

Complex Analysis Exercise 5

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1. Compute the following integrals:

(a) $\int_{|z|=3} \frac{z}{(z-1)(z-i)} dz,$

(b) $\int_{|z|=2} \frac{e^z}{z^2-1} dz,$

(c) $\int_{\gamma} 2z - 3\bar{z} + 1 dz$ where γ is the ellipse $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1,$

(d) $\int_{\gamma} \frac{dz}{\sqrt{z}}$ ($\sqrt{z} = e^{\frac{1}{2} \text{Log} z}$), where $\gamma = \{e^{it} | 0 \leq t \leq \pi\}.$

Solution. (a) We have

$$\frac{z}{(z-1)(z-i)} = \frac{1}{1-i} \left(\frac{z}{z-1} - \frac{z}{z-i} \right).$$

By Cauchy's integral formula,

$$\int_{|z|=3} \frac{z}{(z-1)(z-i)} dz = \frac{1}{1-i} (2\pi i \cdot 1 - 2\pi i \cdot i) = 2\pi i.$$

(b) We have

$$\int_{|z|=2} \frac{e^z}{z^2-1} dz = \frac{1}{2} \int_{|z|=2} \frac{e^z dz}{z-1} - \frac{1}{2} \int_{|z|=2} \frac{e^z dz}{z+1} = \pi i (e - e^{-1}).$$

(c) $2z + 1$ has a primitive, so $\int_{\gamma} (2z + 1) dz = 0$ for a closed curve γ . Hence,

$$\int_{\gamma} 2z - 3\bar{z} + 1 dz = \int_{\gamma} -3\bar{z} dz = -3 \int_0^{2\pi} (3\cos t - 2i \sin t)(-3\sin t + 2i \cos t) dt = -36\pi i.$$

(d) The function has a primitive:

$$(2\sqrt{z})' = \frac{d}{dz} (2e^{\frac{1}{2} \text{Log} z})' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{z}}.$$

in $\mathbb{C} - \mathbb{R}^-$. Hence,

$$\int_{\gamma} \frac{dz}{\sqrt{z}} = 2e^{\frac{1}{2}\pi i} - 2e^0 = 2i - 2.$$

2. (a) Show that for any rational function $R(x)$ which is defined on $[-1, 1]$, the following holds:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} R(\cos\theta)d\theta = \int_{|z|=1} R\left(\frac{1}{2}(z+z^{-1})\right)\frac{dz}{iz}$$

(b) Compute $\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\theta}{a+\cos\theta}$ for $a > 1$.

Solution. (a) Let $\gamma(t) = e^{it}$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$. Then,

$$\int_{|z|=1} R\left(\frac{1}{2}(z+z^{-1})\right)\frac{dz}{iz} = \int_0^{2\pi} R\left(\frac{e^{it}+e^{-it}}{2}\right)\frac{ie^{it}dt}{ie^{it}} = \int_0^{2\pi} R(\cos\theta)d\theta.$$

(b) Roots of $z^2 + 2az + 1$ are $z = -a \pm \sqrt{a^2 - 1}$. Let $z_1 = -a + \sqrt{a^2 - 1}$ and $z_2 = -a - \sqrt{a^2 - 1} < -1$. Then,

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\theta}{a + \cos\theta} = \int_{|z|=1} \frac{a}{a + \frac{1}{2}(z+z^{-1})} \frac{dz}{iz} = \frac{2}{i} \int_{|z|=1} \frac{1}{z-z_2} \frac{dz}{(z-z_1)}.$$

By Cauchy's formula, this is equal to $4\pi \frac{1}{z_1 - z_2} = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{a^2 - 1}}$.

3. Compute $\int_0^t x \sin(2x) dx$ using the complex integral $\int_{[0,t]} ze^{2iz} dz$.

Solution. Let $\gamma(x) = x + 0i$, $0 \leq x \leq t$. Then,

$$\int_{\gamma} ze^{2iz} dz = \int_0^t xe^{2ix} dx.$$

Using integration by parts, we get

$$\left(\frac{\cos 2t}{4} + \frac{t \sin 2t}{2} - \frac{1}{4}\right) + i\left(\frac{\sin 2t}{4} - \frac{t \cos 2t}{2}\right).$$

The imaginary part is the desired quantity.

4. (a) Liouville's theorem says that every bounded entire function is constant. Prove the theorem in the following way: Let f be an entire and bounded function. Pick $a \neq b \in \mathbb{C}$. Let R be a real number greater than $|a|$ and $|b|$. Calculate $\int_{|z|=R} \frac{f(z) dz}{(z-a)(z-b)}$ and check what happens when $R \rightarrow \infty$.

(b) Let f be an entire function with two periods. Show that f is constant.

(c) Prove the fundamental theorem of algebra: Let p be a nonconstant polynomial with complex coefficients. Then there exists $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $p(\alpha) = 0$.

(d) Find all entire function f such that $|f'(z)| < e^{-(\operatorname{Re} z)^2}$ for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$.

Solution. (a) Assume that $|f(z)| \leq C$ for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$. Pick $R > \max(|a|, |b|)$. By Cauchy's integral formula,

$$\int_{|z|=R} \frac{f(z) dz}{(z-a)(z-b)} = \frac{2\pi i}{a-b} (f(a) - f(b)).$$

On the other hand,

$$\left| \int_{|z|=R} \frac{f(z)dz}{(z-a)(z-b)} \right| \leq 2\pi R \frac{C}{(R-|a|)(R-|b|)}.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{2\pi}{|a-b|} |f(a) - f(b)| \rightarrow 0, \quad R \rightarrow \infty,$$

and hence f is constant.

(b) We may assume two periods to be 1 and $\tau \in \mathbb{C} - \mathbb{R}$. Let Δ be a parallelogram spanned by 1, τ and let $M = \max\{|f(z)|, z \in \Delta\}$. By the periodicity, $|f(z)| \leq M$. By (a), f is constant.

(c) Let $p(z) = a_n z^n + \dots + a_0$ where $n \geq 0$ and $a_n \neq 0$. As $\frac{p(z)}{z^n} \rightarrow a_n$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$, there exists $R > 0$ such that

$$\left| \frac{p(z)}{z^n} \right| > \frac{|a_n|}{2}, \quad |z| > R.$$

Suppose that $p(z) = 0$ has no roots so that p^{-1} is holomorphic. Let γ_r be a clockwise oriented path of radius r around the origin. By Cauchy's integral formula,

$$0 \neq |p(0)^{-1}| = \left| \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma_r} \frac{dz}{z p(z)} \right| \leq \frac{2}{|a_n| r^n} \rightarrow 0, \quad r \rightarrow \infty.$$

which leads to a contradiction.

(d) If f is an entire function, f' is also entire. Since

$$|f'(z)| < e^{-(\operatorname{Re} z)^2} \leq 1,$$

f' is a constant function. On the other hand,

$$c = |f'(z)| < e^{-(\operatorname{Re} z)^2} \rightarrow 0, \quad \operatorname{Re} z \rightarrow \infty,$$

so $f' = 0$ and f is a constant function.

5. Let $D \subset \mathbb{C}$ be a unit disk at the origin. Find all functions $f(z)$ which are holomorphic on D and which satisfy

$$f\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = n^2 f\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^3, \quad n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

Solution. We rewrite this as

$$f(1/n)(f(1/n) - 1/n)(f(1/n) + 1/n) = 0.$$

At each n , one of the following holds: $f(1/n) = 0$, $f(1/n) = 1/n$, or $f(1/n) = -1/n$. At least one of these three equations must hold for infinitely many n . From the lemma below, either $f(z) = 0$, $f(z) = z$, or $f(z) = -z$.

Lemma 1. *Let f be a holomorphic function on a (connected) domain D . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

(a) $f(z) = 0$ for all $z \in D$.

(b) The set $Z = \{z \in D \mid f(z) = 0\}$ has a limit point in D .

Proof. (a) \Rightarrow (b): Clear.

(b) \Rightarrow (a): Let a be a limit point of Z in D . Take $\epsilon > 0$ such that $B_\epsilon(a) \subset D$ and let $f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(z-a)^k$ be the Taylor expansion of f centered about a . Suppose that not all a_k are zero and let K be the smallest k such that $a_K \neq 0$. Then

$$f(z) = (z-a)^K g(z), \text{ where } g(z) = \sum_{k=K}^{\infty} a_k(z-a)^{k-K}.$$

There exists $\delta > 0$ such that $g(z) \neq 0$ on $B_\delta(a)$. Thus on $B_\delta(a)$, $f(z) = 0$ only holds at a , contradicting the fact that a is a limit point of Z . Hence $f(z) = 0$ on $B_\epsilon(a)$. To show $Z = D$, use the connectivity of D . \square