

**ERG 2012B**

**Advanced Engineering  
Mathematics II**

**Part I: Complex Variables**

**Lecture #10**

**Singularities, Zeros and Residue Integration**

# Singularities, Zeros and Infinity

- We say that a function  $f(z)$  is **singular** or has a **singularity** at a point  $z=z_0$  if  $f(z)$  is not analytic (maybe even undefined) at  $z=z_0$  but every neighbourhood of  $z=z_0$  contains points at which  $f(z)$  is analytic
- We call  $z=z_0$  an **isolated singularity** of  $f(z)$  if  $z=z_0$  has a neighbourhood without further singularities of  $f(z)$
- Isolated singularities of  $f(z)$  at  $z=z_0$  can be classified by the Laurent series

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

valid in the *immediate neighbourhood* of the singular point  $z=z_0$  except at  $z_0$  itself (in the region  $0 < |z-z_0| < R$ )

# Singularities, Zeros and Infinity

- The sum of the first series is analytic at  $z=z_0$ . The second series containing the negative powers, is called the **principal part**.
- If it has only a finite number of terms, it is of the form:
$$b_1/(z-z_0) + b_2/(z-z_0)^2 + \dots + b_m/(z-z_0)^m$$
then the singularity of  $f(z)$  at  $z=z_0$  is called a **pole** and **m** is called its **order**
- Poles of the first order are also known as **simple poles**
- If the principal part has infinitely many terms  $f(z)$  is said to have an **isolated essential singularity** at  $z=z_0$ .

# Examples

- The function

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{z(z-2)^5} + \frac{3}{(z-2)^2}$$

has a simple pole at  $z=0$  and a pole of fifth order at  $z=2$

- The function

$$e^{1/z} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!z^n} = 1 + \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{2!z^2} + \dots$$

has an isolated essential singularity at  $z=0$

- The function

$$\sin(1/z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)! z^{2n+1}} = \frac{1}{z} - \frac{1}{3!z^3} + \frac{1}{5!z^5} - \dots$$

also has an isolated essential singularity at  $z=0$

- $f(z) = z^{-5}\sin z = \frac{1}{z^4} - \frac{1}{6z^2} + \frac{1}{120} - \frac{1}{5040}z^2 - \dots$  has a 4<sup>th</sup> order pole at  $z=0$

# Theorems

If  $f(z)$  is analytic and has a pole at  $z=z_0$ , then  $|f(z)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $z \rightarrow z_0$  in any manner.

**Picard's Theorem** If  $f(z)$  is analytic and has an isolated essential singularity at a point  $z_0$ , it takes on every value in an arbitrarily small neighbourhood of  $z_0$

**Removable Singularities** A function is said to have a removable singularity at  $z=z_0$  if  $f(z)$  is not analytic at  $z=z_0$ , but can be made analytic there by assigning a suitable value of  $f(z_0)$

e.g.  $f(z) = (\sin z)/z$  becomes analytic at  $z=0$  if we define  $f(0)=1$

# Zeros of Analytic Functions

- An analytic function  $f(z)$  in some domain  $D$  is said to have a **zero** at  $z=z_0$  in  $D$  if  $f(z_0)=0$ .
- This zero is said to be of **order  $n$**  if not only  $f$  but also the derivatives  $f', f'', \dots, f^{(n-1)}$  are all zero at  $z=z_0$  but  $f^{(n)}(z_0) \neq 0$
- A zero of first order is called a **simple zero**
- The Taylor series of  $f(z)$  **at a zero of  $n^{\text{th}}$  order** is given by 
$$f(z) = (z-z_0)^n [a_n + a_{n+1}(z-z_0) + a_{n+2}(z-z_0)^2 + \dots] \quad a_n \neq 0$$

**Theorem:** The zeros of an analytic function  $f(z)$  are isolated i.e. each of them has a neighbourhood that contains no further zeros of  $f(z)$

**Theorem:** Let  $f(z)$  be analytic at  $z=z_0$  and have a zero of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  order at  $z=z_0$ . Then  $1/f(z)$  has a pole of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  order at  $z=z_0$ . The same holds for  $h(z)/f(z)$  if  $h(z)$  is analytic at  $z=z_0$  and  $h(z_0) \neq 0$

# Residues

- If  $f(z)$  has a Laurent series near  $z=z_0$  except at  $z=z_0$  itself

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(z-z_0)^n + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n/(z-z_0)^n$$

- The coefficient  $b_1$  is called the **residue** of  $f(z)$  at  $z=z_0$  and is denoted by

$$b_1 = \operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} f(z)$$

- Remember that:

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{C}} f(z) dz$$

- As  $b_1$  can be found without using the integral formula, we have a useful method of evaluating integrals – **the residue integration method**

# Example 1

Integrate  $f(z) = z^{-4}\sin z$  counterclockwise around the unit circle  $C$

**Solution:** The Laurent series of  $f(z)$  is:

$$f(z) = \frac{\sin z}{z^4} = \frac{1}{z^3} - \frac{1}{3!z} + \frac{z}{5!} - \frac{z^3}{7!} + \dots \quad |z| > 0$$

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=0} f(z) = b_1 = -\frac{1}{3!} = -\frac{1}{6}$$

Therefore

$$\oint_C \frac{\sin z}{z^4} dz = 2\pi i b_1 = -\frac{\pi i}{3}$$



# Example 2

Integrate  $f(z) = 1/(z^3 - z^4)$  ccw around the circle C:  $|z| = 1/2$

**Solution:**

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{z^3} \frac{1}{(1-z)}$$

has a simple pole at  $z=1$  and a third order pole at  $z=0$

The pole at  $z=1$  is outside C and is irrelevant.

We need to find  $\text{Res}_{z=0} f(z)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } f(z) &= \frac{1}{z^3 - z^4} = \frac{1}{z^3(1-z)} = \frac{1}{z^3}(1 + z + z^2 + \dots) \quad 0 < |z| < 1 \\ &= \frac{1}{z^3} + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{z} + 1 + z + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\oint \frac{dz}{z^3 - z^4} = 2\pi i \text{Res}_{z=0} f(z) = 2\pi i$$

# Residues at Simple Poles

If  $f(z)$  has a simple pole at  $z=z_0$ , then

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} f(z) = b_1 = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z-z_0)f(z)$$

**Proof:**

Since  $f(z) = \frac{b_1}{z-z_0} + a_0 + a_1(z-z_0) + a_2(z-z_0)^2 + \dots$

Multiply both sides by  $(z-z_0)$  ( $b_1 \neq 0, 0 < |z-z_0| < R$ )

$$(z-z_0)f(z) = b_1 + (z-z_0)[a_0 + a_1(z-z_0) + \dots]$$

now let  $z \rightarrow z_0$

Example: 
$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=i} \frac{9z+i}{z(z^2+1)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow i} (z-i) \frac{9z+i}{z(z+i)(z-i)}$$
$$= \left[ \frac{9z+i}{z(z+i)} \right]_{z=i} = \frac{10i}{-2} = -5i$$

# Quotients

If  $f(z) = p(z)/q(z)$  with analytic  $p(z)$  and  $q(z)$  and  $p(z_0) \neq 0$  but  $q(z)$  has a simple zero at  $z=z_0$ , then

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} f(z) = \operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} p(z)/q(z) = p(z_0)/q'(z_0)$$

**Proof:** By assumption

$$q(z) = (z-z_0)q'(z_0) + \frac{(z-z_0)^2}{2!}q''(z_0) + \dots$$

and 
$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} f(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z-z_0) p(z)/q(z)$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{(z-z_0)p(z)}{(z-z_0)[q'(z_0) + (z-z_0)q''(z_0)/2 + \dots]} = \frac{p(z_0)}{q'(z_0)}$$

Example: 
$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=i} \frac{9z+i}{z(z^2+1)} = \left[ \frac{9z+i}{3z^2+1} \right]_{z=i} = \frac{10i}{-2} = -5i$$

# Residue at a Pole of Any Order

Let  $f(z)$  be an analytic function that has a pole of order  $m > 1$  at  $z = z_0$ , then

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} f(z) = \frac{1}{(m-1)!} \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \left\{ \frac{d^{m-1}}{dz^{m-1}} [(z-z_0)^m f(z)] \right\}$$

In particular, for a 2<sup>nd</sup> order pole ( $m=2$ )

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} f(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \{ [(z-z_0)^2 f(z)]' \}$$

Example:

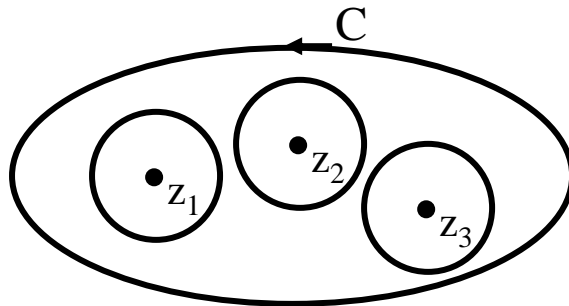
$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Res}_{z=1} \frac{50z}{(z+4)(z-1)^2} &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} \frac{d}{dz} [(z-1)^2 f(z)] \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} \frac{d}{dz} \left[ \frac{50z}{z+4} \right] = 8 \end{aligned}$$

# Residue Theorem

Let  $f(z)$  be a function that is analytic inside and on a simple closed path  $C$ , except for finitely many singular point  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k$  inside  $C$ . Then

$$\oint_C f(z) dz = 2\pi i \sum_{j=1}^k \operatorname{Res}_{z=z_j} f(z)$$

the integral being taken ccw around  $C$



# Example 1

Evaluate  $I = \oint_C \frac{4-3z}{z^2-z} dz$ , where  $C$  is any simple closed path ccw such that a) 0 and 1 are inside  $C$ , b) 0 is inside, 1 outside, c) 1 is inside; 0 outside d) 0 and 1 are outside.

**Solution:** The integrand has simple poles at 0 and 1

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=0} \frac{4-3z}{z(z-1)} = \left[ \frac{4-3z}{z-1} \right]_{z=0} = -4$$

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=1} \frac{4-3z}{z(z-1)} = \left[ \frac{4-3z}{z} \right]_{z=1} = 1$$

$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} f(z) = b_1 = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z-z_0)f(z)$
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a)  $I = 2\pi i [-4 + 1] = -6 \pi i$

b)  $I = 2\pi i [-4] = -8 \pi i$

c)  $I = 2\pi i [1] = 2 \pi i$

d)  $I = 0$

# Evaluation of Real Integrals

Consider integrals of the type:

$$I = \int_0^{2\pi} F(\cos\theta, \sin\theta) d\theta$$

where  $F(\cos\theta, \sin\theta)$  is a real rational function of  $\cos\theta$  and  $\sin\theta$  and is finite on the interval of integration.

Let  $z = e^{i\theta}$  then we can use

$$\cos\theta = \frac{1}{2}(e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}) = \frac{1}{2}(z + 1/z)$$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{1}{2}(e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}) = \frac{1}{2}(z - 1/z)$$

and substitute  $f(z)$  for  $F(\cos\theta, \sin\theta)$ .

As  $\theta$  ranges from 0 to  $2\pi$ ,  $z$  ranges once ccw around circle  $|z|=1$

$$dz/d\theta = ie^{i\theta} = iz \quad \text{or} \quad d\theta = dz/iz$$

hence  $I = \oint_C f(z)/iz dz$  - C is taken ccw around the unit circle.

# Example

Evaluate

$$I = \int_0^{2\pi} 1/(\sqrt{2}-\cos\theta) d\theta$$

**Solution:** Let  $z=e^{i\theta}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \oint_C \frac{1}{iz(\sqrt{2}-1/2)(z+1/z)} dz = \oint_C \frac{2}{i(z^2-2\sqrt{2}z+1)} dz \\ &= -\frac{2}{i} \oint_C \frac{1}{(z-\sqrt{2}-1)(z-\sqrt{2}+1)} dz = -\frac{2}{i} \oint_C \frac{1}{(z-z_1)(z-z_2)} dz \end{aligned}$$

where  $z_1=\sqrt{2}+1$ ,  $z_2=\sqrt{2}-1$

since  $|z_1| > 1$ ,  $|z_2| < 1$

$$I = -\frac{2}{i} 2\pi i \operatorname{Res}_{z=z_2} \left[ \frac{1}{(z-z_1)(z-z_2)} \right] = -\left[ \frac{1}{2z-(z_1+z_2)} \right]_{z=z_2} = -4\pi(-1/2) = 2\pi$$