

2025-05-10 STEP Practice: Complex Numbers

Complex numbers are those of the form $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ where

- 1) $(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d)$
- 2) $(a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac - bd, ad + bc)$
- 3) $c \cdot (a, b) = (ac, bc)$

Complex numbers of the form $(a, 0)$ are identified with the real number a .

Let $i := (0, 1)$,

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

$$(a, b) = a(1, 0) + b(0, 1) = a + bi$$

$$\operatorname{Re}: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

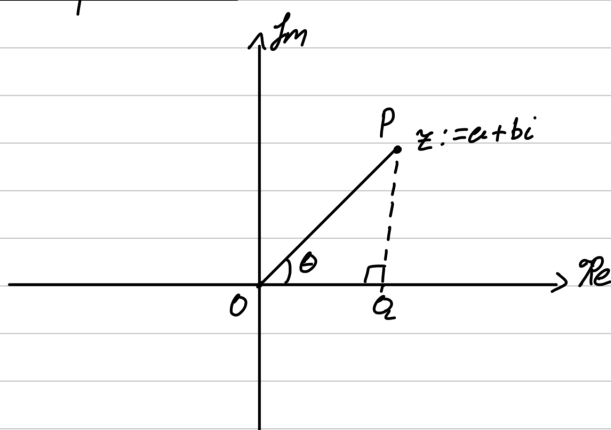
$$\operatorname{Im}: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\operatorname{Re}(z := a + bi) := a$$

$$\operatorname{Im}(z := a + bi) := b$$

$$\mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{C}$$

Polar Representation



$$OQ = r \cos \theta$$

$$PQ = r \sin \theta$$

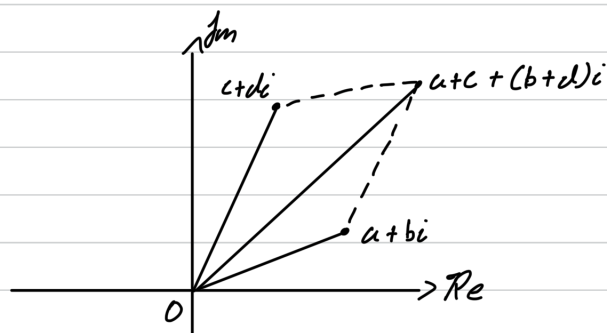
$$z = r[\cos \theta + i \sin \theta]$$

$$OQ = a, PQ = b, OP = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

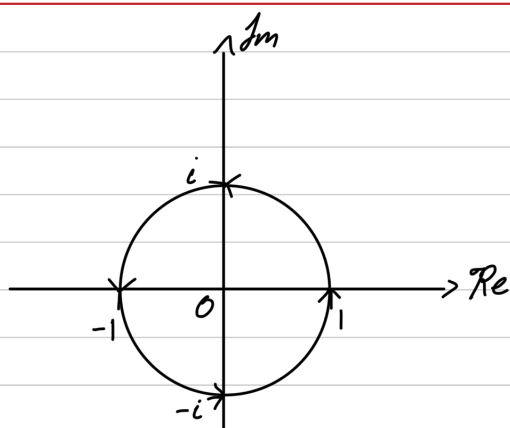
$$|z| := \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\operatorname{Arg}(z) := \theta, \text{ where } -\pi < \theta \leq \pi$$

$$\operatorname{arg}(z) := \theta + 2\pi k, \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{Z}$$



Addition represents a translation



Multiplication by i represents an anticlockwise rotation by $\frac{\pi}{2}$ about O .

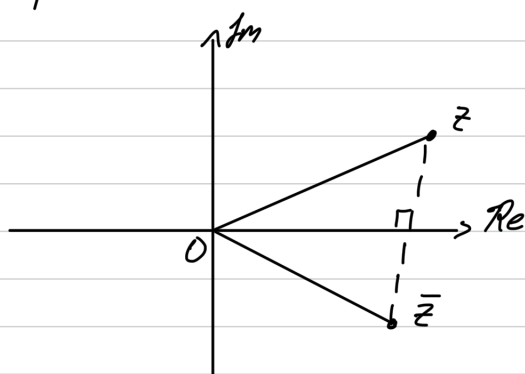
$$z := r_1 [\cos \theta + i \sin \theta]$$

$$w := r_2 [\cos \varphi + i \sin \varphi]$$

$$\begin{aligned} zw &= r_1 r_2 [\cos \theta \cos \varphi + i \cos \theta \sin \varphi + i \sin \theta \cos \varphi - \sin \theta \sin \varphi] \\ &= r_1 r_2 [[\cos \theta \cos \varphi - \sin \theta \sin \varphi] + i [\sin \theta \cos \varphi + \cos \theta \sin \varphi]] \\ &= r_1 r_2 [\cos(\theta + \varphi) + i \sin(\theta + \varphi)] \end{aligned}$$

Multiplication by a complex number represents a combination of a rotation about the origin and a dilation centered at the origin.

$\bar{z} := a - bi$ is the **complex conjugate** of $z := a + bi$.
It represents a reflection in the real axis.



$$e^z := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^i}{i!} = 1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2!} + \frac{z^3}{3!} + \frac{z^4}{4!} + \frac{z^5}{5!} + \frac{z^6}{6!} + \frac{z^7}{7!} + \dots$$

$$e^{i\theta} = 1 + i\theta - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} - \frac{i\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \frac{i\theta^5}{5!} - \frac{\theta^6}{6!} - \frac{i\theta^7}{7!} + \dots$$

$$= \left[1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \frac{\theta^6}{6!} + \dots \right] + i \left[\theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \frac{\theta^7}{7!} + \dots \right]$$

$$= \cos \theta + i \sin \theta \quad \text{Euler's Formula}$$

$$\therefore z = r[\cos\theta + i\sin\theta] = re^{i\theta}$$

$$\therefore e^{i\pi} + 1 \equiv 0 \quad \text{Euler's Identity}$$