

Complex Plane Moves

Switch between rectangular and polar forms.

HIGH SCHOOL · MA.912.NSO.2.5

MA.912.NSO.2.5 "Represent complex numbers on the complex plane in rectangular and polar forms."

NAME _____

DATE _____

TWO VIEWS OF Z

For $z = a + bi$, the distance from the origin is $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$. Write polar form as $r(\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta))$, choosing θ from the signs of a and b . To return to rectangular form, use $a = r \cos(\theta)$ and $b = r \sin(\theta)$.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Write $z = 7 + 24i$ in polar form.

- $a = 7$ and $b = 24$.
- $r = \sqrt{7^2 + 24^2} = \sqrt{625} = 25$.
- The point is in Quadrant I, so $\theta = \tan^{-1}(24/7)$.
- Write $z = 25(\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta))$.

Answer: $25(\cos(\tan^{-1}(24/7)) + i \sin(\tan^{-1}(24/7)))$

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Write $z = -\sqrt{3} + i$ in polar form. Use $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$.

ANSWER _____

- 2** Write $z = -3 - 3i$ in polar form.

ANSWER _____

- 3** Write $4(\cos(\pi/6) + i \sin(\pi/6))$ in rectangular form.

ANSWER _____

- 4** Write $6(\cos(\pi/3) + i \sin(\pi/3))$ in rectangular form.

ANSWER _____

- 5** A point on the complex plane has coordinates $(0, -7)$. Write its complex number in rectangular form and polar form.

ANSWER _____

- 6** Write $z = 3\sqrt{3} - 3i$ in polar form.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** In a robotics scrimmage, a team records its robot's displacement from the start as $z = -6 + 6\sqrt{3}i$, where the real axis measures east-west movement and the imaginary axis measures north-south movement. Write the displacement in polar form.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** A student animating a game uses the polar movement vector $8(\cos(7\pi/6) + i \sin(7\pi/6))$. Write the movement vector in rectangular form.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

Write all polar forms of $z = -2\sqrt{3} + 2i$ using a positive radius. Let k represent any integer.

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Write $z = -\sqrt{3} + i$ in polar form. Use $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$.	$2(\cos(5\pi/6) + i \sin(5\pi/6))$
2	Write $z = -3 - 3i$ in polar form.	$3\sqrt{2}(\cos(5\pi/4) + i \sin(5\pi/4))$
3	Write $4(\cos(\pi/6) + i \sin(\pi/6))$ in rectangular form.	$2\sqrt{3} + 2i$
4	Write $6(\cos(\pi/3) + i \sin(\pi/3))$ in rectangular form.	$3 + 3\sqrt{3}i$
5	A point on the complex plane has coordinates (0, -7). Write its complex number in rectangular form and polar form.	Rectangular: $-7i$. Polar: $7(\cos(3\pi/2) + i \sin(3\pi/2))$.
6	Write $z = 3\sqrt{3} - 3i$ in polar form.	$6(\cos(11\pi/6) + i \sin(11\pi/6))$

PART 2 • APPLY IT

- $12(\cos(2\pi/3) + i \sin(2\pi/3))$** Find $r = \sqrt{(-6)^2 + (6\sqrt{3})^2} = 12$. The point is in Quadrant II with reference angle $\pi/3$, so $\theta = 2\pi/3$.
- $-4\sqrt{3} - 4i$** Use $a = 8 \cos(7\pi/6)$ and $b = 8 \sin(7\pi/6)$. The cosine is $-\sqrt{3}/2$ and the sine is $-1/2$.

CHALLENGE

$4(\cos(5\pi/6 + 2\pi k) + i \sin(5\pi/6 + 2\pi k))$, where k is any integer. The radius is 4, and the Quadrant II reference angle is $\pi/6$.

Accept equivalent polar angles that differ by $2\pi k$ when the radius is positive. Accept equivalent exact rectangular forms, including terms written in a different order.