

Complex numbers and planar geometry

Lars Kühne
(lars.kuehne@ucd.ie)

① complex numbers \mathbb{C} : basics

want: $\sqrt{-1} =: i$ ←

formally: $\boxed{z = x + i \cdot y}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$
 $y \in \mathbb{R}$

addition: $(x_1 + i \cdot y_1) + (x_2 + i \cdot y_2)$
 $\stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \underline{(x_1 + x_2)} + i \cdot \underline{(y_1 + y_2)}$

multiplication: $(x_1 + i \cdot y_1) \cdot (x_2 + i \cdot y_2)$
 $= x_1 x_2 + i \cdot (y_1 x_2 + y_2 x_1) + \underbrace{i^2}_{(-1)} \cdot y_1 y_2$
 $\stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \underline{(x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2)} + i \cdot \underline{(y_1 x_2 + y_2 x_1)}$

$\mathbb{C} = \{ x + i \cdot y \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R} \}$ has good prop.:

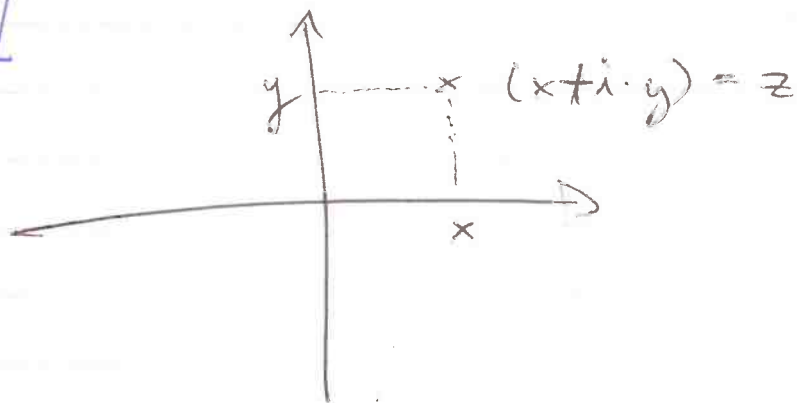
(1) $(\mathbb{C}, +, \cdot)$ is a field.

(2) ...

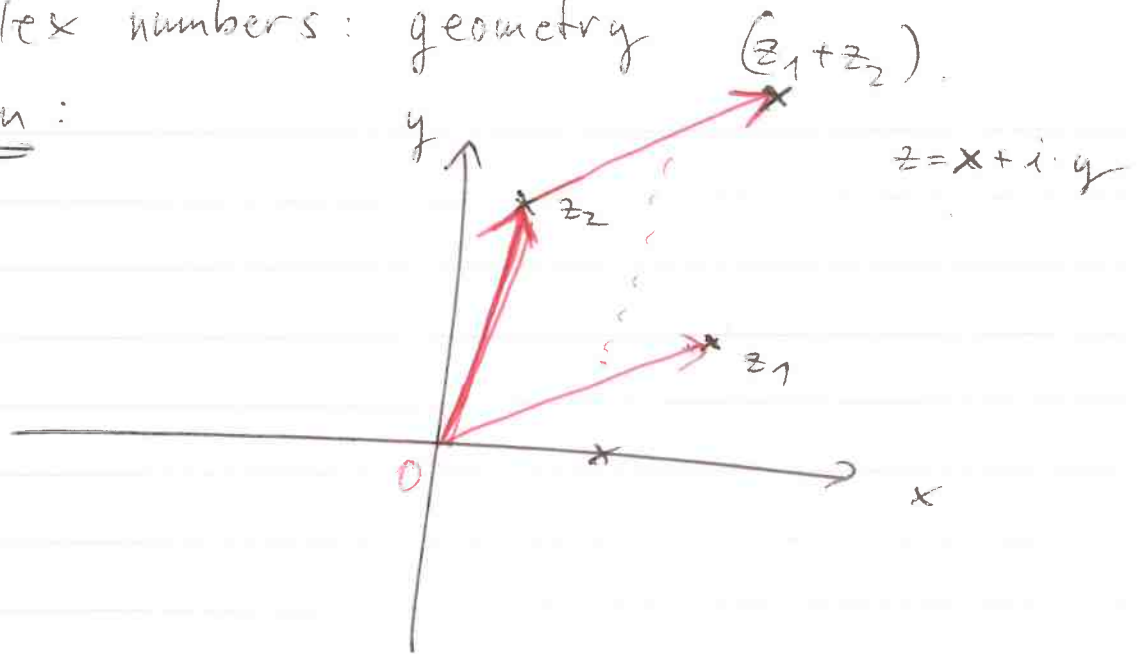
fundamental theorem of algebra of degree ≥ 1 has a root $\xi \in \mathbb{C}$.
 (i.e. $P(\xi) = 0$).
 example: $P(z) = (z^2 + 1)$.
 $\xi = i$.

More interesting for us: $(+, \cdot) \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R} + i \cdot \mathbb{R} \cong \mathbb{R}^2 + \text{multiplication?}$

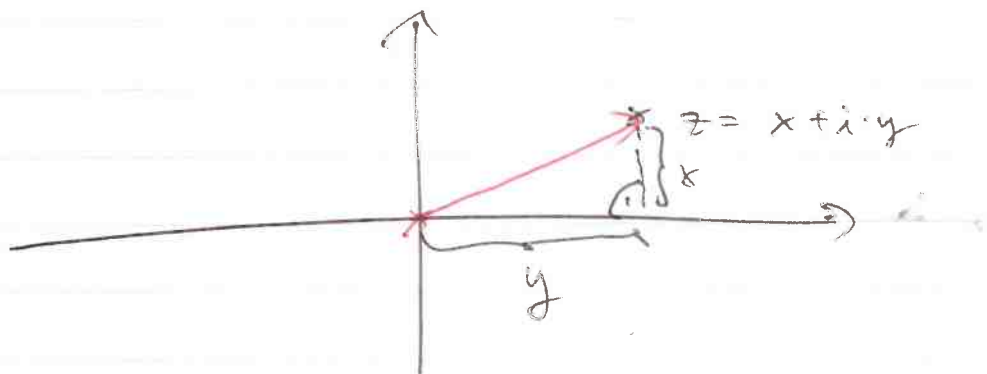
$$z = x + iy$$



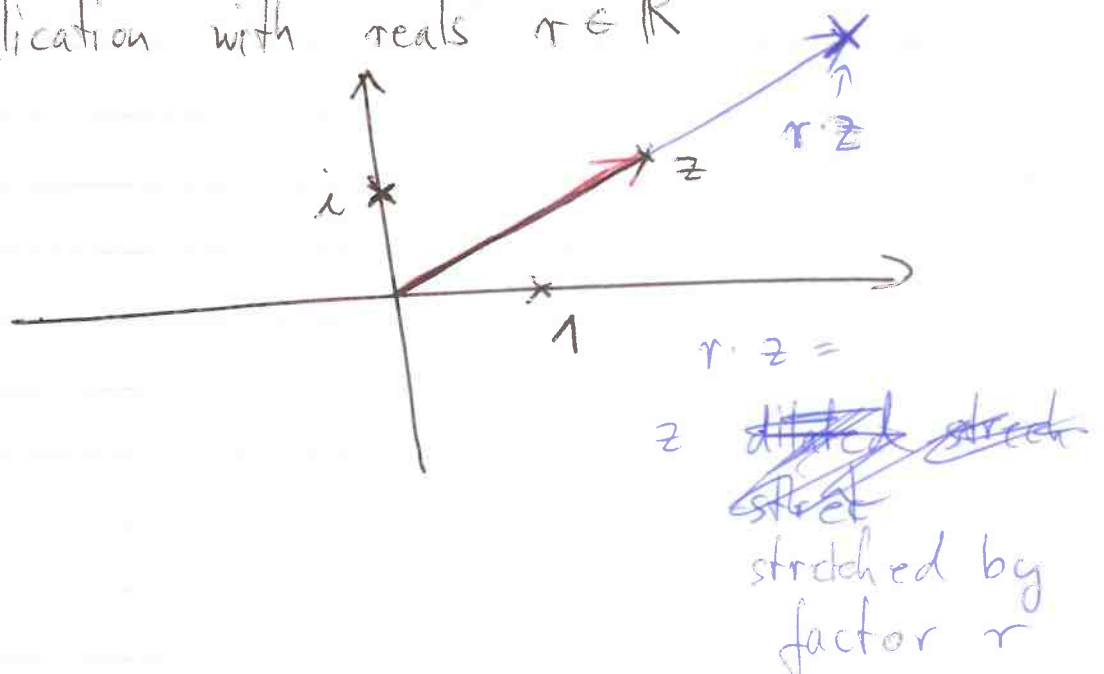
② complex numbers: geometry ($z_1 + z_2$)
addition:



absolute value: $|x + i \cdot y| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$



multiplication with reals $r \in \mathbb{R}$



~~that~~ "polar coordinates"

$$0 \neq z = |z| \cdot \left(\frac{z}{|z|} \right) =: u \quad |u| = 1$$

\uparrow
 \mathbb{R}

Since multiplication is commutative,

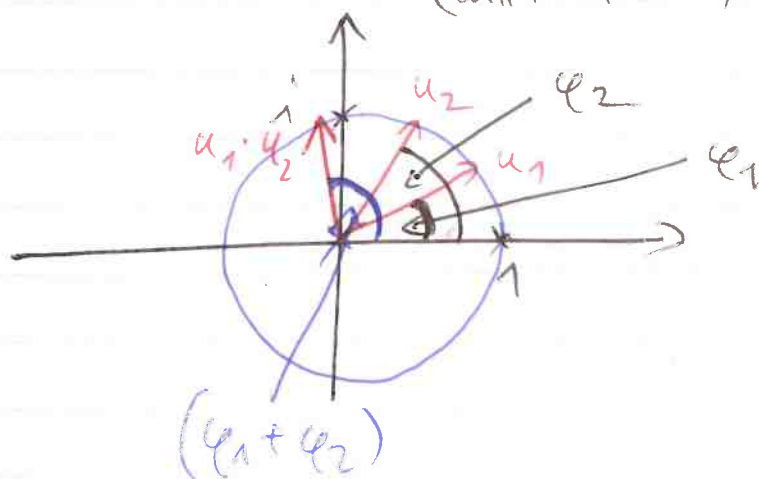
$$z_1 \cdot z_2 = (|z_1| \cdot |z_2|) \cdot \left(\frac{z_1}{|z_1|} \cdot \frac{z_2}{|z_2|} \right)$$

$=: u_1 \quad =: u_2$

we only have to understand

$$u_1 \cdot u_2, \quad u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |u_1| = |u_2| = 1.$$

Set $S^1 := \{ u \in \mathbb{C} \mid |u| = 1 \}$.
(unit circle)



Proof: ~~an~~ Every $u \in S^1$ can ^{be} written

$$u = \cos(\varphi) + i \cdot \sin(\varphi).$$

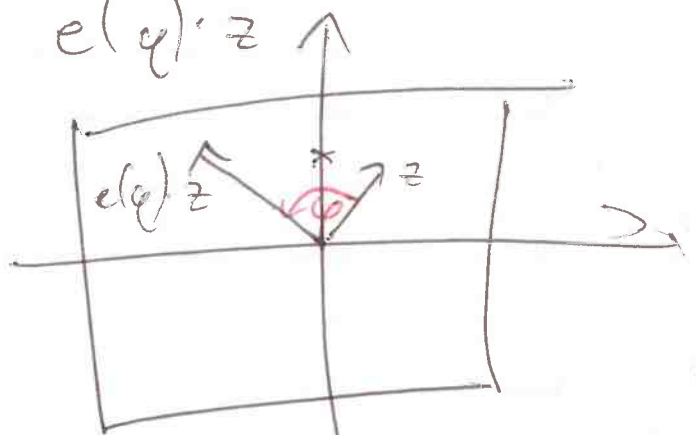
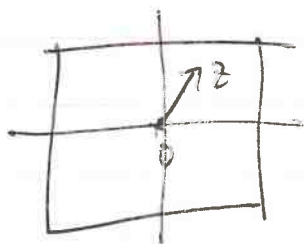
$$\begin{aligned}
u_1 \cdot u_2 &= (\cos(\varphi_1) + i \cdot \sin(\varphi_1)) \\
&\quad \cdot (\cos(\varphi_2) + i \cdot \sin(\varphi_2)) \\
&= (\cos(\varphi_1) \cdot \cos(\varphi_2) - \sin(\varphi_1) \cdot \sin(\varphi_2)) \\
&\quad + i \cdot (\sin(\varphi_1) \cdot \cos(\varphi_2) + \cos(\varphi_1) \cdot \sin(\varphi_2)) \\
&= (\cos(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2) + i \cdot \sin(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2))
\end{aligned}$$

Def. For angle φ define

$$e(\varphi) := \cos(\varphi) + i \cdot \sin(\varphi) \in \mathbb{C}$$

Multiplication by $e(\varphi)$ is rotation by φ .

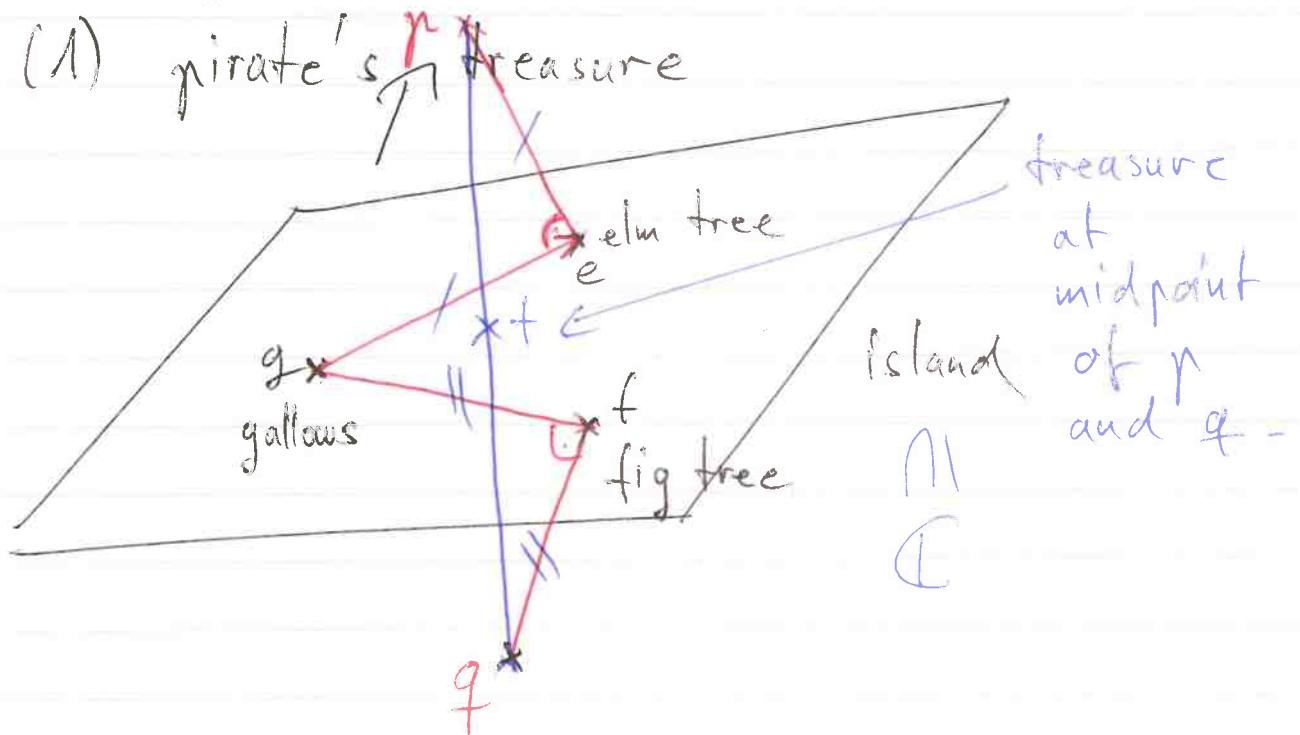
$$z \in \mathbb{C} \mapsto e(\varphi) \cdot z$$



$$\varphi = 90^\circ \Rightarrow e(90^\circ) = i$$

3. Simple problems.

(1) pirate's treasure



Suppose you know only where elm and fig tree are, but not the galleys.

Can you find x ?

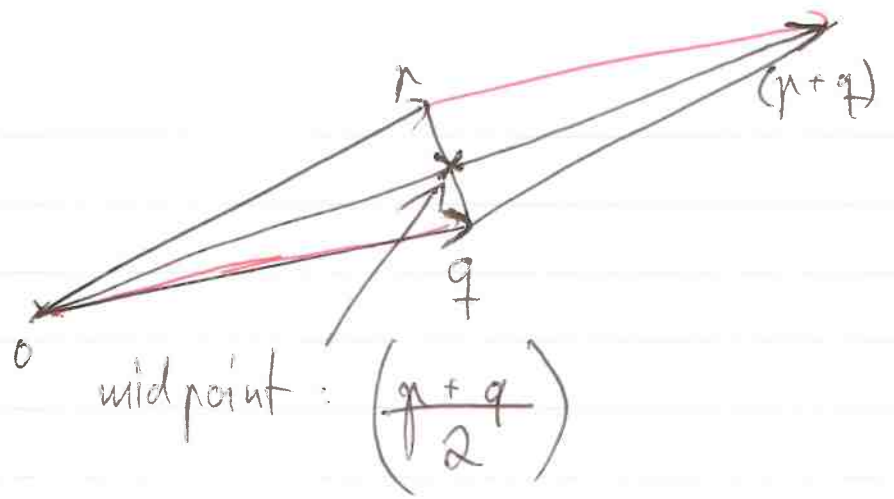
$$p = e + i(e-g)$$

$$q = f + e(i)(f-g)$$

$$= f + i \cdot (f-g)$$

$i(g-e)$
 $(g-e)$
 e
 $\frac{|(e-g)|}{2} + g$
 $= e$
 i

 $(-i)$



$$f = \frac{p+q}{2} = \frac{e+f + i(e-g) - i(f-g)}{2}$$

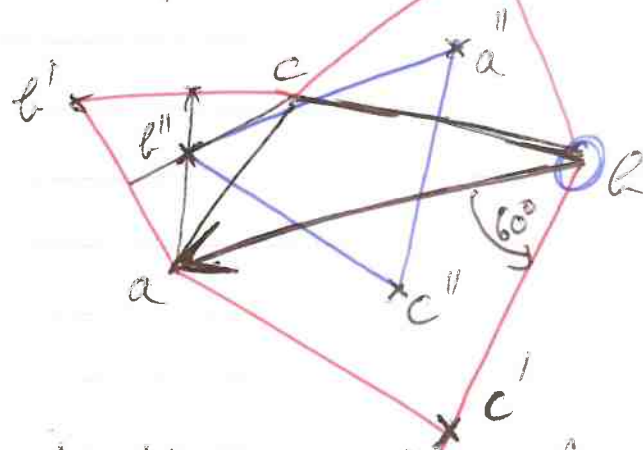
$$= \left(\frac{e+f}{2}\right) + i \cdot \left(\frac{e-f}{2}\right)$$

(2) napoleonic triangle

Problem : given ΔABC ,

erect equilateral triangles outwards

on each of the sides a'



Prove that their centers form an equilateral triangle.

Aside: Hamilton quaternions \rightarrow —

not commutative

$$h = (\cancel{x} + i \cdot y + j \cdot v + k \cdot w)$$

Ebbinghaus et. al.
The Numbers

$$x, y, v, w \in \mathbb{R}$$

Set $\epsilon := e(60^\circ)$.

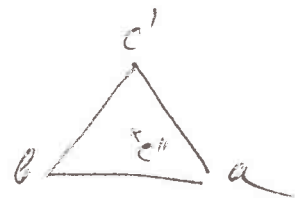
$$c' = b + \epsilon \cdot (a - b)$$

$$a' = c' + \epsilon \cdot (b - c')$$

$$b' = a + \epsilon \cdot (c' - a)$$

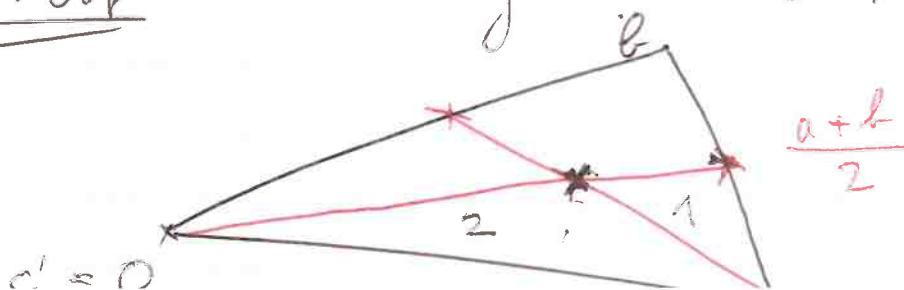
cyclic permutation: $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow a$

centers: a'', b'', c''



Claim: $c'' = \frac{a + b + c'}{3}$

Proof: w.l.o.g.: $c' = 0$.



Fact: The medians in a triangle intersect in a 2:1-ratio.

$$\text{center} = \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{a+b}{3}$$

□ claim

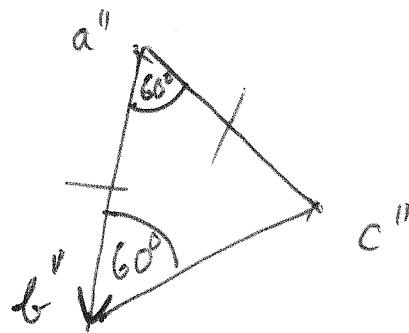
$$3 \cdot c'' = a + b + c'$$

$$= a + b + b + \varepsilon \cdot (a - b)$$

$$= (a + 2b) + \varepsilon \cdot (a - b)$$

$$3 \cdot a'' = (b + 2c) + \varepsilon \cdot (b - c)$$

$$3 \cdot b'' = (c + 2a) + \varepsilon \cdot (c - a)$$



Want to prove: ~~3~~ $\varepsilon \cdot (b'' - a'') = (c'' - a'')$

$$3\varepsilon \cdot (b'' - a'') = (\cancel{3}\varepsilon) \cdot ((c + 2a - b - 2c) + \varepsilon \cdot (c - a - b + c))$$

$$= \varepsilon \cdot (2a - b - c)$$

$$+ \varepsilon^2 (2c - a - b)$$

$$\Gamma \quad \varepsilon^2 = ? \quad \varepsilon = e(60^\circ)$$

$$\varepsilon^3 = e(180^\circ) = (-1)$$

$$(\varepsilon^3 + 1) = 0$$

$$(\varepsilon + 1) \cdot (\varepsilon^2 - \varepsilon + 1) = 0$$

$$\varepsilon^2 - \varepsilon + 1 = 0$$

$$\varepsilon^2 = (\varepsilon - 1) \quad \perp$$

$$= \varepsilon \cdot (2a - b - c)$$

$$+ (\varepsilon - 1) \cdot (2c - a - b)$$

$$= (a + b - 2c) + \varepsilon \cdot (a - 2b + c) \quad (= \varepsilon \cdot (b'' - a''))$$

$$\text{check:} \quad = (c'' - a'') \quad \square \text{ proof}$$