

## 2.4 - Complex Numbers

↳ We drew that picture at the beginning of the class & said that real numbers were all those things you normally think of as numbers.

↳ Now we expand to a larger set of numbers called the complex numbers. If you put the real numbers together with the complex numbers, you get the complex numbers.

↳ We define the imaginary number,  $i$ , via  $i^2 = -1$ , or  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ .

→ A complex number in standard form is written

$$a + bi$$

↓                      ↓  
real part            imaginary part

→ 2 complex numbers are equal if their real parts & imaginary parts are both equal.

→ Operations work just like polynomials or radicals.

Addition/subtraction: Combine like terms.

$$\text{Let } a = 2 + 3i \text{ and } b = 3 - i$$

$$\text{Ex a) } a + b = 2 + 3i + 3 - i = 5 + 2i$$

$$\text{b) } a - b = 2 + 3i - (3 - i) = 2 + 3i - 3 + i = -1 + 4i$$

Multiplication: Foil & replace  $i^2$  with  $-1$

$$\text{c) Evaluate } a \cdot b; \quad (2 + 3i)(3 - i) = 6 - 2i + 9i - 3i^2 = 6 + 7i + 3 = 9 + 7i$$

EX multiply  $3-2i$  and  $3+2i$

(2)

$$(3-2i)(3+2i) = 9 + 6i - 6i - 4i^2 = 9 + 4 = 13$$

↳ Notice that the answer is a real number. These two numbers,  $3-2i$  and  $3+2i$  are called <sup>complex</sup> conjugates.

→ If  $a+bi$  is a complex number,  $a-bi$  is called its complex conjugate. The product of complex conjugates is always real.

EX write  $\frac{3-2i}{4+i}$  as a complex number in standard form.

→ multiply numerator & denominator by complex conjugate.

$$\frac{3-2i}{4+i} \cdot \frac{4-i}{4-i} = \frac{12-3i-8i+2i^2}{16-4i+4i-i^2} = \frac{12-11i-2}{16+1} = \frac{10-11i}{17}$$

$$= \frac{10}{17} - \frac{11}{17}i$$

↑ real part                      ↑ imaginary part

EX Add  $\frac{i}{3-2i} + \frac{2i}{3+8i}$

→ put them in standard form so we can add their real and imaginary parts

$$\frac{i}{3-2i} \cdot \frac{3+2i}{3+2i} = \frac{3i+2i^2}{9+6i-6i-4i^2} = \frac{-2+3i}{9+4} = \frac{-2}{13} + \frac{3}{13}i$$

$$\frac{2i}{3+8i} \cdot \frac{3-8i}{3-8i} = \frac{6i-16i^2}{9-24i+24i-64i^2} = \frac{16+6i}{9+64} = \frac{16}{73} + \frac{6}{73}i \quad (3)$$

so we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-2}{13} + \frac{3}{13}i + \frac{16}{73} + \frac{6}{73}i &= \left(\frac{-2}{13} + \frac{16}{73}\right) + \left(\frac{3}{13} + \frac{6}{73}\right)i \\ &= \frac{62}{949} + \frac{297}{949}i \end{aligned}$$

→ when do imaginary numbers show up? For us, in taking the square root of a negative number.

Since  $i^2 = -1$ ,  $\sqrt{-9} = \sqrt{9i^2} = 3i$

Ex Simplify:  $\sqrt{-27} = \sqrt{3 \cdot 9i^2} = 3i\sqrt{3}$

Ex Solve:  $x^2 - 2x + 6 = 0$

⇒  $x^2 - 2x = -6$

⇒  $x^2 - 2x + \left(-\frac{2}{2}\right)^2 = -6 + \left(-\frac{2}{2}\right)^2$

⇒  $(x-1)^2 = -5$

⇒  $(x-1) = \pm\sqrt{-5}$

⇒  $x-1 = \pm\sqrt{5}i$

⇒  $x = 1 \pm\sqrt{5}i$

or  $x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(1)(6)}}{2(1)}$

$= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4-24}}{2}$

$= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-20}}{2}$

$= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{5 \cdot 4i^2}}{2}$

$= \frac{2 \pm 2\sqrt{5}i}{2}$

$= \frac{2(1 \pm \sqrt{5}i)}{2}$

$= 1 \pm \sqrt{5}i$

→ we can now solve any quadratic equation we come across.

↳ solutions always come in complex conjugate pairs!