

1-4 Complex Conjugates

Notation for conjugates:

$$z^* = \bar{z} = x - iy$$

Note that

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

Because of this, a complex conjugate (on the plane) is a reflection of the original complex number along the x-axis.

Because of the stated properties of the real and imaginary parts, if z is real, then $z^* = z$.