

Section 1.11

A function whose domain is the set \mathbb{C} , or a subset of it, we call it complex-valued.

eg $f(x) = x^2$ where x is any complex number

$$f(5) = 25$$

$$f(3i) = (3i)^2 = -9$$

$$f(2+i) = (2+i)^2 = 4 + 4i - 1 = 3 + 4i$$

But how do we define transcendental functions with complex domains?

Consider the function e^x . How would we define e^{ix} (for a real number x).

Recall that the Maclaurin series for e^x is

$$e^x = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!} x^i = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} x^k$$

Then
$$e^{ix} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (ix)^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^k}{k!} x^k.$$

Observe that

$$i^0 = 1$$

$$i^1 = i$$

$$i^2 = -1$$

$$i^3 = -i$$

$$i^4 = 1$$

$$i^5 = i$$

$$i^6 = -1$$

$$i^7 = -i$$

and so on.

Now we write

$$\begin{aligned} e^{ix} &= \sum_{\substack{k=0 \\ (k \text{ even})}}^{\infty} \frac{i^k}{k!} x^k + \sum_{\substack{k=0 \\ (k \text{ odd})}}^{\infty} \frac{i^k}{k!} x^k \\ &= \sum_{\substack{k=0 \\ (k=2n)}}^{\infty} \frac{i^k}{k!} x^k + \sum_{\substack{k=0 \\ (k=2n+1)}}^{\infty} \frac{i^k}{k!} x^k \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^{2n}}{(2n)!} x^{2n} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^{2n}}{(2n)!} x^{2n} + i \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^{2n}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} x^{2n} + i \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1} \\ &= \cos(x) + i \sin(x) \end{aligned}$$

This is Euler's formula.

Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} e^{p+i\theta} &= e^p \cdot e^{i\theta} = e^p [\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta)] \\ &= r [\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta)] \\ &= r \cos(\theta) + i r \sin(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

where $r = e^p$.

In order to write a complex number $\alpha + i\beta$ in an exponential form, we would need $\alpha = r \cos(\theta)$
 $\beta = r \sin(\theta)$.

Then we must also have

$$r = \sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = \arctan\left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)$$

as a result of which $\alpha + i\beta = r e^{i\theta}$.

This is the polar form of the complex number, and a complex number is often expressed in terms of its polar coordinates (r, θ) .

eg Find the complex number z with polar coordinates $(2, \frac{3\pi}{4})$.

If $r=2$ and $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4}$ then

$$\alpha = 2 \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = 2 \cdot \left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) = -\sqrt{2}$$

$$\beta = 2 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = 2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{so } z = -\sqrt{2} + i\sqrt{2}.$$

eg Find the polar coordinates of $z = 3 - 3i$.

Since $\alpha = 3$ and $\beta = -3$,

$$r = \sqrt{9 + 9} = \sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{-3}{3}\right) = \arctan(-1) = -\frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\text{so } z = (3\sqrt{2}, -\frac{\pi}{4}).$$

eg Compute $(3-3i)^6$.

We know that if $z = 3-3i$ then $r = 3\sqrt{2}$

and $\theta = -\pi/4$ so

$$z = 3\sqrt{2} e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}i}$$

$$z^6 = (3\sqrt{2} e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}i})^6$$

$$= (3\sqrt{2})^6 e^{-\frac{6\pi}{4}i}$$

$$= 5832 e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}i}$$

$$= 5832 \left[\cos\left(-\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) + i \sin\left(-\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) \right]$$

$$= 5832 [0 + i \cdot 1]$$

$$\boxed{= 5832i}$$

Also note that, in general,

$$(e^{i\theta})^n = e^{in\theta}$$

which is de Moivre's Theorem.