Math 4303

September 24, 2009

Let  $\mathcal{K}$  denote the set of  $2 \times 2$  matrices of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- a. Show: If A and B are elements in  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $A + B \in \mathcal{K}$ .
- b. Show: If A and B are elements in  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $A \cdot B \in \mathcal{K}$ .
- c. Show that  $A \cdot B = B \cdot A$  holds for all elements  $A, B \in \mathcal{K}$ .
- d. Show: If the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix}$  in  $\mathcal{K}$  satisfies  $a^2 + b^2 \neq 0$ , then A has a matrix inverse. What is  $A^{-1}$ ? Does  $A^{-1}$  always lie in  $\mathcal{K}$ ? (Note that the identity matrix is an element of  $\mathcal{K}$ .)
- e. Show that we can identify  $\mathcal{K}$  with  $\mathbb{C}$ , i.e., find a bijection  $f : \mathcal{K} \to \mathbb{C}$  such that f(A+B) = f(A) + f(B) and  $f(A \cdot B) = f(A) \cdot f(B)$ . (This is easier than it sounds.)
- f. Under this identification, find the element I in  $\mathcal{K}$  that corresponds to i. Compute  $I \cdot I$ .
- g. Under this identification, what is the "conjugate" of  $\mathcal{K}$ , what is the "modulus" of  $\mathcal{K}$ ?
- h. The identification suggests a way to compute  $\frac{a+bi}{c+di}$  if  $c+di \neq 0$ . Explain!
- i. Compute  $\frac{2+3i}{1-2i}$ .