

MO-ARML --- January, 2019 -- GEOMETRY OF COMPLEX NUMBERS

Many Complex Number problems are most easily solved geometrically on the complex Argand Plane.

GOAL: Treat these as 10-second Mental Arithmetic (or geometry) problems: Simplify $\left(\frac{1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^3$ and $(1+i)^6$

First, the **BASICS**

1. Solve: $x^2 = 25$, $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$; $x^2 = 7$, $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$; $x^2 = -9$, $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$; $x^2 + x + 1 = 0$; $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

DEFINITIONS Define: $i = \sqrt{-1}$ and $i^2 = -1$. If a and b are Real numbers, then $z = a + bi$ is a *Complex Number in rectangular form*. The modulus or absolute value of z or length of vector z is: $|z| = r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$

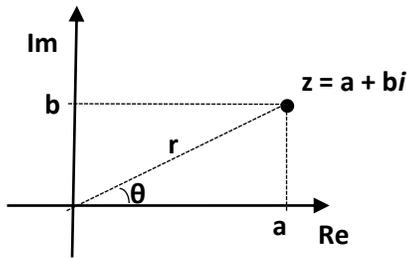
2. Simplify: $(7 - 6i) + (5 + i)$; $(-8 + i) - (-3 + 4i)$; $(7 - 6i)(5 + i)$; $(5 + 5i)^2$; $\frac{5-2i}{4+5i}$

3. If $z = a + bi$, then the *conjugate of z* is $\bar{z} = a - bi$.

Theorems: $z \cdot \bar{z} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ and $\frac{z}{\bar{z}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Argand Diagram Any *Real Number* can be represented as a point on a Real Number Line [one-dimensional].

Any *Complex Number* can be represented as a point on the Complex Plane [two-dimensional].



$z = a + bi$ rectangular form

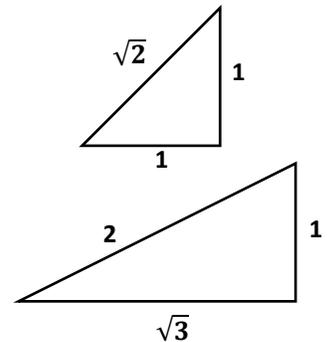
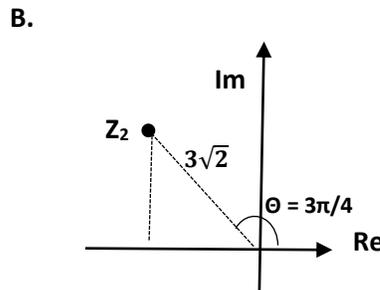
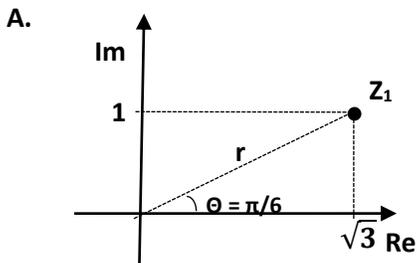
$z = r \cos \theta + i r \sin \theta$ trig or polar form

$z = r (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta) = r \text{ cis } \theta$ 'engineer' form

$z = r e^{i\theta}$ Euler's form

4. Write each complex number in both rectangular and Euler form.

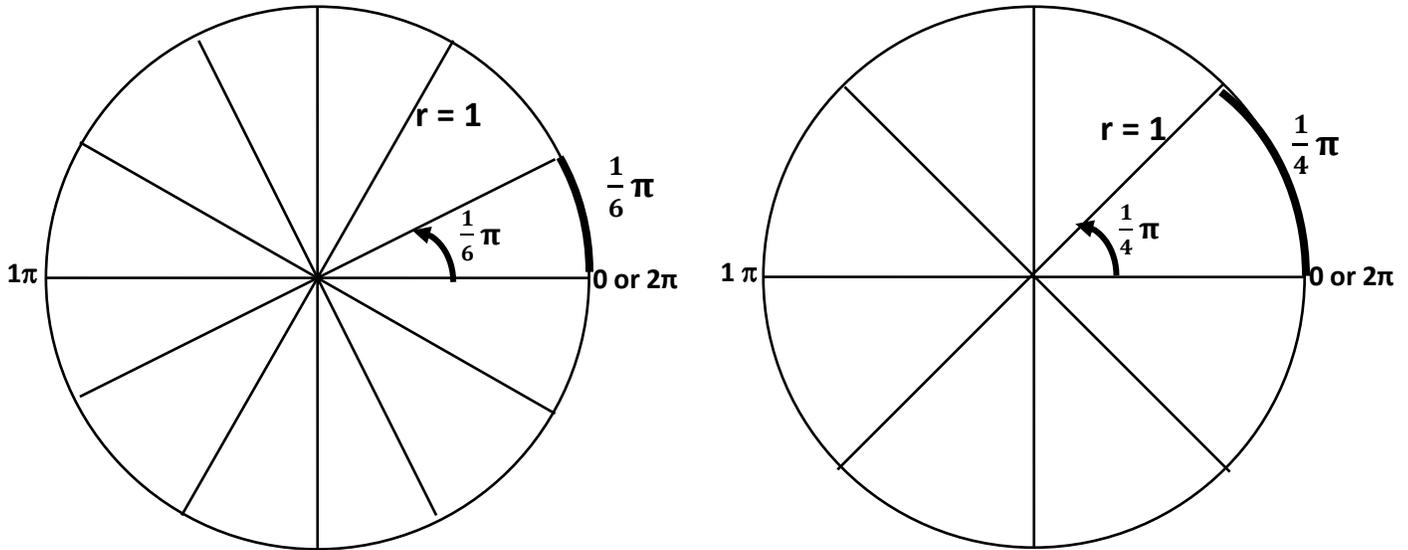
Hints:



A. $z_1 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ B. $z_2 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

ANGLE MEASURE IN RADIANS All calculations of complex numbers in polar or Euler forms are done in **RADIANS**.

5. Label these "special angles" in Radian Measure (the is, in terms of π). On a Unit Circle, *arc-length = angle*.



Calculations in Euler Form "Just follow the rules of Real Number Algebra!" [eg: $(3x^5)(7x^4) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$]

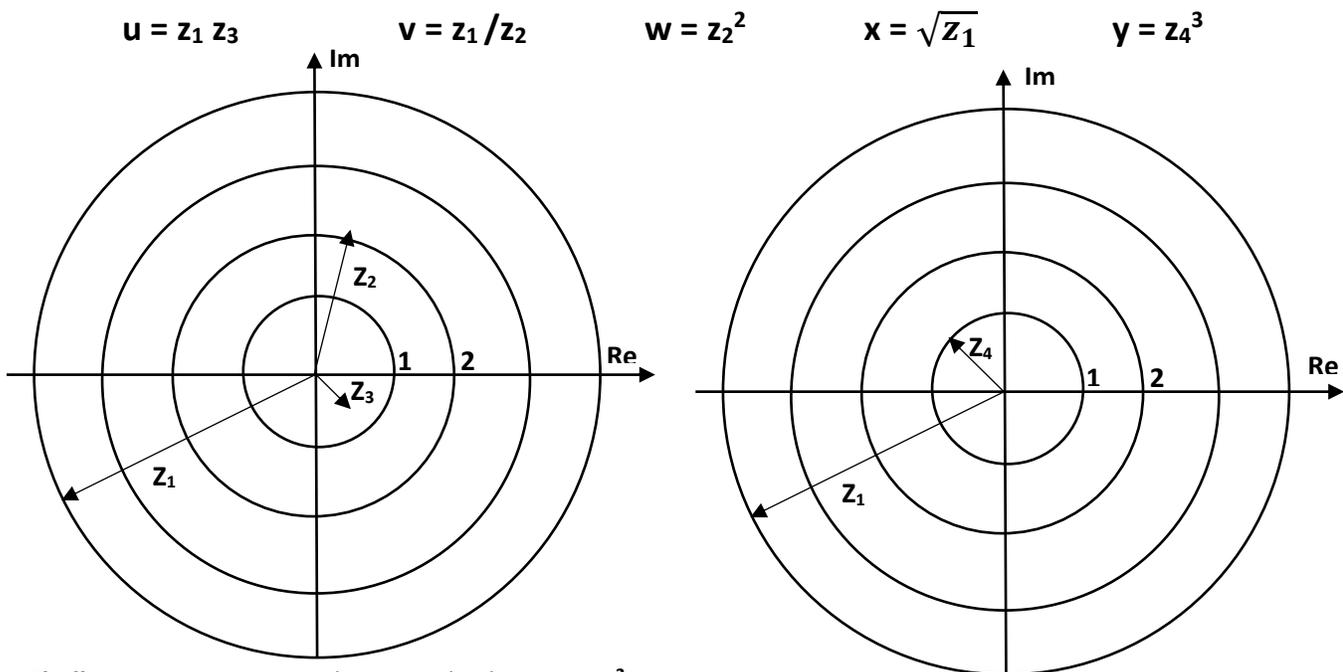
Multiplication: $z_1 * z_2 = r_1 e^{i\theta_1} * r_2 e^{i\theta_2} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ **Division:** $\frac{z_1}{z_2} = \frac{r_1 e^{i\theta_1}}{r_2 e^{i\theta_2}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Translate:

Exponentiation: $z^n = (r e^{i\theta})^n = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ **Square root:** $\sqrt{z} = \sqrt{(r e^{i\theta})} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Translate:

6. Using the given complex numbers, **DRAW** and label each of these complex numbers. These are NOT Special Angles.



Challenges: A. Draw the second solution to $x^2 = z_1$

B. If z_4 does equal $e^{i3\pi/4}$, then an "unusual" observation from **y** is that: $z_4^3 = z_4^{??}$

PROBLEM SET

1A. On an Argand plane, locate the complex number i . Use the GEOMETRY to compute:

$$i^0 = \underline{\quad}; \quad i^1 = \underline{\quad}; \quad i^2 = \underline{\quad}; \quad i^3 = \underline{\quad}; \quad i^4 = \underline{\quad}; \quad \dots \quad i^{40} = \underline{\quad}; \quad \dots \quad i^{59} = \underline{\quad};$$

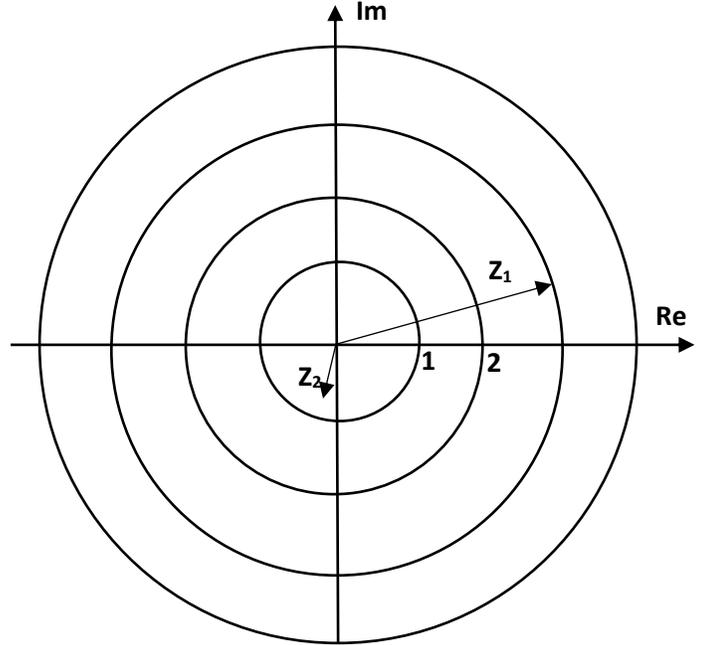
1B. Using the above pattern, compute:

$$i^{13} + i^{32} - i^{35} - i^{50} = \quad; \quad i^1 + i^2 + i^3 + i^4 + i^5 + i^6 + \dots + i^{49} + i^{50} = \quad; \quad i^1 * i^2 * i^3 * i^4 * i^5 * i^6 * \dots * i^{49} * i^{50} =$$

2. If $z = a + bi = r e^{i\theta}$,

then $\bar{z} = a - bi = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ (Euler)

and $z^{-1} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ (Euler)



2A. For each z , DRAW \bar{z} and z^{-1}

2B. Describe all z such that $\bar{z} = z^{-1}$

THEOREM: $\bar{z} = z^{-1}$ if and only if $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$?

3. 1957 AMC 12, #42 If $S = i^n + i^{-n}$ and n is an integer, what is the total number of distinct values for S ?

4. 1964 AMC 12, #34. If n is a multiple of 4, compute the sum: $1 + 2i + 3i^2 + 4i^4 + 5i^5 + \dots + (n + 1)i^n$.

5. Use the geometry and/or Euler form to simplify:

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

$$(1 + i)^6 =$$

6. 1965 AMC 12, #11. How many and which of these three expressions are incorrect?

$$\sqrt{-4} * \sqrt{-16} = \sqrt{(-4)(-16)} \quad \sqrt{(-4)(-16)} = \sqrt{64} \quad \sqrt{64} = 8$$

7. Compute: $\left(\frac{1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^{60} + \left(\frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^{60} - \frac{(1+i)^5}{(1-i)^3}$

8. Simplify: $\left(\frac{4}{i\sqrt{3}-1}\right)^{12}$

9. 1972 AMC 12, #3 If $x = \frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}$, compute $\frac{1}{x^2-x}$.

[Try both algebraically and geometrically.]

10. 2004 MAθ. If $f(z) = z^2 + 4iz - 4$ and $g(z) = \bar{z}$, what is the value of $f(g(3 + 2i))$?

Hint: Look for short-cuts.

11. 2004 MAθ. If a , b , and $(a + bi)^3$ are non-zero real numbers, compute $\left|\frac{b}{a}\right|$.

12. 1985 AMC 12, #23 If $x = \frac{-1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}$ and $y = \frac{-1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}$, which of the following are incorrect?

$$\mathbf{x^5 + y^5 = -1; \quad x^7 + y^7 = -1; \quad x^9 + y^9 = -1; \quad x^{11} + y^{11} = -1; \quad x^{13} + y^{13} = -1'}$$

13. 2008 AIME II, #9 A particle is located on the coordinate plane at $(5, 0)$. Define a *move* for the particle as a counterclockwise rotation of $\pi/4$ radians about the origin followed by a translation of 10 units in the positive x direction. After 150 moves, the particle's position is (p, q) .

Determine the greatest integer less than or equal to $|p| + |q|$.

EXERCISE ANSWERS

1. Solve: $x^2 = 25$, $x = 5$ OR -5 ; $x^2 = 7$, $x = \pm\sqrt{7}$; $x^2 = -9$, $x = \pm 3i$; $x^2 + x + 1 = 0$; $x = \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$
2. Simplify: $(7 - 6i) + (5 + i)$; $(-8 + i) - (-3 + 4i)$; $(7 - 6i)(5 + i)$; $(5 + 5i)^2$; $\frac{5-2i}{4+5i} * \frac{4-5i}{4-5i}$
- $12 - 5i$ $-5 - 3i$ $41 - 23i$ $-10i$ $\frac{10 - 33i}{41}$
3. **Theorems:** $z \cdot \bar{z} = a^2 + b^2 = r^2 = |z|^2$ and $\frac{z}{\bar{z}} = \frac{z}{\bar{z}} * \frac{z}{z} = \frac{z^2}{|z|^2}$ and later $= \frac{r^2 e^{i2\theta}}{r^2} = e^{i2\theta}$
- 4A. $Z_1 = \sqrt{3} + i = 2 e^{i\pi/6}$ B. $Z_2 = (-3, 3) = 3\sqrt{2} e^{i3\pi/4}$

Calculations in Euler Form

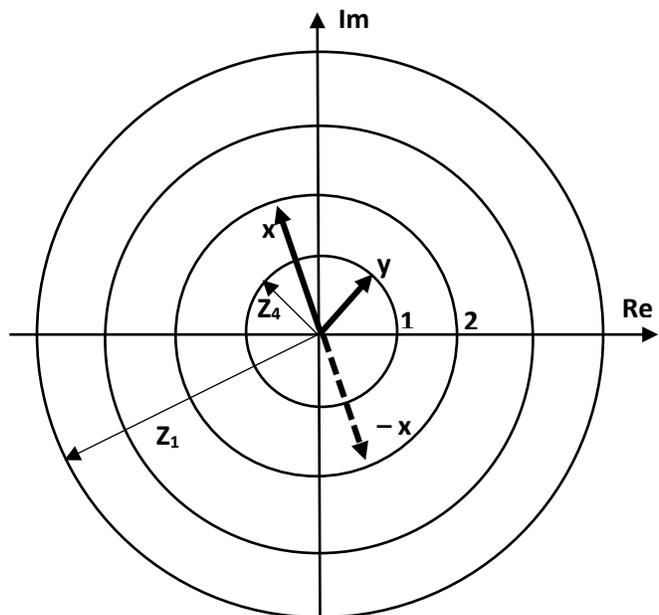
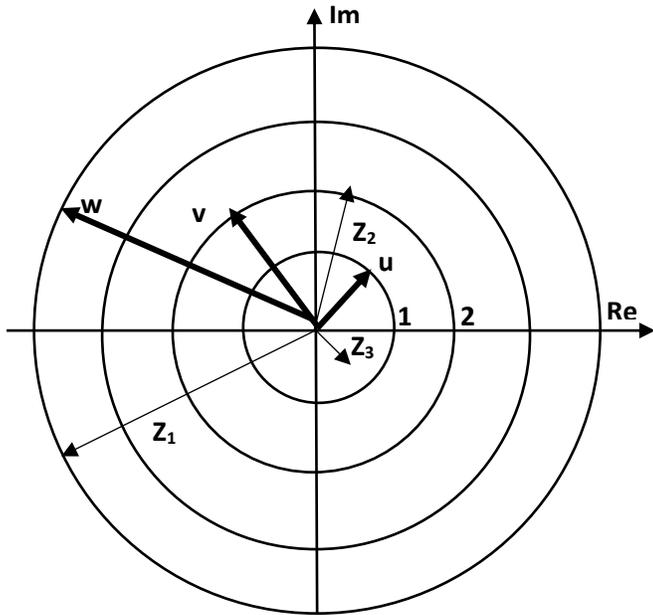
Multiplication: $z_1 * z_2 = r_1 e^{i\theta_1} * r_2 e^{i\theta_2} = r_1 r_2 e^{i(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$ *Multiply the r's; add the angles*

Division: $\frac{z_1}{z_2} = \frac{r_1 e^{i\theta_1}}{r_2 e^{i\theta_2}} = \frac{r_1}{r_2} e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}$ *Divide the r's; subtract the angles*

Exponentiation: $z^n = (r e^{i\theta})^n = r^n e^{in\theta}$ *r^n, then multiply the exponents*

Square root: $\sqrt{z} = \sqrt{(r e^{i\theta})} = \sqrt{r} e^{i\theta/2}$ *Same as exponentiation*

6. $u = z_1 z_3$ $v = z_1 / z_2$ $w = z_2^2$ $x = \sqrt{z_1}$ $y = z_4^3$



Challenge: B. If z_4 does equal $e^{i3\pi/4}$, then an "unusual" observation is that: $z_4^3 = y = \sqrt[3]{z_4} = z_4^{1/3}$

SOLUTIONS AND HINTS

1A. **1; i; -1; -i; 1; i; -1; -i;** ETC, a sequence of length 4

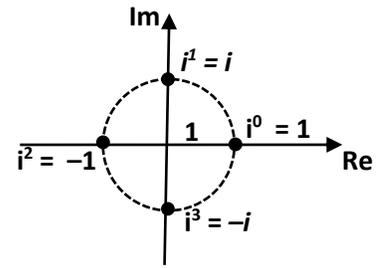
$$i^{40} = i^0 = 1; \quad i^{59} = i^3 = -i$$

1B. Using the above pattern, compute:

$$i^{13} + i^{32} - i^{35} - i^{50} = i + 1 + i + 1 = 2 + 2i$$

$$i^1 + i^2 + i^3 + i^4 + i^5 + i^6 + \dots + i^{49} + i^{50} = i^{49} + i^{50} = i^1 + i^2 = -1 + i \quad \text{because} \quad i^1 + i^2 + i^3 + i^4 = i - 1 - i + 1 = 0$$

$$i^1 * i^2 * i^3 * i^4 * i^5 * i^6 * \dots * i^{49} * i^{50} = i^{1+2+3+\dots+50} = i^{50*51/2} = i^{1275} = i^3 = -1$$

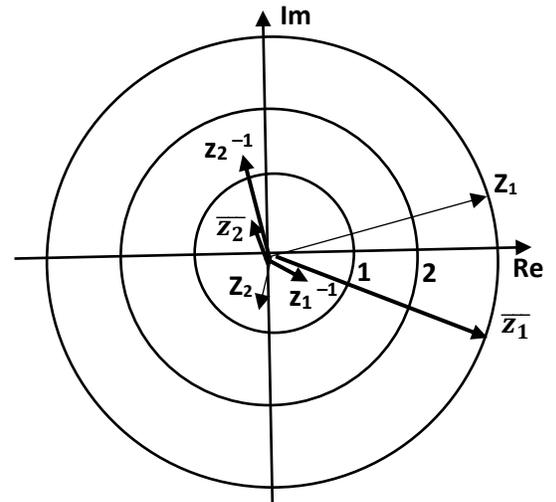


2. If $z = a + bi = r e^{i\theta}$, then $\bar{z} = a - bi = r e^{-i\theta}$ and $z^{-1} = (r e^{i\theta})^{-1} = \frac{1}{r} e^{-i\theta}$

Note that \bar{z} and z^{-1} always have the same angle, $-\theta$

2A. For each z , DRAW \bar{z} and z^{-1}

2B. **THEOREM:** $\bar{z} = z^{-1}$ if and only if $|z| = r = 1$



3. **3** If $S = i^n + i^{-n}$ and n is an integer, what is the total number of distinct values for S ?

Testing $n = 0, \dots, 3$, S can equal only $-2, 0$, or 2 for **three** possibilities.

4. **(2 + n - ni)/2** (or equivalent) If n is a multiple of 4, compute:

$$1 + 2i + 3i^2 + 4i^4 + 5i^5 + \dots + (n + 1)i^n.$$

Since n is a multiple of 4 and there are $n+1$ terms, I will treat the first term "1" as the 'extra' term.

$$S = 1 + [-3 + 5 - 7 + 9 - 11 \dots - (n - 1) + (n + 1)] + i [2 - 4 + 6 - 8 + \dots + (n - 2) - n]$$

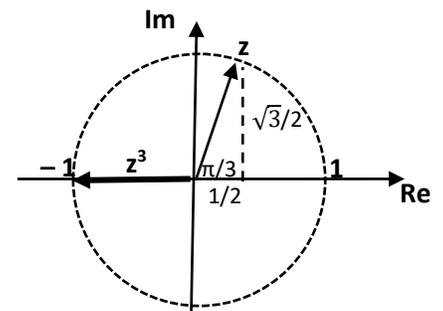
In each bracket, there are exactly $n/4$ pairs of terms, each pair summing to 2 or -2 .

$$= 1 + 2*n/4 + i * (-2)*n/4 = 1 + n/2 - i n/2 = (2 + n - ni)/2$$

5A. Note the 30-60-90 triangle.

Multiply the angle (60°) by 3. Since $r = 1$, the *modulus* stays the same.

$$\text{OR } z^3 = \left(\frac{1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^3 = (e^{i\pi/3})^3 = e^{i\pi} = -i$$



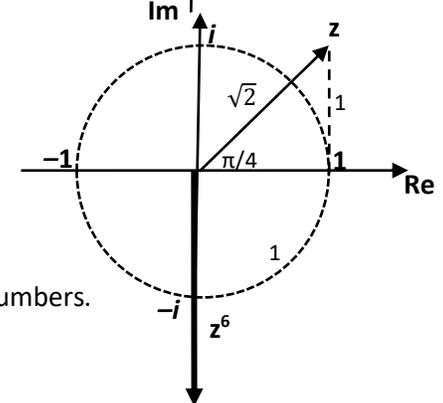
B. Note the 45-45-90 triangle with hypotenuse $\sqrt{2}$.

Multiply the angle by 6 and raise r to 6th power.

$$(1 + i)^6 = (\sqrt{2}e^{i\pi/4})^6 = -8i$$

6. $\sqrt{-4} * \sqrt{-16} = \sqrt{(-4)(-16)}$; $\sqrt{(-4)(-16)} = \sqrt{64}$; $\sqrt{64} = 8$

Only the first expression is incorrect. $\sqrt{-4} * \sqrt{-16} = 2i * 4i = -8$, not 8.



NOTE: This means that $\sqrt{x} * \sqrt{y} = \sqrt{xy}$ is NOT a property over the Complex numbers.

$$7. \quad 0 \quad \left(\frac{1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^{60} + \left(\frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^{60} - \frac{(1+i)^5}{(1-i)^3} = (e^{i\pi/3})^{60} + (e^{-i\pi/3})^{60} - \frac{(\sqrt{2}e^{i\pi/4})^5}{(\sqrt{2}e^{-i\pi/4})^3} =$$

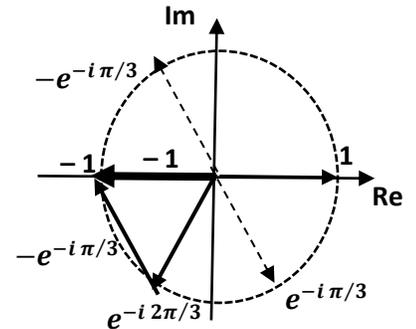
$$1 + 1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}^5 e^{i5\pi/4}}{\sqrt{2}^3 e^{-i3\pi/4}} = 2 - \sqrt{2}^2 e^{8\pi/4} = 2 - 2 = 0$$

$$8. \quad \left(\frac{4}{i\sqrt{3}-1} * \frac{1}{i\sqrt{3}+1}\right)^{12} = \left(\frac{4}{i\sqrt{3}-1} * \frac{i\sqrt{3}+1}{i\sqrt{3}+1}\right)^{12} = \left(\frac{4(i\sqrt{3}+1)}{-4}\right)^{12} = 2^{12} \left(\frac{i\sqrt{3}+1}{2}\right)^{12} = 2^{12} (e^{i\pi/3})^{12} = 4098$$

$$9. \quad -1 \quad \text{If } x = \frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2} = e^{-i\pi/3}; \quad \frac{1}{x^2-x} = \frac{1}{e^{-i2\pi/3} - e^{-i\pi/3}}$$

Geometry: $e^{-i2\pi/3} - e^{-i\pi/3} = -1$; then $\frac{1}{e^{-i2\pi/3} - e^{-i\pi/3}} = \frac{1}{-1} = -1$

Algebra: $x = \frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}$; $x-1 = \frac{-1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}$; $\frac{1}{x^2-x} = \frac{1}{x(x-1)} = \frac{1}{\frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2} * \frac{-1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}} = \frac{-4}{4} = -1$



$$10. \quad 9 \quad \text{If } f(z) = z^2 + 4iz - 4 \text{ and } g(z) = \bar{z}, \text{ what is the value of } f(g(3+2i))?$$

$$f(z) = z^2 + 4iz - 4 = (z+2i)^2; \quad f(g(3+2i)) = f(3-2i) = (3-2i+2i)^2 = 3^2 = 9$$

$$11. \quad \sqrt{3} \quad \text{If } a, b, \text{ and } (a+bi)^3 \text{ are real numbers, compute } \left|\frac{b}{a}\right|. \text{ Let } z = a+bi = re^{i\theta}. \text{ } z^3 \text{ is a real number only if}$$

$$\theta = \pi/3 + n\pi \text{ or } \theta = 2\pi/3 + n\pi \text{ for integral } n. \text{ For all such values: } a = \pm 1/2 \text{ and } b = \pm\sqrt{3}/2 \quad \left|\frac{b}{a}\right| = \sqrt{3}$$

$$12. \quad x^9 + y^9 = -1 \quad \text{If } x = \frac{-1+i\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ and } y = \frac{-1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}, \text{ which of the following are incorrect?}$$

$$x^5 + y^5 = -1; \quad x^7 + y^7 = -1; \quad x^9 + y^9 = -1; \quad x^{11} + y^{11} = -1; \quad x^{13} + y^{13} = -1$$

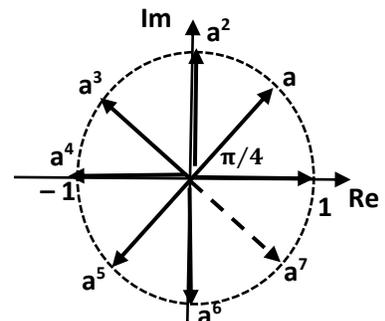
$$x = \frac{-1+i\sqrt{3}}{2} = e^{-i\pi/3} \text{ and } y = \frac{-1-i\sqrt{3}}{2} = e^{i2\pi/3}$$

$$x^9 + y^9 = (e^{-i\pi/3})^9 + (e^{i2\pi/3})^9 = 1 + 1 = 2 \neq -1 \text{ All others do equal } -1.$$

13. **19** A particle is located on the coordinate plans at (5, 0). Define a move for the particle as a counterclockwise rotation of $\pi/4$ radians about the origin followed by a translation of 10 units in the positive x direction. After 150 moves, the particle's position is (p, q). Determine the greatest integer less than or equal to $|p| + |q|$.

Let $a = e^{\pi/4}$ so that multiplication by a is a rotation of $\pi/4$ radians clockwise about the origin. Also, $a^8 = a^{16} = a^{24} = \dots = 1$

- After 1 move: $5a + 10$; after 2 moves: $a(5a + 10) + 10$;
- After 3 moves: $a(a(5a + 10) + 10) + 10$; After 150 moves:
- $a(\dots a(a(5a + 10) + 10) + 10 \dots + 10) + 10 = 5a^{150} + 10a^{149} + 10a^{148} + \dots + 10a + 10$
- $= 5a^6 + 10(a^{149} + a^{148} + \dots + a + 1)$.
- There are 150 terms within the parentheses. Each sequence of 8 terms equals 0 [see diagram]. So the first 144 terms "zero out". Also, "opposites" $a^5 + a = 0$ and $a^4 + 1 = 0$.
- $= 5a^6 + 10(a^5 + a^4 + a^3 + a^2 + a + 1) = -5i + 10[a^3 + a^2] = -5i + 10\left[\frac{-\sqrt{2}-i\sqrt{2}}{2} + i\right]$
- $= -5\sqrt{2} + [5 + 5\sqrt{2}]i = p + qi$. So $|p| + |q| = |-5\sqrt{2}| + |5 + 5\sqrt{2}| > 7 + 5 + 7 = 19$



Note: This motion creates an octagon!