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Picard’s theorem

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Let  $f$  be an holomorphic function with an essential singularity at  $w \in \mathbb{C}$ . Then there is a number  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  such that the image of any neighborhood of  $w$  by  $f$  contains  $\mathbb{C} - \{z_0\}$ . In other words,  $f$  assumes every complex value, with the possible exception of  $z_0$ , in any neighborhood of  $w$ .

*Remark.* Little Picard theorem follows as a corollary: Given a nonconstant entire function  $f$ , if it is a polynomial, it assumes every value in  $\mathbb{C}$  as a consequence of the fundamental theorem of algebra. If  $f$  is not a polynomial, then  $g(z) = f(1/z)$  has an essential singularity at 0; Picard's theorem implies that  $g$  (and thus  $f$ ) assumes every complex value, with one possible exception.