

CHAPTER 2 - COMPLEX NUMBERS.

Why complex numbers?

Consider $x^2 + 1 = 0$

$$x^2 = -1$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{-1}$$

It has no solution. When we square a real number it is impossible to get a negative real number.

Let us denote $\sqrt{-1}$ as i .

$i^2 = -1$, $i \rightarrow$ imaginary unit.

$$i^0 = 1 \quad ; \quad i^1 = i \quad ; \quad i^2 = -1 \quad ; \quad i^3 = i^2 \cdot i = -1 \cdot i = -i$$

$$i^4 = i^2 \cdot i^2 = -1 \cdot (-1) = 1$$

$$i^{-1} = \frac{1}{i} = \frac{i^0}{i^2} = \frac{i}{-1} = -i \quad ; \quad i^{-2} = \frac{1}{i^2} = \frac{-1}{-1} = 1$$

$$i^{-3} = \frac{1}{i^3} = \frac{1}{i^2 \cdot i} = \frac{1}{-1 \cdot i} = -\frac{1}{i} = -(-i) = i$$

$$i^{-4} = \frac{1}{i^4} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$$

Note $(i)^{-4} = i^4$

For any integer n ,

$$\boxed{n = 4q + k}, \quad 0 \leq k < 4.$$

where k, q are integers.

$$(i)^n = (i)^{4q+k} = i^{4q} \cdot i^k = (i^4)^q \cdot i^k = 1 \cdot i^k = i^k$$

Exercise 2.1

Simplify the following.

$$\begin{aligned}
 1. \quad i^{1947} + i^{1950} &= i^{1944} \cdot i^3 + i^{1948} \cdot i^2 \\
 &= i^3 + i^2 \\
 &= -i - 1 = -1 - i
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2. \quad i^{1948} - i^{-1869} &= i^{1948} - \frac{1}{i^{1869}} \\
 &= 1 - \frac{1}{i} = 1 - (-i) = 1 + i
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 3. \quad \sum_{n=1}^{12} i^n &= i^1 + i^2 + i^3 + i^4 + i^5 + i^6 + i^7 + i^8 + i^9 + i^{10} + i^{11} + i^{12} \\
 &= (i - 1 - i + 1) + (i^5 - 1 - i - 1) + (i^9 - 1 - i - 1) \\
 &= 0 + 0 + 0 = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$4. \quad i^{59} + \frac{1}{i^{59}} = i^3 + \frac{1}{i^3} = -i + i = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 5. \quad i^1 \cdot i^2 \cdot i^3 \cdots i^{2000} &= i^{1+2+3+\dots+2000} \\
 &= i^{\frac{2000 \times 2001}{2}} \\
 &= i^{1000 \times 2001} \\
 &= i^{4 \times 250 \times 2001} \\
 &= i^{4k} \quad \text{where } k = 250 \times 2001 \\
 &= 1. \quad (\text{Since } i^{4n} = 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 6. \quad \sum_{n=1}^{10} i^{n+50} &= i^{51} + i^{52} + i^{53} + \dots + i^{60} \\
 &= i^{50} (i^1 + i^2 + i^3 + \dots + i^{10}) \\
 &= i^2 (0 + 0 + \dots + i^9 + i^{10}) \\
 &= -1 (0 + 0 + \dots + i + i^2) \\
 &= -1 (i - 1) \\
 &= 1 - i
 \end{aligned}$$