

Proof of Montel's thm.

Montel's thm actually consists of 2 parts  
① The first part is about complex behaviour of sequences of holomorphic functions which says

② A sequence of holomorphic functions which is uniformly bounded on compact sets  $K \subset \Omega$  (ie  $\forall K \subset \Omega$  compact,  $\exists M_K > 0$  s.t  $|f_n(z)| \leq M_K \forall z \in K, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is equicontinuous on compact sets

③ A sequence  $(f_n)$  is equicontinuous on a compact set  $K$  if  $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$  s.t if  $|z-w| < \delta \forall z, w \in K$  then  $|f_n(z) - f_n(w)| < \epsilon \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

This is a complex behaviour in the sense that it is not true for sequences of real functions. For example  $f_n(x) = \sin(nx)$  on  $(0,1)$  is uniformly bounded on compact sets but not equicontinuous.

④ Equicontinuity is a very strong condition and requires uniform continuity uniformly in the family.  
The family  $(f_n)$  on  $[0,1]$  given by  $f_n(x) = x^n$

is not equicontinuous, even though each  $f_n = [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is unif. cont. on  $[0, 1]$   
 $x \rightarrow x^n$

The family  $(f_n)$  is not equicontinuous

For example take any  $0 < w < 1$  then  
 $|f_n(1) - f_n(w)| \rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

④ The second part is known as Arzela-Ascoli thm which says  
 Any family  $F$  of functions which is uniformly bounded and equicontinuous on compact subsets of  $\Omega$  has a subsequence which converges unif on every compact subset of  $\Omega$  (The limit need not be in  $F$ ).

This part belongs to topology / func'l analysis which we'll assume without proof.

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Thm Arzela-Ascoli Thm Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be compact and  $f_n = K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  continuous functions on  $K$ .

Suppose ①  $\exists x_0 \in K$  and  $M > 0$  s.t  
 $\forall n \quad |f_n(x_0)| \leq M$  (ie  $(|f_n(x_0)|)_n$  is bdd in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ )

②  $f_n$  is equicontinuous. Then  
 $\exists$  a subsequence  $(f_{n_k})$  which converges unif

on  $K$  to some continuous  $f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .

Assuming Ascoli - Arzelà thm, the proof of Montel's thm reduces to proving

that every sequence of holomorphic functions which is unif bounded on compact sets is equicontinuous on compact sets.

This uses Cauchy's integral formula to gether with the following lemma

Lemma 3.4 (Chap 8)  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  open.

Then  $\exists$  compact sets  $K_e$  s.t

(a)  $K_e \subset \text{int} K_{e+1} \quad \forall e=1, 2, \dots$

(b) Any compact set  $K \subset \Omega$  is contained in  $K_e$  for some  $e$ .

In particular  $\Omega = \bigcup_{e=1}^{\infty} K_e$

( Such a sequence  $\{K_e\}_{e=1}^{\infty}$  of compact sets of  $\Omega$  is called an exhaustion . )

Pf. Exercise



Now assuming Ascoli - Arzela thm and lemma 3.4 we can give the proof of Montel's thm.

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of holom func which are unif bounded on compact sets. We w.t.s show  $(f_n)$  is equicontinuous.

Step 1 let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be compact

let  $r > 0$  s.t  $D_{3r}(z) \subset \Omega$

for  $z \in K$  (We can choose  $r$  so that  $3r$  is less than the distance from  $K$  to the boundary of  $\Omega$ )

let  $z, w \in K$  with  $|z-w| < r$ . C.I.F gives

$$f_n(z) - f_n(w) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} f_n(\xi) \left[ \frac{1}{\xi-z} - \frac{1}{\xi-w} \right] d\xi$$

where  $\gamma = C_{2r}(w)$ . On  $C_{2r}(w)$ , we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{\xi-z} - \frac{1}{\xi-w} \right| = \frac{|z-w|}{|\xi-w||\xi-z|} \leq \frac{|z-w|}{2r \cdot r}$$

since  $|\xi-z| \geq |\xi-w| - |w-z| \geq 2r - r = r$  and  $|\xi-w| = 2r$ .

Hence using standard estimates for the integral

$$|f_n(z) - f_n(w)| \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot 2\pi(2r) |z-w| \cdot \frac{1}{2r^2} M_K$$

$$\leq |z-w| M$$

Since  $\forall z, w \in K$ ,  $|f_n(z) - f_n(w)| \leq M$ , where  $M$  is the uniform bound for all  $f_n \in F$  on  $\overline{D_{2r}(w)}$ .

So for any  $\epsilon > 0$  we will get

$$|f_n(z) - f_n(w)| < \epsilon \quad \forall n, \forall z, w \in K$$

as soon as  $|z-w| \leq \min(r, \frac{\epsilon r}{M})$

Step 2 To extract a subsequence which converges unif on all compact sets we use a standard trick, called the "diagonal argument".

Let  $K_\epsilon$  be the sequence of compact sets given by the last lemma 3.4.

By step 1, and Ascoli-Arzelà there is

a subseq. of  $(f_n)$  converging uniformly on  $K_1$ , say  $(f_{n_k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$

Then  $\exists$  a subseq of  $(f_{n_k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  conv.  $L_1 \subset \mathbb{N}$  infinite

uniformly on  $K_2$ , hence on  $K_1, K_2$

say  $(f_n)_{n \in L_2}$   $L_2 \subset L_1 \subset \mathbb{N}$  infinite

Inductively we get a subsequence

$(f_n)_{n \in L_k}$  conv. unif on  $K_1, K_2, \dots, K_k$

$L_k \subset L_{k-1} \subset \dots \subset L_1 \subset \mathbb{N}$ .

Now let  $n_1 = \min \{n \mid n \in L_1\}$

$n_2 = \min \{n \mid n \in L_2 \setminus \{n_1\}\} \in L_2 \subset L_1$

$n_3 = \min \{n \mid n \in L_3 \setminus \{n_1, n_2\}\} \in L_3 \subset L_2 \subset L_1$

$\vdots$

We get  $n_1 < n_2 < \dots$  with  $n_k \in L_k \subset L_{k-1} \subset \dots \subset L_1$

Note  $L = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\}$  has the property that  $L \setminus L_k$  is finite for each  $k$ .

For each  $k$ ,

$(f_n)_{n \in L} = (f_{n_j})_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$  is upto finitely many terms (which has no effect on convergence) is a subsequence of  $(f_n)_{n \in L_k}$ .

Hence  $(f_{n_j})$  conv. unif. on every  $K_k$ .

Since any compact set  $K$  is contained in  $K_k$  for some  $k$  we're done  $\square$