

3 phases in the  $i$  life span1)  $i$  allows us to square root a negative number

$$i = \sqrt{-1} \quad \text{so} \quad \sqrt{-25} = 5i$$

2)  $i$  then works like a variable until it is squared3) when squared it becomes a number  $i^2 = -1$ 

so, multiplying complex conjugates:  $(a+bi)(a-bi) = a^2 + b^2$   
 conjugates no more  $i$