

**Definition 1** Complex Derivative.

$$f'(z) = \lim_{\Delta z \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z + \Delta z) - f(z)}{\Delta z}, \quad z \in C.$$

**Definition 2** Continuity of complex function at point  $z_0$ .

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) = f(z_0).$$

1. Using definition, find derivative of  $z^n$ , for

(a) any positive integer  $n$ ;

*Solution.* Use Definition 1  $f(z) = z^n$  and binomial expansion for  $n \geq 1$

$$(a + b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} a^{n-k} b^k$$

with  $a = z$  and  $b = \Delta z$ .

(b) any negative integer  $n$ , if  $z \neq 0$ .

*Solution.* Use Definition 1 for  $f(z) = z^n$  and binomial expansion for  $n \leq -1$

$$(a + b)^n = a^n + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1)}{k!} a^{n-k} b^k$$

with  $a = z$  and  $b = \Delta z$ .

2. Show using definitions only that  $f(z) = \bar{z}$  is continuous but not differentiable at any point of the complex plane.

*Solution.*

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \bar{z} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} (x - iy) = x_0 - iy_0 = \bar{z}_0.$$

Thus the function is continuous by Def 2. Now,

$$\lim_{\Delta z \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\bar{z} + \bar{\Delta z}) - \bar{z}}{\Delta z} = \lim_{\Delta z \rightarrow 0} \frac{\bar{\Delta z}}{\Delta z} = \lim_{(\Delta x, \Delta y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\Delta x - i\Delta y}{\Delta x + i\Delta y}$$

and this limit does not exist since its value depends upon the path. Say, path  $\Delta y = 0, \Delta x \rightarrow 0$  gives 1, while path  $\Delta x = 0, \Delta y \rightarrow 0$  gives  $-1$ . Thus the function is not differentiable.

3. Find complex derivative using differentiation rules

(a)  $(-4z^3 + i)^9$

*Solution.* By combination of the chain and power rules we get

$$\frac{d}{dz} (-4z^3 + i)^9 = -108z^2 (-4z^3 + i)^8.$$

(b)  $\left(\frac{iz - 1}{z^2 + 1}\right)^4$

*Solution.* One may simplify  $\left(\frac{iz - 1}{z^2 + 1}\right)^4 = \left(\frac{1}{iz + 1}\right)^4$ .

Then the derivative is

$$\frac{d}{dz} \left(\frac{1}{iz + 1}\right)^4 = \frac{-4i}{(iz + 1)^5}.$$

4. Let  $f(z) = u(r, \theta) + iv(r, \theta)$  be analytic. Derive formula

$$f'(z) = -i(u'_\theta + iv'_\theta)/z$$

from the formula  $f'(z) = e^{-i\theta}(u'_r + iv'_r)$  using Cauchy-Riemann equations in polar form.

*Solution.*

$$f'(z) = e^{-i\theta}(u'_r + iv'_r) = e^{-i\theta}\left(\frac{v'_\theta}{r} - i\frac{u'_\theta}{r}\right) = \frac{-i}{re^{i\theta}}(u'_\theta + iv'_\theta) = \frac{-i(u'_\theta + iv'_\theta)}{z}.$$

5. Use Cauchy-Riemann equation in the appropriate form to determine where in the complex plane the following function is analytic. Find the derivative if it exists.

*General remark.* In this problem we use the following. Let

$$f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y) = U(r, \theta) + iV(r, \theta).$$

Cauchy-Riemann (C.R.) equations are

$$u_x = v_y, \quad u_y = -v_x,$$

or in polar form

$$rU_r = V_\theta, \quad rV_r = -U_\theta.$$

Now, if C.R. condition holds at  $z$  and all partial derivatives are continuous at  $z$  then the derivative  $f'(z)$  exists and is equal to

$$f'(z) = u_x + iv_x = e^{-\theta}(U_r + iV_r).$$

Now, function is analytic in an open set if it has a derivative in the open set.

Note that if a function has derivative at just one point or just at a line in the complex plane, it is not analytic because a point or a line are not open sets in the plane.

(a)  $f(z) = (\bar{z} + 2)^2$

*Solution.* Here  $u = x^2 - y^2 + 4x + 4$  and  $v = -2xy - 4y$ . So,  $u_x = 2x + 4$ ,  $v_y = -2x - 4$ ,  $u_y = -2y$ ,  $v_x = -2y$ . The C.R. condition holds only at one point  $x = y = 0$ . So the function has derivative only at one point. Thus it is not analytic in the whole complex plane.

(b)  $f(z) = \text{Im}z$

*Solution.* Here  $u = 0$ ,  $v = y$ . C.R. condition does not hold so the function is not analytic.

(c)  $f(z) = z^{-3}$ ,  $z \neq 0$

*Solution.* Here it is better to use the polar form. Let  $z = re^{i\theta}$ . Then  $f = r^{-3}e^{-3i\theta}$ . So,  $u = r^{-3} \cos(3\theta)$ ,  $v = -r^{-3} \sin(3\theta)$ . C.R. in polar form holds so the function is analytic in whole its domain i.e. in the complex plane without the origin. The derivative is

$$f' = e^{-i\theta}(-3r^{-4} \cos(3\theta) - i3r^{-4} \sin(3\theta)) = -3z^{-4}.$$

(d)  $\sqrt{r}e^{i\theta/2}$ ,  $r > 0$ ,  $-\pi < \theta < \pi$

*Solution.* Here  $u = \sqrt{r} \cos(\theta/2)$ ,  $v = \sqrt{r} \sin(\theta/2)$ . The C.R. in polar form holds. The function is analytic in the domain specified.

The derivative is

$$f' = e^{-i\theta}(1/2r^{-1/2} \cos(\theta/2) + i(1/2)r^{-1/2} \sin(\theta/2)) = 1/2z^{-1/2}.$$

(e)  $2x + ixy^2$

*Solution.* Here  $u = x$ ,  $v = xy^2$ . C.R. does not hold. The function is not analytic.

(f)  $e^{\bar{z}}$

*Solution.* Here  $u = e^x \cos y$  and  $v = -e^x \sin y$ . C.R. does not hold so the function is not analytic.

(g)  $r \cos \theta + ir$

*Solution.* Here  $u = r \cos \theta$ ,  $v = r$ . So  $u_r = \cos \theta$ ,  $v_r = 1$ ,  $u_\theta = -r \sin \theta$ ,  $v_\theta = 0$ . C.R. condition in polar holds for  $\theta = \pi/2 + 2\pi k$ .

Since the ray  $\theta = \pi/2$  is not an open set in the complex plane, the function is not analytic in the whole plane.

(h)  $(e^{2x} \cos 2y + ie^{2x} \sin 2y)^{-1}$

*Solution.* Rewrite as  $e^{-2x-i2y} = e^{-2z} = r^{-2}e^{-2i\theta}$ . Then use C.R. in polar coordinates to check that the function is analytic in the whole plane but the origin, and its derivative is  $-2e^{-2z} = -2(e^{-2x} \cos 2y - ie^{-2x} \sin 2y)$ .

P.S. Same result can be obtained without the switch to polar representation.

(i)  $r^4 \sin 4\theta - ir^4 \cos 4\theta$

*Solution.* Rewrite as  $r^4 \sin 4\theta - ir^4 \cos 4\theta = -ir^4 e^{4i\theta} = -iz^4$ . This function is analytic and its derivative is  $-4iz^3$ .

The same result must follow from direct calculations using C.R. equations.

(j)  $\bar{z}^3$

*Solution.* Use  $\bar{z} = re^{-i\theta}$ . So  $\bar{z}^3 = r^3e^{-3i\theta}$ . Then  $u = r^3 \cos 3\theta$  and  $v = -r^3 \sin 3\theta$ . C.R. in polar does not hold, so the function is not analytic.

6. **Extra Points Problem** What is the flaw in the following argument?

$$e^{i\theta} = (e^{i\theta})^{2\pi/2\pi} = (e^{2\pi i})^{\theta/2\pi} = 1^{\theta/2\pi} = 1.$$