

**Tutorial 1: Complex Numbers**  
PH 503 MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS

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1. Verify that

(a)  $(\sqrt{2} - i) - i(1 - \sqrt{2}i) = -2i$ ;

(b)  $(2, -3)(-2, 1) = (-1, 8)$ ;

(c)  $\frac{5}{(1-i)(2-i)(3-i)} = \frac{i}{2}$ ;

(d)  $(1 - i)^4 = -4$ .

2. Verify that each of the two numbers  $z = 1 \pm i$  satisfies the equation  $z^2 - 2z + 2 = 0$ .

3. Solve the equation  $z^2 + z + 1 = 0$  for  $z = (x, y)$  by writing

$$(x, y)(x, y) + (x, y) + (1, 0) = (0, 0)$$

and then solving a pair of simultaneous equations in  $x$  and  $y$ .

4. If  $z_1 = (x_1, y_1)$  and  $z_2 = (x_2, y_2)$ , then obtain an expression for  $z_1/z_2$ .

5. Prove that  $\sqrt{2}|z| \geq |\operatorname{Re} z| + |\operatorname{Im} z|$ .

6. In each case, sketch the set of points determined by the given condition:

(a)  $|z - 1 + i| = 1$ ;

(b)  $|z + i| \leq 3$ ;

(c)  $\operatorname{Re}(\bar{z} - i) = 2$ ;

(d)  $|2z - i| = 4$ .

7. If  $z$  lies on a circle  $|z| = 2$ , then show that

$$\left| \frac{1}{z^4 - 4z^2 + 3} \right| \leq \frac{1}{3}.$$

8. Show that the equation  $|z - z_0| = R$  of a circle, centered at  $z_0$  with radius  $R$ , can be written as

$$|z|^2 - 2\operatorname{Re}(z\bar{z}_0) + |z_0|^2 = R^2.$$

9. Show that the hyperbola  $x^2 - y^2 = 1$  can be written as

$$z^2 + \bar{z}^2 = 2.$$

10. Using the fact that  $|z_1 - z_2|$  is the distance between two points  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  give a geometric argument that

(a) the equation  $|z - 4i| + |z + 4i| = 10$  represents an ellipse;

(b) the equation  $|z - 1| = |z + i|$  represents a line through origin whose slope is -1.

11. Find the principal argument  $\arg z$  when

(a)  $z = \frac{-2}{1 + \sqrt{3}i}$ ;

(b)  $z = \frac{i}{-2 - 2i}$ ;

(c)  $z = (\sqrt{3} - i)^6$ .

12. By writing the individual factors on the left in exponential form, performing the needed operations, and finally converting back to rectangular coordinates, show that

(a)  $i(1 - \sqrt{3}i)(\sqrt{3} + i) = 2(1 + \sqrt{3}i);$

(b)  $5i/(2 + i) = 1 + 2i;$

(c)  $(-1 + i)^7 = -8(1 + i);$

(d)  $(1 + \sqrt{3}i)^{-10} = 2^{-11}(-1 + \sqrt{3}i)$

13. Use de Moivre's formula to derive following trigonometric identities:

(a)  $\cos 3\theta = \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta;$

(b)  $\sin 3\theta = 3 \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta - \sin^3 \theta.$

14. Establish the identity

$$1 + z + z^2 + \cdots + z^n = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}$$

( $z \neq 1$ ) and then use it to derive *Lagrange's trigonometric formula*:

$$1 + \cos \theta + \cos 2\theta + \cdots + \cos n\theta = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sin [(2n + 1)\theta/2]}{2 \sin(\theta/2)}$$

where  $0 < \theta < 2\pi$ .

15. Prove de Moivre's formula by mathematical induction

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

16. In each case, find all of the roots in rectangular coordinates, exhibit them geometrically, and point out which is the principal root:

(a)  $(-1)^{1/3};$

(b)  $(16)^{1/4};$

(c)  $(8)^{1/6};$

(d)  $(-8 - 8\sqrt{3}i)^{1/4}.$

17. Show that if  $c$  is any  $n$ th root of unity other than itself, then

$$1 + c + c^2 + \cdots + c^{n-1} = 0$$