

Complex numbers

chapter

3

Section 3.9 De Moivre's theorem

$$[r \operatorname{cis} \theta]^n = r^n \operatorname{cis} n\theta$$

PROJECT MATHS Text & Tests 6

123

If $z = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$, then using de Moivre's Theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} z^n &= [r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)]^n \\ &= r^n(\cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta) \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{Z}. \end{aligned}$$

Example 1

Find the value of $(\cos \frac{\pi}{6} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{6})^3$.

$$r=1$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^n = r^n \operatorname{cis} n\theta$$

$$\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{6} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{6}\right)^3$$

$$= \cos \frac{3\pi}{6} + i \sin \frac{3\pi}{6}$$

$$= \operatorname{cis} \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Example 2

Write $1 + \sqrt{3}i$ in polar form and hence find the value of $(1 + \sqrt{3}i)^9$.

$$r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

In polar form

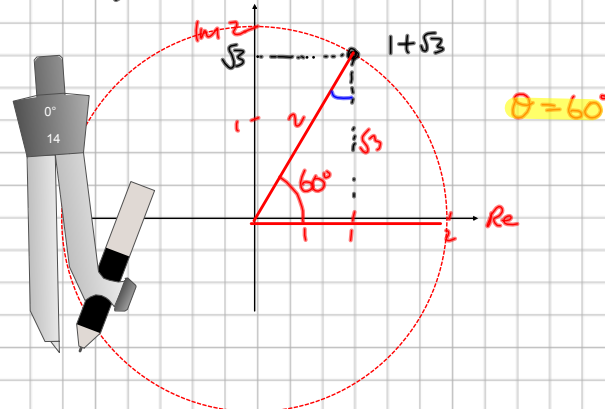
$$1 + \sqrt{3}i = 2 \operatorname{cis} 60^\circ$$

de Moivre

$$(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^n = r^n \operatorname{cis} n\theta$$

Use calculator

$$r = \sqrt{1^2 + \sqrt{3}^2} = \sqrt{4} = 2 = r$$



$$\begin{aligned} (1 + \sqrt{3}i)^9 &= (2 \operatorname{cis} 60^\circ)^9 = 2^9 \operatorname{cis} 9(60^\circ) \\ &= 512 \operatorname{cis} 540^\circ \\ &= 512(-1 + 0i) = -512 \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 3.9

1. Use de Moivre's theorem to simplify each of the following, expressing your answers in the form $a + bi$:

(i) $\left(\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right)\right)^4$

(ii) $\left(\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)\right)^7$

de Moivre

$$(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^n = r^n \operatorname{cis} n\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad \left(\operatorname{cis} \frac{\pi}{8}\right)^4 &= \operatorname{cis} \frac{4\pi}{8} = \operatorname{cis} \frac{\pi}{2} \\ &= 0 + 1i \end{aligned}$$

use calculator
to change to
rectangular form

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad \left(\operatorname{cis} \frac{\pi}{6}\right)^7 &= \operatorname{cis} \frac{7\pi}{6} \\ &= -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2}i \end{aligned}$$

use calculator
to change to
rectangular form

Exercise 3.9

1. Use de Moivre's theorem to simplify each of the following, expressing your answers in the form $a + bi$:

(iii) $\left(\cos \frac{\pi}{12} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{12}\right)^8$

(iv) $\left(\cos \frac{2\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)^3$

de Moivre

$$(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^n = r^n \operatorname{cis} n\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iii)} \quad \left(\operatorname{cis} \frac{\pi}{12}\right)^8 &= \operatorname{cis} \frac{8\pi}{12} = \operatorname{cis} \frac{2\pi}{3} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i \end{aligned}$$

use calculator to
change to rectangular form

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iv)} \quad \left(\operatorname{cis} \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)^3 &= \operatorname{cis} 3\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = \operatorname{cis} 2\pi \\ &= 1 + 0i \end{aligned}$$

use calculator to
change to rectangular form