Lesson 13: Trigonometry and Complex Numbers

Classwork

Opening Exercise

For each complex number shown below, answer the following questions. Record your answers in the table.

* 1. What are the coordinates that correspond to this complex number?
	2. What is the modulus of the complex number?
	3. Suppose a ray from the origin that contains the real number is rotated so it passes through the point . What is a value of ?

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| **Complex Number** |  | **Modulus** | **Degrees of Rotation**  |
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Exercises 1–2

1. Can you find at least two additional rotations that would map a ray from the origin through the real number to a ray from the origin passing through the point ?
2. How are the rotations you found in Exercise 1 related?

Every complex number appears as a point on the complex plane with coordinates as a point in the coordinate plane.

In the diagram above, notice that each complex number has a distance from the origin to the point and a rotation of that maps the ray from the origin along the positive real axis to the ray passing through the point .

Argument of the complex number**:** The *argument of the complex number* is the radian (or degree) measure of the counterclockwise rotation of the complex plane about the origin that maps the initial ray (i.e., the ray corresponding to the positive real axis) to the ray from the origin through the complex number in the complex plane. The argument of is denoted .

**Modulus of a complex number :** The *modulus of a complex number ,* denoted , is the distance from the origin to the point corresponding to in the complex plane. If , then .

**Example 1: The Polar Form of a Complex Number**

Derive a formula for a complex number in terms of its modulus and argument .



z = x + yi

Suppose that has coordinates that lie on the unit circle as shown.

* 1. What is the value of and what are the coordinates of the point in terms of ? Explain how you know.
	2. If , what would be the coordinates of the point ? Explain how you know.
	3. If what would be the coordinates of the point ? Explain how you know.
	4. Use the definitions of sine and cosine to write coordinates of the point in terms of cosine and sine for any and real number .
	5. Use your answers to part (d) to express in terms of and .

**Polar form of a complex number:** The *polar form of a complex number* is , where and .

**Rectangular form of a complex number**: The *rectangular form of a complex number* is , where corresponds to the point in the complex plane, and is the imaginary unit. The number is called the *real part* of , and the number is called the *imaginary part* of .

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| --- | --- | --- |
| General Form | Polar Form | Rectangular Form |
| Examples |  |  |
| Key Features | ModulusArgumentCoordinate | ModulusCoordinate |

Exercises 3–6

1. Write each complex number from the Opening Exercise in polar form.

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| **Rectangular** | **Polar Form** |
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1. Use a graph to help you answer these questions.
	1. What is the modulus of the complex number ?
	2. What is the argument of the number ?
	3. Write the complex number in polar form.
	4. Arguments can be measured in radians. Express your answer the answer to part (c) using radians.
	5. Explain why the polar and rectangular forms of a complex number represent the same number.
2. State the modulus and argument of each complex number, and then graph it using the modulus and argument.
3. Evaluate the sine and cosine functions for the given values of and then express each complex number in rectangular form, . Explain why the polar and rectangular forms represent the same number.

**Example 2: Writing a Complex Number in Polar Form**

* 1. Convert to polar form.
	2. Convert to polar form.

Exercise 7

1. Express each complex number in polar form. Round arguments to the nearest thousandth.

Lesson Summary

The polar form of a complex number where is the argument of and is the modulus of . The rectangular form of a complex number is .

The polar and rectangular forms of a complex number are related by the formulas , and .

The notation for modulus is and the notation for argument is .

Problem Set

1. Explain why the complex numbers , , and can all have the same argument. Draw a diagram to support your answer.
2. What is the modulus of each of the complex numbers , , and given in Problem 1 above.
3. Write the complex numbers from Exercise 1 in polar form.
4. Explain why and represent the same number.
5. Julien stated that a given modulus and a given argument uniquely determine a complex number. Confirm or refute Julien’s reasoning.
6. Identify the modulus and argument of the complex number in polar form, convert it to rectangular form and sketch the complex number in the complex plane. or (radians)
7. Convert the complex numbers in rectangular form to polar form. If the argument is a multiple of,,, or, express your answer exactly. If not, use to find rounded to the nearest thousandth,
(radians).
	1.
	2.
8. Show that the following complex numbers have the same argument.
	1. and
	2. and
9. A square with side length of one unit is shown below. Identify a complex number in polar form that corresponds to each point on the square.



1. Determine complex numbers in polar form whose coordinates are the vertices of the square shown below.
2. How do the modulus and argument of coordinate in Problem 9, correspond to the modulus and argument of point in Problem 10?  Does a similar relationship exist when you compare to, to , and to ?  Explain why you think this relationship exists.
3. Describe the transformations that map to .

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