

Proof of Cauchy's theorem (out version)

Thm: If $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a holomorphism, and γ_0, γ_1 are Ω -homotopic closed curves in Ω , then

$$\int_{\gamma_0} f = \int_{\gamma_1} f$$

Proof under additional hypotheses:

1. Assume f is continuous
2. Assume that homotopy h has continuous second partial derivatives.

Recall that γ_0, γ_1 parametrized by interval $[0, 1]$ and $h : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \Omega$, the homotopy map is such that $h(t, 0) = \gamma_0(t)$, $h(t, 1) = \gamma_1(t)$ and $h(0, s) = h(1, s)$. Think of γ_s as the continuously varying family of curves.

Define $I(s) = \int_{\gamma_s} f$. So $I(0) = \int_{\gamma_0} f$ and $I(1) = \int_{\gamma_1} f$. So we want to show $I(0) = I(1)$. To show this, it suffices to show that $I'(s) = 0 \quad \forall s$.

$I'(s) = \frac{d}{ds} \int_0^1 f(\gamma_s(t)) \gamma'_s(t) dt$. When we switch to use $h(t, s)$ instead, our derivatives become partials.

$$\begin{aligned} I'(s) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \int_0^1 f(h(t, s)) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} h(t, s) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left[f(h) \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \right] dt \\ &= \int_0^1 f'(h(t, s)) \frac{\partial h}{\partial s} \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} + f(h(t, s)) \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial s \partial t} dt \\ &= \int_0^1 f'(h(t, s)) \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \frac{\partial h}{\partial s} + f(h(t, s)) \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial t \partial s} dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[f(h(t, s)) \frac{\partial h}{\partial s} \right] dt \quad \text{product rule} \\ &= f(h(1, s)) \frac{\partial h}{\partial s}(1, s) - f(h(0, s)) \frac{\partial h}{\partial s}(0, s) \\ &= 0 \quad \text{since } h(0, s) = h(1, s) \forall s \end{aligned}$$

thus $I'(s) = 0 \Rightarrow I(s) = \text{const } \forall s$

Def we say γ is contractible (or null-homotopic) in Ω if γ is Ω -homotopic to a constant curve (i.e. a point).

Consequence: If γ is null-homotopic then,

$$\int_{\gamma} f = \int_0^1 f(\gamma(t)) \gamma'(t) dt = \int_0^1 f(\gamma(t)) 0 dt = 0$$

Think – integral of a point is always zero.

Ex: $\int_{|z-2|=1} \text{Log}(z) dz = 0$. Since $\text{Log}(z)$ is holomorphic on $\Omega = \mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$ and the curve $|z-2| = 1$ is null-homotopic in Ω by inspection.

Def if f is entire and γ is closed, then $\int_{\gamma} f = 0$.

p.f. Every closed curve is null-homotopic in \mathbb{C} . (Straight line homotopy) *Note:* if $\Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a region in which every closed curve is null-homotopic in Ω , we say Ω is **Simply connected** (no holes). \mathbb{C} is simply connected. $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ is not. Recall that we proved $\int_{|z|=1} \frac{1}{z} dz = 2\pi i \neq 0$ when $\Omega = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ which does not agree with what Cauchy's theorem would give if we included the origin.

More generally, if Ω is simply-connected, then $\int_{\gamma} f = 0 \forall$ closed curves γ and holomorphisms f .

Ex: $\int_{|z|=1} \frac{1}{z^2-2z} dz = \int_{|z|=1} -\frac{1}{2z} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{z-2} dz = -\frac{1}{2} 2\pi i$ Since we know the value of the first integral and the second is null-homotopic on the unit circle (the hole is at $z=2$). We did this using partial fraction decomposition.

Cauchy's Integral Formula

Theorem(Cauchy's Integral Formula): Let $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a region and suppose the closed disc with center w and radius R , $D_R(w) \subseteq \Omega$, i.e. $\{z : |z - w| \leq R\} \subseteq \Omega$. Then if $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic, we have

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