

Complex analysis

Luka Horjak (luka1.horjak@gmail.com)

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Introduction

These are my lecture notes on the course Complex analysis in the year 2023/24. The lecturer that year was viš. znan. sod. dr. Rafael Benedikt Andrist.

The notes are not perfect. I did not write down most of the examples that help with understanding the course material. I also did not formally prove every theorem and may have labeled some as trivial or only wrote down the main ideas.

I have most likely made some mistakes when writing these notes – feel free to correct them.

1 Holomorphic functions

1.1 Properties of holomorphic functions

Definition 1.1.1. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset. A function $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is *complex differentiable* in a point $a \in \Omega$ if the limit

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow a} \frac{f(z) - f(a)}{z - a}$$

exists.

Remark 1.1.1.1 (Cauchy-Riemann equations). Denoting $u = \operatorname{Re} f$ and $v = \operatorname{Im} f$ where f is real differentiable in a , f is complex differentiable in a if and only if $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}$ and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$.

Definition 1.1.2. Wirtinger derivatives are defined as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right).$$

Remark 1.1.2.1. A function f is complex differentiable in a if and only if

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}} = 0.$$

In that case, we also have

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(a) = f'(a).$$

Definition 1.1.3. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset. A function $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is *holomorphic in a* if it is complex differentiable in an open neighbourhood of a . The function f is *holomorphic* if it is holomorphic in every point of Ω . We denote the set of holomorphic functions in Ω as $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)$.

Theorem 1.1.4 (Inhomogeneous Cauchy integral formula). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a bounded domain with \mathcal{C}^1 -smooth boundary and $f \in \mathcal{C}^1(\Omega) \cap \mathcal{C}(\bar{\Omega})$. Then, for all $z \in \Omega$, we have

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial\Omega} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} \cdot \frac{1}{w - z} dw \wedge d\bar{w}$$

Proof. As Ω is an open set, there exists an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\overline{\Delta(z, \varepsilon)} \subseteq \Omega$. Define a new domain $\Omega_\varepsilon = \Omega \setminus \overline{\Delta(z, \varepsilon)}$.

We now apply Stokes' theorem to $\omega = \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw$ on Ω_ε . As $d\omega = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} \cdot \frac{1}{w - z} d\bar{w} \wedge dw$, we have

$$\oint_{\partial\Omega_\varepsilon} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw = \iint_{\Omega_\varepsilon} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} \cdot \frac{1}{w - z} d\bar{w} \wedge dw.$$

Note that

$$\oint_{\partial\Omega_\varepsilon} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw = \oint_{\partial\Omega} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw - \oint_{\partial\Delta(z, \varepsilon)} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw.$$

In the limit, we have

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \oint_{\partial \Delta(z, \varepsilon)} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{f(z + \varepsilon e^{it})}{\varepsilon e^{it}} \cdot \varepsilon i e^{it} dt = 2\pi i f(z)$$

by continuity. Also note that

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \iint_{\Omega_\varepsilon} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} \cdot \frac{1}{w - z} d\bar{w} \wedge dw = \iint_{\Omega \setminus \{z\}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} \cdot \frac{1}{w - z} d\bar{w} \wedge dw = \iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} \cdot \frac{1}{w - z} d\bar{w} \wedge dw.$$

Applying the limit to the Stokes' theorem equation, it follows that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial \Omega} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw - f(z) = -\frac{1}{2\pi i} \iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} \cdot \frac{1}{w - z} dw \wedge d\bar{w}. \quad \square$$

Theorem 1.1.5 (Power series expansion). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset, $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ and $a \in \Omega$. The function f can be developed into a power series about a that converges absolutely and uniformly to f in compacts inside $\Delta(a, r)$, where r is the radius of convergence. For

$$c_k = \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial \Delta(a, \rho)} \frac{f(w)}{(w - a)^{k+1}} dw$$

we have

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k \cdot (z - a)^k.$$

Remark 1.1.5.1. The converse is also true – any complex power series defines a holomorphic function inside its radius of convergence.

Remark 1.1.5.2. The radius of convergence is given by the formula

$$\frac{1}{r} = \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[k]{|c_k|}.$$

Theorem 1.1.6 (Identity). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain and $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ a holomorphic function. Let $A \subseteq \Omega$ be a subset such that $f(z) = 0$ for all $z \in A$. If A has an accumulation point in Ω , then $f(z) = 0$ for all $z \in \Omega$.

Proof. Let $a \in \Omega$ be an accumulation point of A . By continuity, we have $f(a) = 0$. We can now write

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=k_0}^{\infty} c_k (z - a)^k,$$

where we assume $c_{k_0} \neq 0$. But now $g(z) = \frac{f(z)}{(z - a)^{k_0}}$ is also holomorphic. Again, by continuity, we must have $g(a) = 0$, which is a contradiction. It follows that $c_k = 0$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$. It follows that the set $\text{Int} \{z \in \Omega \mid f(z) = 0\}$ is non-empty. By the same argument as above, it has an empty boundary and is therefore equal to Ω . \square

Theorem 1.1.7 (Open mapping). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain and $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ a function. If f is not constant, it is an open map.

Proof. We first prove the following lemma:

Lemma. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain and $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$. Suppose that for $a \in \Omega$ and $r > 0$ we have $\overline{\Delta(a, r)} \subseteq \Omega$. If

$$|f(a)| < \min_{\partial\Delta(a, r)} |f|,$$

then f has a zero in $\Delta(a, r)$.

Proof (lemma). Assume otherwise. From the inequality it follows that f has no zeroes on the boundary either. By continuity, f has no zero on an open set V with $\Delta(a, r) \subseteq V$. We can therefore define $g \in \mathcal{O}(V)$ with $g(z) = \frac{1}{f(z)}$. We now have

$$g(a) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial\Delta(a, r)} \frac{g(z)}{z - a} dz = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{g(a + r \cdot e^{it})}{e^{it}} \cdot r i e^{it} dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g(a + r e^{it}) dt.$$

We can therefore get a bound on $|g(a)|$ as

$$|g(a)| \leq \max_{\partial\Delta(a, r)} |g|,$$

but as the condition on f can be rewritten as

$$|g(a)| > \max_{\partial\Delta(a, r)} |g|,$$

we have reached a contradiction. □

Let $U \subseteq \Omega$ be an open set and $w_0 \in f(U)$. Choose a $z_0 \in U$ such that $f(z_0) = w_0$. Choose a $\rho > 0$ such that $\Delta(z_0, \rho) \subseteq U$ and z_0 is the only pre-image of w_0 in $\Delta(z_0, 2\rho)$.¹

Since $\partial\Delta(z_0, \rho)$ is a compact set and

$$|f(z) - w_0| > 0$$

for all $z \in \partial\Delta(z_0, \rho)$, we can choose some $\varepsilon > 0$ such that

$$|f(z) - w_0| > 2\varepsilon$$

holds on the boundary of the disk. Choose a $w \in \Delta(w_0, \varepsilon)$. As we have

$$|f(z) - w| > |f(z) - w_0| - |w_0 - w| \geq \varepsilon$$

on the boundary and

$$|f(z_0) - w| = |w_0 - w| < \varepsilon,$$

by the above lemma, $f(z_0) - w$ has a root on $\Delta(z, \rho)$. □

Theorem 1.1.8 (Maximum principle). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain. If the modulus $|f|$ of a function $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ attains a local maximum, the function f is constant.

¹ If such a disk does not exist, f is constant by the identity theorem.

Proof. Suppose that f is non-constant and that its modulus attains a local maximum at $z \in \Omega$. As f is an open map, it also attains the value $(1 + \varepsilon) \cdot f(z)$, which is a contradiction as the modulus then equals $(1 + \varepsilon) \cdot |f(z)| > |f(z)|$. \square

Theorem 1.1.9 (Maximum principle). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a bounded domain and assume that $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega) \cap \mathcal{C}(\overline{\Omega})$. Then, the maximum of $|f|$ is attained in the boundary $\partial\Omega$.

Proof. As $\overline{\Omega}$ is compact, f attains a global maximum on this set. If the maximum is attained in the interior, f is constant, therefore it is also attained on the boundary. \square

Definition 1.1.10. A function $f: \Omega \setminus \{a\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is *locally bounded* near a if there exists an open neighbourhood $U \subseteq \Omega$ of a such that $f|_{U \setminus \{a\}}$ is bounded.

Theorem 1.1.11 (Riemann removable singularity theorem). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset, $a \in \Omega$ and $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega \setminus \{a\})$. If f is locally bounded near a , then there exists a unique function $F \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ such that $F|_{\Omega \setminus \{a\}} = f$.

Proof. Define the function $F: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ as

$$F(z) = \begin{cases} f(z) & z \in \Omega \setminus \{a\}, \\ \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial\Delta(a,\rho)} \frac{f(w)}{w-a} dw & z = a. \end{cases}$$

It remains to check that F is complex differentiable at a . Indeed, for $z \in \Delta(a, \rho)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{z \rightarrow a} \frac{F(z) - F(a)}{z - a} &= \lim_{z \rightarrow a} \frac{1}{z - a} \oint_{\partial\Delta(a,\rho)} \left(\frac{f(w)}{w-z} - \frac{f(w)}{w-a} \right) dw \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow a} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \cdot \frac{1}{z - a} \cdot \oint_{\partial\Delta(a,\rho)} f(w) \cdot \frac{z - a}{(w - z)(w - a)} dw \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial\Delta(a,\rho)} \frac{f(w)}{(w - a)^2} dw, \end{aligned}$$

which exists. Uniqueness follows from the identity theorem. \square

Theorem 1.1.12 (Schwarz lemma). Let $f: \Delta \rightarrow \Delta$ be a holomorphic function with $f(0) = 0$. Then, $|f'(0)| \leq 1$ and the inequality $|f(z)| \leq |z|$ holds for all $z \in \Delta$. If $|f'(0)| = 1$ or $|f(z)| = |z|$ holds for any $z \neq 0$, then $f(z) = \beta z$ for some $\beta \in \partial\Delta$.

Proof. We can write

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^k.$$

We define

$$g(z) = \frac{f(z)}{z} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^{k-1}.$$

The radius of convergence for both series is at least 1. Now apply the maximum principle for g on the domain $\Delta(\rho)$. We get

$$\sup_{z \in \Delta(\rho)} |g(z)| \leq \max_{|z|=\rho} |g(z)| = \frac{1}{\rho} \max_{|z|=\rho} |f(z)| < \frac{1}{\rho}.$$

In the limit as $\rho \rightarrow 1$, it follows that

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{A}} |g(z)| \leq 1.$$

It immediately follows that $|f'(0)| = |g(0)| \leq 1$. Also note that

$$\frac{|f(z)|}{|z|} \leq \frac{1}{\rho},$$

which in the limit gives

$$|f(z)| \leq |z|.$$

Suppose we have $|f(z_0)| = |z_0|$ for some $z_0 \neq 0$. As then $|g(z_0)| = 1$, it follows that g is constant, therefore $f(z) = \beta z$ for some $\beta \in \partial \mathbb{A}$. If we have $|f'(0)| = 0$, the same argument works for $z_0 = 0$. \square

1.2 The $\bar{\partial}$ equation

Lemma 1.2.1. Let $g \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{C})$ be a function with compact support. Then there exists a function $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{C})$ such that $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}} = g$.

Proof. Let

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \iint_{\mathbb{C}} \frac{g(w)}{w - z} dw \wedge d\bar{w}.$$

As

$$dw \wedge d\bar{w} = -2ri dr \wedge d\varphi$$

holds for polar coordinates centered at z , we can express the integral as

$$f(z) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{\mathbb{C}} \frac{rg(z + re^{i\varphi})}{re^{i\varphi}} dr \wedge d\varphi.$$

We can further simplify the integral, as there exists some R such that $g|_{\mathbb{C} \setminus \Delta(z, R)} = 0$. We get

$$f(z) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{\Delta(z, R)} g(z + re^{i\varphi}) e^{-i\varphi} dr \wedge d\varphi,$$

which obviously converges. The function f is therefore well defined. As we are integrating a smooth function on a compact set, the function f is smooth as well.

For $u = re^{i\varphi}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}}(z) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{\Delta(z, R)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} g(z + re^{i\varphi}) e^{-i\varphi} dr \wedge d\varphi \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \iint_{\Delta(0, R)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} g(u + z) \frac{1}{u} du \wedge d\bar{u} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \iint_{\Delta(0, R)} \frac{\partial g}{\partial \bar{u}}(u + z) \frac{1}{u} du \wedge d\bar{u} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \iint_{\Delta(z, R)} \frac{\partial g}{\partial \bar{w}}(w) \frac{1}{w - z} dw \wedge d\bar{w}. \end{aligned}$$

Now we can apply the inhomogeneous Cauchy integral formula. We get

$$g(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial \Delta(z, R)} \frac{g(w)}{w - z} dw + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \iint_{\Delta(z, R)} \frac{\partial g}{\partial \bar{w}}(w) \frac{1}{w - z} dw \wedge d\bar{w}.$$

by the choice of R , we get

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}}(z) = g(z). \quad \square$$

Lemma 1.2.2. Given bounded domain $U \subset V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\partial U \cap \partial V = \emptyset$, there exists a smooth function $\chi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $\chi|_U = 1$ and $\text{supp } \chi \subseteq V$.

Proof. There is a unit partition on the sets V and $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bar{U}$. \square

Lemma 1.2.3. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset. Let $h_j: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be holomorphic functions. If the sequence $(h_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges uniformly on compact sets, the limit is also holomorphic on Ω .

Theorem 1.2.4 (Dolbeault lemma). Let $g \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\Delta(R))$ for some $R \in (0, \infty]$. Then there exists a function $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\Delta(R))$ such that $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}} = g$.

Proof. Define discs X_j as follows:

- i) If $R = \infty$, set $X_j = \Delta(j)$.
- ii) If $R < \infty$, set $X_j = \Delta\left(R - \frac{1}{j}\right)$ (for large enough j).

Applying the above lemma, define functions χ_j with $\chi_j|_{X_j} = 1$ and $\text{supp } \chi_j \subseteq X_{j+1}$ and set

$$g_j = \begin{cases} \chi_j \cdot g & z \in \Delta(R), \\ 0 & z \notin \Delta(R). \end{cases}$$

This is of course a smooth function, so by lemma 1.2.1 there exists a function $f_j \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{C})$ with

$$\frac{\partial f_j}{\partial \bar{z}} = g_j.$$

We inductively construct a new sequence $\tilde{f}_j \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{C})$ such that

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{f}_j}{\partial \bar{z}} = g$$

on X_j and

$$\|\tilde{f}_j - \tilde{f}_{j-1}\|_{X_{j-2}} \leq 2^{-j}.$$

Set $\tilde{f}_1 = f_1$. Observe the function $F = f_{j+1} - \tilde{f}_j$ on X_j . By construction, we have $\frac{\partial F}{\partial \bar{z}} = 0$ on X_j . It follows that F can be developed into a power series

$$F = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k z^k$$

on X_j . As power series converge uniformly on compact sets, there exists some polynomial $p \in \mathbb{C}[z]$ such that

$$\|F - p\|_{X_{j-1}} \leq 2^{-j}.$$

Now just set $\tilde{f}_{j+1} = f_{j+1} - p$.

Let $z \in \Delta(R)$ be arbitrary. By construction, it is contained in some X_{j_0} , therefore, \tilde{f}_j is defined for $j \geq j_0$. As $(\tilde{f}_j(z))_{j \geq j_0}$ is a Cauchy sequence, we can define

$$f(z) = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{f}_j(z).$$

But as

$$f - \tilde{f}_j = \sum_{k=j}^{\infty} (\tilde{f}_{k+1} - \tilde{f}_k)$$

is a sum of holomorphic functions that converges uniformly, the function $f - \tilde{f}_j$ is a holomorphic function. Therefore, f is smooth and satisfies $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}} = g$. \square

1.3 Meromorphic functions

Definition 1.3.1. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset. We call a function f *meromorphic* of Ω if there exists $A \subset \Omega$ such that $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega \setminus A)$, A has no accumulation points in Ω and for all $a \in A$ there exists some $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow a} f(z) \cdot (z - a)^k \neq 0$$

exists. We call A the set of *poles* of the function f . We denote the set of meromorphic functions on Ω with $\mathcal{M}(\Omega)$.

Theorem 1.3.2. Let $0 \leq r < R \leq \infty$. Suppose that $f \in \mathcal{O}(D_{R,r}(a))$ is a holomorphic function, where

$$D_{R,r}(a) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid r < |z - a| < R\}.$$

Then there exists a uniquely determined *Laurent series*

$$\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} c_k (z - a)^k$$

that converges to f uniformly and absolutely on compact subsets of $D_{R,r}(a)$. We have

$$c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial \Delta(a, \rho)} \frac{f(w)}{(w - a)^k} dw$$

for $r < \rho < R$.

Definition 1.3.3. Let

$$\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} c_k (z - a)^k$$

be a Laurent series. The series

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{-1} c_k (z - a)^k$$

is called the *principle part*.

Lemma 1.3.4. Let $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega \setminus \{a\})$ be a holomorphic function. Then f is meromorphic on Ω if and only if f has a finite principle part in a .

Proof. Suppose that f is meromorphic on Ω . If a is a removable singularity, f is holomorphic in a , therefore the principle part is trivial. Otherwise, set $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow a} (z - a)^m f(z) \neq 0$$

exists and set $g(z) = (z - a)^m f(z)$. As g is bounded near a , we can extend it to Ω by the Riemann removable singularity theorem. The power series of g corresponds to a finite Laurent series of f .

The converse is obvious. □

Theorem 1.3.5. If $f \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{C})$ is a meromorphic function, there exist entire functions g and h such that $f = \frac{g}{h}$.

Definition 1.3.6. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open set. An *additive Cousin problem* on Ω is an open cover $\{U_j\}_{j \in J}$ of Ω and functions $f_j \in \mathcal{M}(U_j)$ such that $f_j - f_k|_{U_j \cap U_k}$ is holomorphic for all $j, k \in J$. A function $f \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ is a solution to the additive Cousin problem if $f|_{U_j} - f_j$ is holomorphic for all $j \in J$.

Definition 1.3.7. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset. A *generalized additive Cousin problem* is an open cover $\{U_j\}_{j \in J}$ of Ω and functions $f_{j,k} \in \mathcal{O}(U_j \cap U_k)$ for each $(j, k) \in J^2$, such that

- i) $f_{j,k} = -f_{k,j}$ on $U_j \cap U_k$ for all $(j, k) \in J^2$ and
- ii) $f_{j,k} + f_{k,\ell} + f_{\ell,j} = 0$ on $U_j \cap U_k \cap U_\ell$ for all $(j, k, \ell) \in J^3$.

A solution to the generalized additive Cousin problem is given by functions $f_j \in \mathcal{O}(U_j)$ for each $j \in J$ such that $F_{j,k} = f_j - f_k$ for each $(j, k) \in J^2$.

Lemma 1.3.8 (Partition of unity). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open set and $\{U_j\}_{j \in J}$ be an open cover of Ω . Then there exists a partition of unity subordinate to $\{U_j\}_{j \in J}$.

Lemma 1.3.9. Given a generalized additive Cousin problem on $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$, there exist functions $g_j \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(U_j)$ such that $f_{j,k} = g_j - g_k$ for all $(j, k) \in J^2$.

Proof. Let $\{(V_a, \chi_a)\}_{a \in A}$ be a partition of unity, subordinate to $\{U_j\}_{j \in J}$. For all $a \in A$ choose a $j(a) \in J$ such that $V_a \subseteq U_{j(a)}$. For all $k \in J$, define

$$g_k = - \sum_{a \in A} \chi_a \cdot f_{j(a),k}.$$

This is of course a smooth function on U_k . Now note that

$$g_k - g_\ell = \sum_{a \in A} \chi_a \cdot (-f_{j(a),k} + f_{j(a),\ell}) = \sum_{a \in A} \chi_a \cdot f_{k,\ell} = f_{k,\ell}. \quad \square$$

Proposition 1.3.10. The generalized additive Cousin problem is solvable for $\Omega = \Delta(r)$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{C}$.

Proof. Let $f_{j,k} = g_j - g_k$ for $g_j \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(U_j)$. Note that

$$\frac{\partial g_j}{\partial \bar{z}} = \frac{\partial g_k}{\partial \bar{z}},$$

therefore,

$$h|_{U_j} = \frac{\partial g_j}{\partial \bar{z}}$$

induces a smooth function $h: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. By the Dolbeault lemma, there exists a function $g \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\frac{\partial g}{\partial \bar{z}} = h$. It is clear that $f_j = g_j - g$ solves the generalized additive Cousin problem. \square

Proposition 1.3.11. The additive Cousin problem is solvable for $\Omega = \Delta(r)$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{C}$.

Proof. An additive Cousin problem induces a generalized additive Cousin problem for functions $f_{j,k} = f_j - f_k$. Let g_j be a solution to the generalized problem. As $f_j - f_k = f_{j,k} = g_j - g_k$ on $U_j \cap U_k$, we can define a function $f \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ with $f|_{U_j} = f_j - g_j$. This function is of course well defined. As $f|_{U_j} - f_j = g_j \in \mathcal{O}(U_j)$, this function indeed solves the additive Cousin problem. \square

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Theorem 1.3.12 (Mittag-Leffler). Let $(a_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence without repetition and accumulation points. Let

$$f_k(z) = \sum_{\ell=-m_k}^{-1} c_{k,\ell} (z - a_k)^\ell$$

be finite principal parts. Then there exists a meromorphic function $f \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{C})$ with poles in $(a_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that f has principle part f_k in a_k for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. For each a_k choose a disk U_k containing no other a_k . Also set $U_0 = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{a_k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ and $f_0 = 0$. As $\{U_k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ is an open cover of \mathbb{C} , there exists a meromorphic function $f \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{C})$ that solves the corresponding additive Cousin problem. It is easy to see that the principle parts of f at a_k are precisely f_k . \square

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