

Let  $z$  be a complex number with  $|z + 1| > 2$ . Prove that  $|z^3 + 1| > 1$ .

**Solution:**

The expression  $|z^3 + 1|$  can be written as:

$$|z^3 + 1| = |z + 1| \cdot |z^2 - z + 1| > 1 \iff |z^2 - z + 1| \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

If  $r e^{i\phi} = z + 1$  is defined, then  $r = |z + 1| > 2$ . It is needed to calculate the modulus of  $z^2 - z + 1$ . It can be computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} |z^2 - z + 1|^2 &= (z^2 - z + 1) \cdot \overline{(z^2 - z + 1)} = \\ &= (r^2 e^{i2\phi} - 2r e^{i\phi} + 1 - r e^{i\phi} + 1 + 1) \cdot \overline{(r^2 e^{i2\phi} - 2r e^{i\phi} + 1 - r e^{i\phi} + 1 + 1)} = \\ &= (r^2 e^{i2\phi} - 3r e^{i\phi} + 3) \cdot (r^2 e^{-i2\phi} - 3r e^{-i\phi} + 3) = \\ &= r^4 + 9r^2 + 9 + 3r^2 \cdot (e^{i2\phi} + e^{-i2\phi}) - (3r^3 - 9r) \cdot (e^{i\phi} + e^{-i\phi}) = \\ &= r^4 + 9r^2 + 9 + 6r^2 \cos 2\phi - (6r^3 - 18r) \cdot \cos \phi = \\ &= r^4 + 9r^2 + 9 + 6r^2 \cdot (2 \cos^2 \phi - 1) - (6r^3 - 18r) \cdot \cos \phi = \\ &= r^4 + 3r^2 + 9 + 12r^2 \cos^2 \phi - (6r^3 - 18r) \cdot \cos \phi = \\ &= 12 \left( r \cos \phi - \frac{r^2 + 3}{4} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{r^2 - 3}{2} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $r > 2$ ,  $|z^2 - z + 1|^2 \geq \left( \frac{r^2 - 3}{2} \right)^2 > \frac{1}{4} \implies |z^2 - z + 1| > \frac{1}{2}$ . Finally, it is demonstrated that if  $|z + 1| > 2$ , then  $|z^3 + 1| > 1$ .