

Module 5: Complex Numbers (Cartesian and Polar Form)

1. [2013/RVHS/I/7 First part] The complex numbers w and z satisfy the equations

$$\frac{w}{z} = \frac{3}{2}i$$

$$z^* - 2w = 4 + 4i.$$

Find w and z . [4]

2. [2013/DHS/II/4]

The equation $z^4 - 4z^3 + az^2 - 20z + 25 = 0$, $a \in \mathbb{R}$, has a root ki , where k is a real number.

- (i) Explain clearly why there is more than one possible value for k . [1]

- (ii) Find the possible exact values of k and show that $a = 10$.

Hence find the roots of the above equation. [7]

- (iii) Deduce the roots of the following equations in the form $x + iy$, where x and y are real,

(a) $w^4 + 4iw^3 - 10w^2 - 20iw + 25 = 0$,

(b) $25v^4 - 20v^3 + 10v^2 - 4v + 1 = 0$. [4]

3. [2015/IJC/II/4(b)]

The complex number w is given by $\left(\frac{-\sqrt{3}+i}{\sqrt{2}-i\sqrt{2}}\right)^2$. Without using a calculator, find

- (i) $|w|$ and the exact value of $\arg w$, [4]

- (ii) the set of values of n , where n is a positive integer, for which $w^n w^*$ is a real number. [4]

4. [2015/PJC/I/7(i)]

The polynomial $P(z)$ has real coefficients. The equation $P(z) = 0$ has a root $re^{i\theta}$, where $r > 0$ and $0 < \theta \leq \pi$. Write down a second root in terms of r and θ , and hence show that a quadratic factor of $P(z)$ is $z^2 - 2rz \cos \theta + r^2$. [3]

5. [2015/HCI/10(a)]

The equation $z^3 - az^2 + 2az - 4i = 0$, where a is a constant, has a root i .

- (i) Briefly explain why i^* may not necessarily be a root of the equation. [1]

- (ii) Show that $a = 2 + i$. [2]

- (iii) Hence, find the remaining roots of the equation in exact form. [5]

6. [2014/MJC/I/8(b)]

Show that $e^{i\frac{\theta}{2}} - e^{-i\frac{\theta}{2}} = 2i \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$. Hence show that $\frac{e^{i\theta}}{1 - e^{i\theta}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(i \cot \frac{\theta}{2} - 1 \right)$. [4]

Answers:

1. $z = -2 + 2i, w = -3 - 3i$
2. (i) Since the coefficients of the equation are all real, by Conjugate Root Theorem, all complex roots must occur in conjugate pairs, where $k = \pm q$, q is a positive real number.
- (ii) $z = \pm\sqrt{5}i, 2 \pm i$ (iii) $w = \pm\sqrt{5}, \pm 1 - 2i;$
 $v = \pm \frac{i}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{1}{5}(2 \pm i)$
3. (ii) $|w| = 1$ and $\arg w = \frac{\pi}{6}$ (iii) $\{n : n \in \mathbb{Z}^+, n = 6k - 5, k \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}$
5. (i) It is not necessarily true because to conclude that i^* is a root, the coefficients of the equation must be real.
- (iii) $z = 1 + \sqrt{3}i$ or $z = 1 - \sqrt{3}i$
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