

Q.1 Express the following complex numbers in the form $x + iy$ with x, y real:

(a) $\frac{(1+2i)(5+2i)}{(2-3i)(1-i)}$, (b) $\frac{1+4i}{1-i} + \frac{1-4i}{1+i}$.

S.1 (a) $\frac{(1+2i)(5+2i)}{(2-3i)(1-i)} = \frac{1+12i}{-1-5i} = \frac{(1+12i)(-1-5i)}{(-1-5i)(-1+5i)} = \frac{-61-7i}{26} = -\frac{61}{26} - \frac{7}{26}i$.

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

Q.2 Evaluate the product $(1+i)i(1+i)$, first in the “usual algebraic way”, then by writing i and $1+i$ in polar form.

S.2 We have $(1+i)i(1+i) = (i-1)(1+i) = -2$. On the other hand $|1+i| = \sqrt{2}$ so $1+i = \sqrt{2}e^{i\pi/4}$, and $i = e^{i\pi/2}$. Thus, the required product has modulus $\sqrt{2} \cdot 1 \cdot \sqrt{2} = 2$ and argument $\pi/4 + \pi/2 + \pi/4 = \pi$. The product is therefore $2e^{i\pi} = -2$, as before.

Q.3 Write the following complex numbers in polar form:

(a) $2 - i2\sqrt{3}$, (b) $\frac{1}{2+i} - \frac{1}{2-i}$, (c) $\frac{2-i2\sqrt{3}}{1+i}$.

S.3 (a) $|2 - i2\sqrt{3}| = \sqrt{4 + 12} = 4$, so we have $2 - i2\sqrt{3} = 4(\frac{1}{2} - i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) = 4e^{i5\pi/3}$.

(b) $\frac{1}{2+i} - \frac{1}{2-i} = -\frac{2i}{5} = \frac{2}{5}e^{-i\pi/2}$.

(c) $1+i = \sqrt{2}e^{i\pi/4}$, so we have $\frac{1}{1+i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}e^{-i\pi/4}$. Thus, $\frac{2-i2\sqrt{3}}{1+i} = 4e^{i5\pi/3} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}e^{-i\pi/4} = 2\sqrt{2}e^{i17\pi/12}$.

Q.4 Find all complex numbers z for which:

(a) $|Re(z)| = |z|$, (b) $Im(z) = |z|$, (c) $|z|^2 = z^2$.

S.4 (a) If $z = x + iy$, then the equation reads $|x| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$. This is true if and only if $y = 0$ (or equivalently if z is real).

(b) We have $y = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$. This is true if and only if $x = 0$ and $y \geq 0$ (because the real square root function is always non-negative). Equivalently, we must have that z is purely imaginary with $Im(z) \geq 0$.

(c) The equation clearly holds for $z = 0$. For $z \neq 0$, we have that $|z|^2 = z\bar{z} = z^2$ is equivalent to $z = \bar{z}$, which means z real. So the equation holds if and only if z is real. For example $i^2 = -1$, but $|i| = 1$.

Q.5 If $w = \frac{z-1}{z+1}$ show that $Re(w) = \frac{|z|^2-1}{|z|^2+2Re(z)+1}$ and $Im(w) = \frac{2Im(z)}{|z|^2+2Re(z)+1}$.

S.5 $w = \frac{z-1}{z+1} = \frac{(z-1)(\bar{z}+1)}{(z+1)(\bar{z}+1)} = \frac{|z|^2+z-\bar{z}-1}{|z|^2+z+\bar{z}+1} = \frac{|z|^2-1+2Im(z)i}{|z|^2+2Re(z)+1}$.

Q.6 Show that (a) $\overline{z_1 + z_2} = \bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2$. (b) $\overline{z_1 z_2} = \bar{z}_1 \bar{z}_2$.

[You could prove these directly by using the definition of conjugation, but there are nicer ways: For (a) note complex conjugation viewed as a reflection in $\mathbb{R}^2$ is a linear map. For (b), you could use the fact that $\overline{z_1 z_2} = \overline{z_1} \overline{z_2}$.]

S.6 The “nice” ways go as follows: (a) The map $z \mapsto \bar{z}$ when viewed as a map from $\mathbb{R}^2$ to $\mathbb{R}^2$ corresponds to $(x, y) \mapsto (x, -y)$. But this map is clearly linear and hence $\overline{z_1 + z_2} = \bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2$. For (b), we first note the claim holds for if either z_1 or z_2 are zero. Otherwise, we can divide $\overline{z_1 z_2} z_1 z_2 = |z_1 z_2|^2 = |z_1|^2 |z_2|^2 = z_1 \bar{z}_1 z_2 \bar{z}_2$ by $z_1 z_2 \neq 0$ and obtain the claim.

Otherwise: (a) Let $z_1 = x_1 + iy_1$ and $z_2 = x_2 + iy_2$. Then

$$\overline{z_1 + z_2} = x_1 - iy_1 + x_2 - iy_2 = x_1 + x_2 - i(y_1 + y_2),$$

while

$$\overline{z_1 + z_2} = \overline{x_1 + iy_1 + x_2 + iy_2} = \overline{x_1 + x_2 + i(y_1 + y_2)} = x_1 + x_2 - i(y_1 + y_2).$$

(b)

$$\overline{z_1 z_2} = (x_1 - iy_1)(x_2 - iy_2) = x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2 - i(x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1),$$

while

$$\overline{z_1 z_2} = \overline{(x_1 + iy_1)(x_2 + iy_2)} = \overline{x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2 + i(x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1)} = x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2 - i(x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1).$$

Q.7 For each pair of complex numbers z_1 and z_2 prove the parallelogram identity:

$$|z_1 + z_2|^2 + |z_1 - z_2|^2 = 2(|z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2).$$

Interpret this equation geometrically.

S.7

$$\text{LHS} = (z_1 + z_2)(\bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2) + (z_1 - z_2)(\bar{z}_1 - \bar{z}_2) = 2(z_1\bar{z}_1 + z_2\bar{z}_2) = \text{RHS}.$$

The equation tells you that the sum of the square of the lengths of the diagonals of a parallelogram is equal to the sum of the squares of the lengths of the sides.

Q.8 What is the geometric meaning of the following functions $f(z)$ as transformations $z \mapsto f(z)$ from $\mathbb{C}$ to $\mathbb{C}$?

- (a) $f(z) = 2z$, (b) $f(z) = -z$, (c) $f(z) = (1 + i)z$,
 (d) $f(z) = -\bar{z}$, (e) $f(z) = z/|z|$, (f) $f(z) = 1 - i + z$, (g) $f(z) = 1 - i + (1 + i)z$.

S.8 (a) Radial expansion away from the origin by a factor of 2.

(b) Reflection in the origin (or, rotation about the origin by π degrees since $-1 = e^{i\pi}$).

(c) $(1 + i) = \sqrt{2}e^{i\pi/4}$, so rotation about origin through angle $\pi/4$ anticlockwise, followed by a radial expansion away from the origin by a factor of $\sqrt{2}$.

(d) A point $z = x + iy$ goes to $-\bar{z} = -x + iy$, so reflection in the imaginary axis.

(e) Radial projection onto the unit circle.

(f) Translation through $1 - i$.

(g) This is (c) followed by (f); i.e., a rotation about origin through angle $\pi/4$ anticlockwise, followed by a radial expansion away from the origin by a factor of $\sqrt{2}$, followed by translation through $1 - i$.

Q.9 Draw the following sets of points in the complex plane.

(a) $z + \bar{z} = 2$, (b) $z - \bar{z} = 3i$, (c) $|\bar{z}| = 1$, (d) $|z - i| = 1$.

S.9 (a) Let $z = x + iy$. Then $2 = z + \bar{z} = 2x$, so the required set is the line $x = 1$, parallel to the imaginary axis. (In other words, the set of complex numbers z with $\text{Re}(z) = 1$.)

(b) Let $z = x + iy$. Then $3i = z - \bar{z} = 2yi$, so the required set is those points with imaginary part $y = 3/2$; i.e., the line through $3i/2$, parallel to the real axis.

(c) We have $|\bar{z}| = |z|$, and $|z|$ is the distance of z from the origin 0, so $|\bar{z}| = 1$ is the circle of radius 1 centre 0.

(d) This is the circle of radius 1 with centre i (so this circle passes through 0 tangential to the real axis).

Q.10 Solve the following equations in complex numbers, and mark the solutions on a picture of the complex plane:

(a) $|z + 2| = |z - 2|$, (b) $\bar{z} = 1/z$, (c) $z = \frac{\text{Re } z + i\text{Im } z}{2}$, (d) $|(z - 2)(\bar{z} - 2)| = 1$.

S.10 The pictures/sketches are not displayed in this solution sheet.

(a) $|z + 2| = |z - 2| \Leftrightarrow |z + 2|^2 = |z - 2|^2 \Leftrightarrow (z + 2)(\bar{z} + 2) = (z - 2)(\bar{z} - 2) \Leftrightarrow 2(z + \bar{z}) = 2(-z - \bar{z}) \Leftrightarrow z + \bar{z} = 0 \Leftrightarrow z$ is purely imaginary. This is clear geometrically because the imaginary axis is the set of point in the complex plane equidistant from 2 and -2 .

(b) We must have $z \neq 0$. Then, $\bar{z} = 1/z \Leftrightarrow \bar{z}z = 1 \Leftrightarrow |z| = 1$, so $\bar{z} = 1/z$ if and only if z lies on the unit circle centre the origin.

(c) Let $z = x + iy$. Then $\text{Re } z + i\text{Im } z = x + iy$, so that $z = \frac{\text{Re } z + i\text{Im } z}{2}$ if and only if $z = 0$.

(d) $|(z - 2)(\bar{z} - 2)| = |(z - 2)(\overline{z - 2})| = |z - 2||\bar{z} - 2| = |z - 2|^2$, so the equation simplifies to $|z - 2| = 1$, and the solutions lie on the circle centred at 2 with radius 1.

Q.11 What do the following equations represent geometrically? Give sketches.

(i) $|z + 2| = 6$ (ii) $|z - 3i| = |z + i|$ (iii) $|iz - 1| = |iz + 1|$ (iv) $|z + 1 - i| = |\bar{z} - 1 - i|$.

- S.11 (i) $|z + 2| = |z - (-2)|$, which is the distance of z from -2 , so $|z + 2| = 6$ is the circle radius 6 centre -2 .
 (ii) The equation represents those points with equal distance to $3i$ and $-i$. Thus, the locus is the perpendicular bisector of the line segment joining $3i$ and $-i$; that is, the line parallel to the real axis passing through i . Alternatively, for $z = x + iy$ one could notice $|z - 3i| = |z + i| \Leftrightarrow |z - 3i|^2 = |z + i|^2 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + (y - 3)^2 = x^2 + (y + 1)^2$. Simplifying, we have that this is equivalent to $9 - 6y = 2y + 1$ and in turn $y = 1$.
 (iii) $|iz - 1| = |iz + 1| \Leftrightarrow |i(z + i)| = |i(z - i)| \Leftrightarrow |(z + i)| = |(z - i)|$. This is the perpendicular bisector of the line segment joining $-i$ and i ; in other words, the real axis.
 (iv) $|z + 1 - i| = |\bar{z} - 1 - i| \Leftrightarrow |z - (-1 + i)| = |z - (1 - i)|$. The perpendicular bisector of $-1 + i$ and $1 - i$ is the line $y = x$. Alternatively, notice we must have $(x + 1)^2 + (y - 1)^2 = (x - 1)^2 + (-y - 1)^2$, which simplifies to $y = x$.

Q.12 Describe geometrically the subsets of $\mathbb{C}$ specified by

- (i) $\text{Im}(z + i) > 2$ (ii) $1 < \text{Re } z \leq 2$ (iii) $|z - 1 - i| > 1$
 (iv) $|z - 1 + i| \geq |z - 1 - i|$ (v) $|z + 2 - i| < |iz - 1 + 2i|$ (vi) $1 < |z - 1| < 2$.

- S.12 (i) If $z = x + iy$, then $\text{Im}(z + i) > 2 \Leftrightarrow y + 1 > 2 \Leftrightarrow y > 1$. Thus, the subset is the area of the plane strictly above the line $y = 1$.
 (ii) This is the vertical strip in the (x, y) -plane between the lines $x = 1$ and $x = 2$. The line on the left not included whereas the one on the right is included.
 (iii) $|z - 1 - i| = |z - (1 + i)|$ so the equation represents those points z whose distance to $1 + i$ is strictly greater than 1. Thus, the equation represents the region outside the circle with centre $1 + i$ and radius 1.
 (iv) $|z - 1 + i| = |z - (1 - i)|$ and $|z - 1 - i| = |z - (1 + i)|$, so the equation represents the points z closer to $1 + i$ than to $1 - i$. This is precisely the upper half plane (including the real axis).
 (v) $|z + 2 - i| = |z - (-2 + i)|$ and $|iz - 1 + 2i| = |i||z - \frac{1}{i} + 2| = |z + i + 2| = |z - (-2 - i)|$. Thus the solutions are those points strictly closer to $-2 + i$ than to $-2 - i$. This is precisely the upper half plane (with the real axis excluded).
 (vi) The equation represents those points whose distance to 1 is between 1 and 2, so the region (called an ‘annulus’) inside the circle centred at 1 of radius 2 and outside the circle centred at 1 of radius 1.

Q.13 Show that the equation $|z - a| = \lambda|z - b|$, where a and b are complex numbers and $\lambda > 0$, describes a circle in the complex plane if $\lambda \neq 1$. [In fact, every circle in the complex plane can be written in this form!] What geometric figure is represented when $\lambda = 1$?

- S.13 Put $z = x + iy$ as usual, and let $a = a_1 + ia_2$ and $b = b_1 + ib_2$. Then $(x - a_1)^2 + (y - a_2)^2 = \lambda^2(x - b_1)^2 + \lambda^2(y - b_2)^2$. Grouping the terms and factorising we find that this ‘simplifies’ to

$$\left(x - \frac{a_1 - \lambda^2 b_1}{1 - \lambda^2}\right)^2 + \left(y - \frac{a_2 - \lambda^2 b_2}{1 - \lambda^2}\right)^2 = \frac{\lambda^2}{1 - \lambda^2} ((a_1 - b_1)^2 + (a_2 - b_2)^2).$$

Denoting the terms in the above by $(x - c_1)^2 + (y - c_2)^2 = r^2$ we see that $|z - c_1 - ic_2| = r$ and the equation represents a circle centred at $c_1 + ic_2$ of radius $r > 0$.

- Q.14 (i) Apply induction to show De Moivre’s formula: $(\cos(x) + i \sin(x))^n = \cos(nx) + i \sin(nx)$.
 (ii) Use this to write $\cos(3x)$ as a polynomial in $\cos(x)$; namely show that $\cos(3x) = 4 \cos^3(x) - 3 \cos(x)$.

- S.14 (i) When $n = 1$ the statement is trivial. Assume it holds for $n = k$, then

$$(\cos(x) + i \sin(x))^{k+1} = (\cos(x) + i \sin(x))^k (\cos(x) + i \sin(x)) = (\cos(kx) + i \sin(kx))(\cos(x) + i \sin(x))$$

Expanding gives

$$(\cos(kx) \cos(x) - \sin(kx) \sin(x)) + i(\sin(kx) \cos(x) + \sin(x) \cos(kx)) = \cos((k+1)x) + i \sin((k+1)x),$$

by the real double angle formula. Note that in other words we have $[e^{ix}]^n = (\cos(x) + i \sin(x))^n = \cos(nx) + i \sin(nx) = e^{inx}$.

(ii) Considering the above for $n = 3$, observe that $\cos(3x) = \operatorname{Re}((\cos(x) + i \sin(x))^3)$. Expanding, we have

$$(\cos(x) + i \sin(x))^3 = (\cos^3(x) - 3 \cos(x) \sin^2(x)) + i(3 \cos^2(x) \sin(x) - \sin^3(x)).$$

Finally, $\cos(3x) = \cos^3(x) - 3 \cos(x) \sin^2(x) = \cos^3(x) - 3 \cos(x)(1 - \cos^2(x)) = 4 \cos^3(x) - 3 \cos(x)$.

Q.15 Write $(1 + i\sqrt{3})^{100}$ in $x + iy$ form.

S.15 We have $(1 + i\sqrt{3}) = 2e^{i\pi/3}$, so by De Moivre $(1 + i\sqrt{3})^{100} = 2^{100}e^{100i\pi/3} = 2^{100}e^{99i\pi/3+i\pi/3} = 2^{100}e^{33i\pi+i\pi/3} = -2^{100}e^{i\pi/3} = -2^{99}(1 + i\sqrt{3})$.

Q.16 Show that the inverse of the stereographic projection $P : \mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is given by

$$P^{-1}(z) = \left(\frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(z)}{1 + |z|^2}, \frac{2 \operatorname{Im}(z)}{1 + |z|^2}, \frac{|z|^2 - 1}{1 + |z|^2} \right).$$

S.16 Recall that we have that

$$\operatorname{Re}(z) + i \operatorname{Im}(z) = P(\xi, \eta, \zeta) = \frac{\xi}{1 - \zeta} + i \frac{\eta}{1 - \zeta}$$

and we would like to express $(\xi, \eta, \zeta) \in \mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\}$ with $\operatorname{Re}(z)$ and $\operatorname{Im}(z)$. We have that

$$\operatorname{Re}(z) = \frac{\xi}{1 - \zeta}, \quad \operatorname{Im}(z) = \frac{\eta}{1 - \zeta}$$

or

$$\xi = (1 - \zeta) \operatorname{Re}(z), \quad \eta = (1 - \zeta) \operatorname{Im}(z).$$

Since $(\xi, \eta, \zeta) \in \mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\}$ we have that

$$1 = \xi^2 + \eta^2 + \zeta^2 = (1 - \zeta)^2 \operatorname{Re}(z)^2 + (1 - \zeta)^2 \operatorname{Im}(z)^2 + \zeta^2 = (1 - \zeta)^2 |z|^2 + \zeta^2$$

We can rewrite the above as

$$(1 + |z|^2) \zeta^2 - 2|z|^2 \zeta + |z|^2 - 1 = 0$$

whose solutions are

$$\zeta_{1,2} = \frac{2|z|^2 \pm \sqrt{4|z|^4 - 4(1 + |z|^2)(|z|^2 - 1)}}{2(1 + |z|^2)} = \frac{|z|^2 \pm 1}{1 + |z|^2}.$$

Since $\zeta \neq 1$ we are only left with the option

$$\zeta = \frac{|z|^2 - 1}{1 + |z|^2}.$$

To find ξ and η we notice that

$$1 - \zeta = 1 - \frac{|z|^2 - 1}{1 + |z|^2} = \frac{2}{1 + |z|^2}.$$

Since we found a unique solution for any given z we conclude the desired formula.

Q.17 Consider the inverse stereographic projection $P^{-1} : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\}$.

(a) Show that P^{-1} takes the circle $\{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| = c\}$, where $c > 0$ is a given positive number, to a circle on $\mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\}$ that is parallel to the xy -plane.

(b)* Explain geometrically why the image of the line $a \operatorname{Re}(z) + b \operatorname{Im}(z) = 0$, where $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ are not both zero, by P^{-1} lies on a great circle on $\mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\}$ that passes via the south pole (in fact – it is the entire circle).

S.17 (a) Assuming that $|z| = c$ we find that

$$P^{-1}(z) = \left(\frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(z)}{1+c^2}, \frac{2 \operatorname{Im}(z)}{1+c^2}, \frac{c^2-1}{1+c^2} \right).$$

The image of the concentric circle is on the plane $z = \frac{c^2-1}{1+c^2}$, i.e. parallel to the xy -axis, and since

$$\left(\frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(z)}{1+c^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{2 \operatorname{Im}(z)}{1+c^2} \right)^2 = \frac{4|z|^2}{(1+c^2)^2} = \frac{4c^2}{(1+c^2)^2}$$

we conclude that the image is indeed a circle.

(b) A great circle on $\mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\}$ that passes through the south pole is parametrised by a fixed angle of $\xi\eta$ -rotation and a free azimuthal angle. In other words, it is parametrised by

$$\begin{aligned}\xi(t) &= \cos(\theta_0) \sin(t), \\ \eta(t) &= \sin(\theta_0) \sin(t), \\ \zeta(t) &= \cos(t),\end{aligned}$$

where θ_0 is fixed and is determined by the identity $\tan(\theta_0) = \frac{\eta(t)}{\xi(t)}$ for all $t \in (0, \pi]$. The line $a \operatorname{Re}(z) + b \operatorname{Im}(z) = 0$ satisfies

$$\frac{\eta}{\xi} = \frac{\operatorname{Im}(z)}{\operatorname{Re}(z)} = -\frac{a}{b}$$

when $b \neq 0$ and if $b = 0$ we find that $\operatorname{Re}(z) = 0$ and consequently $\xi = 0$. We conclude that the image of the line is indeed on a great circle that passed through the south pole.

Q.18 Show that $P^{-1}(z) = -P^{-1}(w)$ (i.e. the point $P^{-1}(z)$ and $-P^{-1}(w)$ are diametrically opposite on the Riemann sphere) if and only if $w = -\frac{1}{\bar{z}}$.

S.18 We have that $P^{-1}(z) = -P^{-1}(w)$ if and only if

$$\frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(z)}{1+|z|^2} = -\frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(w)}{1+|w|^2},$$

$$\frac{2 \operatorname{Im}(z)}{1+|z|^2} = -\frac{2 \operatorname{Im}(w)}{1+|w|^2},$$

$$\frac{|z|^2-1}{1+|z|^2} = \frac{1-|w|^2}{1+|w|^2}.$$

Using the last equation we find that

$$(|z|^2-1)(1+|w|^2) = (1-|w|^2)(1+|z|^2)$$

or

$$|z|^2 + |z|^2|w|^2 - 1 - |w|^2 = 1 - |w|^2 + |z|^2 - |z|^2|w|^2.$$

The above holds if and only if $|z||w| = 1$. Plugging this into the first equation we find that

$$\operatorname{Re}(w) = -\frac{1+|w|^2}{1+|z|^2} \operatorname{Re}(z) = -\frac{1+\frac{1}{|z|^2}}{1+|z|^2} \operatorname{Re}(z) = -\frac{\operatorname{Re}(z)}{|z|^2} = -\operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{z}{|z|^2}\right) = -\operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{1}{\bar{z}}\right).$$

Similarly $\operatorname{Im}(w) = -\operatorname{Im}\left(\frac{1}{\bar{z}}\right)$. We conclude that $w = -\frac{1}{\bar{z}}$.