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Complex Analysis I, Christopher Bishop 2024







Chapter 5: Cauchy's Theorem

Section 5.1: Cauchy's Theorem

Recall that a **cycle** $\gamma = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \gamma_j$ is a finite union of closed curves $\gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_n$.

Theorem 5.1, Cauchy's Theorem: Suppose γ is a cycle contained in a region Ω and suppose

for all
$$a \notin \Omega$$
. If f is analytic on Ω then

$$\int_{\gamma} \frac{d\zeta}{\zeta - a} = 0 \qquad (5.2)$$

$$\int_{\gamma} f(\zeta) d\zeta = 0.$$

Proof. By Runge's theorem, we can find a sequence of rational function r_n with poles in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \Omega$ so that r_n converges to f uniformly on the compact set $\gamma \subset \Omega$.

Each rational functions has a partial fraction expansion

$$r(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{n_k} \frac{c_{k,j}}{(z - p_k)^j} + q(z)$$

and integrating around a closed curve γ gives zero, except for the simple poles. But by our assumption (5.2), these integrals also vanish.

By uniform convergence,

$$\left|\int_{\gamma} f(z)dz\right| = \left|\int_{\gamma} (f(z) - r_n(z))dz\right| \le \sup_{\gamma} |f - r_n|\ell(\gamma) \to 0. \quad \Box$$

Theorem 5.2, Cauchy's Integral Formula Suppose γ is a cycle contained in a region Ω and suppose

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\gamma} \frac{d\zeta}{\zeta - a} &= 0 \\ \text{for all } a \notin \Omega. \text{ If } f \text{ is analytic on } \Omega \text{ and } z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma \text{ then} \\ \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta &= f(z) \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{1}{\zeta - z} d\zeta \end{aligned}$$

Proof. For each $z \in \Omega$ the function $g(\zeta) = (f(\zeta) - f(z))/(\zeta - z)$ extends to be analytic on Ω , by Exercise 2.5.

By Cauchy's theorem it has integral over γ equal to 0. Theorem 5.2 follows by splitting the integral of g along γ into two pieces.

Section 5.2: Winding number

Idea: intuitively, the winding number is the number of times a curve winds around a point.



It is the total change in $\arg(z-a)$ as z travels around γ .

Lemma 5.3 If
$$\gamma$$
 is a cycle and $a \notin \gamma$, then

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{1}{\zeta - a} d\zeta$$

is an integer.

Proof. WLOG we may suppose γ is a closed curve parameterized by a continuous, piecewise differentiable function $\gamma : [0, 1] \to \mathbb{C}$. Define

$$h(x) = \int_0^x \frac{\gamma'(t)}{\gamma(t) - a} dt.$$

Then h'(x) exists and equals $\gamma'(x)/(\gamma(x) - a)$, except at finitely many points x. Then

$$\frac{a}{dx}e^{-h(x)}(\gamma(x)-a) = -h'(x)e^{-h(x)}(\gamma(x)-a) + e^{-h(x)}\gamma'(x)$$
$$= -\gamma'(x)e^{-h(x)} + \gamma'(x)e^{-h(x)} = 0,$$

except at finitely many points.

Since $e^{-h(x)}(\gamma(x) - a)$ is continuous, it must be constant. Thus $e^{-h(1)}(\gamma(1) - a) = e^{-h(0)}(\gamma(0) - a) = 1 \cdot (\gamma(1) - a).$

Since $\gamma(1) - a \neq 0$, $e^{-h(1)} = 1$ and $h(1) = 2\pi ki$, where k is an integer. Thus $\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{d\zeta}{\zeta - a} d\zeta = \frac{h(1)}{2\pi i} = k,$

an integer.

Definition 5.4 If γ is a cycle, then the **index** or **winding number** of γ about *a* (or with respect to *a*) is

$$n(\gamma, a) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{d\zeta}{\zeta - a},$$

for $a \notin \gamma$.

- (1) $n(\gamma, a)$ is an analytic function of a, for $a \notin \gamma$, by Lemma 4.30 and Theorem 4.32. In particular it is continuous and integer-valued, and thus $n(\gamma, a)$ is constant in each component of $\mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma$.
- (2) $n(\gamma, a) \to 0$ as $a \to \infty$. Thus $n(\gamma, a) = 0$ in the unbounded component of $\mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma$.

(3)
$$n(-\gamma, a) = -n(\gamma, a).$$

(4) $n(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2, a) = n(\gamma_1, a) + n(\gamma_2, a).$
(5) If $\gamma(t) = e^{ikt}$, for $0 \le t \le 2\pi$, where k is an integer, then
 $n(\gamma, 0) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{dz}{z} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \frac{ike^{ikt}}{e^{ikt}} dt = k.$

Definition 5.5 Closed curves γ_1 and γ_2 are **homologous** in a region Ω if $n(\gamma_1 - \gamma_2, a) = 0$ for all $a \notin \Omega$ and in this case we write

$$\gamma_1 \sim \gamma_2.$$

• Homology is an equivalence relation on the curves in Ω (Exercise 2). A closed curve $\gamma \subset \Omega$ is said to be **homologous to** 0 in Ω if $n(\gamma, a) = 0$ for all $a \notin \Omega$. In this case we write $\gamma \sim 0$.

• If γ is homotopic to zero, then it is homologous to zero, but not conversely.

• Cauchy's theorem says that if $\gamma \sim 0$ in Ω and if f is analytic in Ω then

$$\int_{\gamma} f(z) dz = 0,$$

Thus if γ_1 is homologous to γ_2 in Ω , then

$$\int_{\gamma_1} f(z) dz = \int_{\gamma_2} f(z) dz.$$

• The most common application of Cauchy's integral formula is when $\gamma \subset \Omega$ with $\gamma \sim 0$ and $n(\gamma, z) = 1$. Then for f analytic on Ω ,

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta.$$

If Ω is a bounded region in \mathbb{C} bounded by finitely many piecewise differentiable curves, then we can parameterize $\partial \Omega$ so that as you trace each boundary component, the region Ω lies on the left.

In other words $i\gamma'(t)$, where it exists, is an "inner normal", rotated counterclockwise by $\pi/2$ from the tangential direction $\gamma'(t)$. In Exercise 5.4 you are asked to show that $n(\partial\Omega, a) = 1$ for all $a \in \Omega$ and $n(\partial\Omega, a) = 0$ for all $a \notin \overline{\Omega}$. We call this the **positive orientation** of $\partial\Omega$. Thus for all such regions, $\partial\Omega \sim 0$ in any region containing $\overline{\Omega}$.

So by Cauchy's theorem, if Ω is a bounded region, bounded by finitely many piecewise differentiable curves and if f is analytic on $\overline{\Omega}$, then

$$f(z) = \int_{\partial\Omega} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} \frac{d\zeta}{2\pi i},\tag{5.4}$$

Definition 5.6: A region $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^*$ is called **simply-connected** if $\mathbb{C}^* \setminus \Omega$ is connected in \mathbb{C}^* .

Equivalently a region Ω is simply-connected if $\mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \pi(\Omega)$ is connected, where π is stereographic projection and $\pi(\infty)$ is defined to be the "North pole" (0, 0, 1) in \mathbb{S}^2 .

Simply-connected essentially means "no holes". For example, the unit disk \mathbb{D} is simply-connected. The vertical strip $\{z : 0 < \text{Rez} < 1\}$ is simply-connected. The punctured plane $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ is not simply-connected.

The set $\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}}$ together with ∞ is simply-connected, but $\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}}$ is not simply-connected.

Theorem 5.7: A region $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$ is simply-connected if and only if every cycle in Ω is homologous to 0 in Ω . If Ω is not simply-connected then we can find a simple closed polygonal curve contained in Ω which is not homologous to 0. Proof. Suppose Ω is simply-connected and suppose γ is a cycle contained in Ω and suppose $a \notin \Omega$. Because $\Omega^c = \mathbb{C}^* \setminus \Omega$ is connected, it must be contained in one component of the complement of γ in \mathbb{C}^* . Because $\infty \in \Omega^c$, a must be in the unbounded component of $\mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma$, and $n(\gamma, a) = 0$.

Conversely, suppose that $\mathbb{C}^* \setminus \Omega = A \cup B$ where A and B are non-empty closed sets in \mathbb{C}^* with $A \cap B = \emptyset$. Without loss of generality $\infty \in B$. Since A is closed, a neighborhood of ∞ does not intersect A and hence A is bounded. Pick $a_0 \in A$. We'll construct a curve $\gamma_0 \subset \Omega$ such that $n(\gamma_0, a_0) \neq 0$, proving Theorem 2.5. The construction is the same construction used to prove Runge's theorem.

Let
$$d = dist(A, B) = inf\{|a - b| : a \in A, b \in B\} > 0.$$

Pave the plane with squares of side d/2 such that a_0 is the center of one of the squares. Orient the boundary of each square in the positive, or counter-clockwise direction Shade each square S_j with $\overline{S_j} \cap A \neq \emptyset$.

Let γ_0 denote the cycle obtained from $\cup \partial S_j$ after performing all possible cancellations. Then $\gamma_0 \subset \Omega$ because γ_0 does not intersect either A or B, and $n(\gamma_0, a_0) = 1$. Because γ is a finite union of closed simple polygonal curves, at least one of these curves is not homologous to 0.



Corollary 5.8 Suppose f is analytic on a simply-connected region Ω . Then

(1) $\int_{\gamma} f(z) dz = 0$ for all closed curves $\gamma \subset \Omega$.

(2) There exists a function F analytic on Ω such that F' = f.

(3) If also $f(z) \neq 0$ for all $z \in \Omega$ then there exists a function g analytic on Ω such that $f = e^g$.

Proof. The first statement follows from Cauchy's theorem and Theorem 5.7.

For the 2nd part, follow the proof of Morera's (Theorem 4.19).

Fix $z_0 \in \Omega$ and define $F(z) = \int_{\sigma_z} f(\zeta) d\zeta$ where σ_z is any curve contained in Ω connecting z_0 to z. This definition does not depend on the choice of σ_z because the integral along any closed curve is zero.

If $D \subset \Omega$ is a disk, then for $z \in D$ we can write F(z) as an integral from z_0 to the center of D plus an integral along a horizontal then vertical line segment from the center of D to z. As in the proof of Morera's Theorem, F is analytic and F' = f on D and hence on all of Ω .

to prove the third statement, note f'/f is analytic on Ω , so there is a function g analytic on Ω such that g' = f'/f (previous argument).

To compare f and e^g , set

$$h = \frac{f}{e^g} = f e^{-g}.$$

Then

$$h' = f'e^{-g} - fg'e^{-g} = f'e^{-g} - f'e^{-g} = 0.$$

This implies h is a constant. Adding a constant to g, we may suppose $e^{g(z_0)} = f(z_0)$, so that $h \equiv 1$ and $f = e^g$.

Definition 5.9: If g is analytic in a region Ω and if $f = e^g$ then g is called a **logarithm** of f in Ω and written $g(z) = \log f(z)$. The function g is uniquely determined by its value at one point $z_0 \in \Omega$.

If g is a logarithm of f, so is $g + 2\pi i$.

Some sources treat log as a "multi-valued" function, taking countable many different values at once.

Section 5.3: Removable Singularities

Corollary 5.10, Riemann's Removable Singularity Theorem: Suppose f is analytic in $\Omega = \{z : 0 < |z - a| < \delta\}$ and suppose

$$\lim_{z \to a} (z - a)f(z) = 0.$$

Then f extends to be analytic in $\{z : |z-a| < \delta\}$.

In particular, this happens if f is bounded in a neighborhood of a.

This is the way the theorem is often stated.

Proof. Fix $z \in \Omega$ and choose ϵ and r so that $0 < \epsilon < |z - a| < r < \delta$. Let C_{ϵ} and C_{r} denote the circles of radius ϵ and r centered at a, oriented in the counter-clockwise direction.

The cycle $C_r - C_{\epsilon}$ is homologous to 0 in Ω , so that by Cauchy's integral formula

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_r} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_\epsilon} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta.$$

Note that

$$\left| \int_{C_{\epsilon}} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta \right| \le \max_{\zeta \in C_{\epsilon}} |f(\zeta)| \frac{1}{|z - a| - \epsilon} 2\pi\epsilon.$$

But if $\zeta \in C_{\epsilon}$ then $|f(\zeta)|\epsilon = |f(\zeta)||\zeta - a| \to 0$ as $\epsilon \to 0$ and hence

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_r} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta.$$
(5.6)

By Lemma 4.30, the right side of (5.6) is analytic for $z \in D(a, r)$. Thus if we define f(a) as the value of the right side of (5.6) when z = a, then this extension is analytic at a and we have extended f to be analytic in D(a, r).

Definition: we say that a compact set E has **one-dimensional Hausdorff measure equal to** 0 if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there are finitely many disks D_j with radius r_j so that

and

 $E \subset \cup_j D_j$ $\sum_j r_j < \epsilon.$

Corollary 5.11, Painlevé: Suppose $E \subset \mathbb{C}$ is a compact set with onedimensional Hausdorff measure 0. If f is bounded and analytic on $U \setminus E$, where U is open and $E \subset U$, then f extends to be analytic on U. *Proof.* As in the proof of Runge's theorem and Theorem 15.7, we can find a cycle $\gamma \subset U \setminus E$ which is the boundary of a finite union of closed squares $\{S_j\}$ so that $n(\gamma, a) = 0$ or 1 for all $a \notin \gamma$ and $n(\gamma, b) = 1$ for all $b \in \bigcup S_j \setminus \gamma \supset E$, and $n(\gamma, b) = 0$ for $b \notin \bigcup S_j$ and hence for all $b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus U$.

Cover E by finitely many disks D_j of radius r_j so that $\sum r_j < \epsilon$.

We may assume each D_j intersects E so that for small ϵ , each D_j is contained in $\cup S_j \setminus \gamma$. Let $V = \{z : n(\gamma, z) = 1\}$, let $\sigma = \partial (\cup D_j)$, and let $\Omega = V \setminus \bigcup \overline{D_j}$. Then $\gamma + \sigma = \partial \Omega$, which we parametrize so that $\partial \Omega$ has positive orientation.

Then as in (5.4), $\gamma + \sigma \sim 0$ in $U \setminus \bigcup \overline{D_j}$, so that by Cauchy's theorem

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta, \text{ for } z \in V \setminus \bigcup \overline{D_j}.$$

Fix $z \in V \setminus \overline{\bigcup D_j}$. Then the second integral tends to 0 as $\epsilon \to 0$ because $\ell(\sigma) \leq \ell(\bigcup D_j) < 2\pi\epsilon$ and because f is bounded, exactly as in the proof of Riemann's theorem. Thus

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta$$

provides an analytic extension of f to E, by Lemma 4.30.

For almost a century, it was an open problem to characterize removable sets for bounded analytic functions, i.e., if f is bounded and analytic on $\mathbb{C} \setminus E$ then fis bounded and analytic on \mathbb{C} (hence constant by Liouville's theorem). This was finally accomplished by the Xavier Tolsa. He showed that is E non-removable for bounded holomorphic functions if and only if it supports a positive measure μ so that (1)

 $\mu(D(x,r)) \leq Mr$

(for some $M<\infty$ and all $x\in\mathbb{R}^2$ and r>0) and (2) E has finite Menger curvature in the sense that

$$c^2(\mu) = \int \int \int c^2(x,y,z) d\mu(x) d\mu(y) d\mu(z) < \infty,$$

where c(x, y, z) is the reciprocal of the radius of the unique circle passing thorough (x, y, z).

See Analytic capacity, rectifiability, and the Cauchy integral by Xavier Tolsa.

This problem motivated a great deal of analysis and geometric measure theory over the last 50 years.

Section 5.4: Laurent Series

Definition: An **annulus** is the region between two concentric circles

If f is analytic on the annulus $A = \{z : r < |z - a| < R\}$ then by Runge's theorem, we can approximate f by a rational function with poles only at a.

Theorem 5.12: Laurent series Suppose f is analytic on $A = \{z : r < |z - a| < R\}$. Then there is a unique sequence $\{a_n\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ so that

$$f(z) = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} a_n (z - a)^n,$$

where the series converges uniformly and absolutely on compact subsets of A. Moreover

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_s} \frac{f(\zeta)}{(\zeta - a)^{n+1}} d\zeta,$$
 (5.8)

where C_s is the circle centered at a with radius s, r < s < R, oriented counter-clockwise.

Proof. WLOG, a = 0. Set

$$f_s(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_s} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta$$

where $C_s = \{se^{it} : 0 \le t \le 2\pi\}.$

By Lemma 4.30 f_s is analytic off C_s . If $r < |z| < s_1 < s_2 < R$ then $C_{s_2} - C_{s_1} \sim 0$ with respect to A and $n(C_{s_2} - C_{s_1}, z) = 0$. By Cauchy's integral formula, $f_{s_2}(z) - f_{s_1}(z) = 0$. This says that $f_s(z)$ does not depend on s, so long as r < |z| < s < R.

Expanding $\frac{1}{\zeta-z}$ in a power series expansion about 0, and interchanging the order of summation and integration, as we have done before, we conclude that f_s has a power series expansion

$$f_s(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n, |z| < s,$$

where a_n satisfies (5.8).

Likewise $f_s(z)$ does not depend on s so long as r < s < |z| < R.

Expanding $\frac{1}{\zeta-z}$ in a power series expansion about ∞ , i.e. in powers of 1/z, and interchanging the order of summation and integration we conclude that f_s has a power series expansion

$$f_s(z) = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{-n} z^{-n},$$

valid in |z| > s, where a_{-n} satisfies (5.8).

If $r < s_1 < |z| < s_2 < R$, then $C_{s_2} - C_{s_1} \sim 0$ in A, so that by Cauchy's integral formula

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_{s_2} - C_{s_1}} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta = f_{s_2}(z) - f_{s_1}(z) = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} a_n z^n.$$

One consequence is that an analytic function f on A can be written as $f = f_1 + f_2$ where f_1 is analytic in |z| < R and f_2 is analytic in |z| > r.

Laurent series are useful for analyzing the behavior of an analytic function near an isolated singularity.

Definition: We say that f has an **isolated singularity** at b if f is analytic in $0 < |z - b| < \epsilon$ for some $\epsilon > 0$ and f(b) is not defined.

(1) If $a_n = 0$ for n < 0 then f extends to be analytic at b with $f(b) = a_0$. In this case we say that f has a **removable singularity** at b.

(2) If
$$a_n = 0$$
 for $n < n_0$ with $n_0 > 0$ and $a_{n_0} \neq 0$, then we can write

$$f(z) = (z-b)^{n_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n_0+n} (z-b)^n = a_{n_0} (z-b)^{n_0} + a_{n_0+1} (z-b)^{n_0+1} + \dots$$
In this case b is called a **zero of order** n_0 .

(3) If
$$a_n = 0$$
 for $n < -n_0$ with $n_0 > 0$ and $a_{-n_0} \neq 0$ then we can write

$$f(z) = (z-b)^{-n_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{-n_0+n} (z-b)^n = \frac{a_{-n_0}}{(z-b)^{n_0}} + \frac{a_{-n_0+1}}{(z-b)^{n_0-1}} + \dots$$
In this case b is called a **pole of order** n_0 , and $|f(z)| \to \infty$ as $z \to b$.

In each of the above cases there is a unique integer k so that

$$\lim_{z \to b} (z - b)^k f(z)$$

exists and is non-zero, and

$$(z-b)^k f(z)$$

extends to be analytic and non-zero in a neighborhood of b.

(4) If $a_n \neq 0$ for infinitely many negative *n*, then *b* is called an **essential** singularity.

If f is analytic in $\{z : |z| > R\}$, then f(1/z) has an isolated singularity at 0, and we say that f has an **isolated singularity at** ∞ .

We classify this singularity at ∞ as a zero, pole or essential singularity if f(1/z) has a zero, pole or (respectively) essential singularity at 0.

A non-polynomial entire function has an essential singularity at ∞ .

These are called transcendental entire functions. Iterating such functions gives rise to transcendtal dynamics, a sub-field of holomorphic dynamics.

Sullivan's theorem says polynomials can't have wandering domains, but transcendental functions can. **Definition 5.13:** A zero or pole is called **simple** if the order is 1.

Definition 5.14: If f is analytic in a region Ω except for isolated poles in Ω then we say that f is **meromorphic in** Ω . A meromorphic function in \mathbb{C} is sometimes just called **meromorphic**.

Rational functions are the meromorphic functions on \mathbb{S}^2 .

Theorem 5.15: If f is analytic in $U = \{z : 0 < |z - b| < \delta\}$ and if b is an essential singularity for f then f(U) is dense in \mathbb{C} .

In other words, every (punctured) neighborhood of an essential singularity has a dense image.

Stronger versions are true: at most one value can be omitted from f(U) (Picard's theorem, Theorem 10.14).

Proof. If not, there is $A \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\epsilon > 0$ so that $|f(z) - A| > \epsilon$ for all $z \in U$. Then

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

is analytic and bounded by $1/\epsilon$ on U. By Riemann's theorem, 1/(f(z) - A) extends to be analytic in $U \cup \{b\}$.

Thus f(z) - A is meromorphic in $U \cup \{b\}$ and hence f is meromorphic in $U \cup \{b\}$. The Laurent expansion for f then has at most finitely terms with a negative power of z - b, contradicting the assumption that b is an essential singularity.

Section 5.4: The Argument Principle

Theorem 5.16, Argument Principle: Suppose f is meromorphic in a region Ω with zeros $\{z_j\}$ and poles $\{p_k\}$. Suppose γ is a cycle with $\gamma \sim 0$ in Ω and suppose $\{z_j\} \cap \gamma = \emptyset$ and $\{p_k\} \cap \gamma = \emptyset$. Then

$$n(f(\gamma), 0) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} dz = \sum_{j} n(\gamma, z_j) - \sum_{k} n(\gamma, p_k).$$
(5.9)

In the statement of the argument principle, if f has a zero of order k at z, then z occurs k times in the list $\{z_j\}$, and a similar statement holds for the poles.

If γ is a simple closed curve in Ω , with $n(\gamma, z) = 0$ or = 1 for all $z \notin \gamma$, and if γ is homologous to 0 in Ω , then the number of zeros "enclosed" by γ minus the number of poles "enclosed" by γ is equal to the winding number of the image curve $f(\gamma)$ about zero.

Proof. The first equality in (5.9) follows from the change of variables w = f(z).

Note that $\gamma \sim 0$ and $\gamma \subset \Omega$ implies that $n(\gamma, a) = 0$ if a is sufficiently close to $\partial \Omega$. Thus $n(\gamma, z_j) \neq 0$ for only finitely many z_j and for only finitely many p_j because there are no cluster points of $\{z_j\}$ or $\{p_k\}$ in Ω .

This implies that the sums in (5.9) are finite.

Set
$$\Omega_1 = \Omega \setminus \{z_j : n(\gamma, z_j) = 0\} \cup \{p_k : n(\gamma, p_k) = 0\}$$
. Then $\gamma \sim 0$ in Ω_1 .

If b is a zero or pole of f then we can write

$$f(z) = (z - b)^k g(z)$$

where g is analytic in a neighborhood of b and $g(b) \neq 0$. Then

$$f'(z) = k(z-b)^{k-1}g(z) + (z-b)^k g'(z)$$

and

$$\frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} = \frac{k}{z-b} + \frac{g'(z)}{g(z)}.$$

Since $g(b) \neq 0$, g'/g is analytic in a neighborhood of b and hence $(f'/f) - k(z - b)^{-1}$ is analytic near b. Thus

$$\frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} - \sum \frac{1}{z - z_j} + \sum \frac{1}{z - p_k}$$
(5.10)

is analytic in Ω_1 . By Cauchy's theorem integrating (5.10) over γ gives (5.9). \Box

Corollary 5.17, Rouché's theorem: Suppose γ is a closed curve in a region Ω with $\gamma \sim 0$ in Ω and $n(\gamma, z) = 0$ or = 1 for all $z \in \Omega \setminus \gamma$. If f and g are analytic in Ω and satisfy

$$|f(z) + g(z)| < |f(z)| + |g(z)|$$
(5.11)

for all $z \in \gamma$, then f and g have the same number of zeros enclosed by γ .

Proof. The function $\frac{f}{g}$ is meromorphic in Ω and satisfies

$$\left| \frac{f}{g} + 1 \right| < \left| \frac{f}{g} \right| + 1 \tag{5.12}$$

on γ . By (5.11), $f \neq 0$ and $g \neq 0$ on γ , so that the hypotheses of the argument principle are satisfied.

The left side of (5.12) is the distance from w = f(z)/g(z) to -1. But |w - (-1)| = |w| + 1 if and only if $w \in [0, \infty)$.

Thus the assumption (5.11) implies that $\frac{f}{g}(\gamma)$ omits the half-line $[0, \infty)$ and so 0 is in the unbounded component of $\mathbb{C} \setminus \frac{f}{g}(\gamma)$.

Hence $n(\frac{f}{g}(\gamma), 0) = 0$. By the argument principle, the number of zeros of $\frac{f}{g}$ equals the number of poles and so the number of zeros of f equals the number of zeros of g, counting multiplicity.

Example: How many zeros does $f(z) = z^9 - 2z^6 + z^2 - 8z - 2$ have in \mathbb{D} ?

How many zeros does it have in $\{|z| < 2\}$?

Example: How many zeros does $f(z) = z^4 - 4z + 5$ have in \mathbb{D} ?