

- (1) #3 on page 83:
 (a) find $\sqrt{-i}$
 (b) find $\sqrt{-15-8i}$.

Solution

- (a) since $|-i| = 1$ we write $-i = 1 \cdot (\cos(-\frac{\pi}{2}) + i \sin(-\frac{\pi}{2}))$. Therefore, $\sqrt{-i} = \pm(\cos(-\frac{\pi}{4}) + i \sin(-\frac{\pi}{4})) = \pm(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$ **Answer:**
 $\sqrt{-15-8i} = \pm(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$.
- (b) First we compute $|-15-8i| = \sqrt{15^2+8^2} = \sqrt{289} = 17$. Hence we can write $-15-8i$ as $-15-8i = 17(-\frac{15}{17} - i\frac{8}{17}) = 17(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$ where $\cos \theta = -\frac{15}{17}$ and $\sin \theta = -\frac{8}{17}$. Note that this means that $\pi < \theta < 3\pi/2$.
 Then $\sqrt{-15-8i} = \pm\sqrt{17}(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + i \sin \frac{\theta}{2})$. Since $\pi < \theta < 3\pi/2$ we have that $\pi/2 < \theta/2 < 3\pi/4$ and hence $\cos \frac{\theta}{2} < 0$, $\sin \frac{\theta}{2} > 0$.
 Using the formula $\cos \theta = 2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - 1$ we get $2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - 1 = -\frac{15}{17}$, $\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{1}{17}$, $\cos \frac{\theta}{2} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{17}}$. since $\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} = 1$ this gives $\sin \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{17}}$.
 Thus, $\sqrt{17}(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + i \sin \frac{\theta}{2}) = \sqrt{17}(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{17}} + i\frac{4}{\sqrt{17}}) = -1 + 4i$.
Answer: $\sqrt{-15-8i} = \pm(-1 + 4i)$.

- (2) #7 on page 83: Find all solutions of $iz^2 + 2z + i = 0$.

Solution

By the general formula for solving $az^2 + bz + c = 0$ we have $z = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1^2 - i^2}}{i} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{2}}{i} = i \pm i\sqrt{2}$.

Answer: $i \pm i\sqrt{2}$

- (3) #9 on page 83: Solve $z^6 + z^3 + 1 = 0$.

Solution

Let $x = z^3$. Then x satisfies $x^2 + x + 1 = 0$ so $x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{-3}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{3}i}{2}$. We have two possibilities

- 1) $x = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2} = \cos(2\pi/3) + i \sin(2\pi/3)$. Solving $z^3 = x = \cos(2\pi/3) + i \sin(2\pi/3)$ we get $z = \cos(2\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi k}{3}) + i \sin(2\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi k}{3})$ where $k = 0, 1, 2$. This gives 3 solutions
 when $k = 0$ we get $z_1 = \cos(2\pi/9) + i \sin(2\pi/9)$
 when $k = 1$ we get $z_2 = \cos(2\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi}{3}) + i \sin(2\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi}{3}) = \cos(\frac{8\pi}{9}) + i \sin(\frac{8\pi}{9})$
 when $k = 2$ we get $z_3 = \cos(2\pi/9 + \frac{4\pi}{3}) + i \sin(2\pi/9 + \frac{4\pi}{3}) = \cos(\frac{14\pi}{9}) + i \sin(\frac{14\pi}{9})$
- 2) $x = \frac{-1 - \sqrt{3}i}{2} = \cos(4\pi/3) + i \sin(4\pi/3)$. Solving $z^3 = x = \cos(4\pi/3) + i \sin(4\pi/3)$ we get $z = \cos(4\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi k}{3}) + i \sin(4\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi k}{3})$ where $k = 0, 1, 2$. As before, this gives 3 solutions
 when $k = 0$ we get $z_4 = \cos(4\pi/9) + i \sin(4\pi/9)$

when $k = 1$ we get $z_5 = \cos(4\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi}{3}) + i \sin(4\pi/9 + \frac{2\pi}{3}) = \cos(\frac{10\pi}{9}) + i \sin(\frac{10\pi}{9})$

when $k = 2$ we get $z_6 = \cos(4\pi/9 + \frac{4\pi}{3}) + i \sin(4\pi/9 + \frac{4\pi}{3}) = \cos(\frac{16\pi}{9}) + i \sin(\frac{16\pi}{9})$

- (4) #14 on page 84: Show that every non-constant polynomial $p(z) = a_n z^n + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ with real coefficients can be factored as a product of polynomials of degree 1 or 2 with real coefficients.

Solution

We prove it by induction on n . When $n = 1$ $P(z) = a_1 z + a_0$ has degree 1 and there is nothing to prove. This verifies the base of induction.

Suppose we have proved the result for all polynomials of degree $\leq n$. Let $P(z) = a_{n+1} z^{n+1} + a_n z^n + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ where all a_i are real and $a_{n+1} \neq 0$. By the fundamental theorem of Algebra $P(z) = a_n(z - z_1)(z - z_2) \dots (z - z_{n+1})$ has a complex root z_1 and hence $P(z) = (z - z_1)Q(z)$ where $Q(z) = a_n(z - z_2) \dots (z - z_{n+1})$ is polynomial of degree n .

If z_1 is real then the division procedure for polynomials shows that $Q(z) = \frac{P(z)}{z - z_1}$ has real coefficients. Therefore, by the induction assumption it's a product of real polynomials of degree 1 or 2 and hence so is $P(z)$.

Now suppose z_1 is not real. Then $z_1 = a + bi$ where $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b \neq 0$. Then by a problem from the previous homework, $\bar{z}_1 = a - bi$ is also a root of $P(z)$. WLOG, $z_2 = \bar{z}_1 = a - bi$.

Then, $P(z) = (z - z_1)(z - z_2)R(z)$ where $R(z) = a_n(z - z_3) \dots (z - z_{n+1})$ is polynomial of degree $n - 1$.

Notice that $P_1(z) = (z - z_1)(z - z_2) = (z - a - bi)(z - a + bi) = (z - a)^2 - (bi)^2 = z^2 - 2az + a^2 + b^2$ is a quadratic polynomial with real coefficients. Therefore $R(z) = \frac{P(z)}{P_1(z)}$ also has real coefficients. Since it has degree $n - 1$, it's a product of real polynomials of degree 1 or 2 and hence so is $P(z)$ \square .