



Figure 1: A complex number  $z$  can be represented in Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y)$  or polar coordinates  $(R, \theta)$ .

### 1.3 Frequency Analysis.

#### 1.3.1 A Review of Complex Numbers.

A complex number is represented symbolically in the form

$$z = x + jy,$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are real numbers satisfying the usual rules of addition, multiplication, and so on, and the symbol  $j$ , called the *imaginary unit*, formally has the property

$$j^2 = -1.$$

The numbers  $x$  and  $y$  are called the real and imaginary part of  $z$ , respectively, and are denoted by

$$x = \Re(z), \quad y = \Im(z).$$

We say that  $z$  is real if  $y = 0$ , while it is purely imaginary if  $x = 0$ .

**Example.** The complex number  $z = 3 + 2j$  has real part 3 and imaginary part 2, while the real number 5 can be viewed as the complex number  $z = 5 + 0j$  whose real part is 5 and imaginary part is 0.

Geometrically, complex numbers can be represented as vectors in the plane. We will call the  $xy$ -plane, when viewed in this manner, the *complex plane*, with the  $x$ -axis designated as the real axis, and the  $y$ -axis as the imaginary axis. We designate the complex number zero as the origin. Thus,

$$x + jy = 0 \text{ means } x = y = 0.$$

In addition, since two points in the plane are the same if and only if both their  $x$ - and  $y$ -coordinates agree, we can define equality of two complex numbers by

$$x_1 + jy_1 = x_2 + jy_2 \text{ means } x_1 = x_2 \text{ and } y_1 = y_2.$$

Thus, we see that a single equation between two complex quantities actually contains two real equations.

**Definition (Complex Arithmetic).** Let  $z_1 = x_1 + jy_1$  and  $z_2 = x_2 + jy_2$ . Then we define:

- (a)  $z_1 \pm z_2 = (x_1 \pm x_2) + j(y_1 \pm y_2)$ ;
- (b)  $z_1 z_2 = (x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2) + j(x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1)$ ;
- (c) for  $z_2 \neq 0$ ,  $w = \frac{z_1}{z_2}$  is the complex number for which  $z_1 = z_2 w$ .

Note that, instead of the Cartesian coordinates  $x$  and  $y$ , we could use polar coordinates to represent points in the plane. The polar coordinates are the radial distance  $R$  and the angle  $\theta$ , as illustrated in Fig. 1. The relationship between the two sets of coordinates is:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= R \cos \theta; \\ y &= R \sin \theta; \\ R &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = |z|; \\ \theta &= \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $R$  is called the modulus, or the absolute value of  $z$ . Thus, the polar representation is:

$$z = |z| \cos \theta + j|z| \sin \theta = |z|(\cos \theta + j \sin \theta).$$

**Definition (Complex Exponential Function).** The complex exponential function, denoted by  $e^z$ , or  $\exp(z)$ , is defined by

$$e^z = e^{x+jy} = e^x(\cos y + j \sin y).$$

In particular, if  $x = 0$ , we have Euler's equation:

$$e^{jy} = \cos y + j \sin y.$$

Comparing this with the terms in the polar representation of a complex variable, we see that any complex variable can be written as:

$$z = |z|e^{j\theta}.$$

**Properties of complex exponentials.**

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta &= \frac{1}{2}(e^{j\theta} + e^{-j\theta}); \\ \sin \theta &= \frac{1}{2j}(e^{j\theta} - e^{-j\theta}); \\ |e^{j\theta}| &= 1; \\ e^{z_1} e^{z_2} &= e^{z_1+z_2}; \\ e^{-z} &= \frac{1}{e^z}; \\ e^{z+2\pi jn} &= e^x(\cos(y + 2\pi n) + j \sin(y + 2\pi n)) \\ &= e^x(\cos(y) + j \sin(y)) = e^z, \text{ for any integer } n. \end{aligned}$$

DT complex exponential functions whose frequencies differ by  $2\pi$  are identical:

$$e^{j(\omega+2\pi)n} = e^{j\omega n+2\pi jn} = e^{j\omega n}.$$

(We have seen examples of this phenomenon before, when we talked about DT sinusoids.)  
 It follows from the multiplication rule that

$$z_1 z_2 = |z_1| e^{j\theta_1} |z_2| e^{j\theta_2} = |z_1| |z_2| e^{j(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$$

- add the angles;
- multiply the absolute values.

**Definition (Complex Conjugate).** If  $z = x + jy$ , then the complex conjugate of  $z$ ,  $z^*$  (sometimes also denoted  $\bar{z}$ ) is:

$$z^* = x - jy.$$

Note that, if  $z = |z| e^{j\theta}$ , then  $z^* = |z| e^{-j\theta}$ . Some other useful identities:

$$\begin{aligned} \Re(z) &= \frac{1}{2}(z + z^*) \\ \Im(z) &= \frac{1}{2j}(z - z^*) \\ |z| &= \sqrt{z z^*} \\ (z^*)^* &= z \\ z^* = z &\Leftrightarrow z \text{ is real} \\ (z_1 + z_2)^* &= z_1^* + z_2^* \\ (z_1 z_2)^* &= z_1^* z_2^* \end{aligned}$$

**Examples.** Take  $z = 1 + j$ , and let's compute various quantities defined above.

1.  $z^* = 1 - j$ .
2.  $|z| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$ . Alternatively,  
 $|z| = \sqrt{z z^*} = \sqrt{(1 + j)(1 - j)} = \sqrt{1 + j - j - j^2} = \sqrt{2}$ .
3.  $\Re(z) = \Im(z) = 1$ .
4. Polar representation:  $z = \sqrt{2}(\cos \frac{\pi}{4} + j \sin \frac{\pi}{4}) = \sqrt{2} e^{j\frac{\pi}{4}}$
5. To compute  $z^2$ , square the absolute value, and double the angle:  
 $z^2 = 2(\cos \frac{\pi}{2} + j \sin \frac{\pi}{2}) = 2j = 2e^{j\frac{\pi}{2}}$ .  
 Check:  $(1 + j)(1 + j) = 1 + 2j + j^2 = 1 + 2j - 1 = 2j$ .
6.  $\frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{1+j} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}e^{j\frac{\pi}{4}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}e^{-j\frac{\pi}{4}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\cos(-\frac{\pi}{4}) + j \sin(-\frac{\pi}{4})) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - j\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{j}{2}$ .  
 Check:  $\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{j}{2}\right)(1 + j) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{j}{2} + \frac{j}{2} - \frac{j^2}{2} = 1$ .