

Math Diversion Problem 333

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Physical concepts are free creations of the human mind,
and are not, however it may seem, uniquely
determined by the external world.
— Albert Einstein

The YouTube video is found at:

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPD5evwqt08>

Title: How To Solve A System of Equations | Problem 40

Presenter: aplusbi

Given the relations

$$2z + 3iw = 5, \quad (1a)$$

$$zw = i, \quad (1b)$$

find the values of z, w .

1 The Solution

$$2z + 3iw = 5, \quad (2)$$

$$zw = i, \quad (3)$$

I chose as my ‘first unipode’:

$$A = \sqrt{2z} + \sqrt{3i\overline{w}u}, \quad (4a)$$

$$A^2 = 2z + 3iw + 2\sqrt{(2z)(3i\overline{w}u)} \quad (4b)$$

$$= 5 + 2\sqrt{-6}u \quad (4c)$$

$$= 5 + 2\sqrt{6}iu. \quad (4d)$$

Taking the square root of this last equation, we have that¹

$$A = \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{6}iu} = \sqrt{6} + iu. \quad (5)$$

¹Note that the combination iu acts just like a unit imaginary.

Therefore,

$$\sqrt{2z} = \sqrt{6}, \quad (6a)$$

$$\sqrt{3iw} = iu. \quad (6b)$$

$$(6c)$$

On squaring,

$$2z = 6, \quad (7a)$$

$$3iw = -1. \quad (7b)$$

Therefore,

$$z = 3, \quad (8a)$$

$$w = \frac{i}{3}. \quad (8b)$$