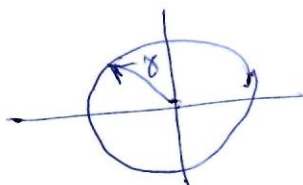


# Roots of Complex numbers

Consider  $z = r e^{i\theta}$

which is a circle centered at the origin.

→ if we increase  $\theta$  from 0 to  $2\pi$  or decrease it by  $2\pi$  we reach at our starting point.



→ So two complex numbers  $z_1 = r_1 e^{i\theta_1}$  and  $z_2 = r_2 e^{i\theta_2}$  will be equal if

$$r_1 = r_2$$

$$\text{and } \theta_1 = \theta_2 + 2k\pi \quad (k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots)$$

Now how to find the roots of complex no. ? e.g.  $\sqrt[n]{z}$ ,  $\sqrt[n]{z}$  etc.

We'll use the two properties.

$$\textcircled{1} z_1 = z_2 \text{ iff}$$

$$r_1 = r_2$$

$$\text{and } \theta_1 = \theta_2 + 2k\pi \quad (k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots)$$

$$\textcircled{2} z^n = r^n e^{in\theta}$$

Now let  $z_0 = r_0 e^{i\theta_0} \neq 0$

and say its  $n^{\text{th}}$  root is a number

$$z = r e^{i\theta} \text{ i.e.}$$

$$\sqrt[n]{r_0 e^{i\theta_0}} = r e^{i\theta}$$

$$\text{then } r_0 e^{i\theta_0} = r^n e^{in\theta}$$

According to prop: ①

$$r^n = r_0$$

and

$$n\theta = \theta_0 + 2k\pi$$

$$\theta = \frac{\theta_0}{n} + \frac{2k\pi}{n}$$

Consequently the complex number

$$z = \sqrt[n]{r_0} \exp \left[ i \left( \frac{\theta_0}{n} + \frac{2k\pi}{n} \right) \right] \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

with  $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

are the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of  $z_0$

Furthermore, if we look at (3) we can see that all the roots lie on a circle of radius  $\sqrt[n]{x_0}$  centered at the origin & are equally spaced every  $\frac{2\pi}{n}$  radians, starting with  $\frac{\theta_0}{n}$ . Evidently all the distinct roots are found when  $k=0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$

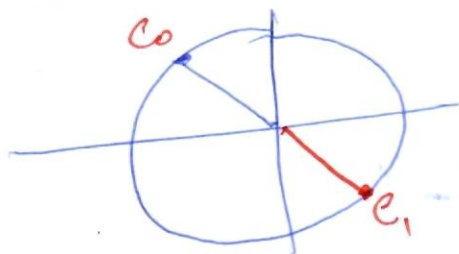
$\Rightarrow$  let the  $k^{\text{th}}$  root be

$$C_k = \sqrt[n]{x_0} \exp\left[i\left(\frac{\theta_0}{n} + \frac{2k\pi}{n}\right)\right]$$

then evidently

$$C_0 = \sqrt[n]{x_0} \exp\left[i\frac{\theta_0}{n}\right]$$

if  $n=2$  then



but if  $n \geq 3$  then we'll have a polygon inscribed in the circle of radius  $\sqrt[n]{x_0}$

Example let  $z = 1$

Find  $z^{1/n}$ ?

$$z = \sqrt[n]{1} e^{i(0+2k\pi)}$$

$$= 1 e^{i(0+2k\pi)/n} = e^{i2k\pi/n}$$

Now let  $n=2$

$$z^{1/2} = \sqrt{z} = 1 e^{i \frac{2k\pi}{n}} \quad (k=0,1)$$

$$k=0 \quad z_1 = 1,$$

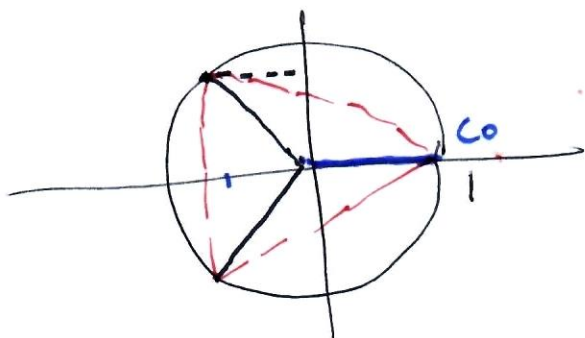
$$k=1 \quad z_2 = -1$$

if  $n=3$

$$z_1 = 1$$

$$z_2 = e^{2\pi/3} = -0.5 + 0.866i$$

$$z_3 = e^{4\pi/3} = -0.5 - 0.866i$$



$$\therefore \begin{cases} \cos(\pi) = -1 \\ \sin(\pi) = 0 \\ \cos(2\pi) = 1 \\ \sin(2\pi) = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \sin(n\pi) = 0 \\ n=0,1,2,\dots \\ \cos(n\pi) = \pm 1 \\ \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \cos(n\pi) = -1 \\ \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$x$	$\pi$	$\pi/2$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/6$
$\sin x$	0	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\cos x$	-1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$



Example: Find all the cube roots of  $-8i$  i.e.,  $(-8i)^{1/3}$  ?

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= (-8i)^{1/3} = \sqrt[3]{8} e^{i \left[ \frac{-\pi/2}{3} + \frac{2\pi k}{3} \right]} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{8} e^{i \left[ -\frac{\pi}{6} + \frac{2k\pi}{3} \right]} \\ &= 2 e^{i \left( -\frac{\pi}{6} + \frac{2k\pi}{3} \right)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} z_0 &= 2 e^{i \left( -\frac{\pi}{6} \right)} = 2 \left[ \cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) - i \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) \right] \\ &= 2 \left[ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2} i \right] \\ &= \sqrt{3} - i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= 2 e^{i \left( -\frac{\pi}{6} + \frac{2\pi}{3} \right)} = 2 e^{i \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right)} = 2 \left[ \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \right] \\ &= 2i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} z_2 &= 2 e^{i \left( -\frac{\pi}{6} + \frac{4\pi}{3} \right)} = 2 e^{i \frac{7\pi}{6}} = 2 \left[ \cos \frac{7\pi}{6} + i \sin \left( \frac{7\pi}{6} \right) \right] \\ &= 2 \left[ -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2} i \right] = -\sqrt{3} - i \end{aligned}$$

## Example

Square roots of  $\sqrt{3} + i$ ?

$$\sqrt{\sqrt{3} + i} = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{3} + i &= 2 e^{i \left( \frac{\pi}{6} \right)} \\ \text{So } \sqrt{\sqrt{3} + i} &= \sqrt{2} e^{i \left[ \frac{\pi}{12} + \frac{2k\pi}{12} \right]}, \quad k=0,1 \end{aligned}$$

$$C_0 = \sqrt{2} e^{i \left( \frac{\pi}{12} \right)} = \sqrt{2} \left[ \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{12} \right) + i \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{12} \right) \right]$$

$$\cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{1 + \cos \alpha}{2} \quad \text{hence} \quad \cos^2 \frac{\alpha}{12} = \frac{1 + \cos \frac{\alpha}{6}}{2}$$

Similarly

$$\sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{1 - \cos \alpha}{2} \Rightarrow \sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{12} = \frac{1 - \cos \frac{\alpha}{6}}{2}$$

$$\cos \frac{\pi}{12} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \cos \frac{\pi}{6} \right)} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)}$$

$$\sin \frac{\pi}{12} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)}$$

$$C_0 = \sqrt{2} \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2}} + i \sqrt{\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{2}} \right) \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2}} + i \sqrt{\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{2}}$$

Exercise 1 P: 28, Churchill.

(a) Square Roots of  $z = 2i$

Step 1  $\rightarrow$  Write  $z$  in polar form.

$$z = 2 e^{i\pi/2}$$

Step 2  $\rightarrow$  The roots are then given by the equation.

$$C_k = \sqrt{2} \exp \left[ i \left( \frac{\frac{\pi}{2} + 2k\pi}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \exp \left[ i \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + k\pi \right) \right]$$

Step 3: Find all the roots by varying  $k$  from 0 to  $n-1$ . In this case 0 to 1  $\therefore$  Square Roots.

$$C_0 = \sqrt{2} \exp\left[i\pi/4\right]$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \left[ \cos \frac{\pi}{4} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \right]$$

$$\boxed{C_0 = 1 + i}$$

$$\therefore \cos \frac{\pi}{4} = \sin \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

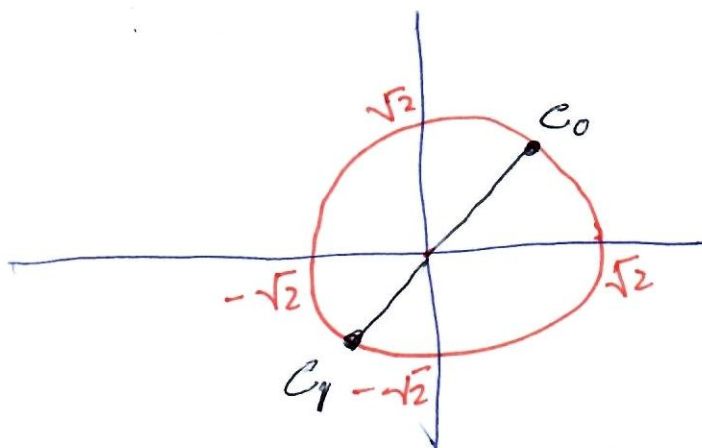
$$C_1 = \sqrt{2} \exp\left[i\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \pi\right)\right]$$

$$= \frac{5\pi}{4}$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \left[ \cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{4}\right) \right]$$

$$\boxed{C_1 = -1 - i}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \cos\left(\pi + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ = \cos \pi \cos \frac{\pi}{4} - \sin \pi \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \\ = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \neq 0 \\ \sin\left(\pi + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ = \sin \pi \cos \frac{\pi}{4} + \cos \pi \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \\ = 0 \neq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{array} \right.$$





# Exercise 6: P 29, Chirchill.

$$z^4 + 4 = 0$$

Find all the roots and factorize it.

Solution

$$z^4 + 4 = 0$$

$$z^4 = -4 = 4e^{-i\pi}$$

$$c_k = \sqrt[4]{4} \exp\left[i\left(-\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2k\pi}{4}\right)\right]$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \exp\left[i\left(-\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{k\pi}{2}\right)\right]$$

$$c_0 = \sqrt{2} \exp\left[i\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right)\right]$$

$$c_0 = 1 - i$$

$$c_1 = \sqrt{2} \exp\left[i\left(-\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right]$$

$$c_1 = 1 + i$$

$$c_2 = \sqrt{2} \exp\left[i\left(-\frac{\pi}{4} + \pi\right)\right]$$

$$c_2 = -1 + i$$

$$c_3 = \sqrt{2} \exp\left[i\left(-\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)\right]$$

$$c_3 = -1 - i$$

Now

$$(z + 1 - i)(z + 1 + i)(z - 1 + i)(z - 1 - i)$$

$$= z^4 + 4$$

$$(z^2 + 2z + 2)(z^2 - 2z + 2) = z^4 + 4$$

↓  
factored