

CV7 Analytic Functions : Analytic Functions

A function $f(z)$ is analytic in an open set if it has a derivative at each point in that set. Hence, it can be said that a function $f(z)$ is analytic at a point z_0 if it is analytic throughout some neighborhood of z_0 . Besides, if a function $f(z)$ is analytic in a set S which is not open, then we can find an open set containing S in which $f(z)$ is analytic.

Example

$f(z) = 1/z$ is analytic at each nonzero point in the finite plane. But, $f(z) = |z|^2$ is not analytic at any point since its derivative exists only at $z=0$ and not throughout any neighborhood of it.

An entire function is a function which is analytic at each point in **the entire finite plane**. For example, any polynomial is an entire function. If $f(z)$ fails to be analytic at z_0 but is analytic at some points in every neighborhood of z_0 , then z_0 is called a singular point, or singularity, of $f(z)$. For example, $f(z) = 1/z$ has a singular point at $z=0$, but $f(z) = |z|^2$ has no singular points since it is nowhere analytic.

If two functions are analytic in a domain D , then their sum and product are both analytic in D , and their quotient is analytic in D if the function in the denominator does not vanish at any point in D . In addition, a composite of two analytic functions is also analytic.

Any linear combination $c_1 f_1(z) + c_2 f_2(z)$ of two entire functions, where c_1 and c_2 are complex constants, is entire.

Theorem:

If $f'(z) = 0$ in a domain D , then $f(z)$ must be constant throughout the domain.

Example

The function $f(z) = \frac{z^3 + 4}{(z^2 - 3)(z^2 + 1)}$ is analytic throughout the z plane except for the singular points $z = \pm\sqrt{3}$ and $z = \pm i$.

Example

The function $f(z) = \cosh x \cos y + i \sinh x \sin y$ is analytic everywhere since

$$u_x = \sinh x \cos y = v_y$$

$$u_y = -\cosh x \sin y = -v_x.$$

It is clear that $f(z)$ is entire.

Theorem:

The function $f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y)$ and its conjugate

$\overline{f(z)} = u(x, y) - i v(x, y)$ are both analytic in a given domain D .

Then, $f(z)$ must be constant throughout D .

Proof:

Since $f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y)$ and its conjugate are analytic, they must satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations as below:

$$\text{For } f(z), \text{ we have } u_x = v_y \text{ and } u_y = -v_x$$

$$\text{For } \overline{f(z)}, \text{ we have } u_x = -v_y \text{ and } u_y = v_x$$

These equations result in $u_x = v_x = 0$, i.e., $f'(z) = 0$ in D , then $f(z)$ must be constant throughout D .

A real-valued function H of two real variables x and y is said to be **harmonic** in a given domain of xy plane if, throughout the domain, it has continuous derivatives of the first and second order and satisfies the partial differential equation

$$H_{xx}(x, y) + H_{yy}(x, y) = 0$$

known as **Laplace's equation**. For example, the electrostatic potential $V(x, y)$ in a region free of charges is harmonic.

A real-valued function H of two real variables r and θ in the polar form is said to be harmonic in a given domain if, throughout the domain, it has continuous derivatives of the first and second order and satisfies

the partial differential equation

$$r^2 H_{rr}(r, \theta) + r H_r(r, \theta) + H_{\theta\theta}(r, \theta) = 0$$

known as **the polar form of Laplace's equation.**

Theorem:

If a function $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ is analytic in a domain D , then its component functions u and v are harmonic in D .

Proof:

Since $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ is analytic, the Cauchy-Riemann equations $u_x = v_y$ and $u_y = -v_x$ must be true. Further taking derivative with respect to x and y , we have

$$u_{xx} = v_{xy} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{xy} = -v_{xx}$$

$$u_{xy} = v_{yy} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{yy} = -v_{xy}$$

which result in $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$ and $v_{xx} + v_{yy} = 0$.

Clearly, both u and v are harmonic in D .

Other proof for the above theorem could be obtained directly from the following:

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) f(z) = \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) u + i v = 0$$

based on the truth that

$$\frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial \bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) f(z) = 0.$$

That means

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) u + i v = (u_{xx} + u_{yy}) + i(v_{xx} + v_{yy}) = 0$$

Clearly, $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$ and $v_{xx} + v_{yy} = 0$.

If two given functions u and v are harmonic in a domain D and their first-order partial derivatives satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations

$u_x = v_y$ and $u_y = -v_x$ throughout D , v is said to be a harmonic conjugate of u .

Theorem:

A function $f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y)$ is analytic in a domain D if and only if v is harmonic conjugate of u .

Example

Consider $u(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ and $v(x, y) = 2xy$. Since these are the real and imaginary components of the entire function $f(z) = z^2$, we know that v is a harmonic conjugate of u throughout the plane. However, u is not a harmonic conjugate of v .

Consider $F(z) = v(x, y) + i u(x, y) = U(x, y) + i V(x, y)$, where $U(x, y) = 2xy$ and $V(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$. Then, it is easy to check that

$$U_x = -V_y \neq V_y \quad \text{and} \quad U_y = V_x \neq -V_x$$

i.e., $F(z)$ does not satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations. Therefore, $F(z) = v(x, y) + i u(x, y)$ is not analytic. In other words, $u(x, y)$ is not a harmonic conjugate of $v(x, y)$.

Example

Given $u(x, y) = y^3 - 3x^2y$, please determine its harmonic conjugate $v(x, y)$ and their corresponding function

$$f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y).$$

Solution:

The following Cauchy-Riemann equations are true:

$$v_y = u_x = -6x \quad \text{and} \quad v_x = -u_y = 3x^2 - 3y^2$$

The first equation results in

$$v(x, y) = -6xy + k(x)$$

and taking partial derivative with respect to x yields

$$\begin{aligned} v_x &= -6y + \frac{\partial k(x)}{\partial x} = 3x^2 - 3y^2 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial k(x)}{\partial x} &= 3x^2 - 3y^2 + 6y \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$k(x) = x^3 - 3xy^2 + 6xy + C$$

Therefore,

$$v(x, y) = x^3 - 3xy^2 + C$$

The corresponding equation is

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= u(x, y) + i v(x, y) \\ &= (y^3 - 3x^2y) + i (x^3 - 3xy^2 + C) \end{aligned}$$

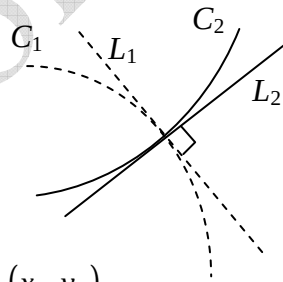
which is, of course, analytic.

A function $f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y)$ is analytic in the domain D . There are two families of level curves

$$C_1 : u(x, y) = \alpha_1$$

$$C_2 : v(x, y) = \alpha_2$$

where α_1 and α_2 are arbitrary real constants. Let the point (x_0, y_0) , corresponding to $z_0 = x_0 + i y_0$ in the domain D , be an intersect of two particular level curves $u(x, y) = \alpha'_1 \in C_1$ and $v(x, y) = \alpha'_2 \in C_2$. If L_1 and L_2 are the lines respectively tangent to $u(x, y) = \alpha'_1$ and $v(x, y) = \alpha'_2$ at (x_0, y_0) , then L_1 and L_2 are perpendicular to each other. It can be also stated that the two families of level curves C_1 and C_2 are orthogonal.



To explain the above statement, let's consider two level curves $u(x, y) = \alpha'_1$ and $v(x, y) = \alpha'_2$. Then, we have

$$du(x, y) = u_x dx + u_y dy = 0$$

$$dv(x, y) = v_x dx + v_y dy = 0$$

At the intersect (x_0, y_0) , the slope of L_1 and L_2 are

$$m_1 = \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{u_x}{u_y} \quad \text{and} \quad m_2 = \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{v_x}{v_y}.$$

from the Cauchy-Riemann equations $u_x = v_y$ and $u_y = -v_x$, we have

$$m_1 m_2 = \left(-\frac{u_x}{u_y} \right) \left(-\frac{v_x}{v_y} \right) = \frac{u_x}{u_y} \frac{v_x}{v_y} = -1$$

Evidently, L_1 and L_2 are perpendicular at their intersect (x_0, y_0) .

Lemma:

Suppose that

- (i) $f(z)$ is analytic throughout a domain D ;
- (ii) $f(z)=0$ at each point z of a domain or line segment in D .

Then $f(z) \equiv 0$ in D ; i.e., $f(z)$ is identically equal to zero throughout the whole D .

Suppose that two functions f and g are analytic in the same domain D and that $f(z)=g(z)$ at each point z of some domain or line segment contained in D . The difference $h(z)=f(z)-g(z)$ is also analytic in D , and $h(z)=0$ throughout the subdomain or along the line segment. According to the above theorem, then $h(z)=0$ throughout D ; i.e., $f(z)=g(z)$ at each point z in D .

Theorem:

A function that is analytic in a domain D is uniquely determined over D by its values in a domain, or along a line segment, contained in D .

Theorem: (Reflection Principle)

Suppose that a function f is analytic in some domain D which contains a segment of the x axis and whose lower half is the reflection of the upper half with respect to that axis. Then

$$\overline{f(\overline{z})} = f(z)$$

for each point z in the domain if and only if $f(x)$ is real for each point x on the segment.

Proof:

Let $f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y)$ be analytic, then the Cauchy- Riemann equations are satisfied, i.e., $u_x = v_y$ and $u_y = -v_x$. Define

$$F(z) = \overline{f(\overline{z})} = U(x, y) + i V(x, y). \text{ Then, from the truth that}$$

$$\overline{f(\overline{z})} = u(x, -y) - i v(x, -y) \text{ we obtain } U(x, y) = u(x, -y) \text{ and}$$

$V(x, y) = -v(x, y)$ with $t = -y$. Besides,

$$U_x = u_x, \quad U_y = \frac{\partial u(x, y)}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial y} = -u_t,$$

$$V_x = -v_x, \quad V_y = -\frac{\partial v(x, y)}{\partial t} \frac{\partial t}{\partial y} = v_t.$$

It is easy to check that $U_x = V_y$ and $U_y = -V_x$, i.e., U and V satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations. Thus, $F(z)$ is an analytic function. Now, let's show that if $f(x)$ is real for each point x on the segment contained in D , then $\overline{f(z)} = f(\bar{z})$ for each point z in the domain D . Since

$f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y)$, if $f(x)$ is real then

$$f(x) = u(x, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad v(x, 0) = 0.$$

Hence, $F(x) = U(x, 0) + i V(x, 0) = u(x, 0) = f(x)$, which implies that

$F(z) = f(z)$ at each point x on the segment. It is known that an analytic function defined on a domain D is uniquely determined by its values along any line segment lying in D . Thus $F(z) = f(z)$ holds throughout D . Therefore, $\overline{f(z)} = f(\bar{z})$ or $\overline{f(z)} = f(\bar{z})$.

Next, let's show that if $\overline{f(z)} = f(\bar{z})$ for each point z in the domain D , then $f(x)$ is real for each point x on the segment contained in D .

Let $z = x$, then $\overline{f(z)} = f(\bar{z})$ implies $\overline{f(x)} = f(x)$. Clearly, $f(x)$ is real.

This proves the theorem of reflection principle.

Example

Based on the reflection principle, it is truth that

$$\overline{z+1} = \bar{z}+1, \quad \overline{z^2} = \bar{z}^2, \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{e^z} = e^{\bar{z}}$$

since $x+1$, x^2 , and e^x are real. Similarly, $\overline{z+i} \neq \bar{z}+i$ and $\overline{i z^2} \neq i \bar{z}^2$ since $x+i$ and $i x^2$ are not real.

If $f(z)$ is analytic and not constant throughout a domain D , then it cannot be constant throughout any neighborhood lying in D . If $f(z) = \omega$ and ω is a constant throughout a neighborhood in D , then $f(z)$ must be the constant ω throughout the domain D .

P7-1 In each case, determine the singular points of the function and state why the function is analytic everywhere except at those points.

$$(a) f(z) = \frac{2z+1}{z(z^2+1)}, \quad (b) f(z) = \frac{z^3+i}{z^2-3z+2}$$

$$(c) f(z) = \frac{z^2+1}{(z+2)(z^2+2z+2)}$$

P7-2 Verify that $g(z) = \ln r + i\theta$, $r > 0$ and $0 < \theta < 2\pi$, is analytic in the indicated domain of definition, with derivative $g'(z) = \frac{1}{z}$. Then show that the composite function $G(z) = g(z^2 + 1)$ is analytic for $x > 0$ and $y > 0$ with the derivative $G'(z) = \frac{2z}{z^2 + 1}$.

P7-3 In a domain D , a function v is a harmonic conjugate of u and also that u is a harmonic conjugate of v . Show how it follows that both $u(x, y)$ and $v(x, y)$ must be constant throughout D .

P7-4 Show that $u(x, y)$ is harmonic in some domain and find a harmonic conjugate $v(x, y)$ when

$$(a) u(x, y) = 2x(1-y); \quad (b) u(x, y) = 2x - x^3 + 3xy^2$$

$$(c) u(x, y) = \sinh x \sin y; \quad (d) u(x, y) = y/(x^2 + y^2)$$

P7-5 Show that $\overline{f(z)} = -f(\bar{z})$ if and only if $f(x)$ is pure imaginary.