

Complex numbers

Chapter 3

Section 3.6 Conjugate roots theorem

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad | \quad x = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

if $x = d + ei$

Conjugates

PROJECT MATHS
Text & Tests 6

114

Example 1

If $z = 1 + 5i$ is a root of the equation $az^2 + bz + c = 0$, where $a, b, c \in R$, find the values of a, b, c .

If $z = 1 + 5i$ is a root
 $\Rightarrow \bar{z} = 1 - 5i$ is also a root] Conjugate root theorem

$$x^2 - [\text{sum roots}]x + [\text{product roots}] = 0$$

$$x^2 - [(1+5i) + (1-5i)]x + [(1+5i)(1-5i)] = 0$$

$$x^2 - 2x + [1 + 25] = 0$$

$$x^2 - 2x + 26 = 0$$

Example 2

Given that $z = 2 + i$ is a root of $z^2 - 4z + 5 = 0$, show that \bar{z} is also a root.

$$z = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$a = 1$$

$$b = -4$$

$$c = 5$$

$$\begin{aligned} z &= \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)} \\ &= \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 20}}{2} \\ &= \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} \\ &= \frac{4 \pm 2i}{2} \\ &= 2 \pm i \end{aligned}$$