

**Euler's Formula (L. Euler (1707-1783)).**

$$e^z = 1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{z^n}{n!} \dots,$$

$$\cos z = 1 - \frac{z^2}{2!} + \frac{z^4}{4!} - \dots,$$

$$\sin z = z - \frac{z^3}{3!} + \frac{z^5}{5!} - \dots$$

Take  $z = i\theta$ ,  $\theta$  real:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{i\theta} &= 1 + i\theta - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} - \frac{i\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \frac{i\theta^5}{5!} \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \dots\right) + i\left(\theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots\right) \\ &= \cos \theta + i \sin \theta. \end{aligned}$$

This is implicit in the *Argand representation*:

$$z = x + iy = r \cos \theta + ir \sin \theta = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta) = re^{i\theta};$$

$r = |z| := \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$  is the *modulus* of  $z$ ,  $\theta$ , where  $\tan \theta = y/x$  (so  $\theta = \tan^{-1} z$ ) is the *argument* of  $z$ .

Note. 1. The argument (or  $\tan^{-1}$ , like  $\sin^{-1}$  and  $\cos^{-1}$ ) is many-valued; see later.

2. Take  $\theta = \pi$ ; then

$$e^{i\pi} = -1.$$

**The extended complex plane  $\mathbf{C}^*$ .**

$\mathbf{R}$  is totally ordered, so there are two directions in which to “go off to infinity”, right to  $+\infty$ , and left to  $-\infty$ . We write  $\mathbf{R}^* := \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\} \cup \{-\infty\}$ . What about  $\mathbf{C}$ ?

On  $\mathbf{R}$ , recall graphs with asymptotes, e.g.  $g(x) = 1/x$  or  $g(x) = \tan(x)$ . This suggests that, in some sense, ‘ $+\infty$  and  $-\infty$  are the same place’.

**Stereographic Projection** (G.F. RIEMANN (1826-66) in 1851), PTOLEMY, c. 160 AD).

Draw a picture of the unit sphere ('Earth'), showing the following:

$\Sigma$  Unit sphere

$C$  Unit circle in  $Oxy$  ("Equator")

N,S North and South poles

GM "Greenwich Meridian"

Line NP cuts  $Oxy$ -plane in  $P'$ .

$$P \longrightarrow P'$$

is called *stereographic projection*.

$P$  Northern Hemisphere  $\longleftrightarrow P'$  outside unit circle  $C$

$P$  Southern Hemisphere  $\longleftrightarrow P'$  inside unit circle  $C$

$P$  on equator  $\longleftrightarrow P' = P$  on unit circle

$P$  South Pole S  $\longleftrightarrow P'$  origin 0

$P$  North Pole N  $\longleftrightarrow P' ?$

Stereographic projection gives a 1-1 correspondence between the complex plane  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\Sigma \setminus \{N\}$ . Call this the *punctured sphere*

$$\Sigma' := \Sigma \setminus \{N\}.$$

We now complete  $\Sigma'$  to get  $\Sigma$ , by including the North Pole N. This corresponds (under stereographic projection) to completing  $\mathbf{C}$  to get  $\mathbf{C}^*$ :

$$\mathbf{C}^* := \mathbf{C} \cup \{\infty\},$$

where  $\infty$ , the "point at infinity in  $\mathbf{C}$ ", corresponds to "going off to infinity in all directions".

*Note.* 1. This is a special case of a general procedure, called *Alexandrov (one-point) compactification*.

2. See also the subject of *Projection Geometry* (Girard DESARGUES (1591-1661) in 1631) - the mathematics of perspective and computer graphics.