

# Holomorphic functions

**Liouville's Theorem:** If  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded, then  $f$  is constant.

*Proof:* Cauchy's Integral Formula with  $k > 0$  over a circle of radius  $r$  at  $0 \Rightarrow |c_k| \leq \sup |f(z)|/r^k \rightarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Fundamental Theorem of Algebra (K.F. Gauss):** If  $f \in \mathbf{C}[X] \subset \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  is not constant, then  $V(f) \neq \emptyset$ .

*Proof:* Suppose  $p$  has no zeros. Since  $p(z) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $1/p \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded.

**Analytic continuation principle:** If  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbf{C}$  is a domain and  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ , then  $V(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{z \in \Omega: f(z) = 0\}$  is discrete or  $= \Omega$ .

*Proof:* Since  $f$  is continuous,  $V(f)$  is closed in  $\Omega$ . Suppose  $f(z_0) = 0$  and  $f \not\equiv 0$  in any neighborhood of  $z_0$ . Expanding  $f$  in a Taylor series at  $z_0$  and factoring out the maximum power of  $z - z_0$  we can write  $f(z) = (z - z_0)^n g(z)$ , where  $g(z_0) \neq 0$ . Since  $g$  is continuous,  $g \neq 0$  in a neighborhood of  $z_0$ , so  $z_0$  is not a limit point of  $V(f)$ . Let  $U = \{z \in \Omega: f \equiv 0 \text{ in some neighborhood of } z\}$ . Then  $U$  is closed and open in  $\Omega$ , which is connected, so  $U = \emptyset$  or  $U = \Omega$ .

**Corollary:**  $\mathcal{H}(\Omega)$  is an integral domain.

*Proof:* Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ . If  $fg \equiv 0$ , then  $V(fg) = V(f) \cup V(g) = \Omega$ . Since  $V(f), V(g)$  are not both discrete,  $f \equiv 0$  or  $g \equiv 0$ .

**Open Mapping Theorem:** If  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$  is not constant, then  $f$  is open (takes open sets to open sets).

*Proof:* Assume  $0 \in \Omega$ ,  $f(0) = 0$  and let  $D$  be a disk at  $0$  with  $\rho = \min_{\partial D} |f| > 0$ . If  $B_\rho(0) \not\subseteq f(\Omega)$ , then  $B_{\rho/2}(0) \subseteq f(\Omega)$ . Indeed,

if  $|w| < \rho$  and  $f(w) \notin f(\Omega)$ , then  $g(z) = \frac{1}{f(z) - w} \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ , so  $|g(0)| = \frac{1}{|w|} \leq \sup_{\partial D} \frac{1}{|f(z) - w|} \leq \frac{1}{\rho - |w|}$  and  $|w| \geq \rho/2$ .

**Maximum Modulus Principle:** If  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$  is not constant, then  $|f|$  does not attain a maximum in  $\Omega$ .

*Proof:* Modulus  $\Omega \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is an open map, so  $|f|$  is an open map. Thus,  $|f(\Omega)| \subseteq [0, \infty)$  is open and has no maximum.

**Laurent Series:** If  $\Omega$  is an annulus at  $z_0$  and  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ , then  $f(z) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k (z - z_0)^k$  with  $c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_L (w - z_0)^{-k-1} f(w) dw$ .

*Proof:* Let  $z \in \Omega$  and  $L_0$  and  $L_1$  two circles in  $\Omega$  around  $z_0$  with  $z$  inside  $L_1$  and outside  $L_0$ . Since  $L_1 - L_0$  is a boundary,

Cauchy's integral formula gives  $f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{L_1 - L_0} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \left( \int_{L_1} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw - \int_{L_0} \frac{f(w)}{w - z} dw \right)$ , but

$$\int_{L_1} \frac{f(w) dw}{w - z} = \int_{L_1} \frac{1}{1 - \left(\frac{z - z_0}{w - z_0}\right)} \frac{f(w) dw}{(w - z_0)} = \int_{L_1} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{z - z_0}{w - z_0}\right)^k \frac{f(w) dw}{(w - z_0)} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\int_{L_1} \frac{f(w) dw}{(w - z_0)^{k+1}}\right) (z - z_0)^k \text{ and}$$

$$\int_{L_0} \frac{f(w) dw}{w - z} = - \int_{L_0} \frac{1}{1 - \left(\frac{w - z_0}{z - z_0}\right)} \frac{f(w) dw}{(z - z_0)} = - \int_{L_0} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{w - z_0}{z - z_0}\right)^k \frac{f(w) dw}{(z - z_0)} = - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\int_{L_0} (w - z_0)^k f(w) dw\right) (z - z_0)^{-k-1}.$$

**Note:** If  $f(z) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k (z - z_0)^k$  in an annulus  $\Omega$  and  $L$  is a circle in  $\Omega$ , then by termwise integration  $\int_L f(z) dz = 2\pi i c_{-1}$ .

**Singularities:**  $z_0 \in \Omega$  is a *singularity* of  $f$  if  $f \in \mathcal{H}(U \setminus \{z_0\})$  for a disc  $U$  at  $z_0$ . If  $f \not\equiv 0$ , not all  $c_k = 0$  in the Laurent expansion of  $f$  in the annulus  $U \setminus \{z_0\}$ . Let  $\text{ord}_{z_0} f = \inf \{k: c_k \neq 0\}$ . A point  $z$  is an *essential* singularity of  $f$  when  $\text{ord}_z f = -\infty$ , a *pole* of multiplicity  $n$  when  $\text{ord}_z f = -n < 0$ , a *removable* singularity when  $\text{ord}_z f \geq 0$ , and a zero of multiplicity  $n$  when  $\text{ord}_z f = n > 0$ .

**Riemann Extension Theorem:** Let  $z_0 \in \Omega$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega \setminus \{z_0\})$  is bounded, then we can extend  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ .

*Proof:* Let  $L$  be a circle around  $z_0$  of radius  $r$  and  $M = \sup |f(z)|$ . Since  $|c_k| \leq 2\pi r^{-k} M$ ,  $c_k = 0$  for  $k < 0$ .

**Meromorphic functions:** A function is called *meromorphic* ( $h \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ ) when  $h \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega \setminus S)$  and  $h$  is in the field of fractions of  $\mathcal{H}(U)$  for all sufficiently small neighborhoods  $U \subseteq \Omega$ .

**Theorem:**  $h \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega) \Leftrightarrow \exists$  discrete  $S \subset \Omega$  with  $h \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega \setminus S)$  and points of  $S$  are not essential singularities of  $h$ .

*Proof:* Let  $h = f/g$  with  $f, g \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$  and  $g \not\equiv 0$ . Then  $h \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega \setminus V(g))$ . Let  $z_0 \in V(g)$  and expand  $f$  and  $g$  in Taylor series

$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k (z - z_0)^k$ ,  $g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k (z - z_0)^k$ . Let  $g(z) = (z - z_0)^n w(z)$ , where  $w(z_0) \neq 0$ . Then  $f/w$  is holomorphic in a

neighborhood of  $z_0$ , so  $f(z)/w(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k (z - z_0)^k$  and  $f(z)/g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k (z - z_0)^{k-n} = \sum_{k=-n}^{\infty} c_{k+n} (z - z_0)^k$ . Conversely, let

$h \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega \setminus S)$  and  $z_0 \in S$ . Expand  $h$  in a Laurent series  $h(z) = \sum_{k=n}^{\infty} c_k (z - z_0)^k$ . Then  $h(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_{k-n} (z - z_0)^k / (z - z_0)^n$ .

**Theorem:** If  $z \in \Omega$ ,  $\text{ord}_z: \mathcal{M}(\Omega) \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$  is a valuation, i.e.  $\text{ord}_z(fg) = \text{ord}_z f + \text{ord}_z g$  and  $\text{ord}_z(f+g) \geq \min \{\text{ord}_z f, \text{ord}_z g\}$ .

**Value distribution:** The behavior of a meromorphic function  $h$  in a neighborhood of a singularity  $z_0$  is fairly simple: either  $z_0$  is removable so  $\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} h(z) = h(z_0)$  or  $\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} h(z) = \infty$ . If  $z_0$  is an essential singularity of  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega \setminus \{z_0\})$ , then the complement of  $f(\Omega)$  is a singleton or empty (E. Picard).