

COMPLEX NUMBERS

&

THE FUNDAMENTAL THEOREM OF ALGEBRA

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# REPRESENT ALGEBRA BY GEOMETRY

<u>Algebra</u>	<u>Geometric representation</u>
① Number $x$	point
② Add $x+$	translate
③ Minus $-$	rotate
④ Multiply $x \times$	expand & rotate

## REAL NUMBERS

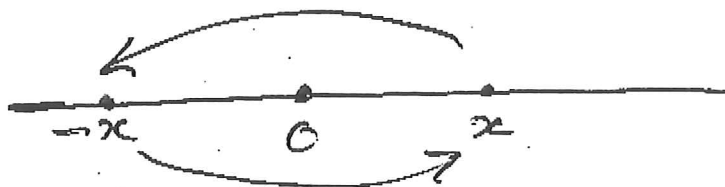
① A real number  $x$  is a point on the line 

② Add. Draw an arrow from 0 to  $x$ .

$x+$  means translate parallel to this arrow



③ Minus means rotate through  $180^\circ$  about 0

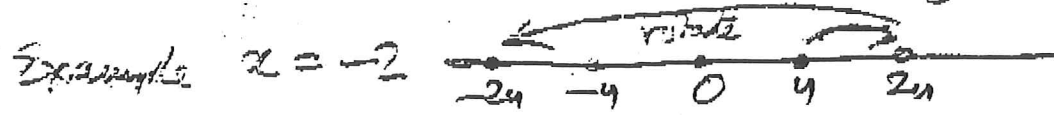
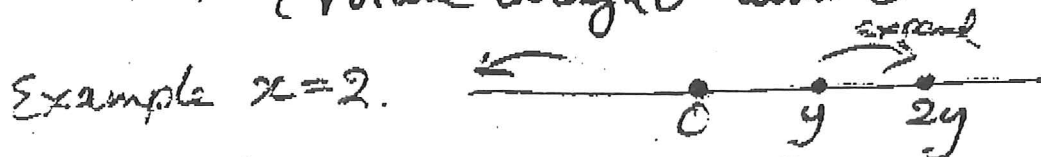


Therefore two minuses make a plus.

④ Multiply. Write  $x$  in polar coordinates

$$x = (r, \theta), \text{ where } \begin{cases} r \geq 0 \\ \theta = \begin{cases} 0^\circ & \text{if } x \text{ positive} \\ 180^\circ & \text{if } x \text{ negative} \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

$x \times$  means  $\begin{cases} \text{expand (or contract) by } r \text{ about } 0 \\ \text{rotate through } \theta \text{ about } 0 \end{cases}$



# COMPLEX NUMBERS

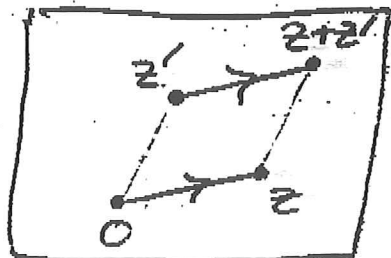
① A complex number  $z$  is a point in the plane.



② Add. Draw an arrow from 0 to  $z$ .

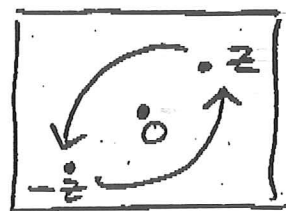
$z + z'$  means translate parallel to this arrow.

Therefore  $z + z'$  is given by the parallelogram rule.



③ Minus means rotate through  $180^\circ$  about 0

Therefore two minuses make a plus.



④ Multiply. Write  $z$  in polar coordinates

$$z = \langle r, \theta \rangle \quad \text{where } \begin{cases} r \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq \theta < 360^\circ \end{cases}$$

$z \times z'$  means  $\begin{cases} \text{expand (or contract) by } r \text{ about } 0 \\ \text{rotate through } \theta \text{ about } 0 \end{cases}$

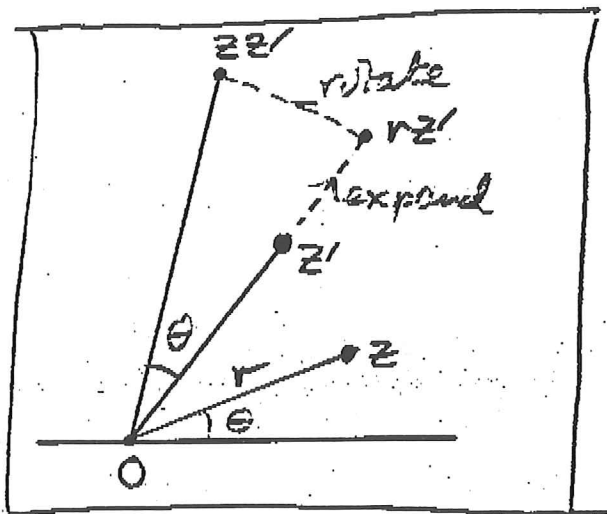
Therefore  $z' = \langle r', \theta' \rangle$

↓ expand by  $r$

$$rz' = \langle rr', \theta' \rangle$$

↓ rotate through  $\theta$

$$zz' = \langle rr', \theta + \theta' \rangle$$



Therefore  $zz'$  given by  $\begin{cases} \text{multiplying radii} \\ \text{adding angles} \end{cases}$

In particular  $z^2 = \langle r^2, 2\theta \rangle$

# PROPERTIES OF THE COMPLEX NUMBERS

① They obey the algebraical laws:

Commutative  $z + z' = z' + z$

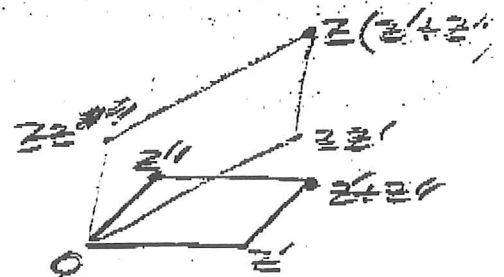
$zz' = z'z$

Associative  $(z + z') + z'' = z + (z' + z'')$

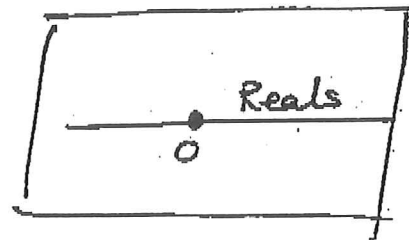
$(zz')z'' = z(z'z'')$

Distributive  $z(z' + z'') = zz' + zz''$

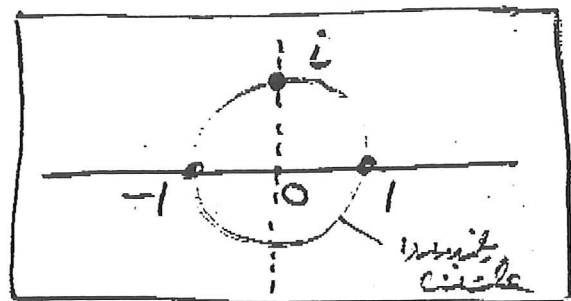
Proof. If you expand and rotate a parallelogram it remains a parallelogram.



② Real numbers are contained in the complex numbers



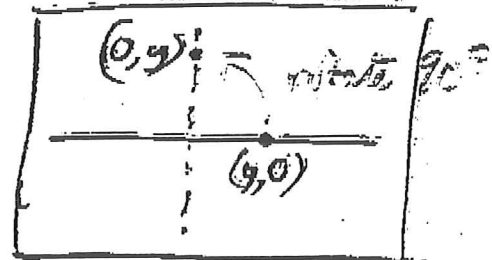
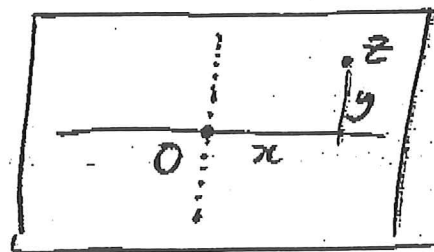
③ Define  $i = \langle 1, 90^\circ \rangle$   
 Therefore  $i^2 = \langle 1, 180^\circ \rangle = -1$   
 Therefore  $i = \sqrt{-1}$



Multiply by  $i$  means rotate through  $90^\circ$

④ Cartesian coordinates.

$$\begin{aligned} z &= (x, y) \\ &= (x, 0) + (0, y) \\ &= (x, 0) + i(y, 0) \\ &= x + iy \end{aligned}$$



# HISTORY OF NUMBERS = HISTORY OF SOLVING EQUATION.

<u>TYPICAL EQUATION</u>	<u>SOLUTION</u>	<u>NEED</u>
$x+2=5$	$x=3$	Positive integers
$x+5=2$	$x=-3$	Negative integers
$2x=1$	$x=\frac{1}{2}$	Rational numbers
$x^2=2$	$x=\sqrt{2}$	Real numbers
$x^2=-1$	$x=\sqrt{-1}$	Complex numbers.
?		?

## FUNDAMENTAL THEOREM OF ALGEBRA (Gauss)

Every equation can be solved in the complex numbers

### Example 1

We can solve square roots in the complex numbers

$$\text{if } z = (r, \theta) \text{ then } \sqrt{z} = \pm \left( \sqrt{r}, \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$$

### Example 2

We can solve quadratic equations

$$az^2 + bz + c = 0, \quad a \neq 0$$

$$z = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

There are two meanings to the word "solve."

- ① Solve directly means write the solution as a formula in the coefficients of the equation, using  $+$ ,  $\times$ ,  $\div$ ,  $\sqrt{\quad}$ ,  $\sqrt[3]{\quad}$ , etc.
  - ② Solve indirectly means prove that a solution exists (but without giving a formula).
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Niccolo TARTAGLIA (1500-1557) solved the cubic directly.  
Ludovico FERRARI (1522-1565) solved the quartic directly.  
Gerónimo CARDANO (1501-1576) published these direct solutions in 1545.

For 250 years mathematicians struggled to solve the quintic equation. Eventually:

Evariste GALOIS (1811-1832) proved in 1832 that it is impossible to solve the quintic directly.

Meanwhile:

Carl Friedrich GAUSS (1777-1855) proved in 1799 that all equations can be solved indirectly (in other words the fundamental theorem of algebra).

Nowadays computers give approximate solutions with any desired degree of accuracy. L

Proof

Given  $f(z) = z^n + a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1z + a_0$ ,

where  $n \geq 1$ , the  $a_i$ 's are complex nos.

Claim there is a  $z$  such  $f(z) = 0$

If  $a_0 = 0$  it's easy — put  $z = 0$ .

$\therefore$  assume  $a_0 \neq 0$

Suppose not.

i.e. suppose there is no  $z$  such that  $f(z) = 0$

Then we shall show a contradiction.

Let  $\mathbb{C}$  denote complex plane.

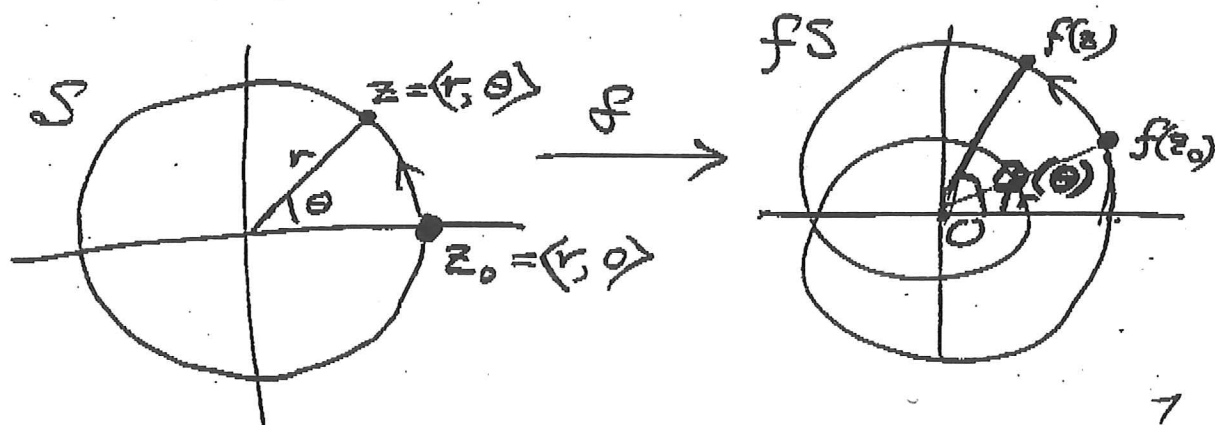
Then  $f$  gives a map  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   
 $z \mapsto f(z)$ .

(never hits 0)

The map is continuous because if we vary  $z$  a little, then  $z^2, z^3, \dots$  vary a little & so  $f(z)$  varies a little.

For each  $r > 0$  we shall construct a winding number  $W_r$ , as follows.

Let  $S$  be the circle radius  $r$ , centre  $O$ .



What does  $W_r$  mean?

definition  $W_r =$  number of times  $fS$  winds round  $O$

What does "wind around" mean in the

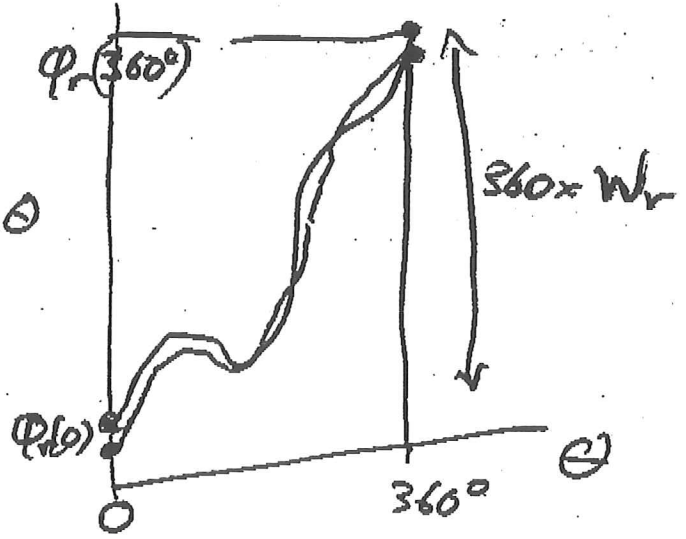
$\varphi_r(\theta) =$  angle of  $f(z)$ , where  $r = \langle z, \theta \rangle$

Draw the graph of  $\varphi_r$

$0 \leq \varphi_r(\theta) < 360$

$\varphi_r$  depends continuously on  $\theta$

Define  $W_r = \frac{\varphi_r(360) - \varphi_r(0)}{360}$



Lemma 1  $W_r$  is constant

Proof  $\varphi_r$  varies continuously with  $r$ .

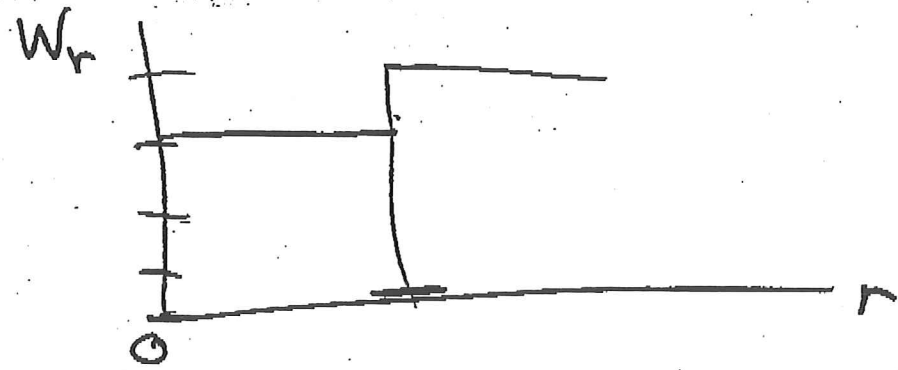
If  $r'$  is sufficiently near  $r$  then  $\varphi_{r'}$  differs from  $\varphi_r$  by  $< \frac{1}{2} 180^\circ$

$\therefore 360 \times W_{r'}$  differs from  $360 \times W_r$  by  $< 180^\circ$

$\therefore W_{r'}$  differs from  $W_r$  by  $< \frac{1}{2}$

But they are both integers.

$\therefore W_{r'} = W_r$



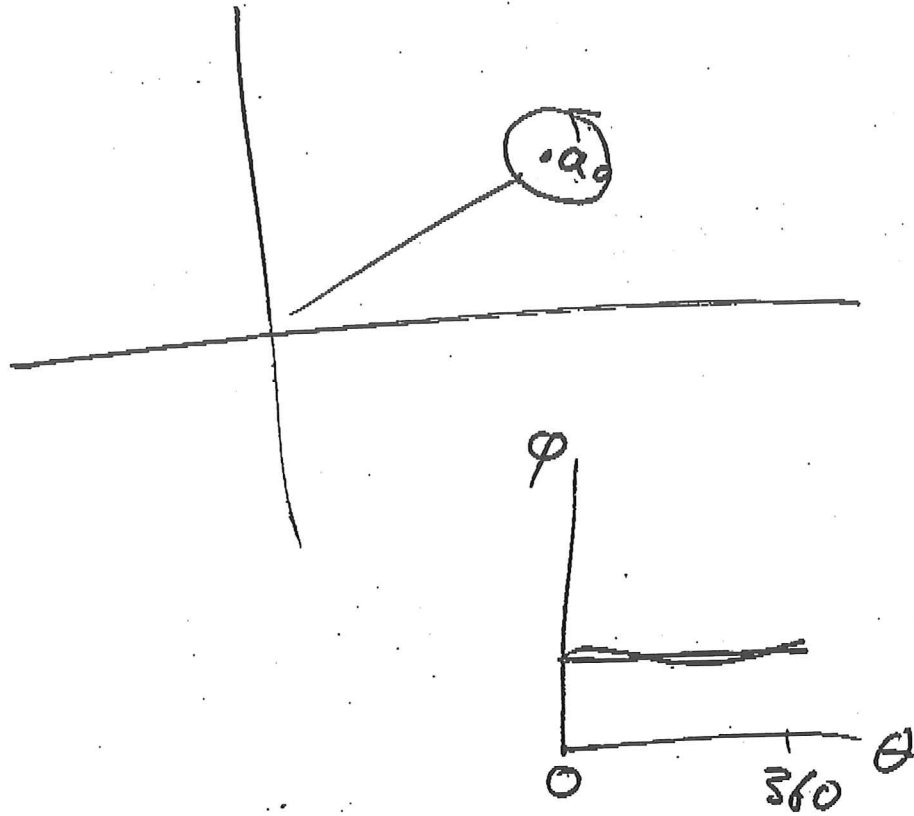


Lemma 2 For small  $v$ ,  $W_r = 0$

Proof  $f(z) = a_0 + \left[ a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + z^n \right]$

small                      very small                      very very small

$= a_0 + \text{small}$



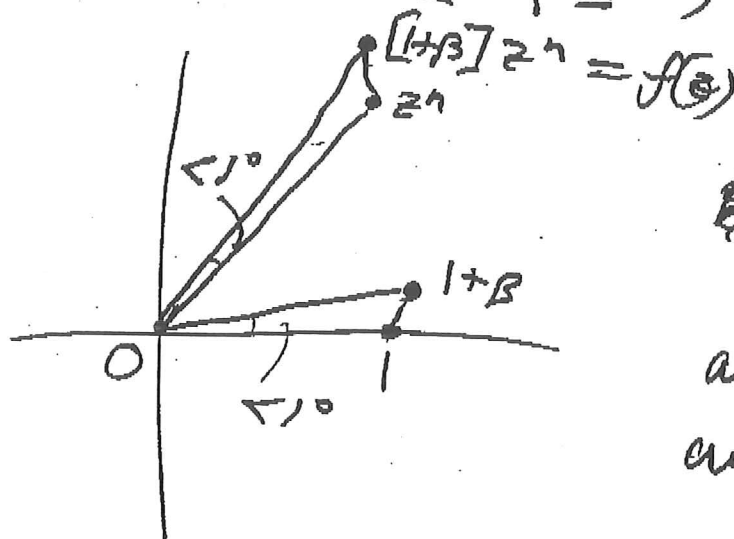
Lemma 3 For large  $r$ ,  $W_r = n$  ( $n \geq 1$ )

Proof  $f(z) = \left[ 1 + \frac{a_{n-1}}{z} + \dots + \frac{a_1}{z^{n-1}} + \frac{a_0}{z^n} \right] z^n$

Small

very very small

$= [1 + \beta] z^n$ , where  $\beta$  small

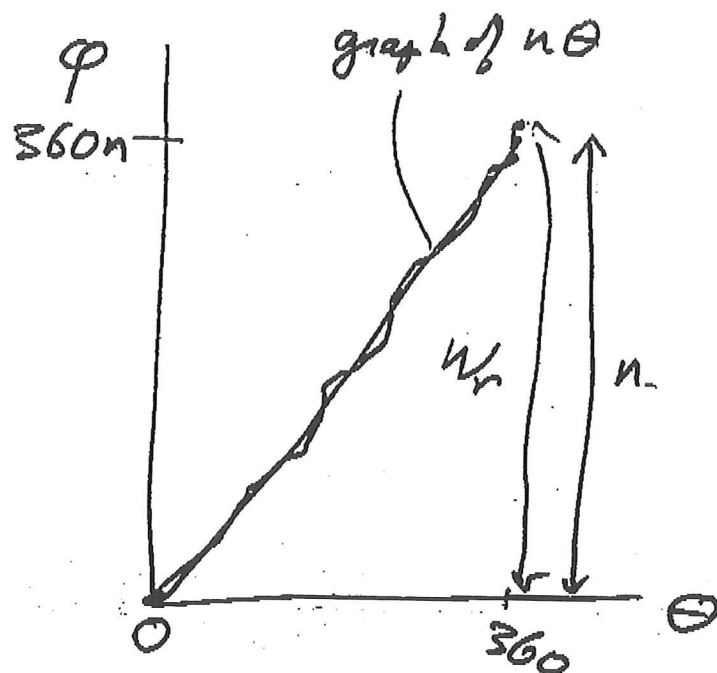


$z = \langle r, \theta \rangle$

$z^n = \langle r^n, n\theta \rangle$

angle of  $z^n = n\theta$

angle of  $f(z) = n\theta + (\epsilon)$



**CONTRADICTION**