University of Waterloo

PMATH 348
Complex Analysis

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Contents

1 Complex Numbers

Definition 1.0.1. A complex number is a vector in $\mathbb{R}^2$. The complex plane denoted by $\mathbb{C}$ is the set of complex numbers.

$$\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R}^2 = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

In $\mathbb{C}$, we usually write,

$$0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$iy = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

with $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. If $z = x + iy, x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, then x is called the real part of z and y the imaginary part of z and write

$$\Re(z) = x \qquad \Im(z) = y$$

Definition 1.0.2. We define the sum of two complex numbers to be the vector sum.

$$\begin{aligned}(a + ib) + (c + id) &= \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} a + c \\ b + d \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

We define the product of two complex numbers by setting $i^2 = -1$ and by requiring the product to be commutative, associative and distributive over the sum. So,

$$\begin{aligned}(a + bi)(c + di) &= ac + iad + ibc + i^2bd \\ &= (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)\end{aligned}$$

Proposition 1 (Mulitplicative Inverses)**.** *Every complex number has a unique multiplicative inverse denoted by z^{-1}.*

Proof. Let $z = a+i, a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ with $a^2+b^2 = 0$. We want to solve for x and y such that $(a+ib)(x+iy) = 1$. In other words,

$$\begin{aligned}&(ax - by) + i(ay + bx) = 1 \\ \Rightarrow &\begin{pmatrix} ax - by \\ bx + ay \end{pmatrix} = (1, 0) \\ \Rightarrow &\begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = (1, 0)\end{aligned}$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{1}{a^2+b^2} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a}{a^2+b^2} \\ \frac{b}{a^2+b^2} \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}
$$

This is unique as the inverse matrix is unique. $\square$

Remark. The set of complex numbers is a field under the operations of addition and multiplication as operations are associative, commutative and distributive and every element has a unique inverse as before.

Definition 1.0.3. If $z = x + iy, x, y, \in \mathbb{R}$, then the conjugate of z is $\bar{z} = x - iy$.

Definition 1.0.4. We define the modulus (or length or magnitude) of $z = x + iy, x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ to be

$$|z| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Remark. For any $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\bar{\bar{z}} &= z \\
z + \bar{z} &= 2\Re(z) \\
z - \bar{z} &= 2\Im(z) \\
z \cdot \bar{z} &= |z|^2 \\
|z| &= |\bar{z}| \\
\overline{z + w} &= \bar{z} + \overline{w} \\
\overline{zw} &= \bar{z} \cdot \overline{w} \\
|zw| &= |z||w|
\end{aligned}
$$

Proposition 2. *The following inequalities hold for any $z \in \mathbb{C}$.*

1. $|\Re(z)| \leq |z|$
2. $|\Im(z)| \leq |z|$
3. $|z + w| \leq |z| + |w|$
4. $|z + w| \geq \Big| |z| - |w| \Big|$

Proof. (1) and (2) follows as
$$|z|^2 = \Re(z)^2 + \Im(z)^2.$$

(3). Notice,

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

$$
\begin{aligned}
&= |x|^2 + |y|^2 + x\bar{y} + y\bar{x} \\
&= |x|^2 + |y|^2 + 2\Re(x\bar{y}) \\
&\leq |x|^2 + |y|^2 + 2|x\bar{y}| \\
&= |x|^2 + |y|^2 + 2|x| \cdot |\bar{y}| \\
&= |x + y|^2
\end{aligned}
$$

Taking the square root of both sides gives the result.

(4). From (3), we have that

$$
\begin{aligned}
|z| &= |z - w + w| \leq |z - w| + |w| \\
|w| &= |w - z + z| \leq |w - z| + |z|
\end{aligned}
$$

Then, isolating $|z - w|$ implies the result. More specifically since we have the simulateous inequality,

$$
\begin{cases} |z| - |w| \leq |z - w| \\ |w| - |z| \leq |z - w| \end{cases} \Rightarrow |z - w| \geq \Big| |z| - |w| \Big|
$$

as desired. $\square$

Proposition 3. *Every non-zero complex number has exactly 2 square roots.*

Proof. Let $z = x + iy \in \mathbb{C}$ with $x^2 + y^2 \neq 0, x, y, \in \mathbb{R}$. We want to solve $w^2 = z$ for $w \in \mathbb{C}$. Say w takes the form $w = u + iv, u, v \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
&w^2 = z \\
\Rightarrow\ &(u + iv)^2 = x + iy \\
\Rightarrow\ &(u^2 - v^2) + i2uv = x + iy
\end{aligned}
$$

So we have that $x = u^2 - v^2$ and $y = 2uv^2$. We can solve for u and v. Take the square of both sides of the second equation to get $4u^2v^2 = y^2$. Now, we multiply the first equation by $4u^2$ to get

$$
\begin{aligned}
&4u^4 - 4u^2v^2 = 4xu^2 \\
\Rightarrow\ &4u^4 - 4xu^2 - y^2 = 0
\end{aligned}
$$

This is a quadratic equation over u^2 so,

$$
u^2 = \frac{4x \pm \sqrt{16x^2 + 16y^2}}{8} = \frac{x \pm \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{2}
$$

Suppose that $y \neq 0$. Then we must take the positive solution above to get

$$
u^2 = \frac{x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{2}
$$

Under the assumption that $x^2 + y^2 > 0$, this solution exists. Notice we cannot take the negative solution as it yields a negative u^2 which is impossible. We can use a similar procedure to find that

$$
v^2 = \frac{-x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{2}
$$

Rooting u and v gives 2 solutions for each. However, if y is positive, since $2uv = y$, u and v must take the same sign. Similarly, if y is negative, they must take different signs. In each of these cases, there are 2 solutions for u and v. So,

$$w = \begin{cases} \pm\left[\left(\sqrt{\frac{x+\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}{2}}\right) + i\left(\sqrt{\frac{-x+\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}{2}}\right)\right] & , y > 0 \\ \pm\left[\left(\sqrt{\frac{x+\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}{2}}\right) - i\left(\sqrt{\frac{-x+\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}{2}}\right)\right] & , y < 0 \\ \pm\sqrt{x} & , x > 0,\ y = 0 \\ \pm i\sqrt{-x} & , x < 0,\ y = 0 \end{cases}$$

□

Remark. Let $z \in \mathbb{C}$. The notation $\sqrt{z}$ may represent either one of the square roots of z or both of the square roots.

Remark. The square root doesn't distribute. Consider $z = w = -1 \in \mathbb{C}$. $\sqrt{zw} \neq \sqrt{z}\sqrt{w}$.

Remark. The Quadratic Formula holds true for complex polynomials. In other words, if $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}, a \neq 0$,

$$az^2 + bz + c = 0 \Rightarrow z = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

Definition 1.0.5. If $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$, we define the angle (or argument) of z to be the angle $\theta(z)$ from the positive x-axis counterclockwise to z. In other words, $\theta(z)$ is the angle such that

$$z = |z|\big(\cos\theta(z) + i\sin\theta(z)\big).$$

Remark. For $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ (or for $\theta \in \mathbb{R}/2\pi$), we have that

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos(\theta) + i\sin(\theta)$$

Remark. If $z \neq 0$, we have $x = \Re(z)$, $y = \Im(z)$, $r = |z|$ and

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r\cos\theta \\ y &= r\sin\theta \\ \tan\theta &= \frac{y}{x}, \text{ if } x \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$z = rei\theta, \bar{z} = re^{-i\theta}, z^{-1} = \frac{1}{r}e^{-i\theta}$$

Remark. We now have 2 representations of a complex number $z \in \mathbb{C}$. We say that $z = x + iy$ is the cartesian coordinates of z and $z = re^{i\theta}$, where $r = |z|$, is the polar form of z.

Consider $z = re^{i\alpha}$ and $w = se^{i\beta}$. We have,

$$\begin{aligned} zw &= rs(\cos\alpha + i\sin\alpha)(\sin\beta + i\cos\beta) \\ &= rs\big((\cos\alpha\cos\beta - \sin\alpha\sin\beta) + i(\sin\alpha\cos\beta + \cos\alpha\sin\beta)\big) \\ &= rs\big(\cos(\alpha+\beta) + i\sin(\alpha+\beta)\big) \\ &= e^{i(\alpha+\beta)} \end{aligned}$$

which defines a formula for multiplication in polar coordinates. Notice that the following identity known as De Moivre's Law follows.

$$(re^{i\theta})^n = r^n e^{in\theta}$$

for all $r, \theta \in \mathbb{R}$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. We can use this identity to find the n^{th} roots of z. In other words, we solve $w^n = z$. We have,

$$\begin{aligned} w^n &= z \\ \Rightarrow (se^{i\alpha})^n &= re^{i\theta} \\ \Rightarrow s^n e^{in\alpha} &= re^{i\theta} \end{aligned}$$

so $s^n = r$ and $n\alpha = \theta + 2\pi k$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. In other words, we have

$$(re^{i\theta}) = \sqrt[n]{r} e^{i(\theta+2\pi k)/n}, \quad k = 0, \ldots, n-1$$

Remark. When working with complex numbers, for $0 \neq z \in \mathbb{C}$, and for $0 < n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $\sqrt[n]{z}$ or $z^{1/n}$ denotes either one of the n roots, or the set of all n^{th} roots.