

Complex Numbers Simplified

1. Complex Numbers

Numbers of the form $x + yi$, where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $i = \sqrt{-1}$. The set of complex numbers is denoted by \mathbb{C} .

2. Properties of Complex Numbers

Commutative Law for Addition

$$z_1 + z_2 = z_2 + z_1$$

for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$.

Associative Law for Addition

$$(z_1 + z_2) + z_3 = z_1 + (z_2 + z_3)$$

for all $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}$.

Additive Identity

$$z + 0 = 0 + z = z$$

for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$ (and $0 = 0 + i \cdot 0$).

Additive Inverse

For any complex number $z = x + yi$, there is a unique $-z = -x - yi \in \mathbb{C}$ such that

$$z + (-z) = 0$$

Commutative Law for Multiplication

$$z_1 \cdot z_2 = z_2 \cdot z_1$$

for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$.

Associative Law for Multiplication

$$(z_1 \cdot z_2) \cdot z_3 = z_1 \cdot (z_2 \cdot z_3)$$

for all $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}$.

Multiplicative Identity

$$z \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot z = z$$

for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$ (and $1 = 1 + i \cdot 0$).

Multiplicative Inverse

For any complex number $z = x + yi$, $z \neq 0$, there is a unique $z^{-1} \in \mathbb{C}$ such that

$$z \cdot z^{-1} = z^{-1} \cdot z = 1$$

3. Distributive Law

$$z_1 \cdot (z_2 + z_3) = z_1 \cdot z_2 + z_1 \cdot z_3$$

for all $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}$.

4. Algebraic Properties of Complex Numbers

$$z^m \cdot z^n = z^{m+n}$$

$$\frac{z^m}{z^n} = z^{m-n}, z \neq 0$$

$$(z^m)^n = z^{mn}$$

$$(z_1 \cdot z_2)^n = z_1^n \cdot z_2^n$$

$$\left(\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right)^n = \frac{z_1^n}{z_2^n}$$

For $z = 0$, $0^n = 0$ for all integers $n > 0$.

5. Powers of Number i

$$i^0 = 1; i^1 = i; i^2 = -1; i^3 = -i$$

$$i^{n+4} = i^n, \text{ for } n \geq 0$$

6. Conjugate of a Complex Number

For a complex number $z = x + yi$, the number $\bar{z} = x - yi$ is called the complex conjugate of z .

7. Properties of Complex Numbers in terms their Conjugates

The relation $z = \bar{z}$ holds if and only if $z \in \mathbb{R}$ or in other words the imaginary component is zero.

$$z = \bar{\bar{z}}.$$

$z \cdot \bar{z}$ is a nonnegative real number.

$$\overline{z_1 + z_2} = \bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2.$$

$$\overline{z_1 \cdot z_2} = \bar{z}_1 \cdot \bar{z}_2.$$

$$z^{-1} = (\bar{z})^{-1}$$

$$\overline{\left(\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right)} = \frac{\bar{z}_1}{\bar{z}_2}, z_2 \neq 0.$$

$$\text{If } z = x + yi, x = \text{Re}(z) = \frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}; y = \text{Im}(z) = \frac{z - \bar{z}}{2i}.$$

8. Modulus of a Complex Number

The number $|z| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ is called the modulus or the absolute value of the complex number $z = x + yi$.

9. Polar Representation of a Complex Number

A complex number $z = x + yi$ can be expressed as

$$z = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta),$$

where $r \in [0, \infty)$ and $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$.

r is called the polar radius of z and is equal to the modulus of z . The polar argument θ of z is called the argument of z .

10. Euler's Formula

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

11. De Moivre's Theorem

For $z = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$, and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

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

12. Roots of Complex Numbers

If n is a positive integer and $z = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$ is a complex number, then the number z has n distinct n^{th} roots given by the formula

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

where $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$.