

$$\theta_i + \alpha_i = \pi$$

$$\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 = 2\pi$$

$$\text{so } \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 = \pi.$$

Let  $\gamma$  be a loop in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

This means  $\gamma: S^1 \xrightarrow{\text{cts}} \mathbb{C}$

Define  $\alpha: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by  $\alpha(t) = \gamma(e^{it})$ .

then  $\alpha$  is cts &  $2\pi$ -periodic.

To say  $\gamma$  is  $C^1$ -regular means  $\alpha$  is  $C^1$ -regular

Suppose  $\gamma$  is  $C^1$ -regular. Then  $\alpha': \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  and  $\alpha'$  is cts.

Remember  $T_\alpha = \frac{\alpha'}{|\alpha'|}$  so  $T_\alpha: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1$  and  $T_\alpha$  is cts.

$\alpha$  is  $2\pi$ -periodic so  $\alpha'$  and  $T_\alpha$  are as well.

$\mathbb{R}$  is contractible so  $T_\alpha$  has a continuous logarithm  $L: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ .

$\forall t \in \mathbb{R}, e^{L(t+2\pi)} = T_\alpha(t+2\pi) = T_\alpha(t)$ . so  $t \mapsto L(t+2\pi)$  is also a cts log of  $T_\alpha$ . Thus  $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}, L(t+2\pi) = L(t) + 2\pi ni$ .

$n$  is called the rotation index of  $\gamma$ , and is denoted by  $i_\gamma$ .

$i_\gamma$  is the net # of full turns that  $T_\alpha$  performs around  $S^1$  as  $t$  increases by  $2\pi$  (as  $e^{it}$  travels around  $S^1$ ).

Lemma let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be  $C^1$ . Define  $g: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  by

$$g(u, v) = \begin{cases} \frac{f(v) - f(u)}{v - u} & \text{if } v \neq u \\ f'(u) & \text{if } v = u \end{cases}$$

Then  $g$  is continuous.

Proof Since we can treat each component of  $f$  separately, it suffices to consider the case where  $d=1$ . Then  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

The MVT says  $\forall u, v \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $u \neq v$  then there is a number  $w(u, v)$  between  $u$  and  $v$  s.t.  $f'(w(u, v)) = \frac{f(v) - f(u)}{v - u}$ . Let  $u_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . If  $(u, v) \rightarrow (u_0, u_0)$  with  $u \neq v$ , then  $w(u, v) \rightarrow u_0$  so  $\frac{f(v) - f(u)}{v - u} \rightarrow f'(u_0)$ . Through points on the diagonal,  $v=u$ ,  $g(u, u) = f(u) \rightarrow f(u_0)$ . So  $g$  is cts everywhere.  $\square$

## The turning tangents theorem

Let  $\gamma$  be a simple  $C^1$ -regular loop in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Then  $i_\gamma = \pm 1$ .

Pf Define  $\alpha: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by  $\alpha(t) = \gamma(e^{it})$ .



Let  $D = \{(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : u < v < u + 2\pi\}$

Since  $\gamma$  is simple, for each  $(u, v) \in D$ , we have  $\alpha(u) \neq \alpha(v)$ .

Define  $\beta_0: D \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^1$  by  $\beta_0(u, v) = \frac{\alpha(v) - \alpha(u)}{|v - u|}$ . Notice that  $\forall (u, v) \in D$  we have  $u < v$  so  $|v - u| = v - u$  so  $\beta_0(u, v) = \frac{\left(\frac{\alpha(v) - \alpha(u)}{v - u}\right)}{\left|\frac{\alpha(v) - \alpha(u)}{v - u}\right|}$ . (1)

By the lemma and (1),  $\forall u_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\beta_0(u, v) \xrightarrow{(2)} T_{\alpha(u_0)}$  as  $(u, v) \rightarrow (u_0, u_0)$  with  $(u, v) \in D$ .

Next,  $\forall (u, v) \in D$  we have  $v < u + 2\pi$  so  $v - 2\pi < u$  so  $|v - 2\pi - u| = -(v - 2\pi - u)$ , so  $\beta_0(u, v) = \frac{\alpha(v - 2\pi) - \alpha(u)}{|\alpha(v - 2\pi) - \alpha(u)|} = -\frac{\left(\frac{\alpha(v - 2\pi) - \alpha(u)}{v - 2\pi - u}\right)}{\left|\frac{\alpha(v - 2\pi) - \alpha(u)}{v - 2\pi - u}\right|}$ . (3)

Now for each  $u_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , as  $(u, v) \rightarrow (u_0, u_0 + 2\pi)$  in  $D$ ,  $\beta_0(u, v) \rightarrow -T_{\alpha(u_0)}$ . (4)

Let  $\Delta = \{(u, u) : u \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Let  $\tilde{\Delta} = \{(u, u + 2\pi) : u \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .

Let  $E = \Delta \cup D \cup \tilde{\Delta}$  and define  $\beta: E \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^1$  by  $\beta(u, v) = \begin{cases} \beta_0(u, v) & \text{if } (u, v) \in D \\ T_{\alpha(u)} & \text{if } (u, v) \in \Delta \\ -T_{\alpha(u)} & \text{if } (u, v) \in \tilde{\Delta} \end{cases}$ .

By (2) and (4),  $\beta$  is continuous on  $E$ .

Since  $E$  is convex,  $\beta$  has a logarithm in  $E$ , call it  $L$ .

Now the continuous function  $\text{Im}(L)$  achieves a minimum on  $\mathbb{S}^1$ , say at  $z_1 \in \mathbb{S}^1$ . Let  $t_1 \in [0, 2\pi)$  w/  $z_1 = e^{it_1}$ . Then  $\text{Im}(L(\alpha(t))) \geq \text{Im}(L(\alpha(t_1))) \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

hence  $\operatorname{Im}(\alpha'(t_1)) = 0$  so  $\operatorname{Re}(\alpha'(t_1)) \neq 0$  so  $\operatorname{Re}(\alpha)$  does not achieve its minimum here.

either  $\operatorname{Re}(\alpha(t_1)) > 0$  or  $\operatorname{Re}(\alpha(t_1)) < 0$ . In first case,  $i_\gamma = 1$ ,  $i_\gamma = -1$  in 2nd.

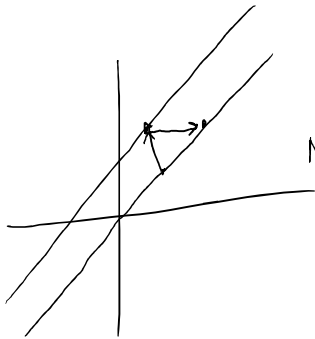
It's enough to consider first case (can reverse curve). WTS  $i_\gamma = 1$ .

The function  $u \mapsto L(u, u)$  is a continuous log of  $T_\alpha$ .

$$\text{So } i_\gamma = \frac{L(t_1 + 2\pi, t_1 + 2\pi) - L(t_1, t_1)}{2\pi i} = \frac{\Theta(t_1 + 2\pi, t_1 + 2\pi) - \Theta(t_1, t_1)}{2\pi} \quad (5)$$

Where  $\Theta = \operatorname{Im}(L)$ . Now:

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta(t_1 + 2\pi, t_1 + 2\pi) - \Theta(t_1, t_1) &= \Theta(t_1 + 2\pi, t_1 + 2\pi) - \Theta(t_1, t_1 + 2\pi) \\ &\quad + \Theta(t_1, t_1 + 2\pi) - \Theta(t_1, t_1). \end{aligned}$$



Note that  $\beta(t_1, t_1) = T_\alpha(t_1) = 1$  and  $\beta(t_1, t_1 + 2\pi) = -T_\alpha(t_1) = -1$

for  $t_1 < v < t_1 + 2\pi$ , the point  $\beta(t_1, v) = \frac{\alpha(v) - \alpha(t_1)}{|\alpha(v) - \alpha(t_1)|} \in \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im} z \geq 0\}$ .

$$\text{Hence } \Theta(t_1, t_1 + 2\pi) - \Theta(t_1, t_1) = \pi$$

Next,  $\beta(t_1, t_1 + 2\pi) = -T_\alpha(t_1) = -1$ , and  $\beta(t_1 + 2\pi, t_1 + 2\pi) = T_\alpha(t_1) = 1$ ,

so for  $t_1 < u < t_1 + 2\pi$ , the point  $\beta(u, t_1 + 2\pi) = \frac{\alpha(t_1) - \alpha(u)}{|\alpha(t_1) - \alpha(u)|} \in \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im} z \leq 0\}$

$$\text{So } \Theta(t_1 - 2\pi, t_1 - 2\pi) - \Theta(t_1, t_1 - 2\pi) = \pi. \quad \text{So } i_\gamma = 1. \quad \square$$

