

# Section 3.4

## Solutions and Hints

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for the book:

Precalculus, Mathematics for Calculus 4<sup>th</sup> Edition  
by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin and Saleem Watson.

**34. Evaluate  $(2 - 3i)^{-1}$  and write the result in the form  $a + bi$ .**

$$\begin{aligned}(2 - 3i)^{-1} &= \frac{1}{2 - 3i} = \frac{1}{2 - 3i} * \frac{2 + 3i}{2 + 3i} && \text{Multiply by "one"} \\ &= \frac{2 + 3i}{4 + 6i - 6i - 9i^2} && \text{Now simplify} \\ &= \frac{2 + 3i}{4 - 9 * (-1)} \\ &= \frac{2 + 3i}{13} = \mathbf{(2/13) + (3/13)i}.\end{aligned}$$

**42. Evaluate  $i^{1002}$  and write the result in the form  $a + bi$ .**

This can be done several ways the easiest is to see that  $1002 / 4 = 250$  remainder 2.

$$\text{So } i^{1002} = (i^4)^{250} * i^2 = 1^{250} * i^2 = i^2 = \mathbf{-1}$$

44. Evaluate  $(-9/4)^{1/2}$  and write the result in the form  $a + bi$ .

$$\sqrt{\frac{-9}{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{-9}}{\sqrt{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{9*(-1)}}{2} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) * (\sqrt{9}) * (\sqrt{-1}) = (1/2)*3*i = \mathbf{0 + (3/2)i}.$$

52. Evaluate the below and write the result in the form  $a + bi$ .

IMPORTANT:  $\frac{(\sqrt{-7}) * (\sqrt{-49})}{\sqrt{28}} \neq \frac{\sqrt{-7 * -49}}{\sqrt{28}},$

this is a bizarre rule concerning two negative roots. Instead you MUST do the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(\sqrt{-7}) * (\sqrt{-49})}{\sqrt{28}} &= \frac{i * \sqrt{7} * i * \sqrt{49}}{\sqrt{28}} = \frac{i^2 \sqrt{7 * 49}}{\sqrt{28}} \\ &= \frac{-\sqrt{7 * 7 * 7}}{\sqrt{7 * 4}} = -\sqrt{\frac{7 * 7^2}{7 * 2^2}} = -\sqrt{\frac{7^2}{2^2}} = \frac{-\sqrt{7^2}}{\sqrt{2^2}} = \frac{-7}{2} = \mathbf{-7/2 + 0i}. \end{aligned}$$

64. Find all solutions to the below and express them in the form  $a + bi$ .

$$4x^2 - 16x + 19 = 0$$

Simply apply the quadratic formula,  $a = 4$ ,  $b = -16$ ,  $c = 19$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{16 \pm \sqrt{256 - 4 * 4 * 19}}{2 * 4} = \frac{16 \pm \sqrt{-48}}{8} = 2 \pm \frac{i\sqrt{4^2 * 3}}{8} = 2 \pm \frac{i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$