

Math Diversion 1019

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The main problem of topology is to find useful,
necessary and sufficient conditions, other than
just the definition, for two spaces
to be homeomorphic.

—John B. Freleigh
*A First Course in
Abstract Algebra*

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0q_933QGmWM
Title: Complex Analysis is Destroying this...
Presenter: Dr PK Math

1 Problem

Given the relation

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

solve for the complex number z but add no unnecessary indexed solutions.

2 Solution

First, we note that

$$\frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}} = e^{i\pi/4} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1-i}{\sqrt{2}} = e^{-i\pi/4}, \quad (2)$$

Thus (1) becomes

$$z e^{i\pi/4} = \left(e^{-i\pi/4} \right)^z. \quad (3)$$

Now, we take the natural logarithm across this equation:

$$e^{i\pi/4} \ln z = z \ln e^{-i\pi/4} = -(i\pi/4)z. \quad (4)$$

Applying a little algebra, we get

$$-z^{-1} \ln z = e^{-i\pi/4} (i\pi/4), \quad (5)$$

or rather

$$z^{-1} \ln z^{-1} = e^{-i\pi/4}(i\pi/4). \quad (6)$$

Now, using the lemma from the theory of the Lambert W function, that

$$W(y \ln y) = \ln y, \quad (7)$$

then

$$\ln z^{-1} = W\left(\frac{1}{4}i\pi e^{-i\pi/4}\right). \quad (8)$$

After exponentiating, we have that

$$z^{-1} = e^{W\left(\frac{1}{4}i\pi e^{-i\pi/4}\right)}. \quad (9)$$

And finally,

$$z = e^{-W\left(\frac{1}{4}i\pi e^{-i\pi/4}\right)}. \quad (10)$$

So, yes, I could have factored in $e^{2\pi in}$ early on, where $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, but I'll leave that for the interested reader to do.