

10

MTH385: History of Mathematics - Homework #8

Cason Konzer

March 20, 2022

Cardano's Formula : $y^3 = py + q \Rightarrow y = \sqrt[3]{\frac{q}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{q}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)^3}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{q}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{q}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)^3}}.$

+2 Exercise 1 (5.5.2). Use Cardano's formula to solve $y^3 = 2$. Do you get the obvious solution?

Solution.

Using Cardano's Formula . . .

- $p = 0; \quad q = 2.$
- $y = \sqrt[3]{\frac{2}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{2}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{0}{3}\right)^3}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{2}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{2}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{0}{3}\right)^3}}.$
- $y = \sqrt[3]{1 + \sqrt{1}} + \sqrt[3]{1 - \sqrt{1}}.$
- $y = \sqrt[3]{2}.$

Yes we find the obvious solution.

□

+2 **Exercise 2** (5.5.3). Use Cardano's formula to solve $y^3 = 6y + 6$, and check your answer by substitution.

Solution.

Using Cardano's Formula . . .

- $p = 6; \quad q = 6.$
- $y = \sqrt[3]{\frac{6}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{6}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{6}{3}\right)^3}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{6}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{6}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{6}{3}\right)^3}}.$
- $y = \sqrt[3]{3 + \sqrt{(3)^2 - (2)^3}} + \sqrt[3]{3 - \sqrt{(3)^2 - (2)^3}}.$
- $y = \sqrt[3]{3 + \sqrt{9 - 8}} + \sqrt[3]{3 - \sqrt{9 - 8}} = \sqrt[3]{3 + \sqrt{1}} + \sqrt[3]{3 - \sqrt{1}}.$
- $y = \sqrt[3]{4} + \sqrt[3]{2}.$

Checking by substitution.

- $y^3 = (\sqrt[3]{4} + \sqrt[3]{2})^3 = 4 + 3(\sqrt[3]{4})^2(\sqrt[3]{2}) + 3(\sqrt[3]{4})(\sqrt[3]{2})^2 + 2.$
- $y^3 = 6 + 3(\sqrt[3]{4})(\sqrt[3]{2})(\sqrt[3]{4} + \sqrt[3]{2}) = 6 + 3(\sqrt[3]{8})(\sqrt[3]{4} + \sqrt[3]{2}).$
- $y^3 = 6 + 6(\sqrt[3]{4} + \sqrt[3]{2}) = 6 + 6y.$

Substitution checks out.

□

$$(1) \quad x = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{y + \sqrt{y^2 - 1}} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{y - \sqrt{y^2 - 1}}.$$

$$(2) \quad \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin n\theta + i \cos n\theta} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin n\theta - i \cos n\theta}.$$

$$(3) \quad (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta.$$

+2 Exercise 3 (5.6.2). Use (3) and $\sin(\alpha) = \cos(\pi/2 - \alpha)$, $\cos(\alpha) = \sin(\pi/2 - \alpha)$ to show that

$$(\sin \theta + i \cos \theta)^n = \begin{cases} \sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta) & \text{when } n = 4m + 1 \\ -\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta) & \text{when } n = 4m + 3. \end{cases}$$

Solution.

- $(\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta))^n = (\cos(\pi/2 - \theta) + i \sin(\pi/2 - \theta))^n.$
- $= \cos n(\pi/2 - \theta) + i \sin n(\pi/2 - \theta).$
- $= \cos(n\pi/2) \cos(-n\theta) - \sin(n\pi/2) \sin(-n\theta) + i(\sin(n\pi/2) \cos(-n\theta) + \cos(n\pi/2) \sin(-n\theta)).$
- $= \cos(n\pi/2) \cos(n\theta) + \sin(n\pi/2) \sin(n\theta) + i(\sin(n\pi/2) \cos(n\theta) - \cos(n\pi/2) \sin(n\theta)).$

Just to be clear with the proceeding, note that . . .

- $\cos(2m\pi + \pi/2) = \cos(2m\pi + 3\pi/2) = 0 ; \forall m \in \mathbb{Z}$
- $\sin(2m\pi + \pi/2) = -\sin(2m\pi + 3\pi/2) = 1 ; \forall m \in \mathbb{Z}$

When $n = 4m + 1$

- $\cos(2m\pi + \pi/2) \cos(n\theta) + \sin(2m\pi + \pi/2) \sin(n\theta) + i(\sin(2m\pi + \pi/2) \cos(n\theta) - \cos(2m\pi + \pi/2) \sin(n\theta)).$
- $(\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta))^{4m+1} = \sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta).$

When $n = 4m + 3$

- $\cos(2m\pi + 3\pi/2) \cos(n\theta) + \sin(2m\pi + 3\pi/2) \sin(n\theta) + i(\sin(2m\pi + 3\pi/2) \cos(n\theta) - \cos(2m\pi + 3\pi/2) \sin(n\theta)).$
- $(\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta))^{4m+3} = -\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta).$

Thus shown.

□

+2 **Exercise 4 (5.6.3).** Deduce from Exercise 5.6.2 that (2) is correct for $n = 4m + 1$ and false for $n = 4m + 3$, and hence that (1) is a correct relation between $y = \sin(n\theta)$ and $x = \sin(\theta)$ only when $n = 4m + 1$.

Solution.

When $n = 4m + 1 \dots$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \bullet \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta)} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta)}. \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (\sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta))^{1/n} + \frac{1}{2} (\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta))^{1/n}. \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left((\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta))^{n/n} + (\sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta))^{1/-n} \right). \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta) + (\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta))^{n/-n} \right). \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta) + \sin(\theta) - i \cos(\theta)) = \frac{1}{2} (2 \sin(\theta)). \\
 &= \sin(\theta).
 \end{aligned}$$

When $n = 4m + 3 \dots$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \bullet \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta)} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta)}. \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (\sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta))^{1/n} + \frac{1}{2} (\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta))^{1/n}. \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \left((-\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta))^{1/n} + (-\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta))^{1/-n} \right). \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \left((\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta))^{n/n} + (\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta))^{n/-n} \right). \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} (\sin(\theta) + i \cos(\theta) + \sin(\theta) - i \cos(\theta)) = -\frac{1}{2} (2 \sin(\theta)). \\
 &= -\sin(\theta).
 \end{aligned}$$

When $y = \sin(n\theta)$ and $x = \sin(\theta)$ we have . . .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet \sin(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) + \sqrt{\sin^2(n\theta) - 1}} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) - \sqrt{\sin^2(n\theta) - 1}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) + \sqrt{-(1 - \sin^2(n\theta))}} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) - \sqrt{-(1 - \sin^2(n\theta))}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) + \sqrt{-\cos^2(n\theta)}} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) - \sqrt{-\cos^2(n\theta)}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) - i \cos(n\theta)} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\sin(n\theta) + i \cos(n\theta)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

From above this is only $\sin(\theta)$ when $n = 4m + 1$ and thus (1) is a correct relation between

$y = \sin(n\theta)$ and $x = \sin(\theta)$ only when $n = 4m + 1$.

□

+2 **Exercise 5 (5.6.4).** Show that (1) is a correct relation between $y = \cos(n\theta)$ and $x = \cos(\theta)$ for all n (de Moivre (1730)).

Solution.

When $y = \cos(n\theta)$ and $x = \cos(\theta)$ we have . . .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet \cos(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\cos(n\theta) + \sqrt{\cos^2(n\theta) - 1}} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\cos(n\theta) - \sqrt{\cos^2(n\theta) - 1}}. \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\cos(n\theta) + \sqrt{-\sin^2(n\theta)}} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\cos(n\theta) - \sqrt{-\sin^2(n\theta)}}. \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\cos(n\theta) + i \sin(n\theta)} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[n]{\cos(n\theta) - i \sin(n\theta)}. \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left((\cos(n\theta) + i \sin(n\theta))^{1/n} + (\cos(n\theta) - i \sin(n\theta))^{1/n} \right). \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left((\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta))^{n/n} + (\cos(n\theta) + i \sin(n\theta))^{n/-n} \right). \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta) + \cos(n\theta) - i \sin(n\theta)) = \frac{1}{2} (2 \cos(\theta)). \\
 &= \cos(\theta).
 \end{aligned}$$

This is sufficient for all n by *de Moivre's formula*.

□