

NOTES FOR 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

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

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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

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

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

\square

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 $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$. \square

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. \square

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

$$B_r(z_0) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z - z_0| < r\}.$$

$$\bar{B}_r(z_0) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z - z_0| \leq r\}.$$

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 exists $z \in \emptyset$ 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_α 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_β 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 in 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 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z_0$. \square

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 γ 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 γ 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 if 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 $M = \max\{|z_1| + 1, \dots, |z_n| + 1\}$. 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*

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

Proof. (1 \Rightarrow 2) Assume f is continuous in A . Let $V \subset \mathbb{C}$ any open such that $f(A) \cap V \neq \emptyset$. We want to show that $f^{-1}(V)$ is an open subset of A . Let $z_0 \in f^{-1}(V)$, then $f(z_0) \in V$, and since V is open there exists an open ball $B_r(f(z_0)) \subset V$. Since f is assumed to be continuous, if we let $\epsilon = r$, then there exists $\delta > 0$ such that for any $z \in A$ such that $|z - z_0| < \delta$ we have $|f(z) - f(z_0)| < \epsilon$. This is the same as saying that there is a $\delta > 0$ such that $B_\delta(z_0) \cap A \subseteq f^{-1}(B_r(f(z_0))) \subset f^{-1}(V)$. Then z_0 is an interior point. Since z_0 is arbitrary, $f^{-1}(V)$ is an open subset of A .

(2 \Rightarrow 1) Assume now that for any $V \subset \mathbb{C}$ we have that $f^{-1}(V)$ is an open set in A . Let $z_0 \in A$, then for $f(z_0) \in \mathbb{C}$, and for any $\epsilon > 0$ consider the open set $V = B_\epsilon(f(z_0))$. Then by our hypothesis, $f^{-1}(V)$ is an open set in A , which

means that there is an open set $U \subset \mathbb{C}$ such that $U \cap A$ is completely contained in $f^{-1}(V) \cap A$. More over, since $z_0 \in U$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $B_\delta(z_0)$ is contained in U and also $f(B_\delta(z_0) \cap A) \subset B_\epsilon(f(z_0))$. The by one of our previous propositions, f is continuous at every point of A .

(2 \Leftrightarrow 3) $f^{-1}(V)$ is open in A for any $V \in \mathbb{C}$ open $\Leftrightarrow A \setminus f^{-1}(V) = f^{-1}(\mathbb{C} \setminus V)$ is closed in A for any closed set $(\mathbb{C} \setminus V) \in \mathbb{C} \Leftrightarrow f^{-1}(G)$ is closed for any $G \subset \mathbb{C}$ closed. \square

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

Proof. Let $\{V_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be an open cover of $f(K)$, i.e., $f(K) \subseteq \cup_{\alpha \in I} V_\alpha$. By the properties of the inverse image we have $K \subseteq f^{-1}(f(K)) \subseteq f^{-1}(\cup_{\alpha \in I} V_\alpha) = \cup_{\alpha \in I} f^{-1}(V_\alpha)$. Since f is continuous then $f^{-1}(V_\alpha)$ is open for every $\alpha \in I$. This means that $\{f^{-1}(V_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in I}$ is an open cover of the compact set K . Then there exists a finite upen subcover $\{f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_i})\}_{i=1}^k$ such that $K \subset \cup_{i=1}^k f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_i})$. Now by properties of the direct image $f(K) \subset f^{-1}(\cup_{i=1}^k f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_i})) = \cup_{i=1}^k f(f^{-1}(V_{\alpha_i})) \subseteq \cup_{i=1}^k V_{\alpha_i}$. This implies that $\{V_{\alpha_i}\}_{i=1}^k$ is an open subcover for $f(K)$ and we can conclude that $f(K)$ is compact. \square

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

Proof. The proof goes by contradiction. Let A be connected and assume that $f(A)$ is not connected. Then, there are two open sets $U, V \subset \mathbb{C}$ such that:

- (1) $(f(A) \cap U) \neq \emptyset$ and $(f(A) \cap V) \neq \emptyset$.
- (2) U and V are disjoint in \mathbb{C} : $(f(A) \cap U) \cap (f(A) \cap V) = \emptyset$
- (3) $f(A) \subseteq U \cup V$.

By the continuity of f we have that $f^{-1}(U)$ and $f^{-1}(V)$ are open sets in A .

- (1) By properties of the inverse image and using the point (1) we have $A \cap f^{-1}(U) \neq \emptyset$ and $A \cap f^{-1}(V) \neq \emptyset$.
- (2) Again by properties of the inverse image and point (2) we have $(A \cap f^{-1}(U)) \cap (A \cap f^{-1}(V)) = \emptyset$.
- (3) By properties of the inverse image and point (3) we also have $A \subseteq f^{-1}(U) \cup f^{-1}(V)$.

the last three points are in contradiction with A being connected. Hence $f(A)$ should also be connected. \square

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

Proof. For this proof, we use the characterisation of compact sets by sequences, and by contradiction.

Suppose then that f is continuous on the compact set K but f not uniformly continuous. Then there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that for every $\delta > 0$ there exist $z_0, w_0 \in K$ such that on one side $|z_0 - w_0| < \delta$ and on the other $|f(z_0) - f(w_0)| > \epsilon$. Since this holds for any $\delta > 0$, take $\delta_n = \frac{1}{n}$. Then for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there are $z_n, w_n \in K$ such that $|z_n - w_n| < \frac{1}{n}$ and $|f(z_n) - f(w_n)| > 0\epsilon$.

Now consider the sequence $\{z_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subseteq K$ just constructed. By compactness we know that there exists a convergent subsequence, namely $\{z_{n_j}\}_{j=1}^\infty$, such that $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} z_{n_j} = a_0$.

The inequality $|z_{n_j} - w_{n_j}| < \frac{1}{n_j}$ implies that the subsequence $\{w_{n_j}\}_{j=1}^\infty$ converges also to the same limit, $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} w_{n_j} = a_0$.

By the continuity of f it holds

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} f(z_{n_j}) = f(w_{n_j}) = f(a_0).$$

Then, there exists $j_0 > 0$ such that for any $j > j_0$ it holds simultaneously

$$|f(z_{n_j}) - f(a_0)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \quad \text{and} \quad |f(w_{n_j}) - f(a_0)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

Then we have the following sequence of inequalities

$$\epsilon < |f(z_{n_j}) - f(w_{n_j})| \leq |f(z_{n_j}) - f(a_0)| + |f(w_{n_j}) - f(a_0)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon,$$

which is a contradiction itself. Consequently f is uniformly continuous in K . \square

4. DERIVATIVES

The definition of the derivative of a complex function is very familiar from the one we know for the real valued functions. But also we should explore in this section how this definition relates with that of the derivative of maps from \mathbb{R}^2 to \mathbb{R}^2 . The properties of complex differentiation have been extensively used and applied in other areas of mathematics, leading to astonishing consequences and results.

We will give the concept of derivative for functions defined on open subsets of the complex plane, although it can be generalised to subsets which are not necessarily open by writing the definitions using the induced topology. In order to keep the exposition and notation simple, we will be dealing only with functions defined on open subsets of the complex plane. Recall that a **domain** $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ is an open connected set.

Definition 17. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$ be an open set, and $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. We say that f is (complex) differentiable at $z_0 \in \Omega$ if the following limit exists

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

The limit is called the derivative of f at z_0 and will be denoted by $f'(z_0)$, or $\frac{df}{dz}(z_0)$. If f is differentiable at every point of a domain Ω , then we call f **holomorphic** in Ω .

We use the term **analytic** with the same meaning as holomorphic. If f is holomorphic on the whole complex plane \mathbb{C} , then we call f **entire**.

Examples of holomorphic functions are:

- $f(z) = c$, (the constant function). With $f'(z) = 0$, for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$.
- $f(z) = z$, (the identity function). With $f'(z) = 1$, for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$.
- $f(z) = z^n$. With $f'(z) = nz^{n-1}$, for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$.

The function $f(z) = \bar{z}$ is not complex differentiable anywhere in \mathbb{C} . Take $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ and consider the following two sequences converging to the same complex number $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$, $w_n = x_n + iy_0$ and $\xi_n = x_0 + iy_n$. Notice now that

$$\lim_{w_n \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(w_n) - f(z_0)}{w_n - z_0} = \frac{\bar{w}_n - \bar{z}_0}{(x_n + iy_0) - (x_0 + iy_0)} = \frac{x_n - iy_0 - (x_0 - iy_0)}{x_n - x_0} = \frac{x_n - x_0}{x_n - x_0} = 1,$$

and a similar computation gives

$$\lim_{\xi_n \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(\xi_n) - f(z_0)}{\xi_n - z_0} = \frac{x_n - iy_0 - (x_0 - iy_0)}{i(y_n - y_0)} = \frac{-i(y_n - y_0)}{i(y_n - y_0)} = -1,$$

Proposition 15. *If $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is complex differentiable at z_0 then it is continuous at z_0*

Proof. Note that since $f'(z_0) = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0}$ exists and $\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} z - z_0 = 0$, then the limit of the product exists and it is the product of the limits

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

equivalently

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) = f(z_0),$$

then, f is continuous at z_0 . □

The rules for differentiating complex functions and their proof are similar that the ones one encounter when dealing with real analysis:

Proposition 16. *Let $f, g : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ two complex differentiable functions at a point $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$. Then*

- (1) (cf) is differentiable at $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ and $(cf)'(z_0) = c f'(z_0)$.
- (2) $(f \pm g)$ is differentiable at $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ and $(f \pm g)'(z_0) = f'(z_0) \pm g'(z_0)$.
- (3) (fg) is differentiable at $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ and $(fg)'(z_0) = f'(z_0)g(z_0) + f(z_0)g'(z_0)$.
- (4) $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right), g(z_0) \neq 0$, is differentiable at $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)'(z_0) = \frac{f'(z_0)g(z_0) - f(z_0)g'(z_0)}{g(z_0)^2}$.

Proposition 17. *Let $U, V \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be two open sets and consider the functions $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, $g : V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ where $f(U) \subseteq V$. If f is complex differentiable at $z_0 \in U$, and g complex differentiable at $f(z_0) \in V$, then the composition $g \circ f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, given by $(g \circ f)(z) = g(f(z))$, is complex differentiable at $z_0 \in U$, and*

$$(g \circ f)'(z_0) = g'(f(z_0)) f'(z_0).$$

Proof. Case 1. Suppose $f'(z_0) \neq 0$. Then $f(z) - f(z_0) \neq 0$ holds for a small neighbourhood around z_0 . We can write

$$\frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{z - z_0} = \frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{f(z) - f(z_0)} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0}.$$

Since f is complex differentiable at z_0 , then it is continuous and it holds

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

Then, by taking the limit we obtain

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{f(z) - f(z_0)} \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} = g'(f(z_0)) f'(z_0).$$

Case 2. Suppose now that $f'(z_0) = 0$. Then one can show that $g'(f(z_0)) = 0$ and then would finish the proof. Note that since $g'(f(z_0))$ exists, then there is a neighbourhood around $f(z_0)$ such that the quotient

$$\frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{f(z) - f(z_0)},$$

is bounded, i.e., there is a positive number $M > 0$, and $\delta > 0$ such that for every $0 < |f(z) - f(z_0)| < \delta$ we have

$$\left| \frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{f(z) - f(z_0)} \right| < M.$$

Equivalently

$$|g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))| < M|f(z) - f(z_0)|.$$

Then

$$\left| \frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{z - z_0} \right| < M \left| \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} \right|.$$

This shows that $(g \circ f)'(z_0) = 0 = g'(f(z_0))f'(z_0) = g'(f(z_0)) \cdot 0$. \square

Now, since $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ can also be viewed as a map $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, let's explore the relationship between the two definitions of derivatives. First recall

Definition 18. A map $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is differentiable at $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ if there is a linear transformation $Df_a : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ such that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|f(a+h) - f(a) - Df_a(h)|}{|h|} = 0.$$

In order to represent this linear transformation as a matrix, we introduce partial derivatives for a function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ at $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ as the limit

$$\frac{\partial f(a)}{\partial x_i} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_i + h, \dots, a_n) - f(a_1, \dots, a_n)}{h}.$$

Theorem 9. If $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is differentiable at a point $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then all the first order partial differential exist, and the matrix representing the linear transformation Df_a is

$$(Df_a) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(a)}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1(a)}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_m(a)}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m(a)}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Remark Note that (Df_a) is a matrix with m rows and n columns.

The converse is not true unless we add a stronger hypothesis

Theorem 10. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, with $f = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m)$. The derivative Df_a exists if all first order partial derivatives $\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$, $1 \leq j \leq n$, and $1 \leq i \leq m$, exist in an open set containing a , and each of these partial derivatives are continuous at a .

Then last statement says that Df exists if the functions $f_i \in C^1$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$.

It is possible for a differentiable function to have discontinuous partial derivatives. That is, continuous partial derivatives imply differentiability but not vice-versa.

Example: Be aware that it may happen that a map has all partial derivative, and still not being differentiable at a given point. The following is an example of a map whose all partial derivatives at $(0,0)$ exist, but it is not differentiable at $(0,0)$.

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy(x^2 - y^2)}{x^2 + y^2} & \text{for } (x, y) \neq (0, 0), \\ 0 & \text{for } (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

Remark. If $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is complex differentiable at z_0 , then its derivative is a complex number, $f'(z_0) = a_1 + ia_2$ for some $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}$. The corresponding linear transformation representing $f'(z_0)$ by complex multiplication is $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ acting on to the basic elements $(1, 0), (0, 1)$ as $T(1, 0) = (a_1, a_2)$, and $T(0, 1) = (-a_2, a_1)$. Then the matrix representation of T is

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & -a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

5. CAUCHY-RIEMANN EQUATIONS

Theorem 11. Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ an open set $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, and $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0 \in \Omega$. Write $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$, where $u, v : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. The function f is complex differentiable at $z_0 \Leftrightarrow u, v$ are real differentiable at (x_0, y_0) and the following identities hold

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) &= \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0), \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) &= -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. (\Rightarrow)

Suppose f is complex differentiable at z_0 . Then by definition

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \left[\frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} - f'(z_0) \right] = 0,$$

Then taking module we also have

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \left| \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} - f'(z_0) \right| = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{|f(z) - f(z_0) - f'(z_0)(z - z_0)|}{|z - z_0|} = 0.$$

Now writing the last expression as mapping between \mathbb{R}^2 , i.e, $z = x + iy = (x, y)$, $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0 = (x_0, y_0)$, and using the matrix representation of $f'(z_0) = a_1 + ia_2$, we can rewrite the last equaiton as follows

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{\left| f(x, y) - f(x_0, y_0) - \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & -a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x - x_0 \\ y - y_0 \end{pmatrix} \right|}{|(x - x_0, y - y_0)|} = \lim_{(x, y) \rightarrow (x_0, y_0)} \frac{|f(x, y) - f(x_0, y_0) - T(x - x_0, y - y_0)|}{|(x - x_0, y - y_0)|} =$$

which is clearly equivalent to

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|f(x_0 + h_1, y_0 + h_2) - f(x_0, y_0) - T(h)|}{|h|} = 0,$$

hence $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is real differentiable.

Then we know that if $f(x, y) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ is real differentiable at $z_0 = (x_0, y_0)$. Then the partial derivatives of u and v exist and moreover we showed that $Df_{z_0} = T$. Looking at the matrix representation we have

$$Df_{z_0} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & -a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 \end{pmatrix} = T$$

which implies the Cauchy-Riemann equations:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = a_1 = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0), \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = -a_2 = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0).$$

(\Leftarrow)

Let $u, v : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, real differentiable functions at $z_0 = (x_0, y_0)$, satisfying the Cauchy-Riemann equations. Define a_1, a_2 by

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = a_1 = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0), \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = -a_2 = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0),$$

and define the following linear transformation (in matrix representation)

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & -a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now, define the complex number $A = a_1 + ia_2$. It holds

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{|f(z) - f(z_0) - A(z - z_0)|}{|z - z_0|} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} \frac{|f(x,y) - f(x_0,y_0) - T(x - x_0, y - y_0)|}{|(x,y) - (x_0,y_0)|} = 0.$$

We can conclude that

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} = A,$$

f is complex differentiable at z_0 . \square

Corollary 1. *If $u, v : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ have **continuous first-order partial derivatives** at (x_0, y_0) that satisfy the **Cauchy-Riemann equations**, then $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ is **complex differentiable** at $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$.*

Remark. A usual notation is for the Cauchy-Riemann equations is $u_x = v_y$ and $u_y = -v_x$.

Holomorphy is the property of a complex function of being differentiable at every point of a domain. Consequently, we can say that a complex function f , whose real and imaginary parts u and v are real-differentiable functions, is holomorphic if and only if, the Cauchy-Riemann equations are satisfied at every point of the domain.

Example. The following example will clarify the hypothesis of the previous theorem, that the Cauchy-Riemann equations are not sufficient to establish the complex differentiability of a function. Let $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be defined as

$$f(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{z^5}{|z|^4}, & \text{for } z \neq 0, \\ 0, & \text{for } z = 0. \end{cases}$$

The function f is not complex differentiable at $z = 0$. Let $z = x$, with $x \rightarrow 0$. Then

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z) - f(0)}{z - z_0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{x^5}{|x|^4}}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^4}{|x|^4} x = 1.$$

Now take $z = iy$, with $y \rightarrow 0$ and observe

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z) - f(0)}{z - z_0} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{(iy)^5}{|y|^4}}{y} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{-y^5}{|y|^4} = -1.$$

Then we conclude that

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z) - f(0)}{z - 0},$$

does not exist.

On the other hand

$$u(x, 0) = x, \quad u(0, y) = v(x, 0) = 0, \quad v(0, y) = y,$$

Then we have at $(0, 0)$:

$$u_x = v_y = 1, \quad u_y = -v_x = 0.$$

What is happening here?

$$f(z) = \frac{x^5 - 10x^3y^2 + 5xy^4}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} + i \frac{5x^4y - 10x^2y^3 + y^5}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

6. SOME CONSEQUENCES OF THE CAUCHY-RIEMANN EQUATIONS

Note that if $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ is a complex differentiable function at z_0 , when taking the limit of the quotient of differences, it does not matter how $z \rightarrow z_0$ approaches, then

$$f'(z_0) = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x + iy_0) - f(z_0)}{x - x_0} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x},$$

and similarly:

$$f'(z_0) = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} = \lim_{y \rightarrow y_0} \frac{f(x_0 + iy) - f(z_0)}{i(y - y_0)} = -i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}.$$

The first of these equalities together with the Cauchy-Riemann equations prove the following:

Proposition 18. *Let $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be complex differentiable at $z_0 \in \Omega$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} f'(z_0) &= \frac{df}{dz} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \\ &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ (2) \quad &= \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ &= \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \end{aligned}$$

Definition 19. *Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ an open set, $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ be a complex differentiable function at z_0 , Then we will write:*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{df}{dz} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) \\ \frac{df}{d\bar{z}} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 19. *Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ an open set, $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$, with u, v real differentiable functions at $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0 \in \Omega$. The function f is complex differentiable at Ω if and only if $\frac{df}{d\bar{z}}(z_0) = 0$.*

Proof. It follows from the Cauchy-Riemann equations and the following identity

$$\frac{df}{d\bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{i}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right)$$

□

Proposition 20. *Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain. $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ holomorphic and such that $f'(z) = 0$ for all $z \in \Omega$. Then f is constant.*

Proof. It follows from the real case and the mean value theorem (since Ω is connected) \square

7. HARMONIC FUNCTIONS

We already saw in one of the previous exercises that if a function is holomorphic, then the real and imaginary parts satisfy the Laplace equation. Here the statement:

Theorem 12. *If $f = u + iv$ is holomorphic, and the functions u and v have continuous second-order partial derivatives, then u and v are harmonic.*

Proof. Since the second-order partial derivatives are continuous, one can interchange the order of differentiation for u and v . It follows then from the Cauchy-Riemann equations that

$$u_{xx} = v_{yx} = v_{xy} = -u_{yy} \implies u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0.$$

Then, u is harmonic. The proof for v is similar. \square

If u is harmonic on a domain D , and v is a harmonic function such that $u + iv$ is analytic, we say that v is a harmonic conjugate of u . The harmonic conjugate v is unique, up to adding a constant.

Theorem 13. *Let Ω be an open disk, or an open rectangle with sides parallel to the axes, and let $u(x, y)$ be a harmonic function on Ω . Then there is a harmonic function $v(x, y)$ on Ω such that $u + iv$ is analytic on Ω . The harmonic conjugate v is unique, up to adding a constant.*

Example. Show that $u(x, y) = xy$ is harmonic and find an harmonic conjugate.

It is easy to show that u is harmonic. To find the harmonic conjugate function v we use the Cauchy-Riemann equations

$$u_x = y = v_y,$$

and from this we can conclude by integrating with respect to y that

$$v = \frac{y^2}{2} + \phi(x).$$

Using again the Cauchy-Riemann equations, $v_x = -u_y = -x$ we get

$$v_x = \phi'(x) = -x,$$

and by integrating with respect to x we obtain

$$\phi(x) = -\frac{x^2}{2} + C.$$

Then we can write

$$v(x, y) = -\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{2} + C.$$

Then the analytic (Holomorphic function) is given by

$$f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y) = xy - i\frac{x^2}{2} + i\frac{y^2}{2} + iC = -\frac{i}{2}((x^2 - y^2) + 2ixy) + iC = -\frac{iz^2}{2} + iC.$$

8. CONFORMAL MAPPINGS

In this section we will study curves in the complex plane, and when two curves intersect we will define the notion of angle between the two curves at the intersection point. Mappings from the complex plane into itself that preserve angles will then be considered. Among the basic examples of these kind of mappings are the so called Möbius transformations. Some geometric applications will also be analysed.

Definition 20. A parameterised curve in the complex plane is a differentiable mapping $\gamma : I \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, where $I = [0, 1]$ is the real closed unit interval. Note that $\gamma(t) = x(t) + i y(t)$. The tangent vector to the curve at $z_0 = \gamma(t_0)$, for $t_0 \in I$, is defined as

$$\gamma'(t_0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{\gamma(t) - \gamma(t_0)}{t - t_0} = x'(t_0) + i y'(t_0).$$

If two curves γ_1 and γ_2 are such that $z_0 = \gamma_1(0) = \gamma_2(0)$, then the angle between the two curves at z_0 is defined as the angle between the two tangent vectors $\gamma_1'(0)$ and $\gamma_2'(0)$.

Proposition 21. Let $\gamma : I \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ a parameterised curve, $z_0 = \gamma(0)$, and $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ an analytic (holomorphic) function. Then

$$(f \circ \gamma)'(0) = f'(z_0)\gamma'(0).$$

Proof. The proof is an application of the chain rule. \square

Definition 21. A function $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is called conformal at the point $z_0 \in \Omega$ if f is real differentiable at z_0 and f preserves the angle between any two curves γ_1 and γ_2 at the intersecting point $z_0 = \gamma_1(0) = \gamma_2(0)$, i.e., if θ is the angle between $\gamma_1'(0)$ and $\gamma_2'(0)$, then the angle between $(f \circ \gamma_1)'(0)$ and $(f \circ \gamma_2)'(0)$ is also equal to θ .

Before proving the following theorem we will need the following result. The function $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is complex differentiable at $z_0 \in \Omega$ if and only if there exists a continuous function at $z_0 \in \Omega$, $\varphi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that for all $z \in \Omega$ we have

$$f(z) = f(z_0) + (z - z_0)\varphi(z).$$

The proof on one direction this uses the continuity of φ at z_0 , and for the existence part, define

$$\varphi(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} & z \neq z_0 \\ f'(z_0) & z = z_0 \end{cases}$$

Theorem 14. If $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic in the domain Ω and for $z_0 \in \Omega$ we have $f'(z_0) \neq 0$ then f is conformal.

Proof. Let γ_1 and γ_2 two curves intersecting at z_0 . Then the angle between the curves is the angle between the tangent vectors $\gamma_1'(0)$ and $\gamma_2'(0)$, to compute this angle we use

$$\theta = \arg(\gamma_1'(z)) - \arg(\gamma_2'(z)) = \arg\left(\frac{\gamma_1'(0)}{\gamma_2'(0)}\right).$$

The corresponding angle at $f(z_0)$ is obtained by comparing the angles between $f(\gamma_1(0))' = (f \circ \gamma_1)'(0)$ and $(f \circ \gamma_2)'(0)$. We have

$$(f \circ \gamma_1)'(0) = f'(z_0)\gamma_1'(0),$$

and

$$(f \circ \gamma_2)'(0) = f'(z_0)\gamma_2'(0),$$

then

$$\arg \left(\frac{(f \circ \gamma_1)'(0)}{(f \circ \gamma_2)'(0)} \right) = \arg \left(\frac{f'(z_0)\gamma_1'(0)}{f'(z_0)\gamma_2'(0)} \right) = \arg \left(\frac{\gamma_1'(0)}{\gamma_2'(0)} \right) = \theta.$$

□

The converse statement is also true.

Theorem 15. *Suppose that f is conformal in a domain Ω , and suppose also that f is real differentiable in Ω and such that $Df_z \neq 0$. Then f is holomorphic in Ω and $f'(z) \neq 0$.*

Proof. For any $z_0 \in \Omega$, if $z_0 \neq 0$ then we will consider $g(z) = f(z - z_0)$ so $g(z) = f(0)$. Then its enough to prove the assertion when $z_0 = 0$. Consider the following lines $L_1 = \{z \in \Omega \mid \text{Im}(z) = 0, \text{Re}(z) \geq 0\}$ and for some fixed $m \in \mathbb{R}$, $L_2 = \{z \in \Omega \mid z = x + imx, x \geq 0\}$, where $m = \tan \alpha$ is the angle measured from the real line and counterclockwise. Because we are assuming f is conformal at $z = 0$ the angle at $f(0)$ between the corresponding curves $f(L_1)$ and $f(L_2)$ should remain unchanged.

Write $f(z) = u(x, y) + v(x, y)i$. If the angle β of the tangent vector at $f(0)$ of the curve L_2 is given by β , and then angle the angle β of the tangent vector at $f(0)$ of the curve L_1 is given by θ , then another way to measure the angle α is by noticing $\beta - \theta = \alpha$, or equivalently $\theta = \beta - \alpha$. Let $c = \tan(\beta - \alpha) = \tan(\theta)$. Also notice

$$\tan(\beta) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{v(x, mx) - v(0, 0)}{u(x, mx) - u(0, 0)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{v(x, mx) - v(0, 0)}{x}}{\frac{u(x, mx) - u(0, 0)}{x}} = \frac{v_x(0, 0) + mv_y(0, 0)}{u_x(0, 0) + mu_y(0, 0)},$$

where we have use the assumption that f is real differentiable and the chain rule (or directional derivative). Also since we assume that Df_0 is not the zero matrix, last limit is not zero and then we also know $\cot(\beta)$.

Then

$$c = \tan(\theta) = \tan(\beta - \alpha) = \frac{\tan(\beta) - \tan(\alpha)}{1 + \tan(\alpha)\tan(\beta)} = \frac{\frac{v_x + mv_y}{u_x + mu_y} - m}{1 + m \frac{v_x + mv_y}{u_x + mu_y}}$$

Not then that this can be written as

$$v_x + mv_y - m(u_x + mu_y) = c(u_x + mu_y + mv_x + m^2v_y)$$

expanding the brackets:

$$-m^2u_y + m(v_y - u_x) + v_x = cm^2v_y + cm(u_y + v_x) + cu_x,$$

These are polynomials in m , then the coefficients they must be identical

$$(3) \quad -u_y = cv_y$$

$$(4) \quad v_y - u_x = c(u_y + v_x)$$

$$(5) \quad v_x = cu_x$$

$$(6)$$

Then by substitution we get

$$(7) \quad v_y - u_x = c(u_y + v_x) = c(-cv_y + cu_x) = -c^2(v_y - u_x)$$

It follows

$$(1 + c^2)(v_y - u_x) = 0,$$

this implies $u_x = v_y$. Then $-u_y = cu_x = v_x$.

Since f is real differentiable at $z = 0$ and satisfies the Cauchy-Riemann equations then f is complex differentiable at $z = 0$. \square

Now suppose that that $f\Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is conformal, and consider $z_0 \in \Omega$. Then the angles between two rays intersecting at z_0 remain unchanged, but not necessarily their lengths. Since

$$|f'(z_0)| = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{|f(z) - f(z_0)|}{|z - z_0|},$$

one can say that the linear change of scale at z_0 , caused by the transformation f , is independent of the direction. "Small circles around z_0 are mapped into small circles around $f(z_0)$, at a scale $|f'(z_0)|$."

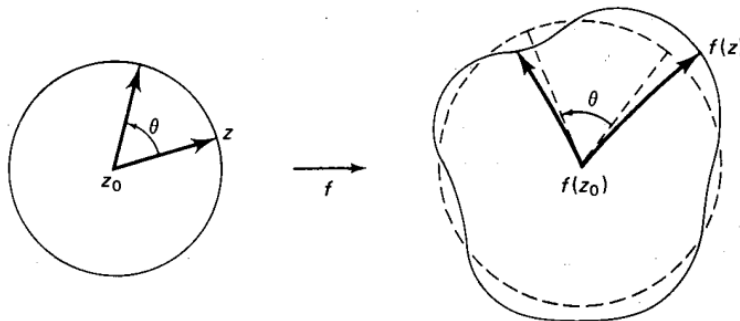


FIGURE 1. Image taken from Derricks's Introduction to Complex Analysis.

Definition 22. A conformal mapping of one domain Ω onto another V is a continuously differentiable function that is conformal at each point of Ω and that maps Ω one-to-one onto V .

Some examples of conformal mappings:

- The translation $f(z) = z + c$.
- Multiplication by a constant $f(z) = cz$.
- Let $\Omega = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid \operatorname{Re}(z) > 0\}$ and $V = \mathbb{C} \setminus [-\infty, 0]$. Then the function $f : \Omega \rightarrow V$ is a conformal mapping.
- The exponential function $f(z) = e^z$ is conformal at each point $z \in \mathbb{C}$ and its image is the set $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$.