

Complex Numbers

We do NOT get a real number when we take the square root of a negative number. For example $\sqrt{-9}$ is not a real number because there is no real number that can be squared to get -9.

Imaginary numbers are used when there is a negative number under a square root. "i" is used to signify an imaginary number. The reason for the name "imaginary" numbers is that when these numbers were first proposed several hundred years ago, people could not "imagine" such a number.

$i = \sqrt{-1}$ so ... $\sqrt{-4} = \sqrt{-1 \cdot 4} = i\sqrt{4} = 2i$

$i = \sqrt{-1} = i$	$i^5 = i^4 \cdot i = i$	$i^9 = i$	$i^{13} = i$
$i^2 = -1$	$i^6 = i^4 \cdot i^2 = -1$	$i^{10} = -1$	$i^{14} = -1$
$i^3 = -i$	$i^7 = i^4 \cdot i^3 = -i$	$i^{11} = -i$	etc....
$i^4 = 1$	$i^8 = i^4 \cdot i^4 = 1$	$i^{12} = 1$	

To simplify imaginary numbers with an exponent greater than 3:

- 1) Divide the exponent by 4
 - 2) The remainder becomes the new exponent
 - 3) Simplify
- Examples: $i^{13} = i^{12} \cdot i = 1 \cdot i = i$
 $i^{12} = (i^4)^3 = 1^3 = 1$
 $i^{27} = i^{24} \cdot i^3 = 1 \cdot i^3 = -i$

To simplify the square root of a negative number:

- 1) pull out the i
- 2) simplify the radical

Examples: $\sqrt{-30} = \sqrt{30} \cdot i = i\sqrt{30}$
 $\sqrt{-24} = \sqrt{1 \cdot 24} = \sqrt{4 \cdot 6} = 2\sqrt{6}$
 $2i\sqrt{6} \cdot \sqrt{-45} = 2i\sqrt{6} \cdot \sqrt{9 \cdot 5} = 3i\sqrt{30}$

If two square roots with negative numbers are being multiplied: pull out the i BEFORE you multiply!

Examples: $\sqrt{-6} \cdot \sqrt{-10} = \sqrt{6} \cdot \sqrt{10} \cdot i \cdot i = -\sqrt{60}$

$i\sqrt{6} \cdot i\sqrt{10} = i^2 \sqrt{60} = -\sqrt{60}$
 $i\sqrt{8} \cdot \sqrt{2} = i\sqrt{16} = 4i$
 $-1 \cdot \sqrt{4 \cdot 15} = -2\sqrt{15}$

$i^2 = -1$
 $i^3 = -i$
 $i^4 = 1$

Adding/Subtracting: combine like terms

Examples: $(8 - 5i) + (2 + i) = 10 - 4i$
 $(4 + 7i) - (2 - 3i) = 2 + 10i$

Multiplying with imaginary numbers: NEVER leave i² in your answer!

Examples: $(4 + 2i)(3 - 5i) = 12 - 20i + 6i^2 - 10i^2 = 12 - 14i + 10 = 22 - 14i$
 $(4 - i)(3 + 2i) = 12 + 8i - 3i - 2i^2 = 12 + 5i - 2 = 10 + 5i$

A complex number is any number that can be written in the standard form $a + bi$, where a and b are real numbers, and $i = \sqrt{-1}$.

- > real numbers are complex numbers with $b=0$
- > pure imaginary numbers are complex numbers with $a=0$

Complex numbers in equations: Find the values of x and y for which each equation is true.

Examples: $4x - 3yi = 16 + 9i$
 $4x = 16 \Rightarrow x = 4$
 $-3y = 9 \Rightarrow y = -3$

$6x + 2yi = -18 + 3i$
 $6x = -18 \Rightarrow x = -3$
 $2y = 3 \Rightarrow y = \frac{3}{2}$

Every complex number has a complex conjugate. The complex conjugate of $a + bi$ is $a - bi$. The conjugate of $3 + 5i$ is $3 - 5i$.

What happens when you multiply conjugates?

Examples: $(2 + i)(2 - i) = 4 - 2i + 2i - i^2 = 4 - 2i + 2i + 1 = 5$
 $(3 + 5i)(3 - 5i) = 9 - 15i + 15i - 25i^2 = 9 - 25(-1) = 9 + 25 = 34$

Conjugates can be used to rationalize the denominator of a fraction:

Simplify: $\frac{3+i}{2-3i} = \frac{3+i}{2-3i} \cdot \frac{(2+3i)}{(2+3i)} = \frac{3+4i+i+2i^2}{1-9i^2} = \frac{3+7i-2}{1-4i^2} = \frac{3+7i-2}{1+4} = \frac{3+7i-2}{5} = \frac{1+7i}{5}$

$\frac{10-15i}{4-9i^2} = \frac{10-15i}{4-9(-1)} = \frac{10-15i}{13}$

$\frac{3+7i-2}{1-4(-1)} = \frac{3+7i-2}{1+4} = \frac{1+7i}{5}$