

Extension of Cauchy's integral formula (for derivative)

Recall: let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a region, γ a positively oriented, simple closed curve, and $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ a holomorphic function on Ω then,

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z)}{z-w} dz$$

Often, γ is just a circle but we showed this for a general closed curve. We can use this in both directions. Sometimes you'd like to know the value of the integral and it's enough to just plug in w . On the other hand it is useful to go the other way so we can evaluate derivatives of functions easily!

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Calculation: } \frac{d}{dw} \left(\frac{1}{z-w} \right) &= \frac{1}{(z-w)^2} \\ \frac{d^2}{dw^2} \left(\frac{1}{z-w} \right) &= 2 \frac{1}{(z-w)^3} \\ &\vdots \\ \frac{d^n}{dw^n} \left(\frac{1}{z-w} \right) &= n! \frac{1}{(z-w)^{(n+1)}} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Cauchy's integral formula for derivatives). *With the hypotheses of Cauchy's integral formula for simple-closed curves we have that*

$$\begin{aligned} f'(w) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z)}{(z-w)^2} dz \\ &\vdots \\ \text{more generally } f^{(n)}(w) &= \frac{n!}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z)}{(z-w)^{(n+1)}} dz \end{aligned}$$

Remark: the proof involves interchanging the order of a derivative with a path integral. The important *take-away* is that just assuming that f' is holomorphic (i.e. has one derivative) means that we get "for free" that all derivatives $f^{(n)}$ exist. Also notice that if we divide by the $n!$ we get something that looks very similar to the coefficient of a power series.

Examples

$$\text{Ex: } \oint_{|z|=1} \frac{\sin z}{z^2} dz$$

take $n=1$ case in theorem $f(z) = \sin z$

$$f'(z) = \cos z$$

take $w = 0$

$$f'(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{|z|=1} \frac{\sin z}{z^2} dz = \cos 0 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \oint_{|z|=1} \frac{\sin z}{z^2} dz = 2\pi i$$

$$\oint_{|z|=2} \frac{1}{z^2(z-1)} dz =$$

take straight vertical line between singularities and make two new paths

$$= \oint_{\gamma_1} \frac{1}{z(z-1)} dz + \oint_{\gamma_2} \frac{1}{z^2(z-2)} dz$$

$$\text{take } f_1(z) = \frac{1}{z-1}, \quad w = 0, \quad n = 1$$

$$f'_1(z) = \frac{-1}{(z-1)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \oint_{\gamma_1} \frac{f_1(z)}{z^2} dz = f'_1(0)2\pi i = -2\pi i$$

$$\text{take } f_2(z) = \frac{1}{z^2}, \quad w = 1, n = 0$$

$$\oint_{\gamma_2} \frac{f_2(z)}{z-1} dz = f'_2(1)2\pi i = 2\pi i$$

$$\text{thus } \oint_{|z|=2} \frac{1}{z^2(z-1)} dz = -2\pi i + 2\pi i = 0$$

Some fun applications of this theorem

Theorem (Fundamental theorem of Algebra). *Let $p(z) = a_d z^d + a_{d-1} z^{d-1} + \dots + a_0 z^0$ be a non-constant polynomial with coefficients in \mathbb{C} . Then $p(z)$ has a root in \mathbb{C} (this is false over \mathbb{R}).*

Proof. Assume without loss of generality that $a_d \neq 0$, $d \geq 1$. Note that $\exists R > 0$ for which $\frac{1}{2}|a_d||z|^d \leq |p(z)| \leq 2|a_d||z|^d$ whenever $|z| \geq R$.

$$p(z) = a_d z^d \left(1 + \frac{a_{d-1}}{a_d z} + \frac{a_{d-2}}{a_d z^2} + \dots + \frac{a_0}{a_d z^d} \right)$$

as $z \rightarrow \infty$, parentheses $\rightarrow 1$

Now that we have this lemma let's prove the statement.

Assume that p has no roots in \mathbb{C} . Then $\frac{1}{p(z)}$ is entire. By Cauchy's integral formula with $f(z) = \frac{1}{p(z)}$ and R as in the lemma, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{p(0)} &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{|z|=R} \frac{\frac{1}{p(z)}}{z} dz \\ \left| \frac{1}{p(0)} \right| &= \left| \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{|z|=R} \frac{\frac{1}{p(z)}}{z} dz \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{length}(|z|=R) \cdot \max_{|z|=R} \left| \frac{1}{zp(z)} \right| \\ &= \frac{d1}{2\pi} 2\pi R \cdot \frac{1}{R} \frac{2}{|a_d|R^d} \\ &= \frac{2}{|a_d|R^d} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } R \rightarrow \infty\end{aligned}$$

But $p(0)$ is a constant that doesn't depend on R so the only choice is to make $R = 0$ thus we have $\frac{1}{p(0)} = 0$ which is a contradiction. \square