Multifunctions

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Panos Papazojlou } \\
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\end{gathered}
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These are examples of multifunctions as eg one can take $\log (-1)=i \pi$ or $\log (-1)=-i \pi$.

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But $f$ is not continuous on the whole plane:
For $\theta \rightarrow 0, \quad r e^{i \theta}, r e^{i(2 \pi-\theta)} \rightarrow r$, but
$f\left(r e^{i \theta}\right) \rightarrow r^{1 / 2}, \quad f\left(r e^{i(2 \pi-\theta)}\right)=r^{1 / 2} e^{i(\pi-\theta / 2)} \rightarrow-r^{1 / 2}$.


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Still $f(z)$ is continuous on $\mathbb{C} \backslash R$ where $R=\{z \in \mathbb{C}: \Im(z)=0, \Re(z)>0\}$.


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where $R=\{z \in \mathbb{C}: \Im(z)=0, \Re(z)>0\}$.
$f(z)$ is holomorphic on $\mathbb{C} \backslash R$ :

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\frac{f(a+h)-f(a)}{h}=\frac{f(a+h)-f(a)}{f^{2}(a+h)-f^{2}(a)}=\frac{1}{f(a+h)+f(a)} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2 f(a)} \\
\text { as } h \rightarrow 0 . & a^{\prime \prime} h_{\text {N }}^{\prime \prime} \quad \text { a }
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The positive real axis is called a branch cut for the multi-valued function $z^{1 / 2}$.
If we set

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## Definition

A multi-valued function or multifunction on a subset $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ is a map $f: U \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$ assigning to each point in $U$ a subset of the complex numbers. A branch of $f$ on a subset $V \subseteq U$ is a function $g: V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that $g(z) \in f(z)$, for all $z \in V$. If $g$ is continuous (or holomorphic) on $V$ we refer to it as a continuous, (respectively holomorphic) branch of $f$.

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Notation: $[f(z)]$ so eg $[\log (z)]=\left\{w \in \mathbb{C}: e^{w}=z\right\}$.

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So for the multifunction $\left[z^{1 / 2}\right.$ ] we obtain holomorphic branches on $\mathbb{C} \backslash R$ where $R$ is the $x$-axis. The positive points on $x$-axis are 'accidental' discontinuities but 0 appears in all branch cuts, it is a branch point.

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This is because it is not possible to choose a continuous branch of $\left[z^{1 / 2}\right]$ on any open set containing 0 .


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Then $f(0)= \pm \sqrt{r}$. Consider the function $g:[0,1) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, $g(t)=\sqrt{r} e^{\pi i t}$. Then $g$ is continuous.


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So the quotient $f / g$ is a continuous function defined on $[0,1)$ and $f(t) / g(t)= \pm 1$ for any $t \in[0,1)$. Since $[0,1)$ is connected $f / g$ is necessarily constant, so $f= \pm g$.

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Say $f(t)=g(t)$. Then

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f(1)=\lim _{t \rightarrow 1} f(t)=\lim _{t \rightarrow 1} g(t)=\sqrt{r} e^{\pi i}=-\sqrt{r}
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So $f(0)=\sqrt{r} \neq f(1)=\sqrt{r} e^{\pi i}=-\sqrt{r}$, however $r e^{2 \pi i \cdot 0}=r e^{2 \pi i \cdot 1}$, and similarly we arrive at a contradiction if $f(t)=-g(t)$.

## Definition

Suppose that $f: U \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$ is a multi-valued function defined on an open subset $U$ of $\mathbb{C}$. We say that $z_{0} \in U$ is not a branch point of $f$ if there is an open disk $D \subseteq U$ containing $z_{0}$ such that there is a holomorphic branch of $f$ defined on $D \backslash\left\{z_{0}\right\}$. We say $z_{0}$ is a branch point otherwise.


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When $\mathbb{C} \backslash U$ is bounded, we say that $f$ does not have a branch point at $\infty$ if there is a holomorphic branch of $f$ defined on $\mathbb{C} \backslash B(0, R) \subseteq U$ for some $R>0$. Otherwise we say that $\infty$ is a branch point of $f$.


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A branch cut for a multifunction $f$ is a curve in the plane on whose complement we can pick a holomorphic branch of $f$. Thus a branch cut must contain all the branch points.

For example $0, \infty$ are the branch points of $\left[z^{1 / 2}\right]$.

## The Logarithm

The Logarithm
$[\log (z)]=\{\log (|z|)+i(\theta+2 n \pi): n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ where $z=|z| e^{i \theta}$. We get a branch on $\mathbb{C} \backslash(-\infty, 0]$ by making a choice for the argument:

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\mathrm{L}(z)=\log (|z|)+i \arg (z), \quad \text { where } \arg (z) \in(-\pi, \pi)
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this is called the principal branch of Log.

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We may define other branches of the logarithm by

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L_{n}(z)=L(z)+2 i n \pi
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The branch points of $[\log (z)]$ are 0 and $\infty$, as it is not possible to make a continuous choice of logarithm on any circle $S(0, r)$.

We note that $L(z)$ is also holomorphic. Indeed for small $h \neq 0$, $L(a+h) \neq L(a)$ and

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We have

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since when $h \rightarrow 0, L(a+h)-L(a) \rightarrow 0$ by the continuity of $L$. So we have $L^{\prime}(a)=1 / a$.

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We note that the same argument applies to any continuous branch of the logarithm.

## Complex powers

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any holomorphic branch of $[\log (z)]$ gives a holomorphic branch of $\left[z^{\alpha}\right]$.
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If we pick $L(z)$ we get the principal branch of $\left[z^{\alpha}\right]$.
Note $\left(z_{1} z_{2}\right)^{\alpha} \neq z_{1}^{\alpha} z_{2}^{\alpha}$ in general!

## Binomial theorem for complex powers

$$
\left[(1+z)^{\alpha}\right]=\{\exp (\alpha \cdot w): w \in \mathbb{C}, \exp (w)=1+z\}
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Using $L(z)$ we obtain a branch

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By the ratio test, $s(z)$ has radius of convergence equal to 1 , so that $s(z)$ defines a holomorphic function in $B(0,1)$.

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\binom{\alpha}{k} /\binom{\alpha}{k+1}=\left|\frac{k+1}{\alpha-k}\right| \underset{k \rightarrow \infty}{\longrightarrow} \infty
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Differentiating term by term: $(1+z) s^{\prime}(z)=\alpha \cdot s(z)$.
$s^{\prime}(z)=\sum k\binom{\alpha}{k} z^{k-1}=\sum(\alpha-k+1)\binom{\alpha}{k-1} z^{k-1}, \quad z s^{\prime}(z)=\sum(k-1)\binom{\alpha}{k-1} z^{k-1}$

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By the ratio test, $s(z)$ has radius of convergence equal to 1 , so that $s(z)$ defines a holomorphic function in $B(0,1)$. Differentiating term by term: $(1+z) s^{\prime}(z)=\alpha \cdot s(z)$. Now $f(z)$ is defined on all of $B(0,1)$. We claim that $f(z)=s(z)$ on $B(0,1)$.

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\text { Let } g(z)=\frac{s(z)}{f(z)}=s(z) \exp (-\alpha \cdot L(1+z))
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then $g(z)$ is holomorphic for every $z \in B(0,1)$ and by the chain rule

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since $s^{\prime}(z)=\frac{\alpha \cdot s(z)}{1+z}$.
Also $g(0)=1$ so, since $B(0,1)$ is connected $g$ is constant and $s(z)=f(z)$.

## The Argument

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Define $g: \mathbb{C} \backslash[0, \infty)$ by $g\left(r e^{i \theta}\right)=\theta$ where $\theta \in(0,2 \pi)$.
Clearly $g$ is continuous, so $F(z)=f(z)-g(z)$ is continuous. However $f(z)-g(z) \in 2 \pi \mathbb{Z}$. Since $\mathbb{C} \backslash[0, \infty)$ is connected, $F(\mathbb{C} \backslash[0, \infty))$ is connected.

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Clearly $g$ is continuous, so $F(z)=f(z)-g(z)$ is continuous. However $f(z)-g(z) \in 2 \pi \mathbb{Z}$. Since $\mathbb{C} \backslash[0, \infty)$ is connected, $F(\mathbb{C} \backslash[0, \infty))$ is connected.

It follows that $f(z)-g(z)$ is constant, $f(z)-g(z)=2 n \pi$ for some fixed $n$. But then

## The Argument

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It follows that $f(z)-g(z)$ is constant, $f(z)-g(z)=2 n \pi$ for some fixed $n$. But then
$\lim _{\theta \rightarrow 0^{+}} f\left(e^{i \theta}\right)=2 n \pi, \lim _{\theta \rightarrow 0^{-}} f\left(e^{i \theta}\right)=(2 n+2) \pi$, so $f$ is not continuous.


The argument multifunction is closely related to the logarithm. There is a continuous branch of $[\log (z)]$ on a set $U$ if and only if there is continuous branch of $[\arg (z)]$ on $U$.

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## Riemann surfaces

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Consider [ $z^{1 / 2}$ ]. We can 'join' the two branches of $\left[z^{1 / 2}\right]$ to obtain a function from a Riemann surface to $\mathbb{C}$.


## Complex integration

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if $F:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, F(t)=G(t)+i H(t)$, we say that $F$ is integrable if $G, H$ are integrable and define

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PROPERTIES:

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$\left|\int_{a}^{b} F(t) d t\right|=\left|\int_{a}^{b} \operatorname{Re}\left(e^{-i \theta} F(t)\right) d t\right| \leq \int_{a}^{b}|F(t)| d t$ since $|\operatorname{Re}(z)| \leq|z|$.

## Paths

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## Definition

A path is a continuous function $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. A path is closed if $\gamma(a)=\gamma(b)$. A path is simple if for $x \neq y, \gamma(x) \neq \gamma(y)$ except possibly for $\{x, y\}=\{a, b\}$. If $\gamma$ is a path, we will write $\gamma^{*}$ for its image,

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## Definition

A path $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is differentiable if its real and imaginary parts are differentiable. Equivalently, $\gamma$ is differentiable at $t_{0} \in[a, b]$ if

$$
\lim _{t \rightarrow t_{0}} \frac{\gamma(t)-\gamma\left(t_{0}\right)}{t-t_{0}}
$$

exists. Notation: $\gamma^{\prime}\left(t_{0}\right)$. (If $t=a$ or $b$ then we take the one-sided limit.) A path is $C^{1}$ if it is differentiable and its derivative $\gamma^{\prime}(t)$ is continuous.

## EXAMPLES:

1. Line segment: $t \mapsto a+t(b-a)=(1-t) a+t b, t \in[0,1]$,
2. circle: $z(t)=z_{0}+r e^{2 \pi i t}, t \in[0,1]$ a closed path.


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3. spiral

$$
\gamma(t)=t^{3} e^{2 n i / t}, t+[0,1]
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NON EXAMPLES:
Pean curves, triangles, $\gamma(t)=t e^{2 n i / t}, t \in[0,1]$.

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Remarks: If $\gamma$ is a $C^{1}$ path and $\gamma^{\prime}\left(t_{0}\right) \neq 0$ then $\gamma$ has a tangent at $t_{0}: L(t)=\gamma\left(t_{0}\right)+\left(t-t_{0}\right) \gamma^{\prime}\left(t_{0}\right)$.

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However a $C^{1}$ path might not have a tangent at every point, eg $\gamma:[-1,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$$
\gamma(t)=\left\{\begin{array}{cc}
t^{2} & -1 \leq t \leq 0 \\
i t^{2} & 0 \leq t \leq 1
\end{array}\right.
$$

## Definition

Let $\gamma:[c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a $C^{1}$-path. If $\phi:[a, b] \rightarrow[c, d]$ is continuously differentiable with $\phi(a)=c$ and $\phi(b)=d$, then we say that $\tilde{\gamma}=\gamma \circ \phi$, is a reparametrization of $\gamma$.


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## Lemma

Let $\gamma:[c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and $s:[a, b] \rightarrow[c, d]$ and suppose that $s$ is differentiable at $t_{0}$ and $\gamma$ is differentiable at $s_{0}=s\left(t_{0}\right)$. Then $\gamma \circ s$ is differentiable at $t_{0}$ with derivative

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(\gamma \circ s)^{\prime}\left(t_{0}\right)=s^{\prime}\left(t_{0}\right) \cdot \gamma^{\prime}\left(s\left(t_{0}\right)\right) .
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Proof.

$$
\gamma(x)=\gamma\left(s_{0}\right)+\gamma^{\prime}\left(s_{0}\right)\left(x-s_{0}\right)+\left(x-s_{0}\right) \epsilon(x), \epsilon(x) \rightarrow 0 \text { as } x \rightarrow s_{0}
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\frac{\gamma(x)-\gamma\left(s_{0}\right)}{x-s_{0}}-\gamma^{\prime}\left(s_{0}\right)=\varepsilon(x)
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$\frac{\gamma(s(t))-\gamma\left(s\left(t_{0}\right)\right)}{t-t_{0}}=\frac{s(t)-s\left(t_{0}\right)}{t-t_{0}}\left(\gamma^{\prime}\left(s\left(t_{0}\right)\right)+\epsilon(s(t))\right)$.

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## Definition

$\gamma_{1}:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and $\gamma_{2}:[c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ are equivalent if there is a continuously differentiable bijective function $s:[a, b] \rightarrow[c, d]$ such that $s^{\prime}(t)>0$ for all $t \in[a, b]$ and $\gamma_{1}=\gamma_{2} \circ s$.

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Equivalence classes: oriented curves in the complex plane. Notation: $[\gamma]$.
$s^{\prime}(t)>0$ : the path is traversed in the same direction for each of the parametrization $\gamma_{1}$ and $\gamma_{2}$. If $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ then the opposite path is $\gamma^{-}(t)=\gamma(a+b-t)$.


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## Definition

If $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a $C^{1}$ path then we define the length of $\gamma$ to be

$$
\ell(\gamma)=\int_{a}^{b}\left|\gamma^{\prime}(t)\right| d t .
$$

Using the chain rule one sees that the length of a parametrized path is also constant on equivalence classes of paths.

## Definition

We will say a path $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is piecewise $C^{1}$ if it is continuous on $[a, b]$ and the interval $[a, b]$ can be divided into subintervals on each of which $\gamma$ is $C^{1}$.
So there are $a=a_{0}<a_{1}<\ldots<a_{m}=b$ such that $\gamma_{\left[\left[a_{i}, a_{i+1}\right]\right.}$ is $C^{1}$.


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A contour is a simple closed piece-wise $C^{1}$ path.
Two paths $\gamma_{1}:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and $\gamma_{2}:[c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ with $\gamma_{1}(b)=\gamma_{2}(c)$ can be concatenated to give a path $\gamma_{1} * \gamma_{2}$, defined by
$\gamma_{1} \star \gamma_{2}(t)=\gamma_{1}(t), t \in[a, b], \gamma_{1} \star \gamma_{2}(t)=\gamma_{2}(t-b+c), t \in[b, d+b-c]$
If $\gamma, \gamma_{1}, \gamma_{2}$ are piecewise $C^{1}$ then so are $\gamma^{-}$and $\gamma_{1} \star \gamma_{2}$.


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If $\gamma, \gamma_{1}, \gamma_{2}$ are piecewise $C^{1}$ then so are $\gamma^{-}$and $\gamma_{1} \star \gamma_{2}$.
A piecewise $C^{1}$ path is precisely a finite concatenation of $C^{1}$ paths.

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Example: If $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$, we define the triangle:
$T_{a, b, c}=\gamma_{a, b} \star \gamma_{b, c} \star \gamma_{c, a}$ where $\gamma_{x, y}$ is the line segment joining $x, y$.


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$x, y$.
Recall the definition of Riemann integrable functions. We have the following:
Lemma
Let $[a, b]$ be a closed interval and $S \subset[a, b]$ a finite set. If $f$ is a bounded continuous function (taking real or complex values) on $[a, b] \backslash S$ then it is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$.

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Let $a=x_{0}<x_{1}<x_{2}<\ldots<x_{k}=b$ be any partition of $[a, b]$ which includes the elements of $S$.
On each open interval ( $x_{i}, x_{i+1}$ ) the function $f$ is bounded and continuous, and hence integrable.

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On each open interval ( $x_{i}, x_{i+1}$ ) the function $f$ is bounded and continuous, and hence integrable.
By the definition of Riemann integrable functions $f$ is integrable on $[a, b]$.

## Integral along a path

## Definition

If $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a piecewise- $C^{1}$ path and $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, then we define the integral of $f$ along $\gamma$ to be

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\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=\int_{a}^{b} f(\gamma(t)) \gamma^{\prime}(t) d t
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We note that if $\gamma$ is a concatenation of the $C^{1}$ paths $\gamma_{1}, \ldots, \gamma_{n}$ then $\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=\int_{\gamma_{1}} f(z) d z+\ldots+\int_{\gamma_{n}} f(z) d z$.

## Example

Let $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be the path $\gamma(t)=\exp (2 \pi i t)$ (a circle). Then

$$
\int_{\gamma} z^{n} d z=\left\{\begin{array}{cc}
2 \pi i & \text { if } n=-1 \\
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\end{array} \quad(n \in \mathbb{Z})\right.
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\int_{\gamma} z^{n} d z=\int_{0}^{1} \gamma(t)^{n} \gamma^{\prime}(t) d t=\int_{0}^{1} \exp (2 \pi i n t) \cdot(2 \pi i \exp (2 \pi i t)) d t
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Let $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be the path $\gamma(t)=\exp (2 \pi i t)$ (a circle). Then

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If $n=-1$ we get $2 \pi i \int_{0}^{1} 1 d t=2 \pi i$.

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If $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a piecewise $C^{1}$ path and $\tilde{\gamma}:[c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is an equivalent path, then for any continuous function $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ we have

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If $a=x_{0}<x_{1}<\ldots<x_{n}=b$ such that $\gamma$ is $C^{1}$ on $\left[x_{i}, x_{i+1}\right]$ we have a corresponding decomposition of $[c, d]$ given by the points $s^{-1}\left(x_{0}\right)<\ldots<s^{-1}\left(x_{n}\right)$, and

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We define also the integral with respect to arc-length of a function $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that $\gamma^{*} \subseteq U$ to be

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\int_{\gamma} f(z)|d z|=\int_{a}^{b} f(\gamma(t))\left|\gamma^{\prime}(t)\right| d t .
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This integral is invariant with respect to $C^{1}$ reparametrizations $s:[c, d] \rightarrow[a, b]$ if we require $s^{\prime}(t) \neq 0$ for all $t \in[c, d]$. Note that in this case

$$
\int_{\gamma} f(z)|d z|=\int_{\gamma^{-}} f(z)|d z| .
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## Properties of the integral

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Let $f, g: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be continuous functions on an open subset $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and $\gamma, \eta:[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be piecewise- $C^{1}$ paths whose images lie in $U$. Then we have the following:

1. (Linearity): For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$
\int_{\gamma}(\alpha f(z)+\beta g(z)) d z=\alpha \int_{\gamma} f(z) d z+\beta \int_{\gamma} g(z) d z
$$

2. If $\gamma^{-}$denotes the opposite path to $\gamma$ then

$$
\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=-\int_{\gamma^{-}} f(z) d z
$$

3. (Additivity): If $\gamma \star \eta$ is the concatenation of the paths $\gamma, \eta$ in $U$, we have

$$
\int_{\gamma \star \eta} f(z) d z=\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z+\int_{\eta} f(z) d z
$$

4. (Estimation Lemma.) We have

$$
-\ell_{\gamma}
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\left|\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z\right| \leq \sup _{z \in \gamma^{*}}|f(z)| \cdot \ell(\gamma)
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## Proposition

Let $f_{n}: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a sequence of continuous functions. Suppose that $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow U$ is a piecewise $C^{1}$ path. If $\left(f_{n}\right)$ converges uniformly to a function $f$ on the image of $\gamma$ then

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Proof. We have

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$\sup \left\{\left|f(z)-f_{n}(z)\right|: z \in \gamma^{*}\right\} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ which implies the result.

Example. Let's say

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\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n} z^{n}
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converges on $B(0, R)$. Then convergence is uniform on $B(0, r)$ for $r<R$. So if $\gamma$ is a piecewise $C^{1}$ path in $B(0, r)$ we have

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## Definition

Let $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be an open set and let $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a continuous function. If there exists a differentiable function $F: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ with $F^{\prime}(z)=f(z)$ then we say $F$ is a primitive for $f$ on $U$.

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Theorem
(Fundamental theorem of Calculus): Let $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a open and let $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a continuous function. If $F: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a primitive for $f$ and $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow U$ is a piecewise $C^{1}$ path in $U$ then we have

$$
\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=F(\gamma(b))-F(\gamma(a)) .
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In particular the integral of such a function $f$ around any closed path is zero.

Proof.
First suppose that $\gamma$ is $C^{1}$. Then we have

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Finally, $\gamma$ is closed iff $\gamma(a)=\gamma(b)$ so the integral of $f$ along a closed path is zero.

Corollary
Let $U$ be a domain and let $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a function with $f^{\prime}(z)=0$ for all $z \in U$. Then $f$ is constant.

Recall: If $U^{\mathbb{C}}$ is open, connected (a domain) then for any $x, y \in U \quad \exists$ piecewise $C^{\prime}$-path from $x$ to $y$.
Sketch of proof Fix $x_{0} \in U$. Let $S=\left\{x: \exists\right.$ piecewise $C^{\prime}$-path form $x_{0}$ to $\left.x\right\}$
Then 1) $S$ is open:
2) $S$ is closed, since if $x_{n} \rightarrow x$ then $x \in S$

So $\quad S=U$.


## Corollary

Let $U$ be a domain and let $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a function with $f^{\prime}(z)=0$ for all $z \in U$. Then $f$ is constant.

Proof.
Pick $z_{0} \in U$. Since $U$ is path-connected, if $w \in U$, we may find a piecewise $C^{1}$-path $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow U$ such that $\gamma(0)=z_{0}$ and $\gamma(1)=w$. Then by the previous Theorem

$$
f(w)-f\left(z_{0}\right)=\int_{\gamma} f^{\prime}(z) d z=0,
$$

so that $f$ is constant.


Example
Let $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a closed curve such that $a \notin \gamma^{*}$. Show that

$$
\int_{\gamma}(z-a)^{n} d z=0 \text { for } n \neq-1 .
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Theorem
If $U$ is a domain and $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a continuous function such that for any closed path in $U$ we have $\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=0$, then $f$ has a primitive.

$$
\text { piecewise C }{ }^{1}
$$

## Proof.

Fix $z_{0}$ in $U$, and for any $z \in U$ set $F(z)=\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z$. where $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow U$ with $\gamma(a)=z_{0}$ and $\gamma(b)=z$.

## Proof.

Fix $z_{0}$ in $U$, and for any $z \in U$ set $F(z)=\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z$. where $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow U$ with $\gamma(a)=z_{0}$ and $\gamma(b)=z$. $F(z)$ is independent of the choice of $\gamma$ : Suppose $\gamma_{1}, \gamma_{2}$ are two paths joining $z_{0}, z$ The path $\gamma=\gamma_{1} \star \gamma_{2}^{-}$is closed so


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$$
0=\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=\int_{\gamma_{1}} f(z) d z+\int_{\gamma_{2}^{-}} f(z) d z=\int_{\gamma_{1}} f(z) d z-\int_{\gamma_{2}} f(z) d z
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Claim: $F$ is differentiable and $F^{\prime}(z)=f(z)$.
Fix $w \in U$ and $\epsilon>0$ such that $B(w, \epsilon) \subseteq U$ and choose a path
$\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow U$ from $z_{0}$ to $w$.


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Fix $w \in U$ and $\epsilon>0$ such that $B(w, \epsilon) \subseteq U$ and choose a path
$\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow U$ from $z_{0}$ to $w$.
If $z_{1} \in B(w, \epsilon) \subseteq U$, then the concatenation of $\gamma$ with the straight-line path $s:[0,1] \rightarrow U$ given by $s(t)=w+t\left(z_{1}-w\right)$ from $w$ to $z_{1}$ is a path $\gamma_{1}$ from $z_{0}$ to $z_{1}$. It follows that

$$
F\left(z_{1}\right)-F(w)=\int_{\gamma_{1}} f(z) d z-\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z
$$



$$
\gamma_{1}=\gamma * s
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
F\left(z_{1}\right)-F(w) & =\int_{\gamma_{1}} f(z) d z-\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z \\
& =\left(\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z+\int_{s} f(z) d z\right)-\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z
\end{aligned}
$$



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$$

so for $z_{1} \neq w$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\frac{F\left(z_{1}\right)-F(w)}{z_{1}-w}=\frac{1}{z_{1}-w} \int_{0}^{1} f\left(w+t\left(z_{1}-w\right)\right)\left(z_{1}-1\right. \\
S(t)=w+t\left(z_{1}-w\right) \\
S^{\prime}(+)=z_{1}-w
\end{gathered}
$$

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$$
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$$

$\left|\frac{F\left(z_{1}\right)-F(w)}{z_{1}-w}-f(w)\right|=\left|\left(\int_{0}^{1} f\left(w+t\left(z_{1}-w\right)\right) d t\right)-f(w)\right|$

$$
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$$
\begin{aligned}
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$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
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& =\left|\int_{0}^{1}\left(f\left(w+t\left(z_{1}-w\right)\right)-f(w)\right) d t\right| \\
& \leq \sup _{t \in[0,1]}\left|f\left(w+t\left(z_{1}-w\right)\right)-f(w)\right|
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& \leq \sup _{t \in[0,1]}\left|f\left(w+t\left(z_{1}-w\right)\right)-f(w)\right| \\
& \rightarrow 0 \text { as } z_{1} \rightarrow w
\end{aligned}
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## Example

Let $f: \mathbb{C}^{\times} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\times}, f(z)=1 / z$. Then $f$ does not have a primitive on $\mathbb{C}^{\times}$.

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If $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is the path $\gamma(t)=\exp (2 \pi i t)$ (a circle)
$\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=\int_{0}^{1} f(\gamma(t)) \gamma^{\prime}(t) d t=\int_{0}^{1} \frac{1}{\exp (2 \pi i t)} \cdot(2 \pi i \exp (2 \pi i t)) d t=2 \pi i$.

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Say $F^{\prime}(z)=f(z)$. Then by the FTC $\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=F(\gamma(1))-F(\gamma(0))=F(1)-F(1)=0, \mathrm{a}$ contradiction.

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Remark: $1 / z$ does have a primitive on any domain $D$ where we can chose a branch of $[\log (z)]$ :

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Remark: $1 / z$ does have a primitive on any domain $D$ where we can chose a branch of $[\log (z)]$ :
If we have $e^{L(z)}=z$ on $D$ by the chain rule

$$
\exp (L(z)) \cdot L^{\prime}(z)=1 \Rightarrow L^{\prime}(z)=1 / z
$$

Cauchy's theorem

## Cauchy's theorem

Cauchy's theorem states roughly that if $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic and $\gamma$ is a closed path in $U$ whose interior lies entirely in $U$ then

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\hat{N}^{\prime} C^{\prime} p_{2}+h \\
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\end{array}
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This is the single most important theorem of the course. Almost all important facts about holomorphic functions follow from it. Sample applications:

1. If $f$ is holomorphic then it is $C^{1}$ and in fact infinitely differentiable.
2. If $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic and bounded then it is constant.
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For most of our applications we will need a simpler case of the theorem for starlike domains. We defer the discussion of the general case to later lectures.

## Definition

A triangle or triangular path $T$ is a path of the form $\gamma_{1} \star \gamma_{2} \star \gamma_{3}$ where $\gamma_{1}(t)=a+t(b-a), \gamma_{2}(t)=b+t(c-b)$ and $\gamma_{3}(t)=c+t(a-c)$ where $t \in[0,1]$ and $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$. (Note that if $\{a, b, c\}$ are collinear, then $T$ is a degenerate triangle.) That is, $T$ traverses the boundary of the triangle with vertices $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$. The solid triangle $\mathcal{T}$ bounded by $T$ is the region


$$
\mathcal{T}=\left\{t_{1} a+t_{2} b+t_{3} c: t_{i} \in[0,1], \sum_{i=1}^{3} t_{i}=1\right\},
$$

with the points in the interior of $\mathcal{T}$ corresponding to the points with $t_{i}>0$ for each $i \in\{1,2,3\}$. We will denote by $[a, b]$ the line segment $\{a+t(b-a): t \in[0,1]\}$, the side of $T$ joining vertex $a$ to vertex $b$. When we need to specify the vertices $a, b, c$ of a triangle $T$, we will write $T_{a, b, c}$.

Theorem
(Cauchy's theorem for a triangle): Suppose that $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ is an open subset and let $T \subseteq U$ be a triangle whose interior is entirely contained in $U$. Then if $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic we have

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Idea of proof. 1. $f(z)=f\left(z_{0}\right)+f^{\prime}\left(z_{0}\right)\left(z-z_{0}\right)+\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z)$. So if $\gamma$ is 'small' close to $z_{0}$
$\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=\int_{\gamma}\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z) d z$ which by the estimation lemma and since $\psi(z) \rightarrow 0$, is much smaller than length $(\gamma)$.

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$\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=\int_{\gamma}\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z) d z$ which by the estimation lemma and since $\psi(z) \rightarrow 0$, is much smaller than length $(\gamma)$.
2. Assuming that $I=\left|\int_{T} f(z) d z\right| \neq 0$ we will subdivide $T$ into 4 smaller triangles and represent the integral as sum of the integrals on the smaller triangles. One of the integrals of the smaller triangles will be at least $I / 4$. We will keep subdividing till we get a very small triangle where by part 1 the integral will be smaller than expected, contradiction.

Suppose $I=\left|\int_{T} f(z) d z\right|>0$. We build a sequence of smaller and smaller triangles $T^{n}$, as follows: Let $T^{0}=T$, and suppose that we have constructed $T^{i}$ for $0 \leq i<k$. Then take the triangle $T^{k-1}$ and join the midpoints of the edges to form four smaller triangles, which we will denote $S_{i}(1 \leq i \leq 4)$. Then $I_{k}=\int_{T^{k-1}} f(z) d z=\sum_{i=1}^{4} \int_{S_{i}} f(z) d z$, since the integrals around the interior edges cancel.

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Figure: Subdivision of a triangle
$I_{k-1}=\left|\int_{T^{k-1}} f(z) d z\right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{4}\left|\int_{S_{i}} f(z) d z\right|$, so that for some $i$ we must have $\left|\int_{S_{i}} f(z) d z\right| \geq I_{k-1} / 4$. Set $T^{k}$ to be this triangle $S_{i}$.
Then by induction we see that $\ell\left(T^{k}\right)=2^{-k} \ell(T)$ while $I_{k} \geq 4^{-k}$.
$I_{k-1}=\left|\int_{T^{k-1}} f(z) d z\right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{4}\left|\int_{S_{i}} f(z) d z\right|$, so that for some $i$ we must have $\left|\int_{S_{i}} f(z) d z\right| \geq I_{k-1} / 4$. Set $T^{k}$ to be this triangle $S_{i}$. Then by induction we see that $\ell\left(T^{k}\right)=2^{-k} \ell(T)$ while $I_{k} \geq 4^{-k} I$.

Let $\mathcal{T}^{k}$ be the solid triangle with boundary $T^{k}$. The sets $\mathcal{T}^{k}$ are nested and their diameter tends to 0 , so there is a unique point $z_{0}$, lying in all of them.

Recall If $k_{i}$ as closed, $k_{i+1} \subseteq k_{i}$ all $\operatorname{dian}\left(k_{i}\right) \rightarrow 0$ then $\cap k_{i}=\{p\}$
$I_{k-1}=\left|\int_{T^{k-1}} f(z) d z\right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{4}\left|\int_{S_{i}} f(z) d z\right|$, so that for some $i$ we must have $\left|\int_{S_{i}} f(z) d z\right| \geq I_{k-1} / 4$. Set $T^{k}$ to be this triangle $S_{i}$.
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$$
f(z)=f\left(z_{0}\right)+f^{\prime}\left(z_{0}\right)\left(z-z_{0}\right)+\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z),
$$

where $\psi(z) \rightarrow 0=\psi\left(z_{0}\right)$ as $z \rightarrow z_{0}$.

$$
\int_{T^{k}} f(z) d z=\int_{T^{k}}\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z) d z
$$

and if $z$ is on $T^{k}$, we have $\left|z-z_{0}\right| \leq \operatorname{diam}\left(\mathcal{T}^{k}\right)=2^{-k} \operatorname{diam}(T)$.

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$$
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$$

and if $z$ is on $T^{k}$, we have $\left|z-z_{0}\right| \leq \operatorname{diam}\left(\mathcal{T}^{k}\right)=2^{-k} \operatorname{diam}(T)$.
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$$
I_{k}=\left|\int_{T^{k}}\left(z-z_{0}\right) \underline{\psi(z)} d z\right| \leq \eta_{k} \cdot \operatorname{diam}\left(T^{k}\right) \ell\left(T^{k}\right)
$$

$$
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and if $z$ is on $T^{k}$, we have $\left|z-z_{0}\right| \leq \operatorname{diam}\left(\mathcal{T}^{k}\right)=2^{-k} \operatorname{diam}(T)$. Let $\eta_{k}=\sup _{z \in T^{k}}|\psi(z)|$. By the estimation lemma:

$$
\left.\begin{array}{rl}
I_{k}=\left|\int_{T^{k}}\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z) d z\right| \leq & \eta_{k} \cdot \operatorname{diam}\left(T^{k}\right) \ell\left(T^{k}\right) \\
=4^{-k} \eta \eta_{k} \cdot \underline{\operatorname{diam}(T)} \cdot \underline{\ell(T) \cdot} \\
= & \ell\left(T^{k}\right)=2^{-k} \ell(T)
\end{array}\right\}
$$

$$
\int_{T^{k}} f(z) d z=\int_{T^{k}}\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z) d z
$$


and if $z$ is on $T^{k}$, we have $\left|z-z_{0}\right| \leq \operatorname{diam}\left(\mathcal{T}^{k}\right)=2^{-k} \operatorname{diam}(T)$. Let $\eta_{k}=\sup _{z \in T^{k}}|\psi(z)|$. By the estimation lemma:

$$
\begin{aligned}
I_{k}=\left|\int_{T^{k}}\left(z-z_{0}\right) \psi(z) d z\right| & \leq \eta_{k} \cdot \operatorname{diam}\left(T^{k}\right) \ell\left(T^{k}\right) \\
& =4^{-k} \eta_{k} \cdot \operatorname{diam}(T) \cdot \ell(T)
\end{aligned}
$$

So $4^{k} I_{k} \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. On the other hand, by construction $I_{k} \geq I / 4^{k} \Rightarrow 4^{k} I_{k} \geq I>0$, contradiction.

## Definition

Let $X$ be a subset in $\mathbb{C}$. We say that $X$ is convex if for each $z, w \in U$ the line segment between $z$ and $w$ is contained in $X$. We say that $X$ is star-like if there is a point $z_{0} \in X$ such that for every $w \in X$ the line segment $\left[z_{0}, w\right]$ joining $z_{0}$ and $w$ lies in $X$. We will say that $X$ is star-like with respect to $z_{0}$ in this case. Thus a convex subset is thus starlike with respect to every point it contains.


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Example. A disk (open or closed) is convex, as is a solid triangle or rectangle. On the other hand the union of the $x y$-axes is starlike with respect to 0 but not convex.

## Theorem

(Cauchy's theorem for a star-like domain): Let U be a star-like domain. Then if $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic and $\gamma:[a, b] \rightarrow U$ is a closed path in $U$ we have

$$
\text { piecemise }-C^{\prime}
$$

$$
\int_{\gamma} f(z) d z=0 .
$$

Proof. It suffices to show that $f$ has a primitive in $U$. Let $z_{0} \in U$ such that for every $z \in U, \gamma_{z}=z_{0}+t\left(z-z_{0}\right)$, $t \in[0,1]$ is contained in $U$. We claim that

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F(z)=\int_{\gamma_{z}} f(\zeta) d \zeta
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is a primitive for $f$ on $U$. Let $\epsilon>0$ s.t. $B(z, \epsilon) \subseteq U$. If $w \in B(z, \epsilon)$ the triangle $T$ with vertices $z_{0}, z, w$ lies entirely in $U$ so by
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&=\left|\int_{0}^{1} f(w+t(z-w)) d t-f(z)\right|=\mid \int_{0}^{1}(f(w+t(z-w))-f(z) d t \mid \\
& \leq \sup _{t \in[0,1]}|f(w+t(z-w))-f(z)| \rightarrow 0 \text { as } w \rightarrow z .
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Suppose that $D_{1}$ and $D_{2}$ are primitive domains and $D_{1} \cap D_{2}$ is connected. Then $D_{1} \cup D_{2}$ is primitive.


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## Example

The union of two open intersecting half-discs $D_{1}, D_{2}$ of a disc $B(0, r)$ is primitive.
Indeed each $D_{1}, D_{2}$ are convex, so they are primitive. $D_{1} \cap D_{2}$ is connected so by the lemma $D_{1} \cup D_{2}$ is primitive.

## Proof.

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Let $f: D_{1} \cup D_{2} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a holomorphic function.
Then $f_{D_{1}}, f_{D_{2}}$ have primitives $F_{1}, F_{2}$ say.
Since $F_{1}$ - $F_{2}$ has zero derivative on $D_{1} \cap D_{2}$, and as $D_{1} \cap D_{2}$ is connected it follows $F_{1}-F_{2}=c$ on $D_{1} \cap D_{2}$.


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If $F: D_{1} \cup D_{2} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a defined to be $F_{1}$ on $D_{1}$ and $F_{2}+c$ on $D_{2}$ then $F$ is a primitive for $f$ on $D_{1} \cup D_{2}$.


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If $F: D_{1} \cup D_{2} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a defined to be $F_{1}$ on $D_{1}$ and $F_{2}+c$ on $D_{2}$ then $F$ is a primitive for $f$ on $D_{1} \cup D_{2}$.

We will need the following simple calculation: Let $\gamma=\gamma(a, r)$ be the path $t \mapsto a+r e^{2 \pi i t}$. We have then

$$
\int_{\gamma} \frac{1}{z-a} d z=\int_{0}^{1} \frac{1}{\exp (2 \pi i t)} \cdot(2 \pi i \exp (2 \pi i t)) d t=2 \pi i .
$$

## Theorem

(Cauchy's Integral Formula.) Suppose that $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a holomorphic function on an open set $U$ which contains the disc $\bar{B}(a, r)$. Then for all $w \in B(a, r)$ we have

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f(w)=\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z)}{z-w} d z,
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Proof. The proof has two steps. In the first step we show that we can replace the integral over $\gamma$ with an integral over an arbitrarily small circle $\gamma(w, \epsilon)$ centered at $w$. In the second step we show, using the estimation lemma that this integral is equal to $f(w)$.

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Consider a circle $\gamma(w, \epsilon)$ centered at $w$ and contained in $B(a, r)$. Pick two anti-diametric points on $\gamma(w, \epsilon)$ and join them by straight segments to points on $\gamma$.

We use the contours $\Gamma_{1}$ and $\Gamma_{2}$ each consisting of 2 semicircles and two segments and we note that the contributions of line segments cancel out to give:

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$$

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$$

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primitive $\Downarrow$
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prinitil


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& =\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma(w, \epsilon)} \frac{f(z)-f(w)}{z-w} d z+f(w)
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Since $f$ is complex differentiable at $z=w$, the term $(f(z)-f(w)) /(z-w)$ is bounded as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, so that by the estimation lemma its integral over $\gamma(\boldsymbol{w}, \epsilon)$ tends to zero.

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which does not depend on $\epsilon$.
It follows that

$$
\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma(w, \epsilon)} \frac{f(z)-f(w)}{z-w} d z=0
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## Definition

If $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a function on an open subset $U$ of $\mathbb{C}$, then we say that $f$ is analytic on $U$ if for every $z_{0} \in \mathbb{C}$ there is an $r>0$ with $B\left(z_{0}, r\right) \subseteq U$ such that there is a power series $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{k}\left(z-z_{0}\right)^{k}$ with radius of convergence at least $r$ and $f(z)=\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{k}\left(z-z_{0}\right)^{k}$. An analytic function is holomorphic, as any power series is (infinitely) complex differentiable.

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Proof. We will show that for each $z_{0} \in U$ we can find a disk $B\left(z_{0}, \epsilon\right)$ within which $f(w)$ is given by a power series in $\left(w-z_{0}\right)$. Replacing $f(w)$ by $g(w)=f\left(w+z_{0}\right)$ if necessary we may assume $z_{0}=0$.

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We will use the integral expression $f(w)=\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma\left(z_{0}, r\right)} \frac{f(z)}{z-w} d z$.

The idea is that we can expand $\frac{1}{z-w}=\frac{1}{z}(1-w / z)^{-1}$ as power series when $|w / z|<1$, so

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We claim that the last series, seen as a function of $z$, converges uniformly on $\gamma^{*}$.


The idea is that we can expand $\frac{1}{z-w}=\frac{1}{z}(1-w / z)^{-1}$ as power series when $|w / z|<1$, so

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## Recall

Weierstrass M-test:
$\sum f_{n}(z) \operatorname{conv}$ uniformly
if $\left|f_{n}(z)\right| \leqslant M_{n}(\forall z)$ and $\sum M_{n}<\infty$

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We claim that the last series, seen as a function of $z$, converges uniformly on $\gamma^{*}$.
Since $\gamma^{*}$ is compact, $M=\sup \left\{|f(z)|: z \in \gamma^{*}\right\}$ is finite. We apply Weierstrass $M$-test:
$\left|f(z) \cdot w^{n} / z^{n+1}\right|=|f(z)||z|^{-1}|w / z|^{n}<\frac{M}{2 r}(1 / 2)^{n}, \quad \forall z \in \gamma^{*}$.

Uniform convergence implies that for all $w \in B(0, r)$ we have

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}(\overbrace{\left.\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z)}{z^{n+1}} d z\right)^{\approx} w_{b_{n}}}^{w^{n}}=\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z) d z}{z-w}=f(w)
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hence $f(w)$ is given by a power series in $B(0, r)$. Recall


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{n=0}^{N} f_{n}(2) \xrightarrow[\Downarrow]{\text { unit }} f \\
& \int_{\gamma} \sum_{n=0}^{N} f_{n}(z) \longrightarrow \int_{\gamma} f \\
& \sum_{n=0}^{N} \int_{\gamma}^{n} f_{n}(z) \longrightarrow \int_{\gamma} f
\end{aligned}
$$

Uniform convergence implies that for all $w \in B(0, r)$ we have

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left(\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z)}{z^{n+1}} d z\right) w^{n}=\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z) d z}{z-w}=f(w)
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hence $f(w)$ is given by a power series in $B(0, r)$.
Remark. If $z_{0} \neq 0$ then the formula above applies to $g(w)=f\left(w+z_{0}\right)$ and we obtain:

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left(\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma(0, r)} \frac{f\left(z+z_{0}\right)}{z^{n+1}} d z\right) w^{n}=f\left(w+z_{0}\right)
$$

and setting $u=w+z_{0}$ and substituting $v=z+z_{0}$ in the integral we get

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left(\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma\left(z_{0}, r\right)} \frac{f(v)}{\left(v-z_{0}\right)^{n+1}} d v\right)\left(u-z_{0}\right)^{n}=f(u)
$$

## Corollary

(Taylor Series Expansion) If $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic on an open set $U$, then for any $z_{0} \in U$, and for any open disc $B\left(z_{0}, r\right)$ centred at $z_{0}$ and lying in $U$ we have the Taylor series expansion

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f(z)=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n}\left(z-z_{0}\right)^{n}
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Moreover

$$
a_{n}=\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma(a, r)} \frac{f(z)}{\left(z-z_{0}\right)^{n+1}} d z
$$


for any $a \in \mathbb{C}, r \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ with $z_{0} \in B(a, r)$, and we obtain the Cauchy Integral Formulas for the derivatives of $f$ at $z_{0}$ :

$$
f^{(n)}\left(z_{0}\right)=\frac{n!}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma(a, r)} \frac{f(z)}{\left(z-z_{0}\right)^{n+1}} d z
$$

## Proof.

For the first part note that we have shown it for sufficiently small $r$.

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This follows exactly as in the proof of Cauchy's integral formula.
For the last part note that $f^{(n)}\left(z_{0}\right)=n!a_{n}$.

Recap
Sf=0 AF primitive

1) $S_{0}^{f}=0 F_{F} T C$
2) $\widehat{S}_{\gamma} \rho=0 \quad \exists$ F prinitize.
3) 

$\downarrow$
4)
$\downarrow$

5) Cuuchy's insegrel forunla
$\downarrow$
6) f analytic.

## Winding numbers

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## Proposition

Let $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \backslash\{0\}$ be a path. Then there is continuous function a: $[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$
\gamma(t)=|\gamma(t)| e^{2 \pi i a(t)}
$$

Moreover, if $a$ and $b$ are two such functions, then there exists $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a(t)=b(t)+n$ for all $t \in[0,1]$.

## Proof.

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if $\left|z_{1}\right|=\left|z_{2}\right|=1$ and $\left|z_{1}-z_{2}\right|<1$, then the angle between $z_{1}$ and $z_{2}$ is less than $\pi / 2$. It follows there exists continuous $a_{j}:[j / n,(j+1) / n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\gamma(t)=e^{2 \pi i i_{j}(t)}$.

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Since $e^{2 \pi i a_{j}(j / n)}=e^{2 \pi i a_{j-1}(j / n)}, a_{j-1}(j / n)$ and $a_{j}(j / n)$ differ by an integer. Thus we can successively adjust the $a_{j}$ for $j>1$ by an integer to obtain a continuous $a:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that $\gamma(t)=e^{2 \pi i a(t)}$.

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Uniqueness: $e^{2 \pi i(a(t)-b(t))}=1$, hence $a(t)-b(t) \in \mathbb{Z}$, but $[0,1]$ is connected so $a(t)-b(t)$ is constant.

## Definition

If $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \backslash\{0\}$ is a closed path and $\gamma(t)=|\gamma(t)| e^{2 \pi i a(t)}$ as in the previous lemma, then $a(1)-a(0) \in \mathbb{Z}$. This integer is called the winding number $I(\gamma, 0)$ of $\gamma$ around 0 . It is uniquely determined by the path $\gamma$ because the function a is unique up to an integer.

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If $z_{0}$ is not in the image of $\gamma$, we may define the winding number $I\left(\gamma, z_{0}\right)$ of $\gamma$ about $z_{0}$ similarly:
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Remarks: 1 . The definition of the winding number only requires the closed path $\gamma$ to be continuous, not piecewise $C^{1}$.
2. if $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow U$ where $0 \notin U$ and there exists a holomorphic branch $L: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ of $[\log (z)]$ on $U$, then $I(\gamma, 0)=0$. Indeed in this case we may define $a(t)=\Im(L(\gamma(t)))$, and since $\gamma(0)=\gamma(1)$ it follows $a(1)-a(0)=0$.

The winding number for $C^{1}$ paths can be expressed using integrals:
Lemma
Let $\gamma$ be a piecewise $C^{1}$ closed path and $z_{0} \in \mathbb{C}$ a point not in the image of $\gamma$. Then the winding number $I\left(\gamma, z_{0}\right)$ of $\gamma$ around $z_{0}$ is given by

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=2 \pi i(a(1)-a(0)), \text { since } r(1)=r(0)=\left|\gamma(0)-z_{0}\right| .
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$$

Corollary (of the proot: holomorphic $\Rightarrow$ anelytic)
Let $U$ be an open set in $\mathbb{C}$ and let $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow U$ be a closed path. If $f(z)$ is a continuous function on $\gamma^{*}$ then the function

$$
I_{f}(\gamma, w)=\frac{1}{2 \pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{f(z)}{z-w} d z,
$$

is analytic in $w$.


Proof. This follows by the same argument that we used to show that holomorphic functions are analytic.

In the proof we only used that $f$ is continuous on $\gamma^{*}$.
If $w_{0}$ is not on $\gamma^{*}$ then for some $\epsilon>0$ we have that $\left|\frac{w}{z}\right|<\frac{1}{2}$ for all $w \in B\left(w_{0}, \epsilon\right)$ and this suffices to show that $l_{f}(\gamma, w)$ is analytic.

## Proposition

Let $U$ be an open set in $\mathbb{C}$ and let $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow U$ be a closed piecewise $C^{1}$ path. Then the function $w \mapsto I(\gamma, w)$ is a continuous function on $\mathbb{C} \backslash \gamma^{*}$, hence constant on the connected components of $\mathbb{C} \backslash \gamma^{*}$.


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Proof.
We showed earlier that the function

$$
I(\gamma, w)=\int_{\gamma} \frac{1}{z-w} d z
$$

is analytic, so it is continuous.

If $\gamma$ is a closed path then $\gamma^{*}$ is compact and hence bounded. Thus there is an $R>0$ such that the connected set $(\mathbb{C} \backslash B(0, R)) \cap \gamma^{*}=\emptyset$. It follows that $\mathbb{C} \backslash \gamma^{*}$ has exactly one unbounded connected component.


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Since

$$
\left|\int_{\gamma} \frac{d \zeta}{\zeta-z}\right| \leq \ell(\gamma) \cdot \sup _{\zeta \in \gamma^{*}}|1 /(\zeta-z)| \rightarrow 0
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as $z \rightarrow \infty$ it follows that $I(\gamma, z)=0$ on the unbounded component of $\mathbb{C} \backslash \gamma^{*}$.

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$$

as $z \rightarrow \infty$ it follows that $I(\gamma, z)=0$ on the unbounded component of $\mathbb{C} \backslash \gamma^{*}$.

## Definition

Let $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a closed path. We say that a point $z$ is in the inside of $\gamma$ if $z \notin \gamma^{*}$ and $I(\gamma, z) \neq 0$. The previous remark shows that the inside of $\gamma$ is a union of bounded connected components of $\mathbb{C} \backslash \gamma^{*}$. (We don't, however, know that the inside of $\gamma$ is necessarily non-empty.)

## Example

Suppose that $\gamma_{1}:[-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is given by $\gamma_{1}=1+e^{i t}$ and $\gamma_{2}:[0,2 \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is given by $\gamma_{2}(t)=-1+e^{-i t}$. Then if
$\gamma=\gamma_{1} \star \gamma_{2}, \gamma$ traverses a figure-of-eight and it is easy to check that the inside of $\gamma$ is $B(1,1) \cup B(-1,1)$ where $I(\gamma, z)=1$ for $z \in B(1,1)$ while $I(\gamma, z)=-1$ for $z \in B(-1,1)$.


Example
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$$
I(\gamma, 1)=\underbrace{\frac{1}{2 n i}(\underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{2-1}\right.}_{\gamma_{1}} d z+\int_{2}^{\left(\frac{1}{2-1}\right.} d z)}_{1}
$$

## Example

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## Remark.

It is a theorem, known as the Jordan Curve Theorem, that if $\gamma:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a simple closed curve, so that $\gamma(t)=\gamma(s)$ if and only if $s=t$ or $s, t \in\{0,1\}$, then $\mathbb{C} \backslash \gamma^{*}$ is the union of precisely one bounded and one unbounded component, and on the bounded component $I(\gamma, z)$ is either 1 or -1 . If $l(\gamma, z)=1$ for $z$ on the inside of $\gamma$ we say $\gamma$ is positively oriented and we say it is negatively oriented if $l(\gamma, z)=-1$ for $z$ on the inside.

