Plotting Practice

Question

Plot the following complex numbers.

1. 1 + i

2.
$$-2 - 3i$$

3.
$$\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2}i$$

Plot the series $z_n = (1+i)^n$.

Plotting Practice (Solutions)



Calculation Practice

Question

Calculate the following values.

1.
$$(1+i)^4$$

2. $\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i\right)^2$

$$(1+i)^4 = 1^4 + 4 \cdot 1^3 \cdot i + 6 \cdot 1^2 \cdot i^2 + 4 \cdot 1 \cdot i^3 + i^4$$

= 1 + 4i - 6 - 4i + 1 = -4
$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i\right)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 + 2\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i\right) + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i\right)^2$$

= $\frac{1}{2} + i - \frac{1}{2} = -i$

Length

Question

Calculating a Length The complex conjugate of a + bi is $\overline{a + bi} = a - bi$. We define the magnitude of z by $|z|^2 = z\overline{z}$. Alternatively, we call |z| the length of z. Compute the length |3 + 4i|.

We have the following:

$$|3+4i|^2 = (3+4i)(3-4i) = 3^2 + 4^2 \Longrightarrow |3+4i| = \sqrt{3^2+4^2} = \sqrt{25} = 5$$

Conjugates and Products

Question

If z and w are complex numbers then $\overline{zw} = \overline{z} \ \overline{w}$. This implies |zw| = |z||w|.

Suppose z = a + bi and w = c + di. We compute both sides of the equation: $\overline{zw} = \overline{z} \ \overline{w}$. The left hand side is:

$$\overline{(a+bi)(c+di)} = \overline{ac+adi+bci-bd} = \overline{(ac-bd)+(ad+bc)i} = (ac-bd)-(ad+bc)i$$

The other side of the equation is:

 $\overline{(a+bi)}\ \overline{(c+di)} = (a-bi)(c-di) = ac - adi - bci - bd = (ac - bd) - (ad + bc)i$

As these are equal, we've proved: $\overline{zw} = \overline{z} \ \overline{w}$.

Complex Roots

Question

Factor the polynomials $f(x) = x^2 + 1$ and $g(x) = x^3 - 1$ over the complex numbers.

We use the fact that $i^2 = -1$ to calculate:

$$f(x) = x^2 + 1 = x^2 - (i)^2 = (x - i)(x + i).$$

For $g(x) = x^3 - 1$, we have a real roots and so:

$$g(x) = (x-1)(x^2+x+1) = (x-1)\left(x - \left(\frac{-1 - \sqrt{3}i}{2}\right)\right)\left(x - \left(\frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2}\right)\right).$$

We used the quadratic equation to solve for $x^2 + x + 1 = 0$.

Prove Trigonometric Identities

Question

Suppose that Euler's identity is true. Prove the following trigonometric identities.

1.
$$\sin(a+b) = \sin(a)\cos(b) + \cos(a)\sin(b)$$

2.
$$\cos(a+b) = \cos(a)\cos(b) - \sin(a)\sin(b)$$

We handle both equations simultaneously.

$$e^{(a+b)i} = e^{ai}e^{bi}$$

= (cos(a) + i sin(a)) (cos(b) + i sin(b))
= cos(a) sin(b) + cos(a) sin(b)i + sin(a) cos(b)i - sin(a) sin(b)
= [cos(a) cos(b) - sin(a) sin(b)] + [cos(a) sin(b) + sin(a) cos(b)] i

Euler's identity also guarantees: $e^{(a+b)i} = \cos(a+b) + i\sin(a+b)$. We equate both expressions for $e^{(a+b)i}$ and get the desired trigonometric equations.

Geometric Series

Question

1. If $z \neq 1$ is a complex number and n is a whole number,

$$1 + z + z^2 + \dots + z^n = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}.$$

2. Suppose |z| < 1. As n tends to infinity, we get:

$$1+z+z^2+\cdots=\frac{1}{1-z}.$$

3. Use this fact to tell a story about pouring two cups of tea.

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots = 2$$

Geometric Series (Solutions)

Question

If $z \neq 1$ is a complex number and n is a whole number,

$$1 + z + z^2 + \dots + z^n = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}.$$

To show the desired equality, we multiply $1 + z + z^2 + \dots + z^n$ by (1 - z). $(1 + z + z^2 + \dots + z^n)(1 - z) = (1 + z + z^2 + \dots + z^n)$ $- z(1 + z + z^2 + \dots + z^n)$ $= (1 + z + z^2 + \dots + z^n)$ $- z - z^2 - z^3 + \dots - z^{n+1} = 1 - z^{n+1}$

We then have:

$$(1 + z + z^{2} + \dots + z^{n})(1 - z) = 1 - z^{n+1} \Longrightarrow 1 + z + z^{2} + \dots + z^{n} = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}$$

Geometric Series (Solutions)

Question

Suppose |z| < 1. As n tends to infinity, we get:

$$1+z+z^2+\cdots=\frac{1}{1-z}$$

From the previous part, we have:

$$1 + z + z^{2} + \dots + z^{n} = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}$$

If |z| < 1 then $|z|^{n+1}$ decreases to zero as a function of n. And so, we can make $|z|^{n+1}$ as small as we want. If n gets very large, $z^{n+1} \rightarrow 0$. This gives:

$$1 + z + z^2 + \dots = \frac{1 - 0}{1 - z} = \frac{1}{1 - z}$$

Geometric Series (Solutions)

Question

Use this fact to tell a story about pouring two cups of tea.

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots = 2$$

Two friends walk into a tea shop and ask for tea. The owner pours a cup of tea, and leaves the second cup empty. (+1) The second friend says: "Hey! You didn't pour any tea in my cup." The owner pours a half cup of tea. (+1/2) The second friend says: "That's not a whole cup! Please give me more tea." The owner pours another quarter cup of tea. (+1/4)

This goes on for a long time...



An Alternative Proof of Euler

Question

We need a couple other facts from calculus. If f'(x) = 0 then the function f(x) is constant.

$$f(x) = e^{ix} \Longrightarrow f'(x) = ie^{ix} \qquad h'(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \Longrightarrow h'(x) = \frac{f'(x)g(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$$

We can use these facts to prove Euler's identity.

To prove Euler's identity, we show that the following is constant:

$$h(x) = \frac{\cos(x) + i\sin(x)}{e^{ix}}$$

We calculate:

$$h'(x) = \frac{(\cos(x) + i\sin(x))'e^{ix} - (\cos(x) + i\sin(x))(e^{ix})'}{(e^{ix})^2}$$

An Alternative Proof of Euler (Solutions)

We calculate:

$$h'(x) = \frac{(\cos(x) + i\sin(x))'e^{ix} - (\cos(x) + i\sin(x))(e^{ix})'}{(e^{ix})^2}$$

= $\frac{(-\sin(x) + i\cos(x))e^{ix} - (\cos(x) + i\sin(x))(ie^{ix})}{(e^{ix})^2}$
= $\frac{[-\sin(x) + i\cos(x) - i\cos(x) + \sin(x)]e^{ix}}{(e^{ix})^2} = \frac{0}{(e^{ix})^2} = 0$

Therefore h'(x) = 0 for all x. It follows that h(x) is constant. If we plug in x = 0, we get:

$$h(0) = \frac{\cos(0) + i\sin(0)}{e^{0i}} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$$