

Solutions to 1A:

1 Show that $\alpha + \beta = \beta + \alpha$ for all $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$.

$\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$, suppose $\alpha = a + bi$, $\beta = c + di$, where $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha + \beta &= (a + bi) + (c + di) \\ &= (a + c) + (b + d)i & (i) \\ &= (c + a) + (d + b)i & (ii) \\ &= (c + di) + (a + bi) & (iii) \\ &= \beta + \alpha\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \alpha + \beta = \beta + \alpha \text{ for } \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$$

(i), (iii) are derived from the definition of addition on \mathbb{C} , and (ii) holds for the commutativity on \mathbb{R} .

4 Show that $\lambda(\alpha + \beta) = \lambda\alpha + \lambda\beta$ for all $\lambda, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$.

$\forall \lambda, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$, suppose $\alpha = a + bi$, $\beta = c + di$, $\lambda = e + fi$, where $a, b, c, d, e, f \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda(\alpha + \beta) &= \lambda((a + bi) + (c + di)) \\ &= \lambda((a + c) + (b + d)i) & (i) \\ &= (e + fi)((a + c) + (b + d)i) \\ &= (e(a + c) - f(b + d) + (e(b + d) + f(a + c))i) & (ii) \\ &= (ea + ec - fb - fd) + (eb + ed + fa + fc)i & (iii)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{and } \lambda\alpha + \lambda\beta &= (e + fi)(a + bi) + (e + fi)(c + di) \\ &= ((ea - fb) + (eb + fa)i) + ((ec - fd) + (ed + fc)i) & (iv) \\ &= (ea - fb + ec - fd) + (eb + fa + ed + fc)i & (v) \\ &= (ea + ec - fb - fd) + (eb + ed + fa + fc)i & (vi)\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \lambda(\alpha + \beta) = \lambda\alpha + \lambda\beta, \text{ for } \forall \lambda, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$$

(i), (v) are derived from the definition of addition on \mathbb{C} , (ii), (iv) are derived from the definition of multiplication on \mathbb{C} , (iii) is derived from the distributed property on \mathbb{R} , and (vi) is derived from the commutativity on \mathbb{R} .

5 Show that for every $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$, there exists a unique $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $\alpha + \beta = 0$.

Assume $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{C}$, $\exists \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\beta \neq \gamma$, s.t. $\alpha + \beta = 0$ and $\alpha + \gamma = 0$.
Suppose $\alpha = a + bi$, $\beta = c + di$, $\gamma = e + fi$.

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha + \beta &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow (a + bi) + (c + di) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow (a + c) + (b + d)i &= 0 + 0i\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow a+c=0 \text{ and } b+d=0$$

$$\Rightarrow c=-a \text{ and } d=-b$$

Similarly, we derive $e=-a$ and $f=-b$ from $\alpha+\gamma=0$

Because the additive inverse on R is unique, we have $c=e$ and $d=f$, introducing a contradiction: $\beta=\gamma$

\therefore the additive inverse on C is unique

8 Find two distinct square roots of i .

Denote any square root of i as $a+bi$, $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$(a+bi)^2 = i$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^2-b^2) + 2abi = i$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 = b^2 \text{ and } ab = \frac{1}{2} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{square roots of } i \text{ have the form } a+ai, \text{ where } a \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } a^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

\therefore square roots of i are $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i$ and $-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i$

15 Show that $(a+b)x = ax + bx$ for all $a, b \in F$ and all $x \in F^n$.

$\forall x \in F^n$, suppose $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, where $x_i \in F$, $i=1, \dots, n$

for $\forall a, b \in F$, we have

$$(a+b)x = (a+b)x_1, \dots, (a+b)x_n \quad (i)$$

$$= (ax_1 + bx_1, \dots, ax_n + bx_n) \quad (ii)$$

$$= (ax_1, \dots, ax_n) + (bx_1, \dots, bx_n) \quad (iii)$$

$$= ax + bx \quad (iv)$$

(i) and (iv) are derived from the definition of scalar multiplication in F^n ,

(ii) is derived from the distributed property on F ,

(iii) is derived from the definition of addition in F^n .