Advanced Engineering Mathematics Complex Analysis by Dennis G. Zill Notes

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17 Functions of a Complex Variable

17.1 Complex Numbers

• A complex number is any number of the form

$$z = a + ib$$

where a and b are real numbers and i is the imaginary unit such that $i^2 = -1$.

- The real number a in the above complex number z is called the **real part** of z and the real number b (not ib) is called the **imaginary part** of z.
- The real and imaginary parts of a complex number z are denoted Re(z) and Im(z), respectively.
- A real constant multiple of the imaginary unit, e.g. 6i is called a **pure** imaginary number.
- Two complex numbers are equal if their real and imaginary parts are equal.

• The addition and subtraction of complex numbers occur between the real and imaginary parts, e.g.

$$(a+bi) + (c+di) = (a+c) + (b+d)i.$$

• The multiplication of complex numbers occurs elementwise as normal, e.g.

$$(a+bi)(c+di) = ac + adi + bci - bd.$$

• The **conjugate** of a complex number z = a + ib is

$$\overline{z} = a - ib.$$

• The division of complex numbers occurs by multiplying the numerator and denominator by the conjugate of the denominator, e.g.

$$\begin{split} \frac{a+bi}{c+di} &= \frac{(a+bi)(c-di)}{(c+di)(c-di)} \\ &= \frac{ac-adi+bci+bd}{c^2+d^2} \\ &= \frac{ac+bd}{c^2+d^2} + i\frac{bc-ad}{c^2+d^2}. \end{split}$$

• Conjugates have several interesting properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{z_1 + z_2} &= \overline{z_1} + \overline{z_2} \\ \overline{z_1 - z_2} &= \overline{z_1} - \overline{z_2} \\ \overline{z_1 z_2} &= \overline{z_1} \, \overline{z_2} \\ \\ \frac{z_1}{z_2} &= \frac{\overline{z_1}}{\overline{z_2}}. \end{aligned}$$

• The sum and product of a complex number z = x + iy with its conjugate are real numbers

$$z + \overline{z} = 2x$$
$$z\overline{z} = x^2 + y^2$$

while the difference between a complex number and its conjugate is a purre imaginary number

$$z - \overline{z} = 2iy.$$

• The above properties let us define

$$\operatorname{Re}(z) = \frac{z + \overline{z}}{2}$$
 and $\operatorname{Im}(z) = \frac{z - \overline{z}}{2i}$.

- The **complex plane** or *z*-**plane** is a coordinate system where the horizontal or *x*-axis is called the **real axis** and the vertical or *y*-axis is called the **imaginary axis**. Complex numbers can be plotted in this coordinate system by considering their real and imaginary parts an ordered pair corresponding their position.
- The **modulus** or **absolute value** of a complex number z = x + iy denoted by |z| is the real number

$$|z| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = \sqrt{z\overline{z}}.$$

This is the distance between z and the origin in the complex plane.

• If you consider two numbers in the complex plane as vectors, the length of their sum can't be longer than their individual lengths combined

$$|z_1 + z_2| \le |z_1| + |z_2|.$$

This extends to any finite sum

$$|z_1 + z_2 + \dots + z_n| \le |z_1| + |z_2| + \dots + |z_n|$$

and is known as the **triangle inequality**.

17.2 Powers and Roots

• A complex number can be expressed in **polar form**

$$z = (r\cos\theta) + i(r\sin\theta)$$

where r = |z| is the nonnegative modulus of z and $\theta = \arg z$ is the **argument** of z — the angle between z and the positive real axis measured in the counterclockwise direction.

- The argument of a complex number z isn't unique as any multiply of 2π can be added to it. The **principle argument** of z denoted $\operatorname{Arg} z$ is the argument of z restricted to the intercal $-\pi \leq \operatorname{Arg} z \leq \pi$.
- Multiplication and division of complex numbers is simpler in polar form. For two complex numbers $z_1 = r_1(\cos \theta_1 + i \sin \theta_1)$ and $z_2 = r_2(\cos \theta_2 + i \sin \theta_2)$ we get

$$z_1 z_2 = r_1 r_2 [\cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + i \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)]$$
$$\frac{z_1}{z_2} = \frac{r_1}{r_2} [\cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + i \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2)].$$

 \bullet The above formulas can be used to find integer powers of a complex number z

$$z^n = r^n(\cos n\theta + i\sin n\theta)$$

where n is an integer (including negative integers).

• **DeMoivre's formula** is a special case of the above where r = 1 so

$$z^{n} = (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^{n} = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta.$$

• A number w is said to be an nth root of a nonzero complex number z if $w^n = z$. The nth roots of a nonzero complex number $z = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$ are

$$w_k = r^{1/n} \left[\cos \left(\frac{\theta + 2k\pi}{n} \right) + i \sin \left(\frac{\theta + 2k\pi}{n} \right) \right]$$

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

- The root w of a complex number z obtained by using the principle argument of z with k = 0 is called the **principle** nth root of z.
- Since the *n*th roots of a complex number have the same modulus they lie on a circle of radius $r^{1/n}$. The arguments of subsequent roots differ by $2\pi/n$ so they're also equally spaced around the circle.

17.3 Sets in the Complex Plane

• The points z = x + iy that satisfy the equation

$$|z-z_0|=\rho$$

for $\rho > 0$ lie on a circle of radius ρ centred at the point z_0 .

- The points z satisfying the inequality $|z z_0| < \rho$ for $\rho > 0$ lie within, but not on, a circle of radius ρ centered at the point z_0 . This set is called a **neighborhood** of z_0 or an **open disk**.
- A point z_0 is said to be an **interior point** of a set S of the complex plane if there exists some neighborhood of z_0 that lies entirely within S.
- If every point z of a set S is an interior point, then S is said to be an **open** set. An example of a set that isn't open is the set of points satisfying the inequality $\text{Re}(z) \geq 0$. This isn't open because it includes the line Re(z) = 0 and no points on that line are interior to the set because, no matter what ρ you choose, some points in the neighborhood have Re(z) < 0.
- If every neighborhood of a point z_0 contains at least one point that is in a set S and at least one point that is not in S, then z_0 is said to be a **boundary point** of S.
- The **boundary** of a set S in the complex plane is the set of all boundary points of S.
- If any pair of points in a set S can be connected by a polygonal line that lies entirely within the set, then S is said to be **connected**.
- An open connected set is called a **domain**.

• A **region** is a set in the complex plane with all, some, or none of its boundary points. A region containing all of its boundary points is said to be **closed**.

17.4 Functions of a Complex Variable

- A function f from a set A to a set B is a rule of correspondence that assigns to each element of A one and only one element of B.
- If b is the element of B assigned to the element a of A, b is said to be the **image** of a and is denoted b = f(a).
- The set A is called the **domain** of f.
- The set of all images in B is called the **range** of f.
- If A is a set of real numbers, f is said to be a function of a real variable x.
- If A is a set of complex numbers, f is said to be a function of a complex varibale z or a complex function.
- The image w of a complex number z is

$$w = f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$$

where u and v are the real and imaginary parts of w and are real-valued functions.

- Although we cannot draw a graph of a complex function w = f(z) (because it would require a four-dimensional coordinate system), it can be interpreted as a **mapping** or **transformation** from the z plane to the w plane.
- A complex function may be interpreted as a two-dimensional fluid flow by considering w = f(z) as the fluid velocity vector at the point z. In that case, if x(t) + iy(t) is a parametric representation of a particle's position over time then

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = u(x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = v(x, y)$$

and the family of solutions to this system of differential equations are called the **streamlines** of the flow associated with f(z).

Definition 17.4.1 Limit of a Function

Suppose the function f is defined in some neighborhood of z_0 , except possibly at z_0 itself. Then f is said to possess a **limit** at z_0 , written

$$\lim_{z \to z_0} f(z) = L$$

if, for each $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $|f(z) - L| < \varepsilon$ whenever $0 < |z - z_0| < \delta$.

• For a function f of a real variable x, the limit $\lim_{x\to x_0} f(x) = L$ means f approaches L as you approach from both the left and right. If however f is a function of a complex variable it means f approaches L as you approach from any direction in the complex plane.

Theorem 17.4.1 Limit of Sum, Product, Quotient

Suppose $\lim_{z\to z_0} f(z) = L_1$ and $\lim_{z\to z_0} g(z) = L_2$. Then

(i)
$$\lim_{z \to z_0} [f(z) + g(z)] = L_1 + L_2$$

$$(ii) \lim_{z \to z_0} f(z)g(z) = L_1 L_2$$

(iii)
$$\lim_{z \to z_0} \frac{f(z)}{g(z)} = \frac{L_1}{L_2}, \quad L_2 \neq 0.$$

• A function f is continuous at a point z_0 if

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

 \bullet A function f defined by

$$f(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_2 z^2 + a_1 z + a_0, \ a_n \neq 0$$

where n is a nonnegative integer and the coefficients a_i , i = 0, 1, ..., n, are complex constants is called a **polynomial** of degree n.

• Polynomials are continuous on the entire complex plane.

• A rational function

$$f(z) = \frac{g(z)}{h(z)}$$

is continuous everywhere $h(z) \neq 0$.

Definition 17.4.3 Derivative

Suppose the complex function f is defined in a neighborhood of a point z_0 . The **derivative** of f at z_0 is

$$f'(z_0) = \lim_{\Delta z \to 0} \frac{f(z_0 + \Delta z) - f(z_0)}{\Delta z}$$
 (3)

provided this limit exists.

• In order for a complex function to be differentiable, the limit must approach the same value from every direction. This is a greater demand than in real variables. If you take an arbitrary complex function, there's a good chance it isn't differentiable.

Definition 17.4.4 Analyticity at a Point

A complex function w = f(z) is said to be **analytic at a point** z_0 if f is differentiable at z_0 and at every point in some neighborhood of z_0 .

- Analyticity at a point is a neighborhood property. A function can be differentiable at a point but if the neighboring points aren't also differentiable, it's not analytic at that point.
- A function is analytic in a domain D if it is analytic at every point in D.
- A function that is analytic everywhere is called an **entire function**.

17.5 Cauchy-Riemann Equations

Theorem 17.5.1 Cauchy–Riemann Equations

Suppose f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y) is differentiable at a point z = x + iy. Then at z the first-order partial derivatives of u and v exist and satisfy the **Cauchy–Riemann equations**

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}$$
 and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$. (1)

• If a complex function f(z) = u(x,y) + iv(x,y) is analytic throughout a domain D, then the real functions u and v must satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations at every point in D.

Theorem 17.5.2 Criterion for Analyticity

Suppose the real-valued functions u(x, y) and v(x, y) are continuous and have continuous first-order partial derivatives in a domain D. If u and v satisfy the Cauchy–Riemann equations at all points of D, then the complex function f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y) is analytic in D.

• The Cauchy-Riemann equations are derived assuming the function is differentiable at a particular point. That being the case, they can also be used as a formula for the derivative of the function

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

- Because analyticity implies differentiability, theorem 17.5.2 can also be used to determine if a function is differentiable at a point.
- A real-valued function $\phi(x,y)$ that has continuous second-order partial derivatives in a domain D and satisfies Laplace's equation is said to be harmonic in D.
- If a function f(z) = u(x,y) + iv(x,y) is analytic in a domain D then the functions u(x,y) and v(x,y) are harmonic functions.
- If a given function u(x,y) is harmonic in a domain D it is sometimes possible to find another function v(x,y) that is harmonic in D such that u(x,y)+iv(x,y) is analytic in D. The function v is called the **harmonic conjugate function** of u.
- To find the harmonic conjugate function of a given function u:
 - 1. Take the first-order partial derivatives of u with respect to x and y.
 - 2. If u(x,y) + iv(x,y) is analytic in a domain D then u and v must satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations in D from which we can find expressions for $\partial v/\partial x$ and $\partial v/\partial y$.
 - 3. Integrate $\partial v/\partial x$ with respect to x to get an expression for v with an unknown constant h(y).
 - 4. Take the first-order partial derivative of v with respect to y, equate it with the other expression for $\partial v/\partial y$, and solve for h'(y).
 - 5. Integrate h'(y) and substitute the result to find v.

17.6 Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

• The exponential function for complex numbers is defined as

$$e^z = e^{x+iy} = e^x(\cos y + i\sin y).$$

- e^z is analytic for all z, i.e. it's an entire function.
- Like its real-valued counterpart,

$$\frac{d}{dz}e^{z} = e^{z},$$

$$e^{z_{1}}e^{z_{2}} = e^{z_{1}+z_{2}},$$

and

$$\frac{e^{z_1}}{e^{z_2}} = e^{z_1 - z_2}.$$

• Since

$$e^{2\pi i} = \cos(2\pi) + i\sin(2\pi) = 1$$

and

$$e^{z+2\pi i} = e^z e^{2\pi i} = e^z$$

the complex function $f(z) = e^z$ is **periodic** with complex period $2\pi i$. Because of this complex periodicity an infinite horizontal strip of height 2π contains all possible values for the function. The strip $-\pi < y \le \pi$ is called the **fundamental region**.

• For $z \neq 0$ and $\theta = \arg z$,

$$\ln z = \log_e |z| + i(\theta + 2n\pi), \ n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

This means there are infinitely many values of the logarithm of a complex number z. This makes sense as the complex exponential is periodic.

- The **principal value** of $\ln z$ is the complex logarithm corresponding to n = 0 and $\theta = \operatorname{Arg} z$. It is denoted $\operatorname{Ln} z$.
- Some familiar properties of the real-valued logarithm hold for the complex-valued logarithm, e.g.

$$\ln(z_1 z_2) = \ln z_1 + \ln z_2$$

and

$$\ln\left(\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right) = \ln z_1 - \ln z_2,$$

however they don't necessarily hold for the principal value.

- Ln z is discontinuous and thus not analytic at z=0 because $\ln z$ is undefined at z=0 and on the negative real axis because $\operatorname{Arg} z$ is discontinuous there.
- \bullet The derivative of Ln z is

$$\frac{d}{dz} \operatorname{Ln} z = \frac{1}{z}.$$

• The complex power of a complex number is defined as

$$z^{\alpha} = e^{\alpha \ln z}, \ z \neq 0.$$

In general this is multiple-valued because $\ln z$ is multiple-valued — only if $\alpha = n, \ n = 0, \ \pm 1, \ \pm 2, \ldots$ is it single-valued. If $\ln z$ is replaced with $\operatorname{Ln} z$ then we get the **principle value** of z^{α} .

17.7 Trigonometric and Hyperbolic Functions

Definition 17.7.1 Trigonometric Sine and Cosine

For any complex number z = x + iy,

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

- The other trigonometric functions ($\tan z$, etc.) are defined as usual.
- Because e^{iz} and e^{-iz} are entire functions, $\sin z$ and $\cos z$ are also entire functions.
- $\sin z = 0$ for the real numbers $z = n\pi$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\cos z = 0$ for the real numbers $z = (2n+1)\pi/2$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. This means that $\tan z$ and $\sec z$ are analytic except at the points where $\cos z = 0$ and $\cot z$ and $\sec z$ are analytic except at the points where $\sin z = 0$.
- The usual derivatives and trigonometric functions are still valid in the complex case.
- \bullet sin z can be expressed as

$$\sin z = \sin x \cosh y + i \cos x \sinh y$$

and $\cos z$ can be expressed as

$$\cos z = \cos x \cosh y - i \sin x \sinh y.$$

• The only zeroes of $\sin z$ are the real numbers $z = n\pi$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and the only zeroes of $\cos z$ are the real numbers $z = (2n+1)\pi/2$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Definition 17.7.2 Hyperbolic Sine and Cosine

For any complex number z = x + iy,

$$\sinh z = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \cosh z = \frac{e^z + e^{-z}}{2}.$$
(10)

• The complex trigonometric functions can be expressed in terms of the complex hyperbolic functions and vice versa

$$\sin z = -i \sinh(iz),$$
 $\cos z = \cosh(iz)$
 $\sinh z = -i \sin(iz),$ $\cosh z = \cos(iz).$

 \bullet sinh z can be expressed as

$$\sinh z = \sinh x \cos y + i \cosh x \sin y$$

and $\cosh z$ can be expressed as

$$\cosh z = \cosh x \cos y + i \sinh x \sin y.$$

- The zeroes of $\sinh z$ are $z=n\pi i,\, n\in\mathbb{Z}$ and the zeroes of $\cosh z$ are $z=(2n+1)\pi i/2,\, n\in\mathbb{Z}.$
- $\sin z$ and $\cos z$ are 2π periodic while $\sinh z$ and $\cosh z$ are $2\pi i$ periodic.