

W16 - Notes

Complex exponential

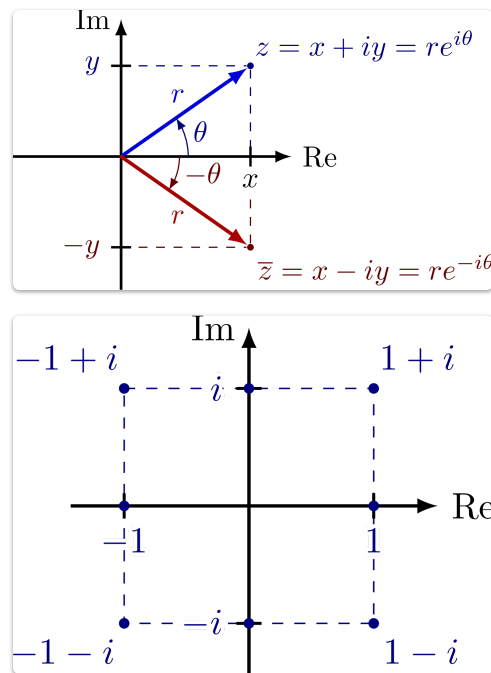
Videos

Videos, Khan Academy

- [Complex exponential form](#)

01 Theory - Complex plane and polar data

A complex number $z = x + iy$ can be represented in the plane as the point with Cartesian coordinates (x, y) . The coefficient of “ i ” determines the vertical coordinate, and the coefficient of “1” determines the horizontal coordinate.



Let us be given a complex number $z = a + bi$.

The “real part” and “imaginary part” of z can be extracted with designated functions:

$$\operatorname{Re}(z) = a, \quad \operatorname{Im}(z) = b, \quad \text{for } z = a + bi$$

$$z = \operatorname{Re}(z) + \operatorname{Im}(z)i$$

The polar data (radius and angle) have special names and notations for complex numbers:

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} & \theta &= \tan^{-1}(b/a) + \pi \\
 &= |z| & &= \text{Arg}(z) \\
 &= \text{“modulus” of } z & &= \text{“argument” of } z
 \end{aligned}$$

Using this notation, we see that product with the conjugate gives square of modulus:

$$z\bar{z} = |z|^2$$

02 Theory - cis, Euler, products, powers

Multiplication of complex numbers is much easier to understand when the numbers are written using polar form.

There is a shorthand ‘cis’ notation. Convert to polar coordinates, so $a = r \cos \theta$ and $b = r \sin \theta$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 a + bi &\ggg r \cos \theta + r \sin \theta i \\
 &\ggg r (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta) \\
 &\ggg r \text{ cis } \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

The “cis” stands for $\cos \theta + i \sin \theta$. For example:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2}i &\ggg 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i \right) \\
 &\ggg 2 \cos \left(-\frac{\pi}{4} \right) + 2 \sin \left(-\frac{\pi}{4} \right) i \\
 &\ggg 2 \text{ cis } \left(-\frac{\pi}{4} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Euler Formula

General **Euler Formula**:

$$re^{i\theta} = r \cos \theta + i r \sin \theta$$

On the unit circle $r = 1$:

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

The form $re^{i\theta}$ expresses the *same data* as the cis form. The principal advantage of the form $re^{i\theta}$ is that it *reveals the rule for multiplication*, which comes from exponent laws:

Complex multiplication - Exponential form

$$r_1 e^{i\theta_1} \cdot r_2 e^{i\theta_2} = (r_1 r_2) e^{i(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$$

In words:

- Multiply radii
- Add angles

Notice:

$$\text{multiply by } e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \text{rotate by } +90^\circ$$

Notice:

$$e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} = +i$$

Therefore i 'acts upon' other numbers by rotating them 90° counterclockwise!

De Moivre's Theorem - Complex powers

In exponential notation:

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

In cis notation:

$$(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^n = r^n \operatorname{cis} (n\theta)$$

Expanded cis notation:

$$(r \cos \theta + i r \sin \theta)^n = r^n \cos(n\theta) + i r^n \sin(n\theta)$$

So the power of n acts like this:

- **Stretch:** r to r^n
- **Rotate:** by n increments of θ

Extra - Derivation of Euler Formula

Recall the power series for e^x :

$$e^x = 1 + \frac{1}{1!}x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!}x^i$$

Plug in $x = i\theta$:

$$e^{i\theta} \gg \gg 1 + (i\theta) + \frac{1}{2!}(i\theta)^2 + \frac{1}{3!}(i\theta)^3 + \dots +$$

Simplify terms:

$$\gg \gg 1 + i\theta - \frac{1}{2!}\theta^2 - \frac{1}{3!}i\theta^3 + \frac{1}{4!}\theta^4 + \frac{1}{5!}i\theta^5 - \frac{1}{6!}\theta^6 - \frac{1}{7!}i\theta^7 + \frac{1}{8!}\theta^8 + \dots$$

Separate by i -factor. Select out the $\overbrace{\text{terms with } i}$:

$$\ggg 1 + \overbrace{i\theta} - \frac{1}{2!}\theta^2 - \frac{1}{3!}\overbrace{i\theta^3} + \frac{1}{4!}\theta^4 + \frac{1}{5!}\overbrace{i\theta^5} - \frac{1}{6!}\theta^6 - \frac{1}{7!}\overbrace{i\theta^7} + \frac{1}{8!}\theta^8 + \dots$$

Separate into a series without i and a series with i :

$$\ggg \left(1 - \frac{1}{2!}\theta^2 + \frac{1}{4!}\theta^4 - \dots\right) + \left(\theta - \frac{1}{3!}\theta^3 + \frac{1}{5!}\theta^5 - \dots\right)i$$

Identify $\cos \theta$ and $\sin \theta i$. Write trig series:

$$\cos \theta = 1 - \frac{1}{2!}\theta^2 + \frac{1}{4!}\theta^4 - \dots$$

$$\sin \theta = \theta - \frac{1}{3!}\theta^3 + \frac{1}{5!}\theta^5 - \dots$$

Therefore $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$.

03 Illustration

≡ Example - Complex product, quotient, power using Euler

Define:

$$z = 2e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad w = 5e^{i\frac{\pi}{3}}$$

Product zw :

$$\begin{aligned} zw &\ggg (2e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}) \cdot (5e^{i\frac{\pi}{3}}) \\ &\ggg (2 \cdot 5) (e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}) (e^{i\frac{\pi}{3}}) \ggg 10e^{i\frac{\pi}{2} + i\frac{\pi}{3}} \ggg 10e^{i\frac{5\pi}{6}} \end{aligned}$$

Quotient z/w :

$$\begin{aligned} z/w &\ggg (2e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}) / (5e^{i\frac{\pi}{3}}) \\ &\ggg \frac{2e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}}{5e^{i\frac{\pi}{3}}} \ggg \frac{2}{5} e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{-i\frac{\pi}{3}} \ggg \frac{2}{5} e^{i\frac{\pi}{6}} \end{aligned}$$

Power z^8 :

$$\begin{aligned} z^8 &\ggg (2e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}})^8 \\ &\ggg 2^8 (e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}})^8 \ggg 512e^{i \cdot 4\pi} \end{aligned}$$

Notice:

$$e^{i \cdot 4\pi} \ggg (e^{2\pi i})^2 \ggg 1^2 \ggg 1$$

Simplify:

$$512e^{i \cdot 4\pi} \ggg 512$$

≡ Example - Complex power from Cartesian

Compute $(3 + 3i)^4$.

Solution

First convert to exponential form:

$$\begin{aligned} 3 + 3i &\ggg 3\sqrt{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i \right) \\ &\ggg 3\sqrt{2}e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}} \end{aligned}$$

Compute the power:

$$\begin{aligned} (3 + 3i)^4 &\ggg \left(3\sqrt{2}e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}} \right)^4 \\ &\ggg 324e^{i\pi} \ggg -324 \end{aligned}$$

Complex roots

Videos

Videos, Trefor Bazett

- [Finding cube roots](#): Find cube roots of -1

Videos, Brain Gainz

- [Finding nth roots](#): Fourth roots of $\sqrt{3} - i$ and cube roots of -8

04 Theory - Roots formula

The exponential notation leads to a formula for a complex n^{th} root of any complex number:

$$\sqrt[n]{re^{i\theta}} = \sqrt[n]{r} e^{i\frac{\theta}{n}}$$

⚠ n distinct roots

Every complex number actually has n distinct n^{th} roots!

That's two square roots, three cube roots, four 4th roots, etc.

🧩 All complex roots

The complex roots of $z = re^{i\theta}$ are given by this formula:

$$w_k = \sqrt[n]{r} \cdot e^{i\left(\frac{\theta}{n} + k\frac{2\pi}{n}\right)} \quad \text{for each } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$$

In Cartesian notation:

$$w_k = \sqrt[n]{r} \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{n} + k\frac{2\pi}{n}\right) + \sqrt[n]{r} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{n} + k\frac{2\pi}{n}\right)i$$

In words:

- Start with the basic root: $\sqrt[n]{r} \cdot e^{i\frac{\theta}{n}}$
- Rotate by increments of $\frac{2\pi}{n}$ to get all other roots
 - After n distinct roots, this process repeats itself

Extra - Complex roots proof

We must verify that $w_k^n = re^{i\theta}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sqrt[n]{r} \cdot e^{i\left(\frac{\theta}{n} + k\frac{2\pi}{n}\right)}\right)^n &\ggg r^{\frac{n}{n}} \cdot e^{i\left(\frac{\theta}{n} + k\frac{2\pi}{n}\right)n} \\ &\ggg r \cdot e^{i(\theta + 2\pi k)} \ggg re^{i\theta} e^{i2\pi k} \ggg re^{i\theta} \end{aligned}$$

05 Illustration

Example - Finding all 4th roots of 16

Compute all the 4th roots of 16.

Solution

Write $16 = 16e^{0i}$.

Evaluate roots formula:

$$(16e^{0i})^{\frac{1}{4}} \ggg w_k = 16^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{i\left(\frac{0}{4} + k\frac{2\pi}{4}\right)}$$

Simplify:

$$\ggg 2e^{i \cdot k \frac{\pi}{2}} \ggg 2, 2i, -2, -2i$$

Example - Finding 2nd roots of $2i$

Find both 2nd roots of $2i$.

Solution

Write $2i = 2e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}$.

Evaluate roots formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(2e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} &\ggg w_k = \sqrt{2}e^{i\left(\frac{\pi/2}{2} + k\frac{2\pi}{2}\right)} \\ &\ggg \sqrt{2}e^{i\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + k\pi\right)} \end{aligned}$$

Compute the options: $k = 0, 1$:

$$\ggg \sqrt{2}e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}}, \sqrt{2}e^{i\frac{5\pi}{4}}$$

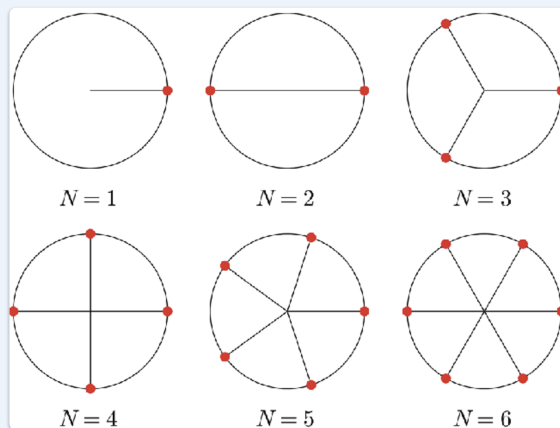
Convert to rectangular:

$$\begin{aligned} &\ggg \sqrt{2}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i\right), \sqrt{2}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i\right) \\ &\ggg \boxed{1 + i, 1 - i} \end{aligned}$$

Example - Some roots of unity

Find the 1st and 2nd and 3rd and 4th and 5th and 6th roots of the number 1.

Solution



(1) 1st

Write $1 = e^{0i}$. Evaluate roots formula. There is no possible k :

$$\left(e^{0i}\right)^{\frac{1}{1}} \ggg e^{0i} \ggg 1$$

(2) 2nd

Write $1 = e^{0i}$. Evaluate roots formula in terms of k :

$$\left(e^{0i}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \ggg w_k = e^{i\left(\frac{0}{2} + k\frac{2\pi}{2}\right)} \quad k = 0, 1$$

Compute the two options, $k = 0, 1$:

$$\ggg 1, e^{\pi i} \ggg 1, -1$$

(3) 3rd

Evaluate roots formula in terms of k :

$$(e^{0i})^{\frac{1}{3}} \ggg w_k = e^{i(\frac{0}{3} + k\frac{2\pi}{3})}$$

Compute the options: $k = 0, 1, 2$:

$$\ggg 1, e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}}, e^{i\frac{4\pi}{3}} \ggg 1, -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i, -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$$

(4) 4th

Evaluate roots formula:

$$(e^{0i})^{\frac{1}{4}} \ggg w_k = e^{i(\frac{0}{4} + k\frac{2\pi}{4})}$$

Compute the options: $k = 0, 1, 2, 3$:

$$1, e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}, e^{i\pi}, e^{i\frac{3\pi}{2}} \ggg 1, i, -1, -i$$

(5) 5th

Evaluate roots formula:

$$(e^{0i})^{\frac{1}{5}} \ggg w_k = e^{i(\frac{0}{5} + k\frac{2\pi}{5})}$$

Compute the options: $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$:

$$1, e^{i\frac{2\pi}{5}}, e^{i\frac{4\pi}{5}}, e^{i\frac{6\pi}{5}}, e^{i\frac{8\pi}{5}}$$

Don't simplify, it's not feasible.

(6) 6th

Evaluate roots formula:

$$(e^{0i})^{\frac{1}{6}} \ggg w_k = e^{i(\frac{0}{6} + k\frac{2\pi}{6})}$$

Compute the options: $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$:

$$1, e^{i\frac{2\pi}{6}}, e^{i\frac{4\pi}{6}}, e^{i\frac{6\pi}{6}}, e^{i\frac{8\pi}{6}}, e^{i\frac{10\pi}{6}}$$

Simplify:

$$\ggg 1, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i, -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i, -1, -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$$

