

# Re: complex numbers

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.physics.relativity/2005-06/msg01671.html>

---

- *From:* "Dirk Van de moortel" <[dirkvandemoortel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dirkvandemoortel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 15 Jun 2005 08:42:45 GMT
- 

"The TimeLord" <[mathnphysics-not@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mathnphysics-not@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:4fednWrWx-RmGDLfRVn-ow@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:4fednWrWx-RmGDLfRVn-ow@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

> Dirk Van de moortel <[dirkvandemoortel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dirkvandemoortel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in  
> <[VZfre.119624\\$ia5.6770755@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:VZfre.119624$ia5.6770755@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> on Monday 13 June 2005  
> 08:36 posted to sci.physics.relativity:  
>  
>>  
>> "N:dlzc D:aol T:com (dlzc)" <N: dlzc1 D:cox T:net@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in  
>> message [news:uLfre.7177\\$7s.91@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:uLfre.7177$7s.91@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
>>> Dear jem:  
>>>  
>>> "jem" <[xxx@xxxxxxxx](mailto:xxx@xxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
>>> [news:FVere.91014\\$sy6.84187@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:FVere.91014$sy6.84187@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
>>>> 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.  
>>>  
>>> The guy was asking about math, not engineering or tech stuff.  
>>>  
>>> (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.  
>  
> Definition:  
>  $\sqrt{-1} = i$

No.  
Definition:  
 $i^2 = -1$   
That is all you need.

Dirk Vdm

---

• **References:**

- ◆ **complex numbers**  
    ◇ From: Don Giovanni
- ◆ **Re: complex numbers**  
    ◇ From: The TimeLord
- ◆ **Re: complex numbers**  
    ◇ From: jem
- ◆ **Re: complex numbers**  
    ◇ From: N:dlzc D:aol T:com \((dlzc\)
- ◆ **Re: complex numbers**  
    ◇ From: Dirk Van de moortel
- ◆ **Re: complex numbers**  
    ◇ From: The TimeLord

- Prev by Date: **Re: complex numbers**
- Next by Date: **Re: complex numbers**
- Previous by thread: **Re: complex numbers**
- Next by thread: **Re: complex numbers**
- Index(es):
  - ◆ **Date**
  - ◆ **Thread**