

MATH1050 Examples: Complex numbers.

1. Let  $\omega = \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}}$ .
  - (a) Write down the respective values of  $\omega^2$ ,  $\omega^8$ ,  $\omega^{2016}$ .
  - (b) Hence, or otherwise, find the value of  $\left| \sum_{k=0}^{2017} \omega^k \right|^2$ . Leave your answer in surd form.
2. Let  $\zeta$  be a complex number with real part  $a$  and modulus  $r$ . Express  $\zeta^m + \bar{\zeta}^m$  in terms of  $a, r$  alone for  $m = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$ .
3. Let  $k$  be a real number, and  $\zeta$  be the complex number defined by  $\zeta = (2+i)k^2 - 3(1+i)k - 2(1-i)$ .
  - (a) Express  $\operatorname{Re}(\zeta)$  and  $\operatorname{Im}(\zeta)$  in terms of  $k$ .
  - (b)
    - i. Suppose  $\zeta$  is real. What are the possible values of  $k$  and  $\zeta$  respectively? Justify your answer.
    - ii. Suppose  $\zeta$  is purely imaginary. What are the possible values of  $k$  and  $\zeta$  respectively? Justify your answer.
    - iii. Suppose  $\operatorname{Re}(\zeta) = \operatorname{Im}(\zeta)$  and  $\zeta \neq 0$ . What are the possible values of  $k$  and  $\zeta$  respectively? Justify your answer.
4. Let  $a, b, h, k$  be real numbers, with  $h \neq 0$ . Let  $\omega$  be a complex number, with  $|\omega| = 1$ . Suppose  $a + bi = \frac{h}{k + \omega}$ .
  - (a) Verify that  $\omega = \frac{(h - ak) - bki}{a + bi}$ .
  - (b) Hence deduce that  $(k^2 - 1)(a^2 + b^2) + h^2 - 2ahk = 0$ .
5. Let  $z, w$  be complex numbers. Suppose  $w \neq 0$ .
  - (a) Suppose  $|z| = |z - w|$ . Prove that  $\operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{z}{w}\right) = \frac{1}{2}$ .
  - (b) Suppose  $|z| = |z - w| = |w|$ . Express  $z$  in terms of  $w$ .
6. Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be complex numbers. Suppose  $|\alpha| = |\beta| = |\alpha + \beta| = 1$ .
  - (a) Find the value of  $(\alpha + \beta)\left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta}\right)$ .
  - (b) Hence, or otherwise, prove that  $\alpha^3 = \beta^3$ .
 

**Remark.** Start by considering the expression  $\alpha^3 - \beta^3$ : can you factorize it?
7. Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  be real numbers. Suppose  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 2\pi$ .  
 Define  $\lambda, \mu, \nu$  by  $\lambda = \cos(\alpha) + i \sin(\alpha)$ ,  $\mu = \cos(\beta) + i \sin(\beta)$ ,  $\nu = \cos(\gamma) + i \sin(\gamma)$  respectively.
  - (a) Find the value of  $\lambda\mu\nu$ .
  - (b) Prove that  $\cos(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2}\left(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)$  and  $\cos(2\alpha) = \frac{1}{2}\left(\lambda^2 + \frac{1}{\lambda^2}\right)$ .
  - (c) Hence, or otherwise, prove that  $\cos(2\alpha) + \cos(2\beta) + \cos(2\gamma) = 4 \cos(\alpha) \cos(\beta) \cos(\gamma) - 1$ .
8. Let  $z, w$  be complex numbers. Prove that  $|1 - z\bar{w}|^2 - |z - w|^2 = (1 - |z|^2)(1 - |w|^2)$ .
9. Let  $a, b$  be real numbers. Suppose  $a + bi = \frac{2 + 4i}{1 - i}(b + i)$ . Determine the values of  $a, b$  respectively.
10. Let  $a, b$  be real numbers. Consider the quadratic equation  $z^2 + az + b = 0$  with unknown  $z$ . Suppose  $z = 1 + i$  is a solution of this equation. Find the values of  $a, b$ .

11. Let  $a, b, c, d$  be real numbers, and  $f(x)$  be the quadratic polynomial with complex coefficients given by  $f(x) = x^2 + (a + bi)x + (c + di)$ .

Prove the statements below:

- (a)  $f(x)$  has a pair of distinct real roots iff ( $b = d = 0$  and  $a^2 - 4c > 0$ ).
- (b)  $f(x)$  has a pair of distinct complex roots which are conjugate to each other iff ( $b = d = 0$  and  $a^2 - 4c < 0$ ).
- (c)  $f(x)$  has one real root and one non-real root iff ( $b \neq 0$  and  $d^2 - abd + b^2c = 0$ ).

12. (a) Let  $\zeta$  be a complex number. Suppose  $\zeta^2 = \bar{\zeta}$ .
- i. Prove that  $|\zeta| = 0$  or  $|\zeta| = 1$ .
  - ii. Hence, or otherwise, prove that  $\zeta = 0$  or  $\zeta = 1$  or  $\zeta^2 + \zeta + 1 = 0$ .
- (b) Solve the equation  $z^2 = \bar{z}$  with unknown  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

13. Solve the system of equations

$$\begin{cases} |1 + z| = |3 - z| \\ z\bar{z} = 4 \end{cases}$$

with unknown  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

**Remark.** If you are not required to display any algebraic manipulation, can you write down the answer quickly by simply considering the geometry on the Argand plane?

14. *There is no need to give any justifications for your answers in this question.*

Consider the curve  $C$  on the Argand plane defined by the equation  $z\bar{z} - (2 + 3i)z - (2 - 3i)\bar{z} = 12$ .

Let  $p = 4 - 5i$ . Determine the points on the curve  $C$  on the Argand plane which are respectively of the maximum distance and of the minimum distance from the point  $p$ .

**Remark.** Try to re-write the equation which defines  $C$  in such a way that you can identify  $C$  as some kind of curves familiar to you.

15. *There is no need to give any justifications for your answers in this question.*

Let  $w = 4 + 3i$ , and  $C$  be the curve on the Argand plane defined by the equation  $|z - 3i| = 2$ . Determine the point(s) in  $C$  at minimum distance from  $w$  on the Argand plane.

16. *There is no need to give any justifications for your answers in this question.*

Consider the infinite straight line  $\ell$  defined by the equation  $|z - (3 + i)| = |z - (5 + 5i)|$  with unknown  $z$  in the complex numbers.

- (a) Re-express the equation in the form  $\text{Im}(z) = a\text{Re}(z) + b$ , in which  $a, b$  are real numbers. You have to give explicit values for  $a, b$  respectively.
- (b) What is the smallest possible value of  $|z|$  if  $z$  lies on  $\ell$ ?

17. Express the complex numbers  $-1 - i, 1 - i$  in polar form. Hence simplify  $\frac{-1 - i}{(1 - i)^5}$ .

18. Let  $c$  be a real number,  $z = 1 + i, w = (c + 4) + (c - 4)i$ . Denote the angle between the line segment joining 0 and  $z$  and that joining 0 and  $w$  is  $\theta$ . Suppose  $\cos(\theta) = -\frac{3}{5}$ . Find the possible value(s) of  $c$ .

19. Let  $p, q, r$  be three distinct non-zero complex numbers. Denote the points in the Argand plane represented by  $p, q, r$  by  $P, Q, R$  respectively. Denote the origin in the Argand plane by  $O$ . Suppose  $OPQR$  is a rectangle in the Argand plane. Suppose  $|p| = 2$ , and  $\arg(p) = \frac{\pi}{6}$ . Suppose  $|q - p| = 1$ . Also suppose  $\text{Re}(r) < 0$ .

(Draw an appropriate diagram before you proceed any further.)

- (a) Express  $p, r$  in standard form.

(b) Hence find  $q$ . Express your answer in standard form.

20. (a) Let  $\alpha, \sigma$  be complex numbers.

i.  $\diamond$  Suppose  $\operatorname{Re}(\alpha) = a$ ,  $\operatorname{Im}(\alpha) = b$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}(\sigma) = s$ ,  $\operatorname{Im}(\sigma) = t$ .

Prove that  $\alpha = \sigma^2$  iff ( $a = s^2 - t^2$  and  $b = 2st$ ).

ii. Now suppose  $|\alpha| = 1$  and  $\alpha = \sigma^2$ .

A. Prove that  $|\sigma| = 1$ .

B. Prove that  $|\alpha - \sigma| = |\sigma - 1|$ .

**Remark.** Can you give a geometric interpretation of these results on the Argand plane?

(b) Find the square roots of each of the complex numbers below:

i.  $i$

ii.  $-i$

iii.  $-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$

iv.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$

v.  $1 + 3i$

vi.  $1 + i$

21. Solve for all complex solutions of each of the equations below:

(a)  $z^2 + 4iz = 0$ .

(b)  $z^2 + (3 - 2i)z - 6i = 0$ .

(c)  $z^2 - 2iz + 1 = 0$ .

(d)  $z^2 - 4z + (4 - i) = 0$ .

(e)  $z^2 - (2 + 2i)z + (-4 + 2i) = 0$ .

(f)  $z - 5i - \frac{6}{z} = 0$ .

22. (a) Find the square roots of each of the complex numbers below:

i.  $4 + 3i$

ii.  $4 - 3i$

(b) Hence, or otherwise, solve for all complex solutions of the equation  $x^4 - 8x^2 + 25 = 0$ .