

20.02.25

I Complex-valued functions,
Cauchy-Riemann Equations

I.1 Review complex number

I.2 Complex functions

I. Complex-valued functions and Cauchy-Riemann equations

I.1. Review of complex numbers $\mathbb{C}$

- Imaginary unit i : $i^2 = -1$
- All complex numbers have the form

$$z = x + iy \in \mathbb{C}, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x = \operatorname{Re} z$$

real part

$$y = \operatorname{Im} z$$

imaginary part

- $\bar{z} = x - iy$ (complex conjugate)

change the sign of the
imaginary part

- $|z| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ (absolute value / modulus)

- $e^{i\theta} := \cos(\theta) + \sin(\theta) \cdot i, \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}$

We compute with complex numbers as follows :

$$z_1 = x_1 + i y_1, \quad z_2 = x_2 + i y_2$$

- $z_1 + z_2 = (x_1 + x_2) + (y_1 + y_2)i$

- $z_1 - z_2 = (x_1 - x_2) + (y_1 - y_2)i$

- $z_1 \cdot z_2 = (x_1 + y_1 i) \cdot (x_2 + y_2 i)$

$$= x_1 x_2 + x_1 y_2 i + y_1 x_2 i + y_1 y_2 i^2$$

$$= (x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2) + (x_1 y_2 + y_1 x_2)i$$

Real part

Imaginary part

- $z \cdot \bar{z} = (x + iy)(x - iy) = x^2 + y^2 = |z|^2$

- $z_1 / z_2 = \frac{z_1 \cdot \bar{z}_2}{z_2 \cdot \bar{z}_2} = \frac{z_1 \cdot \bar{z}_2}{|z_2|^2}$

provided that $z_2 \neq 0$

Now revisit the complex exponential:

If $z \in \mathbb{C}$, then we can write

$$z = |z| \cdot e^{i\theta}$$

for some $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$, which we call the argument.

How is that representation of complex numbers useful?

Example: Since $z = |z| \cdot e^{i\theta}$,
we have $z^k = |z|^k e^{ik\theta}$

Example: Suppose $z_1 = |z_1| e^{i\theta_1}$, $z_2 = |z_2| e^{i\theta_2}$
for some $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$

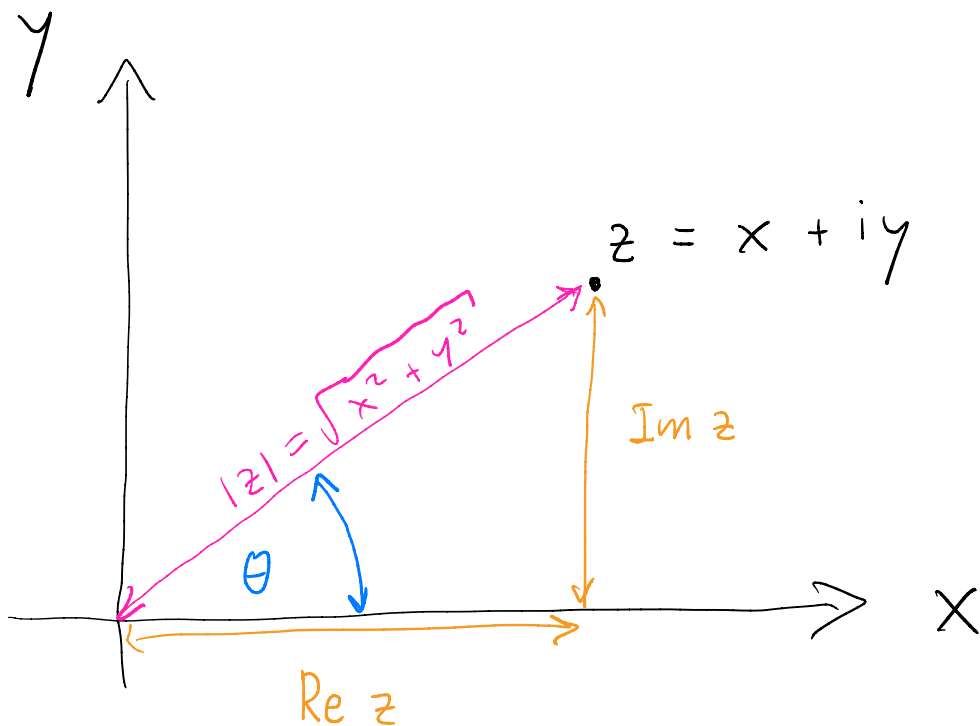
$$z_1 \cdot z_2 = |z_1| e^{i\theta_1} |z_2| e^{i\theta_2} = |z_1| \cdot |z_2| e^{i(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$$

$$z_1 / z_2 = \frac{|z_1| \cdot e^{i\theta_1}}{|z_2| \cdot e^{i\theta_2}} = \frac{|z_1|}{|z_2|} e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}$$

provided $z_2 \neq 0$.

These formulas are intuitively clear, and can be verified with our definitions of $e^{i\theta}$, the complex product, and the complex division.

Geometric interpretation of $\mathbb{C}$



We can interpret $z = x + iy \in \mathbb{C}$ as a two component vector.

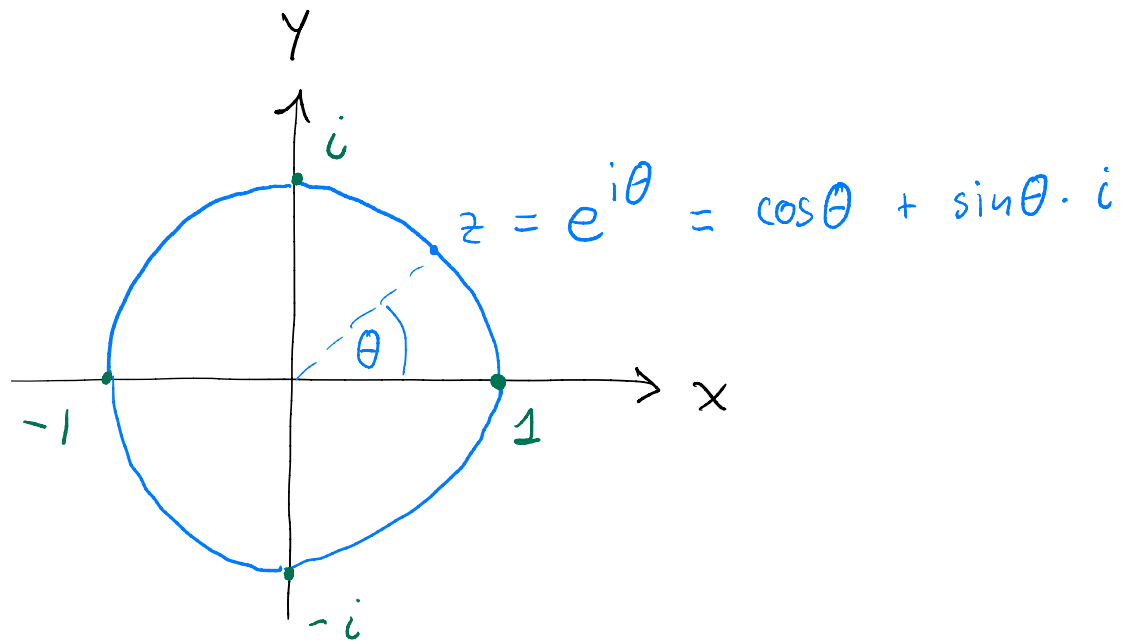
The absolute value $|z|$ is the length of that vector.

The argument θ is the angle of z with the x -axis.

In this context, the x -axis is also called 'real axis' and the y -axis is called 'imaginary axis'.

The complex numbers $z \in \mathbb{C}$ with modulus $|z| = 1$ constitute the so-called complex unit circle. Every $z \in \mathbb{C}$ with $|z| = 1$ can be written

$$\begin{aligned} z &= \cos \theta + \sin \theta \cdot i \quad \text{for some } \theta \in \mathbb{R} \\ &= e^{i\theta} \end{aligned}$$



When writing

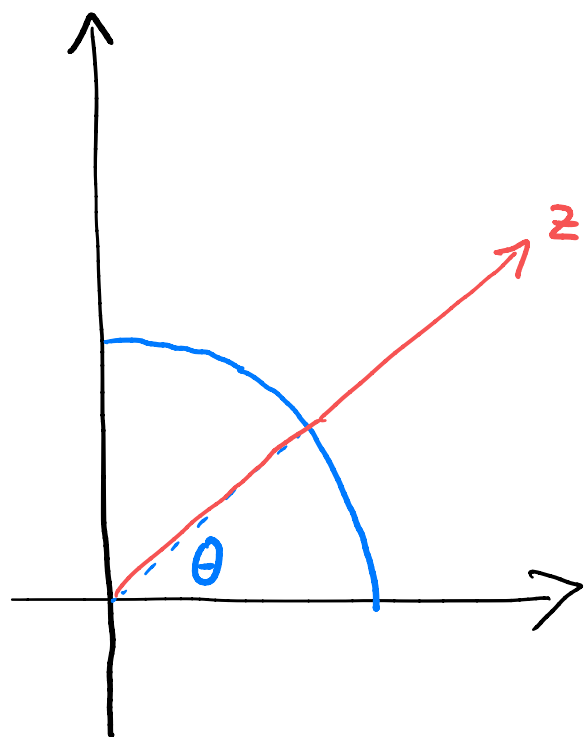
$$z = |z| \cdot e^{i\theta},$$

we may think

$$e^{i\theta} = \text{direction}$$

$$|z| = \text{length}$$

Example



$$z = 2 e^{i \pi/4}$$

$$\theta = \pi/4$$

$$|z| = 2$$

$$= 2 \left(\cos \pi/4 \right) + 2 \left(\sin \pi/4 i \right)$$

$$e^0 = 1, \quad e^{\pi/2 i} = i$$

$$e^{\pi i} = -1, \quad e^{3/2 \pi i} = -i$$

$$e^{2\pi i} = 1$$

Generally speaking, the argument is not unique.

The argument θ in the representation

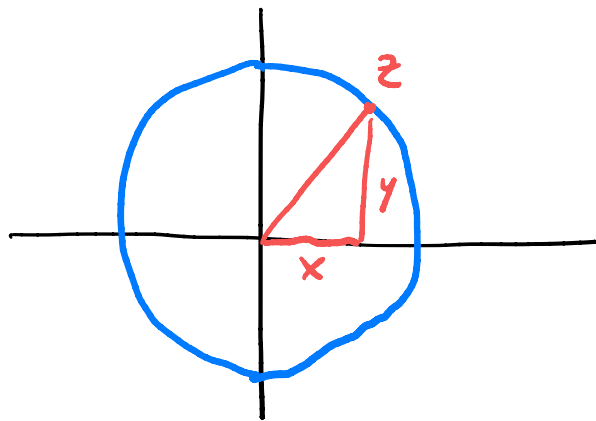
$$z = |z| \cdot e^{i\theta}$$

is only unique up to $2\pi \cdot \mathbb{Z}$, that is, integer multiples of 2π

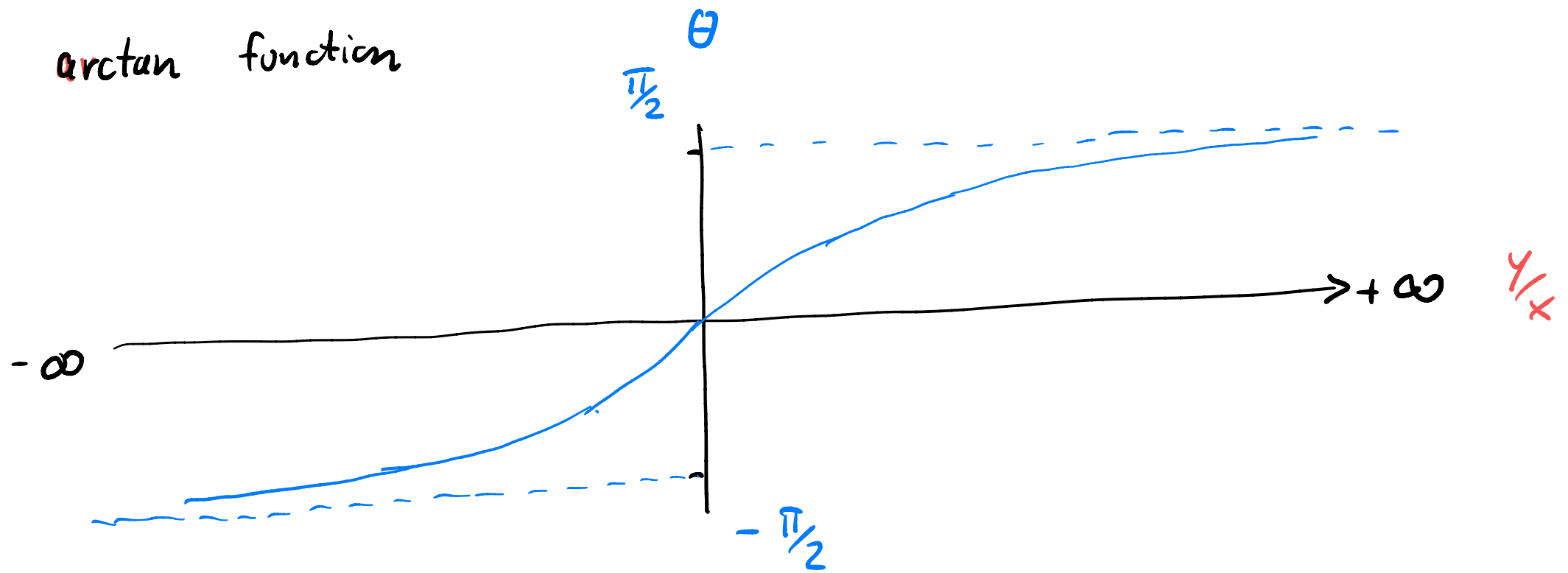
The argument with $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$ is called the principal argument

How to find the principal argument?

In the special case $x > 0$, we have $\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}$, hence
 $\arctan(y/x) = \theta$



arctan function



II. 2. Complex functions

We study functions $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad z \mapsto f(z)$

$$f(z) = f(x + iy) = u(x, y) + v(x, y) \cdot i$$

Examples

1) $f(z) = z = x + iy$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x,y) &= x \\ v(x,y) &= y \end{aligned}$$

$$2) \quad f(z) = \bar{z} = x - yi$$

$$u(x, y) = x$$
$$v(x, y) = -y$$

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

$$4) \quad f(z) = \frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{x+iy} = \frac{x-iy}{x^2+y^2}$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{x}{x^2+y^2}}_{u(x,y)} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}\right)}_{v(x,y)} i$$

$$5) \quad f(z) = e^z = e^{x+iy} = e^x \cdot e^{iy}$$

$$= \underbrace{e^x \cos(y)}_{u(x,y)} + \underbrace{e^x \sin(y) i}_{v(x,y)}$$

"Official" definition of the exponential function:

$$f(z) = e^z = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{k!}$$

$$= 1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2} + \frac{z^3}{6} + \frac{z^4}{24} + \dots$$

We have the formula as for exponentials of real numbers.
One can show that $e^{z_1 + z_2} = e^{z_1} \cdot e^{z_2}$ still works

$$6) \quad \cos(z) = \frac{e^{iz} + e^{-iz}}{2} \quad \sin(z) = \frac{e^{iz} - e^{-iz}}{2i}$$

$$\cosh(z) = \frac{e^z + e^{-z}}{2} \quad \sinh(z) = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{2}$$

We can explicitly compute $u = \operatorname{Re} f$ and $v = \operatorname{Im} f$ for each of these functions. For example:

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) = \cos(z) &= \frac{e^{iz} + e^{-iz}}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(e^{i(x+iy)} + e^{-i(x+iy)} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(e^{-y} e^{ix} + e^y e^{-ix} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(e^{-y} (\cos x + i \sin x) + e^y (\cos x - i \sin x) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} e^{-y} \cos x + \frac{1}{2} e^{-y} \sin(x) \cdot i + \frac{1}{2} e^y \cos(x) - \frac{1}{2} e^y \sin(x) i$$

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

$$= \underbrace{\cos x \cdot \cosh y}_{u(x, y)} + \underbrace{-\sin x \cdot \sinh y \cdot i}_{v(x, y)}$$