Complex Numbers and Quadratic Equations

- A number of the form a + ib, where a and b are real numbers and $i = \sqrt{-1}$, is defined as a complex number.
- For the complex numbers z = a + ib, *a* is called the real part (denoted by Re *z*) and *b* is called the imaginary part (denoted by Im *z*) of the complex number *z*.

Example: For the complex number $z = \frac{-5}{9} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{17}$, Re $z = \frac{-5}{9}$ and Im $z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{17}$

• Two complex numbers $z_1 = a + ib$ and $z_2 = c + id$ are equal if a = c and b = d.

• Addition of complex numbers

Two complex numbers $z_1 = a + ib$ and $z_2 = c + id$ can be added as,

 $z_1 + z_2 = (a + ib) + (c + id) = (a + c) + i(b + d)$

• Properties of addition of complex numbers:

- **Closure Law:** Sum of two complex numbers is a complex number. In fact, for two complex numbers z_1 and z_2 , such that $z_1 = a + ib$ and $z_2 = c + id$, we obtain $z_1 + z_2 = (a + c) + i(b + d)$.
- **Commutative Law:** For two complex numbers z_1 and z_2 ,

 $z_1 + z_2 = z_2 + z_1$.

• Associative Law: For any three complex numbers z_1 , z_2 and z_3 ,

 $(z_1 + z_2) + z_3 = z_1 + (z_2 + z_3).$

• Existence of Additive Identity: There exists a complex number 0 + i0 (denoted by 0), called the additive identity or zero complex number, such that for every complex number z, z + 0 = z.

• Existence of Additive Inverse: For every complex number z = a + ib, there exists a complex number -a + i(-b) [denoted by -z], called the additive inverse or negative of z, such that z + (-z) = 0.

• Subtraction of complex numbers

Given any two complex numbers z_1 , and z_2 , the difference $z_1 - z_2$ is defined as

 $z_1 - z_2 = z_1 + (-z_2).$

• Multiplication of complex numbers:

Two complex numbers $z_1 = a + ib$ and $z_2 = c + id$ can be multiplied as,

 $z_1 z_2 = (ac - bd) + i(ad + bc)$

- Properties of multiplication of complex numbers:
 - **Closure law:** The product of two complex numbers is a complex number.

In fact, for two complex numbers z_1 and z_2 , such that $z_1 = a + ib$ and $z_2 = c + id$, we obtain $z_1 z_2 = (ac - bd) + i(ad + bc)$.

- **Commutative Law:** For any two complex numbers z_1 and z_2 , $z_1z_2 = z_2z_1$.
- Associative Law: For any three complex numbers z_1 , z_2 and z_3 ,

 $(z_1z_2) z_3 = z_1 (z_2z_3).$

- Existence of Multiplicative Identity: There exist a complex number 1 + i 0 (denoted as 1), called the multiplicative identity, such that for every complex numbers z, z.1 = z.
- Existence of Multiplicative Inverse: For every non-zero complex number z = a + ib ($a \neq 0, b \neq 0$), we have the complex number

 $\frac{a}{a^2+b^2} + i\frac{-b}{a^2+b^2}$ (denoted by $\frac{1}{z}$ or z^{-1}), called the multiplicative inverse of z, such that $z \frac{1}{z} = 1$.

Example: The multiplicative inverse of the complex number z = 2 - 3i can be found as,

$$z^{-1} = \frac{2}{(2)^2 + (-3)^2} + i \frac{(-3)}{(2)^2 + (-3)^2} = \frac{2}{13} - \frac{3}{13}i$$

• **Distributive Law:** For any three complex numbers z_1 , z_2 and z_3 ,

- $z_1(z_2+z_3) = z_1z_2+z_1z_3$
- $(z_1 + z_2) z_3 = z_1 z_3 + z_2 z_3$

• Division of Complex Numbers

Given any two complex number z_1 and z_2 , where $z_2 \neq 0$, the quotient $\frac{z_1}{z_2}$ is defined as $\frac{z_1}{z_2} = z_1 \frac{1}{z_2}$

Example: For $z_1 = 1 + i$ and $z_2 = 2 - 3i$, the quotient $\frac{z_1}{z_2}$ can be found as,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{2_2} &= \frac{1+i}{2-3i} \\ &= \left(1+i\right) \left(\frac{1}{2-3i}\right) \\ &= \left(1+i\right) \left(\frac{2}{(2)^2+(-3)^2} + i\frac{(-3)}{(2)^2+(-3)^2}\right) \\ &= \left(1+i\right) \left(\frac{2}{13} - \frac{3}{13}i\right) \\ &= \left[1 \times \frac{2}{13} - 1 \times \left(-\frac{3}{13}\right)\right] + i\left[1 \times \left(-\frac{3}{13}\right) + 1 \times \frac{2}{13}\right] \\ &= \frac{5}{13} - \frac{1}{13}i \end{aligned}$$

• Property of Complex Numbers

For any integerk,
i^{4k} = 1, i^{4k+1} = i, i^{4k+2} = −1, i^{4k+3} = −i.
If a and b are negative real numbers, then

• Modulus of a Complex Number

The modulus of a complex number z = a + ib, is denoted by |z|, and is defined as the non-negative real number $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, i.e., $|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$.

Example 1: If
$$z = 2 - 3i$$
, then $|z| = \sqrt{(2)^2 + (-3)^2} = \sqrt{13}$

• Conjugate of Complex Number

The conjugate of a complex number z = a + ib, is denoted by \overline{z} , and is defined as the complex number a - ib, i.e., $\overline{z} = a - ib$.

Example 2: Find the conjugate of $\frac{2}{3+5i}$. Solution: We have $\frac{2}{3+5i}$ $= \frac{2}{3+5i} \times \frac{3-5i}{3-5i}$ $= \frac{2(3-5i)}{(3)^2 - (5i)^2}$ $= \frac{2(3-5i)}{9-25i^2}$ $= \frac{6-10i}{9+25}$ ($\because i^2 = -1$) $= \frac{6-10i}{34}$ $= \frac{6}{34} - \frac{10i}{34}$ $= \frac{3}{17} - \frac{5i}{17}$

Thus, the conjugate of $\frac{2}{3+5i}$ is $\frac{3}{17} + \frac{5i}{17}$.

• Properties of modulus and conjugate of complex numbers:

For any three complex numbers z, z_1, z_2 ,

$$z^{-1} = \frac{\overline{z}}{|z|^2} \text{ or } z.\overline{z} = |z|^2$$

$$|Z_1 Z_2| = |Z_1||Z_2|$$

$$|\frac{z_1}{z_2}| = \frac{|z_1|}{|z_2|}, \text{ provided } |Z_2| \neq 0$$

$$\frac{\overline{z_1 Z_2}}{\overline{z_1 Z_2}} = \overline{z_1 Z_2}$$

$$\overline{z_1 \pm z_2} = \overline{z_1} \pm \overline{z_2}$$

• Solutions of the quadratic equation when D < 0.

The solutions of the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$, where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$, $a \neq 0$ are given by $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$, where $D = b^2 - 4ac < 0$.

Example: Solve
$$2x^2 + 3ix + 2 = 0$$

Solution: Here
$$a = 2, b = 3i$$
 and $c = 2$

$$D = b^{2} - 4ac$$

$$= (3i)^{2} - 4 \times 2 \times 2$$

$$= -9 - 16$$

$$= -25 < 0$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-3i \pm \sqrt{-25}}{2 \times 2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-3i \pm 5i}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-3i \pm 5i}{4} \text{ or } x = \frac{-3i - 5i}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{2i}{4} \text{ or } x = -\frac{8i}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{i}{2} \text{ or } x = -2i$$

• Argand plan: Each complex number represents a unique point on Argand plane. An Argand plane is shown in the following figure.



Here, *x*-axis is known as the **real axis** and *y*-axis is known as the **imaginary axis**.

• Complex Number on Argand plane: The complex number z = a + ib can be represented on an Argand plane as



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- .Thus, the modulus of a complex number z = a + ib is the distance between the point P(x, y) and the origin O.
- Conjugate of Complex Number on Argand plane:
- The conjugate of a complex number z = a + ib is $\overline{z} = a ib$, z and \overline{z} can be represented by the points P(a, b) and Q(a, -b) on the Argand plane as



Thus, on the Argand plane, the conjugate of a complex number is the mirror image of the complex number with respect to the real axis.

• Polar representation of Complex Numbers

The polar form of the complex number z = x + iy, is $r(\cos \theta + \sin \theta)$ where $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ (modulus of *z*) and $\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$, $\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$ (θ is known as the argument of *z*).

The value of θ is such that $-\pi < \theta \le \pi$, which is called the principle argument of *z*.

Example 2: Represent the complex number $z = \sqrt{2} - i\sqrt{2}$ in polar form. **Solution:** $z = \sqrt{2} - i\sqrt{2}$ Let $\sqrt{2} = r \cos \theta$ and $-\sqrt{2} = r \sin \theta$ By squaring and adding them, we have $2 + 2 = r^{2} \left(\cos^{2} \theta + \sin^{2} \theta \right)$ $\Rightarrow r^{2} = 4$ $\Rightarrow r = \sqrt{4} = 2$ Thus, $\cos \theta = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ $\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} = \sin \left(2\pi - \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$ $\Rightarrow \theta = 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{7\pi}{4}$ Thus, the required polar form is $2 \left(\cos \frac{7\pi}{4} + \sin \frac{7\pi}{4} \right)$.