

Complex analysis

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Contents

Introduction	3
1 Holomorphic functions	4
1.1 Properties of holomorphic functions	4
1.2 The $\bar{\partial}$ equation	9
1.3 Meromorphic functions	12
1.4 Sequences of holomorphic functions	15
1.5 Riemann mapping theorem	18
Index	22

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

Lemma 1.1.7. 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. 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

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

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. □

Theorem 1.1.8 (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. 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, $f(z) - w$ has a root on $\Delta(z, \rho)$. □

Theorem 1.1.9 (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 1.1.10 (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 1.1.11. 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 1.1.12 (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 1.1.13 (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 partition of unity 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 .

Proof. Apply Morera's theorem.² □

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 disks 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

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

² Analysis 2b, theorem 3.4.6.

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

October 18, 2023

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

1.4 Sequences of holomorphic functions

Definition 1.4.1. A family of functions \mathcal{F} from Ω to \mathbb{C} is *locally bounded*, if for all $p \in \Omega$ there exist a $\rho > 0$ and $M > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sup_{z \in \Delta(p, \rho)} |f(z)| < M.$$

Lemma 1.4.2. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset and $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ a locally bounded family of functions. Then for all $p \in \Omega$ there exists a $\rho > 0$ such that \mathcal{F} is equi-continuous on $\Omega \cap \Delta(p, \rho)$.

Proof. Fix $p \in \Omega$ and choose $r > 0$ such that $D = \overline{\Delta(p, 2r)} \subseteq \Omega$. For any $z, w \in D$ and $f \in \mathcal{F}$ we have

$$f(z) - f(w) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial D} \frac{f(\xi)}{\xi - z} d\xi - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial D} \frac{f(\xi)}{\xi - w} d\xi = \frac{z - w}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial D} \frac{f(\xi)}{(\xi - z)(\xi - w)} d\xi.$$

Note that the family \mathcal{F} is bounded on every compact. Therefore, we can write

$$\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sup_{z \in \partial D} |f(z)| < M.$$

Now, for $z, w \in \Delta(p, r)$ we have

$$|f(z) - f(w)| = \left| \frac{z - w}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial D} \frac{f(\xi)}{(\xi - z)(\xi - w)} d\xi \right| \leq |z - w| \cdot \frac{2M}{r}. \quad \square$$

Theorem 1.4.3 (Arzelà-Ascoli). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset and let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ be an infinite family such that the following conditions hold:

- i) \mathcal{F} is point-wise bounded.
- ii) \mathcal{F} is locally equi-continuous.

Then there \mathcal{F} contains a sequence that converges uniformly on compacts of Ω .

Proof. Choose a dense countable subset $A \subseteq \Omega$ and enumerate it as a sequence $(a_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$. Pick any sequence $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ with pairwise distinct terms. As $|f_n(a_1)| < M$ for all n , we can choose a subsequence $(f_{1,n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that $f_{1,n}(a_1)$ converges by Bolzano-Weierstrass.

Similarly, for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists a subsequence $(f_{k,n})_n$ of $(f_{k-1,n})_n$ such that $(f_{k,n}(a_k))_n$ converges. Now define $F_n = f_{n,n}$. Observe that (F_n) converges at every point in A .

Fix a $p \in \Omega$. By local equi-continuity, there exists a $\rho > 0$ such that for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $\delta < \rho$ and $|F_n(z) - F_n(w)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$ for all $z, w \in \Delta(p, \rho)$ such that $|z - w| < \delta$. Choose an element $a \in A \cap \Delta(p, \delta)$.³ Then, we have

$$|F_n(z) - F_m(z)| \leq |F_n(z) - F_n(a)| + |F_n(a) - F_m(a)| + |F_m(a) - F_m(z)| < 3 \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

It follows that (F_n) is locally uniformly convergent, therefore it converges uniformly on compact sets. \square

³ By compactness of $\overline{\Delta(p, \rho)}$ we can choose a from a finite set.

Theorem 1.4.4 (Montel). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset and $f_n: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a locally bounded sequence of holomorphic functions. Then $(f_n)_n$ contains a subsequence that converges uniformly on compacts.

Proof. As the sequence is locally bounded, it is locally equi-continuous by lemma 1.4.2. By Arzelà-Ascoli, there exists a convergent subsequence. \square

Definition 1.4.5. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset. A family of functions $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ is *normal* if every sequence in \mathcal{F} contains a subsequence that converges uniformly on compacts.

Theorem 1.4.6 (Montel). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open subset. A family $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ is normal if and only if it is locally bounded.

Proof. The proof is obvious and need not be mentioned. \square

Theorem 1.4.7 (Vitali). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain and $(f_n)_n \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ a locally bounded sequence of holomorphic functions. The following statements are equivalent:

- i) The sequence $(f_n)_n$ converges uniformly on compact subsets of Ω .
- ii) For a point $p \in \Omega$ the sequence $(f_n^{(k)}(p))_n$ converges for all $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$.
- iii) The set

$$A = \left\{ z \in \Omega \mid \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(z) \text{ converges} \right\}$$

has an accumulation point in Ω .

Proof. Suppose that the sequence converges uniformly on compact subsets. Given a $p \in \Omega$, choose a $\delta > 0$ such that $D = \overline{\Delta(p, \delta)} \subseteq \Omega$. Note that

$$|g^{(k)}(p)| \leq \frac{k!}{\delta^k} \cdot \|g\|_D$$

holds for all holomorphic functions g . As $\|f - f_n\|$ converges to 0, the derivatives of f_n converge.

Suppose that the sequences of derivatives converge at a point $p \in \Omega$ and choose a $\delta > 0$ such that $D = \overline{\Delta(p, \delta)} \subseteq \Omega$. As the sequence is locally bounded, there exists a constant M such that $\|f_n\|_D \leq M$ holds for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We can now develop power series

$$f_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{k,n}(z-p)^k.$$

They converge uniformly on compact subsets of $\Delta(p, \delta)$. Note that

$$a_{k,n} = \frac{f_n^{(k)}(p)}{k!}.$$

As derivatives converge, we can define the limit

$$a_k = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{k,n}.$$

Now define the formal power series

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k (z - p)^k.$$

The Cauchy bounds give us the inequality

$$|a_{k,n}| = \frac{|f^{(k)}(p)|}{k!} \leq \frac{M}{\delta^k},$$

therefore

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[k]{|a_k|} \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[k]{M}}{\delta} = \frac{1}{\delta}.$$

We conclude that the radius of convergence is at least δ . Consider some $\rho \in (0, \delta)$ and $z \in \mathbb{A}(p, \rho)$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} |f_n(z) - f(z)| &\leq \left| \sum_{k=0}^m (a_{k,n} - a_k) \cdot (p - z)^k \right| + \left| \sum_{k=m+1}^{\infty} (a_{k,n} - a_k) \cdot (p - z)^k \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{k=0}^m |a_{k,n} - a_k| \rho^k + \sum_{k=m+1}^{\infty} 2M \cdot \frac{\rho^k}{\delta^k} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^m |a_{k,n} - a_k| \rho^k + 2M \cdot \left(\frac{\rho}{\delta}\right)^{m+1} \cdot \frac{\delta}{\delta - \rho} \\ &= 2 \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \end{aligned}$$

for large enough m and n . It follows that p is an accumulation point of A .

Suppose now that A has an accumulation point in Ω . By Montel's theorem there exists a subsequence $(f_{n_m})_m$ that converges uniformly on compact subsets of Ω to a limit function f . Note that all such subsequences have the same limit by the identity principle.

Assume that the sequence $(f_n)_n$ does not converge uniformly on a compact subset $K \subseteq \Omega$. We can therefore construct another subsequence $(g_n)_n$ of $(f_n)_n$ such that

$$\|g_n - f\|_K > \varepsilon$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. But note that $(g_n)_n$ also has a convergent subsequence by Montel's theorem, which is of course a contradiction, as it cannot converge to f . \square

1.5 Riemann mapping theorem

Definition 1.5.1. A domain $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ is *simply connected* if every closed path in Ω is homotopic to a constant path in Ω .

Lemma 1.5.2. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$ be a domain and $a \in \Omega$. Assume that Ω admits a square root for all function $g \in \mathcal{O}^*(\Omega)$. Then there exists a holomorphic injection $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$ such that $f(a) = 0$.

Proof. Fix a point $p \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Omega$. By our assumption, there exists a function $v \in \mathcal{O}^*(\Omega)$ such that $v(z)^2 = z - p$. Note that v is injective. Similarly, we have $v(\Omega) \cap -v(\Omega) = \emptyset$. Now choose a point $b \in -v(\Omega)$. As v is not constant, it is an open map. Therefore, there exists some $r > 0$ such that $\mathbb{A}(b, r) \cap v(\Omega) = \emptyset$. The Möbius transformation

$$h(w) = r \cdot \left(\frac{1}{w - b} - \frac{1}{v(a) - b} \right)$$

thus maps $v(\Omega)$ into \mathbb{A} . The map f is therefore given as $f = h \circ v$. \square

Definition 1.5.3. An *expansion* is a map $\kappa: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$ where $0 \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{A}$ such that $\kappa(0) = 0$ and $|\kappa(z)| > |z|$ holds for all $z \neq 0$.

Lemma 1.5.4. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{A}$ be a domain with $0 \in \Omega$. Assume that Ω admits a square root for all function $g \in \mathcal{O}^*(\Omega)$. Choose $c \in \mathbb{A}$ such that $c^2 \notin \Omega$. For all $a \in \mathbb{A}$, let

$$g_a = \frac{z - a}{\bar{a}z - 1}$$

and choose $v \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ such that $v(z)^2 = g_{c^2}(z)$ and $v(0) = c$. Then the map $\kappa = g_c \circ v$ is an expansion and

$$g_{c^2} \circ (z \mapsto z^2) \circ g_c \circ \kappa = \text{id}_\Omega.$$

Proof. Note that v is indeed well-defined. Also note that

$$g_{c^2} \circ (z \mapsto z^2) \circ g_c \circ \kappa = g_{c^2} \circ (z \mapsto z^2) \circ v = g_{c^2} \circ g_{c^2} = \text{id}.$$

We of course have $\kappa(0) = 0$. Denote $\psi_c = g_{c^2} \circ (z \mapsto z^2) \circ g_c$. It remains to check that $|\kappa(z)| > |z|$, which is equivalent to $|\psi_c(z)| < |z|$ for $z \neq 0$ as $\psi_c \circ \kappa = \text{id}$. Note that $\psi_c: \mathbb{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$ is holomorphic. As it is not a rotation (it is not injective), the conclusion follows from the Schwarz lemma. \square

Lemma 1.5.5 (Hurwitz). Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain and let $f_n: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be holomorphic functions. Suppose that the sequence $(f_n)_n$ converges uniformly on compacts of Ω to a non-constant function $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. Then for all points $p \in \Omega$ there exists a sequence $(p_n)_n \subseteq \Omega$ with limit p such that $f_n(p_n) = f(p)$ for all $n > N$.

Proof. Let $w = f(p)$. There exists a disk $\mathbb{A}(p, \delta)$ such that $f(z) \neq w$ for all points $z \in \mathbb{A}(p, \delta) \setminus \{p\}$. Note that we have

$$\min_{z \in \partial \mathbb{A}(p, \delta)} |f(z) - w| > |f(p) - w| = 0.$$

As $(f_n)_n$ converges uniformly on $\overline{\Delta(p, \delta)}$, there exists some $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq n_0$ we have

$$\min_{z \in \partial \Delta(p, \delta)} |f_n(z) - w| > |f_n(p) - w|.$$

By lemma 1.1.7, $f_n(z) - w$ has a root $p_n \in \Delta(p, \delta)$. For any convergent subsequence $(p_{n_k})_k$ with limit q we have

$$f(p) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f_{n_k}(p_{n_k}) = f(q),$$

therefore $p = q$. □

Corollary 1.5.5.1. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain and $f_n: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be holomorphic functions such that $(f_n)_n$ converges uniformly on compacts of Ω to $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. If all the f_n are nowhere vanishing and $f \neq 0$, then f is nowhere vanishing.

Proof. The proof is obvious and need not be mentioned. □

Theorem 1.5.6 (Hurwitz). Let $\Omega, \Omega' \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be domains and $f_n: \Omega \rightarrow \Omega'$ be holomorphic functions that converge uniformly on compacts of Ω to $f: \Omega \rightarrow \Omega'$. Assume that f is not constant.

- i) If $f_n: \Omega \rightarrow \Omega'$ is injective, f is also injective.
- ii) We have $f(\Omega) \subseteq \Omega'$.

Proof.

- i) Let $p \in \Omega$ and observe the functions $g_n(z) = f_n(z) - f_n(p)$. This is a sequence of nowhere vanishing functions. As f is not constant, $f(z) - f(p)$ is nowhere vanishing as well. It follows that f is injective.
- ii) Suppose otherwise and apply the Hurwitz lemma for a point p with $f(p) \notin \Omega'$. □

Theorem 1.5.7 (Riemann mapping). For a proper domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$ the following are equivalent:

- i) Ω is simply connected.
- ii) Ω admits a logarithm for any $f \in \mathcal{O}^*(\Omega)$.
- iii) Ω admits a square root for any $f \in \mathcal{O}^*(\Omega)$.
- iv) Ω is biholomorphic to Δ .

Proof. Note that if Ω is biholomorphic to Δ , it is of course simply connected. Suppose that Ω is simply connected. Then

$$F(z) = a + \int_{z_0}^z \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} dz$$

defines a logarithm for any $f \in \mathcal{O}^*(\Omega)$. Given a logarithm of a function, we can of course construct a square root with $\sqrt{f} = e^{\frac{1}{2} \ln f}$. It remains to check that all domains admitting square roots are biholomorphic to Δ .

By lemma 1.5.2 we can assume that $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{A}$ and $0 \in \Omega$. Now define the family of functions

$$\mathcal{F} = \{f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{A} \mid f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega) \wedge f(0) = 0 \wedge f \text{ is injective}\}.$$

If \mathcal{F} has no biholomorphic map, it is infinite. Note that \mathcal{F} is bounded, so it is normal by Montel.

Choose a point $p \in \Omega$ with $p \neq 0$. We claim that if $h \in \mathcal{F}$ and

$$|h(p)| = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |f(p)|,$$

we have $h(\Omega) = \mathbb{A}$. Indeed, if that were not the case, we'd reach a contradiction with the expansion κ of Ω as

$$|\kappa(h(p))| > |h(p)|$$

and $\kappa \circ h \in \mathcal{F}$.

Let

$$M = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |f(p)|$$

and find a sequence $(f_n)_n \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |f_n(p)| = M.$$

As \mathcal{F} is a normal family, there exists a convergent subsequence. The limit is not constant as $f(p) \neq 0$. By Hurwitz, f is injective and $f(\Omega) \subseteq \mathbb{A}$. By the above claim, we have $f(\Omega) = \mathbb{A}$. \square

Lemma 1.5.8. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a bounded domain and $f: \overline{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ a continuous map such that $f|_{\Omega}$ is an open map. Let $a \in \Omega$ be a point such that

$$s = \min_{z \in \partial\Omega} |f(z) - f(a)| > 0.$$

Then $f(\Omega)$ contains the disk $\mathbb{A}(f(a), s)$.

Proof. By compactness, there exists a $w_0 \in \partial f(\Omega)$ such that $d(\partial f(\Omega), f(a)) = |w_0 - f(a)|$. Let $(z_k)_k \subseteq \Omega$ be a sequence, convergent to z_0 , such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(z_k) = w_0.$$

Of course $f(z_0) = w_0$. Note that, as $f|_{\Omega}$ is open, we have $z_0 \in \partial\Omega$. But then

$$d(\partial f(\Omega), f(a)) = |f(z_0) - f(a)| \geq s. \quad \square$$

Lemma 1.5.9. Let f be a non-constant function, holomorphic in a neighbourhood of $\overline{\mathbb{A}(a, r)}$. Assume that

$$\sup_{z \in \overline{\mathbb{A}(a, r)}} |f'(z)| \leq 2 |f'(a)|.$$

Then $\mathbb{A}(f(a), R) \subseteq f(\mathbb{A}(a, r))$, where

$$R = (3 - 2\sqrt{2}) \cdot r \cdot |f'(a)|.$$

Proof. Without loss of generality assume that $a = f(a) = 0$. Define

$$A(z) = f(z) - f'(0)z = \int_0^1 (f'(tz) - f'(0)) z dt.$$

Note that

$$f'(v) - f'(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial \Delta(a,r)} f'(\xi) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\xi - v} - \frac{1}{\xi} \right) d\xi,$$

therefore

$$|f'(v) - f'(0)| \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot |v| \cdot \frac{\|f'\|_{\Delta(a,r)}}{r \cdot (r - |v|)} \cdot 2\pi r = |v| \cdot \frac{\|f'\|_{\Delta(a,r)}}{r - |v|}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} |A(z)| &\leq \int_0^1 |z| \cdot |f'(tz) - f'(0)| dt \\ &\leq |z| \cdot \int_0^1 |tz| \cdot \frac{\|f'\|_{\Delta(a,r)}}{r - |tz|} dt \\ &\leq |z|^2 \cdot \|f'\|_{\Delta(a,r)} \cdot \int_0^1 t \cdot \frac{1}{r - |z|} \\ &= |z|^2 \cdot \frac{|f'(0)|}{r - |z|}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, using the triangle inequality, we get

$$|f(z)| \geq |z| \cdot |f'(0)| - |A(z)|.$$

Let $|z| = \rho \in (0, r)$. We get

$$|f(z)| \geq \rho \cdot |f'(0)| - |A(z)| \geq \rho \cdot |f'(0)| - \frac{\rho^2}{r - \rho} \cdot |f'(0)| \geq |f'(0)| \cdot \left(\rho - \frac{\rho^2}{r - \rho} \right).$$

Note that there exists a ρ_0 such that

$$\rho - \frac{\rho^2}{r - \rho} = r \cdot (3 - 2\sqrt{2}).$$

Therefore, we get

$$|f(z)| \geq |f'(0)| \cdot r \cdot (3 - 2\sqrt{2}).$$

Now just apply the previous lemma to the disk $\Delta(0, \rho_0)$. □

Theorem 1.5.10 (Bloch). Let f be a function, holomorphic in a neighbourhood of \mathbb{A} , with $f'(0) = 1$. Then $f(\mathbb{A})$ contains a disk of radius $\frac{3}{2} - \sqrt{2}$.

Index

A

additive Cousin problem, [13](#)

 generalized, [13](#)

Arzelà-Ascoli theorem, [15](#)

B

Bloch's theorem, [21](#)

C

Cauchy integral formula, [4](#)

Cauchy-Riemann equations, [4](#)

D

Dolbeaut lemma, [10](#)

E

expansion, [18](#)

F

function

 complex differentiable, [4](#)

 holomorphic, [4](#)

H

Hurwitz

 lemma, [18](#)

 theorem, [19](#)

I

identity theorem, [5](#)

L

Laurent series, [12](#)

locally bounded, [7](#)

locally bounded functions, [15](#)

M

maximum principle, [6](#)

meromorphic function, [12](#)

Mittag-Leffler theorem, [14](#)

Montel's theorem, [16](#)

N

normal family, [16](#)

O

open mapping theorem, [6](#)

P

pole, [12](#)

principle part, [12](#)

R

Riemann

 mapping theorem, [19](#)

 removable singularity theorem, [7](#)

S

Schwarz

 lemma, [7](#)

simply connected, [18](#)

V

Vitali's theorem, [16](#)

W

Wirtinger derivatives, [4](#)