

COMPLEX VARIABLES CHEATSHEET

Complex Numbers Algebra

Fundamental Representations

- Let $z \in \mathbb{C}$.
- Cartesian Form:** $z = x + iy$
- $x = \operatorname{Re}(z)$ is the real part.
- $y = \operatorname{Im}(z)$ is the imaginary part.
- Polar Form:** $z = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$
- $r = |z| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ is the modulus (magnitude).
- $\theta = \arg(z)$ is the argument (angle).
- Exponential Form (Euler's Formula):**
- $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$
- $z = re^{i\theta}$

Complex Conjugate

- If $z = x + iy$, the conjugate is $\bar{z} = x - iy$.
- $\bar{\bar{z}} = z$
- $z\bar{z} = |z|^2 = x^2 + y^2$
- $\operatorname{Re}(z) = \frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}$, $\operatorname{Im}(z) = \frac{z - \bar{z}}{2i}$

Multiplication & Division

- Let $z_1 = r_1 e^{i\theta_1}$ and $z_2 = r_2 e^{i\theta_2}$.
- Multiplication:** $z_1 z_2 = r_1 r_2 e^{i(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$
- Magnitudes multiply, angles add.
- Division:** $\frac{z_1}{z_2} = \frac{r_1}{r_2} e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}$
- Magnitudes divide, angles subtract.

Functions of a Complex Variable

Mapping A complex function $f(z)$ maps a point z in the complex plane (the domain) to a point $w = f(z)$ in another complex plane (the codomain or image).

- $w = f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$, where $z = x + iy$.
- $u(x, y)$ is the real part of the output.
- $v(x, y)$ is the imaginary part of the output.

Limits

- $\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) = L$ means $f(z)$ approaches L as z approaches z_0 **from any direction**.
- If the limit differs along two different paths to z_0 , the limit does not exist.

Strategies for Evaluating Limits

- Direct Substitution:** If $f(z_0)$ is defined and the function is continuous, the limit is $f(z_0)$.
- Test Along Paths:** To show a limit DNE, approach z_0 along two paths and get different results.
 - Along the real axis: let $z = x + iy_0$, take $x \rightarrow x_0$.
 - Along the imaginary axis: let $z = x_0 + iy$, take $y \rightarrow y_0$.
 - Along a line: let $z = z_0 + re^{i\phi}$, take $r \rightarrow 0$ (for fixed ϕ).
- Squeeze Theorem:** If $|f(z)| \leq g(z)$ and $\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} g(z) = 0$, then $\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) = 0$.

Continuity A function $f(z)$ is continuous at z_0 if:

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

Derivatives Analyticity

The Complex Derivative The derivative of $f(z)$ at z_0 is:

$$f'(z_0) = \lim_{\Delta z \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z_0 + \Delta z) - f(z_0)}{\Delta z}$$

- The limit must be the same regardless of how Δz approaches 0.

Cauchy-Riemann Equations A function $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ is differentiable at a point $z = x + iy$ if and only if the partial derivatives of u and v exist and satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann (C-R) equations.

Cartesian Form:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

If these hold and the partials are continuous, the derivative is:

$$f'(z) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

Polar Form: For $z = re^{i\theta}$ and $f(z) = u(r, \theta) + iv(r, \theta)$.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}$$

If these hold and the partials are continuous, the derivative is:

$$f'(z) = e^{-i\theta} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} \right)$$

Analyticity

- A function $f(z)$ is **analytic** at a point z_0 if it is differentiable at z_0 and in a small disk around z_0 .
- A function is **analytic in a region** if it is analytic at every point in that region.
- An **entire function** is analytic on the entire complex plane \mathbb{C} . Examples: e^z , $\sin(z)$, $\cos(z)$, polynomials.
- If C-R equations hold for a region, $f(z)$ is analytic there.

Elementary Transformations

Powers of z

- Let $z = re^{i\theta}$. The function $f(z) = z^n$ for integer n is:

$$w = z^n = (re^{i\theta})^n = r^n e^{in\theta}$$

Geometric Effect:

- The magnitude is raised to the power n : $|w| = |z|^n$.
- The angle is multiplied by n : $\arg(w) = n \cdot \arg(z)$.
- This means points are rotated by a factor of n and their distance from the origin is scaled by a power of n .
- A sector of angle α in the z -plane is mapped to a sector of angle $n\alpha$ in the w -plane.

Roots of Complex Numbers

- The n -th roots of a complex number $z_0 = r_0 e^{i\theta_0}$ are the solutions to $w^n = z_0$.
- There are exactly n distinct roots, given by:

$$w_k = \sqrt[n]{r_0} \exp \left[i \left(\frac{\theta_0 + 2\pi k}{n} \right) \right]$$

- for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$.

How to Calculate Roots:

- Write the number z_0 in exponential form $r_0 e^{i\theta_0}$. Be sure to use the principal argument for θ_0 .
- The magnitude of all roots is the same: $\sqrt[n]{r_0}$.
- Find the angle of the first root ($k = 0$): $\frac{\theta_0}{n}$.
- The other roots are spaced evenly around a circle. Add increments of $\frac{2\pi}{n}$ to the angle for each subsequent root.

Example: Cube roots of 8i

- Polar form: $z = 8i = 8e^{i\pi/2}$. Here $r_0 = 8$, $\theta_0 = \pi/2$, $n = 3$.
- Magnitude of roots: $\sqrt[3]{8} = 2$.
- Angles: $\frac{\pi/2 + 2\pi k}{3}$ for $k = 0, 1, 2$.
 - $k = 0$: $\frac{\pi/2}{3} = \frac{\pi}{6}$
 - $k = 1$: $\frac{\pi/2 + 2\pi}{3} = \frac{5\pi}{6}$
 - $k = 2$: $\frac{\pi/2 + 4\pi}{3} = \frac{9\pi}{6} = \frac{3\pi}{2}$
- The roots are: $w_0 = 2e^{i\pi/6}$, $w_1 = 2e^{i5\pi/6}$, $w_2 = 2e^{i3\pi/2}$.

The Exponential Function

- $f(z) = e^z = e^{x+iy} = e^x e^{iy} = e^x (\cos y + i \sin y)$.
- $|e^z| = e^x$ and $\arg(e^z) = y$.
- Periodic with period $2\pi i$: $e^{z+2\pi i} = e^z$.
- Maps horizontal lines ($y = c$) to rays from the origin.
- Maps vertical lines ($x = c$) to circles of radius e^c .

Logarithmic Function (Principal Value)

- The inverse of e^z , but multi-valued.
- Principal Value: $\operatorname{Log}(z) = \ln |z| + i \operatorname{Arg}(z)$
- where $\operatorname{Arg}(z)$ is the principal argument, $-\pi < \operatorname{Arg}(z) \leq \pi$.
- The "branch cut" is usually on the negative real axis.

Complex Trigonometric Functions

Definitions from Euler's Formula

- $\cos(z) = \frac{e^{iz} + e^{-iz}}{2}$
- $\sin(z) = \frac{e^{iz} - e^{-iz}}{2i}$

These are entire functions. Unlike their real counterparts, complex sine and cosine are **unbounded**.

Hyperbolic Functions

- $\cosh(z) = \frac{e^z + e^{-z}}{2}$
- $\sinh(z) = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{2}$

Relations:

- $\cos(iy) = \cosh(y)$
- $\sin(iy) = i \sinh(y)$
- $\cosh(iz) = \cos(z)$
- $\sinh(iz) = i \sin(z)$

Rectangular Form of Sin/Cos

- $z = x + iy$
- $\sin(z) = \sin(x) \cosh(y) + i \cos(x) \sinh(y)$
- $\cos(z) = \cos(x) \cosh(y) - i \sin(x) \sinh(y)$

Important Definitions

- Contour:** A continuous chain of a finite number of smooth curves.
- Simple Contour:** A contour that does not cross itself.
- Closed Contour:** A contour whose start and end points are the same.
- Domain:** An open connected set of points.
- Simply Connected Domain:** A domain with no "holes". Any simple closed contour in the domain encloses only points within the domain.
- Singular Point (Singularity):** A point where a function is not analytic.
- Harmonic Functions:** Real-valued functions $u(x, y)$ and $v(x, y)$ that satisfy Laplace's equation ($\nabla^2 u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$). The real and imaginary parts of an analytic function are harmonic conjugates.