

Assignment 8: Meromorphic Functions
and residue calculus
Due Tuesday April 5, 2022

John McCuan

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Problem 1 (*SES Chapter 1 Exercise 18; Assignment 3 Problem 9—second chance*)
Here is the original statement of the problem: Consider a power series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$$

with radius of convergence $R > 0$. Show that f has a (convergent) power series expansion

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (z - z_0)^n$$

with center z_0 for any $z_0 \in D_R(0)$.

This is a nice problem, and I don't think anyone got it quite correct. A good number of you gave some¹ "hand-waving" assertion to the effect that because the series converges absolutely, you can "rearrange" terms freely. I've written up my solution with an explanation of why I don't think the rearrangement of terms applicable to an absolutely convergent series is applicable here. In any case, I offer the following as an opportunity for you to nail down some/the details. In particular, I'm adding the following:

¹This is my interpretation. Maybe you know exactly what you are talking about, but this is your chance to explain it to me.

- (a) A **rearrangement** of a sequence $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of complex numbers is a sequence $\{\alpha_{j(n)}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ where $j : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is a bijection. Show that if

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n \quad \text{is absolutely convergent,}$$

then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{j(n)} \quad \text{is convergent for every bijection } j : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N},$$

with value

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{j(n)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n \in \mathbb{C}.$$

- (b) (conjecture) Let

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n$$

be an absolutely convergent series for which each α_n satisfies

$$\alpha_n = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \beta_{nm}$$

for some absolutely convergent series

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \beta_{nm}.$$

Then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_{nm}.$$

- (c) Give a correct solution of the original problem and show, moreover, that the series expansion of f with center z_0 has radius of convergence (at least) $R - |z_0|$.
Hint: Go back through my solution of the original problem and improve it.

Problem 2 (*SEIS Chapter 3 Exercise 13; Ahlfors' theorem on removable singularities*) Let $f : \Omega \setminus \{z_0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be holomorphic with an isolated singularity at $z_0 \in \Omega$. Complete the steps below to prove the following result:

Theorem 1 (*Ahlfors' result on removeable singularities*) There exists a holomorphic function $f_1 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ with the restriction to $\Omega \setminus \{z_0\}$ satisfying

$$f_1|_{\Omega \setminus \{z_0\}} \equiv f$$

if and only if

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z - z_0)f(z) = 0. \quad (1)$$

(a) Show that if (1) holds, then

$$\lim_{\epsilon \searrow 0} \int_{\zeta=\alpha} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} = 0$$

where $\alpha(t) = z_0 + \epsilon e^{it}$ for $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ parameterizes a circle around z_0 .

(b) Note that if $D_r(z_0) \subset \Omega$, then $f_1 : D_{r/2}(z_0) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by

$$f_1(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\zeta=\alpha} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z}$$

where $\alpha(z) = z_0 + 3re^{it}/4$ for $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ parameterizes a circle in $D_r(z_0) \setminus D_{r/2}(z_0)$ is a well-defined continuous function on $D_{r/2}(z_0)$. Use a difference quotient to show the function f_1 is holomorphic on all of $D_{r/2}(z_0)$. Hint: Keep the integral as a complex integral; do not write it as a hybrid integral on an interval.

(c) Show that $f_1(z) = f(z)$ for $z \in D_{r/2}(z_0) \setminus \{z_0\}$. Hint(s): Use Cauchy's theorem and a keyhole contour.

(d) Finish the details of proving Ahlfors' theorem.

Problem 3 (Laurent series) Let $\Omega = D_R(0) \setminus \overline{D_r(0)}$ be an annular region for fixed r and R with $0 < r < R$. Let $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be holomorphic.

(a) Consider the function $f_1 : D_R(0) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defined by

$$f_1(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\zeta=\alpha} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z}$$

where $\alpha = \rho e^{it}$ for $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ for some ρ with $|z| < \rho < R$. Show that f_1 is a well-defined holomorphic function on $D_R(0)$.

(b) Consider the function $f_2 : \mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{D_r(0)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by

$$f_2(z) = -\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\zeta=\alpha} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z}$$

where $\alpha = \rho e^{it}$ for $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ for some ρ with $r < \rho < |z|$. Show that f_2 is a well-defined holomorphic function on $\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{D_r(0)}$.

(c) Prove that $f(z) = f_1(z) + f_2(z)$ for $z \in \Omega$. Hint: Cauchy's theorem.

(d) Consider $g : D_{1/r}(0) \setminus \{0\}$ by

$$g(w) = f_2(1/w).$$

Show g has a removable singularity at $w = 0$.

(e) Conclude that

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

with

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\zeta=\alpha} \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta^{n+1}}.$$

Note: If one expands on an annulus with a different center z_0 , then the series becomes

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a_n (z - z_0)^n$$

and the coefficients become

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\zeta=\alpha} \frac{f(\zeta)}{(\zeta - z_0)^{n+1}}.$$

Problem 4 (*winding number*) Given a closed path Γ in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{z_0\}$ parameterized by α the **winding number** of Γ with respect to z_0 is defined by

$$n(\Gamma, z_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\alpha} \frac{1}{z - z_0}.$$

(a) Prove $g : \mathbb{C} \setminus \{z_0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by

$$g(z) = \frac{1}{z - z_0}$$

does **not** have a primitive on any domain Ω with $z_0 \in \Omega$.

(b) Given any integer $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, find a path with

$$n(\Gamma, z_0) = k.$$

(c) Do you think you can find a closed loop in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{z_0\}$ with winding number

$$n(\Gamma, z_0) \notin \mathbb{Z}?$$

Problem 5 (*SE&S Chapter 3 Exercise 1*) Recall that

$$\sin(\pi z) = \frac{e^{i\pi z} - e^{-i\pi z}}{2i}.$$

(a) Identify all the zeros of $\sin(\pi z)$.

(b) Find the power series expansion of $\sin(\pi z)$ with center at each zero.

(c) Find the singular expansion of

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\sin(\pi z)}$$

at each pole z_0 and find $\text{res}(f, z_0)$ at that pole.

Problem 6 (*SE&S Chapter 3 Exercise 2*) Use residue calculus to compute

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^4} dx.$$

Problem 7 (*SE&S Chapter 3 Exercise 6*) Use residue calculus to show

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^{n+1}} dx = \frac{(2n)!}{4^n (n!)^2} \pi.$$

Problem 8 (*SE&S Chapter 3 Exercise 9*) Use residue calculus to show

$$\int_0^1 \log(\sin \pi x) dx = -\log 2.$$

Problem 9 (*SE&S Chapter 3 Exercise 12*) Let $u \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$.

(a) Compute

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\alpha} \frac{\pi \cot \pi z}{(u+z)^2}$$

where $\alpha(t) = (k + 1/2)e^{it}$ for $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ and $k \geq |u|$.

(b) Conclude that

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(u+n)^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{(\sin \pi u)^2}.$$

(c) What changes/happens if $u \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$?

Problem 10 (*SE&S Chapter 3 Exercise 14*) Assume $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is entire. If f is one-to-one, show there exist $a_0, a_1 \in \mathbb{C}$ such that

$$f(z) = a_1 z + a_0.$$