

## LECTURE 4. INTRODUCTION TO COMPLEX ANALYSIS

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### 1. SEQUENCES AND LIMITS

**Definition 1.** A sequence in  $\mathbb{C}$  is a function  $\varphi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . We use the notation  $z_n = \varphi(n)$  and  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  for the image  $\varphi(\mathbb{N})$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{C}$ . We say that the sequence converges to  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that for every  $n \geq n_0$  it holds that  $|z_n - z_0| < \epsilon$ . In this case  $z_0$  is called the limit of the sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  and we write

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0.$$

**Proposition 1.** If a sequence converges to a limit, this is unique.

*Proof.* Suppose that the sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathbb{C}$  has two limits  $z_0$  and  $w_0$ . Then for any  $\epsilon > 0$  choose  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n \geq n_0$ , we have simultaneously

$$|z_n - z_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \text{ and } |z_n - w_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

Then

$$|z_0 - w_0| = |z_0 - z_n + z_n - w_0| \leq |z_n - z_0| + |z_n - w_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon.$$

Since  $\epsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, this happens only if  $|z_0 - w_0| = 0$ . Then  $z_0 = w_0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.** Let  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{C}$ , with  $z_n = x_n + iy_n$ , and  $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$ . Then the sequence converges to  $z_0$  if and only if the sequences of real numbers  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  and  $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converge respectively to  $x_0$  and  $y_0$ . Equivalently

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0 \iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0 \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = y_0.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that for any  $n \geq n_0$  the following holds:

$$|x_n - x_0| = |\operatorname{Re}(z_n - z_0)| \leq |z_n - z_0| < \epsilon.$$

This shows that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$ . The second part follows from a similar argument on the imaginary part of the sequence.  $\square$

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**Proposition 3.** *Every convergent sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \mathbb{C}$  is bounded, i.e., there exists a positive real number  $M > 0$ , such that  $|z_n| \leq M$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\epsilon = 1$ . By convergence, there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that whenever  $k \geq n_0$  it holds that

$$|z_k - z_0| < 1.$$

Now consider  $M = \max\{|z_1| + 1, |z_2| + 1, \dots, |z_{n_0-1}| + 1, |z_0| + 1\}$ . Then it is clear that

$$|z_n| \leq M, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

□

**Remark** The converse of last proposition is false. Discuss an example.

**Theorem 1.** (Bolzano-Weierstrass) *Every bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{C}$  has a convergent sub-sequence.*

*Proof.* The proof relies on the same result known for sequences of Real numbers.

Let  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  a bounded sequence where  $z_n = x_n + iy_n$ . Since the sequence is bounded we note that

$$|x_n| \leq |z_n| \leq M, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then the sequence of real numbers  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is bounded. There exists a convergent subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^\infty$  with limit  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Now consider the corresponding subsequence of complex numbers  $\{z_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^\infty$ , where  $z_{n_k} = x_{n_k} + iy_{n_k}$ . Since the sequence of complex numbers is bounded, we conclude that  $\{y_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^\infty$  is also a bounded sequence of Real numbers. Then there exists a convergent subsequence  $\{y_{n_{k_j}}\}_{j=1}^\infty$  with limit  $y_0$ . Recall that any subsequence of a convergent sequence is also convergent to the same limit, and conclude that  $\{x_{n_{k_j}}\}_{j=1}^\infty$  has limit  $x_0$ . Then

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} z_{n_{k_j}} = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (x_{n_{k_j}} + iy_{n_{k_j}}) = x_0 + iy_0$$

is a convergent subsequence of  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ . □

**Definition 3.** *A sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is called Cauchy sequence if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, if  $n, m \geq n_0$  then  $|z_n - z_m| < \epsilon$ .*

**Theorem 2.** *A sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  converges if and only if  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is a Cauchy sequence.*

*Proof.* By writing  $z_n = x_n + iy_n$  and from the inequalities

$$|x_n - x_m| \leq |z_n - z_m|,$$

and

$$|y_n - y_m| \leq |z_n - z_m|,$$

it follows that The sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  of complex numbers is Cauchy if and only if  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  and  $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  are Cauchy sequences of Real numbers if and only if the sequences of real numbers  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  and  $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  are convergent if and only if  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is a convergent sequence. □

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  and  $\{w_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  two convergent sequences, with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} w_n = w_0$ . Then the following identities hold:*

$$(1) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (z_n + w_n) = z_0 + w_0,$$

- (2)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (z_n w_n) = z_0 w_0$ ,  
 (3)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |z_n| = |z_0|$ ,  
 (4) If  $w_n \neq 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{z_n}{w_n} \right) = \frac{z_0}{w_0}$ .

*Proof.* Proof of 1. It follows from the triangle inequality and the definition. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n \geq n_0$  it simultaneously holds  $|z_n - z_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$  and  $|w_n - w_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ , then

$$|(z_n + w_n) - (z_0 + w_0)| = |(z_n - z_0) + (w_n - w_0)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon.$$

That is  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (z_n + w_n) = z_0 + w_0$ .

Proof of 2. It follows also from the definition, the triangle inequality and the fact that every convergent sequence is bounded. Since  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is convergent, there is  $M_1 > 0$  such that  $|z_n| < M_1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and the same for  $\{w_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ , there is  $M_2 > 0$  such that  $|w_n| < M_1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Take  $M = \max\{M_1, M_2\}$ , and then  $M > 0$  is a bound for both sequences. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n \geq n_0$  it simultaneously holds  $|z_n - z_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2M}$  and  $|w_n - w_0| < \frac{\epsilon}{2M}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |z_n w_n - z_0 w_0| &= |z_n w_n - z_n w_0 + z_n w_0 - z_0 w_0| \\ &\leq |z_n w_n - z_n w_0| + |z_n w_0 - z_0 w_0| \\ &= |z_n| |w_n - w_0| + |w_0| |z_n - z_0| \\ &\leq M |w_n - w_0| + M |z_n - z_0| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

That is  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (z_n w_n) = z_0 w_0$ .

Proof of 3. It follows from a version of the triangle inequality. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n \geq n_0$  it holds  $|z_n - z_0| < \epsilon$ . Note then that

$$||z_n| - |z_0|| \leq |z_n - z_0| < \epsilon.$$

That is  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |z_n| = |z_0|$ .

Proof of 4. Let  $\epsilon_1 = \frac{|w_0|}{2}$ , then there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n \geq n_0$  it holds  $|w_n - w_0| < \frac{|w_0|}{2}$ . First note that

$$\left| \frac{1}{w_n} - \frac{1}{w_0} \right| = \left| \frac{w_0 - w_n}{w_n w_0} \right| = \frac{|w_0 - w_n|}{|w_n| |w_0|}.$$

On the other hand by the triangle inequality

$$|w_0| - |w_n| \leq ||w_0| - |w_n|| \leq |w_0 - w_n| < \frac{|w_0|}{2},$$

this implies

$$\frac{|w_0|}{2} \leq |w_n|,$$

or equivalently

$$\frac{1}{|w_n|} \leq \frac{2}{|w_0|}.$$

Then we get

$$\left| \frac{1}{w_n} - \frac{1}{w_0} \right| \leq \frac{|w_0 - w_n|}{|w_n| |w_0|} \leq \frac{2|w_0 - w_n|}{|w_0|^2}.$$

For any  $\epsilon > 0$  define  $\epsilon_2 = \frac{|w_0|^2 \epsilon}{2}$ , then there exists  $m_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n \geq m_0$  it holds  $|w_n - w_0| < \frac{|w_0|^2 \epsilon}{2}$ . Take  $N_0 = \max\{n_0, m_0\}$ . Then we can improve our last inequality, for any  $n \geq N_0$  it holds

$$\left| \frac{1}{w_n} - \frac{1}{w_0} \right| \leq \frac{|w_0 - w_n|}{|w_n| |w_0|} \leq \frac{2|w_0 - w_n|}{|w_0|^2} < \epsilon.$$

This shows that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{w_n} = \frac{1}{w_0}$ . Finally applying (2) of this proposition we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{z_0}{w_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n \frac{1}{w_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{w_n} = \frac{z_0}{w_0}$$

□

Recall from real analysis, that every monotone and bounded sequence of real numbers is convergent.

- If the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is increasing then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \sup\{a_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .
- If the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is decreasing then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \inf\{a_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

**Definition 4.** We say that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = \infty$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |z_n| = \infty$ . In other words, if for every  $M > 0$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \geq n_0$  then  $|z_n| > M$ .

**Definition 5.** Let  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a sequence. A complex number  $w_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  is called a limit point of the sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  if there exists a subsequence  $\{z_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  of  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_{n_k} = w_0.$$

## 2. CONTINUITY

**Definition 6.** The function  $f(z)$  is said to have the limit  $w_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  as  $z$  tends to  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ , if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a number  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$  with the property that if  $|z - a| < \delta$  then it holds  $|f(z) - w_0| < \epsilon$ , and in that case we write

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow a} f(z) = w_0.$$

**Definition 7.** The function  $f(z)$  is said to be continuous at  $z_0$  if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a number  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$  with the property that if  $|z - a| < \delta$  then it holds  $|f(z) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ , and in that case we write

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow a} f(z) = f(a).$$

### Examples

- Let  $f : \mathbb{C} \setminus \{1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  the function given by

$$f(z) = \frac{z^2 - 4}{z - 2},$$

then  $\lim_{z \rightarrow 2} f(z) = 4$ .

- Let  $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be the conjugate function  $f(z) = \bar{z}$ . Then  $f(z)$  is continuous at every  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ . To show this, first note that  $|z| = |\bar{z}|$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$  and choose  $0 < \delta = \epsilon$ . Then, for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $|z - z_0| < \delta$  we can estimate

$$|f(z) - f(z_0)| = |\bar{z} - \bar{z}_0| = |\overline{z - z_0}| = |z - z_0| < \delta = \epsilon.$$

**Proposition 5.** *Let  $U \subset \mathbb{C}$ ,  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and  $a \in U$ . Then the following three statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  *$f$  is continuous at  $a$ .*
- (2) *For every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a number  $\delta > 0$  such that  $f(B_\delta(a) \cap U) \subseteq B_\epsilon(f(a))$ .*
- (3) *For every sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subseteq U$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = a$ , we have*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(z_n) = f(a).$$

*Proof.* (1  $\Rightarrow$  2) Let  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there is a number  $\delta > 0$  such that for every  $z \in U$  with  $|z - a| < \delta$  then  $|f(z) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ . This implies that if  $z \in B_\delta(a) \cap U$  then  $f(B_\delta(a) \cap U) \subseteq B_\epsilon(f(a))$ .

(2  $\Rightarrow$  1) Let  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there is a number  $\delta > 0$  such that  $f(B_\delta(a) \cap U) \subseteq B_\epsilon(f(a))$ . This means that for every  $z \in B_\delta(a) \cap U$  we have  $f(z) \in B_\epsilon(f(a))$ . This means that for every  $z \in U$  with  $|z - a| < \delta$  it holds  $|f(z) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

(1  $\Rightarrow$  3) Let  $f(z)$  be continuous at  $a \in U$  and  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subseteq U$  with limit  $a$ . For any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a number  $\delta > 0$  such that for every  $z \in U$  with  $|z - a| < \delta$  it holds  $|f(z) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ . For that  $\delta > 0$  there is a  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n \geq n_0$  we have  $|z_n - a| \leq \delta$ . Then by continuity this implies that  $|f(z_n) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ . This shows that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(z_n) = f(a)$ .

(3  $\Rightarrow$  1) Let  $a \in U$  and assume that for any  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subseteq U$  with limit  $a$  we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(z_n) = f(a)$ . Suppose on the contrary, that  $f$  is not continuous at  $a$ . Then there exists a positive  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for every  $\delta > 0$  there is a point  $z \in U$  with  $|z - a| < \delta$  but  $|f(z) - f(a)| \geq \epsilon$ . Note that this implies that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we can choose  $\delta = \frac{1}{n}$  and  $z_n \in U$  such that  $|z_n - a| < \frac{1}{n}$ , but  $|f(z_n) - f(a)| \geq \epsilon$ . In this way we have constructed a sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = a$  but  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(z_n) \neq f(a)$  which is a contradiction to our initial assumptions.

(1  $\Rightarrow$  3) Let  $f(z)$  be continuous at  $a$ . Consider any sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subseteq U$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = a$ . Then for  $\epsilon > 0$  there is a number  $\delta > 0$  such that for all  $z \in U$  with  $|z - a| < \delta$  we have  $|f(z) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ . Also for such  $\delta > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \geq n_0$  we have  $|z_n - a| < \delta$ , which then implies  $|f(z_n) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  and  $f, g : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be two continuous functions at  $a \in U$ . Then  $f \pm g$ ,  $f \cdot g$  are continuous in  $a$ . If  $g(a) \neq 0$  then  $\frac{f}{g}$  is also continuous at  $a$ .*

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $U_1, U_2 \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ , and  $f : U_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $g : U_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , such that  $f(U_1) \subseteq U_2$ . If  $f$  is continuous at  $z_0 \in U_1$  and  $g$  is continuous at  $w_0 = f(z_0) \in U_2$ , then the composition  $g \circ f$  is continuous at  $z_0$ .*

*Proof.* Consider any sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subseteq U_1$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0$ . Then define  $w_n = f(z_n) \in U_2$ . Since  $f$  is continuous at  $z_0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(z_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} w_n = w_0 = f(z_0)$ . Since  $g$  is continuous at  $w_0$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(w_n) = g(w_0)$ . Note that on the left hand side  $g(w_n) = g(f(z_n)) = (g \circ f)(z_n)$ , and on the right hand side  $g(w_0) = g(f(z_0)) = (g \circ f)(z_0)$ . This shows that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (g \circ f)(z_n) = (g \circ f)(z_0)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 8.** *Let  $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  and consider a function  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ .  $f$  is called uniformly continuous if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for any  $z, w \in U$  such that  $|z - w| < \delta$  then we have  $|f(z) - f(w)| < \epsilon$ .*

**Example.** Consider  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $f(z) = z^2$  in the following cases:

- $A = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| \leq 1\}$ .

In this case  $f$  is uniformly continuous in  $A$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$  and take  $\delta = \epsilon/2$ . Then, for any  $z, w \in A$  such that  $|z - w| < \delta$  we have

$$|f(z) - f(w)| = |z^2 - w^2| = |z - w||z + w| \leq |z - w|(|z| + |w|) \leq 2|z - w| < \epsilon.$$

- $A = \mathbb{C}$ .

In this case  $f$  is not uniformly continuous. Take  $\epsilon = 1$ . For every  $\delta > 0$  there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n\delta > 1$ . Now consider  $z = n$  and  $w = n + \delta/2$ . Note that we have  $|z - w| = \delta/2 < \delta$ , but

$$|f(z) - f(w)| = |n^2 - \left(n + \frac{\delta}{2}\right)^2| = n\delta + \frac{\delta^2}{4} > n\delta > 1 = \epsilon.$$

### 3. BASIC TOPOLOGY OF $\mathbb{C}$

The open and closed disks (balls) already defined, are basic subsets that may be used to build a topological structure of the complex plane. A topology allows us to define several notions of continuity.

$$\begin{aligned} B_r(z_0) &= \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z - z_0| < r\}. \\ \bar{B}_r(z_0) &= \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z - z_0| \leq r\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 9.** A set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  is called open if  $\forall z \in A$  there exists a real number  $r_z > 0$  such that  $B_{r_z}(z) \subseteq A$ .

**Theorem 5.** The following sentences are true

- (1) The sets  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\emptyset$ ,  $B_r(z)$  (for any  $r > 0$ ) and any  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , are open sets.
- (2) If  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  is a finite collection of open sets, then  $\cap_{k=1}^n U_k$  is an open set.
- (3) If  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is a family of open sets, then  $\cup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha$  is an open set.

*Proof.*  $\mathbb{C}$  is open. For any  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , take  $r = 1$  and evidently  $B_1(z) \subset \mathbb{C}$ .

$\emptyset$  is open. If this wasn't true, there would exist  $z \in \emptyset$  such that for any  $r > 0$ ,  $B_r(z) \not\subseteq \emptyset$ . Then the statement is vacuously true.

$B_r(z)$  is open. Let  $w \in B_r(z)$ . Take  $\delta = r - |w - z|$ , and note that  $\delta > 0$ . To show that  $B_\delta(w) \subset B_r(z)$  we need to show that any  $\xi \in B_\delta(w)$  is also in  $B_r(z)$ . If  $\xi \in B_\delta(w)$  then  $|\xi - w| < \delta$ . Since  $|\xi - z| = |\xi - w + w - z| \leq |\xi - w| + |w - z| < \delta + |w - z| = r - |w - z| + |w - z| = r$ . Then  $\xi \in B_r(z)$ .

$\cap_{k=1}^n U_k$  is open if each  $U_i$  is open. Let  $z \in \cap_{k=1}^n U_k$ . Then for each  $1 \leq k \leq n$  there exists  $r_k > 0$  such that  $B_{r_k}(z) \subseteq U_k$ . Take  $r = \min\{r_1, \dots, r_n\}$ , and hence  $B_r(z) \subset U_k$  for every  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . Hence  $B_r(z) \subset \cap_{k=1}^n U_k$ .

$\cup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha$  is open if each  $U_\alpha$  is open. Let  $z \in \cup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha$ . Then there exists  $\beta \in I$  such that  $z \in U_\beta$ . Since  $U_\beta$  is open, there is  $r > 0$  such that  $B_r(z) \subset U_\beta \subset \cup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha$ .  $\square$

**Definition 10.** A set  $G \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  is called closed if its complement  $\mathbb{C} \setminus G$ , is an open set.

**Proposition 6.** The following sentences are true

- (1) The sets  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\emptyset$ , are closed sets.
- (2) If  $G_1, \dots, G_n$  is a finite collection of closed sets, then  $\cup_{k=1}^n G_k$  is a closed set.
- (3) If  $\{G_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is a family of closed sets, then  $\cap_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha$  is a closed set.

**Definition 11.** Let  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ . Then we define the following sets

- The interior of  $A$ :  $\text{Int}(A) = \cup\{U \mid U \subset A, \text{ and } U \text{ is an open set}\}.$
- The closure of  $A$ :  $\text{Cl}(A) = \cap\{G \mid A \subset G, \text{ and } G \text{ is a closed set}\}.$
- The boundary of  $A$ :  $\partial A = \text{Cl}(A) \cap \text{Cl}(\mathbb{C} \setminus A).$

**Proposition 7.** Let  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ . Then following statements are true

- $\text{Int}(A) \subset A.$
- $A \subset \text{Cl}(A).$
- $\partial A \subseteq \text{Cl}(A).$
- $A$  is open if and only if  $A = \text{Int}(A).$
- $A$  is closed if and only if  $A = \text{Cl}(A).$
- $\text{Cl}(A \cup B) = \text{Cl}(A) \cup \text{Cl}(B).$
- $\text{Cl}(A \cap B) \subseteq \text{Cl}(A) \cap \text{Cl}(B),$  but in general they are not equal.
- $\text{Int}(A \cap B) = \text{Int}(A) \cap \text{Int}(B).$
- $\text{Int}(A \cup B) \supseteq \text{Int}(A) \cup \text{Int}(B),$  but in general they are not equal.
- $z_0 \in \text{Int}(A) \Leftrightarrow \exists r > 0,$  such that  $B_r(z_0) \subseteq A.$
- $z_0 \in \text{Cl}(A) \Leftrightarrow \forall r > 0,$  it holds  $B_r(z_0) \cap A \neq \emptyset.$
- $z_0 \in \partial(A) \Leftrightarrow \forall r > 0,$  it holds  $B_r(z_0) \cap A \neq \emptyset$  and  $B_r(z_0) \cap (\mathbb{C} \setminus A) \neq \emptyset.$

The topological structure of  $\mathbb{C}$  induces in a natural way a topological structure in any subset  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ .

**Definition 12.** Let  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ . The set  $B \subseteq A$  is called *open (closed) in  $A$* , if there is an open (closed) set  $U$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $B = A \cap U$ .

**Proposition 8.** Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ . Then the following sentences are true

- (1) The sets  $A, \emptyset,$  are open sets and closed sets in  $A$ .
- (2) If the set  $B \subseteq A$  is open in  $A$ , then  $A \setminus B$  is closed in  $A$ .
- (3) If the set  $B \subseteq A$  is closed in  $A$ , then  $A \setminus B$  is open in  $A$ .
- (4) If  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  is a finite collection of open sets in  $A$ , then  $\cap_{k=1}^n U_k$  is an open set in  $A$ .
- (5) If  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is a family of open sets in  $A$ , then  $\cup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha$  is an open set  $A$ .
- (6) If  $G_1, \dots, G_n$  is a finite collection of closed sets in  $A$ , then  $\cup_{k=1}^n G_k$  is a closed set in  $A$ .
- (7) If  $\{G_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is a family of closed sets in  $A$ , then  $\cap_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha$  is a closed set in  $A$ .

**Proposition 9.** Let  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ .  $z_0 \in \text{Cl}(A)$  if and only if there exists a sequence  $\{z_n\}_n^\infty \subset A$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0$ .

*Proof.* By the previous proposition, since  $z_0 \in \text{Cl}(A)$ , we have that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we can take  $r_n = \frac{1}{n} > 0$ , and it holds

$$B_{r_n}(z_0) \cap A \neq \emptyset.$$

Then for each  $n$  we can choose  $z_n \in B_{r_n}(z_0) \cap A$ . Clearly we have

$$|z_n - z_0| < \frac{1}{n},$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , which implies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0$ . □

**Definition 13.** (1) The set  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$  is called **disconnected**, if there are two open sets  $U, V$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that

- (a)  $(A \cap U) \neq \emptyset$  and  $(A \cap V) \neq \emptyset.$

- (b)  $U$  and  $V$  are disjoint in  $A$ :  $(A \cap U) \cap (A \cap V) = \emptyset$
- (c)  $A \subseteq U \cup V$ .
- (2) The set  $A$  is called **connected** if it is not disconnected.

**Proposition 10.** *The set  $A$  is connected if and only if only the sets  $A$  and  $\emptyset$  are the only sets that are both, open and closed in  $A$ .*

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $A$  be connected and suppose on the contrary that there is a set  $B \subset A$ , that is both, open and closed, and different from  $A$  and  $\emptyset$ . Then  $B$  and  $A \setminus B$  are open sets in  $A$ . Then, there are open sets  $U, V \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  such that  $B = A \cap U$  and  $A \setminus B = A \cap V$ . then we have:

- (1)  $(A \cap U) \neq \emptyset$  and  $(A \cap V) \neq \emptyset$ .
- (2)  $(A \cap U) \cap (A \cap V) = B \cap (A \setminus B) = \emptyset$ .
- (3)  $A = B \cup (A \setminus B) = (A \cap U) \cup (A \cap V) = A \cap (U \cup V)$  which implies that  $A \subseteq U \cup V$ .

These three points are a contradiction since  $A$  is assumed connected.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $A$  and  $\emptyset$  the only sets that are both, open and closed in  $A$ . Suppose on the contrary that  $A$  is disconnected. Then there are two open sets in  $U, V \subset \mathbb{C}$  satisfying the definition above. Put  $B_1 = A \cap U$  and  $B_2 = A \cap V$ . Then  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are non-empty open sets in  $A$ . Since  $B_1 \cap B_2 = \emptyset$ , and  $A = B_1 \cup B_2$ . Then  $A \setminus B_1 = B_2$ , which implies that  $B_2$  is also closed. Moreover, since  $B_1 \neq \emptyset$ ,  $B_2 \neq A$ , which is a contradiction. Then  $A$  is connected.  $\square$

**Definition 14.** *Let  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ . By a curve  $\gamma$  in  $A$  we mean a continuous map  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow A$ . We say that  $A$  is called **arc-connected** or **path-connected** if for any two points  $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$  there exists a curve  $\gamma$  in  $A$  such that  $\gamma(0) = z_1$  and  $\gamma(1) = z_2$ .*

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ .*

- (1) *If  $A$  is arc-connected then  $A$  is connected.*
- (2) *If  $A$  is open and connected then  $A$  is arc-connected.*

Here is an example of a connected set which fails to be arc-connected **Example.**  
A domain  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  is an open connected set.

**Definition 15.** *Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ . An open cover of  $A$  is a family  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  of open subsets of  $\mathbb{C}$ , such that  $A \subset \cup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha$ .*

*A finite subcover is a collection  $\{U_{\alpha_1}, \dots, U_{\alpha_k}\}$  such that  $A \subseteq \cup_{j=1}^k U_{\alpha_j}$ .*

**Definition 16.** *The set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  is called **compact** if any open cover of  $K$ , has a finite subcover.*

**Theorem 7. (Heine-Borel).** *The set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  is compact if and only  $K$  is closed and bounded.*

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ).

If  $K$  is compact then  $K$  is closed. Suppose there is  $z_0 \in \text{cl}(K)$  such that  $z_0 \notin K$ , and consider the following sets: All balls  $B_r(z_0)$  and for each  $z \in K$  choose a ball  $U_z := B_{r_z}(z)$  such that  $r_z > 0$  is small enough to not intersect one of the  $B_r(z_0)$ . Note now that the collection  $\{U_z\}_{z \in K}$  is an open cover of  $K$  but clearly any finite choice of  $U_z$ 's fails to cover  $K$ .

If  $K$  is compact then  $K$  is bounded. For each  $z \in K$  consider the set  $U_z = B_1(z)$ . Clearly  $\{U_z\}_{z \in K}$  is an open cover of  $K$ , and then there is a finite open subcover



$U_{z_1}, \dots, U_{z_n}$ . Take  $M = \max\{|z_1| + 1, \dots, |z_k| + 1\}$ . Then  $K \subset \bigcup_{k=1}^n U_{z_k} \subseteq B_M$ , i.e.  $K$  is bounded.

( $\Leftarrow$ ). Exercise. *Hint.* Show first that any closed subset of a compact set is also compact. Use the bounded property to show that  $K$  must be contained in a square of the form  $G = [-r, r] \times [-r, r]$  and show that  $G$  is compact.  $\square$

**Theorem 8.**  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  is compact if and only if for every sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset K$  has a convergent subsequence, i.e.,  $\{z_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^\infty$  such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_{n_k} = z_0$  for some  $z_0 \in K$ .

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  compact. If  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset K$  is a bounded sequence since  $K$  is bounded. By Bolzano-Weierstrass' Theorem, the sequence has a convergent subsequence, say to a limit point  $z_0 \in \text{Cl}(K)$ . Since  $K$  is closed then  $z_0 \in K$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose that any  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset K$  has a convergent subsequence. If  $K$  is not bounded, then we can construct a sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that  $|z_n| > n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . But this sequence has no convergent subsequence, which is a contradiction. Then  $K$  should be bounded.

Now take any  $z_0 \in \text{Cl}(K)$ . By a previous proposition, we can construct a sequence  $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0$ . By our hypothesis, the sequence  $\{z_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^\infty$  such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} z_{n_k} = w_0$ , for some  $w_0 \in K$ . By the uniqueness of the limit,  $z_0 \in K$ . We have shown  $\text{Cl}(K) \subseteq K$ , which implies  $\text{Cl}(K) = K$ , i.e.,  $K$  is closed.  $\square$

**Proposition 11.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a function. Then the following sentences are equivalent

- $f$  is continuous in  $A$ .
- For every open set  $V \subset \mathbb{C}$ , the set  $f^{-1}(V)$  is open in  $A$ .
- For every closed set  $G \subset \mathbb{C}$ , the set  $f^{-1}(G)$  is closed in  $A$ .

**Proposition 12.** Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be compact and  $f : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  continuous. Then  $f(K)$  is also compact.

**Proposition 13.** Let  $A \subset \mathbb{C}$  be connected and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  continuous. Then  $f(A)$  is also connected.

**Proposition 14.** Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a compact set,  $f : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  continuous. Then  $f$  is uniformly continuous.