

# Introducing $\mathbb{C}$

## LECTURE I

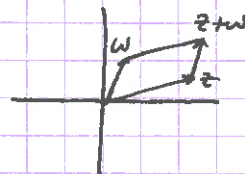
Let's meet  $\mathbb{C}$  the usual way, and then re-mystify it.

$\mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{R}^2$  as a vector space

$$z \leftrightarrow (x, y)$$

$$x+yi$$

- usual  $\mathbb{R}$  arithmetic
- $i^2 = -1$
- $i$  commutes w/  $\mathbb{R}$



This identification is "natural" wrt addition, scalar mult.

Norm / modulus

$$\mathbb{C} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$$

$$z \mapsto |z| := \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

Eudidean length of vector

$\text{Im}, \text{Re} : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
Imaginary, Real parts

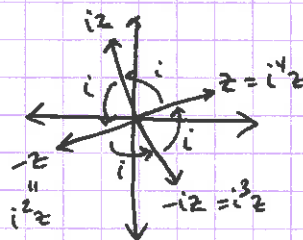
$\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   
 $z \mapsto \bar{z}$   
Conjugate

Note for  $z = x+yi$ ,  $w = u+vi$ , have  $zw = (xu-yv) + (yu+xv)i$   
multiplication not (apparently)  
"natural" in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  coordinates

$$|z| + |w| \geq |z+w| \quad ; \quad |zw| = |z| \cdot |w|$$

(norm better adapted to mult.)

How shall we geometrize  $\mathbb{C}$  multiplication?



$i$  rotates CCW by  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,

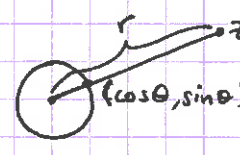
$$\text{so let } I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So is  $i$  a vector in the plane  
or a rotation of the plane?

(think wave-particle duality of light!)

A move to geometrize multiplication:

introduce POLAR COORDINATES


$$z = r \cos \theta + i r \sin \theta = r (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$$

also called  $\text{cis } \theta$  or  $e^{i\theta}$

argument

modulus

Major Aside: why define  $e^{i\theta} := \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$  for  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ ?

- "operator overloading": it will obey the same defining rules as  $e^x$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- "rigidity": it turns out to be the only way to define a function on  $\mathbb{C}$  that is differentiable and specializes to familiar  $e^x$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Check:  $e^{i\theta} \cdot e^{i\alpha} \stackrel{?}{=} e^{i(\theta+\alpha)}$

$$\begin{aligned} (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta) (\cos \alpha + i \sin \alpha) &= (\underbrace{\cos \theta \cos \alpha - \sin \theta \sin \alpha}_{\cos(\theta+\alpha)}) + (\underbrace{\cos \theta \sin \alpha + \sin \theta \cos \alpha}_{\sin(\theta+\alpha)}) i \end{aligned}$$

In fact, this "explains" these trig identities.

$$(r e^{i\theta}) (s e^{i\alpha}) = (rs) e^{i(\theta+\alpha)} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{modulus} \\ \text{multiplies} \end{array} \quad \leftarrow \text{argument adds}$$

# HISTORICAL SIDEBAR

arithmetic of  $\sqrt{-1}$  is as old as the Italian  
cubic-wranglers (Bombelli  
et al)

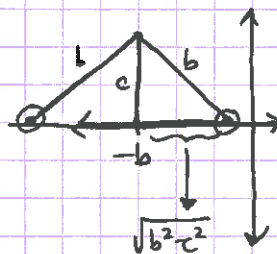
Here is a fascinating attempt to draw  $\Phi$   
due to Wallis 1673:

$$x^2 + 2bx + c^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - c^2}$$

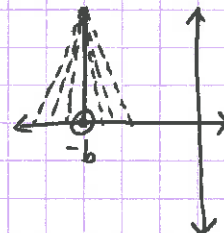
(b, c ≥ 0)

or  
 $-b \pm (\sqrt{-1}) \sqrt{c^2 - b^2}$

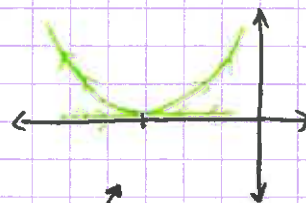
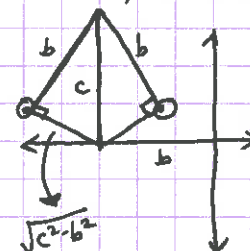
(b > c)



(b = c)

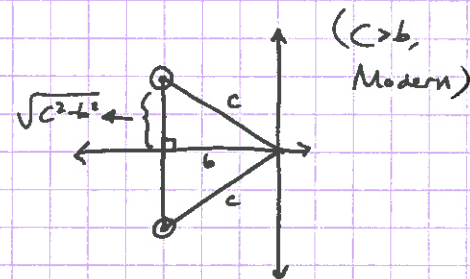


(c > b, Wallis)

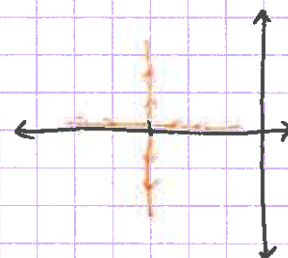


Wallis's  
movie,  
fixed b

$$\left\{ \left( -b \pm \frac{b}{t} \sqrt{t^2 - b^2}, \frac{t^2 - b^2}{t} \right) \right\}$$



(c > b,  
Modern)



Modern  
movie,  
fixed b

de Moivre's Formula



in recap from last time:

- equality for rect. coords. is equality of  $x, y$
- equality for polar coords. is  $\begin{cases} \text{equality of } r \\ \theta \text{ differ by } 2\pi\mathbb{Z} \end{cases}$

term PRINCIPAL ARGUMENT of  $z$ 

$$-\pi < \arg z \leq \pi$$

$\arg$  vs  $\text{Arg}$   
(multival.)

$$\arg(z_1 z_2) = \arg z_1 + \arg z_2$$

$$|z_1 z_2| = |z_1| \cdot |z_2|$$

branch of  $\arg$  (multi-val)  
single-valued for  
locally compatible  
w/ f

Powers + Roots.

Easy to see that  $z = re^{i\theta} \Rightarrow z^n = (r^n) e^{in\theta}$ .

(so can derive double, triple angle formulas painlessly!)

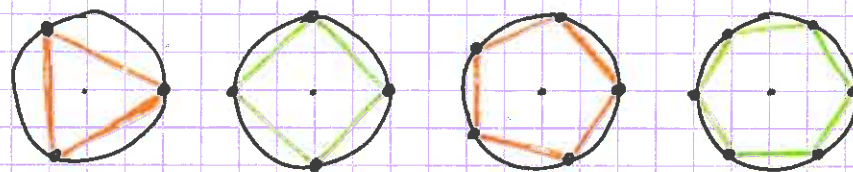
How about  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots?If  $z^n = w$  ( $z = re^{i\theta}$ ,  $w = se^{i\alpha}$ ) then  $r^n = s$ so  $w^{1/n}$  is multivalued:and  $n\theta = \alpha$  up to  $2\pi\mathbb{Z}$  $(n\theta - \alpha \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z})$ 

$r = \sqrt[n]{s}$  well-def, but  $\theta = \frac{\alpha}{n} + \frac{2\pi k}{n}$   $k \in \mathbb{Z}$   
(positive real) are all valid arguments.

Abuse of notation:  $w^{1/n}$  denotes this set.  $\left\{ \sqrt[n]{s} \cdot e^{i(\frac{\alpha}{n} + \frac{2\pi k}{n})} : k \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$

In particular,  $e^{2\pi i \frac{k}{n}} = \omega_n^k$ 

are the ROOTS OF UNITY.

 $\omega_n^1$  called PRINCIPAL ROOT.

Duality of position and motion:  
rotational symmetries of regular  $n$ -gon  
form a regular  $n$ -gon

So for arbitrary  $w^{1/n}$ , find principal root,  
then draw circle of that modulus and inscribe  $n$ -gon.

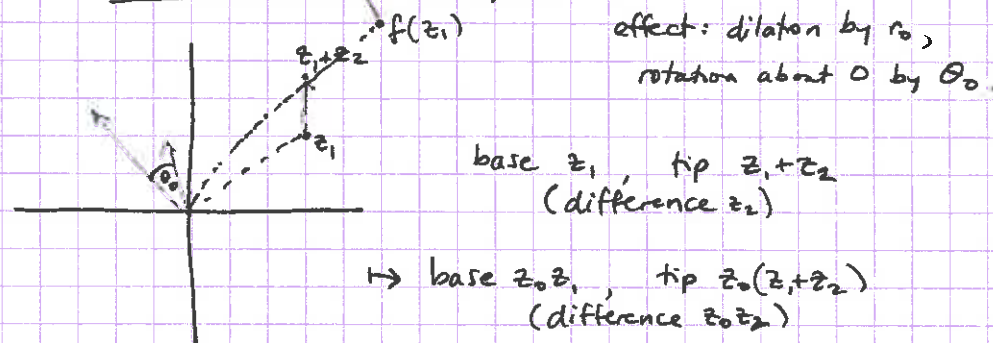


ways of visualizing  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

- (A) graph living in  $\mathbb{R}^4$
- (B) modulus graph in  $\mathbb{R}^3$
- (C) argument graph in  $\mathbb{R}^3$
- (D) pair of planes: input + output curves
- (E) pair of planes: input + output domains
- (F) homotopy / sliding image
- (G) vector field
- (H) colormap

## Visualizing Functions, Part 1 of Many

**Example 0** Fix a  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ , consider  $z \mapsto z_0 z$   
Complex multiplication by  $z_0 = r_0 e^{i\theta_0}$ .



so vectors in arbitrary locations of arbitrary lengths  
are also stretched by  $r_0$ , rotated by  $\theta_0$   
(ie, argument incremented by  $\theta_0$ )

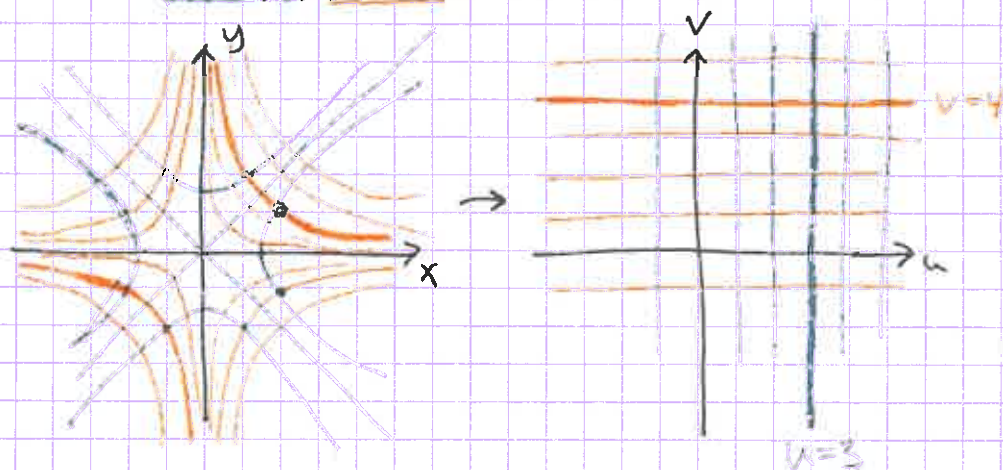
This is a globally uniform similarity.

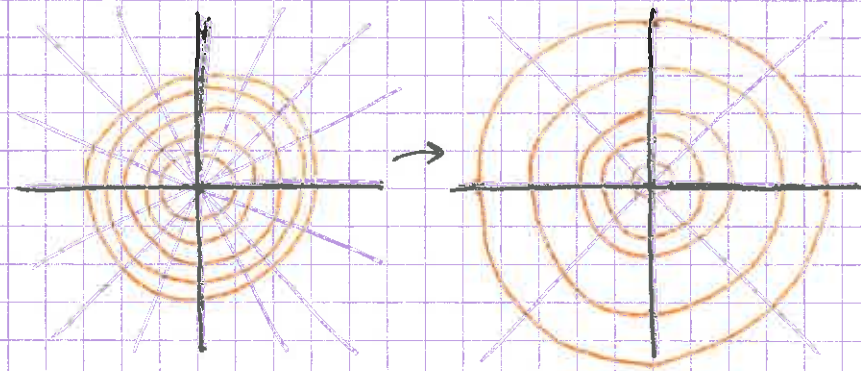
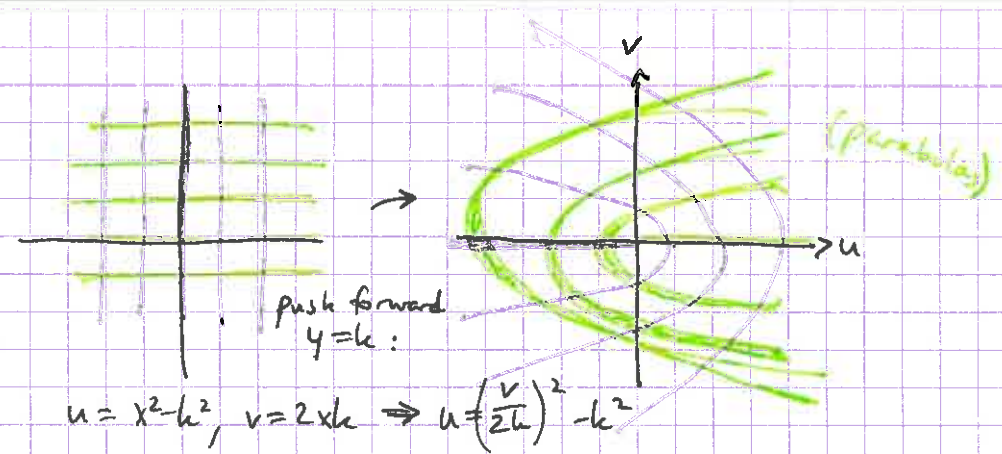
In fact, if  $z_0 = a + bi$ , then  $1 + 0i \mapsto a + bi$  ie  $\begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}$   
 $0 + 1i \mapsto -b + ai$

linear transf!  
( $\det = r^2$ )

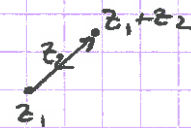
**Ex 1**  $z \mapsto z^2$ . Put  $w = z^2$

Then  $u = x^2 - y^2$ ,  $v = 2xy$ .





so a vector based at 0 is complex-multiplied  
by a factor of itself;  
how about other vectors?



$$f(z_1) = z_1^2, f(z_2) = (z_1 + z_2)^2 = z_1^2 + \underbrace{2z_1 z_2 + z_2^2}$$

$$f(z_2) - f(z_1) = z_2(2z_1 + z_2)$$

So this multiplicative factor  $\rightarrow 2z_1$   
as  $z_2 \rightarrow 0$  in any way.

# Return to Exp

$$\exp(z) = e^z = e^{x+iy} = e^x \cdot e^{iy} = e^x (\cos y + i \sin y)$$

modulus  $e^x$ , argument  $y$

First let's note that arithmetic identities carry over, as in

$$(z_1 + z_2)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} z_1^{n-k} z_2^k \quad (\text{binomial theorem})$$

Now, why is our def. of  $e^z$  reasonable?

① defining property of  $e^x$ :  $e^a e^b = e^{a+b}$  ✓

② defining property:  $\frac{d}{dx} e^x = e^x$

We don't know how to take C-derivs. yet, but can consider  $\frac{d}{dt} e^{it} \stackrel{?}{=} i e^{it}$

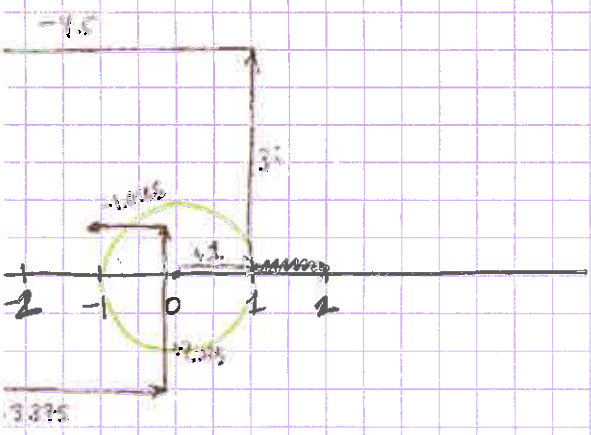
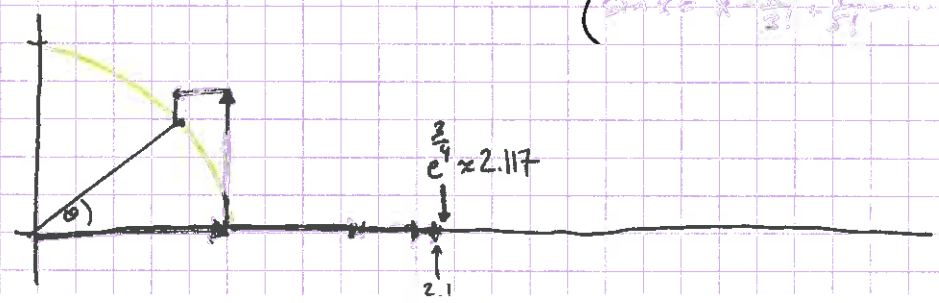
↻ (cost, sint) is unit-speed motion  
w/ tangent vector  $(-sint, cost) = i \cdot (cost, sint)$  ✓

③ power series!  $e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots$

$$\text{eg } e^3 = 1 + 3 + \frac{9}{2} + \frac{27}{6} + \frac{81}{24} + \frac{243}{120} + \frac{729}{720} + \dots = 1 + 3 + 4.5 + 4.5 + 3.375 + 2.025 + 1.0125 + \dots$$

$$e^{i\theta} = 1 + i\theta - \frac{\theta^2}{2} - \frac{i\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \dots = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \cos x &= 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \\ \sin x &= x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots \end{aligned} \right.$$



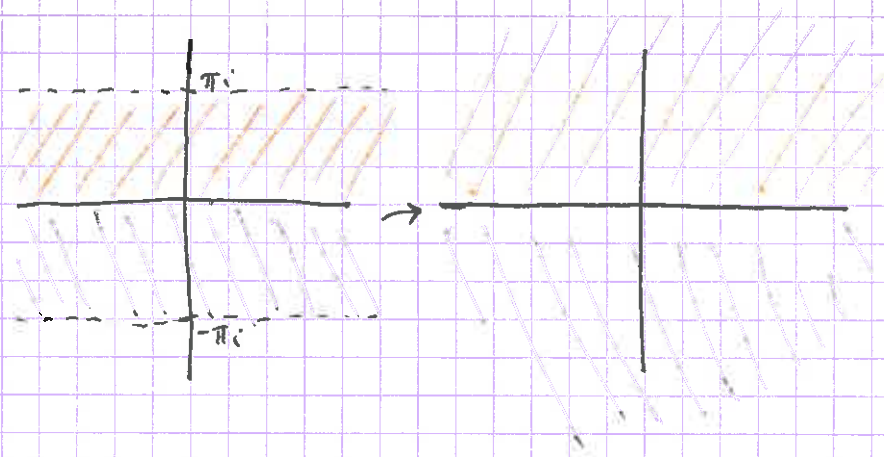
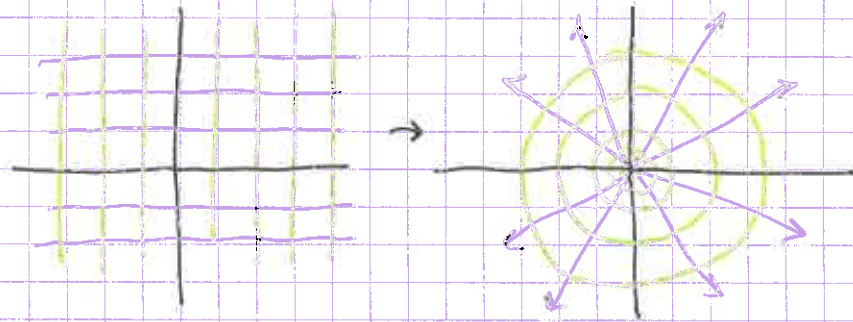
④  $e^x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + \frac{x}{n})^n$   
postponed!

$$e^{1/2} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1/4}{2} + \frac{1/8}{6} + \dots = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{48} + \dots$$

$$e^{3/4} = 1 + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{9}{32} + \frac{27}{64} + \dots = 1 + .75 + .28 + .07 + \dots = 2.117...$$

2.1 almost

Ex2 exp as a transformation



$$\text{Note } e^{i\theta} = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \cos\theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2} \\ \sin\theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i} \end{cases}$$



Next: basic topology notions; Stereographic Projection

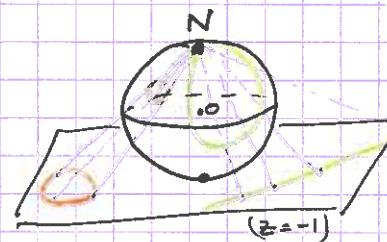
basic nbhd  $B_\varepsilon(z_0) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z - z_0| < \varepsilon\}$   
(open)

punctured  $B_\varepsilon^*(z_0) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid 0 < |z - z_0| < \varepsilon\}$

interior, open, closed, bounded, domain, region (not nec. open)

$\downarrow$   $S = S^\circ$   $\downarrow$   $S^\circ$  open  $\downarrow$  contained in some  $B_r(z)$   $\downarrow$  contains all accum pts  
 $S^\circ := \{z \in S \mid \exists \varepsilon > 0 \text{ st } B_\varepsilon(z) \subseteq S\}$   
 [nonempty, path-conn. open set.]

stereographic projection



gives a map from  $S^2 \setminus \{N\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \cong \mathbb{C}$

that is

- bijective
- preserves convergence, maps open  $\leftrightarrow$  open

This is called a HOMEOMORPHISM.

if we add one extra point to  $\mathbb{C}$ , called  $\infty$ , then  $\hat{\mathbb{C}} := \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  corresponds bijectively to  $S^2$  setwise.

How about convergence? It's easy to see that  $p_n \rightarrow N$  on  $S^2$   
 iff  $p_n$  eventually enter every  $B_\varepsilon(N)$   
 iff  $p_n$  eventually leave every  $B_r(S)$ .

In fact  $B_\varepsilon(N) = B_r(S)^c$  for some  $r = r(\varepsilon)$ .

So <sup>basic</sup> neighborhoods of  $\infty$  in Riemann sphere  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$  are exterior of  $B_r(0)$ .

lines in  $\mathbb{C} \mapsto$  circles through  $N$  on  $S^2$

## Limit example + nonexample

(yes)

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 1} \frac{i\bar{z}}{z}$$

let  $p$  be small  $\mathbb{C}$  number

$$1+p \mapsto \frac{i(1+\bar{p})}{z} = \frac{i}{z} + \left(\frac{i\bar{p}}{z}\right)$$

half the length of  $p$

(no)

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{z}{\bar{z}}$$

$$\text{b/c } \frac{z}{\bar{z}} \in \mathbb{C}$$

but angle depends on  $\arg(z)$ .

## Limits and Continuity

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) = w \text{ means for any seq } z_n \rightarrow z_0, f(z_n) \rightarrow w$$

where converging means entering all nbhd.  
 $(\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists N \text{ st } n > N \Rightarrow z_n \in B_\epsilon(z_0))$

$$\text{i.e., } f(z) \rightarrow w \text{ means } \forall \epsilon \exists \delta \text{ st } z \in B_\delta(z_0) \Rightarrow f(z) \in B_\epsilon(w)$$

Easy Obs: seq conv in  $\mathbb{C} \iff \text{Re, Im parts conv. in } \mathbb{R}$ .

Limit laws carry over; new versions for  $\infty$ .

$$\textcircled{1} \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) = \infty \iff \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{1}{f(z)} = 0. \iff |f(z)| \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\textcircled{2} \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} f(z) = w \iff \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} f\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) = w$$

suggests nothing's special about  $\infty$  and  $z \rightarrow \frac{1}{z}$  makes it work/look just like 0

Continuity:

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) = f(z_0).$$

Easy Obs: nonzeroness is an open condition:  
 $f(z_0) \neq 0, f \text{ cont} \Rightarrow \exists \epsilon > 0 \text{ st } z \in B_\epsilon(z_0) \Rightarrow f(z) \neq 0$

$$\frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{r} e^{-i\theta}$$

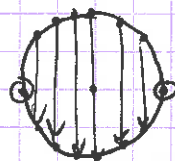
$$\boxed{\text{Ex 3}} \quad z \mapsto 1/z \quad \begin{matrix} 0 & \curvearrowright & \infty \\ & \text{orientation} & \end{matrix}$$

$$z\bar{z} = |z|^2, \text{ so } \frac{1}{z} = \frac{\bar{z}}{|z|^2} \quad \bullet \text{ orientation-preserving!!}$$

$$|\frac{1}{z}| = \frac{1}{|z|} \quad \text{Multiplies length by } \frac{1}{|z|}, \text{ sending previous length to reciprocal.}$$

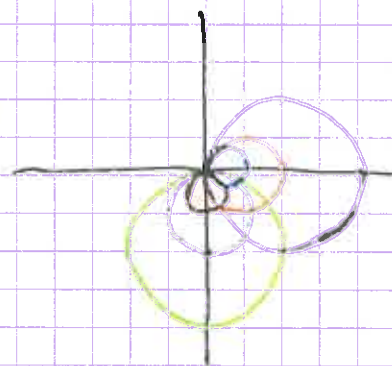
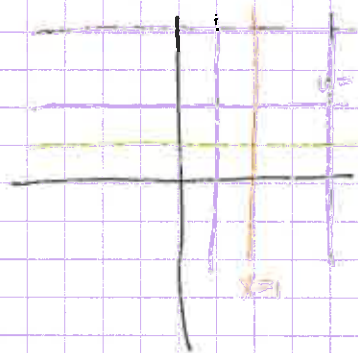
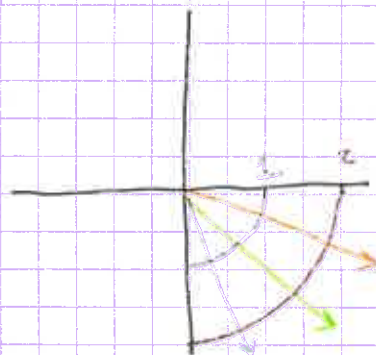
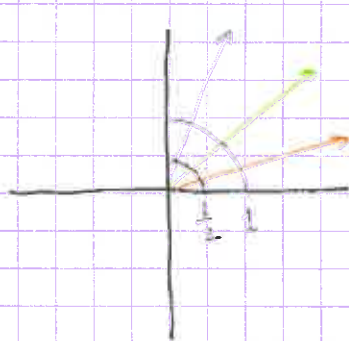
• swaps inside of  $\mathbb{D}$  for out.

(and argument to negative)



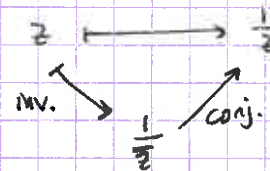
unit circle.

$1/z$ , continued.



Can decompose

$\mathcal{I}_C: z \mapsto \frac{1}{z}$   
is inversion in unit circle.



$\begin{pmatrix} A=0 \\ B, C \text{ not both } 0 \end{pmatrix}$ : line

$\begin{pmatrix} B, C = 0 \\ \frac{D}{A} < 0 \end{pmatrix}$ : circle of radius  $\sqrt{-D/A}$  centered at 0

$\begin{pmatrix} A \neq 0 \\ B^2 + C^2 > 4AD \end{pmatrix}$ : circle centered at  $(\frac{-B}{2A}, \frac{-C}{2A})$

Let's see that  $z \mapsto \frac{1}{\bar{z}}$ ,  $z \mapsto \frac{1}{z}$  preserve(s) complex circles (circles + lines).

General form:

$$A(x^2 + y^2) + Bx + Cy + D = 0, \quad A, B, C, D \in \mathbb{R}, \quad B^2 + C^2 > 4AD$$

$$A|z|^2 + B \cdot \operatorname{Re}(z) + C \cdot \operatorname{Im}(z) + D = 0$$

$$A z \bar{z} + B'(z + \bar{z}) + C'(z - \bar{z}) + D = 0$$

$$A z \bar{z} + B''\bar{z} + C''z + D = 0 \quad \text{if } w = \frac{1}{\bar{z}}, \text{ then } w\bar{w} = \frac{1}{z\bar{z}}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$A + B''\frac{1}{\bar{z}} + C''\frac{1}{z} + D\frac{1}{z\bar{z}} = A + B''\bar{w} + C''w + D w\bar{w} = 0$$

Note: same clearly true of affine maps  $z \mapsto z_0 z + w_0$  (these also preserve  $\infty$ )

## MÖBIUS TRANSFORMATIONS

$$f(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}, \quad a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C} \quad \text{if } ad \neq bc, \quad \text{this is } f(z) \neq \frac{a}{c}.$$

• a tuple  $(a, b, c, d)$  and  $(ka, kb, kc, kd)$  give the same map.

• by factoring out  $\frac{1}{ad-bc}$ , can assume wlog  $ad-bc=1$

(then there's 1-1 corr b/w <sup>non-deg.</sup> maps and tuples)

$$w = \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \Rightarrow czw + dw - az - b = 0$$

$$Azw + Bw + Cz + D = 0 \quad \text{suggestive!}$$

$$w = \frac{a}{c} + \frac{bc-ad}{c} \cdot \frac{1}{cz+d} \quad \text{so } f = \operatorname{aff}_2 \circ \operatorname{inv} \circ \operatorname{aff}_1$$

so preserves  $\mathbb{C}$ -circles.



- well-def on  $\infty$  :  $f(\infty) = \frac{a}{c}$ ,  $f(-\frac{d}{c}) = \infty$  i.e., continuous on  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$

preserves  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}$  if  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$

- composition is nice! note identity is  $\frac{1z+0}{0z+1}$

note  $w = \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \Rightarrow czw + dw = az + b$

$\Rightarrow (cw - a)z = b - dw \Rightarrow z = \frac{-dw + b}{cw - a}$

one easily verifies that matrix mult is "faithful"

Very nice subgroup w/  $\mathbb{R}$ -coeffs,  $\det > 0$   
 called  $\text{PSL}_2\mathbb{R} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, ad - bc = 1 \right\}$   
 These preserve  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}$ ,  $\mathbb{H}$ , and contain dilations, rotations, axial translations.

generally can identify Möb with  $\text{PSL}_2\mathbb{C} = \frac{\text{SL}_2\mathbb{C}}{\pm I}$   
 $= \frac{\text{SL}_2\mathbb{C}}{\pm I}$

- transitivity

-  $\text{PSL}_2\mathbb{C}$  is triply-transitive on  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$

-  $\text{PSL}_2\mathbb{R}$  is triply-transitive on  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}$

Proof ①  $f(z) = [z, q, r, s] := \frac{(z-q)(r-s)}{(z-s)(r-q)}$   $z \mapsto 0$   
 $r \mapsto 1$   
 $s \mapsto \infty$

so  $[z, a', b', c']^{-1} \circ [z, a, b, c]$  does the trick.

② Fixing  $0, 1, \infty \Rightarrow \text{Id}$ . straightforward algebraically.

geometrically, any  $z$  is on 3 circles (w/  $0, 1; 0, \infty; 1, \infty$ )

so [cross-ratio preserves]