

Imaginary and Complex Numbers

Imaginary numbers are the square roots of negative numbers. These numbers can all be written in the form bi where b is a nonzero real number and i , called the **imaginary unit**, represents $\sqrt{-1}$. Some examples of imaginary numbers are the following:

- $2i$
- $-5i$
- $-\frac{i}{3}$ or $-\frac{1}{3}i$
- $i\sqrt{2}$ (Write the i in front of the radical symbol for clarity.)
- $\frac{i\sqrt{3}}{2}$ or $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$i^2 = -1$$

Given that $i = \sqrt{-1}$, you can conclude that $i^2 = -1$. This means that the square of any imaginary number is a negative real number. When squaring an imaginary number, use the power of a product property of exponents: $(ab)^n = a^n \cdot b^n$.

$$-\sqrt{-81}$$

$$-9i$$

$$\sqrt{-24}$$

$$\sqrt{-4} \cdot \sqrt{6}$$

$$2i\sqrt{6}$$

$$\sqrt{-18}$$

$$\sqrt{-9} \cdot \sqrt{2}$$

$$3i\sqrt{2}$$

$$5x^2 + 1 = -124$$

$$5x^2 = -125$$

$$x^2 = -25$$

$$x = \pm 5i$$

Objective: Perform operations with complex numbers

A **complex number** is a number that can be written in the form $a + bi$, where a and b are real numbers and $i = \sqrt{-1}$. The set of real numbers is a subset of the set of complex numbers C .

Complex Numbers (C)

$3 + 7i$

$3 + \frac{2}{3}i$

$4 - i$

Real
Numbers (R)

$-\frac{1}{2}$ 1.73 0 π

-9.6 $\sqrt{2}$

Imaginary
Numbers

i $3i$ $-5i$

$\sqrt{-7}$

Every complex number has a **real part** a and an **imaginary part** b .

Real part
↓
a

+

Imaginary part
↓
bi

Two complex numbers are equal if and only if their real parts are equal and their imaginary parts are equal.

Adding and subtracting complex numbers is similar to adding and subtracting variable expressions with like terms. **Simply combine the real parts, and combine the imaginary parts.**

You can multiply complex numbers by using the Distributive Property and treating the imaginary parts as like terms. **Simplify by using the fact $i^2 = -1$.**

Adding and Subtracting:

Match the problem on the left with the simplified expression it is equal to on the right.

1. $(4 + 2i) + (-6 - 7i)$ C.
 $-2 - 5i$

A. $-3 - i$

2. $(5 - 2i) - (-2 - 3i)$ B.
 $5 + 2i + 2 + 3i$ $7 + 5i$

B. $7 + i$

3. $(1 - 3i) + (-1 + 3i)$ E.

C. $-2 - 5i$

4. $(-3 + 5i) + (-6i)$ A.
 $-3 - i$

D. $-3 - 3i$

5. $2i - (3 + 5i)$ D.

E. 0

Multiplying

Example 1: $-2i(2 - 4i)$

$-4i + 8i^2$
 $-8 - 4i$

Example 2: $(3 + 6i)(4 - i)$

$12 - 3i + 24i - 6i^2$
 $18 + 21i$

Example 3: $(2 + 9i)(2 - 9i)$

$4 - 81i^2$
 85

Example 4: $(-5i)(6i)$

$-30i^2$
 30

Match each product on the right with the corresponding expression on the left.

A. $(3 - 5i)(3 + 5i)$ $9 - 25i^2$ B. $-16 + 30i$

B. $(3 + 5i)(3 + 5i)$ $9 + 30i + 25i^2$ D. -34

C. $(-3 - 5i)(3 + 5i)$ $-9 - 25i^2 - 30i$ A. 34

D. $(3 - 5i)(-3 - 5i)$ $-9 - 25i^2 + 30i$ C. $16 - 30i$

Power	Expansion	Result
i	\times	i
i^2	\times	-1
i^3	$i^2 \cdot i \rightarrow (-1)i$	$-i$
i^4	$i^2 \cdot i^2 \rightarrow (-1)(-1)$	1
i^5	$i^4 \cdot i \rightarrow 1 \cdot i$ $i^2 \cdot i^2 \cdot i \rightarrow (-1)(-1)i$	i
i^6	$i^4 \cdot i^2 \rightarrow (1)(-1)$ $i^2 \cdot i^2 \cdot i^2 \rightarrow (-1)^3$	-1
i^7	$(i^2)^3 i \rightarrow (-1)^3 i$	$-i$
i^8	$(i^4)^2 \rightarrow (1)^2$	1

Simplify the following based on the table you created:

$$i^9$$

$$(i^2)^4 i$$

$$(-1)^4 i$$

$$1 \cdot i$$

$$i$$

$$i^{14}$$

$$(i^2)^7$$

$$(-1)^7$$

$$-1$$

$$i^{20}$$

$$(i^2)^{10}$$

$$(-1)^{10}$$

$$1$$

$$i^{25}$$

$$(i^2)^{12} i$$

$$(-1)^{12} i$$

$$i$$

$$6i^{63}$$

$$6 \cdot (i^2)^{31} i$$

$$-6i$$

$$-2i^{17} + 5i^3$$

$$-2(i^2)^8 i + 5(i^2) i$$

$$-2i - 5i$$

$$-7i$$

Homework: pg. 542 (7-18)