

**FUNCTIONS OF A COMPLEX VARIABLE**  
**PROBLEM SET 1: COMPLEX ALGEBRA**

- (1) Verify that
- (a)  $(\sqrt{2} - i) - i(1 - \sqrt{2}i) = -2i$ ;
  - (b)  $(2, -3)(-2, 1) = (-1, 8)$ ;
  - (c)  $(3, 1)(3, -1)\left(\frac{1}{5}, \frac{1}{10}\right) = (2, 1)$ .
- (2) Show that
- (a)  $\operatorname{Re}(iz) = -\operatorname{Im}z$ ;
  - (b)  $\operatorname{Im}(iz) = \operatorname{Re}z$ .
- (3) Use  $i = (0, 1)$ ,  $a = (a, 0)$  and  $b = (b, 0)$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers to show that

$$a + ib = (a, b).$$

- (4) Solve the equation  $z^2 + z + 1 = 0$  for  $z = (x, y)$  by writing
- $$(x, y)(x, y) + (x, y) + (1, 0) = (0, 0)$$
- and then solving a pair of simultaneous equations in  $x$  and  $y$ .
- (5) Prove the triangle inequality

$$|z_1 + z_2| \leq |z_1| + |z_2|.$$

- (6) Use the triangle inequality in #1 to show the equality

$$||z_1| - |z_2|| \leq |z_1 + z_2|.$$

- (7) Find the principal argument  $\operatorname{Arg}z$  when
- (a)  $z = \frac{i}{-2-2i}$ ;
  - (b)  $z = (\sqrt{3} - i)^6$ .
- (8) By writing the individual factors on the left in exponential form, performing the needed operations, and finally changing back to rectangular coordinates, show that
- (a)  $i(1 - \sqrt{3}i)(\sqrt{3} + i) = 2(1 + \sqrt{3}i)$ ;
  - (b)  $\frac{5i}{2+i} = 1 + 2i$ ;
  - (c)  $(-1 + i)^7 = -8(1 + i)$ ;

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(d)  $(1 + \sqrt{3}i)^{-10} = 2^{-11}(-1 + \sqrt{3}i)$ .

(9) Use de Moivre's formula to derive the following trigonometric identities:

(a)  $\cos 3\theta = \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta$ ;

(b)  $\sin 3\theta = 3 \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta - \sin^3 \theta$ .

(10) Use

$$1 + z + z^2 + \cdots + z^n = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z} \quad (z \neq 1)$$

to derive Lagrange's trigonometric identity:

$$1 + \cos \theta + \cos 2\theta + \cdots + \cos n\theta = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sin \left[ \frac{1}{2}(2n+1)\theta \right]}{2 \sin \left( \frac{\theta}{2} \right)},$$

for  $0 < \theta < 2\pi$ .

(11) Find  $\sqrt{i}$ .

(12) Let  $z = re^{i\theta}$  be a complex number. Then

$$\ln z = \ln r + i(\theta + 2n\pi),$$

where  $n$  is any integer. Show that

(a)  $e^{\ln z}$  always equals  $z$ .

(b)  $\ln e^z$  does not always equal  $z$ .