

## Complex numbers practice problems

**Problem 1** (Diff. 1). Let  $m$  and  $n$  two integers such that each can be expressed as the sum of two perfect squares. Prove that  $m \cdot n$  has this property as well. For instance  $17 = 4^2 + 1^2$ ,  $13 = 2^2 + 3^2$ , and  $17 \cdot 13 = 221 = 14^2 + 5^2$ .

**Problem 2** (Diff. 1). Let  $ABCD$  be a convex quadrilateral. Let  $M \in [AB]$ , let  $N \in [BC]$ , let  $P \in [CD]$ , and  $Q \in [DA]$  such that

$$\frac{|AM|}{|MB|} = \frac{|DP|}{|PC|} = r \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{|BN|}{|NC|} = \frac{|AQ|}{|QD|} = s.$$

Let  $\{O\} = MP \cap NQ$ . Prove that  $\frac{|QO|}{|ON|} = r$  and  $\frac{|MO|}{|OP|} = s$ .

**Hint:** Find the complex coordinate of  $M$  in terms of those of  $A$  and  $B$  and of  $r$ .

**Problem 3** (Diff. 2). Solve  $z^{2019} = \bar{z}$ .

**Problem 4** (Diff. 2). Let  $ABCD$  be a convex quadrilateral. Let  $T$  and  $V$  be points inside the quadrilateral and  $U, W$  be points outside such that the angles  $UAB, TAD, VCB, WCD$  are all equal, and the angles  $UBA, VBC, WDC, TDA$  are all equal. Prove that  $UTWV$  is a parallelogram.

**Hint:** By a small letter, we denote the complex coordinate of the corresponding capital letter. Show that it is enough to prove that  $u + w = t + v$ . For a fixed  $r > 0$  and fixed angle  $\theta$ , rotating  $AB$  around  $A$  by  $\theta$  and then scaling the result by  $r$  takes  $b$  to  $a + z(b - a)$ .

**Problem 5** (Diff. 3). Consider a regular  $n$ -gon which is inscribed in a circle with radius 1. What is the average of the lengths of all  $n(n - 1)/2$  chords joining different vertices of the  $n$ -gon?

**Hint:** Let  $\xi = e^{\pi i/2n}$ . Note that this is a  $2n$ -th root of 1, not an  $n$ -th root of 1. Prove that  $|1 - \xi^{2k}| = \frac{\xi^k - \bar{\xi}^k}{2i}$ .

**Problem 6** (Diff. 3). Find all complex numbers  $z$  that verify

$$|z - |z + 1|| = |z + |z - 1||.$$

**Problem 7** (Diff. 4 (Putnam 1991, B2)). Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are non-constant, differentiable, real-valued functions on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Furthermore, suppose that for each pair of real numbers  $x$  and  $y$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x + y) &= f(x)f(y) - g(x)g(y) \\ g(x + y) &= f(x)g(y) + g(x)f(y) \end{aligned}$$

If  $f'(0) = 0$ , prove that  $f^2(x) + g^2(x) = 1$  for all  $x$ .

**Problem 8** (Diff. 5). If  $z$  is a complex number with  $|z| \leq 1$ , and  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$ , prove that

$$3 \leq |z - 1| + |z - \omega| + |z - \omega^2| \leq 4.$$