



**Grade 7/8 Math Circles**  
Winter 2019 – February 12/13/14  
*Complex Numbers*

**Solutions**

“Try it yourself” problems:

1.  $(2i)^2 = -4$

2.  $(-2i)^2 = -4$

3.  $x = 5i$  or  $-5i$

4.  $(1 + i) + (2i) = 1 + 3i$

5.  $(10 + 7i) - (6 + 3i) = 4 + 4i$

6.  $(1 + i) \times (2i) = 2(i)^2 + 2i = -2 + 2i$

7. 
$$\begin{aligned} (10 + 7i) \times (6 + 3i) &= (10 \times 6) + (7i \times 3i) + (6 \times 7i) + (10 \times 3i) \\ &= 60 + 21(i)^2 + 42i + 30i \\ &= 60 - 21 + 42i + 30i \\ &= 39 + 72i \end{aligned}$$

8. 
$$\begin{aligned} (4 + 3i) \times (4 - 3i) &= (4 \times 4) + (3i \times (-3i)) + (4 \times (-3i)) + (4 \times 3i) \\ &= 16 - 9(i)^2 - 12i + 12i \\ &= 16 + 9 = 25 \end{aligned}$$

9. 
$$\begin{aligned} (a + bi) \times (a - bi) &= (a \times a) + (bi \times (-bi)) + (a \times (-bi)) + (a \times bi) \\ &= a^2 - b^2(i)^2 - abi + abi \\ &= a^2 + b^2 \end{aligned}$$

10.  $\overline{(1 + i)} = 1 - i$

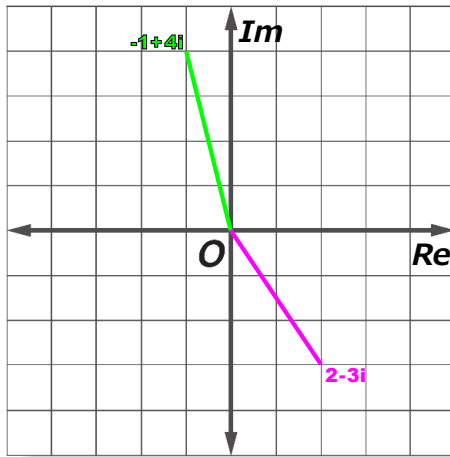
$$\begin{aligned}
11. \quad \overline{(10 + 7i) \times (6 + 3i)} &= \overline{(10 \times 6) + (7i \times 3i) + (10 \times 3i) + (6 \times 7i)} \\
&= \overline{60 + 21(i)^2 + 30i + 42i} \\
&= \overline{60 - 21 + 30i + 42i} \\
&= \overline{39 + 72i} = 39 - 72i
\end{aligned}$$

$$12. \quad \overline{1} + \overline{i} = 1 - i$$

$$\begin{aligned}
13. \quad \overline{(10 + 7i) \times (6 + 3i)} &= (10 - 7i) \times (6 - 3i) \\
&= (10 \times 6) + ((-7i) \times (-3i)) + (10 \times (-3i)) + (6 \times (-7i)) \\
&= 60 + 21(i)^2 - 30i - 42i \\
&= 60 - 21 - 30i - 42i \\
&= 39 - 72i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
14. \quad \frac{2+i}{i} &= \frac{2+i}{i} \times \frac{\overline{i}}{\overline{i}} \\
&= \frac{2+i}{i} \times \frac{-i}{-i} \\
&= \frac{(2 \times (-i)) + (i \times (-i))}{(i \times (-i))} \\
&= \frac{-2i + (-(i^2))}{-(i^2)} \\
&= \frac{1 - 2i}{1} \\
&= 1 - 2i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
15. \quad \frac{-7+3i}{4+5i} &= \frac{-7+3i}{4+5i} \times \frac{\overline{4+5i}}{\overline{4+5i}} \\
&= \frac{(-7+3i) \times (4-5i)}{(4+5i) \times (4-5i)} \\
&= \frac{((-7) \times 4) + (3i \times (-5i)) + (3i \times 4) + ((-7) \times (-5i))}{(4 \times 4) + (5i \times (-5i)) + (4 \times 5i) + (4 \times (-5i))} \\
&= \frac{-28 - 15(i)^2 + 12i + 35i}{16 - 25(i^2) + 20i - 20i} \\
&= \frac{-28 + 15 + 47i}{16 + 25} \\
&= -\frac{13}{41} - \frac{47}{41}i
\end{aligned}$$



- The modulus of a complex number represents the length of the line segment from the origin to the point that number represents.

$$\begin{aligned}
 16. \quad |-1 + 4i| &= \sqrt{(-1 + 4i) \times \overline{(-1 + 4i)}} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-1 + 4i) \times (-1 - 4i)} \\
 &= \sqrt{((-1) \times (-1)) + (4i \times (-4i)) + ((-1) \times (-4i)) + ((-1) \times 4i)} \\
 &= \sqrt{1 - 16(i)^2 + 4i - 4i} \\
 &= \sqrt{1 + 16} = \sqrt{17} \approx 4.12
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 17. \quad |2 - 3i| &= \sqrt{(2 - 3i) \times \overline{(2 - 3i)}} \\
 &= \sqrt{(2 - 3i) \times (2 + 3i)} \\
 &= \sqrt{(2 \times 2) + ((-3i) \times 3i) + (2 \times 3i) + (2 \times (-3i))} \\
 &= \sqrt{4 - 9(i)^2 + 6i - 6i} \\
 &= \sqrt{4 + 9} = \sqrt{13} \approx 3.61
 \end{aligned}$$

### End of lesson problems:

1. (a)  $1 + i - 3i = 1 - 2i$
- (b)  $(5 - 2i) + (2 + i) = 5 + 2 - 2i + i = 7 - i$
- (c)  $-2(7 - 8i) + 3(3 + 2i) = -14 + 16i + 9 + 6i = -5 + 22i$
- (d)  $(2 - i) + 3(2 + i) - 2(1 + 3i) = 2 - i + 6 + 3i - 2 - 6i = 6 - 4i$
- (e)  $(6 - 8i) + 2\overline{(2 + 5i)} = (6 - 8i) + 2(2 - 5i) = 6 - 8i + 4 - 10i = 10 - 18i$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(f)} \quad 4(3 + 2i) - 5\overline{(1 - i)} + 6\overline{(-3 + i)} &= 12 + 8i - 5(1 + i) + 6(-3 - i) \\
&= 12 + 8i - 5 - 5i - 18 - 6i \\
&= -11 - 3i
\end{aligned}$$

$$2. \text{ (a) } (3 + i) \times 2i = (3 \times 2i) + (i \times 2i) = 6i + 2(i)^2 = -2 + 6i$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(b)} \quad (-5 + 3i) \times (1 + 2i) &= ((-5) \times 1) + (3i \times 2i) + ((-5) \times 2i) + (1 \times 3i) \\
&= -5 + 6(i)^2 - 10i + 3i \\
&= -5 - 6 - 10i + 3i = -11 - 7i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(c)} \quad 4(2 - 3i) \times 2(1 - 4i) &= (8 - 12i) \times (2 - 8i) \\
&= (8 \times 2) + ((-12i) \times (-8i)) + (8 \times (-8i)) + (2 \times (-12i)) \\
&= 16 + 96(i)^2 - 64i - 24i \\
&= 16 - 96 - 64i - 24i \\
&= -80 - 88i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(d)} \quad (-1 + 2i) \times 2(5 + 2i) \times 3(1 + 6i) &= (-1 + 2i) \times (10 + 4i) \times (3 + 18i) \\
&= ((-10) + (2i \times 4i) + (-4i) + (10 \times 2i)) \times (3 + 18i) \\
&= (-10 + 8(i)^2 - 4i + 20i) \times (3 + 18i) \\
&= (-18 + 16i) \times (3 + 18i) \\
&= ((-18) \times 3) + (16i \times 18i) + ((-18) \times 18i) + (16i \times 3) \\
&= -54 + 288(i)^2 - 324i + 48i \\
&= -342 - 276i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(e)} \quad (-3 - 4i) \times 4\overline{(-3 + i)} &= (-3 - 4i) \times 4(-3 - i) \\
&= (-3 - 4i) \times (-12 - 4i) \\
&= ((-3) \times (-12)) + ((-4i) \times (-4i)) + ((-3) \times (-4i)) + ((-12) \times (-4i)) \\
&= 36 + 16(i)^2 + 12i + 48i \\
&= 36 - 16 + 12i + 48i = 20 + 60i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(f)} \quad 2(4+i) \times -3\overline{(9-i)} \times \overline{(-1-i)} &= (8+2i) \times -3(9+i) \times (-1+i) \\
&= (8+2i) \times (-27-3i) \times (-1+i) \\
&= ((8 \times (-27)) + (2i \times (-3i)) + (8 \times (-3i)) + ((-27) \times 2i)) \times (-1+i) \\
&= (-216 - 6(i)^2 - 24i - 54i) \times (-1+i) \\
&= (-210 - 78i) \times (-1+i) \\
&= ((-210) \times (-1)) + ((-78i) \times i) + ((-210) \times i) + ((-1) \times (-78i)) \\
&= 210 - 78(i)^2 - 210i + 78i \\
&= 288 - 132i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{3. (a)} \quad (2+3i) \div i &= \frac{2+3i}{i} \times \frac{\bar{i}}{\bar{i}} = \frac{(2+3i) \times (-i)}{i \times (-i)} \\
&= \frac{-3(i)^2 - 2i}{-(i)^2} = \frac{3-2i}{1} \\
&= 3-2i
\end{aligned}$$

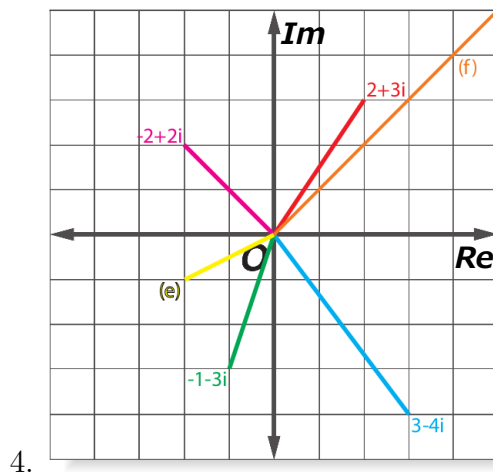
$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(b)} \quad (3-4i) \div (1+9i) &= \frac{3-4i}{1+9i} \times \frac{\overline{1+9i}}{\overline{1+9i}} = \frac{3-4i}{1+9i} \times \frac{1-9i}{1-9i} \\
&= \frac{(3 \times 1) + ((-4i) \times (-9i)) + (3 \times (-9i)) + (1 \times (-4i))}{(1 \times 1) + (9i \times (-9i)) + (1 \times 9i) + (1 \times (-9i))} \\
&= \frac{3 + 36(i)^2 - 27i - 4i}{1 - 81(i)^2 + 9i - 9i} \\
&= \frac{3 - 36 - 31i}{82} = -\frac{33}{82} - \frac{31}{82}i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(c)} \quad -(1-7i) \div 3(4+2i) &= \frac{-(1-7i)}{12+6i} = \frac{-(1-7i)}{12+6i} \times \frac{\overline{(12+6i)}}{\overline{(12+6i)}} \\
&= \frac{(-1+7i) \times (12-6i)}{(12+6i) \times (12-6i)} \\
&= \frac{((-1) \times 12) + (7i \times (-6i)) + ((-1) \times (-6i)) + (12 \times 7i)}{(12 \times 12) + (6i \times (-6i)) + (12 \times 6i) + (12 \times (-6i))} \\
&= \frac{-12 - 42(i)^2 + 6i + 84i}{144 - 36(i)^2 + 72i - 72i} \\
&= \frac{30 + 90i}{144 + 36} = \frac{30}{180} + \frac{90}{180}i = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{2}i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(d)} \quad ((2 - 2i) \div (5 + 5i)) \div 6(2 - 3i) &= \left( \frac{2 - 2i}{5 + 5i} \times \frac{\overline{5 + 5i}}{\overline{5 + 5i}} \right) \div (12 - 18i) \\
&= \left( \frac{2 - 2i}{5 + 5i} \times \frac{5 - 5i}{5 - 5i} \right) \div (12 - 18i) \\
&= \frac{(2 \times 5) + ((-2i) \times (-5i)) + (2 \times (-5i)) + (5 \times (-2i))}{(5 \times 5) + (5i \times (-5i)) + (5 \times 5i) + (5 \times (-5i))} \div (12 - 18i) \\
&= \frac{10 + 10(i)^2 - 10i - 10i}{25 - 25(i)^2} \div (12 - 18i) \\
&= -\frac{20i}{50} \div (12 - 18i) = \frac{2i}{5(12 - 18i)} \\
&= \frac{2i}{60 - 90i} \times \frac{\overline{60 - 90i}}{\overline{60 - 90i}} \\
&= \frac{2i \times (60 + 90i)}{(60 - 90i) \times (60 + 90i)} \\
&= \frac{120i + 180(i)^2}{(60 \times 60) + (90i \times (-90i)) + (60 \times 90i) + (60 \times (-90i))} \\
&= \frac{-180 + 120i}{3600 + 8100} = \frac{-180 + 120i}{11700} \\
&= -\frac{1}{65} + \frac{2}{195}i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(e)} \quad (1 - 2i) \div 2(4 + 3i) &= \frac{1 - 2i}{2(4 + 3i)} = \frac{1 - 2i}{8 + 6i} = \frac{1 - 2i}{8 + 6i} \times \frac{\overline{8 + 6i}}{\overline{8 + 6i}} \\
&= \frac{1 - 2i}{8 + 6i} \times \frac{8 - 6i}{8 - 6i} \\
&= \frac{(1 \times 8) + ((-2i) \times 6i) + (1 \times 6i) + ((-2i) \times 8)}{(8 \times 8) + ((-6i) \times 6i) + (8 \times 6i) + (8 \times (-6i))} \\
&= \frac{8 - 12(i)^2 + 6i - 16i}{64 - 36(i)^2 + 48i - 48i} \\
&= \frac{20 - 10i}{100} = \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{10}i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(f)} \quad (5(1+3i) \div 2\overline{(2-3i)}) \div -6\overline{(1-4i)} &= \frac{5+15i}{4-6i} \div \overline{(-6+24i)} \\
&= \left( \frac{5+15i}{4+6i} \times \frac{\overline{4+6i}}{\overline{4+6i}} \right) \div (-6-24i) \\
&= \frac{(5+15i) \times (4-6i)}{(4+6i) \times (4-6i)} \div (-6-24i) \\
&= \frac{(5 \times 4) + (15i \times (-6i)) + (5 \times (-6i)) + (4 \times 15i)}{(4 \times 4) + (6i \times (-6i)) + (4 \times 6i) + (4 \times (-6i))} \div (-6-24i) \\
&= \frac{20 - 90(i)^2 - 30i + 60i}{16 - 36(i)^2 + 24i - 24i} \div (-6-24i) \\
&= \frac{110 + 30i}{52} \div (-6-24i) = \frac{110 + 30i}{52(-6-24i)} \\
&= \frac{110 + 30i}{-312 - 1248i} \times \frac{\overline{-312 - 1248i}}{\overline{-312 - 1248i}} \\
&= \frac{(110 + 30i) \times (-312 + 1248i)}{(-312 - 1248i) \times (-312 + 1248i)} \\
&= \frac{(110 \times (-312)) + (30i \times 1248i) + (110 \times 1248i) + ((-312) \times 30i)}{((-312) \times (-312)) + (1248i \times (-1248i)) + ((-312) \times (-1248i)) + ((-312) \times 1248i)} \\
&= \frac{-34320 + 37440(i)^2 + 137280i - 9360i}{97344 - 1557504(i)^2 + 389376i - 389376i} \\
&= \frac{-71760 + 127920i}{1654748} = -\frac{17940}{413687} + \frac{31980}{413687}i
\end{aligned}$$



5. (a)

$$\begin{aligned}
|2+3i| &= \sqrt{(2+3i) \times \overline{(2+3i)}} = \sqrt{(2+3i) \times (2-3i)} \\
&= \sqrt{(2 \times 2) + (3i \times (-3i)) + (2 \times 3i) + (2 \times (-3i))} \\
&= \sqrt{4 - 9(i)^2 + 6i - 6i} \\
&= \sqrt{4+9} = \sqrt{13} \approx 3.606
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(b)} \quad |3 - 4i| &= \sqrt{(3 - 4i) \times \overline{(3 - 4i)}} = \sqrt{(3 - 4i) \times (3 + 4i)} \\
&= \sqrt{(3 \times 3) + ((-4i) \times 4i) + (3 \times (-4i)) + (3 \times 4i)} \\
&= \sqrt{9 - 16(i)^2 + 12i - 12i} \\
&= \sqrt{9 + 16} = \sqrt{25} = 5
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(c)} \quad |-1 - 3i| &= \sqrt{(-1 - 3i) \times \overline{(-1 - 3i)}} = \sqrt{(-1 - 3i) \times (-1 + 3i)} \\
&= \sqrt{((-1) \times (-1)) + ((-3i) \times 3i) + ((-1) \times 3i) + ((-1) \times (-3i))} \\
&= \sqrt{1 - 9(i)^2 + 3i - 3i} \\
&= \sqrt{1 + 9} = \sqrt{10} \approx 3.162
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(d)} \quad |-2 + 2i| &= \sqrt{(-2 + 2i) \times \overline{(-2 + 2i)}} = \sqrt{(-2 + 2i) \times (-2 - 2i)} \\
&= \sqrt{((-2) \times (-2)) + (2i \times (-2i)) + ((-2) \times (-2i)) + ((-2) \times 2i)} \\
&= \sqrt{4 - 4(i)^2 + 4i - 4i} \\
&= \sqrt{4 + 4} = \sqrt{8} \approx 2.828
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(e)} \quad |2(1 - 2i) - (4 - 3i)| &= |(2 - 4i) + (-4 + 3i)| = |-2 - i| \\
&= \sqrt{(-2 - i) \times \overline{(-2 - i)}} = \sqrt{(-2 - i) \times (-2 + i)} \\
&= \sqrt{((-2) \times (-2)) + (i \times (-i)) + ((-2) \times i) + ((-2) \times (-i))} \\
&= \sqrt{4 - (i)^2 + 2i - 2i} \\
&= \sqrt{4 + 1} = \sqrt{5} \approx 2.236
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(f)} \quad |(1 + 3i) \times (2 - i)| &= |(1 \times 2) + (3i \times (-i)) + (1 \times (-i)) + (2 \times 3i)| \\
&= |2 - 3(i)^2 - i + 6i| = |5 + 5i| \\
&= \sqrt{(5 + 5i) \times \overline{(5 + 5i)}} = \sqrt{(5 + 5i) \times (5 - 5i)} \\
&= \sqrt{(5 \times 5) + (5i \times (-5i)) + (5 \times 5i) + (5 \times (-5i))} \\
&= \sqrt{25 - 25(i)^2 + 25i - 25i} \\
&= \sqrt{25 + 25} = \sqrt{50} \approx 7.071
\end{aligned}$$



6. “LHS” is short for left hand side and “RHS” is short for right hand side.

(a) **Proof:**

Let  $z = a + bi$  and  $w = c + di$  where  $a, b, c,$  and  $d$  are all real numbers. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} = \overline{z + w} &= \overline{(a + bi) + (c + di)} & \text{RHS} = \overline{z} + \overline{w} &= \overline{(a + bi)} + \overline{(c + di)} \\ &= \overline{(a + c) + (b + d)i} & &= (a - bi) + (c - di) \\ &= (a + c) - (b + d)i & &= (a + c) - (b + d)i \end{aligned}$$

Hence LHS = RHS so the statement is true.  $\square$

(b) **Proof:**

Again, let  $z = a + bi$  and  $w = c + di$  where  $a, b, c,$  and  $d$  are all real numbers. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} = \overline{z \times w} &= \overline{(a + bi) \times (c + di)} & \text{RHS} = \overline{z} \times \overline{w} &= \overline{(a + bi)} \times \overline{(c + di)} \\ &= \overline{(ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i} & &= (a - bi) \times (c - di) \\ &= (ac - bd) - (ad + bc)i & &= (ac - bd) - (ad + bc)i \end{aligned}$$

Hence LHS = RHS so the statement is true.  $\square$

(c) **Proof:**

Again, let  $z = a + bi$  and  $w = c + di$  where  $a, b, c,$  and  $d$  are all real numbers where  $c$  and  $d$  are nonzero. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} = \overline{z \div w} &= \overline{(a + bi) \div (c + di)} & \text{RHS} = \overline{z} \div \overline{w} &= \overline{(a + bi)} \div \overline{(c + di)} \\ &= \overline{\left( \frac{a + bi}{c + di} \times \frac{c - di}{c - di} \right)} & &= (a - bi) \div (c - di) \\ &= \overline{\frac{ac + bd}{c^2 + d^2} + \frac{bc - ad}{c^2 + d^2}i} & &= \frac{a - bi}{c - di} \times \frac{c + di}{c + di} \\ &= \frac{ac + bd}{c^2 + d^2} - \frac{bc - ad}{c^2 + d^2}i & &= \frac{ac + bd}{c^2 + d^2} + \frac{ad - bc}{c^2 + d^2}i \\ & & &= \frac{ac + bd}{c^2 + d^2} - \frac{bc - ad}{c^2 + d^2}i \end{aligned}$$

Hence LHS = RHS so the statement is true.  $\square$

7. (a) Here  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 0$ , and  $c = -1$ . Using the quadratic formula,  $x = \frac{-(0) \pm \sqrt{(0)^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)} = +1$  or  $-1$ .
- (b) Here  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 2$ , and  $c = 1$ . Using the quadratic formula,  $x = \frac{-(2) \pm \sqrt{(2)^2 - 4(1)(1)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4-4}}{2} = -1$ .
- (c) Here  $a = 2$ ,  $b = -6$ , and  $c = -8$ . Using the quadratic formula,  $x = \frac{-(-6) \pm \sqrt{(-6)^2 - 4(2)(-8)}}{2(2)} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36+64}}{4} = \frac{6 \pm 10}{4} = 4$  or  $-1$ .
- (d) Here  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 0$ , and  $c = 1$ . Using the quadratic formula,  $x = \frac{-(0) \pm \sqrt{(0)^2 - 4(1)(1)}}{2(1)} = \frac{\pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = +i$  or  $-i$ .
- (e) Here  $a = 1$ ,  $b = -1$ , and  $c = 4$ . Using the quadratic formula,  $x = \frac{-(-1) \pm \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(4)}}{2(1)} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-16}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{15}}{2}i$  or  $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{15}}{2}i$ .
- (f) Here  $a = 3$ ,  $b = 2$ , and  $c = -8$ . Using the quadratic formula,  $x = \frac{-(2) \pm \sqrt{(2)^2 - 4(3)(-8)}}{2(3)} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4+96}}{6} = -\frac{1}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{92}}{6}i$  or  $-\frac{1}{3} - \frac{\sqrt{92}}{6}i$ .