

4/10/2025

Complex Numbers in Polar Form De Moivre's Theorem

Review of complex numbers

$$\begin{aligned}i &= \sqrt{-1} \\ i^2 &= -1 \\ i^3 &= -i \\ i^4 &= 1 \\ i^5 &= i\end{aligned}$$

Standard form for complex numbers

$$a + bi$$

$$\sqrt{-4} = \sqrt{-1}\sqrt{4} = 2i$$

$$\sqrt{-8}\sqrt{-6} = \sqrt{8}i\sqrt{6}i = \sqrt{48}(i^2) = -4\sqrt{3}$$

Complex conjugates

$$\begin{aligned}z &= a + bi \\ \bar{z} &= a - bi\end{aligned}$$

Magnitude of a complex number

$$|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

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

Operations on complex numbers in standard form:

Addition:

Add component by component (add the real parts, add the imaginary parts)

$$3 + 2i + 5 - 6i = 8 - 4i$$

Subtraction:

$$(3 + 2i) - (5 - 6i) = 3 + 2i - 5 + 6i = -2 + 8i$$

Multiplication: multiply like binomial (FOIL)

$$(3 + 2i)(5 - 6i) = 15 - 18i + 10i - 12i^2 = 15 - 8i + 12 = 27 - 8i$$

Division:

$$\frac{3 + 2i}{5 - 6i} \left(\frac{5 + 6i}{5 + 6i} \right) = \frac{15 + 18i + 10i + 12i^2}{25 - 36i^2} = \frac{15 + 18i + 10i - 12}{25 + 36} = \frac{3 + 28i}{61} = \frac{3}{61} + \frac{28}{61}i$$

Real part of a complex number:

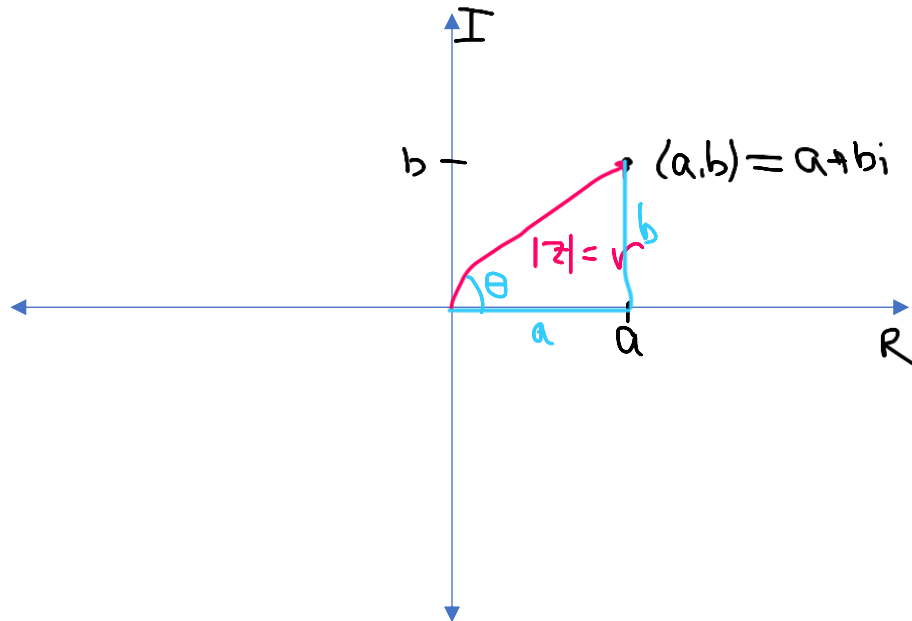
$$\operatorname{Re}(z) = \operatorname{Re}(a + bi) = a$$

Imaginary part of a complex number

$$\operatorname{Im}(z) = \operatorname{Im}(a + bi) = b$$

(imaginary part does not have i included when reporting)

The Complex Plane



With this idea in mind, we can apply our work with polar coordinates to complex numbers and find a representation of complex numbers in terms of their angle (with the real axis) and their magnitude.

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

$$a = r \cos \theta, b = r \sin \theta$$

Convert $z = 1 - i$ to polar form

$$a = 1, b = -1$$

All the formulas from last class for polar conversion still apply:

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

$$x = r \cos \theta$$

$$y = r \sin \theta$$

$$z = a + bi$$

$$a^2 + b^2 = r^2$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$$

$$a = r \cos \theta$$

$$b = r \sin \theta$$

$$r^2 = (1)^2 + (-1)^2 = 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$r = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{1}\right) = -\frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$z = \sqrt{2} \left(\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \right)$$

Exponential form:

$$z = r e^{i\theta}$$

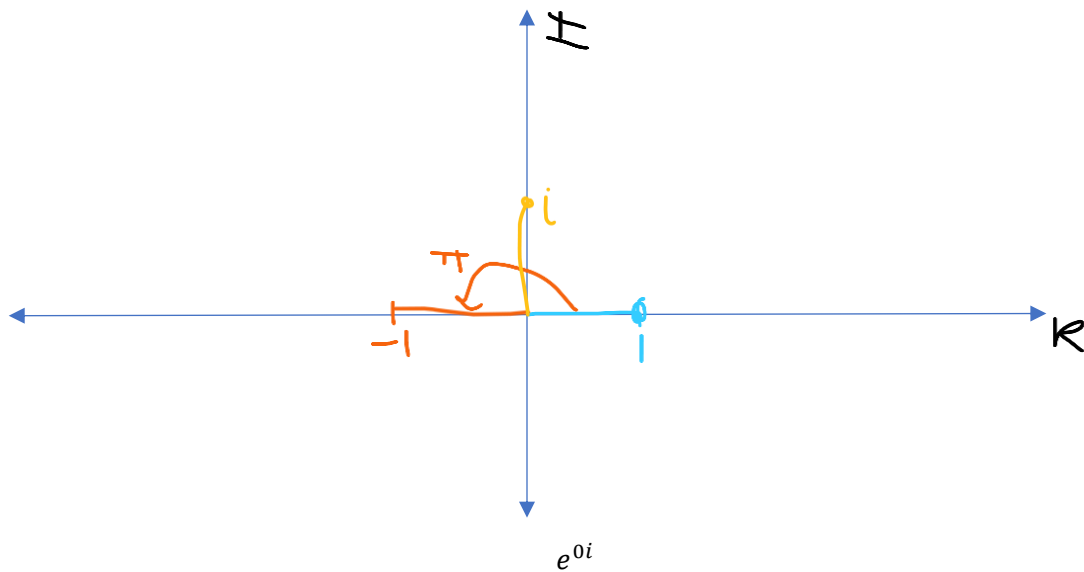
$$1 - i = \sqrt{2} e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}i}$$

Convert $2 \left(\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \right)$ into rectangular form (standard form).

$$2 \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{i\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) = 1 + \sqrt{3}i$$

In exponential form:

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



Length is 1, and the angle is 0

$$1(\cos 0 + i \sin 0) = 1 + 0i = 1$$

$$4e^{0i} = 4$$

$$e^{\frac{\pi}{2}i} \\ 1 \left(\cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = 0 + 1i = i$$

Pure imaginary number

$$e^{\frac{\pi}{2}i} \left(e^{\frac{\pi}{2}i} \right) = i(i) = i^2 = -1$$

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

$$1(\cos \pi + i \sin \pi) = -1 + i(0) = -1$$

When I multiply in polar (exponential form) I add the angles together.
(if there is any magnitude, multiply those)

$$\left(3e^{\frac{\pi}{3}i} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2}e^{\frac{5\pi}{6}i} \right)$$

$$\left(3 \times \frac{1}{2} \right) \left(e^{\frac{\pi}{3}i} \right) \left(e^{\frac{5\pi}{6}i} \right) = \frac{3}{2} e^{\left(\frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{5\pi}{6} \right)i} = \frac{3}{2} e^{\left(\frac{7\pi}{6} \right)i}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} \left(\cos \left(\frac{7\pi}{6} \right) + i \sin \left(\frac{7\pi}{6} \right) \right) = \frac{3}{2} \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2}i \right) = -\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{4} - \frac{3}{4}i$$

Check:

$$3e^{\frac{\pi}{3}i} = 3 \left(\cos \frac{\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{3} \right) = 3 \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i \right) = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i$$

$$\frac{1}{2}e^{\frac{5\pi}{6}i} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\cos \left(\frac{5\pi}{6} \right) + i \sin \left(\frac{5\pi}{6} \right) \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i \right) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{1}{4}i$$

$$\left(\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i \right) \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{1}{4}i \right) = \left(\frac{3}{2} \right) \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{4}i \right) - \left(\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \right) + \left(\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i \right) \left(\frac{1}{4}i \right) =$$

$$-\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{8} + \frac{3}{8}i - \frac{9}{8}i - \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{8} = -\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{4} - \frac{3}{4}i$$

For multiplication: use the form provided (if the powers are small, or you are only multiplying two values).

For addition, you must go back to standard form.

Division in polar form:

$$\frac{(3e^{\frac{\pi}{3}i})}{\frac{1}{2}e^{\frac{5\pi}{6}i}}$$

Division with powers (of the same base), subtract the exponents:

$$\frac{3}{\frac{1}{2}} \times \left(e^{\frac{\pi}{3}i - \frac{5\pi}{6}i} \right) = 6e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}i}$$

$$6 \left(\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) + i \sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \right) = 6(0 + i(-1)) = -6i$$

Check:

$$\frac{\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i}{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{1}{4}i} = \frac{\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i}{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{1}{4}i} \left(\frac{4}{4} \right) = \frac{6 + 6\sqrt{3}i}{-\sqrt{3} + i} \left(\frac{-\sqrt{3} - i}{-\sqrt{3} - i} \right) = \frac{-6\sqrt{3} - 6i - 18i + 6\sqrt{3}}{3 + 1} = -\frac{24i}{4} = -6i$$

Powers of complex numbers

De Moivre's Theorem

$$z = a + bi = r e^{\theta i}$$

$$z^n = r^n e^{n\theta i}$$

$$z = 1 - i$$

Find $(1 - i)^3$

Recall from earlier: $1 - i = \sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}i}$

$$\left(\sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}i} \right)^3 = (\sqrt{2})^3 \left(e^{-\frac{3\pi}{4}i} \right) = 2\sqrt{2} \left(\cos\left(-\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(-\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) \right) = 2\sqrt{2} \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i \right) = -2 - 2i$$

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

Find $(1 - i)^7$

$$\left(\sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}i} \right)^7 = (\sqrt{2})^7 e^{-\frac{7\pi}{4}i} = \sqrt{128} \left(\cos\left(-\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(-\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) \right) = 8\sqrt{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i \right) = 8 + 8i$$

Taking roots of complex numbers, for example $\sqrt{i}$, $\sqrt{1-i}$, $\sqrt[3]{i}$, etc.

Where $z = r e^{\theta i}$

$$\sqrt[n]{z} = \sqrt[n]{r} \left(e^{\frac{\theta}{n}i} \right), \sqrt[n]{r} \left(e^{\frac{\theta+2\pi}{n}i} \right), \sqrt[n]{r} \left(e^{\frac{\theta+4\pi}{n}i} \right), \text{etc.}$$

Until you have the required number of roots.

Find $\sqrt{1-i}$

$$1-i = \sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}i}$$

We need two roots

$$\sqrt{1-i} = (\sqrt{2})^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}(\frac{1}{2})i} = \sqrt[4]{2} e^{-\frac{\pi}{8}i}$$

Second root:

$$(\sqrt{2})^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{(-\frac{\pi}{4}+2\pi)(\frac{1}{2})i} = \sqrt[4]{2} e^{\frac{7\pi}{8}i}$$

Find $\sqrt[3]{i}$, if $z = i = e^{\frac{\pi}{2}i}$

First root:

$$\left(e^{\frac{\pi}{2}i} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = e^{\frac{\pi}{6}i} = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i$$

Second root:

$$\left(e^{(\frac{\pi}{2}+2\pi)i} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = e^{\frac{5\pi}{6}i} = \cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{6}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i$$

Third root:

$$\left(e^{(\frac{\pi}{2}+4\pi)i} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = e^{\frac{9\pi}{6}i} = e^{\frac{3\pi}{2}i} = \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) = 0 - 1i = -i$$

$$\arg(z) = \theta$$

$$\text{cis}(\theta) = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$