

Hey Brewster, I'm pretty sure someone responded already... but the problem occurs between Step 5 and Step 6 (where I've added Eqn numbers below.) You are transforming Eq 5 by raising it to the 2/5 power, and that operation does not have a unique result -- you can't invert a function that's many-to-one with an unambiguous result.

Once you open your mind to complex numbers, exponentiation can be many-to-one

$z^w = 1$ (on the "principal branch" $z^w = e^{w \ln z}$, $\ln z = \ln |z| + i \arg z$, $\arg z \in (-\pi, \pi]$)
 $z^w = 1$ (on the "other branch" $z^w = e^{w (\ln |z| + i (\arg z + 2\pi k))}$, $\arg z \in (-\pi, \pi]$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}$)

UbX'cZW'i fgY`]hij' bch'fi Y'h Uh`]'1 '%Z'Y]h Yf"

-1 = 1 fallacy

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on trying to figure out i^i , I stumbled on the following fallacy that I can not peg:

- 1 $1 = 1$
- 2 $(-1)(-1) = (1)(1)$
- 3 $(-1)^2 = (1)^2$
- 4 $\sqrt{(-1)^2} = \sqrt{(1)^2}$
- 5 $(-1)^{(2 * 1/2)} = (1)^{(2 * 1/2)}$
- 6 $(-1)^1 = (1)^1$
- 7 $-1 = 1$ QED

hum.

