

Complex Numbers

L34P1

Current view $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.

These sets can be thought of as helping us to solve polynomial equations.

However $x^2 + 1 = 0$ has no solution in any of these sets.

Def'n: A complex number (in standard form) is an expression of the form $x + yi$ where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and i is the imaginary unit.

Denote the set of complex numbers by

$$\mathbb{C} := \{x + yi : x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Ex: $1 + 2i$, $3i$, $\sqrt{13} + \pi i$, $2 + 0i$

Note $\mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$.

If $z = x + yi$ then $x = \operatorname{Re}(z) = \Re(z)$ real part.
 $y = \operatorname{Im}(z) = \Im(z)$ imaginary part.

Two complex numbers $z = x + yi$ and $w = u + vi$ are equal iff

$$x = u \quad \& \quad y = v.$$

A complex number z is

- purely real if $\text{Im}(z) = 0$ ie $z = x$

- purely imaginary if $\text{Re}(z) = 0$ ie $z = yi$.

We turn \mathbb{C} into a ring by defining $+$, $-$, \cdot

$$(x + yi) \pm (u + vi) = (x \pm u) + (y \pm v)i$$

$$(x + yi)(u + vi) = (xu - vy) + (xv + uy)i$$

By this def'n:

$$i^2 = i \cdot i = (0 + i)(0 + i) = -1 + 0i = -1$$

So i is a solution to $x^2 + 1 = 0$.

With this, multiplication can be remembered by

$$\begin{aligned} (x + yi)(u + vi) &= xu + xvi + uyi + vyi^2 \\ &= xu - vy + (xv + uy)i \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Ex: } (1+2i) + (3+4i) = 4+6i$$

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

$$(1+2i)(3+4i) = 3-8 + (4+6)i \\ = -5 + 10i$$

Commutative

Rings (hence \mathbb{C}) have the following properties

1. Associativity (Let $v, w, z \in \mathbb{C}$ & $z = x+yi$)

$$(v+w)+z = v+(w+z)$$

$$\& (vw)z = v(wz)$$

2. Commutativity

$$w+v = v+w \quad \& \quad wv = vw$$

3. Identities

$$z+0 = z \quad \& \quad z \cdot 1 = z \text{ where}$$

$$0 = 0+0i \quad \& \quad 1 = 1+0i$$

4. Additive inverses

$$z+(-z) = 0 \text{ where } -z = -x-yi$$

5. Distributive Property

$$z(w+v) = zw + zv$$

We turn \mathbb{C} into a field by defining the inverse operation for non zero complex numbers

$$(x+yi)^{-1} := \frac{x}{x^2+y^2} - \frac{y}{x^2+y^2}i$$

Note: $\forall z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ \& } z \neq 0$ then

$$z \cdot z^{-1} = 1 \quad (\text{Exercise})$$

For complex numbers u, v, w, z with v, z non zero, the above is consistent with the usual fraction rules:

$$\frac{u}{v} + \frac{w}{z} = \frac{uz+vw}{vz} \quad \& \quad \frac{u}{v} \cdot \frac{w}{z} = \frac{uw}{vz}$$

For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $z \in \mathbb{C}$ define ($z \neq 0$)

$$z^0 = 1 \quad z^1 = z \quad \& \quad z^{k+1} = z \cdot z^k$$

Define $z^{-k} := (z^{-1})^k$

Usual exponent rules hold i.e.
 $(z^m)^n = z^{mn}$ & $z^m \cdot z^n = z^{m+n}$
 (for $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$).

Ex: Write $\frac{1+2i}{3-4i}$ in standard form

Sol'n:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1+2i}{3-4i} &= (1+2i)(3-4i)^{-1} \\ &= (1+2i) \left(\frac{3}{3^2+4^2} - \frac{(-4)}{3^2+4^2}i \right) \\ &= (1+2i) \left(\frac{3}{25} + \frac{4}{25}i \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{25} - \frac{8}{25} + \left(\frac{4}{25} + \frac{6}{25} \right)i \\ &= \frac{-5}{25} + \frac{10}{25}i \\ &= -\frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{5}i \end{aligned}$$

Express the following in standard form:

$$1. \frac{(1-2i)-(3+4i)}{5-6i} = S$$

$$2. i^{2015} = T$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 1. \quad S &= ((1-2i)-(3+4i))(5-6i)^{-1} \\
 &= (-2-6i) \left(\frac{5}{5^2+6^2} - \frac{(-6)i}{5^2+6^2} \right) \\
 &= (-2-6i) \left(\frac{5}{61} + \frac{6}{61}i \right) \\
 &= \left(\frac{-10}{61} + \frac{36}{61} \right) + \left(\frac{-12}{61} - \frac{30}{61} \right) i \\
 &= \frac{26}{61} - \frac{42}{61} i
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2. \quad T &= i^{2015} & i^2 &= -1 \\
 &= (i^4)^{503} \cdot i^3 & i^4 &= 1 \\
 &= 1^{503} \cdot i^2 \cdot i \\
 &= -i = 0 - i
 \end{aligned}$$