{w}$
- ②  $\overline{z \cdot w} = \bar{z} \cdot \bar{w}$
- ③  $z + \bar{z} = 2\operatorname{Re}(z)$ ;  $z - \bar{z} = 2i\operatorname{Im}(z)$
- ④  $-\bar{z} = \overline{-z}$ ,  $\overline{\left(\frac{z}{w}\right)} = \frac{\bar{z}}{\bar{w}} (w \neq 0)$ .
- ⑤  $z \cdot \bar{z}$  is real and positive.

## Result:

- $z$  is real  $\Leftrightarrow z = \bar{z}$
- $z$  is imaginary  $\Leftrightarrow z = -\bar{z}$

## Definition

If  $z$  is complex number its absolute value  $|z|$  is non-negative square root of  $z\bar{z}$  that is  $|z| = \sqrt{z\bar{z}} = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$

**Properties:** If  $z$ , and  $w$  are complex, then

- $z = 0 \Leftrightarrow |z| = 0$
- $z\bar{z} = |z|^2$
- $|z.w| = |z|.|w|$
- $|\operatorname{Re}(z)| \leq |z|; \quad |\operatorname{Im}(z)| \leq |z|$

# Exercise

- ① Write under algebraic form the following complex numbers

$$z_1 = \frac{1}{2+3i}, \quad z_2 = \frac{1}{3-4i}$$

- ② Give the conjugate of  $\frac{4-5i}{3+i}$ .

- ③ Determine the location points  $M(x, y)$  such that:  $\frac{iz-1}{z-i}$  is real.

# Solution

- ① Compute the algebraic (rectangular) form of the complex numbers

$$z_1 = \frac{1}{2+3i}, \quad z_2 = \frac{1}{3-4i}.$$

Rationalize each denominator:

$$z_1 = \frac{1}{2+3i} \cdot \frac{2-3i}{2-3i} = \frac{2-3i}{2^2+3^2} = \frac{2-3i}{13} = \frac{2}{13} - \frac{3}{13}i,$$

$$z_2 = \frac{1}{3-4i} \cdot \frac{3+4i}{3+4i} = \frac{3+4i}{3^2+4^2} = \frac{3+4i}{25} = \frac{3}{25} + \frac{4}{25}i.$$

- ② Give the conjugate of  $\frac{4-5i}{3+i}$ .

First compute the quotient:

$$\frac{4-5i}{3+i} \cdot \frac{3-i}{3-i} = \frac{(4-5i)(3-i)}{3^2+1^2} = \frac{7-19i}{10} = \frac{7}{10} - \frac{19}{10}i.$$

## Solution

Its complex conjugate is

$$\overline{\left(\frac{4-5i}{3+i}\right)} = \frac{7}{10} + \frac{19}{10}i.$$

3 Determine the points  $M(x, y)$  (with  $z = x + iy$ ) such that

$$\frac{iz - 1}{z - i} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Write  $z = x + iy$ . Then

$$iz - 1 = i(x + iy) - 1 = (-y - 1) + ix, \quad z - i = x + i(y - 1).$$

Multiply numerator and denominator by the conjugate of the denominator:

$$\frac{iz - 1}{z - i} = \frac{((-y - 1) + ix)(x - i(y - 1))}{x^2 + (y - 1)^2}.$$

## Solution

The imaginary part of the numerator is

$$-(-y - 1)(y - 1) + x \cdot x = (y + 1)(y - 1) + x^2 = x^2 + y^2 - 1.$$

For the fraction to be real this imaginary part must vanish, hence

$$x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0 \implies x^2 + y^2 = 1.$$

We must also exclude the point where the denominator is zero, i.e.  $z = i$  (which is  $(x, y) = (0, 1)$ ), since the expression is undefined there.

Therefore the locus is the unit circle

$$x^2 + y^2 = 1,$$

with the point  $(0, 1)$  omitted.

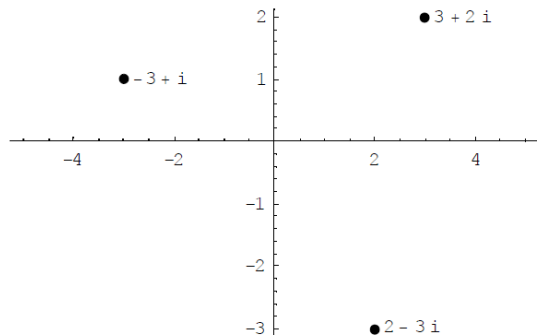
# Representation of complex number

The complex numbers, having two components, their **real and imaginary parts**, can be represented as a plane; indeed,  $\mathbb{C}$  is sometimes referred to as the complex plane.

The point  $(a, b)$  represents the complex number  $a + bi$  so that

- the x-axis contains all the real numbers, and so is termed the **real axis** and
- the y-axis contains all those complex numbers which are purely imaginary (i.e. have no real part), and so is referred to as the **imaginary axis**.

# Argument



## Definition

We define  $\theta$  to be the angle that the line connecting the origin to  $z = x + iy$ ,  $z \neq 0$  makes with the positive real axis. The number  $\theta$  is called **the argument** of  $z$  and is written  $\arg z = \theta$ .

# Trigonometric form

We can write

$$z = r(\cos \theta + \sin \theta).$$

(polar or trigonometric form) The relations between  $z$ 's Cartesian and polar co-ordinates are simple, we see that

$$x = r \cos \theta, \text{ and } y = r \sin \theta, \quad r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}.$$

Note that  $\arg z$  is defined only up to multiples of  $2\pi$ .

For example, the argument of  $1 + i$  could be  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  or  $\frac{9\pi}{4}$  or  $\frac{-7\pi}{4}$  etc...

For simplicity, in this article we shall give all arguments in the range  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ , so that  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  would be the preferred choice here.

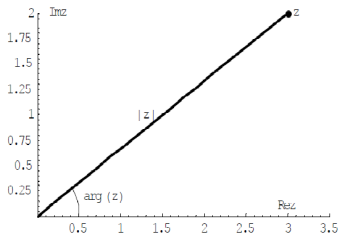


Figure 1: The argument

## Remark

*Note that the argument of 0 is undefined.*

We can easily verify that

- $\arg(\bar{z}) = \arg(\frac{1}{z}) = \arg(z)[2\pi], \quad \arg(\frac{z}{w}) = \arg(z) - \arg(w)[2\pi]$
- $\arg(zw) = \arg(z) + \arg(w)[2\pi], \quad \arg(z^n) = n \arg(z)[2\pi]$

# Examples

- 1 Give  $\arg(i)$ ,  $\arg(1)$ ,  $\arg(-i)$ ,  $\arg(1 + i)$ .
- 2 Give the principal argument of  $z = -2\sqrt{3} + 2i$ , and  $z' = 3 - 4i$ .
- 3 find the trigonometric form  $z = -2(\cos \frac{\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{5})$ .

1) The principal arguments (in  $(-\pi, \pi]$ ) :

$$\arg(i) = \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad \arg(1) = 0, \quad \arg(-i) = -\frac{\pi}{2}, \quad \arg(1+i) = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

2) for  $z = -2\sqrt{3} + 2i$  :

$$r = |z| = \sqrt{(-2\sqrt{3})^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{12 + 4} = 4.$$

The argument principal (with  $\operatorname{Im} z > 0$  and  $\operatorname{Re} z < 0$ ) is

$$\arg(z) = \pi - \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{5\pi}{6}.$$

Thus the trigonometric form is

$$z = 4 \left( \cos \frac{5\pi}{6} + i \sin \frac{5\pi}{6} \right).$$

For  $z' = 3 - 4i$  :

$$r' = |z'| = \sqrt{3^2 + (-4)^2} = 5,$$

and the principal argument (imaginary negative, real positive) is

$$\arg(z') = -\arctan\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) \quad (\text{en radians}) \approx -0.9273 \quad (\text{let } -53.13^\circ).$$

Then the trigonometric form is

$$z' = 5 \left( \cos \left( -\arctan\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) \right) + i \sin \left( -\arctan\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) \right) \right).$$

3) We give the trigonometric form of

$$z = -2 \left( \cos \frac{\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{5} \right).$$

We remark that multiply by  $-1$  adds  $\pi$  to the argument, hence

$$\begin{aligned} -2 \left( \cos \frac{\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{5} \right) &= 2 \left( \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{5} + \pi \right) + i \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{5} + \pi \right) \right) \\ &= 2 \left( \cos \frac{6\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{6\pi}{5} \right). \end{aligned}$$

If we use  $\cos \frac{\pi}{5} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{4}$  and  $\sin \frac{\pi}{5} = \frac{\sqrt{10 - 2\sqrt{5}}}{4}$  :

$$z = -2 \cos \frac{\pi}{5} - 2i \sin \frac{\pi}{5} = -\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{10 - 2\sqrt{5}}}{2} i.$$

Then:

$$z = 2 \left( \cos \frac{6\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{6\pi}{5} \right) \quad \text{et} \quad z = -\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{10 - 2\sqrt{5}}}{2} i.$$

## Exercise

Find the modulus and argument (polar form) of each following numbers.

$$z_1 = (1 + \sqrt{3}i), \quad z_2 = (2 + i)(3 - i), \quad z_3 = (1 + i)^5$$

**Solution:**

$$(1) \ z_1 = 1 + \sqrt{3}i$$

$$|z_1| = \sqrt{1^2 + (\sqrt{3})^2} = \sqrt{1 + 3} = 2$$

$$\sin(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \cos(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \quad \arg(z_1) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{1}\right) = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$z_1 = 2 \left( \cos \frac{\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{3} \right) = 2e^{i\pi/3}$$

## Exercise

$$(2) \ z_2 = (2 + i)(3 - i)$$

First, expand:

$$z_2 = (2 + i)(3 - i) = 6 - 2i + 3i - i^2 = 7 + i$$

$$|z_2| = \sqrt{7^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{50} = 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$\arg(z_2) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{7}\right)$$

$$z_2 = 5\sqrt{2} \left( \cos\left(\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{7}\right) + i \sin\left(\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{7}\right) \right) = 5\sqrt{2} e^{i \tan^{-1}(1/7)}$$

## Exercise

$$(3) \ z_3 = (1 + i)^5$$

For  $1 + i$ :

$$|1 + i| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}, \quad \arg(1 + i) = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

Then

$$|z_3| = (\sqrt{2})^5 = 2^{5/2} = 4\sqrt{2}, \quad \arg(z_3) = 5 \times \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{5\pi}{4}$$

Hence,

$$z_3 = 4\sqrt{2} \left( \cos \frac{5\pi}{4} + i \sin \frac{5\pi}{4} \right) = 4\sqrt{2} e^{i5\pi/4}$$

# Exponential form

## Definition

(Euler's formula) For any real number  $\theta$ , we denote  $e^{i\theta}$  the complex number  $\cos \alpha + i \sin \alpha$  is the modulus 1 and  $\theta$  argument.

It follows from Euler's formula that, for any complex number  $z$  written in exponential form,  $z = re^{i\theta}$

## Theorem

For any  $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

- $e^{i\theta_1} \cdot e^{i\theta_2} = e^{i(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$
- $\frac{e^{i\theta_1}}{e^{i\theta_2}} = e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}$
- $(e^{i\theta})^n = e^{in\theta} \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$

# Example

- Determine the exponential form for  $z = \frac{(1+i)^4}{\sqrt{(3-i)^3}}$ .
- Calculate  $(1+i)^{14}$ .

In fact

$$z = \frac{(\sqrt{2}e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}})^4}{(2e^{-i\frac{\pi}{6}})^3} = \frac{1}{2}e^{i\frac{3\pi}{2}} = -\frac{1}{2}.$$
$$(1+i)^{14} = -2^7$$

## Theorem

$\forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$\cos \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2}, \quad \sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i}$$

## Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta} &= \cos \theta + i \sin \theta + \cos(-\theta) + i \sin(-\theta) \\ &= \cos \theta + i \sin \theta + \cos \theta - i \sin \theta = 2 \cos \theta \\ e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta} &= \cos \theta + i \sin \theta - \cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta) = 2i \sin \theta. \end{aligned}$$



## Example

Linear  $\cos^4 \theta$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\cos^4 \theta &= \left( \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2} \right)^4 = \frac{e^{4i\theta} + 4e^{2i\theta} + 6 + 4e^{-2i\theta} + e^{-4i\theta}}{16} \\ &= \frac{\cos(4\theta) + 4\cos(2\theta) + 3}{8}\end{aligned}$$

Same question from

$$\sin^3 \theta \cos^2 \theta = \left( \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i} \right)^3 \left( \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2} \right)^2$$

After calculation

$$= \frac{2\sin \theta + \sin 3\theta - \sin 5\theta}{16}.$$

# Moiver's Formula

## Theorem

*For a real number  $\theta$  and integer  $n$  we have that*

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta$$

$$(\cos \theta - i \sin \theta)^n = \cos n\theta - i \sin n\theta$$

## Proof.

We have

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = (e^{i\theta})^n = e^{in\theta} = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta.$$

Therefore the first Moiver formula. The second formula is obtained we replace  $\theta$  by  $-\theta$ . □

This formula allows you to calculate  $\cos n\theta$  and  $\sin n\theta$  in function of  $\cos \theta$  and  $\sin \theta$ .

# The square root of a complex number

Let  $w = \alpha + i\beta$ , we want to find the square root of  $w$ , i.e find  $z = x + iy$ , such that  $z^2 = w$ , hence

$$\begin{cases} x^2 - y^2 = \alpha \dots\dots(1) \\ 2xy = \beta \dots\dots\dots(2) \\ x^2 + y^2 = |w| \dots\dots\dots(3) \end{cases}$$

The equations (1) and (3) allowed to find  $x$  and  $y$  and equation (2) allows us to remove the ambiguity on the signs.

## Example

For example  $w = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i$

$$\begin{cases} x^2 - y^2 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \dots\dots (1) \\ 2xy = \frac{1}{2} \dots\dots (2) \\ x^2 + y^2 = 1 \dots\dots (3) \end{cases}$$

$$(1)+(3): x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{3}+2}{4}} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2+\sqrt{3}}}{2}$$

$$(3)-(1): y = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2-\sqrt{3}}}{2}$$

From (2):  $xy > 0$ , so  $x$  and  $y$  have the same sign. Therefore the roots

$$\frac{\sqrt{2+\sqrt{3}}}{2} + i \frac{\sqrt{2-\sqrt{3}}}{2}, \quad -\frac{\sqrt{2+\sqrt{3}}}{2} - i \frac{\sqrt{2-\sqrt{3}}}{2}$$

## Example: Quadratic equation

We deal this type of equations with a simple numerical example, we consider

$$(1 + i)z^2 - (5 + i)z + 6 + 4i = 0.$$

Then  $\Delta = 16 - 30i$ , so the square roots of  $\Delta$  is  $5 + 3i$  and  $-5 + 3i$ . Hence the solutions is

$$z_1 = 2 - 3i, \quad z_2 = 1 + i$$

**Exercise:** Find the square roots of  $-5 - 12i$ , and hence solve the quadratic equation

$$z^2 - (4 + i)z + (5 + 5i) = 0.$$

**Exercise:** Show that the complex number  $1 + i$  is a root of the cubic equation

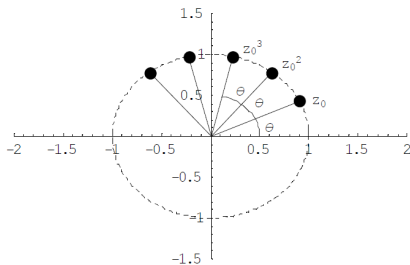
$$z^3 + z^2 + (5 - 7i)z - (10 + 2i) = 0,$$

and hence find the other two roots.

Consider the complex number

$$z_0 = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta.$$

where  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ . The modulus of  $z_0$  is 1, and the argument of  $z_0$  is  $\theta$ .



**Problem.** Let  $n$  be a natural number. Find all those complex  $z$  such that  $z^n = 1$ .

We know from the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra that there are (counting repetitions)  $n$  solutions: these are known as the  $n$ th roots of unity.

Let's first solve  $z^n = 1$  directly for  $n = 2, 3, 4$ .

- When  $n = 2$  we have

$$0 = z^2 - 1 = (z - 1)(z + 1),$$

and so the square roots of 1 are  $\pm 1$ .

- When  $n = 3$  we can factorize as follows

$$0 = z^3 - 1 = (z - 1)(z^2 + z + 1).$$

So the cube roots of 1 are  $1, -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i, -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$

- When  $n = 4$  we can factorize as follows

$$0 = z^4 - 1 = (z^2 - 1)(z^2 + 1) = (z - 1)(z + 1)(z - i)(z + i),$$

so that the fourth roots of 1 are  $-1, i$  and  $-i$ .

# Roots of unity (example)

## Problem

Solve  $z^n = 1$  for  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ .

- There are exactly  $n$  distinct solutions:  $z_k = e^{2\pi i k/n}$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ .
- Special cases:  $n = 2 : \{\pm 1\}$ ,  $n = 3 : \{1, e^{\pm 2\pi i/3}\}$ ,  
 $n = 4 : \{1, -1, i, -i\}$ .

## Exercise

1) Let  $\alpha$  be a real number in the range  $0 < \alpha < \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Find the modulus and argument of the following numbers.

$$z_1 = \cos \alpha - i \sin \alpha, \quad z_2 = \sin \alpha - i \cos \alpha,$$

$$z_3 = 1 + i \tan \alpha, \quad z_4 = 1 + \cos \alpha + i \sin \alpha.$$

2) Calculate  $\sin \frac{\pi}{5}, \cos \frac{\pi}{5}, \sin \frac{2\pi}{5}, \cos \frac{2\pi}{5}$

*End chapter*