

Computational Complex Analysis : : Class 22

February 28, 2024

Ahmed Saad Sabit, Rice University

Counting Theorem

Set we have a nice curve with a boundary region. And we have a holomorphic function f with some isolated singularities, namely Poles. We want to count the number of zeroes and number of poles of f . We assume we can use the residue theorem and on the curve we don't have f being infinite or zero.

Now we apply the residue theorem not to f itself but to $f'(z)/f(z)$. Examine

$$\int_C \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} dz$$

What are the singularities inside? Wherever f is zero we have singularity. Wherever f is infinite we also have it same. Examine singularities of f'/f .

Let's say $f(z_0) = 0$. Now near z_0 ,

$$f(z) = (z - z_0)^m g(z)$$

so that $g(z_0) \neq 0$.

$$(z - z_0)^m (a_0 + a_1(z - z_0)^1 + a_2(z - z_0)^2 + \dots)$$

Let's compute our quotient

$$\begin{aligned} f'/f &= \frac{(z - z_0)^m g'(z) + m(z - z_0)^{m-1} g(z)}{(z - z_0)^m g(z)} \\ &= \frac{g'(z)}{g(z)} + \frac{mg(z)}{g(z)} \frac{1}{z - z_0} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

So the residue of $\frac{f'}{f}$ at z_0 is equal to

$$\text{Res}\left(\frac{f'}{f}, z_0\right) = m$$

Now let's apply the same thing for a pole.

$$f(z) = \frac{C}{(z - z_0)^m} + \dots$$

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

$$g(z_0) = C$$

$$\log f = -n \log(z - z_0)g + (z - z_0)^{-n} \log g$$

$$\frac{f'}{f} = \frac{-ng}{z - z_0} + \dots$$

Residue Theorems

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} dz = \text{total number of zeroes} - \text{total number of poles}$$

Let's consider a polynomial $P(z)$ with order $n \geq 1$ and consider the curve to be a circle. If it has zeroes it has finitely many so we just need to draw a big radius.

$$\int_C \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{P'(z)}{P(z)} dz = Z$$

Rough estimates P_z will have leading term cz^n + lower order if $C \neq 0$. Then $P'(z) = ncz^{n-1}$.

$$P'/P = \frac{ncz^{n-1}(1 + \dots)}{cz^n(1 + \dots)} = \frac{n}{z} + \dots$$

$$\int P'/P dz = \int \frac{n}{z} dz = n \frac{2\pi i}{R^{n-1}}$$

$P(z)$ has exactly n zeroes in \mathbb{C}

Rouche's Theorem

Back to the general situation. f is defined to be a holomorphic as before and g is also defined holomorphic as before. But assume $|g(z)| < |f(z)|$ on \mathbb{C} . $f \neq 0$ on \mathbb{C} and $f + g \neq 0$ on \mathbb{C} .

The two functions $f(z)$ and $f(z) + g(z)$ have the same value of number of zeroes minus the number of poles inside \mathbb{C} .

To prove the theorem we need to show

$$\int f'/f dz = \int \frac{f' + g'}{f + g} dz$$

$$\int_C \left(f'/f - \frac{f' + g'}{f + g} \right) dz = 0$$

Take common denominator

$$= \frac{f'(f + g) - f(f' + g')}{f(f + g)} = \frac{f'g - fg'}{f(f + g)} = \frac{-\left(\frac{g}{f}\right)'}{f(f + g)}$$

$h = g/f$ gives $h' = \frac{g'f - fg'}{f^2}$. So we now have to see h values on \mathbb{C} . $|h| < 1$ from the starting point. We need to prove $\int -\frac{h'}{1+h} dz = 0$.

$\log h$ is well defined because it's argument $-\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\pi}{2}$ and now $\log(1 + h)$ has derivative $h'/(1 + h)$.

$$\int_C \frac{d}{dz} \log(1 + h) dz = 0$$

This can be used to solve the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra here again.

$$P(z) = cz^n + \dots$$

$$f(z) = cz^n$$

And this dominates the lower order term on the big circle.