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Differentiation of Functions of a Complex Variable

Notes are adapted from D. R. Wilton, Dept. of ECE



Functions of a Complex Variable

Function of a complex variable : w = f(z)

$$z = x + iy, \quad w = u + iv$$

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

(e.g., $f(z) = z^2$, $u(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$, $v(x, y) = 2xy$)

Examples of functions :

$$w = a + bz + cz^{2}, \qquad w = A \sinh(\sqrt{z})$$
$$w = \frac{a + bz}{c + dz + ez^{2}}, \qquad w = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} z^{n}$$

Differentiation of Functions of a Complex Variable

Derivative of a function of a complex variable :

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

To define a unique derivative at a point z, the limit

- must exist at z
- must be independent of the direction of $\Delta z = \arg(\Delta z)$ at z



The Cauchy – Riemann Conditions

Denote
$$\Delta z = \Delta x + i\Delta y$$
 $w = f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$

First, let $\Delta z = \Delta x$:

$$\frac{df}{dz} = \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{\Delta f}{\Delta x} = \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{f(z + \Delta x) - f(z)}{\Delta x}$$
$$= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{u(x + \Delta x, y) - u(x, y)}{\Delta x} + i \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{v(x + \Delta x, y) - v(x, y)}{\Delta x}$$
$$\frac{df}{dz} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

Next let $\Delta z = i \Delta y$:

 ∂y

 \Rightarrow

$$\frac{df}{dz} = \lim_{\Delta y \to 0} \frac{\Delta f}{i\Delta y} = \lim_{\Delta y \to 0} \frac{f(z + i\Delta y) - f(z)}{i\Delta y}$$
$$= \lim_{\Delta y \to 0} \frac{u(x, y + \Delta y) - u(x, y)}{i\Delta y} + \lambda \lim_{\Delta y \to 0} \frac{v(x, y + \Delta y) - v(x, y)}{\lambda \Delta y}$$
$$\frac{df}{dz} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - i\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$
Question: Is $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - i\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$



Augustin-Louis Cauchy



Bernhard Riemann

 ∂y



 For a unique derivative, these expressions must be equal. That is, a *necessary* condition for the existence of a derivative of function of a complex variable is that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \quad \& \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

Cauchy-Riemann equations

• We've proved that if $\frac{df}{dz}$ exists \Rightarrow Cauchy-Riemann conditions.



Hence, we have the following equivalent statements:

• $\frac{df}{dz}$ exists \Leftrightarrow Cauchy-Riemann conditions.

or

• $\frac{df}{dz}$ exists *if and only if* (iff) the Cauchy - Riemann conditions hold.

or

• The Cauchy - Riemann conditions are a *necessary and sufficient* condition for the existence of the derivative $\frac{df}{dz}$ of a complex variable f.

 We say that a function is "analytic" at a point if the derivative exists there (and at all points in some neighborhood of the point).



f(z) is said to be "analytic" in a domainD if the derivative exsits at each point in D.

- The theory of complex variables largely exploits the remarkable properties of analytic functions.
- The terms "holomorphic", "regular", and "differentiable" are also used instead of "analytic."

Applying the Cauchy – Riemann Conditions

Example 1:

Example 1.

$$\begin{aligned}
u(x,y) & v(x,y) \\
f(z) = z = (x + iy) = & x + i & y \\
\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = & 1 = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} & \Rightarrow \\
\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = & 0 = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \Rightarrow \\
\end{aligned}$$
C.R. conditions hold everywhere (for z finite)

 $\Rightarrow z$ is analytic everywhere

Example 2:

$$f(z) = z^* = (x + iy)^* = \underbrace{x}^{u(x,y)} + i \underbrace{(-y)}^{v(x,y)}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 1 \neq \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = -1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\Rightarrow c.R. \text{ conditions hold nowhere}$$

$$\Rightarrow z^* \text{ is analytic nowhere}$$

Applying the Cauchy – Riemann Conditions (cont.)



f(z) is analytic everywhere except at z = 0. The point z = 0 is called a "singularity."

A singularity is a point where the function is <u>not</u> analytic.

Applying the Cauchy – Riemann Conditions (cont.)

Example 4: \diamond

$$f(z) = \sin(z) = \sin(x + iy) = \sin x \cos(iy) + \sin(iy) \cos x$$

but $\cos(iy) = \frac{e^{i(iy)} + e^{-i(iy)}}{2} = \frac{e^{-y} + e^{y}}{2} = \cosh y$,
 $\sin(iy) = \frac{e^{i(iy)} - e^{-i(iy)}}{2i} = -i\frac{e^{-y} - e^{y}}{2} = i \sinh y$
so $\sin(z) = \sin(x + iy) = \underbrace{\sin x \cosh y}_{u(x,y)} + i \underbrace{\sinh y}_{v(x,y)}$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \cos x \cosh y = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \checkmark \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \sin x \sinh y = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \checkmark$
 $\Rightarrow C.R. \text{ conditions hold for all finite } z$
Now use : $f'(z) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = \cos x \cosh y - i \sin x \sinh y$
 $= \cos x \cos(iy) - \sin x \sin(iy)$
 $= \cos(x + iy)$
 $= \cos z$
 $\Rightarrow f'(z) = \frac{d}{dz}\sin(z) = \cos z$

 \Rightarrow

 $= \cos z$

Differentiation Rules (cont.)

◊ Example

$$\frac{d}{dz}(z^2) = \lim_{\Delta z \to 0} \frac{(z + \Delta z)^2 - (z)^2}{\Delta z} = \lim_{\Delta z \to 0} \frac{(z)^2 + 2z\Delta z + (\Delta z)^2 - (z)^2}{\Delta z}$$
$$= 2z + \lim_{\Delta z \to 0} \Delta z$$
$$= 2z$$

Note: The above "brute-force" derivation, directly using the definition of the derivative, is exactly what is done in usual calculus, with x being used there instead of z.

Differentiation Rules

 It is relatively simple to prove on a case - by - case basis that practically all formulas for differentiating functions of real variables also apply to the corresponding function of a complex variable :

$$\frac{d z^{n}}{dz} = nz^{n-1}, \ \frac{d e^{dz}}{dz} = ae^{az}, \ \frac{d \sin z}{dz} = \cos z, \ \frac{d \cos z}{dz} = -\sin z, \ \text{etc.}$$

$$\frac{d}{dz} (z^{n}) = nz^{n-1} \implies \text{every polynomial of degree } N, \ P_{N}(z), \ \text{in } z \text{ is analytic (differentiable).}$$

$$\implies \text{every rational function } \frac{P(z)}{Q(z)} \text{ in } z \text{ is analytic except} \ \text{where } Q(z) \text{ vanishes.}$$

Differentiation Rules

 Replacing x by z in the usual derivations for functions of a real variable, we find practically all differentiation rules for functions of a complex variable turn out to be identical to those for real variables :

$$\frac{d\left(f(z)\pm g(z)\right)}{dz} = f'(z)\pm g'(z)$$
$$\frac{d\left(f(z)g(z)\right)}{dz} = f'(z)g(z) + f(z)g'(z)$$
$$\frac{d}{dz}\left(\frac{f(z)}{g(z)}\right) = \frac{gf'-fg'}{\left(g\right)^2}$$

A Theorem Related to z^*

If $f = f(z, z^*)$ is analytic, then

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z^*} = 0$$

(An analytic function cannot vary with z^* , and therefore cannot be a function of z^* , except in a trivial way.)

All functions that contain z^* are therefore not analytic, except for some trivial cases (where the function does not really vary with z^*).

A Theorem Related to z^* (cont.)

Examples:

 $f(z) = z^* \text{ is analytic nowhere, since } \frac{\partial f}{\partial z^*} = 1 \neq 0 \text{ (not independent of } z^*\text{)}$ $f(z) = \sin z^* \text{ is not analytic, since } \frac{\partial f}{\partial z^*} = \cos z^* \neq 0 \text{ (unless } z = (2n+1)\pi/2 \text{)}$ $f(z) = |z|^2 = zz^* \text{ is not analytic, since } \frac{\partial f}{\partial z^*} = z \neq 0 \text{ (unless } z = 0\text{)}$ $f(z) = \sin(z) + \cos(z^*) \text{ is not analytic, since } \frac{\partial f}{\partial z^*} = -\sin(z^*) \neq 0 \text{ (unless } z = n\pi \text{)}$

$$f(z) = \frac{z^*}{z^*} = 1$$
 is analytic everywhere, since $\frac{\partial f}{\partial z^*} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*}(1) = 0$

Proof of *z** Theorem

C.R. conditions:



If
$$f = f(z, z^*)$$
 is analytic, then



(An analytic function cannot vary with z^* , and therefore cannot really be a function of z^* , except in a trivial way.)

Note that

 $z = x + iy, \quad z^* = x - iy$

Treating z and z * as independent variables :

$$\frac{\partial u(z,z^*)}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z^*} \frac{\partial z^*}{\partial x} \stackrel{\text{C.R. conds.}}{=} \frac{\partial v(z,z^*)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial z^*} \frac{\partial z^*}{\partial y} = -i$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z^*} = i \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial z^*} \right) \quad (1)$$

A Theorem Related to z^* (cont.)

Similarly,



Next, consider



 \Rightarrow *f* is independent of *z* *

Entire Functions

A function that is analytic everywhere in the <u>finite</u>* complex plane is called "entire".

Typical functions that are entire
 (analytic everywhere in the finite complex plane):
 1. z. z². z³. z⁴. z⁵.... zⁿ...

 e^z , sin z, cos z, sinh z, cosh z

Typical functions analytic *almost* **everywhere :**

$$\frac{1}{z^2}, \frac{1}{z^2 - 1}, z^{1/2}, \tan z, \cot z, \tanh z, \coth z$$

* A function is said to be analytic everywhere in the <u>finite</u> complex plane if it is analytic everywhere except possibly at infinity.

Analytic at infinity: Let w = 1/z Is the function analytic at w = 0?

Combinations of Analytic Functions

Combinations of functions:

□ Finite linear combinations of analytic functions are analytic: $\begin{aligned} & \text{If } f(z), g(z), h(z) \text{ are analytic} \\ & \Rightarrow af(z) + bg(z) + ch(z) \text{ is analytic} \end{aligned}$

Composite combinations of analytic functions are analytic :

If f(z), g(z) are analytic

 $\Rightarrow f(g(z))$ is analytic

Combinations of Analytic Functions (cont.)

Infinite series:

Infinite series may be :

 Analytic everywhere
 Analytic somwhere

The "somewhere" might depend on the form used to represent the function.

Example:

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{1-z}$$

$$f(z) = 1 + z + z^{2} + z^{3} + \dots, |z| < 1$$

The first form is analytic everywhere except z = 1.

The second form is analytic for |z| < 1(the series does not converge on or outside the unit circle).

Combination of Analytic Functions (cont.)

Examples

Composite functions of analytic functions are also analytic.

$$f(z) = z^{2}$$
$$g(z) = \sin z$$
$$h(z) = g(f(z)) = \sin(z^{2}) \quad \text{analytic}$$

Derivatives of analytic functions are also analytic (proof given later).

$$f(z) = \sin z$$

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

Derivatives of Analytic Function

Important theorem (proven later)

The derivative of an analytic function is also analytic.



Hence, <u>all</u> derivatives of an analytic function are also analytic.

Real and Imaginary Parts of Analytic Functions Are Harmonic Functions

Assume an analytic function : f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 u(x,y) = \nabla^2 v(x,y) = 0$$

The functions *u* and *v* are <u>harmonic</u> (i.e., they satisfy Laplace's equation)

Notation:
$$\begin{cases} u = u(z) = u(x, y) \\ v = v(z) = v(x, y) \end{cases}$$

This result is extensively used in <u>conformal mapping</u> to solve electrostatics and other problems involving the 2D Laplace equation (discussed later).



Pierre-Simon Laplace

Real and Imaginary Parts of Analytic Functions Are Harmonic Functions (cont.)

Proof

f is analytic \Rightarrow *df*/*dz* is also analytic (see slide 23)

Analytic
$$\Rightarrow \frac{df}{dz} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$
 (Notation: $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$)
Denote $f'(z) \equiv U + iV$

We have:
$$U(x,y) = \operatorname{Re}(f'(z)) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}; \quad \not V(x,y) = \not (\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}) = -\not (\frac{\partial u}{\partial y})$$

Apply the C.R. conditions to f'(z):

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \implies \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \implies \nabla^2 u = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \implies \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \implies \nabla^2 v = 0$$

Real and Imaginary Parts of Analytic Functions Are Harmonic Functions (cont.)

Example:
$$w = f(z) = z^2$$

$$w = u + iv = (x + iy)^{2} = (x^{2} - y^{2}) + i(2xy)$$

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 2 - 2 = 0 \qquad \nabla^2 v = \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} = 0 + 0 = 0$$

Real and Imaginary Parts of Analytic Functions Are Harmonic Functions (cont.)

Example:
$$w = f(z) = \sin(z)$$

 $w = u + iv = \sin(x + iy) = \sin x \cosh y + i \cos x \sinh y$

$$\square \qquad \begin{cases} u(x, y) = \sin x \cosh y \\ v(x, y) = \cos x \sinh y \end{cases}$$

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -\sin x \cosh y + \sin x \cosh y = 0$$
$$\nabla^2 v = \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} = -\cos x \sinh y + \cos x \sinh y = 0$$