

# 1. Historical Background

## Why Complex numbers?

Quadratic formula.

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0, \quad a \neq 0 \quad a, b, c \text{ are real numbers}$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

This eqn has  $\begin{cases} 2 \text{ rts} & \text{if } \Delta = b^2 - 4ac > 0 \\ 1 \text{ rt} & \Delta = 0 \\ 0 \text{ rt} & \Delta < 0 \end{cases}$

When solving cubics (§1.3), we need to take sqrt of neg numbers, even when the eqn has 3 real rts.

Ex:  $x^3 - 3x + 1 = 0$  set  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 1$

Claim: Has 3 real rts.

Pf: Find loc max/min sketch graph.

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm 1$$

$$f(1) = -1 \quad f(-1) = 3$$

$\Rightarrow$  We have 3 real rts.



Cardano's formula.

$$x = u + v \Rightarrow (u + v)^3 - 3(u + v) + 1 = 0$$

$$u^3 + 3u^2v + 3uv^2 + v^3 - 3u - 3v + 1 = 0$$

$$u^3 + v^3 + 3(u + v)(uv - 1) = -1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} u^3 + v^3 = -1 & \textcircled{1} \\ uv - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow u^3v^3 = 1 & \textcircled{2} \\ \Rightarrow v^3 = \frac{1}{u^3} & \textcircled{3} \end{cases}$$

Now solve for  $u^3$  and  $v^3$

plug  $v^3 = \frac{1}{u^3}$  into  $\textcircled{1}$   $u^3 + \frac{1}{u^3} = -1$

$$u^6 + u^3 + 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u^3 = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{-3}}{2} \quad v = \frac{1}{u^3}$$

$$u = \sqrt[3]{\frac{-1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}} \Rightarrow v = \sqrt[3]{\frac{-1 - \sqrt{-3}}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \sqrt[3]{\frac{-1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{-1 - \sqrt{-3}}{2}} \text{ is a real solution to } x^3 - 3x + 1 = 0$$

Consider  $y'' - \lambda y = 0$

When  $\lambda > 0$   $y = C_1 e^{\sqrt{\lambda} x} + C_2 e^{-\sqrt{\lambda} x}$

$\lambda < 0$   $y = C_1 \cos(\sqrt{-\lambda} x) + C_2 \sin(\sqrt{-\lambda} x)$

$\leadsto$  when  $\lambda < 0$ , indicates some relation between " $e^{\sqrt{\lambda} x}$ " and trig fns.

Euler's identity  $e^{j\theta} = \cos \theta + j \sin \theta$

Gauss: answered question: when is an integer the sum of two perfect squares using  $\sqrt{-1}$ .

## 2. Complex numbers.

$$\mathbb{C} := \{ (a, b) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

$\backslash \text{mathbb}\{ \mathbb{C} \}$   $\backslash \text{mathbb}\{ \mathbb{R} \}$

As a set,  $\mathbb{C}$  is the same as  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

arithmetic operations:

Addition/subtraction.

$$(a_1, b_1) \pm (a_2, b_2) = (a_1 \pm a_2, b_1 \pm b_2)$$

multiplication

$$(a_1, b_1) (a_2, b_2) := (a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2, a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1)$$

Usually we write  $(a, b) = a + bi$   $i = \sqrt{-1}$  "imaginary"

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a_1 + b_1 i) \cdot (a_2 + b_2 i) &= a_1 \cdot (a_2 + b_2 i) + b_1 i \cdot (a_2 + b_2 i) \\
 &= a_1 a_2 + a_1 b_2 i + b_1 a_2 i + b_1 b_2 i^2 \\
 &= a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2 + (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) i
 \end{aligned}$$

Claim: when  $(a, b) \neq (0, 0)$ , there is a unique  $(c, d)$  s.t.  
 $(a, b)(c, d) = (c, d)(a, b) = (1, 0)$ .

$$(a + bi)(c + di) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow c = \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} \quad c + di = \frac{1}{a + bi} = \frac{a - bi}{(a + bi)(a - bi)} = \frac{a - bi}{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$d = \frac{-b}{a^2 + b^2}$$

Complex numbers have division!

$$\frac{a + bi}{c + di} = \dots$$

Check: multiplication is associative.

Now let's solve quadratic eqns. w/ complex coeffs.

$$\begin{aligned}
 a x^2 + bx + c &= 0 \quad a \neq 0 \\
 x &= \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now need write  $\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$  as  $x + yi$

$$\text{Set: } b^2 - 4ac = u + vi \quad u + vi = (x + yi)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \quad & \begin{cases} u = x^2 - y^2 \\ v = 2xy \end{cases} = x^2 - y^2 + 2xyi \\
 & \text{solve for } x \text{ and } v
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Example } \sqrt{i} = \pm \left( \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

Cubic eqns: Use Cardano's formula.

Q: How about eqns of higher degrees?  
This question has 2 parts.

(1) Given a  $a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0$   $a_i \in \mathbb{C}$   
Is there a complex number  $w$  that solves this eqn.

(2) Is there a formula like in the quadratic/cubic for  $w$ ?

(1) was answered by Gauss:

Fundamental thm of alg: (1) is true (Chapter 5).

(2) was answered by Galois:

When  $n \geq 5$ , there's no formula using  $+ - \times \div \sqrt[n]{\phantom{x}}$  for  $w$ .  
(Abstract algebra).

### 3. Complex planes.

$\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R}^2$  as vector spaces.

$$z = x + yi \longleftrightarrow (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

$\operatorname{Re} z := x$  - coordinate

$\operatorname{Im} z := y$  - coordinate

modulus  $|z| := \text{length of } (x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$

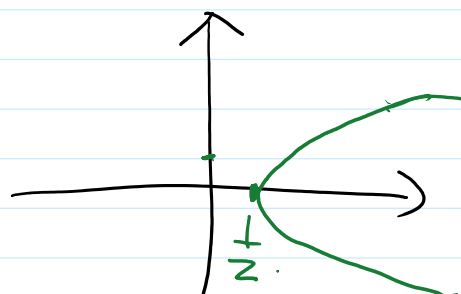
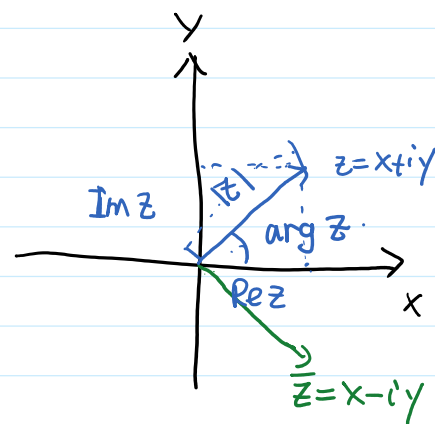
Argument  $\arg z = \theta \pmod{2\pi} = \sqrt{z \cdot \bar{z}}$

Conjugate  $\bar{z} := x - iy$

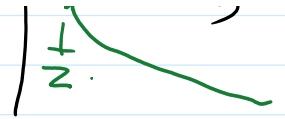
Sketch some subsets of  $\mathbb{C}$

$$\{z \mid \operatorname{Re} z = |z - 1|\}$$

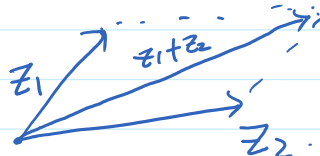
$$\begin{aligned} x &= |x - 1 + iy| \\ &= \sqrt{(x-1)^2 + y^2} \\ x^2 &= (x-1)^2 + y^2 \\ &= x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 x &= x-1+1+y^2 \\
 &= x^2-2x+1+y^2 \\
 \Rightarrow y^2 &= 2x-1
 \end{aligned}$$



Geometric meanings of arithmetic ops.  
+ : vector addition



multiplication:  $z_1 z_2 = \begin{cases} \text{length } |z_1 z_2| \\ \text{direction } \arg z_1 z_2 \end{cases}$

$$z_j = x_j + i y_j \quad j=1,2.$$

$$\bullet |z_j| = \sqrt{x_j^2 + y_j^2} \quad \text{Check } |z_1 z_2| = |z_1| |z_2|$$

$$\bullet \text{ For } \arg z_1 z_2 \quad z_1 = |z_1| \cdot \frac{z_1}{|z_1|}$$

$\frac{z_1}{|z_1|}$  is a unit vector/complex number.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z_1}{|z_1|} &= \cos \theta_1 + i \sin \theta_1 & \theta_1 &= \arg z_1 \\ &=: \text{cis}(\theta_1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{z_2}{|z_2|} = \cos \theta_2 + i \sin \theta_2.$$

$$\frac{z_1}{|z_1|} \cdot \frac{z_2}{|z_2|} = (\cos \theta_1 + i \sin \theta_1) \cdot (\cos \theta_2 + i \sin \theta_2).$$

$$= \underbrace{\cos \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 - \sin \theta_1 \sin \theta_2}_{\cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)} + i \underbrace{(\cos \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 + \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2)}_{\sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$$

$$= \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + i \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2).$$

$$\arg(z_1 z_2) = \theta_1 + \theta_2 = \arg(z_1) + \arg(z_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow z_1 \cdot z_2 = \begin{cases} \text{length } |z_1 z_2| = |z_1| \cdot |z_2| \\ \text{argument } \arg(z_1 z_2) = \arg z_1 + \arg z_2 \end{cases}$$

De Moivre's formula

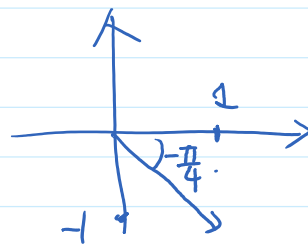
$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = \begin{cases} \text{length } 1 \\ \text{arg } n \cdot \theta \end{cases}$$

$$= \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta$$

Example:  $(1-i)^{10}$        $z = 1-i$      $|z| = \sqrt{2}$

$$z^{10} = \begin{cases} |z^{10}| = |z|^{10} = \sqrt{2}^{10} = 32 \\ \text{arg } z^{10} = 10 \cdot \text{arg } z = -\frac{5\pi}{2} = -\frac{\pi}{2} \end{cases}$$

$\text{arg } z = -\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{7\pi}{4}$



$$(1-i)^{10} = -32i$$

Example: Find all cubic rts of unity  $z^3 = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} |1| &= 1 & \text{arg}(1) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow |z|^3 &= 1 & \text{arg } z^3 &= 0 \\ |z| &= 1 & 3 \text{arg } z &= 0 \pmod{2\pi} \\ & \Rightarrow \text{arg } z = 2n\pi, 2n\pi + \frac{2\pi}{3}, 2n\pi + \frac{4\pi}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow z = 1, \cos \frac{2\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{3}, \cos \frac{4\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{4\pi}{3}$$

$$= 1, \omega = -\frac{1}{2} + i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \omega^2 = -\frac{1}{2} - i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Alternatively  $z^3 = 1 \Rightarrow z^3 - 1 = 0$  ↕ match!

$$(z-1)(z^2+z+1) = 0$$

Now solve  $z^2+z+1=0 \Rightarrow z = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{3}}{2}$

More generally if  $z^3 = r$ ,  $z = \sqrt[3]{r}$ ,  $\omega \sqrt[3]{r}$ ,  $\omega^2 \sqrt[3]{r}$

For general deg  $n$ . if  $z^n = 1$

then  $\begin{cases} |z| = 1 \\ n \text{arg } z = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{arg } z = \frac{2k\pi}{n} \quad 0 \leq k \leq n-1$

$$z = \cos \frac{2k\pi}{n} + i \sin \frac{2k\pi}{n} \quad 0 \leq k \leq n-1$$