
FP1: Complex Numbers

Past Exam Questions
2006 - 2013

Name:

January 2006

5 (a) (i) Calculate $(2 + i\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{5} - i)$. *(3 marks)*

(ii) Hence verify that $\sqrt{5} - i$ is a root of the equation

$$(2 + i\sqrt{5})z = 3z^*$$

where z^* is the conjugate of z . *(2 marks)*

(b) The quadratic equation

$$x^2 + px + q = 0$$

in which the coefficients p and q are real, has a complex root $\sqrt{5} - i$.

(i) Write down the other root of the equation. *(1 mark)*

(ii) Find the sum and product of the two roots of the equation. *(3 marks)*

(iii) Hence state the values of p and q . *(2 marks)*

June 2006

6 It is given that $z = x + iy$, where x and y are real numbers.

(a) Write down, in terms of x and y , an expression for

$$(z + i)^*$$

where $(z + i)^*$ denotes the complex conjugate of $(z + i)$. *(2 marks)*

(b) Solve the equation

$$(z + i)^* = 2iz + 1$$

giving your answer in the form $a + bi$. *(5 marks)*

January 2007

1 (a) Solve the following equations, giving each root in the form $a + bi$:

(i) $x^2 + 16 = 0$; *(2 marks)*

(ii) $x^2 - 2x + 17 = 0$. *(2 marks)*

(b) (i) Expand $(1 + x)^3$. *(2 marks)*

(ii) Express $(1 + i)^3$ in the form $a + bi$. *(2 marks)*

(iii) Hence, or otherwise, verify that $x = 1 + i$ satisfies the equation

$$x^3 + 2x - 4i = 0 \quad \text{(*2 marks*)}$$

June 2007

3 It is given that $z = x + iy$, where x and y are real numbers.

(a) Find, in terms of x and y , the real and imaginary parts of

$$z - 3iz^*$$

where z^* is the complex conjugate of z . *(3 marks)*

(b) Find the complex number z such that

$$z - 3iz^* = 16 \quad \text{(*3 marks*)}$$

January 2008

1 It is given that $z_1 = 2 + i$ and that z_1^* is the complex conjugate of z_1 .

Find the real numbers x and y such that

$$x + 3iy = z_1 + 4iz_1^* \quad \text{(*4 marks*)}$$

June 2008

2 It is given that $z = x + iy$, where x and y are real numbers.

(a) Find, in terms of x and y , the real and imaginary parts of

$$3iz + 2z^*$$

where z^* is the complex conjugate of z . *(3 marks)*

(b) Find the complex number z such that

$$3iz + 2z^* = 7 + 8i \quad \text{(*3 marks*)}$$

January 2009

2 The complex number $2 + 3i$ is a root of the quadratic equation

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

where b and c are real numbers.

- (a) Write down the other root of this equation. *(1 mark)*
- (b) Find the values of b and c . *(4 marks)*

June 2009

3 The complex number z is defined by

$$z = x + 2i$$

where x is real.

- (a) Find, in terms of x , the real and imaginary parts of:
- (i) z^2 ; *(3 marks)*
- (ii) $z^2 + 2z^*$. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Show that there is exactly one value of x for which $z^2 + 2z^*$ is real. *(2 marks)*

January 2010

2 The complex number z is defined by

$$z = 1 + i$$

- (a) Find the value of z^2 , giving your answer in its simplest form. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Hence show that $z^8 = 16$. *(2 marks)*
- (c) Show that $(z^*)^2 = -z^2$. *(2 marks)*

June 2010

2 It is given that $z = x + iy$, where x and y are real numbers.

- (a) Find, in terms of x and y , the real and imaginary parts of
- $$(1 - 2i)z - z^* \quad \text{span style="float: right;">*(4 marks)*$$
- (b) Hence find the complex number z such that
- $$(1 - 2i)z - z^* = 10(2 + i) \quad \text{span style="float: right;">*(2 marks)*$$

January 2011

5 (a) It is given that $z_1 = \frac{1}{2} - i$.

(i) Calculate the value of z_1^2 , giving your answer in the form $a + bi$. (2 marks)

(ii) Hence verify that z_1 is a root of the equation

$$z^2 + z^* + \frac{1}{4} = 0 \quad (2 \text{ marks})$$

(b) Show that $z_2 = \frac{1}{2} + i$ also satisfies the equation in part **(a)(ii)**. (2 marks)

(c) Show that the equation in part **(a)(ii)** has two equal **real** roots. (2 marks)

June 2011

3 It is given that $z = x + iy$, where x and y are real.

(a) Find, in terms of x and y , the real and imaginary parts of

$$(z - i)(z^* - i) \quad (3 \text{ marks})$$

(b) Given that

$$(z - i)(z^* - i) = 24 - 8i$$

find the two possible values of z . (4 marks)

January 2012

3 (a) Solve the following equations, giving each root in the form $a + bi$:

(i) $x^2 + 9 = 0$; (1 mark)

(ii) $(x + 2)^2 + 9 = 0$. (1 mark)

(b) (i) Expand $(1 + x)^3$. (1 mark)

(ii) Express $(1 + 2i)^3$ in the form $a + bi$. (3 marks)

(iii) Given that $z = 1 + 2i$, find the value of

$$z^* - z^3 \quad (2 \text{ marks})$$

June 2012

3 It is given that $z = x + iy$, where x and y are real numbers.

(a) Find, in terms of x and y , the real and imaginary parts of

$$i(z + 7) + 3(z^* - i) \quad (3 \text{ marks})$$

(b) Hence find the complex number z such that

$$i(z + 7) + 3(z^* - i) = 0 \quad (3 \text{ marks})$$

January 2013

2 (a) Solve the equation $w^2 + 6w + 34 = 0$, giving your answers in the form $p + qi$, where p and q are integers. *(3 marks)*

(b) It is given that $z = i(1 + i)(2 + i)$.

(i) Express z in the form $a + bi$, where a and b are integers. *(3 marks)*

(ii) Find integers m and n such that $z + mz^* = ni$. *(3 marks)*

June 2013

4 (a) It is given that $z = x + yi$, where x and y are real numbers.

(i) Write down, in terms of x and y , an expression for $(z - 2i)^*$. *(1 mark)*

(ii) Solve the equation

$$(z - 2i)^* = 4iz + 3$$

giving your answer in the form $a + bi$. *(5 marks)*

(b) It is given that $p + qi$, where p and q are real numbers, is a root of the equation $z^2 + 10iz - 29 = 0$.

Without finding the values of p and q , **state** why $p - qi$ is **not** a root of the equation $z^2 + 10iz - 29 = 0$. *(1 mark)*