

Student Activity: To investigate the addition of complex numbers

Use in connection with the interactive files, 'Addition of complex numbers', and 'Addition by translation of a complex number', on the Student's CD.



1. Add the following complex numbers and check your answers using the interactive file "Addition of Complex numbers".

		Calculate $z_1 + z_2$
a.	$z_1 = 3 + 2i$ and $z_2 = 1 + 4i$	
b.	$z_1 = 2 + 3i$ and $z_2 = 1 + 3i$	
c.	$z_1 = 2 + 4i$ and $z_2 = 1 - 3i$	
d.	$z_1 = 2 + 4i$ and $z_2 = -1 - 2i$	
e.	$z_1 = -3 + 4i$ and $z_2 = 1 - 2i$	
f.	$z_1 = -2 - 4i$ and $z_2 = 1 - 3i$	
g.	$z_1 = -1 - 3i$ and $z_2 = -2 - 1i$	
h.	$z_1 = i$ and $z_2 = 2 + i$	



i.	$z_1 = i$ and $z_2 = i$	
j.	$z_1 = i$ and $z_2 = -i$	
k.	z ₁ = 1 and z ₂ =–1	
١.	$z_1 = 1$ and $z_2 = -i$	
m	$z_1 = -1 - i$ and $z_2 = -2 - i$	
n.	$z_1 = -1 - i$ and $z_2 = -2 - i$	
0.	$z_1 = 1 + i$, $Z_2 = -2-2i$ and $z_3 = 2+3$ <i>i</i>	
p.	$z_1 = 1 + \sqrt{25} i$ and $z_2 = -2 - \sqrt{36} i$	

- 2. What shape is formed when you add two complex numbers?
- 3. What complex number would you need to add to 2+3i to get 0+0i?
- 4. If two complex numbers z_1 and z_2 are added together to give 4+6i, list four values z_1 and z_2 could have.
- 5. Is the addition of complex numbers associative? Explain your answer.



6.

a. Plot the following complex numbers in the Argand Diagram.



b. Add 2+1*i* to each of the complex numbers in section a. of this question (It is not necessary to show the parallelograms).

- c. Draw a directed line (a line with an arrow indicating direction) between each complex number and its corresponding number with 2+1i added to it. What do you notice?
- d. What would have happened if instead of adding the complex number 2+1i to each of the complex numbers above you had subtracted 2+1i?