## Notes: 8.3 Polar form of Complex Numbers



Rectangular Plane ( $x, y$ )


Polar Plane
( $r, \theta$ )


Complex Plane
( $\mathrm{R}, \mathrm{i}$ )
$a+b i \rightarrow$ rectangular form of a complex number. Graphed as (a,b) in complex plane Similar to ( $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}$ )

## Given: polar coordinates $(r, \theta)$

$r \rightarrow$ often called the absolute value or the modulus (distance)
$\theta \rightarrow$ often called the amplitude or argument (angle measure)

$$
r=\sqrt{a^{2}+b^{2}}
$$

$$
\tan \theta=\frac{b}{\square}
$$

## Absolute Value (modulus): <br> The distance between a number and zero

Absolute Value of a Complex Number
$|a+b i|=\sqrt{a^{2}+b^{2}}$
( $\mathrm{r}=$ modulus)


Polar Form of a Complex Number
$r(\cos \theta+i \sin \theta)$

$$
r=\sqrt{a^{2}+b^{2}}
$$

$$
\tan \theta=\frac{b}{}
$$

## COMPARE:

coordinates
rectangular to polar
$(x, y) \rightarrow(r, \theta)$
$r=\sqrt{x^{2}+y^{2}}$
$\tan \theta=\frac{y}{x}$

## complex numbers

rectangular form
to polar form
$\mathrm{a}+\mathrm{b} i \rightarrow \mathrm{r}(\cos \theta+i \sin \theta)$

$$
r=\sqrt{a^{2}+b^{2}}
$$

$$
\tan \theta=\underline{b}
$$

$a$

Choose tangent value from the quadrant where $(x, y)$ and $(a, b)$ are located

## EXAMPLE 1: Graph the complex number, then

 find the modulus $r$.$\sqrt{5}+i$
Graph a point at $(\sqrt{5}, 1)$
Since $\sqrt{5}$ is slightly larger than 2 , move over about 2.2 and up 1 .

$$
\begin{array}{lc}
\sqrt{5}+1 i \rightarrow & (\sqrt{5}, 1) \\
a+b i & a, b
\end{array}
$$



Complex Plane

$$
r=\sqrt{(\sqrt{5})^{2}+1^{2}}
$$

To find the modulus, calculate $r$ using the coefficients a and b from the given complex number (which is similar to how we used $x$ and $y$ previously.)
( $\mathrm{R}, i$ )

$$
\begin{aligned}
& r=\sqrt{a^{2}+b^{2}} \text { or } r=\sqrt{x^{2}+y^{2}} \\
& \tan \theta=\frac{b}{a} \text { or } \tan \theta=\frac{y}{x}
\end{aligned}
$$

$r$ is the distance from the origin to the given point

## EXAMPLE:

## Write the complex number in polar form. $\uparrow$

$-2-2 \sqrt{3} \boldsymbol{i} \quad r=\sqrt{a^{2}+b^{2}}$
ab
Calculate r and $\theta$ using the coefficients $a$ and $b$
$\tan \theta=\frac{b}{a}$
$r=\sqrt{(-2)^{2}+(-2 \sqrt{3})^{2}}$
$r=\sqrt{4+12}$
$r=\sqrt{16}$
$r=4$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \tan \theta=\frac{-2 \sqrt{3}}{-2} \\
& \tan \theta=\sqrt{3}
\end{aligned}
$$

Choose $\tan \theta$ from

$$
\theta=\frac{4 \pi}{3}
$$ Quad III since the given point is located in Quad III

Therefore, $-2-2 \sqrt{3} i=4\left(\cos \frac{4 \pi}{3}+i \sin \frac{4 \pi}{3}\right)$

## EXAMPLE continued:

## given: $-2-2 \sqrt{3} \boldsymbol{i}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& r=\sqrt{(-2)^{2}+(-2 \sqrt{3})^{2}} \\
& r=\sqrt{4+12} \\
& r=\sqrt{16}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\tan \theta=\frac{-2 \sqrt{3}}{-2}
$$

$$
\tan \theta=\sqrt{3}
$$

$$
\theta=\frac{4 \pi}{3}
$$

$\downarrow$ STOP HERE
$r=4$
Therefore, $-2-2 \sqrt{3} i=4\left(\cos \frac{4 \pi}{3}+i \sin \frac{4 \pi}{3}\right)$
NOTE: if you simplify the expression on the right side, it will be equal to the value on the left side.


