

# Johns Hopkins Engineering for Professionals

**Mathematical Methods for Applied Biomedical Engineering  
EN. 585.409**

# One more simple function of a complex variable

Let's start out by looking at  $e^{iy} = \cos y + i \sin y$

Then  $(e^{iy})^n = e^{iny} = \cos ny + i \sin ny$

This can also be proven directly by induction, that is prove the base case

$$(\cos y + i \sin y)^1 = \cos(1 \cdot y) + i \sin(1 \cdot y)$$

Assume its true for  $n = k$   $(\cos y + i \sin y)^k = \cos ky + i \sin ky$

And prove  $(\cos y + i \sin y)^{k+1} = \cos(k+1)y + i \sin(k+1)y$

Taking the polar form for a complex variable  $z = re^{i\theta} \equiv re^{i(\theta+2k\pi)}$

**KEY: The exponential function  
is a circular function!**

Now for  $w$  and  $z$  complex we have  $\ln z = w \leftrightarrow z = e^w$

**KEY**

$$\ln z = \ln[re^{i(\theta+2k\pi)}] = \ln r + \ln[e^{i(\theta+2k\pi)}] = \ln r + i(\theta + 2k\pi)$$

The primary value  $\ln z = \ln r + i\theta$ ,  $r = |z| \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $-\pi < \theta < \pi$

# Roots of a complex variable

Take  $t^z = e^{z \ln t}$  Now take  $z = \frac{1}{n}$  then we have  $t^{\frac{1}{n}} = e^{\frac{1}{n} \ln t}$

With  $t = x + iy = re^{i(\theta+2k\pi)}$  on the right hand side we have

$$\begin{aligned} t^{\frac{1}{n}} &= e^{\frac{1}{n} \ln t} = e^{\frac{1}{n} \ln[re^{i(\theta+2k\pi)}]} = e^{\frac{1}{n} [\ln r + i(\theta+2k\pi)]} = e^{\left[\frac{1}{n} \ln r + \frac{1}{n} i(\theta+2k\pi)\right]} = \\ e^{\frac{1}{n} \ln r} e^{i(\theta+2k\pi)/n} &= \left(e^{\ln r}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} e^{i(\theta+2k\pi)/n} = r^{\frac{1}{n}} e^{i(\theta+2k\pi)/n} \end{aligned}$$

Note  $k = 0, \dots, n-1$   
since when  $k = n$   
same angular value  
for  $2\pi$  as 0

Therefore  $t^{\frac{1}{n}} = r^{\frac{1}{n}} e^{i(\theta+2k\pi)/n}$  where  $r = |t| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$  and  $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{y}{x} \right)$

Let's find the square roots of 1, of course for  $1 \in \text{Real}$  we know they are  $\pm 1$

But what about when  $1 \in \text{Complex}$ , that is when  $t = 1 = 1 + i0$

With  $t = 1 + i0 \in \text{Complex}$  and  $n = 2$  we have  $1^{\frac{1}{2}} \equiv (1 + i0)^{\frac{1}{2}} = r^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i(\theta+2k\pi)/2} = r^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\phi}$

$$r = |1 + i0| = \sqrt{1^2 + 0^2} = 1 \in \text{Real} \rightarrow 1^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1 \in \text{Real} \quad \text{Also } \theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{0}{1} \right) = \tan^{-1} 0 = 0$$

Then for  $k = 0, 1$  ( $n-1$  with  $n = 2$ ) Also taking  $\phi = (\theta + 2k\pi)/2$  with  $\theta = 0 \rightarrow \begin{cases} k=0 & \phi=0 \\ k=1 & \phi=\pi \end{cases}$

$$\text{Therefore } 1^{\frac{1}{2}} \equiv (1 + i0)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{cases} k=0 & 1^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i0} = 1e^0 = 1 \\ k=1 & 1^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\pi} = 1(-1) = -1 \end{cases}$$

**The same as for the Real case!**  
**Note for  $n = 2$  we get 2 roots**

Next let's look at the  $n = 3$  case or cubic root of 1, of course for  $1 \in \text{Real}$  the cube root is just 1. **Where are the other roots?**

Let's instead look at the complex domain with  $t = 1 + i0$  again

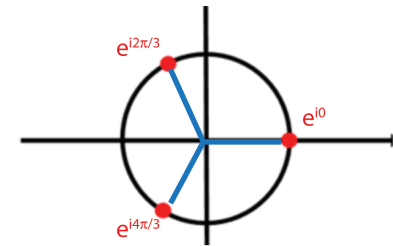
but taking  $n = 3$  this time. We have  $1^{\frac{1}{3}} = (1 + i0)^{\frac{1}{3}} = r^{\frac{1}{3}} e^{i(\theta + 2k\pi)/3} = r^{\frac{1}{3}} e^{i\phi}$

$$r = |1 + i0| = \sqrt{1^2 + 0^2} = 1 \in \text{Real} \rightarrow 1^{\frac{1}{3}} = 1 \text{ and } \theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{0}{1}\right) = \tan^{-1} 0 = 0$$

and  $k = 0, 1, 2$  ( $n-1$  with  $n = 3$ ) Also taking  $\phi = (\theta + 2k\pi)/3$  with  $\theta = 0 \rightarrow$

$$\begin{cases} k=0 & \phi=0 \\ k=1 & \phi=0+2\pi/3 \\ k=2 & \phi=0+4\pi/3 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Finally } 1^{\frac{1}{3}} = \begin{cases} k=0 & \phi=0 & 1^{\frac{1}{3}} e^{i0} = 1 + i0 \\ k=1 & \phi=0+2\pi/3 & 1^{\frac{1}{3}} e^{i2\pi/3} = -1/2 + i\sqrt{3}/2 \\ k=2 & \phi=0+4\pi/3 & 1^{\frac{1}{3}} e^{i4\pi/3} = -1/2 - i\sqrt{3}/2 \end{cases}$$



**Unlike the Real case we get all 3 roots!**

# Singularities and zeros of complex functions

A singular point of a function of a complex variable is any point in an Argand diagram for which the function is not analytic.

If  $f(z)$  has a singular point at  $z = z_0$  but is analytic in some neighborhood including  $z_0$  we call this an **isolated singularity**. We can write

**KEY**

$$f(z) = \frac{g(z)}{(z - z_0)^n}, \quad n=1,2,\dots \text{ where } g(z) \neq 0 \text{ is analytic}$$

We say that  $f(z)$  has a **pole** of order  $n$  at  $z = z_0$ . Equivalently we can write

**KEY**

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} [(z - z_0)^n f(z)] = a, \quad a \neq 0 \text{ is finite and } \in \text{Complex}$$

If  $a = 0$  then  $z = z_0$  is a pole order less than  $n$

If  $a = \infty$  then  $z = z_0$  is a pole order greater than  $n$

If no value of  $n$  can be found that satisfies the above relation then  $z = z_0$  is an essential singularity

Example: Find the singularities for  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-z} - \frac{1}{1+z}$

Write in "standard" form

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1-z} - \frac{1}{1+z} = \frac{1}{1-z} \left( \frac{1+z}{1+z} \right) - \frac{1}{1+z} \left( \frac{1-z}{1-z} \right) = \frac{1+z-(1-z)}{(1+z)(1-z)} = \frac{2z}{(1+z)(1-z)}$$

Therefore pole of order  $n = 1$  at  $z_0 = -1, 1$

Example: Find the singularities for

$$f(x) = \tanh z = \frac{\sinh z}{\cosh z} = (\text{using the definitions}) = \frac{\frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{2}}{\frac{e^z + e^{-z}}{2}} = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}}$$

Therefore we have singularity when  $e^z + e^{-z} = 0$  or  $e^z = -e^{-z} = -1e^{-z}$

**KEY** Now  $-1$  (complex)  $= 1e^{i(2n+1)\pi} = e^{i(2n+1)\pi}$  and substitution gives  $e^z = [e^{i(2n+1)\pi}]e^{-z} = e^{-z+i(2n+1)\pi}$

Equating the exponents  $z = -z + i(2n+1)\pi$  or  $2z = i(2n+1)\pi \rightarrow z_0 = (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i$

Next using are limit definition for poles we have

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} [(z - z_0)f(z)] = \lim_{z \rightarrow (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} [(z - (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i) \frac{\sinh z}{\cosh z}]$$

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} \frac{\left[ z - (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i \right] \sinh z}{\cosh z} \quad \text{Note as } z \rightarrow (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i \text{ we have } z - (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{and as } z \rightarrow (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i \text{ we have } \cosh \left[ (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i \right] = \frac{e^{(n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} + e^{-(n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i}}{2} =$$

Let's just look at the case  $n = 0$  (you can generalize to any integer  $n \geq 0$ )

$$\frac{e^{\frac{\pi i}{2}} + e^{-\frac{\pi i}{2}}}{2} = \frac{\left[ \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \right] + \left[ \cos \frac{\pi}{2} - i \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \right]}{2} = \frac{2 \cos \frac{\pi}{2}}{2} = \frac{2 \cdot 0}{2} = 0$$

**KEY** Therefore  $\lim_{z \rightarrow (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} \left[ \frac{(z - (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i) \sinh z}{\cosh z} \right]$  is of the form  $\frac{0}{0}$  and we can use L'Hospitals rule

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} \left[ \frac{(z - (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i) \sinh z}{\cosh z} \right] = \lim_{z \rightarrow (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} \left[ \frac{(1) \sinh z + (z - (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i) \cosh z}{\sinh z} \right] =$$

$$\frac{(1) \sinh(n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i + \left[ (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i - (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i \right] \cosh z}{\sinh(n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} = \frac{\sinh(n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i}{\sinh(n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i} = 1$$