



# Complex functions

A complex function can be written in terms of its real and imaginary parts:

$$w = f(z) = f(x + iy) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y) \quad \text{or} \quad w = f(z) = f(re^{i\theta}) = u(r, \theta) + i v(r, \theta)$$

## Exponential function

**Power series:**  $e^z = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} z^n$

Some similarities with its real counterpart include:  $e^0 = 1$ ,  $e^z \neq 0$ ,  $\frac{d}{dz} e^z = e^z$ ,  $e^{z_1} e^{z_2} = e^{z_1 + z_2}$

Some notable differences:  $e^z$  is not one-to-one,  $e^z$  can attain negative values

A key property used for computation is  $e^z = e^x(\cos y + i \sin y)$ , hence  $e^z$  is periodic:

$$e^z \equiv 1 \quad \text{if } z = 2k\pi i, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$e^{z_1} \equiv e^{z_2} \quad \text{if } z_1 = z_2 + 2k\pi i, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

**Example:**  $e^{2+i\frac{\pi}{4}} = e^2(\cos(\frac{\pi}{4}) + i \sin(\frac{\pi}{4})) = e^2(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{i\sqrt{2}}{2})$

**Example:** Find all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $e^z = \sqrt{3} - i$

First, write in polar form:  $|\sqrt{3} - i| = \sqrt{3+1} = 2$  and  $\text{Arg}(\sqrt{3} - i) = -\frac{\pi}{6}$

Then,  $e^z = e^{x+iy} = e^x e^{iy} = 2e^{-i\frac{\pi}{6}}$  only when:

$$e^x = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad e^{iy} = e^{-i\frac{\pi}{6}} \quad \text{or} \quad e^{iy - (-\frac{\pi}{6})} = 1$$

Which is true when  $x = \ln(2)$  and  $y + \frac{\pi}{6} = 2\pi k$  or  $y = \frac{\pi}{6}(12k - 1)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

**Notation:**  $f(z) = e^{\frac{1}{3}}$  may be interpreted as any of the complex third roots so sometimes  $\exp(z)$  is used to denote that a single value is chosen, i.e.  $\exp(\frac{1}{3}) \approx 1.3956$  whereas  $e^{1/3} \approx 1.3956 \left( \cos\left(\frac{2\pi k}{3}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi k}{3}\right) \right)$  for  $k = 0, 1, 2$ .

## Logarithmic function

**Multivalued logarithm:**

$$\log(z) = \{\ln|z| + i(\text{Arg}(z) + 2n\pi)\} = \{\ln(z) + i \arg(z)\}, \text{ where } n \text{ is an integer and for } z \neq 0$$

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### Single-valued logarithm (principal value):

$\text{Log}(z) = \ln|z| + i\text{Arg}(z)$ , for  $z \neq 0$ ,

**Example:**  $\text{Log}(\sqrt{3} - i) = \ln(2) + i\left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$

### Properties:

$\exp(\text{Log}(z)) = z$  for  $z \neq 0$  &  $\text{Log}(\exp(z)) = z$  for  $-\pi < \text{Im}(z) \leq \pi$  (Recall:  $\text{Arg}(z) \in (-\pi, \pi]$ )

It also gives a way to define complex powers, for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ :

$$z^\alpha = e^{\alpha \log(z)} = e^{\alpha(\ln|z| + i \arg(z))}$$

Note: if  $\alpha$  is rational, only a finite number of  $z^\alpha$  result

**Example:** Determine all possible values of  $(i)^{\sqrt{3}/4}$ .

First, if  $z = i$ , then  $|z| = \sqrt{0^2 + 1^2} = 1$  and  $\text{Arg}(z) = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
z^\alpha &= \left\{ e^{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \left( \ln(1) + i\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi n\right) \right)} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \\
&= \left\{ e^{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \left( i\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi n\right) \right)} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} = \left\{ e^{i \frac{3\pi}{8} (1 + 4n)} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \\
&= \left\{ \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{8} (1 + 4n)\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{8} (1 + 4n)\right) \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

**Example:** Determine all possible values of  $(i + \sqrt{3})^i$ .

$$\text{Ans: } \left\{ e^{-\frac{\pi}{6} + 2\pi n} [\cos(\ln 2) + i \sin(\ln 2)] \mid n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

**Note:** The Maple command **evalc** yields the principal value.

## Trigonometric functions

The familiar identities and derivatives for trigonometric functions still hold in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

$$\sin z = \frac{1}{2i}(e^{iz} - e^{-iz}), \quad \cos z = \frac{1}{2i}(e^{iz} + e^{-iz})$$

$$\sin(x + iy) = \sin x \cosh y + i \cos x \sinh y, \quad \cos(x + iy) = \cos x \cosh y - i \sin x \sinh y$$

$$\sinh z = \frac{1}{2}(e^z - e^{-z}), \quad \cosh z = \frac{1}{2}(e^z + e^{-z})$$

A notable difference:  $\sin z$  and  $\cos z$  are unbounded, unlike  $|\sin x| \leq 1, x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$|\sin z|^2 = \sin^2 x + \sinh^2 y, \quad |\cos z|^2 = \cos^2 x + \sinh^2 y$$

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