

TOPICS IN COMPLEX ANALYSIS @ EPFL, FALL 2024
SOLUTION SKETCHES TO HOMEWORK 3

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Homework 3.1 (Construction in the proof of Mittag-Leffler's theorem*). Construct explicitly (in the sense of an explicit series) a holomorphic function $f: \mathbf{C} \setminus \{\sqrt{n} : n \in \mathbf{N}\} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ such that for every $n \in \mathbf{N}$, the function f has the principal part

$$q_n(z) := \frac{\sqrt{n}}{z - \sqrt{n}}$$

at $z_n := \sqrt{n}$ ¹.

Homework 3.2 (Partial fraction decomposition of $\pi^2/\sin^2(\pi z)$). The goal of this exercise is to prove the formula

$$\frac{\pi^2}{\sin^2(\pi z)} = \sum_{n \in \mathbf{Z}} \frac{1}{(z - n)^2}.$$

This will be achieved in several steps. Keep in mind the formula

$$\sin(z) = \frac{1}{2i} [e^{iz} - e^{-iz}].$$

- a. Show the assignment $f(z) := \pi^2/\sin^2(\pi z)$ has its singularities exactly in $\mathbf{Z}$ and determine the principle parts of the Laurent series expansion in those points.
- b. Show the series

$$g(z) := \sum_{n \in \mathbf{Z}} \frac{1}{(z - n)^2}$$

converges locally uniformly on $\mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbf{Z}$, so that it is meromorphic. Conclude the difference $g(z) - f(z)$ can be extended to an entire function.

- c. Show $f(z)$ converges to zero as $|\Im z| \rightarrow \infty$ uniformly in $\Re z$.
- d. Show the same statement for the function g . Then prove that the difference $g - f$ is bounded on $\mathbf{C}$ and conclude the proof².

Solution. a. The function f has singularities exactly in all zeros of the assignment $\sin(\pi z)$. Note that $\sin(\pi z) = 0$ for every $z \in \mathbf{Z}$.

We now argue that these are the only zeros. Write $z = x + iy$, where $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$. Then

$$\sin(z) = \frac{1}{2i} [e^{ix} e^{-y} - e^{-ix} e^y],$$

so that $\sin(z) = 0$ implies $e^{2ix} = e^{2y}$. The left hand side has modulus one, which yields $e^{2y} = 1$. By injectivity of the real-valued exponential function, we infer $y = 0$. In turn, from the previous identities of exponential functions, we obtain $x \in \pi\mathbf{Z}$.

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¹**Hint.** Prove that a second order Taylor polynomial p_n of q_n yields the local normal convergence of the sum $f = \sum_{n \in \mathbf{N}} [q_n - p_n]$, cf. Theorem 2.2.

²**Hint.** Note that $(g - f)(z + 1) = (g - f)(z)$ for every $z \in \mathbf{C}$.

In order to determine the principal part in a singularity $z^* \in \mathbf{Z}$ we first treat the case $z^* = 0$. Since the assignment $\sin(z)/z$ has a removable singularity in $z^* = 0$, it follows that f has a pole of second order in $z^* = 0$. Hence its Laurent series takes the form

$$f(z) = a_{-2}z^{-2} + a_{-1}z^{-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n.$$

Since the corresponding integrals for the coefficients are quite difficult to evaluate, we use this structure to determine the coefficients a_{-1} and a_{-2} . Note that

$$a_{-2} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} z^2 f(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\pi z)^2}{\sin^2(\pi z)} = 1.$$

Next, for the coefficient a_{-1} we use $\sin(z)/z \rightarrow 1$ as $z \rightarrow 0$ to calculate

$$\begin{aligned} a_{-1} &= \frac{d}{dz} \Big|_0 z^2 f(z) \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{2\pi^2 z \sin^2(\pi z) - 2(\pi z)^2 \sin(\pi z) \cos(\pi z) \pi}{\sin^4(\pi z)} \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{2\pi - 2\pi \cos(\pi z)}{\sin(\pi z)} \\ &= 0; \end{aligned}$$

here, we have used $\cos(z) = 1 - z^2 + O(z^4)$ as $z \rightarrow 0$. Hence the principal part at $z^* = 0$ reads $q(z) := 1/z^2$.

To treat the other singularities we note that $f(z+1) = f(z)$ for all $z \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbf{Z}$. Indeed, write again $z = x + iy$, where $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$. Then

$$\sin(\pi z + \pi) = \frac{1}{2i} [e^{i\pi(x+1)} e^{-y} - e^{-i\pi(x+1)} e^y] = -\sin(\pi z),$$

so that taking the inverse square yields the claim. By this periodicity property it follows that the coefficients of the Laurent series are also periodic. Hence at a general $z_n \in \mathbf{Z}$ the principal part is given by $q_n(z) := 1/(z - z_n)^2$.

b. Let $K \subset \mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbf{Z}$ be compact. Then there exists a constant $c(K)$ with $\sup_{z \in K} |z| \leq c(K)$. In particular, for every $n \in \mathbf{N}$ with $|n| \geq 2c(K)$ and every $z \in K$, the triangle inequality implies $|z - n| \geq |n| - c(K) \geq |n|/2$, which gives

$$\sum_{|n| \geq 2c(K)} \sup_{z \in K} \left| \frac{1}{(z - n)^2} \right| \leq \sum_{|n| \geq 2c(K)} \frac{4}{n^2} < \infty.$$

Hence the series g converges locally normally on $\mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbf{Z}$. By Lemma 1.11 it follows that g is holomorphic on $\mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbf{Z}$. Since all singularities are isolated and poles of second order, we deduce that g is meromorphic on $\mathbf{C}$. As its principal parts agree with the ones of f in all singularities, it follows from Remark 2.3 that the difference $g - f$ can be extended to an entire function.

c. We show the function $|\sin(x + iy)|$ blows up when $|y| \rightarrow +\infty$ uniformly in $x \in \mathbf{R}$. Indeed, by the triangle inequality we have

$$|\sin(x + iy)| = \left| \frac{1}{2i} [e^{ix} e^{-y} - e^{-ix} e^y] \right| \geq \frac{1}{2} [e^{|y|} - e^{-|y|}].$$

The right hand side goes to ∞ as $|y| \rightarrow \infty$ uniformly in $x \in \mathbf{R}$. This proves the claim.

d. Fix $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ and write $z = x + iy$, where $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$. By the periodicity $g(z+1) = g(z)$ for all $z \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbf{Z}$ (which follows by an index shift) it suffices to take $x \in [0, 1]$. Using the equivalence of the ℓ^1 -norm and the usual euclidean (viz. ℓ^2 -)norm on $\mathbf{R}^2$ we deduce there

exists a constant $c > 0$ such that

$$|z - n| \geq \frac{1}{c}(|y| + |x - n|) \geq \begin{cases} \frac{1}{c} [|y| + |n| - 1] & \text{if } n \geq 1, \\ \frac{1}{c} [|y| + |n|] & \text{if } n \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

Hence, performing further index shifts, we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{n \in \mathbf{Z}} \frac{1}{(z - n)^2} \right| &\leq c^2 \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{(|y| + |n| - 1)^2} + c^2 \sum_{n \leq 0} \frac{1}{(|y| + |n|)^2} \\ &\leq 2c^2 \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{(|y| + |n|)^2} \\ &\leq 2c^2 \sum_{n \geq |y| - 1} \frac{1}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly the last term vanishes as $|y| \rightarrow +\infty$.

It remains to show the difference $g - f$ is bounded on $\mathbf{C}$. We already know that it is holomorphic and periodic in the sense that $(g - f)(z + 1) = (g - f)(z)$ for every $z \in \mathbf{C}$. Hence on each strip of the form $\mathbf{R} \times [-a, a]$, where $a > 0$, it is bounded. From c. and the previous discussion we further know that there exists some $a^* > 0$ such that for all $z = x + iy$ with $x \in \mathbf{R}$ and $y \in \mathbf{R}$ with $|y| > a^*$ it holds that $|(g - f)(z)| \leq 1$. Hence $g - f$ is a bounded, entire function. By Liouville's theorem it is therefore constant and again by c. and the previous discussion it follows $f = g$.

Homework 3.3 (Weierstraß elliptic function). Let $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \mathbf{C}$ be $\mathbf{R}$ -linearly independent. Show that up to an additive constant there exists one and only one holomorphic function³ $\wp: \mathbf{C} \setminus \{m\omega_1 + n\omega_2 : m, n \in \mathbf{Z}\} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ such that

- $\wp$ has principal part $q_1(z) := 1/z^2$ in $d_1 := 0$ and
- $\wp$ is $\{\omega_1, \omega_2\}$ -periodic, i.e. for every $z \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \{m\omega_1 + n\omega_2 : m, n \in \mathbf{Z}\}$,

$$\wp(z + \omega_1) = \wp(z),$$

$$\wp(z + \omega_2) = \wp(z).$$

You can use without proof that

$$\sum_{\substack{n, m \in \mathbf{Z} \\ |n| + |m| \neq 0}} \frac{1}{(n^2 + m^2)^{3/2}} < \infty.$$

Solution. We first show the uniqueness statement. Suppose that there are two functions $\wp_1$ and $\wp_2$ with the stated properties. Then the difference $g := \wp_1 - \wp_2$ has a removable singularity in 0 and by periodicity also in each point $z_{n,m} = m\omega_1 + n\omega_2$, where $n, m \in \mathbf{Z}$. We conclude that g can be extended to an entire function. Since the set $\{\omega_1, \omega_2\}$ forms a basis of $\mathbf{C}$ with respect to field $\mathbf{R}$, the local boundedness of (the extended version of) g and the periodicity imply that g is bounded on $\mathbf{C}$. Hence g is constant by Liouville's theorem. This shows the uniqueness claim.

Next we construct the function $\wp$. The basic idea is to use the structure given by the Mittag-Leffler theorem, that means we consider the countable set $S := \{z_{n,m} = m\omega_1 + n\omega_2 : m, n \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ and the corresponding principal parts $q_{n,m}(z) := 1/(z - z_{n,m})^2$. The difficult part is how to choose the polynomials in order to ensure periodicity. Non-constant polynomials are never periodic. Hence we try to construct constant ones. The zeroth-order expansion of

³If we require that the zeroth order coefficient of the Laurent series in the origin vanishes, this function is called the Weierstraß $\wp$ -function.

$q_{n,m}$ in zero is given by $q_{n,m}(0) = 1/z_{n,m}^2$ whenever $n^2 + m^2 \neq 0$. Thus our ansatz is

$$\wp(z) = \frac{1}{z^2} + \sum_{\substack{n,m \in \mathbf{Z}, \\ n^2+m^2 \neq 0}} \left[\frac{1}{(z - z_{n,m})^2} - \frac{1}{z_{n,m}^2} \right].$$

We show this series converges locally normally on $\mathbf{C} \setminus \{z_{n,m} : m, n \in \mathbf{Z}\}$. Then it satisfies all claimed properties — the periodicity from b. following by an index shift. Let $K \subset \mathbf{C} \setminus \{z_{n,m} : m, n \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ be compact. For all $z \in K$, algebraic manipulations give

$$\left| \frac{1}{(z - z_{n,m})^2} - \frac{1}{z_{n,m}^2} \right| \leq \frac{|z^2 - 2z_{n,m}z|}{|z_{n,m}|^2 |z - z_{n,m}|^2}. \quad (3.1)$$

Since K is bounded, the quantity $C_K := \sup_{z \in K} |z|$ is finite. Next note that the $\mathbf{R}$ -linear mapping Ω defined through $\Omega(1) := \omega_1$ and $\Omega(i) := \omega_2$ can be interpreted as an invertible, $\mathbf{R}$ -linear map from $\mathbf{C}$ to $\mathbf{C}$. Thus there exists a constant $c(\omega_1, \omega_2)$ such that

$$|z_{n,m}| = |\Omega(n + mi)| \geq c(\omega_1, \omega_2) |n + mi| = c(\omega_1, \omega_2) \sqrt{n^2 + m^2}. \quad (3.2)$$

Hence there exists $n(K) \in \mathbf{N}$ such that for every $n, m \in \mathbf{Z}$ with $n^2 + m^2 \geq n(K)$,

- $|z_{n,m}| \geq C_K$ and
- $|z_{n,m}| - C_K \geq |z_{n,m}|/2$.

The second item implies that $|z - z_{n,m}| \geq |z_{n,m}|/2$ for every $z \in K$. Inserting these bounds and (3.2) in (3.1) yields that for $z \in K$ and some large constant C ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{(z - z_{n,m})^2} - \frac{1}{z_{n,m}^2} \right| &\leq \frac{|z|^2 + 2|z_{n,m}||z|}{|z_{n,m}|^2 (1/2|z_{n,m}|)^2} \\ &\leq \frac{4C_K^2 + 8|z_{n,m}|C_K}{|z_{n,m}|^4} \\ &\leq \frac{12C_K}{|z_{n,m}|^3} \\ &\leq \frac{C}{(n^2 + m^2)^{3/2}}. \end{aligned}$$

According to the hint⁴, we have

$$\sum_{\substack{n,m \in \mathbf{Z} \\ n^2+m^2 \geq n(K)}} \frac{1}{(n^2 + m^2)^{3/2}} < \infty.$$

From the previous considerations,

$$\sum_{\substack{n,m \in \mathbf{Z} \\ n^2+m^2 \geq n(K)}} \sup_{z \in K} \left| \frac{1}{(z - z_{n,m})^2} - \frac{1}{z_{n,m}^2} \right| < \infty.$$

We conclude by local normal convergence that $\wp$ satisfies all the desired properties.

⁴This can be shown via comparison to an integral.