

Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering

Complex Numbers

- Definitions
- Complex Arithmetic
- Cartesian and Polar Forms

Complex Numbers

Definition: A complex number z consists of an ordered pair of *real* (ordinary) numbers (a, b) that obeys particular algebraic rules

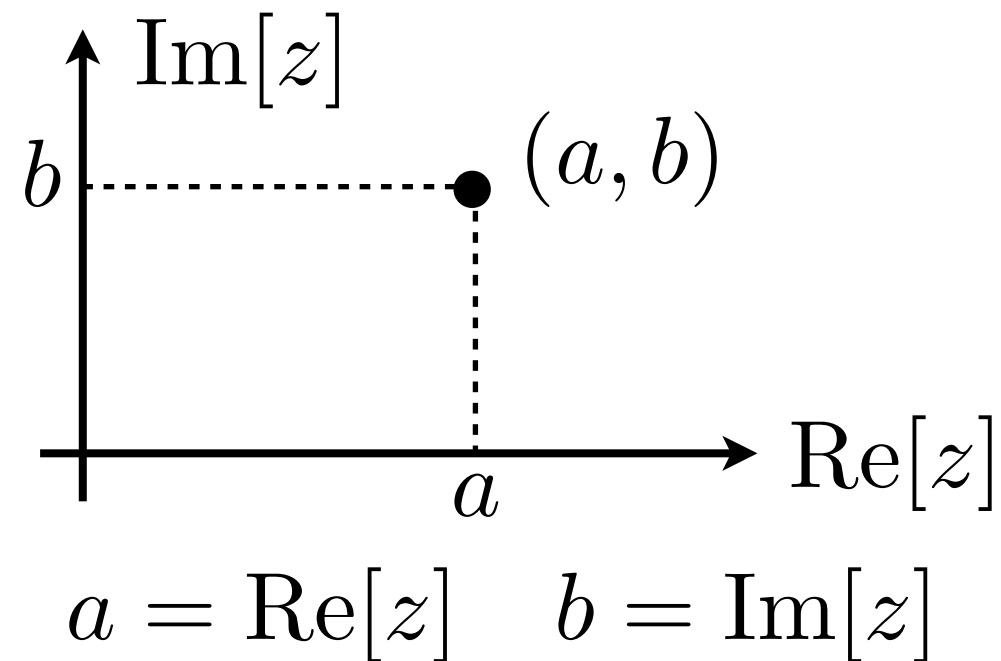
$$c \cdot z = c \cdot (a, b) = (c \cdot a, c \cdot b), \quad c \text{ a scalar}$$

$$z_1 + z_2 = (a_1, b_1) + (a_2, b_2) = (a_1 + a_2, b_1 + b_2)$$

$$z_1 * z_2 = (a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2, a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1)$$

$$\frac{1}{z} = \left(\frac{a}{a^2 + b^2}, -\frac{b}{a^2 + b^2} \right)$$

Geometry of Complex Numbers



The algebraic rules can be encapsulated by representing complex numbers by

$$z = a + jb, \quad j = \sqrt{-1}$$

and using the “usual” rules

$$c \cdot z = c \cdot (a + jb) = c \cdot a + jc \cdot b$$

$$z_1 + z_2 = (a_1 + jb_1) + (a_2 + jb_2) = (a_1 + a_2) + j(b_1 + b_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 \cdot z_2 &= (a_1 + jb_1) \cdot (a_2 + jb_2) \\ &= (a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2) + j(a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{z} = \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} - j \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2}$$

Euler's Formula

$$e^{cx} = 1 + cx + \frac{(cx)^2}{2!} + \frac{(cx)^3}{3!} + \frac{(cx)^4}{4!} + \dots$$

Let $c = j$

$$e^{jx} = 1 + jx + \frac{(jx)^2}{2!} + \frac{(jx)^3}{3!} + \frac{(jx)^4}{4!} + \dots$$

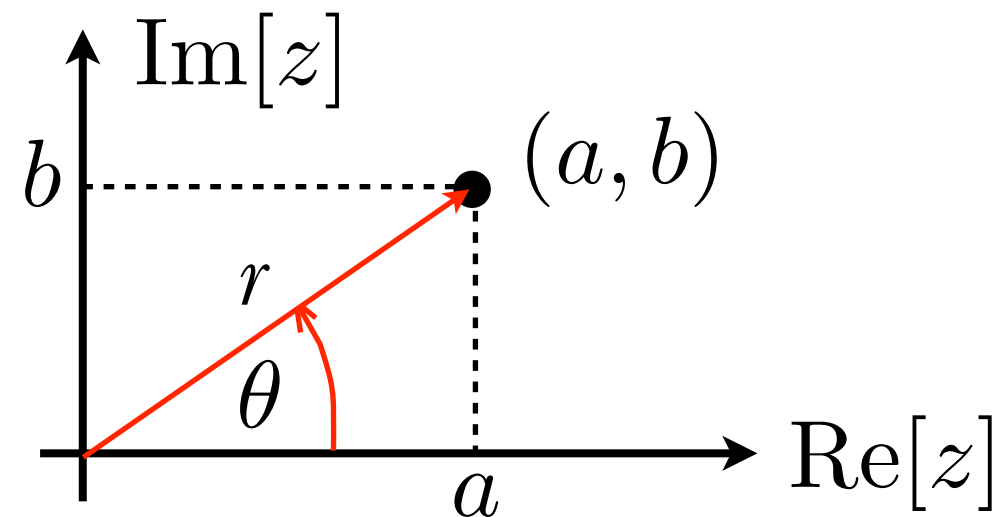
$$= 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots + j \left(x - \frac{x^3}{3!} \dots \right)$$

$$= \cos x + j \sin x$$

So $re^{j\theta} = r \cos \theta + jr \sin \theta$

Polar form!!!

More Geometry



$$a = r \cos \theta \quad b = r \sin \theta$$

$$a + jb = r \cos \theta + jr \sin \theta = re^{j\theta}$$

$$r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{b}{a}$$

$$z = a + jb \quad \text{Cartesian form}$$

$$z = re^{j\theta} \quad \text{Polar form}$$

Back to those “weird” rules

$$\begin{aligned}z_1 \cdot z_2 &= r_1 e^{j\theta_1} \cdot r_2 e^{j\theta_2} \\&= r_1 r_2 e^{j(\theta_1 + \theta_2)} \\&= r_1 r_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + j r_1 r_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \\&= (r_1 \cos \theta_1 \cdot r_2 \cos \theta_2 - r_1 \sin \theta_1 \cdot r_2 \sin \theta_2) \\&\quad + j (r_1 \cos \theta_1 \cdot r_2 \sin \theta_2 + r_1 \sin \theta_1 \cdot r_2 \cos \theta_2) \\&= (a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2) + j(a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{z} &= \frac{1}{r e^{j\theta}} = \frac{1}{r} e^{-j\theta} \\&= \frac{\cos \theta}{r} - j \frac{\sin \theta}{r} \\&= \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} - j \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2}\end{aligned}$$

A Special Operation

The *complex conjugate* of z , denoted by z^* , “flips” the sign of the imaginary part

$$z^* = a - jb = re^{-j\theta}$$

So $z \cdot z^* = re^{j\theta} \cdot re^{-j\theta} = r^2$

Magnitude of a complex number: $|z|^2 = z \cdot z^*$ or $|z| = r$

The *real part* of z , denoted by $\text{Re}[z]$, equals $\frac{z + z^*}{2}$

The *imaginary part* of z , denoted by $\text{Im}[z]$, equals $\frac{z - z^*}{2j}$

Manipulating Complex Numbers

- Add/subtract in Cartesian form
- Multiply/divide in either form (depends on details)
- Convert between forms before/after operation as needed

$$\frac{1+j}{1+2j} = \frac{(1+j)(1-2j)}{5} = \frac{3-j}{5}$$

Note the multiplication of the numerator and denominator by the conjugate of the denominator.

$$\left| \frac{1+j}{1+2j} \right| = \frac{|1+j|}{|1+2j|} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{5}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{5}}$$

Complex Numbers

- Simplifies calculations
- Very important for signal and system theory