

## De Moivre's theorem



Abraham de Moivre (1667 - 1754)

### Specifications:

#### De Moivre's Theorem

De Moivre's theorem for integral  $n$ .

Use of  $z + \frac{1}{z} = 2 \cos \theta$  and  $z - \frac{1}{z} = 2 i \sin \theta$ , leading to,

for example, expressing  $\sin^5 \theta$  in terms of multiple angles and  $\tan 5\theta$  in term of powers of  $\tan \theta$ .

Applications in evaluating integrals, for example,  $\int \sin^5 \theta d\theta$ .

De Moivre's theorem; the  $n$ th roots of unity, the exponential form of a complex number.

The use, without justification, of the identity  $e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$ .

Solutions of equations of the form  $z^n = a + ib$ .

To include geometric interpretation and use, for example, in expressing  $\cos \frac{5\pi}{12}$  in surd form.

## De Moivre's theorem

Consider a complex number  $z$  with modulus 1 in its trigonometric form:  
 $z = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$

De Moivre's theorem :

$$(\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)^n = \cos(n\theta) + i\sin(n\theta) \text{ for all } n \text{ positive integers}$$

Prove this theorem by induction:

## Generalisation:

Given  $z = r(\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)$

then for all n integers,  $z^n = r^n (\cos(n\theta) + i\sin(n\theta))$

## Powers of a complex number

*It is given that  $z = \cos\frac{\pi}{6} + i\sin\frac{\pi}{6}$  and  $w = 1 + i$*

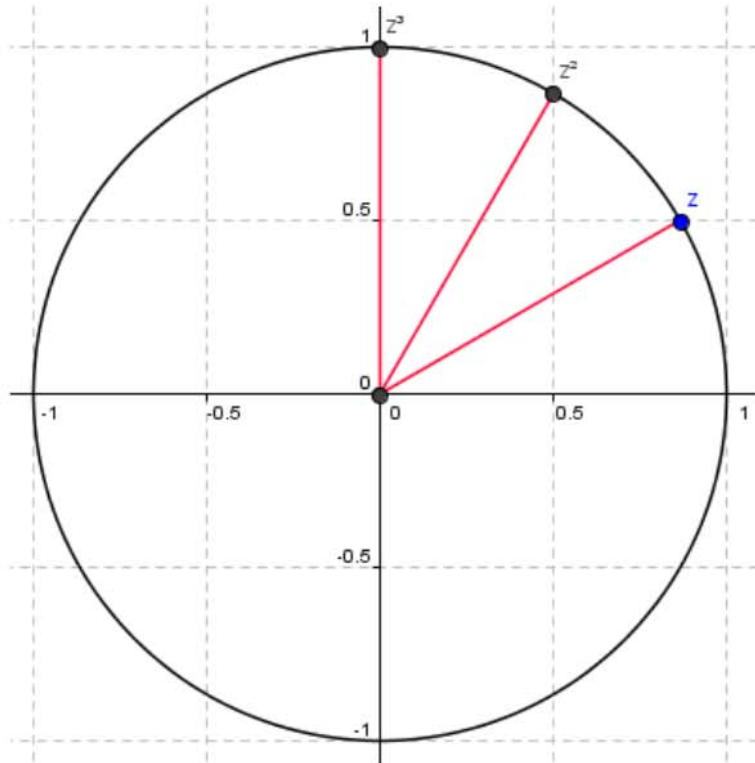
Using the De Moivre's theorem, work out in the form  $a+ib$  the following complex numbers

1)  $z^2$  ,  $z^3$  ,  $z^{10}$  ,  $z^{600}$

2)  $w^2$  ,  $w^3$  ,  $w^8$

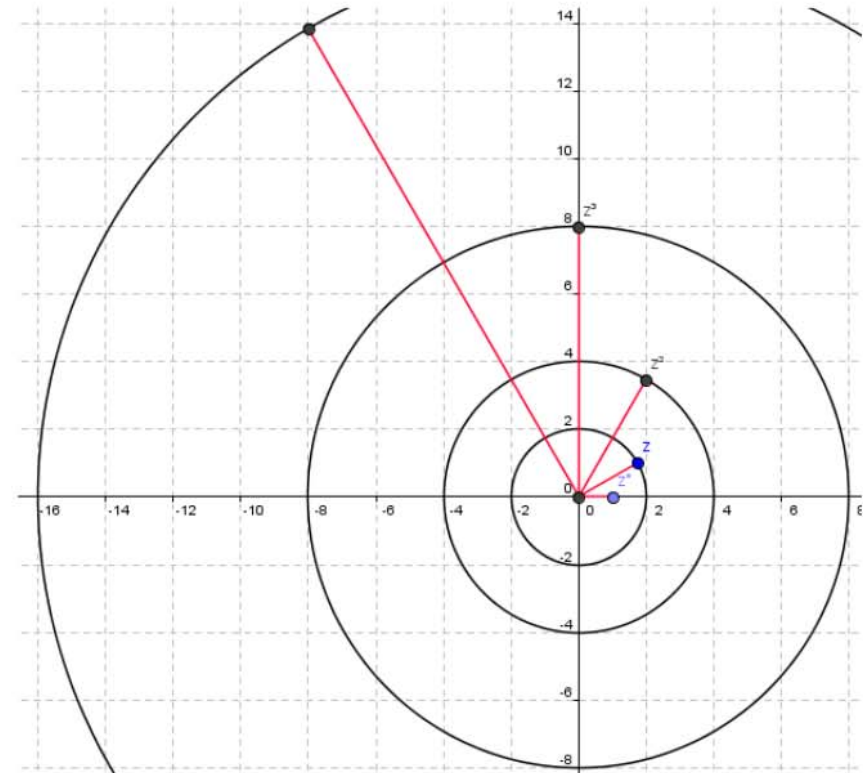
## Illustration in the Argand diagram:

Power of  $z$ , with  $|z| = 1$



Power of  $z$ , with  $|z| \neq 1$

Equiangular spiral



# Exercises:

1 Use de Moivre's theorem to simplify each of the following:

**a**  $(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^6$

**b**  $(\cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta)^4$

**c**  $(\cos \frac{\pi}{6} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{6})^5$

**d**  $(\cos \frac{\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{3})^8$

**e**  $(\cos \frac{2\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{5})^5$

**f**  $(\cos \frac{\pi}{10} - i \sin \frac{\pi}{10})^{15}$

**g**  $\frac{\cos 5\theta + i \sin 5\theta}{(\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta)^2}$

**h**  $\frac{(\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta)^7}{(\cos 4\theta + i \sin 4\theta)^3}$

**i**  $\frac{1}{(\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta)^3}$

**j**  $\frac{(\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta)^4}{(\cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta)^3}$

**k**  $\frac{\cos 5\theta + i \sin 5\theta}{(\cos 3\theta - i \sin 3\theta)^2}$

**l**  $\frac{\cos \theta - i \sin \theta}{(\cos 2\theta - i \sin 2\theta)^3}$

2 Evaluate  $\frac{(\cos \frac{7\pi}{13} + i \sin \frac{7\pi}{13})^4}{(\cos \frac{4\pi}{13} - i \sin \frac{4\pi}{13})^6}$ .

3 Express the following in the form  $x + iy$  where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**a**  $(1 + i)^5$

**b**  $(-2 + 2i)^8$

**c**  $(1 - i)^6$

**d**  $(1 - \sqrt{3}i)^6$

**e**  $(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}i)^9$

**f**  $(-2\sqrt{3} - 2i)^5$

4 Express  $(3 + \sqrt{3}i)^5$  in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3}i$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

<b>1</b>	<b>a</b> $\cos 6\theta + i \sin 6\theta$	<b>1</b> $\cos 12\theta + i \sin 22\theta$
<b>2</b>	<b>c</b> $-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i$	<b>d</b> $-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$
<b>3</b>	<b>e</b> $1$	<b>f</b> $1$
	<b>g</b> $\cos \theta + i \sin 2\theta$	<b>h</b> $\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta$
	<b>i</b> $\cos 6\theta - i \sin 6\theta$	<b>j</b> $\cos \theta - i \sin \theta$
	<b>k</b> $\cos 11\theta - i \sin 11\theta$	<b>l</b> $\cos 5\theta - i \sin 5\theta$
<b>4</b>	<b>a</b> $(1 + i)^5 = -4 - 4i$	<b>b</b> $(-2 + 2i)^8 = 4096$
	<b>c</b> $(1 - i)^6 = 8i$	<b>d</b> $(1 - \sqrt{3}i)^6 = 64$
	<b>e</b> $(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}i)^9 = 81\sqrt{3}i$	<b>f</b> $(-2\sqrt{3} - 2i)^5 = -512\sqrt{3} - 512i$
	<b>g</b> $(3 + \sqrt{3}i)^5 = -432 + 144\sqrt{3}i$	



## Can we extend the De Moivre's theorem for n negative or fractional?

### Case 1: n = -1

$$z = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$$

$$z^{-1} = \frac{1}{\cos\theta + i\sin\theta} = \frac{1}{\cos\theta + i\sin\theta} \times \frac{\cos\theta - i\sin\theta}{\cos\theta - i\sin\theta}$$

$$z^{-1} = \frac{\cos\theta - i\sin\theta}{\cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta} = \cos\theta - i\sin\theta$$

$$z^{-1} = \cos(-\theta) + i\sin(-\theta)$$

### Case 2: n ∈ ℤ

$z = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$  and  $n$  is a positive integer

$$z^{-n} = (z^{-1})^n = (\cos(-\theta) + i\sin(-\theta))^n \quad (\text{see case 1})$$

$n$  being positive, we can apply de Moivre's theorem

$$z^{-n} = (\cos(-\theta) + i\sin(-\theta))^n = \cos(-n\theta) + i\sin(-n\theta)$$

$$z^{-n} = \cos(n\theta) - i\sin(n\theta)$$

*De Moivre's theorem can be extended to all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$*

### Case 3: n ∈ ℚ

If  $n$  is a fraction, say  $\frac{p}{q}$  where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers, then  $\left(\cos\frac{p}{q}\theta + i\sin\frac{p}{q}\theta\right)^q = (\cos(p\theta) + i\sin(p\theta)) = (\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)^p$

We now compose by the  $q^{\text{th}}$  root:

$$\left(\left(\cos\frac{p}{q}\theta + i\sin\frac{p}{q}\theta\right)^q\right)^{\frac{1}{q}} = \left((\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)^p\right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \quad \text{this gives:}$$

$$\left(\cos\frac{p}{q}\theta + i\sin\frac{p}{q}\theta\right) = (\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)^{\frac{p}{q}}$$

## The De Moivre's theorem and trigonometric identities

$$(a + b)^n = a^n + {}^nC_1 a^{n-1} b + {}^nC_2 a^{n-2} b^2 + {}^nC_3 a^{n-3} b^3 + \dots + b^n$$

**Part A:** Expressing  $\cos(n\theta)$  or  $\sin(n\theta)$  in terms of powers of  $\cos\theta$  and  $\sin\theta$

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^2 =$$

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^3 =$$

## Part B: Expressions of $\tan(n\theta)$

- i) Express  $\sin 3\theta$  and  $\cos 3\theta$  in terms of  $\cos\theta$  and  $\sin\theta$
- ii) Hence, express  $\tan 3\theta$  in terms of  $\cos\theta$  and  $\sin\theta$
- iii) Express  $\tan 3\theta$  in terms of  $\tan\theta$



## The De Moivre's theorem and trigonometric identities

### Part C: Linearising powers of $\cos\theta$ and $\sin\theta$

$$z = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$$

*Work out*

$$i) z + \frac{1}{z} =$$

$$ii) z - \frac{1}{z} =$$

To Remember:

$$\text{If } z = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$$

$$z + \frac{1}{z} = 2\cos\theta$$

$$z - \frac{1}{z} = 2i\sin\theta$$

and

$$\text{If } z = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta,$$

$$z^n + \frac{1}{z^n} = 2\cos n\theta$$

$$z^n - \frac{1}{z^n} = 2i\sin n\theta$$

*Application: Linearise  $\cos^2\theta$*

# Solved exercises

## Example 13

Express  $\cos 3\theta$  in terms of powers of  $\cos \theta$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^3 &= \cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta \\ &= \cos^3 \theta + {}^3C_1 \cos^2 \theta (i \sin \theta) \\ &\quad + {}^3C_2 \cos \theta (i \sin \theta)^2 + (i \sin \theta)^3 \\ &= \cos^3 \theta + 3i \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta + 3i^2 \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta + i^3 \sin^3 \theta \\ &= \cos^3 \theta + 3i \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta - 3 \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta - i \sin^3 \theta \end{aligned}$$

Equating the real parts gives

$$\begin{aligned} \cos 3\theta &= \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta \\ &= \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta (1 - \cos^2 \theta) \\ &= \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta + 3 \cos^3 \theta \\ &= 4 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\cos 3\theta = 4 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta$ .

de Moivre's theorem.

Applying the binomial expansion to  $(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^3$  where  $a = \cos \theta$  and  $b = i \sin \theta$ .

Simplify.

Applying  $i^2 = -1$  and  $i^3 = -i$ .

Note for the LHS that the real part of  $\cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta$  is  $\cos 3\theta$ .

Apply  $\sin^2 \theta = 1 - \cos^2 \theta$ .

Multiplying out brackets.

Simplify.

## Example 15

Express  $\cos^5 \theta$  in the form  $a \cos 5\theta + b \cos 3\theta + c \cos \theta$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are constants.

$$\begin{aligned} \left(z + \frac{1}{z}\right)^5 &= (2 \cos \theta)^5 = 32 \cos^5 \theta \\ &= z^5 + {}^5C_1 z^4 \left(\frac{1}{z}\right) + {}^5C_2 z^3 \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^2 + {}^5C_3 z^2 \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^3 \\ &\quad + {}^5C_4 z \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^5 \\ &= z^5 + 5z^4 \left(\frac{1}{z}\right) + 10z^3 \left(\frac{1}{z^2}\right) + 10z^2 \left(\frac{1}{z^3}\right) \\ &\quad + 5z \left(\frac{1}{z^4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{z^5}\right) \\ &= z^5 + 5z^3 + 10z + \frac{10}{z} + \frac{5}{z^3} + \frac{1}{z^5} \\ &= \left(z^5 + \frac{1}{z^5}\right) + 5\left(z^3 + \frac{1}{z^3}\right) + 10\left(z + \frac{1}{z}\right) \\ &= 2 \cos 5\theta + 5(2 \cos 3\theta) + 10(2 \cos \theta) \end{aligned}$$

So,  $32 \cos^5 \theta = 2 \cos 5\theta + 10 \cos 3\theta + 20 \cos \theta$

and  $\cos^5 \theta = \frac{1}{16} \cos 5\theta + \frac{5}{16} \cos 3\theta + \frac{5}{8} \cos \theta$

Applying  $z + \frac{1}{z} = 2 \cos \theta$ .

Applying the binomial expansion to  $\left(z + \frac{1}{z}\right)^5$  where  $a = z$  and  $b = \frac{1}{z}$ .

Simplify.

Simplify further.

Group  $z^n$  and  $\frac{1}{z^n}$  terms.

Applying  $z^n + \frac{1}{z^n} = 2 \cos n\theta$ .

Put LHS =  $32 \cos^5 \theta =$  RHS.

$a = \frac{1}{16}$ ,  $b = \frac{5}{16}$  and  $c = \frac{5}{8}$ .

## Example 16

Prove that  $\sin^3 \theta = -\frac{1}{4} \sin 3\theta + \frac{3}{4} \sin \theta$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \left(z - \frac{1}{z}\right)^3 &= (2i \sin \theta)^3 = 8i^3 \sin^3 \theta = -8i \sin^3 \theta \\ &= z^3 + {}^3C_1 z^2 \left(-\frac{1}{z}\right) + {}^3C_2 z \left(-\frac{1}{z}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{z}\right)^3 \\ &= z^3 + 3z^2 \left(-\frac{1}{z}\right) + 3z \left(\frac{1}{z^2}\right) + \left(-\frac{1}{z^3}\right) \\ &= z^3 - 3z + \frac{3}{z} - \frac{1}{z^3} \\ &= \left(z^3 - \frac{1}{z^3}\right) - 3\left(z - \frac{1}{z}\right) \\ &= 2i \sin 3\theta - 3(2i \sin \theta) \end{aligned}$$

So,  $-8i \sin^3 \theta = 2i \sin 3\theta - 6i \sin \theta$

and  $\sin^3 \theta = -\frac{1}{4} \sin 3\theta + \frac{3}{4} \sin \theta$

Applying  $z - \frac{1}{z} = 2i \sin \theta$ .

Applying the binomial expansion to  $\left(z - \frac{1}{z}\right)^3$  where  $a = z$  and  $b = -\frac{1}{z}$ .

Simplify.

Simplify further.

Group  $z^n$  and  $\frac{1}{z^n}$  terms.

Applying  $z^n - \frac{1}{z^n} = 2i \sin n\theta$ .

Put LHS =  $-8i \sin^3 \theta =$  RHS.

Divide both sides by  $-8$

## Exercises:

Use applications of de Moivre's theorem to prove the following trigonometric identities:

- 1**  $\sin 3\theta = 3 \sin \theta - 4 \sin^3 \theta$
- 2**  $\sin 5\theta = 16 \sin^5 \theta - 20 \sin^3 \theta + 5 \sin \theta$
- 3**  $\cos 7\theta = 64 \cos^7 \theta - 112 \cos^5 \theta + 56 \cos^3 \theta - 7 \cos \theta$
- 4**  $\cos^4 \theta = \frac{1}{8} (\cos 4\theta + 4 \cos 2\theta + 3)$
- 5**  $\sin^5 \theta = \frac{1}{16} (\sin 5\theta - 5 \sin 3\theta + 10 \sin \theta)$
- 6**
  - a** Show that  $32 \cos^6 \theta = \cos 6\theta + 6 \cos 4\theta + 15 \cos 2\theta + 10$ .
  - b** Hence find  $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} \cos^6 \theta \, d\theta$  in the form  $a\pi + b\sqrt{3}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants.
- 7**
  - a** Use de Moivre's theorem to show that  $\sin 4\theta = 4 \cos^3 \theta \sin \theta - 4 \cos \theta \sin^3 \theta$ .
  - b** Hence, or otherwise, show that  $\tan 4\theta = \frac{4 \tan \theta - 4 \tan^3 \theta}{1 - 6 \tan^2 \theta + \tan^4 \theta}$ .
  - c** Use your answer to part **b** to find, to 2 d.p., the four solutions of the equation  $x^4 + 4x^3 - 6x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{6} \quad \mathbf{a} \quad & 32 \cos^6 \theta = \cos 6\theta + 6 \cos 4\theta + 15 \cos 2\theta + 10 \\
 \mathbf{b} \quad & \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} \cos^6 \theta \, d\theta = \frac{5\pi}{9} + \frac{64}{9}\sqrt{3} \\
 \mathbf{7} \quad \mathbf{a} \quad & \sin^4 \theta = 4 \cos^3 \theta \sin \theta - 4 \cos \theta \sin^3 \theta \\
 \mathbf{b} \quad & \tan^4 \theta = \frac{4 \tan^3 \theta - 4 \tan \theta}{1 - 6 \tan^2 \theta + \tan^4 \theta} \\
 \mathbf{c} \quad & x = 0.20, 1.50, -5.03, -0.67 \text{ (2 d.p.)}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Exponential form of a complex number

Here are some properties we know about complex numbers

$z_1(r_1, \theta_1)$  and  $z_2(r_2, \theta_2)$  then  $z_1 z_2$  (..... , .....)

$$\frac{z_1}{z_2} (\text{..... , .....})$$

$$z_1^n (\text{..... , .....})$$

We could say that the moduli "behave" like real numbers but the arguments "behave" like indices.

We use the following notation to illustrate these properties:

*$\cos \theta + i \sin \theta$  is noted  $e^{i\theta}$*

and  $r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$  is noted as  $re^{i\theta}$ .

Using this notation, the De Moivre's theorem becomes an extension of the rules of indices/exponential we know since year 9!

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta$$

becomes  $(e^{i\theta})^n = e^{in\theta}$

## Consequences

$$\cos \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i}$$

## Examples:

Express the following in the form  $re^{i\theta}$  :

(a)  $1+i$       (b)  $\sqrt{3}-i$       (c)  $3+\sqrt{3}i$       (d)  $-2\sqrt{3}+2i$

## Work out

**e**  $\left(\cos \frac{2\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{5}\right)^5$

**f**  $\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{10} - i \sin \frac{\pi}{10}\right)^{15}$

**g**  $\frac{\cos 5\theta + i \sin 5\theta}{(\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta)^2}$

**h**  $\frac{(\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta)^7}{(\cos 4\theta + i \sin 4\theta)^3}$

*Exponential* :  $\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{3}\right)\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{4} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{4}\right) =$

*Algebraic* :  $\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{3}\right)\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{4} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{4}\right) =$



## $n^{\text{th}}$ roots of the unity or Solving $z^n = 1$

### Case 1: $n = 3$

$$z^3 = 1$$

$$(re^{i\theta})^3 = e^{i0} \quad \text{and} \quad r^3 e^{i3\theta} = e^{i0}$$

This gives

$$r^3 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad 3\theta = 0 + k \times 2\pi$$

$$r = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = k \times \frac{2\pi}{3} \quad k = 0, 1, 2$$

The 3rd roots of the unity are

$$1e^{i0} = 1, \quad 1e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}} = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{3}}, \quad 1e^{i\frac{4\pi}{3}} = e^{i\frac{4\pi}{3}}$$

### General case:

$$z^n = 1$$

$$(re^{i\theta})^n = e^{i0} \quad \text{and} \quad r^n e^{in\theta} = e^{i0}$$

This gives

$$r^n = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad n\theta = 0 + k \times 2\pi$$

$$r = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = k \times \frac{2\pi}{n} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$$

The  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity are  $1, \omega, \omega^2, \omega^3, \dots, \omega^{n-1}$  where  $\omega = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{n}}$

or

The  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity are  $e^{i\frac{2r\pi}{n}}$  for  $0 \leq r \leq n-1$

Note: Any set of  $n$  consecutive values for  $r$  will produce an equivalent set of solutions.

We sometime prefer sets symmetrical around "0" in order to have arguments between  $-\pi$  and  $\pi$ .



## Sum the the $n^{\text{th}}$ roots of unity

The  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity are  $1, \omega, \omega^2, \omega^3, \dots, \omega^{n-1}$  where  $\omega = e^{i\frac{2\pi}{n}}$

Let's work out :

$$1 + \omega + \omega^2 + \omega^3 + \dots + \omega^{n-2} + \omega^{n-1}$$

$1 + \omega + \omega^2 + \dots + \omega^{n-1}$  is the sum of a geometric series with common ratio  $\omega$

$$\text{so } 1 + \omega + \omega^2 + \dots + \omega^{n-1} = \frac{1 - \omega^n}{1 - \omega} = 0 \text{ because by definition } \omega^n = 1$$

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 1$ , the sum of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity:

$$1 + \omega + \omega^2 + \omega^3 + \dots + \omega^{n-2} + \omega^{n-1} = 0$$

### Exercises:

1 If  $\omega = e^{\frac{2}{3}\pi i}$ , simplify the following (expressing your answer in terms of  $\omega$  where appropriate).

(a) $\omega^5$	(b) $\omega^{-3}$	(c) $1 + \omega^2$	(d) $\omega + \frac{1}{\omega}$
(e) $(1 - \omega)^2$	(f) $(1 - \omega)(1 - \omega^2)$	(g) $\frac{1}{(1 + \omega)^2}$	(h) $\frac{1 + \omega}{1 + \omega^2}$

2 If  $\omega = e^{\frac{2}{3}\pi i}$ , simplify the following.

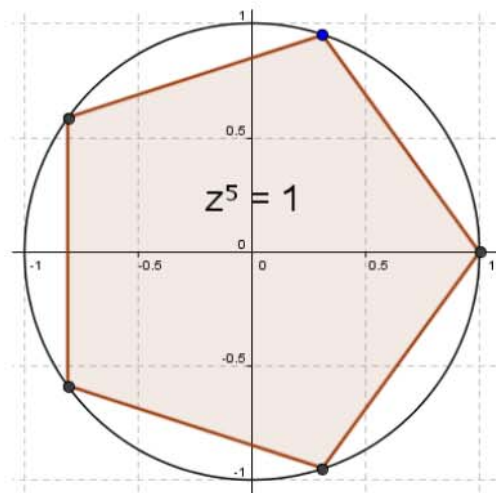
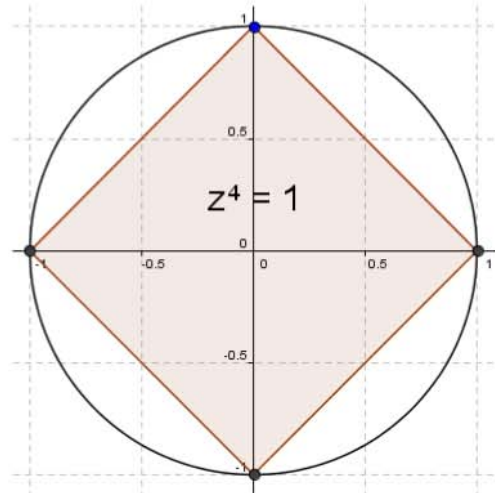
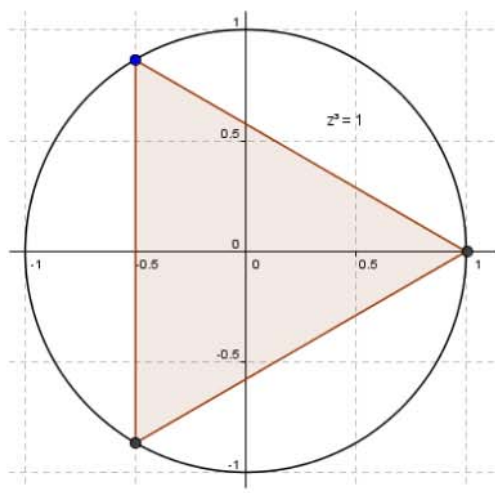
(a) $\omega^5$	(b) $\omega^{-4}$
(c) $(1 + \omega)(1 + \omega^2)$	(d) $(1 - \omega)(1 - \omega^2)(1 - \omega^3)(1 - \omega^4)$

3 If  $\omega = e^{\frac{2}{3}\pi i}$ , show that  $(1 + \omega)(1 + \omega^2)(1 + \omega^4) = -\omega^8$ .

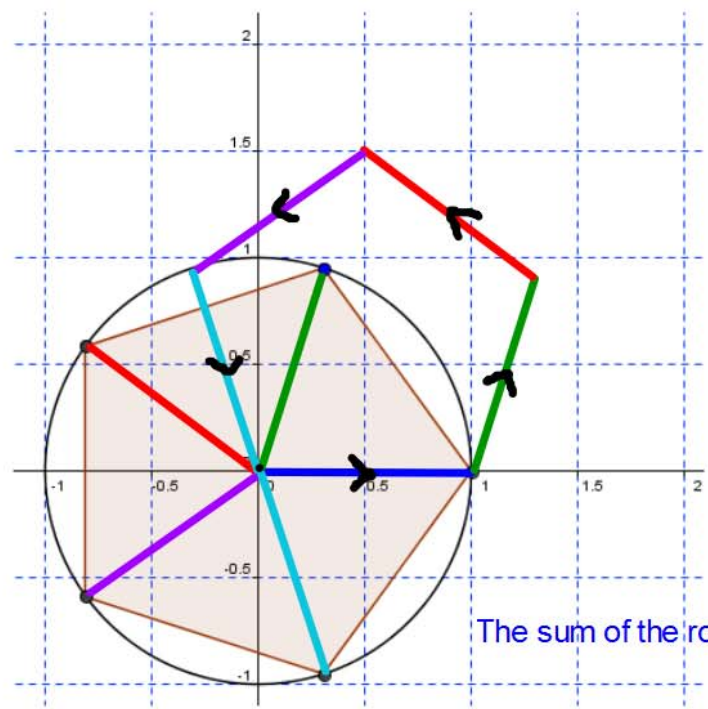
4 If  $\omega = e^{\frac{2}{3}\pi i}$ , and if  $x + y + z = a$ ,  $x + \omega y + \omega^2 z = b$  and  $x + \omega^2 y + \omega z = c$ , express  $a + b + c$ ,  $a + \omega^2 b + \omega c$  and  $a + \omega b + \omega^2 c$  in terms of  $x, y$  and  $z$ .

$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$-\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= z$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$+\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$	$x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$
$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$-\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= z$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$+\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$	$x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$
$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$-\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= z$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$+\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$	$x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$
$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$-\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= z$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$+\frac{\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}}{2}$	$= x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$	$x$	$\omega^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$z$

$n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity and the Argand diagram



The  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity plotted in the Argand diagram are the vertices of a **regular polygon**.



The sum of the roots add up to 0

## Solving equations of the form $z^n = a+ib$

The principal:

$$z^n = a + ib$$

Write  $z$  as  $z = re^{i\theta}$

Find the modulus and argument of  $a + ib$  and write  $a + ib = r_1 e^{i\theta_1}$

With this notation,  $z^n = a + ib$  becomes  $r^n e^{in\theta} = r_1 e^{i\theta_1}$

This gives:

$$r^n = r_1 \quad \text{and} \quad n\theta = \theta_1 + k \times 2\pi$$

$$r = \sqrt[n]{r_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = \frac{\theta_1}{n} + k \times \frac{2\pi}{n} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$$

**Example:**

$$z^4 = 16 + 16i$$

$$z^4 = 16 + 16i$$

$$(re^{i\theta})^4 = 16\sqrt{2} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + i \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

$$r^4 e^{i4\theta} = 16\sqrt{2} e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}}$$

This gives

$$r = \sqrt[4]{16\sqrt{2}} \quad \text{and} \quad 4\theta = \frac{\pi}{4} + k \times 2\pi$$

$$r = 2^{\frac{9}{8}} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = \frac{\pi}{16} + k \times \frac{\pi}{2} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

## Exercises:

- 1** Solve the following equations, expressing your answers for  $z$  in the form  $x + iy$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- a**  $z^4 - 1 = 0$                       **b**  $z^3 - i = 0$                       **c**  $z^3 = 27$   
**d**  $z^4 + 64 = 0$                       **e**  $z^4 + 4 = 0$                       **f**  $z^3 + 8i = 0$
- 2** Solve the following equations, expressing your answers for  $z$  in the form  $r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$ , where  $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$ .
- a**  $z^7 = 1$                       **b**  $z^4 + 16i = 0$                       **c**  $z^5 + 32 = 0$   
**d**  $z^3 = 2 + 2i$                       **e**  $z^4 + 2\sqrt{3}i = 2$                       **f**  $z^3 + 32\sqrt{3} + 32i = 0$
- 3** Solve the following equations, expressing your answers for  $z$  in the form  $re^{i\theta}$ , where  $r > 0$  and  $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$ . Give  $\theta$  to 2 d.p.
- a**  $z^4 = 3 + 4i$                       **b**  $z^3 = \sqrt{11} - 4i$                       **c**  $z^4 = -\sqrt{7} + 3i$
- 4** **a** Find the three roots of the equation  $(z + 1)^3 = -1$ .  
Give your answers in the form  $x + iy$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
**b** Plot the points representing these three roots on an Argand diagram.  
**c** Given that these three points lie on a circle, find its centre and radius.
- 5** **a** Find the five roots of the equation  $z^5 - 1 = 0$ .  
Give your answers in the form  $r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$ , where  $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$ .  
**b** Given that the sum of all five roots of  $z^5 - 1 = 0$  is zero, show that  
$$\cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{5}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{4\pi}{5}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}.$$
- 6** **a** Find the modulus and argument of  $-2 - 2\sqrt{3}i$ .  
**b** Hence find all the solutions of the equation  $z^4 + 2 + 2\sqrt{3}i = 0$ .  
Give your answers in the form  $re^{i\theta}$ , where  $r > 0$  and  $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$ .
- 7** **a** Find the modulus and argument of  $\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2}i$ .  
**b** Solve the equation  $z^{\frac{3}{2}} = \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2}i$ .  
Give your answers in the form  $re^{i\theta}$ , where  $r > 0$  and  $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$ .

# Answers

1 a  $z = 1, i, -1, -i$

b  $z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i, -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i, -i$

c  $z = 3, -\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i, -\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}i$

d  $z = 2 + 2i, -2 + 2i, 2 - 2i, -2 - 2i$

e  $z = 1 + i, -1 + i, 1 - i, -1 - i$

f  $z = \sqrt{3} - i, 2i, -\sqrt{3} - i$

3 a  $z = 5^{1/2}e^{0.23i}, 5^{1/2}e^{1.80i}, 5^{1/2}e^{-1.34i}, 5^{1/2}e^{-2.91i}$

b  $z = \sqrt{3}e^{-0.29i}, \sqrt{3}e^{1.80i}, \sqrt{3}e^{-2.39i}$

c  $z = \sqrt{2}e^{0.57i}, z = \sqrt{2}e^{2.14i}, z = \sqrt{2}e^{-1.00i}, z = \sqrt{2}e^{-2.57i}$

4 a  $z = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i, -2, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$

5 a  $z = 1, \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{5}\right) + i\sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{5}\right), \cos\left(\frac{4\pi}{5}\right) + i\sin\left(\frac{4\pi}{5}\right),$

$$\cos\left(-\frac{2\pi}{5}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{2\pi}{5}\right),$$

$$\cos\left(-\frac{4\pi}{5}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{4\pi}{5}\right)$$

6 a  $r = 4, \theta = -\frac{2\pi}{3}$

b  $z = \sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{i\pi}{6}}, \sqrt{2}e^{\frac{i\pi}{3}}, \sqrt{2}e^{\frac{5i\pi}{6}}, \sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{2i\pi}{3}}$

7 a  $r = \sqrt{8}, \theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$

b  $z = 4e^{\frac{2i\pi}{9}}, z = 4e^{\frac{8i\pi}{9}}, z = 4e^{-\frac{4i\pi}{9}}$

2 a  $z = \cos 0 + i\sin 0, \cos \frac{2\pi}{7} + i\sin \frac{2\pi}{7}$

$$\cos \frac{4\pi}{7} + i\sin \frac{4\pi}{7}, \cos \frac{6\pi}{7} + i\sin \frac{6\pi}{7}$$

$$\cos\left(-\frac{2\pi}{7}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{2\pi}{7}\right),$$

$$\cos\left(-\frac{4\pi}{7}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{4\pi}{7}\right)$$

$$\cos\left(-\frac{6\pi}{7}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{6\pi}{7}\right)$$

b  $z = 2\left(\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{8}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{8}\right)\right),$

$$2\left(\cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{8}\right) + i\sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{8}\right)\right)$$

$$2\left(\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}\right) + i\sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}\right)\right),$$

$$2\left(\cos\left(-\frac{5\pi}{8}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{5\pi}{8}\right)\right)$$

c  $z = 2\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{5} + i\sin \frac{\pi}{5}\right), 2\left(\cos \frac{3\pi}{5} + i\sin \frac{3\pi}{5}\right),$

$$2(\cos \pi + i\sin \pi), 2\left(\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{5}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{5}\right)\right),$$

$$2\left(\cos\left(-\frac{3\pi}{5}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{3\pi}{5}\right)\right)$$

d  $z = \sqrt{2}\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{12} + i\sin \frac{\pi}{12}\right), \sqrt{2}\left(\cos \frac{3\pi}{4} + i\sin \frac{3\pi}{4}\right),$

$$\sqrt{2}\left(\cos\left(-\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{7\pi}{12}\right)\right)$$

e  $z = \sqrt{2}\left(\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{12}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{12}\right)\right),$

$$\sqrt{2}\left(\cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{12}\right) + i\sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{12}\right)\right),$$

$$\sqrt{2}\left(\cos\left(\frac{11\pi}{12}\right) + i\sin\left(\frac{11\pi}{12}\right)\right),$$

$$\sqrt{2}\left(\cos\left(-\frac{7\pi}{12}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{7\pi}{12}\right)\right)$$

f  $z = 4\left(\cos\left(-\frac{5\pi}{18}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{5\pi}{18}\right)\right),$

$$4\left(\cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{18}\right) + i\sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{18}\right)\right),$$

$$4\left(\cos\left(-\frac{17\pi}{18}\right) + i\sin\left(-\frac{17\pi}{18}\right)\right)$$