

## Lecture (14) :- Singularities in the Complex plane

### Definitions :-

(14.1) Singularity:  $z = z_0$  is a singular point of  $f(z)$  if  $f'(z_0)$  does not exist (i.e.  $f(z)$  is not analytic at  $z_0$ ) but  $f'(z)$  exists in atleast one pt. which is in the neighborhood of  $z_0$ .

(14.2) Isolated singular point :- If  $f(z)$  is analytic in the region  $0 < |z - z_0| < R$  but not at  $z = z_0$ ; then  $z_0$  is called an isolated singular point.

In such a case, in the neighborhood of  $z = z_0$ ,  $f(z)$  may be represented by a Laurent series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n (z - z_0)^n$$

\*  $f(z)$  would be analytic at  $z_0$  if  $c_0 \stackrel{def}{=} f(z_0)$  the power series converges at  $z_0$ .

(14.3) Removable Singularity :-

If  $c_0 \neq f(z_0)$ , then by a slight redefinition of  $f(z_0)$ ,  $f(z)$  is analytic there.

e.g.  $f(z) = \frac{\sin z}{z} \Rightarrow$  at  $z = 0$   $f(z)$  is not defined & hence not analytic.

But since the power series expansion gives

$$f(z) = \frac{\sin z}{z} = \frac{1}{z} \left\{ z - \frac{z^3}{3!} + \dots \right\} = 1 - \frac{z^2}{3!} + \dots$$

$c_0 = 1 \neq f(0)$ . But if we redefine  $f(0) = 1$ ; then  $f(z)$  is analytic  $\forall z$  (including  $z = 0$ ) pg (1)

In other words, if  $f(z)$  is analytic in the region  $0 < |z - z_0| < R$ , and if  $f(z)$  can be made analytic at  $z = z_0$  by assigning an appropriate value for  $f(z_0)$ ; then  $z = z_0$  is a removable singularity.

(14.4) An isolated singularity at  $z_0$  of  $f(z)$  is said to be a pole if  $f(z)$  has the form  $f(z) = \frac{\varphi(z)}{(z - z_0)^N}$ ;  $N \in \mathbb{Z}^+, N \geq 1$  &  $\varphi(z)$  is analytic in the neighborhood of  $z = z_0$  &  $\varphi(z_0) \neq 0$

$N^{th}$  order pole for  $N \geq 2$   
Simple pole. When  $N = 1$

(14.5) Strength of the pole ( $c_{-N}$ )

$$f(z) = \frac{\varphi(z)}{(z - z_0)^N}$$

Laurent expansion

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n \frac{(z - z_0)^n}{(z - z_0)^N}$$

but  $\varphi(z)$  is analytic in the neighborhood of  $z = z_0$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (z - z_0)^{n-N}$$

Laurent series = Taylor series

$$\sum_{m=-N}^{m=n-N} c_m (z - z_0)^m$$

$$= c_{-N} (z - z_0)^{-N} + \sum_{m=-N+1}^{\infty} c_m (z - z_0)^m$$

$$\Rightarrow f(z) (z - z_0)^N = c_{-N} + c_{-N+1} (z - z_0) + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\varphi(z_0)} = c_{-N}$$

is the strength of the pole of  $f(z)$ .

## (14.6) Essential singular point

An "isolated" singular pt. that is neither removable nor a pole is called an essential singular pt. Such a pt. has full Laurent series expansion.

$$\text{eg } e^{1/z} @ z=0$$

Note :- Entire  $f^n$ 's are either constant  $f^n$ 's or at  $z=\infty$  they have isolated singular pts or essential singularities.

### Examples

eg (14.1) Describe the singularities of the  $f^n$ .

$$f(z) = \frac{z^2 - 2z + 1}{z(z+1)^3} = \frac{(z-1)^2}{z(z+1)^3}$$

#### Ans

The  $f^n f(z)$  has a simple pole at  $z=0$  & a  $3^{\text{rd}}$  order (triple) pole at  $z=-1$ . Strength of the pole at  $z=0$  is 1 b/c the expansion of  $f(z)$  near  $z=0$  has the form

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{z} (1 - 2z + \dots) (1 - 3z + \dots) \\ = \frac{1}{z} - 5 + \dots \text{ so } c_{-1} = 1$$

Alternatively for the pole  $z=0$ ;

$$f(z) = \frac{(z-1)^2}{(z+1)^3} \text{ which is analytic in}$$

the neighbourhood of  $z=0 \therefore c_{-1} = f(0) = 1$

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likewise for the pole  $z = -1$

$$Q(z) = \frac{(z+1)^2}{z} \text{ which is analytic in the neighborhood of } z = -1$$

$$\therefore C_{-1} = Q(z = -1) = Q(-1) = \frac{(-1+1)^2}{-1} = -4$$

This can also be checked from the Laurent series of  $f(z)$  near  $z = -1$

$$f(z) = \frac{-4}{(z+1)^3}$$

Eg (14.2) Describe the singularities of the  $f^n$

$$f(z) = \frac{z+1}{z \sin z}$$

Soln:- Using Taylor series for  $\sin z$

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= \frac{z+1}{z\left(z - \frac{z^3}{3!} + \frac{z^5}{5!} - \dots\right)} = \frac{(z+1)}{z^2\left(1 - \frac{z^2}{3!} + \frac{z^4}{5!} - \dots\right)} \\ &= \frac{z+1}{z^2} \left\{ 1 + \left( \frac{z^2}{3!} - \frac{z^4}{5!} + \dots \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left( \frac{z^2}{3!} - \frac{z^4}{5!} + \dots \right)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \dots \right\} \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{z} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{z^2}{3!} + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{z} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow f(z)$  has a double pole at  $z = 0$   
w/ strength  $C_{-1} = 1$

eg (14.3) Discuss the pole singularities of the  $f^n$

$$f(z) = \frac{\log(z+1)}{(z-1)}$$

Soln :-  $f(z)$  is multivalued w/ a branch pt. at  $z=-1$ , therefore we make  $f(z)$  single valued by introducing a branch cut from  $z=-1$  to  $z=\infty$  along the -ve real axis w/  $\theta = r e^{i\theta}; -\pi \leq \theta < \pi$ ; this branch fixes  $\log(1) = 0$ .  
w/ this choice of branch,  $f(z)$  has a simple pole at  $z=1$  w/ strength  $\log(2)$ .

A branch point is an example of a non-isolated singular pt. b/c a circuit around the b.p. results in a discontinuity.

via the removal of the branch cut.  
 $\therefore z = -1$  is a b.p. & not a pole b/c  $\log z$  has a jump discontinuity as we encircle  $z = -1$ . It is not analytic in a neighborhood of  $z = -1 \Rightarrow z = -1$  is not an isolated s.p.

eg(14.4) Discuss the pole singularities of the  $f^n$ .

$$f(z) = \frac{z^{1/2} - 1}{z - 1}$$

Soln:-  $z = 1+t$

$$\Rightarrow f(z) = \frac{\pm \sqrt{1+t} - 1}{t}$$

Where  $\pm$  denotes the 2 branches  
of the sq. root fn w/  $\sqrt{x} \geq 0$  for  $x \geq 0$ .  
( $z=0$  is a sq. root b.p.)

$$\sqrt{1+t} \stackrel{\text{Taylor}}{=} 1 + \frac{t}{2} - \frac{t^2}{8} + \dots$$

thus for "+" branch

$$f(z) = \frac{\frac{t}{2} - \frac{t^2}{8} + \dots}{t} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{t}{8} + \dots$$

for "-" branch

$$f(z) = \frac{-2 - \frac{t}{2} + \frac{t^2}{8} - \dots}{t} = -\frac{2}{t} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{t}{8} \dots$$

$\therefore$  On the "+" principal branch,

$f(z)$  is analytic in the neighborhood  
of  $t=0 \Rightarrow t=0$  is a removable  
singularity.

On the "-" principal branch,

$t=0$  is a simple pole w/

strength = -2.

Def<sup>n</sup>(14.7) Cluster point is a singular pt. in which on  $\text{ab}$ -sequence of isolated S.p.s cluster abt a pt. ( $z = z_0$ ) in such a way that there are an  $\infty$ -no. of isolated S.p.s in any arbitrarily small circle about  $z = z_0$ . There is no Laurent series represent' valid in the neighborhood of a cluster pt.  
eg.  $f(z) = \tan(z)$

as  $z \rightarrow 0$  along the real axis,

$\tan(\frac{1}{z})$  has poles at locations

$$z_n = \frac{\pi}{\pi/2 + n\pi}, n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{which cluster}$$

b/c any small neighborhood of the origin contains an ab no. of them.

Def<sup>n</sup>(14.8) Bdy jump discontinuity

$$\text{eg. } f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_C \frac{1}{t-z} dt = \begin{cases} f_i(z) = 1; & \text{w/i c} \\ f_o(z) = 0; & \text{w/o c} \end{cases} \quad f_i(z) \neq f_o(z) \text{ on c.}$$

Def<sup>n</sup>(14.9) Meromorphic f's. There are f's that

are everywhere analytic in the finite  $\mathbb{C}$  except at isolated pts. where they have poles. Such f's have only poles in the finite  $z$ -plane. They may have essential singularities at  $\infty$  (like entire f's.).