

Math Diversion Problem 627

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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
(similar to scientific instrumentalism)

The YouTube video is found at:

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2FV-LMoqcE>
Title: An Exponent That Conjugates | Problem 533
Presenter: aplusbi

1 Problem

Given the relation

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

find the complex values of z .

2 Solution

If we multiply (1) through by $1 - i$, we get

$$(1 - i)^{z+1} = (1 + i)(1 - i) = 2, \quad (2)$$

Then, of course, we take the natural logarithm:

$$z + 1 = \frac{\ln 2 + 2\pi in}{\ln(1 - i)} \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (3)$$

But

$$1 - i = \sqrt{2}e^{-i\pi/4}. \quad (4)$$

Therefore,

$$z = \frac{\ln 2 + 2\pi in}{\frac{1}{2} \ln 2 - i\pi/4} - 1. \quad (5)$$