

Exercises for 'Topics in complex analysis'

(01/10/2025)

H 4.1 (The construction of Mittag-Leffler)

Construct explicitly (i.e. as an explicit series) a holomorphic function $f : \mathbb{C} \setminus \{\sqrt{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that at \sqrt{n} the function f has the principal part $q_n(z) = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{z - \sqrt{n}}$.

Hint: Prove that a second order Taylor polynomial p_n of q_n yields the local normal convergence of the sum $f = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} q_n - p_n$ (cf. the statement of Theorem 2.2).

H 4.2 (The partial fraction decomposition of $\frac{\pi^2}{\sin^2(\pi z)}$)

The goal of this exercise is to prove the formula

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

This will be achieved in several steps. Keep in mind that $\sin(z) = \frac{1}{2i}(\exp(iz) - \exp(-iz))$.

a) Show that the function $f(z) := \frac{\pi^2}{\sin^2(\pi z)}$ has its singularities exactly at the points $z^* \in \mathbb{Z}$ and determine the principal parts of the Laurent series expansion in those points.

b) Show that the series $g(z) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{(z-n)^2}$ converges locally uniformly on $\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$, so that it is meromorphic. Conclude that the difference $g(z) - f(z)$ can be extended to an entire function.

c) Show that the function $z = x + iy \mapsto f(x + iy)$ vanishes when $|y| \rightarrow +\infty$ uniformly in x .

d) Show the same statement for the function g . Then prove that the difference $g - f$ is bounded on \mathbb{C} and conclude the proof.

Hint: For d) it can be useful to note that $(g - f)(z + 1) = (g - f)(z)$ for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$.

H 4.3 (The Weierstrass elliptic function)

Let $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ be linearly independent over \mathbb{R} . Show that up to an additive constant, there exists exactly one holomorphic function $\wp : \mathbb{C} \setminus \{m\omega_1 + n\omega_2 : m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that

(i) \wp has principal part $q(z) = \frac{1}{z^2}$ at $d = 0$;

(ii) \wp is $\{\omega_1, \omega_2\}$ -periodic, i.e.

$$\wp(z + \omega_1) = \wp(z) \quad \text{and} \quad \wp(z + \omega_2) = \wp(z) \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{m\omega_1 + n\omega_2 : m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

You can use without proof that
$$\sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ (m, n) \neq (0, 0)}} \frac{1}{(m^2 + n^2)^{3/2}} < +\infty.$$

Remark: If we require that the coefficient a_0 of the Laurent series at the origin vanishes, this function is called the Weierstrass \wp function. This function \wp and its derivative can be used to parametrize elliptic curves. The Laurent series coefficients of \wp are called Eisenstein series, and are the simplest examples of modular forms.