

# Interesting Application of Euler's Formula

Souta

$$\sin x = 2$$

This equation seems to be unsolvable because  $\sin x$  only takes values from  $-1$  to  $1$  if  $x$  is real. However, when  $x$  takes complex values, a solution to this equation does indeed exist.

From Euler's identity,  $e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$ . Here, simplifying for  $\sin x$ , we obtain  $\sin x = \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2i}$ .

$$\therefore \sin x = 2 \iff \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2i} = 2 \iff e^{ix} - e^{-ix} - 4i = 0$$

Multiply by  $e^{ix}$ , we can get  $(e^{ix})^2 - 1 - 4ie^{ix} = 0$  ( $\because e^{ix} \cdot e^{-ix} = 1$ ). This is a quadratic equation for  $e^{ix}$ . From quadratic formula:

$$e^{ix} = (2 \pm \sqrt{3})i = (2 + \sqrt{3}) \left( \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \right).$$

Now from  $x \in \mathbb{C}$ , let  $x = a + bi$  ( $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} e^{ix} &= e^{i(a+bi)} \\ &= e^{-b+ai} \\ &= e^{-b} \cdot e^{ai} \\ &= e^{-b} \cdot (\cos a + i \sin a) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore a = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2n\pi (n \in \mathbb{Z}), b = \pm \log 2 + \sqrt{3}$$

Substituting  $a$  and  $b$  for  $x$ :

$$x = \left( \frac{4n+1}{2} \pi \pm \log(2\sqrt{3})i \right) (n \in \mathbb{Z}).$$