

Re: complex numbers

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- *From:* "Dirk Van de moortel" <dirkvandemoortel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 13 Jun 2005 13:36:53 GMT
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"N:dlzc D:aol T:com (dlzc)" <N: dlzc1 D:cox T:net@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:uLfre.7177\\$7s.91@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:uLfre.7177$7s.91@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

> Dear jem:

>

> "jem" <xxx@xxxxxxx> wrote in message

> [news:FVere.91014\\$y6.84187@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:FVere.91014$y6.84187@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

>> The TimeLord wrote:

> ...

>>> You can see that unless you keep straight just what

>>> the square root is defined to be,

>>

>> Sqrt() is defined to be a function so e.g. Sqrt(1) = 1,

>> not +-1, and of course $i^2 = -1$, not +-1.

>

> sqrt() may be defined by programming languages to be "the

> positive square root", allowing the programmer to assign whatever

> sign(s) the programmer chooses. But the result of the square

> root is bivalued

Well, point me to **one** single technical or engineering publication or text in the world where they have an equation where they mean anything other than 3 when they write sqrt(9), and you are in business.

sqrt is the positive root of a positive number.

> (except for sqrt(0)). sqrt(-1) is the

> conundrum, i^2 is the solution.

There is no such thing as sqrt(-1).

sqrt(-1) is for bad encyclopedias.

> And note that +/-i **is** a

> solution, and valid result.

Bot i and -i are things that give -1 when squared. You can safely forget everything else.

Dirk Vdm

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 - ◇ *From:* The Ghost In The Machine

- *References:*
 - ◆ **complex numbers**
 - ◇ *From:* Don Giovanni
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 - ◇ *From:* The TimeLord
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