



# COMPLEX NUMBERS

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Week 23

# IMAGINARY NUMBER

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*Rafael Bombelli*

It was **Rafael Bombelli** who defined the imaginary number  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  in 1572.

The **imaginary number** is defined as  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  with the property that  $i \times i = \sqrt{-1} \times \sqrt{-1} = -1$ .

It is called “imaginary” because we cannot place it on the real number line.

## RECALL AND SIMPLIFY:

$$\bullet \sqrt{81} \quad = 9$$

$$\bullet -\sqrt{3} \quad = -\sqrt{3}$$

$$\bullet \sqrt{5} \quad = \sqrt{5}$$

$$\bullet -\sqrt{36} \quad = -6$$

$$\bullet \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} \quad = \frac{1}{2}$$

## WRITE IN TERMS OF $i$ :

$$\bullet \sqrt{-81} \quad = 9i$$

$$\bullet -\sqrt{-3} \quad = -\sqrt{3} \, i$$

$$\bullet \sqrt{-5} \quad = \sqrt{5} \, i$$

$$\bullet -\sqrt{-36} \quad = -6i$$

$$\bullet \sqrt{-\frac{1}{4}} \quad = \frac{1}{2} i$$

# COMPLEX NUMBERS

The solutions to quadratic equations with  $\Delta < 0$  have the form  $x = a + bi$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real.

Any number of the form  $a + bi$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ , is called a **complex number**.

# REAL AND IMAGINARY PARTS

If  $z = a + bi$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , then:

- $a$  is the **real part** of  $z$ , written  $\mathcal{Re}(z)$
- $b$  is the **imaginary part** of  $z$ , written  $\mathcal{Im}(z)$ .

For example:

- If  $z = 2 + 3i$ , then  $\mathcal{Re}(z) = 2$  and  $\mathcal{Im}(z) = 3$ .
- If  $z = -\sqrt{2}i$ , then  $\mathcal{Re}(z) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{Im}(z) = -\sqrt{2}$ .

# COMPLEX CONJUGATES

Suppose  $z = a + bi$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

The **complex conjugate** of  $z$  is  $z^* = a - bi$ .

$$\mathcal{Re}(z^*) = \mathcal{Re}(z) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{Im}(z^*) = -\mathcal{Im}(z)$$

Suppose  $z = a + bi$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

The **complex conjugate** of  $z$  is  $z^* = a - bi$ .

$\operatorname{Re}(z^*) = \operatorname{Re}(z)$  and  $\operatorname{Im}(z^*) = -\operatorname{Im}(z)$

## COMPLEX CONJUGATES

$z$	$\operatorname{Re}(z)$	$\operatorname{Im}(z)$	$z^*$
$3 + 2i$	3	2	$3 - 2i$
$5 - i$	5	-1	$5 + i$
3	3	0	3
$4i$	0	4	$-4i$
0	0	0	0

$z$	$\operatorname{Re}(z)$	$\operatorname{Im}(z)$	$z^*$
$-3 + 4i$	-3	4	$-3 - 4i$
$-7 - 2i$	-7	-2	$-7 + 2i$
$-11i$	0	-11	$11i$
$i\sqrt{3}$	0	$\sqrt{3}$	$-i\sqrt{3}$
$1 - i\sqrt{2}$	1	$-\sqrt{2}$	$1 + i\sqrt{2}$

# OPERATIONS WITH COMPLEX NUMBERS

$$(a + bi) + (c + di) = (a + c) + (b + d)i \quad \text{addition}$$

$$(a + bi) - (c + di) = (a - c) + (b - d)i \quad \text{subtraction}$$

$$(a + bi)(c + di) = ac + adi + bci + bdi^2 \quad \text{multiplication}$$

$$\frac{a + bi}{c + di} = \left( \frac{a + bi}{c + di} \right) \left( \frac{c - di}{c - di} \right) = \frac{ac - adi + bci - bdi^2}{c^2 + d^2} \quad \text{division}$$



The complex conjugate of the denominator



## G D C

- Run Math Mode
- Press Shift + Menu (Do this to Set Up your GDC for the use of complex numbers)
- Browse down (Until you see the “complex Mode” on the screen)
- Press F2 ( $a + bi$  button)
- Exit and try

**\*Note:** the imaginary number symbol,  $i$ , is found by pressing **shift + 0**

## EXAMPLES (ANSWER IN EXACT (FRACTION) FORM)

Use technology to calculate:

$$\text{a} \quad \frac{1}{(1 + 2i)^3}$$

$$\text{b} \quad \frac{(2 + 5i)^4}{1 - i}$$

$$\text{a} \quad \frac{1}{(1 + 2i)^3} = -\frac{11}{125} + \frac{2}{125}i$$

$$\text{b} \quad \frac{(2 + 5i)^4}{1 - i} = \frac{881}{2} - \frac{799}{2}i$$

## REAL QUADRATICS WITH DISCRIMINANT $< 0$

If  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ ,  $a \neq 0$  and  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then the solutions or roots are found using the formula  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{\Delta}}{2a}$  where  $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$  is known as the **discriminant**.

### DISCRIMINANT

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

- $b^2 - 4ac > 0 \rightarrow 2$  real solutions
- $b^2 - 4ac = 0 \rightarrow 1$  real solution
- $b^2 - 4ac < 0 \rightarrow 0$  real solutions

**EXAMPLE: SOLVE FOR X:  $x^2 - 10x + 29 = 0$**

*The roots are:  $5 + 2i$  and  $5 - 2i$*

What does this mean?

If the discriminant is  $< 0$ , the equation has no real solutions.

## MORE EXAMPLES

Solve for  $x$  using the quadratic formula:

**a**  $x^2 - 10x + 29 = 0$

**b**  $x^2 + 6x + 25 = 0$

**c**  $x^2 + 14x + 50 = 0$

**d**  $x^2 - 3x + 5 = 0$

**e**  $x^2 + 4 = x$

**f**  $3x^2 + 6x + 5 = 0$

## SEATWORK

- Exam.net key code: **NAB562**

Use your GDC to answer the questions correctly.