

**De Moivre's Theorem. Statement.**

(i) If  $n$  is any integer (+ve, -ve or zero), then

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta$$

(M.D.U. 1991 S, 92 ; Meerut 1985, 89)

and (ii) If  $n$  is a fraction (+ve or -ve), then one of the values of

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n \text{ is } \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta.$$

(M.D.U. 1989 ; D.U. 1986, 88, 92, 94)

**Proof: Case I.** When  $n$  is a positive integer.

We shall prove the theorem by induction on  $n$ .

When  $n = 1$ , the theorem becomes

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^1 = \cos 1\theta + i \sin 1\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta + i \sin \theta = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$

which is true.

Let us suppose the theorem is true for  $n = m$ .

i.e., let  $(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^m = \cos m\theta + i \sin m\theta$

...(1)

Now  $(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{m+1}$

$$= (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^m (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$$

$$= (\cos m\theta + i \sin m\theta) (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$$

$$= (\cos m\theta \cos \theta - \sin m\theta \sin \theta) + i (\sin m\theta \cos \theta + \cos m\theta \sin \theta) \quad [\text{using (1)}]$$

$$= \cos (m\theta + \theta) + i \sin (m\theta + \theta)$$

$$= \cos (m+1)\theta + i \sin (m+1)\theta$$

$\Rightarrow$  The theorem is true for  $n = m + 1$

Hence by the Principle of Mathematical Induction, the theorem is true for all positive integers  $n$ .

**Case II.** When  $n$  is a negative integer.

Let  $n = -m$ , where  $m$  is a positive integer

$$\therefore (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-m}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^m} = \frac{1}{\cos m\theta + i \sin m\theta}$$

[by Case I]

$$= \frac{1}{\cos m\theta + i \sin m\theta} \times \frac{\cos m\theta - i \sin m\theta}{\cos m\theta - i \sin m\theta}$$

$$= \frac{\cos m\theta - i \sin m\theta}{\cos^2 m\theta - i^2 \sin^2 m\theta} = \frac{\cos m\theta - i \sin m\theta}{\cos^2 m\theta + \sin^2 m\theta} \quad [\because i^2 = -1]$$

$$= \cos m\theta - i \sin m\theta = \cos(-m)\theta + i \sin(-m)\theta$$

$$[\because \cos(-\theta) = \cos \theta ; \sin(-\theta) = -\sin \theta]$$

$$= \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta \quad [\because -m = n]$$

**Case III.** When  $n$  is a fraction, positive or negative.

Let  $n = \frac{p}{q}$  where  $q$  is a positive integer and  $p$  is any integer, positive or negative,  $p$  and  $q$  have no common factor (i.e.,  $p$  and  $q$  are prime to each other). It follows from case I, that

$$\left( \cos \frac{\theta}{q} + i \sin \frac{\theta}{q} \right)^q = \cos q \cdot \frac{\theta}{q} + i \sin q \cdot \frac{\theta}{q} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$

Taking  $q$ th root of both sides,

$$\cos \frac{\theta}{q} + i \sin \frac{\theta}{q} \text{ is one of the values of } (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{1/q}$$

Raising to  $p$ th power,

$$\therefore \left( \cos \frac{\theta}{q} + i \sin \frac{\theta}{q} \right)^p \text{ is one of the values of } (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{p/q}$$

Since  $p$  may be a +ve or -ve integer,

$\therefore$  by cases I and II

$$\cos \frac{p}{q} \theta + i \sin \frac{p}{q} \theta \text{ is one of the values of } (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{p/q}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta \text{ is one of the values of } (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n$$

Hence De Moivre's Theorem is completely established.

$$\text{Cor. 1. } (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-n} = \cos(-n\theta) + i \sin(-n\theta) \\ = \cos n\theta - i \sin n\theta$$

$$\text{Cor. 2. } (\cos \theta - i \sin \theta)^n = [\cos(-\theta) + i \sin(-\theta)]^n \\ = \cos(-n\theta) + i \sin(-n\theta) \\ = \cos n\theta - i \sin n\theta$$

$$\text{Cor. 3. } (\cos \theta - i \sin \theta)^{-n} = [\cos(-\theta) + i \sin(-\theta)]^{-n} \\ = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta$$

$$\text{Cor. 4. } \frac{1}{\cos \theta + i \sin \theta} = (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-1} = \cos \theta - i \sin \theta$$

**Caution.** For the application of De Moivre's Theorem

1. Real part must be with  $\cos$  and imaginary part with  $\sin$  i.e., De Moivre's Theorem can not be directly applied to

$$(\sin \theta + i \cos \theta)^n$$

Procedure :

$$(\sin \theta + i \cos \theta)^n = \left[ \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) + i \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) \right]^n$$

[Note this step]

$$= \cos n \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) + i \sin n \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)$$

2. The angle with sin and cos must be the same i.e., De Moivre's Theorem cannot be applied to  $(\cos \alpha + i \sin \beta)^n$ .

Note.  $(\cos \theta_1)(\cos \theta_2) \dots (\cos \theta_n) = \cos (\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \dots + \theta_n)$

Example 1. Simplify:  $\frac{(\cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta)^5 (\cos \theta - i \sin \theta)^3}{(\cos 5\theta + i \sin 5\theta)^7 (\cos 2\theta - i \sin 2\theta)^5}$

Sol.

$$\frac{(\cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta)^5 (\cos \theta - i \sin \theta)^3}{(\cos 5\theta + i \sin 5\theta)^7 (\cos 2\theta - i \sin 2\theta)^5}$$

$$= \frac{[(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^3]^5 [(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-1}]^3}{[(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^5]^7 [(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-2}]^5}$$

$$= \frac{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{15} (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-3}}{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{35} (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-10}}$$

$$= (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{15 - 3 - 35 + 10}$$

$$= (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-13} = \cos 13\theta - i \sin 13\theta.$$

Example 2. Prove that :

$$\frac{(\cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta)^5 (\cos 2\theta - i \sin 2\theta)^3}{(\cos 4\theta + i \sin 4\theta)^{-9} (\cos 5\theta + i \sin 5\theta)^9} = 1.$$

Sol. L.H.S. =  $\frac{[(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^3]^5 [(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-2}]^3}{[(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^4]^{-9} [(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^5]^9}$

$$= \frac{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{15} (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-6}}{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{-36} (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{45}}$$

$$= (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{15 - 6 + 36 - 45} = (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^0 = 1.$$

Example 3. Simplify :

$$\frac{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^3 (\cos \theta - i \sin \theta)^5}{(\cos 2\theta + i \sin 2\theta)^4}$$

Sol. Please try yourself.

[Ans.  $\cos 10\theta - i \sin 10\theta$ ]

Example 4. Simplify:  $\left( \frac{\cos \theta + i \sin \theta}{\sin \theta + i \cos \theta} \right)^4$

Sol.

$$\left[ \frac{\cos \theta + i \sin \theta}{\sin \theta + i \cos \theta} \right]^4 = \frac{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^4}{\left[ \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) + i \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) \right]^4}$$

$$= \frac{(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^4}{\cos 4 \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right) + i \sin 4 \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)}$$

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

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

$$= (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^8$$

$$= \cos 8\theta + i \sin 8\theta.$$