

# Math Diversion Problem 355

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Everything should be made as simple as  
possible, but no simpler.  
— Albert Einstein

The YouTube video is found at:

Source: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-gNV\\_adBmA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-gNV_adBmA)  
Title: A Nice Exponential Equation | Problem 442  
Presenter: aplusbi

## 1 The Problem

Given the relation

$$(-1)^{z+i} = 1 + i, \quad (1)$$

find the values of  $z$ .

## 2 The Solution

Note:  $1 + i = \sqrt{2} \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2} e^{i\pi/4}$ .

Note:  $-1 = e^{i\pi}$ .

The Given relation can be rewritten as:

$$(e^{i\pi})^{z+i} = \sqrt{2} e^{i\pi/4}, \quad (2)$$

On taking the natural logarithm, we get

$$i\pi(z+i) = \ln \sqrt{2} + \frac{i\pi}{4} + 2\pi in \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (3)$$

or

$$z+i = \frac{-i}{\pi} \ln \sqrt{2} + \frac{1}{4} + 2n \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (4)$$

And finally,

$$z = -i \left( 1 + \frac{\ln 2}{2\pi} \right) + \frac{1}{4} + 2n \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (5)$$

But wait! There's more!

WolframAlpha claims that the answer is

$$z = 2n - \frac{i(\pi + \ln(1+i))}{\pi} \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (6)$$

So, let's morph it to see if I can reach my own solution.

$$z = 2n - \frac{i(\pi + \ln(1+i))}{\pi} \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (7a)$$

$$= 2n - i - \frac{i(\ln \sqrt{2} + i\pi/4)}{\pi} \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (7b)$$

$$= 2n - i - \frac{i \ln 2}{2\pi} + \frac{1}{4} \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (7c)$$

$$= 2n - i \left(1 + \frac{\ln 2}{2\pi}\right) + \frac{1}{4} \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (7d)$$