

Complex Numbers

Notation: \mathbb{R} real numbers, Preliminary stuff.

Def 1.1 Expressions of the form $a+bi$, where $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $i^2 = -1$ are called complex numbers. The set of all complex # is denoted \mathbb{C} .

Def 1.2 Given a complex # $z = a+ib$, the real # a is called the real part of z , and b is the imaginary part of z . Complex # of the form $ib = 0+ib$ are called pure imaginary #. The number i is called the imaginary unit. Observe that i is not a real #.

Multiplication & Addition

1.3 Complex # are added and multiplied as follow:

If $z = a+ib$ and $w = a'+ib'$, then

$$z+w = (a+a') + i(b+b') \text{ and}$$

$$z \cdot w = (a+ib) \cdot (a'+ib') = aa' + ibb' + i \cdot ab' + i \cdot ba' = (aa' - bb') + i(ab' + ba')$$

Example 1.4 If $z = 1+i$ and $w = 2-3i$,

compute

Solution

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

$$(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

$$z \cdot w = (1+i) \cdot (2-3i) = (2+3) + i(2-3) = 5 - i$$

$$z^2 + z \cdot w = 2i + 5 - i = 5 + i$$

Answer $z^2 + z \cdot w = 5 + i$

Equality of complex numbers
 [Lemma 1.5] Two complex # are equal if and only if they have the same real and imaginary part.
 That is $a + ib = a' + ib' \iff a = a'$ and $b = b'$

Proof. \Leftarrow : Obvious

\Rightarrow We ~~prove~~ by a contradiction.

Let $a + ib = a' + ib'$. Assume that $b \neq b'$ then
 $a - a' = i(b' - b)$

$\frac{a - a'}{b' - b} = i$ is REAL #, a contradiction.

Hence, $b = b'$

Assume that $a \neq a'$ then

$a - a' \neq 0$, a contradiction since $a - a' = i(b' - b) = i \cdot 0 = 0$

Hence, $a = a'$

The proof is finished \square

[Def 1.6] If $z = a + ib$ is any complex #, the conjugate of z is another complex #, denoted \bar{z} , given by
 $\bar{z} = a - ib$

[Lemma 1.7] The following properties hold:

C1 $\overline{(z \pm w)} = \bar{z} \pm \bar{w}$

C2 $\overline{(zw)} = \bar{z} \cdot \bar{w}$

C3 $\overline{(\bar{z})} = z$

C4 z is real if and only if $\bar{z} = z$

Proof We prove only C4:

if z is real, then $z = a + i \cdot 0 = a$ and $\bar{z} = a - i \cdot 0 = a$
 Hence $z = a = \bar{z}$

if $\bar{z} = z$, then $a + ib = a - ib$

$i \cdot (2b) = \dots \dots \dots i(b+b) = a - a = 0$

By Lemma 1.5 $2b = 0$

Hence $b = 0$. i.e. $z = a + i \cdot 0$ is real \square

Def. 1.8 Given any complex # $z = a + ib$, the absolute value or modulus of z is given by

$$|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \quad (\text{we take the positive square root only})$$

Lemma 1.9 For any complex # z we have:

A0 $z\bar{z} = a^2 + b^2$

A1 $|z| \geq 0$ for all z

A2 $|z| = 0$ if and only if $z = 0$

A3 $|zw| = |z||w|$

Proof of A3 $|zw|^2 = (zw) \cdot \overline{(zw)} = zw \cdot \bar{z} \cdot \bar{w} = z \cdot \bar{z} \cdot w \cdot \bar{w} = |z|^2 \cdot |w|^2$
by A0 by Lemma 1.7 by A0
prop C2.

Taking the square root we obtain the required equality. \square

Def. 1.10 If z is any non-zero complex #, the inverse of z denoted z^{-1} , is a complex # such that $z \cdot z^{-1} = z^{-1} \cdot z = 1$ (6)

Lemma 1.11 Given any non-zero complex # z , we have

$$z^{-1} = \frac{\bar{z}}{|z|^2}$$

Proof. We have to check that $z \cdot z^{-1} = 1$

$$z \cdot z^{-1} = z \cdot \frac{\bar{z}}{|z|^2} = \frac{z \cdot \bar{z}}{z \cdot \bar{z}} = 1$$

by A0 of Lemma 1.9. \square

Example 1.12 If $z = 2 + 3i$, to find z^{-1}

Solution: if $z = a + ib$, then $|z|^2 = a^2 + b^2$

Hence, for $z = 2 + 3i$ $|z|^2 = 4 + 9 = 13$

So $z^{-1} = \frac{\bar{z}}{|z|^2} = \frac{1}{13}(2 - 3i) = \frac{2}{13} - \frac{3}{13}i$

1.13 Consider the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$, where a, b, c are real #s with $a \neq 0$. It has roots given by the following formula:

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}, \text{ where } \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} = d \text{ is called the discriminant.}$$

1.14 The discriminant d determines the nature of the roots
 Namely, If $d > 0$ there are two real roots
 If $d = 0$ there is one real root
 If $d < 0$ there are no real roots

Def. 1.15 If: the discriminant $d < 0$, then the quadratic $ax^2 + bx + c$ is said to be irreducible.

Lemma 1.16 (a) Any irreducible quadratic has two non-real complex roots which are conjugates of each other.
 (b) Given any non-real complex # λ , then λ and $\bar{\lambda}$ are the complex roots of some real irreducible quadratic.

Proof. (a): the quadratic formula gives two complex roots
 $\lambda = \frac{1}{2a}(-b + i\sqrt{|d|})$ and $\bar{\lambda} = \frac{1}{2a}(-b - i\sqrt{|d|})$

(b) The quadratic $x^2 - (\lambda + \bar{\lambda})x + (\lambda\bar{\lambda}) = (x - \lambda)(x - \bar{\lambda})$ has complex roots λ and $\bar{\lambda}$ and is irreducible and has real coefficients $\lambda + \bar{\lambda}$ and $\lambda\bar{\lambda}$.

Theorem 1.17 Every non constant polynomial with complex coefficients has a root. (9)

Corollary 1.18 Every complex polynomial $f(x)$ of degree $n \geq 1$ has the form $f(x) = u \cdot (x - \lambda_1)(x - \lambda_2) \dots (x - \lambda_n)$ where the complex #'s $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ are the roots of $f(x)$, and $u \neq 0$ is the coefficient of x^n in $f(x)$.

Proof of 1.18 If $f(x)$ is a polynomial with complex coefficients of degree $n \geq 1$, and if λ_1 is a root then the factor theorem implies that $f(x) = (x - \lambda_1)g(x)$, where $g(x)$ is a polynomial of degree $n-1$. Repeating this process for $g(x)$ and λ_2 a root of $g(x)$ and so on, we obtain the desired factorization. \square