

Lecture 2: Computing Powers. Extracting roots.

**Aim Lecture** Find simple methods to compute powers & extract roots using complex exponential fn.

Euler's formula for complex exp fn

**Lemma**  $(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)(\cos \phi + i \sin \phi)$   
 $= \cos(\theta + \phi) + i \sin(\theta + \phi).$

**Proof** LHS =  $(\cos \theta \cos \phi - \sin \theta \sin \phi)$   
 $+ i(\sin \theta \cos \phi + \cos \theta \sin \phi)$

**Euler's Formula** For  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$

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

More gen for  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$$e^{a+bi} :=$$

N.B. Comparing with polar form we see

$$|e^{a+bi}| =$$

$$\text{Arg } e^{a+bi}$$

$$\text{e.g. } e^{i\pi/2} = \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} =$$

Can also see this from Argand diagram

## Properties of exponential fn

**Q** Why is Euler's defn sensible?

One **A** Have desirable

**Facts** 1. It recovers real exp fn when  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$2. e^{z+z'} = e^z e^{z'}$$

$$3. (e^z)^{-1} = e^{-z}$$

$$4. \frac{e^z}{e^{z'}} = e^{z-z'}$$

$$5. \text{For } n \in \mathbb{Z}, (e^z)^n = e^{nz}$$

$$\text{Proof: } 1. e^{a+0i} = e^a(\cos 0 + i \sin 0) =$$

2. Write  $z = a + bi$ ,  $z' = a' + b'i$

$$\text{LHS} = e^{a+bi+a'+b'i} = e^{(a+a')+i(b+b')}$$

$$= e^{a+a'} (\cos(b + b') + i \sin(b + b'))$$

$$\stackrel{\text{lemma}}{=} e^a e^{a'} (\cos b + i \sin b)(\cos b' + i \sin b')$$

$$= e^z e^{z'}$$

3.  $e^{-z} e^z = e^0 = 1$  so

4. Just use 2. & 3.

5. For  $n \geq 1$  it follows by

Clear for  $n = 0$ .

For  $n < 0$ ,

$$(e^z)^n = \frac{1}{(e^z)^{-n}} = \frac{1}{e^{-nz}} = e^{nz}.$$

An immediate corollary is

## De Moivre's Thm

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

$$\text{Proof: LHS} = (e^{i\theta})^n =$$

**Fact 1.** For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$e^{i(\theta+2n\pi)} = e^{i\theta}$$

$$2. e^{i\theta} = e^{i\theta'} \implies \theta - \theta' = 2n\pi \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Proof: 1. holds as  $\cos$ ,  $\sin$  have period  $2\pi$ .

$$2. e^{i\theta} = e^{i\theta'} \implies e^{i(\theta-\theta')} = 1$$

$\implies \cos(\theta - \theta') = 1$  so  $\theta - \theta'$  is a multiple of  $2\pi$ .

**e.g.**  $e^{-i\pi/2} = e^{i3\pi/2}$  as can also be seen from

## Products in polar form

For  $r, \theta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

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

This is alternate polar form.

N.B.  $re^{i\theta} = r'e^{i\theta'}$  iff  $r = r'$  &  $\frac{\theta-\theta'}{2\pi} \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Consequences** For  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$

$$1. \left| \frac{z}{w} \right| = \frac{|z|}{|w|}, |zw| = |z||w|.$$

$$2. \operatorname{Arg} zw = \operatorname{Arg} z + \operatorname{Arg} w + 2n\pi$$

for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\operatorname{Arg} \frac{z}{w} =$$

$$3. |z^n| =$$

$$4. \operatorname{Arg} z^n =$$

**Proof** half of 1 & 2 only. Others sim.

$$\text{Let } z = re^{i\theta}, w = se^{i\phi}$$

$$\frac{z}{w} =$$

This is the polar form for  $\frac{z}{w}$

$$\text{Hence, } \left| \frac{z}{w} \right| =$$

$$\operatorname{Arg} \frac{z}{w}$$

**e.g.** Let  $z = -1 + i$  so  $\text{Arg } z =$

Then  $z^2 =$

so  $\text{Arg } z^2 =$

Note  $2 \text{Arg } z = \text{Arg } z^2 + 2\pi$ .

**e.g.** Let  $z = -1 + i, w = 3e^{-2i}$ . We find the polar form of  $zw$ .

$|zw| =$

$\text{Arg } zw$

### Powers via polar form

**e.g. 1** Find  $(\sqrt{3} - i)^{100}$

Dumb method

Good Method: Write  $z = \sqrt{3} - i$  in polar form

$|z| =$

Arg  $z =$

$$\therefore z = 2e^{i\pi/6}$$

$$z^{100} = 2^{100}e^{i100\pi/6} = 2^{100}e^{i50\pi/3}$$

$$= 2^{100}e^{2\pi i/3}$$

$$\text{as } e^{48\pi i/3} = e^{16\pi i} =$$

$$= 2^{100}(\phantom{e^{2\pi i/3}})$$

$$= -2^{99}$$

n-th roots via polar form

**e.g. 2** Find all cube roots of  $8i$ .

**A** Suppose  $z^3 = 8i$ ,  $z = re^{i\theta}$

Polar form of  $8i =$

$$z^3 = r^3e^{i3\theta}$$

Equate moduli:

$$\text{Equate arg: } 3\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2n\pi$$

for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\text{N.B. } -\pi < \theta \leq \pi \implies -3\pi < 3\theta \leq 3\pi$$

Hence,  $3\theta =$

$$\therefore \theta = -\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}$$

So the three cube roots are

$$z = re^{i\theta}$$

=

Let's plot the 3 cube roots

## Roots of unity

Method in e.g. 2 gives

**Thm 1** The  $n$ -th roots of unity i.e. solns to  $z^n = 1$  are

$$z = 1, e^{2\pi i/n}, e^{4\pi i/n}, \dots, e^{2\pi i(n-1)/n}$$



Check: For  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $z = e^{i2k\pi/n} \implies$

$$z^n =$$

**Thm 2** Let  $\omega := e^{2\pi i/n}$ ,

If  $z_0$  is an  $n$ -th root of  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  then the  $n$ -th roots of  $\alpha$  are

$$z = z_0,$$

Proof:  $z_0\omega^j$  is a root  $\because$

$$(z_0\omega^j)^n =$$

Conversely, if  $z_1^n = \alpha$

$$\left(\frac{z_1}{z_0}\right)^n$$

Thm 1  $\implies$

$$\text{so } z_1 =$$

## Multn & rotation

Shows multn by  $e^{i\phi}$  rotates anti-clockwise by  $\phi$ .

Gives geom interpretation of thm 2. If  $z_0$  is an  $n$ -th root of  $\alpha$  then the other roots are obtained by rotating  $\frac{2\pi}{n}, \frac{4\pi}{n}, \dots$

$n$ -th roots are equally spaced around a circle.

### Square roots via cartesian form

**e.g. 3** Solve  $z^2 = -5 + 12i$

**A** Let  $z = a + bi$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$$z^2 = (a^2 - b^2) + 2abi$$

Equate real & imag parts

Solve simultaneously by guessing or elim  $a$  using

$$a^2 + b^2 = |z|^2 = |z^2| = |-5 + 12i| = \sqrt{5^2 + 12^2} =$$

13

$$\therefore 2a^2 =$$

$$b =$$

So square roots are  $z = a + bi = \pm(2 + 3i)$ .

### Quadratic formula

$$az^2 + bz + c = 0, \quad a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$$

has solns

**e.g. 4** Solve  $z^2 + (-4 + i)z + (5 - 5i) = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{discriminant} &= b^2 - 4ac = (-4 + i)^2 - 4(5 - 5i) \\ &= 16 - 8i + i^2 - 20 + 20i = -5 + 12i \end{aligned}$$

From e.g. 3 we see

$$z = \frac{1}{2}(4 - i \pm (2 + 3i))$$

=

$$= 3 + i \text{ or } 1 - 2i$$