

# Review of Complex numbers

1. The purpose of this exercise is to review the historical main motivation for introducing complex numbers: to solve  $x^2 = -1$ . This led to the number  $i$ , which is defined by  $i^2 = -1$ . With this number on our hands, solve the following quadratic equations.

(a)  $x^2 + 9 = 0$

(b)  $x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$

(c)  $5x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$

(d)  $x^3 + 2x^2 + x = 0$

2. The purpose of this exercise is to revise some basic concepts and basic operations on complex numbers. When in this exercise we ask you to compute a complex number, we are asking to express the result in cartesian form that is in the form  $x + yi$  where  $x, y$  are real numbers.

(a) Compute the real and imaginary parts of  $1 + i, 3 - 2i$ .

(b) Compute the sum, difference and product of the two complex numbers  $1 + i$  and  $3 - 2i$ .

(c) Compute the sum, difference and product of the two complex numbers  $-i$  and  $4i$ .

(d) Compute  $\frac{1+i}{3-2i}$ . Solve the equation  $(3 - 2i)z = 1 + i$ .

(e) Compute  $(1 + i)^3$ . Compute  $(x + iy)^3$  where  $x, y$  are real numbers.

(f) Compute  $i^n$  for any natural number  $n$ . What is the value of  $i^{2001}$  ?

(g)  $-2i(3 + i)(2 + 4i)(1 + i)$

(h) Compute the complex conjugate of the numbers  $1 + i, i, 2, \sqrt{3} + 2i$ .

(i) We denote by  $\bar{z}$  the complex conjugate of the complex number  $z = x + yi$  ( $x, y$  are real). Compute  $z\bar{z}$ .

(j) Compute  $\frac{1}{2}(z + \bar{z}), \frac{1}{2i}(z - \bar{z})$ .

(k) Verify that  $\overline{z_1 + z_2} = \bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2, \overline{z_1 z_2} = \bar{z}_1 \bar{z}_2, \overline{1/z} = 1/\bar{z}$ .

(l) Compute  $\frac{(3+4i)(-1+2i)}{(-1-i)(3-i)}$ .

3. Compute the modulus  $r$  and phase  $\theta$  of the following complex numbers and then write them in polar form  $re^{i\theta}$ . Represent them graphically in the complex plane.

(a)  $1 + i, 3 - 2i$ .

(b)  $1 + \sqrt{3}i$

(c)  $\cos \phi + i \sin \phi$  where  $\phi$  is a real number.

(d)  $\frac{1+i}{1-i}$ .

4. Compute the modulus of  $z + 7i$  where  $z = x + iy$ , where  $x, y$  are real numbers. Idem with  $|\frac{z-2}{-z+5-i}|$  (recall that  $|z|$  denotes the modulus of  $z$ ).
5. Recall Euler's formula  $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$  for any real number  $\theta$ . Let us explain how to derive this formula. Follow the steps:
  - (a) Go to your favorite notes on Taylor series and write the Taylor series of  $\cos \theta$  and  $\sin \theta$ .
  - (b) Using them, compute  $\cos \theta + i \sin \theta$ .
  - (c) Write the Taylor series for  $e^x$  where  $x$  is a real number. Accept that the series also holds for  $e^z$  where  $z$  is a complex number (the series can be used as a definition of  $e^z$ ). Compute  $e^{i\theta}$ .
  - (d) Conclude  $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$ .
6. Another view on Euler's formula. Assume that a particle moves in the plane following the trajectory  $F(t) = e^{it}$ ,  $t$  being a real number.
  - (a) What is the trajectory followed by the particle.
  - (b) Compute its velocity vector  $F'(t)$  and its speed  $|F'(t)|$ . For that recall that  $\frac{d}{dt}e^{at} = ae^{at}$  where  $a$  and  $t$  are real numbers. Accept that the result is true when  $a$  is a complex number. Show that  $F'(t) = iF(t)$ .
  - (c) Suppose that another particle follows the trajectory  $G(t) = \cos t + i \sin t$ . Show that  $G'(t) = iG(t)$ .
  - (d) Observe that both particles are at the same place at time  $t = 0$  and have the same velocity vector. Conclude that  $G(t) = F(t)$ .
7. Using Euler's formula show that
  - (a)  $\cos \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2}$ .
  - (b)  $\sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i}$ .
8. Derive De Moivre's formula

$$[\cos \theta + i \sin \theta]^n = \cos(n\theta) + i \sin(n\theta),$$

for any natural number  $n$  and any angle  $\theta$ .

9. Check that if  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  are two complex numbers, then  $|z_1 z_2| = |z_1| |z_2|$ . That is, the length of  $z_1 z_2$  is the product of the lengths of  $z_1$  and  $z_2$ . Check also that the phase of  $z_1 z_2$  is the sum of the phase of  $z_1$  plus the phase of  $z_2$ .
10. Check that if  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  are two complex numbers, then  $|z_1 + z_2| \leq |z_1| + |z_2|$ .
11. Let  $w$  and  $z$  be two complex numbers, both not zero. Show that the cosinus of the angle formed by the two vectors associated to  $w$  and  $z$  is  $\frac{\operatorname{Re}(w\bar{z})}{|w||z|}$ . Recall that  $\operatorname{Re}(z)$  denotes the real part of a complex number  $z$ .
12. Express in cartesian form, that is, in form  $x + iy$ , the numbers
  - (a)  $(1 + i)^n + (1 - i)^n$  where  $n$  is a natural number.

(b)  $\left(\frac{-1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^6$ .

(c)  $\frac{(1+i\sqrt{3})^3}{(1-i)^2}$ .

(d)  $e^{i\pi/6}$ .

(e)  $5e^{i\pi/2}$ .

(f)  $\sin i, \cos i$ .

(g) For any complex number  $z$ , define  $\tan z = \frac{\sin z}{\cos z}$ . Express  $\tan i$  in cartesian form.

(h)  $\tan \frac{1+i}{1-i}$ .

13. Compute the inverse of  $z = e^{i\pi/6}$ , that is, compute  $1/z$ . Compute the inverses of  $5e^{i\pi/2}$ ,  $re^{i\theta}$  ( $\theta$  is real).
14. Write  $(1+i)^{100}$  in polar and in cartesian form.
15. Draw in the plane the points  $e^{2k\pi i/8}$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, 7$ . Draw the points when  $k = 8, \dots, 15$ . What do you conclude ?
16. Let  $a+ib$ ,  $c+id$  be complex numbers,  $a, b, c, d$  being real. Represent in matrix form the operation  $(x+iy) \rightarrow (a+ib)(x+iy)$  (representing complex numbers as column vectors  $(x, y)^t$ ). Represent also using matrix notation the operation  $(x+iy) \rightarrow (a+ib)(x+iy) + (c+id)$ .
17. Consider a complex number in its polar form  $re^{i\theta}$ . Interpret geometrically the multiplication of another complex number,  $z$ , by  $re^{i\theta}$ . What happens to the plane when  $r < 1$  ? What happens when  $r > 1$  ?
18. Represent with a complex number the rotation of the plane of angle  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . Represent the rotations of  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ , of 60 degrees, and of 30 degrees.
19. Represent with a complex number the transformation of the plane consisting in a rotation of 45 degrees and a change of scale of factor 2.