

JEE Main Maths Complex Numbers Previous Year Questions With Solutions

Question 1:

Let a complex number z , $|z| \neq 1$, satisfy $\log_{1/\sqrt{2}} [(|z| + 11) / (|z| - 1)^2] \leq 2$. Then, the largest value of $|z|$ is equal to

- (a) 8
- (b) 5
- (c) 6
- (d) 7

Solution:

Given that $|z| \neq 1$.

$$\log_{1/\sqrt{2}} [(|z| + 11) / (|z| - 1)^2] \leq 2$$

$$\Rightarrow [(|z| + 11) / (|z| - 1)^2] \geq 1 / 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2|z| + 22 \geq (|z| - 1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2|z| + 22 \geq |z|^2 - 2|z| + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |z|^2 - 4|z| - 21 \leq 0$$

$$(|z| - 7) (|z| + 3) \leq 0$$

$$|z| \leq 7$$

The largest value of $|z| = 7$

Hence, option (d) is the answer.

Question 2:

The least value of $|z|$ where z is a complex number which satisfies the inequality

$$\exp \left(\frac{(|z| + 3)(|z| - 1)}{||z|| + 1} \log_e 2 \right) \geq \log_{\sqrt{2}} |5\sqrt{7} + 9i|$$

$i = \sqrt{-1}$, is equal to

- (a) 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 8
- (d) $\sqrt{5}$

Solution:

$$2^{\left[\frac{(|z| + 3)(|z| - 1)}{||z|| + 1} \right]} \geq \log_{\sqrt{2}}(16)$$

$$2^{\left[\frac{(|z| + 3)(|z| - 1)}{||z|| + 1} \right]} \geq 2^3$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[\frac{(|z| + 3)(|z| - 1)}{||z|| + 1} \right] \geq 3$$

$$\Rightarrow |z|^2 + 2|z| - 3 \geq 3|z| + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow |z|^2 - |z| - 6 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (|z| - 3) (|z| + 2) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow |z|_{\min} = 3$$

The least value of $|z| = 3$

Hence, option (b) is the answer.

Question 3:

If $|z_1 + z_2|^2 = |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2$, then z_1/z_2 is

- (a) purely imaginary
- (b) purely real
- (c) zero of purely imaginary
- (d) Neither real nor imaginary

Solution:

Given that $|z_1 + z_2|^2 = |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2$

$$\Rightarrow (z_1 + z_2) + (\bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2) = |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 \Rightarrow |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 = |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 + z_1\bar{z}_2 + z_2\bar{z}_1 \Rightarrow 0 = z_1\bar{z}_2 + z_2\bar{z}_1 \Rightarrow z_1\bar{z}_2 = -z_2\bar{z}_1 \Rightarrow \frac{z_1}{z_2} = -\frac{z_1}{z_2} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right) = -\frac{z_1}{z_2}$$

So z_1/z_2 is purely imaginary.

Hence, option (a) is the answer.

Question 4:

If z and w are two complex numbers such that $|z| \leq 1$, $|w| \leq 1$ and

$$|z + iw| = |z - i\bar{w}| = 2$$

Then, z is equal to

- (a) 1 or i
- (b) i or $-i$
- (c) i or -1
- (d) 1 or -1

Solution:

Given $|z| \leq 1$ and $|w| \leq 1$

$$|z + iw| = |z - i\bar{w}| = 2$$

Let $z = x_1 + iy_1$

$w = x_2 + iy_2$

So $x_1^2 + y_1^2 \leq 1$

$x_2^2 + y_2^2 \leq 1$

Therefore, $|z + iw| = |x_1 + y_1 + i(x_2 + iy_2)| = 2$

$(x_1 - y_1)^2 + (y_2 + x_2)^2 = 4 \dots (1)$

Also $|z - i\bar{w}| = |x_1 + y_1 + i(x_2 - iy_2)| = 2$

$(x_1 - y_2)^2 + (y_1 + x_2)^2 = 4 \dots (2)$

Subtract (2) - (1)

$\Rightarrow (y_1 - x_2)^2 - (y_1 + x_2)^2 = 0$
 $y_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2y_1x_2 - y_1^2 - x_2^2 - 2y_1x_2 = 0$
 $y_1x_2 = 0$
 $y_1 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow x_1^2 \leq 1$
 $\Rightarrow -1 \leq x \leq 1$
 So $z = 1 + i0$ or $-1 + i0$
 Hence, option (d) is the answer.

Question 5:

If $3/(2 + \cos \theta + i \sin \theta) = a + ib$, then $[(a-2)^2 + b^2]$ is

- (a) 0
- (b) -1
- (c) 1
- (d) 2

Solution:

Given that $3/(2 + \cos \theta + i \sin \theta) = a + ib$
 $(3/(2 + \cos \theta + i \sin \theta))((2 + \cos \theta) - i \sin \theta)/((2 + \cos \theta) - i \sin \theta)$
 $= ((6 + 3 \cos \theta) - i 3 \sin \theta)/((2 + \cos \theta)^2 + \sin^2 \theta)$
 $= ((6 + 3 \cos \theta) - i(3 \sin \theta))/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)$
 Comparing with $a + ib$, we get;
 $a = (6 + 3 \sin \theta)/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)$
 $b = -3 \sin \theta/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)$
 $(a - 2)^2 + b^2 = [(6 + 3 \sin \theta)/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)]^2 - 2^2 + (-3 \sin \theta/(5 + 4 \cos \theta))^2$
 $= ((-4 - 5 \cos \theta)^2 + 9 \sin^2 \theta)/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)^2$
 $= ((4 + 5 \cos \theta)^2 + 9 \sin^2 \theta)/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)^2$
 $= (16 + 40 \cos \theta + 25 \cos^2 \theta + 9 \sin^2 \theta)/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)^2$
 $= (16 + 40 \cos \theta + 16 \cos^2 \theta + 9 (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta))/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)^2$
 $= (16 + 40 \cos \theta + 16 \cos^2 \theta + 9)/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)^2$
 $= (16 \cos^2 \theta + 40 \cos \theta + 25)/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)^2$
 $= (4 \cos \theta + 5)^2/(5 + 4 \cos \theta)^2$
 $= 1$

Hence, option (c) is the answer.

Question 6:

If

$$\frac{3 + i \sin \theta}{4 - i \cos \theta}, \theta \in [0, 2\pi]$$

is a real number, then the argument of $\sin \theta + i \cos \theta$ is

- (a) $\pi - \tan^{-1}(4/3)$
- (b) $-\tan^{-1}(3/4)$

(c) $\pi - \tan^{-1}(4/3)$

(d) $\tan^{-1}(4/3)$

Solution:

Let

$$z = \frac{3 + i \sin \theta}{4 - i \cos \theta} \times \frac{4 + i \cos \theta}{4 + i \cos \theta}$$

$$= \frac{12 - \sin \theta \cos \theta + i(4 \sin \theta + 3 \cos \theta)}{16 + \cos^2 \theta}$$

Given that z is real.

$$4 \sin \theta + 3 \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta = -3/4 \text{ } [\theta \text{ lies in 2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ quadrant}]$$

$$\arg(\sin \theta + i \cos \theta) = \pi + \tan^{-1}(\cos \theta / \sin \theta)$$

$$= \pi - \tan^{-1}(4/3)$$

Hence, option (a) is the answer.

Question 7:

If $\sqrt{x+iy} = \pm(a+ib)$, then $\sqrt{-x-iy}$ is equal to

(a) $\pm(b+ia)$

(b) $\pm(a-ib)$

(c) $(ai+b)$

(d) None of these

Solution:

Given that $\sqrt{x+iy} = \pm(a+ib)$

Squaring both sides, we get;

$$(x+iy) = (a+ib)^2$$

$$= a^2 + 2aib - b^2$$

$$= a^2 - b^2 + 2aib$$

Comparing real and imaginary part, we get;

$$x = a^2 - b^2$$

$$y = 2ab$$

$$-x - iy = -a^2 + b^2 - i(2ab)$$

$$-x - iy = (-b + ia)^2$$

Taking square root, we get;

$$\sqrt{-x-iy} = \pm(-b+ia)$$

Hence, option (d) is the answer.

Question 8:

The point in the set $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : \arg((z-2)/(z-6i)) = \pi/2\}$ (where \mathbb{C} denotes the set of all complex number) lie on the curve which is

- (a) hyperbola
- (b) pair of lines
- (c) parabola
- (d) circle

Solution:

Given that $\arg \left(\frac{z-2}{z-6i} \right) = \pi/2$

$\arg(z-2) - \arg(z-6i) = \pi/2$

$z = x+iy$

$\arg((x-2)+iy) - \arg(x+(y-6)i) = \pi/2$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{(x-2)} \right) - \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{(y-6)}{x} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

We know, $\tan^{-1}A - \tan^{-1}B = \tan^{-1}[(A-B)/(1+AB)]$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{xy - (x-2)(y-6)}{x(x-2) + y(y-6)} \right) = \tan \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{xy - (x-2)(y-6)}{x(x-2) + y(y-6)} \right) = \frac{1}{0}$$

$$x(x-2) + y(y-6) = 0$$

$$x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 - 6y + 9 - 10 = 0$$

$$(x-1)^2 + (y-3)^2 = \sqrt{(10)^2}$$

The point lies on a circle.

Hence, option (d) is the answer.

Question 9:

The complex number $(-\sqrt{3}+3i)(1-i)/(3+\sqrt{3}i)(\sqrt{3}+\sqrt{3}i)$ when represented in the argand diagram lies in

- (a) in the second quadrant
- (b) in the first quadrant
- (c) on the Y-axis (imaginary axis)
- (d) on the X-axis (real axis)

Solution:

$$\text{Given } z = (-\sqrt{3}+3i)(1-i)/(3+\sqrt{3}i)(\sqrt{3}+\sqrt{3}i)$$

Taking $\sqrt{3}$ outside

$$= \sqrt{3}(-1+\sqrt{3}i)(1-i)/(\sqrt{3})^2(\sqrt{3}+i)(1+i)$$

$$= (1/\sqrt{3})(-1+\sqrt{3}i)(1-i)/(-1+i\sqrt{3})(1+i)$$

$$= (1-i)/\sqrt{3}(1+i)$$

Multiply numerator and denominator with $(1-i)$

$$= (1-i)(1-i)/\sqrt{3}(1+i)(1-i)$$

$$= (1-i)^2/\sqrt{3}(1+1)$$

$= (1-2i-1)/2\sqrt{3}$
 $= -2i/2\sqrt{3}$
 $= -i/\sqrt{3}$, purely imaginary
 So, z lies on Y-axis.
 Hence, option (c) is the answer.

Question 10:

The complex numbers $\sin x + i \cos 2x$ and $\cos x - i \sin 2x$ are conjugate to each other for

- (a) $x = n\pi$
- (b) $x = (n+\frac{1}{2})\pi$
- (c) $x = 0$
- (d) No values of x

Solution:

Given that $\sin x + i \cos 2x$ and $\cos x - i \sin 2x$ are conjugate to each other.

$$\overline{\sin x + i \cos 2x} = \cos x - i \sin 2x$$

$$\sin x - i \cos 2x = \cos x - i \sin 2x$$

Comparing real and imaginary parts

$$\sin x = \cos x \quad \dots(i)$$

$$\cos 2x = \sin 2x \dots(ii)$$

$$\text{From equation (i) } \tan x = 1$$

$$\text{From equation (ii) } \tan 2x = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \tan x / (1 - \tan^2 x) = 1, \text{ not satisfied by } \tan x = 1.$$

Therefore no value of x is possible.

Hence option (d) is the answer.

Question 11:

The square roots of $-7-24\sqrt{-1}$ are

- (a) $\pm(4+3\sqrt{-1})$
- (b) $\pm(3+4\sqrt{-1})$
- (c) $\pm(3-4\sqrt{-1})$
- (d) $\pm(4-3\sqrt{-1})$

Solution:

$$-7-24\sqrt{-1} = -7-24i \quad (\text{since } \sqrt{-1} = i)$$

$$\text{Let } \sqrt{-7-24i} = x+iy$$

Squaring both sides

$$(-7-24i) = (x+iy)^2$$

$$= x^2 - y^2 + 2xyi$$

Comparing real and imaginary part, we get

$$x^2 - y^2 = -7$$

$$2xy = -24$$

solving above 2 equations, $x^2 = 9$ and $y^2 = 16$

$$x = \pm 3 \text{ and } y = \pm 4$$

$$\text{If } x = 3, y = -4$$

$$\text{If } x = -3, y = 4$$

So the roots are $(-3+4i)$ and $(3-4i)$.

Hence, option (c) is the answer.

Question 12:

If 1, ω and ω^2 are the cube roots of unity, then $(1 - \omega + \omega^2)(1 - \omega^2 + \omega^4)(1 - \omega^4 + \omega^8) \dots$ up to $2n$ factors is

(a) $2n$

(b) 2^{2n}

(c) 1

(d) -2^{2n}

Solution:

$$\text{Use } 1 + \omega = -\omega^2 \text{ and } 1 + \omega^2 = -\omega$$

$$(1 - \omega + \omega^2) = -2\omega$$

$$(1 - \omega^2 + \omega^4) = (1 - \omega^2 + \omega^3 \omega) = (1 - \omega^2 + \omega) = -2\omega^2$$

$$(1 - \omega^4 + \omega^8) = 1 - \omega + \omega^2 = -2\omega$$

$$(1 - \omega^8 + \omega^{16}) = (1 - \omega^2 + \omega) = -2\omega^2$$

-2ω and $-2\omega^2$ are the successive factors.

So the product is $(-2\omega)(-2\omega^2)(-2\omega)(-2\omega^2) \dots (-2\omega^2)$

$$= (-2\omega)^n (-2\omega^2)^n$$

$$= 2^{2n} (\omega^3)^{2n}$$

$$= 2^{2n}$$

Hence, option (b) is the answer.

Question 13:

Let z and w be two complex numbers such that

$$w = z\bar{z} - 2z + 2,$$

$|(z + i) / (z - 3i)| = 1$ and $\text{Re}(w)$ has a minimum value. Then, the minimum value of $n \in \mathbb{N}$, for which w^n is real, is equal to

Solution:

Consider $z = x + iy$

$$|z + i| = |z - 3i|$$

$$y = 1$$

$$\text{Now } w = x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 2iy + 2$$

$$w = x^2 + 1 - 2x - 2i + 2$$

$$\text{Re}(w) = x^2 - 2x + 3$$

$$\text{Re}(w) = (x-1)^2 + 2$$

$$\text{Re}(w)_{\min} \text{ at } x = 1$$

$$z = 1 + i$$

Now $w = 1 + 1 - 2 - 2i + 2$

$$w = 2(1-i) = 2\sqrt{2} e^{i(-\pi/4)}$$

$$w^n = 2\sqrt{2} e^{i(-\pi/4)}$$

If w^n is real, $n = 4$

Question 14:

Let a complex number be $w = 1 - \sqrt{3}i$. Let another complex number z be such that $|zw| = 1$ and $\arg(z) - \arg(w) = \pi/2$. Then the area of the triangle with vertices origin, z and w is equal to:

(a) $1/2$

(b) 4

(c) 2

(d) $1/4$

Solution:

$$w = 1 - \sqrt{3}i$$

$$|w| = 2$$

$$|zw| = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |z| = 1/|w|$$

$$= 1/2$$

$$\arg(z) - \arg(w) = \pi/2$$

$$\text{Area of triangle} = (1/2) \times (1/2) \times 2$$

$$= 1/2$$

Hence option a is the answer.

Question 15:

If $(z + i)/(z + 2i)$ is purely real, then the locus of z is

(a) x - axis

(b) y - axis

(c) $y = x$

(d) $y = x/2$

Solution:

Given that $(z + i)/(z + 2i)$ is purely real.

$$\text{Let } z = x + iy$$

$$\text{Then } (z + i)/(z + 2i) = (x + iy + i)/(x + iy + 2i)$$

Multiply and divide by the conjugate, and equate imaginary part to zero.

$$[(-x(y+2)i) + ix(1+y)]/[(x^2 + (y+2)^2)] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (-x(y+2)i) + ix(1+y) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x(y+2) = x(1+y)$$

$$\Rightarrow xy + 2x - x - xy = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0$$

\Rightarrow locus of z is y axis.

Hence, option b is the answer.

