

5.6 Operations with Complex Numbers

Square Root of Negative Numbers

The square root of a negative real number has TWO imaginary roots: one positive, one negative.

$$\sqrt{-r} = \sqrt{-1} \cdot \sqrt{r} \quad \left(\text{where } \sqrt{-1} = i \right) = i\sqrt{r}$$

and

$$i^2 = i \cdot i = \sqrt{-1} \cdot \sqrt{-1} = -1$$

Examples: Simplify.

$$1. \sqrt{-81} = 9i$$

$$2. \sqrt{-120} = 2i\sqrt{30}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \overline{) 120} \\ \underline{2} \\ 2 \\ \underline{2} \\ 3 \\ \underline{3} \\ 5 \end{array}$$

$$3. \sqrt{-48} = 4i\sqrt{3}$$

$$4. \sqrt{-256} = 16i$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \overline{) 48} \\ \underline{2} \\ 2 \\ \underline{2} \\ 2 \\ \underline{2} \\ 3 \end{array}$$

Examples: Solve using the indicated method.

5. $x^2 + 6x + 10 = 0$

quadratic formula

$a=1$ $b=6$ $c=10$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{(6)^2 - 4(1)(10)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm 2i}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6}{2} \pm \frac{2i}{2}$$

$$x = -3 \pm i$$

$$2 \overline{) 10}$$

6. $-3x^2 - 10 = 44$

taking square roots

$$\frac{-3x^2 - 10}{+10} = \frac{44}{+10}$$

$$\frac{-3x^2}{-3} = \frac{54}{-3}$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{-18}$$

$$x = \pm 3i\sqrt{2}$$

Examples: Solve using the indicated method.

7. $2(x - 1)^2 + 12 = 0$

taking square roots

$$\frac{2(x-1)^2 + 12}{-12} = \frac{0}{-12}$$

$$\frac{2(x-1)^2}{2} = \frac{-12}{2}$$

$$\sqrt{(x-1)^2} = \sqrt{-6}$$

$$\frac{x-1}{+1} = \frac{\pm i\sqrt{6}}{+1}$$

$$x = 1 \pm i\sqrt{6}$$

8. $x^2 + 4x + 20 = 0$

completing the square

$$\frac{x^2 + 4x + 20}{-20} = \frac{0}{-20}$$

$$x^2 + 4x + 4 = -20 + 4$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(4) = 2$$

$$(2)^2 = 4$$

$$\sqrt{(x+2)^2} = \sqrt{-16}$$

$$\frac{x+2}{-2} = \frac{\pm 4i}{-2}$$

$$x = -2 \pm 4i$$

Examples: Solve using any method.

$$9. \quad -\frac{1}{3}(x-7)^2 + 5 = 23$$

$$-\frac{3}{1} \cdot \frac{-5}{-5} \cdot \frac{-\frac{1}{3}(x-7)^2}{-5} = \frac{18}{-5} \cdot \frac{-3}{-5}$$

$$\sqrt{(x-7)^2} = \sqrt{-54}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x-7 = \pm 3i\sqrt{6} \\ +7 \qquad +7 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{x = 7 \pm 3i\sqrt{6}}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \overline{)54} \\ \underline{3 \overline{)27}} \\ 3 \overline{)9} \\ \underline{3 \overline{)9}} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$10. \quad 3x^2 - 5x = -4$$

$$\frac{3x^2 - 5x + 4 = 0}{+4 \quad +4}$$

$$a=3 \quad b=-5 \quad c=4$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4(3)(4)}}{2(3)}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{-23}}{6}$$

$$\boxed{x = \frac{5 \pm i\sqrt{23}}{6}}$$

The standard form of a complex number is

$$\begin{array}{c} a + bi \\ \uparrow \qquad \swarrow \\ \text{real part} \quad \text{imaginary part} \end{array}$$

Every number can be written as a complex number. $+ 2i$ \longrightarrow imaginary number

$0 + 2i$ \longrightarrow pure imaginary

$9 + 0i$ \longrightarrow real number

Adding and Subtracting Complex Numbers

Add or subtract: real part to real part
imaginary part to imaginary part

Examples: Simplify.

11. $(4 - i) + (3 + 2i)$

$$7 + i$$

12. $(7 - 5i) - (1 - 5i)$

$$7 - 5i - 1 + 5i$$

$$6$$

13. $6 - (-2 + 9i) + (-8 + 4i)$

$$6 + 2 - 9i - 8 + 4i$$

$$-5i$$

14. $2i - (3 + i) + (2 - 3i)$

$$2i - 3 - i + 2 - 3i$$

$$-1 - 2i$$

$i^2 = -1$ Multiplying Complex Numbers

Examples: Simplify.

15. $5i(-2 + i)$

$$-10i + 5i^2$$

$$-10i + 5(-1)$$

$$-10i - 5 \rightarrow -5 - 10i$$

16. $(-1 + 2i)(7 - 4i)$

$$-7 + 4i + 14i - 8i^2$$

$$-7 + 18i - 8(-1)$$

$$-7 + 18i + 8$$

$$1 + 18i$$

17. $(6 + 3i)(6 - 3i)$

$$36 - 18i + 18i - 9i^2$$

$$36 - 9(-1)$$

$$36 + 9$$

$$45$$

18. $(2 + 5i)^2 \rightarrow (2 + 5i)(2 + 5i)$

$$4 + 10i + 10i + 25i^2$$

$$4 + 20i + 25(-1)$$

$$4 + 20i - 25$$

$$-21 + 20i$$