

Differentiation Continued, (1)
we define the derivative of $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
by
$$f'(z) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z+h) - f(z)}{h} \quad (1)$$

This is the same definition as on $\mathbb{R}$. However there is a major difference.

On $\mathbb{R}$ we can approach $x=0$ in only two directions. But in $\mathbb{C}$ there are infinitely many directions from which we can approach the origin.

Thus the existence of the limit (1) is a stronger condition on f .

To get a condition on a function f which guarantees differentiability, we need some facts.

Definition Let $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and let $z = x+iy$. Then we have
$$f(x+iy) = u(x,y) + i v(x,y)$$
 and u is the real part of f and v is the imaginary part of f .

Example 1 $f(z) = z^2$ Then
$$f(x+iy) = (x+iy)^2$$

$$= x^2 - y^2 + 2ixy$$
 and $u(x,y) = x^2 - y^2$, $v(x,y) = 2xy$.

Example 2 $f(z) = e^z$
So $f(x+iy) = e^{x+iy} = e^x e^{iy}$

$$= e^x (\cos y + i \sin y)$$

 $u(x,y) = e^x \cos y$, $v(x,y) = e^x \sin y$.

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observe that if $f(z) = x^2 - y^2 + 2ixy$
 then

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 2x, \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 2x, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -2y, \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 2y$$

$$\text{So } \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

Similarly if $f(z) = e^x \cos y + i e^x \sin y$
 $= u + iv$

$$\text{Then } \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = e^x \cos y = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -e^x \sin y = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

These are the Cauchy Riemann equations.

Theorem If $f(z) = f(x+iy) = u(x,y) + iv(x,y)$
 and $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and at some point $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0 \in S$, the partial derivatives $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}$ all exist

are continuous and satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations

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

then f is differentiable at z_0 . Conversely, if f is differentiable at z_0 , then the given partial derivatives exist and the C-R equations are satisfied at $z = x+iy$.

Proof

Assume that $f'(z)$ exists

Let

$$f(x+iy) = u(x,y) + iv(x,y)$$

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We can let $h \rightarrow 0$ in infinitely many ways. Two obvious choices are along the real axis and along the imaginary axis and the limits must be equal.

First let $z = x+iy$, consider $z+h = x+h+iy$.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z+h) - f(z)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(x+h, y) - u(x, y)}{h} \\ &\quad + i \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{v(x+h, y) - v(x, y)}{h} \\ &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}. \end{aligned} \quad (A)$$

Now consider $z+ik$. This is a limit along imaginary axis.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(z+ik) - f(z)}{ik} &= \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(x, y+k) - u(x, y)}{ik} \\ &\quad + i \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{v(x, y+k) - v(x, y)}{ik} \\ &= -i \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(x, y+k) - u(x, y)}{k} \\ &\quad + \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{v(x, y+k) - v(x, y)}{k} \\ &= -i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}. \end{aligned} \quad (B)$$

Since the limit exists, (A) and (B) must be the same.

$$\text{So } \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = -i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}.$$

$$\text{or } \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}.$$

Remainder of proof is to follow

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Example $f(z) = z^4$, $z = x + iy$.

Show that $f'(z)$ exists and find it

$$f(x+iy) = (x+iy)^4 = x^4 + 4x^3(iy) + 6x^2(iy)^2 + 4x(iy)^3 + (iy)^4$$

$$= x^4 - 6x^2y^2 + y^4 + i(4x^3y - 4xy^3)$$

$$u(x, y) = x^4 - 6x^2y^2 + y^4$$

$$v(x, y) = 4x^3y - 4xy^3$$

$$u_x = 4x^3 - 12xy^2$$

and $v_y = 4x^3 - 12xy^2$. Thus $u_x = v_y$ all x, y .

$$u_y = -12x^2y + 4y^3$$

$$v_x = 12x^2y - 4y^3 = -u_y \text{ all } x, y.$$

Thus the CR equations are satisfied. And $f(z)$ is differentiable everywhere.

Definition A function differentiable everywhere is said to be an entire function.

$$\text{Now } f'(z) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

$$= 4x^3 - 12xy^2 + i(12x^2y - 4y^3)$$

$$= 4(x^3 - 3xy^2 + i(3x^2y - y^3))$$

$$= 4(x+iy)^3 = 4z^3.$$

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

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

$$\sin x = \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2i}, \quad \cos x = \frac{e^{ix} + e^{-ix}}{2}$$

From Euler's formula,

$$\text{So } \sin(iy) = \frac{e^{-y} - e^y}{2i} = i \left(\frac{e^y - e^{-y}}{2} \right)$$

$$\cos(iy) = \frac{e^{-y} + e^y}{2} = \cosh y.$$

$$\text{Thus } \sin(x+iy) = \sin x \cosh y + i \cos x \sinh y.$$

$$u(x,y) = \sin x \cosh y, \quad v(x,y) = \cos x \sinh y.$$

$$u_x = \cos x \cosh y, \quad v_y = \cos x \cosh y$$

$$u_y = \sin x \sinh y, \quad v_x = -\sin x \sinh y$$

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

Thus f' exists.

$$\begin{aligned} f'(z) &= u_x + i v_x \\ &= \cos x \cosh y - i \sin x \sinh y \\ &= \cos(x+iy) = \cos z \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \cos(x+iy) &= \cos x \cos(iy) - \sin x \sin(iy) \\ &= \cos x \cosh y - i \sin x \sinh y \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dz} \sin z = \cos z$$

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Example $f(z) = z$ $u(x,y) = x$, $v(x,y) = y$

$$u_x = 1, v_y = 1$$

$$u_y = 0, v_x = 0$$

So $u_x = v_y$, $v_x = -u_y$. So f' exists

What about $f(z) = \bar{z}$ $u = x$, $v = -y$

$$u_x = 1, v_y = -1$$

$$\therefore u_x \neq v_y$$

So f is not differentiable.

In fact if f is differentiable

$$f(z) = f(\bar{z}) \quad (\text{Proof later})$$

If f is differentiable, $f(\bar{z})$ will not be differentiable.

A differentiable function $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is said to be analytic.

On $\mathbb{R}$, a function f is analytic around x_0 if

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!} (x-x_0)^n$$

around x_0 . Question: Are these definitions different? No. We will see why later.

Some useful properties

Laplace's equation on $\mathbb{R}^2$ is

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0.$$

$$\text{In general } \Delta u = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_k^2} = 0$$

If $f(z)$ is differentiable and

$f(x+iy) = u(x,y) + i v(x,y)$, then u, v satisfy Laplace's equation. i.e. they are harmonic.

Since $u_x = v_y$, $u_y = -v_x$, then

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) = - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$$

So $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$. Similarly for v

Example $f(z) = z^2$

Then $f(x+iy) = (x+iy)^2 = x^2 - y^2 + 2ixy$

So

$$u = x^2 - y^2, \quad v(x, y) = 2xy$$

Then $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 2x$, $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 2$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -2y, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -2$$

So $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 2 - 2 = 0$

and $\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = 0$, $\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} = 0$

For every positive integer n , $f(z) = z^n$ is analytic. So the real and imaginary parts are harmonic (ie satisfy Laplace's equation)

The real and imaginary parts are polynomials. They are called harmonic polynomials

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If $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable and $f' = 0$, then f is a constant. The same is true on $\mathbb{C}$.

Proposition Let $f: S \subseteq \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. Suppose $f' = 0$ in S . Then f is a constant on S .

Proof $f'(z) = u_x + i v_x = 0$. So $u_x = v_x = 0$.
But $u_x = v_y$, $u_y = -v_x$, $\therefore u_y = v_y = 0$.
Thus u, v are constants. Hence f is constant.

There are similar results.

Prop. If f is differentiable on $S \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and any one of $|f|$, $\operatorname{Re}(f)$, $\operatorname{Im}(f)$ are constant, then f is constant.

Proof We do one of them. If $f = u + i v$, $\operatorname{Re}(f) = u$. Now $u_x = u_y = 0$. But $v_x = -u_y$, $v_y = u_x$. Thus v is a constant.

Given a function $u(x, y)$ an important question is can we find $v(x, y)$ such that $u(x, y) + i v(x, y) = f(x + i y)$ is differentiable. (we can do this the other way around too). Such a v is called the harmonic conjugate of u . We use the CR equations.

Example $u(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$. Then $u_x = 2x$, $u_y = -2y$. So $v_y = 2x$. Hence

$$v = 2xy + g(x)$$

But $v_x = 2y + g'(x) = 2y$, $\therefore g'(x) = 0$

So g is a constant.

Thus $v = 2xy + C$

$$\text{and } u + i v = x^2 - y^2 + 2i xy + i C \\ = z^2 + i C$$

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Proof of the second half of the CR equations. We need the following.

If $u(x, y)$ is continuously differentiable, we can find $A(h, k)$, $B(h, k)$ such that

$$u(x+h, y+k) = u(x, y) + h \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + A(h, k) \right) + k \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + B(h, k) \right)$$

and $A, B \rightarrow 0$ as $h, k \rightarrow 0$.

Let $z = z_0 + h + ik$, or $z - z_0 = h + ik$.

Now we show that if the CR equations are satisfied, then f' exists.

$$\text{Now } f(z) - f(z_0) = u(x+h, y+k) + i v(x+h, y+k) - u(x_0, y_0) - i v(x_0, y_0)$$

$$= h \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + A(h, k) \right) + k \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + B(h, k) \right) + i h \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + A_1(h, k) \right) + i k \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + B_1(h, k) \right)$$

$$= (h + ik) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) + \theta z$$

$$= (z - z_0) (u_x + i v_x) + \theta z$$

θz is the error term. So

$$\frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} = u_x + i v_x + \frac{\theta z}{z - z_0}$$

$$\text{Hence } \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} = f'(z_0) = u_x + i v_x$$

$$\frac{\theta z}{z - z_0} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } z \rightarrow z_0, \text{ since } A, B, A_1, B_1 \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } h, k \rightarrow 0$$

Hence f' exists.