

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE  
**Mathematics: applications and interpretation**

**MAI**

**EXERCISES [MAI 1.9-1.11]**  
**COMPLEX NUMBERS (POLAR FORM)**  
*Compiled by Christos Nikolaidis*

**A. Paper 1 questions (SHORT)**

1. [Maximum mark: 8] *[try to answer without GDC]*

Write down the polar form of the following complex numbers

Cartesian form $x + yi$	Polar form		
	$r \operatorname{cis} \theta$	$r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$	$re^{i\theta}$
1			
-1			
i			
-i			
8			
-8			
8i			
-8i			

2. [Maximum mark: 4] *[try to answer without GDC]*

Write down the Cartesian form of the following complex numbers

Polar form	Cartesian form
$4 \operatorname{cis} 0$	
$5 \operatorname{cis} \pi$	

Polar form	Cartesian form
$6 \operatorname{cis} \frac{\pi}{2}$	
$7 \operatorname{cis} \left( -\frac{\pi}{2} \right)$	





5. [Maximum mark: 8] [try to answer without GDC]

Let  $z = 2\text{cis}20^\circ$  and  $w = 6\text{cis}40^\circ$

(a) Express the following results in the polar form  $r\text{cis}\theta$

$zw$	
$\frac{w}{z}$	
$\frac{z}{w}$	
$z^2$	
$z^3$	

[5]

(b) Express  $zw + z^3$  in polar and **hence** in Cartesian form  $x + yi$ .

[3]

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6. [Maximum mark: 4]

The complex number  $z$  is defined by

$$z = 4\left(\cos\frac{2\pi}{3} + i\sin\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) + 4\sqrt{3}\left(\cos\frac{\pi}{6} + i\sin\frac{\pi}{6}\right)$$

Express  $z$  in the form  $re^{i\theta}$ .

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9. [Maximum mark: 4]

Let  $z_1 = a \left( \cos \frac{\pi}{4} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$  and  $z_2 = b \left( \cos \frac{\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{3} \right)$

Express  $\left( \frac{z_2}{z_1} \right)^2$  in Cartesian form.

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10. [Maximum mark: 9]

Let  $z = r \operatorname{cis} \theta$  and  $w = 3 \operatorname{cis} \frac{\pi}{5}$

(a) Express in terms of  $r$  and  $\theta$  the following

(i)  $zw$     (ii)  $\frac{z}{w}$     (ii)  $zw^2$  [6]

(b) Describe geometrically the effect of  $w$  on  $z$ , for the operations in question (a). [3]

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11. [Maximum mark: 6]

Given that  $z = (b+i)^2$ , where  $b$  is real and positive, find the **exact** value of  $b$  when  $\arg z = 60^\circ$ .

**METHOD A:** Expand  $(b+i)^2$  and then consider the argument of  $z$ .

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**METHOD B:** Think of the argument of  $b+i$  first.

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12. [Maximum mark: 4]

Let

$$z = 2\text{cis}(x+1) = 2e^{(x+1)i} = 2[\cos(x+1) + i\sin(x+1)]$$

$$w = 3\text{cis}(x+2) = 3e^{(x+2)i} = 3[\cos(x+2) + i\sin(x+2)]$$

Write down the three corresponding expressions of the polar form for the product  $zw$ .

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13. [Maximum mark: 7]

Let

$$z = 2\text{cis}(0.2x) = 2e^{0.2xi} = 2[\cos(0.2x) + i\sin(0.2x)]$$

$$w = 8\text{cis}(0.8x) = 8e^{0.8xi} = 8[\cos(0.8x) + i\sin(0.8x)]$$

Write down the three corresponding expressions of the polar form

(a) for the product  $zw$ . [4]

(b) For the quotient  $\frac{w}{z}$  [3]

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