

## 1 1.3\* Complex Numbers

If we solve the equation  $x^2 = -1$ , then we will get that  $x = \pm\sqrt{-1}$ . Since  $\sqrt{-1}$  is not a real number, we will define  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  and we will call it an **imaginary number** where  $i^2 = -1$ .

**Definition of  $\sqrt{-a}$**

For any positive real number  $a$ ,  $\sqrt{-a} = i\sqrt{a}$ .

**Example 1** Write  $\sqrt{-4}$  in terms of  $i$ , where  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ .

**Definition of a Complex Number**

If  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $i$  is the imaginary unit, then  $a + bi$  is called a **complex number**. The real number  $a$  is called the **real part** and the real number  $b$  is called the **imaginary part** of the complex number.

The real numbers are a subset of the complex number. (note that  $a + bi = a$  with  $b = 0$ )

$0 + bi = bi$  is an imaginary number.

The **standard form** of a complex number is  $a + bi$ .

**Example 2** Write the following in its standard form 1)  $3 + \sqrt{-4}$  2)  $\sqrt{-37} - 3$

**Addition and Subtraction**

$$(a + bi) + (c + di) = (a + c) + (b + d)i$$

$$(a + bi) - (c + di) = (a + c) - (b + d)i$$

**Example 3** Perform the indicated operation: 1)  $(4 + 2i) + (3 + 7i)$  2)  $i - (3 - 4i)$

**Multiplication**

$$(a + bi)(c + di) = (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i$$

**Example 4** Perform the indicated operation:  $(3 + 5i)(2 - 4i)$

**Caution** To compute  $\sqrt{a}\sqrt{b}$  when both are negative numbers, write each radical in terms of  $i$  before multiplying.

**Example 5** Simplify and write the result in standard form: 1)  $\sqrt{-20}\sqrt{-5}$   
2)  $(2 + 5\sqrt{-3})(1 - 2\sqrt{-3})$

The **conjugate** of the complex number  $z = a + bi$  is  $\bar{z} = a - bi$ .

**Example 6** Simplify and write the result in standard form: 1)  $\overline{3 + 2i}$  2)  $\overline{7 - 11i}$

The product of a complex number and its conjugate is a real number.  
 $((a + bi)(a - bi) = a^2 + b^2)$

**Example 7** Simplify and write the result in standard form: 1)  $(3 + 2i)(3 - 2i)$  2)  $(3 - 5i)^2$

**Division** (Multiply the numerator and the denominator by the conjugate of the denominator)

**Example 8** Simplify and write the result in standard form:  $\frac{3+2i}{5-i}$

**Powers**

$$\begin{array}{lll} i^1 = i & i^5 = i & i^9 = \\ i^2 = -1 & i^6 = -1 & i^{10} = \\ i^3 = -i & i^7 = -i & i^{11} = \\ i^4 = 1 & i^8 = 1 & i^{12} = \end{array}$$

**Example 9** Find: 1)  $i^4$     2)  $i^{4n}$     3)  $i^{25}$

If  $n$  is a positive number, then  $i^n = i^r$ , where  $r$  is the remainder of the division of  $n$  by 4.

**Example 10** Find: 1)  $i^{543}$     2)  $(-i)^{47}$     3)  $i^{-45}$

The **absolute value** of the complex number is defined by  $|a+bi| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ .

**Example 11** Find: 1)  $|2 - 5i|$     2)  $|-3i|$

**Example 12** If  $z = (5 - 3i)(-2 - 4i) + \sqrt{-1}\sqrt{-4}$ , then find the conjugate  $\bar{z}$ .

**Example 13** Write the complex number  $\frac{4+i}{3+i} - \frac{1}{3-i}$  in standard form.

**Example 14** If  $z = \left(\frac{i}{1-i}\right)^2$ , then find  $z + \bar{z}$ .

**Example 15** Simplify: 1)  $i + i^2 + i^3 + \dots + i^{24}$ .    2)  $i^{49} + i^{50} + i^{51}$ .

**Example 16** Let  $Z_1 = x - 4i$ ,  $Z_2 = 5 - 2yi$ . If  $Z_2 = 3Z_1 - 5$ , then find the real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Example 17** If  $A + Bi = \frac{\sqrt[3]{-125} + i^{11} - \sqrt{-4}\sqrt{-1}}{i-6}$ , then find the real numbers  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Example 18** If  $z = \frac{i^{45}}{-2+i^{27}}$ , then find the real part of  $z$ .