

Lecture 5 Complex numbers.

Def: Extended reals $\overline{\mathbb{R}} := \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, +\infty\}$

Define order: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, -\infty < x < +\infty$

arithmetic: $x + (+\infty) = +\infty$ $\frac{x}{+\infty} = \frac{x}{-\infty} = 0$
 $x + (-\infty) = -\infty$

If $x > 0$, $x \cdot (+\infty) = +\infty$, $x \cdot (-\infty) = -\infty$
 $x < 0$, $x \cdot (+\infty) = -\infty$, $x \cdot (-\infty) = +\infty$

This is not a field, but just a set with some structure.

Why care? convenient!

Every set has a supremum

Easy to distinguish between finite & infinite.

e Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^k := \{(x_1, \dots, x_k) : x_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Define $\underbrace{(x_1, \dots, x_k)}_{\vec{x}} + \underbrace{(y_1, \dots, y_k)}_{\vec{y}} = (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_k + y_k)$.

Multiplication doesn't really work (we can't turn it into a field!)

(What would the inverse be of $(1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)$?)

(2)

Scalar multiplication: $c(x_1, \dots, x_k) = (cx_1, \dots, cx_k)$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

↑ assoc., dist., comm., etc.

\mathbb{R}^k is a vector space.

Also, it has an inner product (dot product): $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \sum_{i=1}^k x_i y_i$.

with a norm (length): $|\vec{x}| = (\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x})^{1/2}$

This is an extension of \mathbb{R} , but we don't get a field.

There's another way to extend \mathbb{R} to get a field structure, but it only works for \mathbb{R}^2 .

• Complex number field:

\mathbb{R}^2 can be given a field structure.

$$(a, b) + (c, d) = (a+c, b+d)$$

$$(a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac-bd, ad+bc).$$

Here, "zero" is $(0, 0)$, and "the 1" is $(1, 0)$. (check)

Call this field \mathbb{C} . (The set \mathbb{R}^2 with $+$, \cdot defined as above).

• \mathbb{C} extends \mathbb{R} : $\{(a, 0) : a \in \mathbb{R}\}$ "behaves like \mathbb{R} " (a subfield isomorphic to \mathbb{R}).

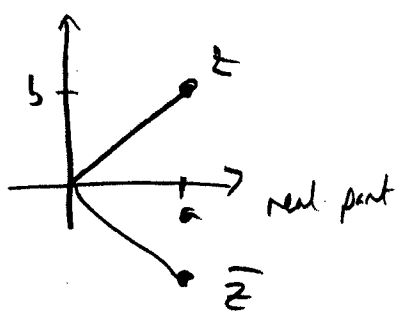
Note: $(0, 1) \cdot (0, 1) = (-1, 0)$

Call this i

see: $i^2 = -1$, a real number.

So, we write $a+bi$ for (a,b) .

↑
imag. part
↓
Reals



If $z=a+bi$, [$a=Re(z)$, $b=Im(z)$]

Let $\bar{z}=a-bi$, the conjugate of z .

Check: $\overline{z+w} = \bar{z} + \bar{w}$.

$$\overline{z \cdot w} = \bar{z} \cdot \bar{w}$$

$$z + \bar{z} = 2 Re(z), \text{ and } z - \bar{z} = 2i Im(z)$$

$$z \cdot \bar{z} = a^2 + b^2 \text{ real } \geq 0$$

Define $|z| = (z \cdot \bar{z})^{1/2}$, same as length in \mathbb{R}^2

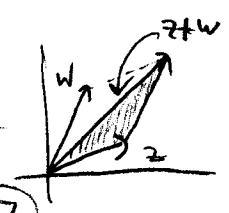
Suggests: In $\mathbb{C}^k = \{(z_1, \dots, z_k) : z_i \in \mathbb{C}\}$, the inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is defined as $\langle \bar{x}, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \bar{y}_i$

Properties: $|z| \geq 0$, $|\bar{z}| = |z|$, $|zw| = |z||w|$, $Re(z) \leq |z|$.

based on $(ac-bd)^2 + (ad+bc)^2 = (a^2+b^2)(c^2+d^2)$

Also, $|z+w| \leq |z| + |w|$ "triangle inequality"

Why? $|z+w|^2 = (z+w)(\bar{z}+\bar{w}) = \underbrace{z\bar{z}}_{|z|^2} + z\bar{w} + w\bar{z} + \underbrace{w\bar{w}}_{|w|^2}$
 $= |z|^2 + 2 Re(z\bar{w}) + |w|^2$
 $\leq |z|^2 + 2|z||w| + |w|^2 = (|z| + |w|)^2$ ✓



This yields the desired inequality

4) (Rudin 1.35)

Cauchy-Schwarz inequality: If $a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_n$ are complex numbers,

$$\text{then } \left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \bar{b}_i \right|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|^2 \sum_{i=1}^n |b_i|^2$$

$$\text{In } \mathbb{R}^k: |\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}| \leq |\vec{v}| |\vec{w}|, \text{ or } |\langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle|^2 \leq \langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle \langle \vec{w}, \vec{w} \rangle$$

In physics, this forms the basis of the Heisenberg uncertainty principle.

Proof: Let $\vec{a}, \vec{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$. We need to show $|\langle \vec{a}, \vec{b} \rangle|^2 \leq \langle \vec{a}, \vec{a} \rangle \langle \vec{b}, \vec{b} \rangle$

Note that $0 \leq |\vec{a} - y\vec{b}|^2$ regardless of y !

(drop $\vec{}$ symbol) $= \langle \vec{a} - y\vec{b}, \vec{a} - y\vec{b} \rangle = \sum (a_i - y b_i)(\bar{a}_i + y \bar{b}_i)$.

$$= \langle \vec{a}, \vec{a} \rangle - y \langle \vec{a}, \vec{b} \rangle - y \langle \vec{b}, \vec{a} \rangle + |y|^2 \langle \vec{b}, \vec{b} \rangle$$


Choose $y = \frac{\langle \vec{a}, \vec{b} \rangle}{\langle \vec{b}, \vec{b} \rangle}$ $= \langle \vec{a}, \vec{a} \rangle - \frac{\langle \vec{a}, \vec{b} \rangle \langle \vec{b}, \vec{a} \rangle}{\langle \vec{b}, \vec{b} \rangle}$

Note that $\bar{y} = \frac{\langle \vec{b}, \vec{a} \rangle}{\langle \vec{b}, \vec{b} \rangle}$ $0 = \langle \vec{a}, \vec{a} \rangle - \frac{|\langle \vec{a}, \vec{b} \rangle|^2}{\langle \vec{b}, \vec{b} \rangle}$

Multiplying through by $\langle \vec{b}, \vec{b} \rangle$ yields the desired result. \square

Remarks: Though we can't make \mathbb{R}^k into a field for $k > 2$,

we can "come close" in 2 cases:

$n=4$ $H = \{a + bi + cj + dk : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\}$ "Hamiltonians" $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1, ij = jk = ki = -1$. Not commutative! 

$n=8$ \odot "Octonions." Complicated; not associative!