

Recap: Cauchy–Riemann equations

When G is an open subset of \mathbb{C} , and $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a function expressed as $u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$, the Cauchy–Riemann equations say that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}.$$

Some theorems about the Cauchy–Riemann equations

Suppose G is an open subset of \mathbb{C} , and $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a function, and $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$, where $z = x + yi$.

1. If u and v have continuous first-order (real) partial derivatives, then f is analytic on G iff the Cauchy–Riemann equations hold on G . [Theorem 2.29 in Chapter III]
2. If f is analytic, then u and v do have continuous real partial derivatives [see Corollary 2.12 in Chapter IV], and the Cauchy–Riemann equations do hold.
3. If f is continuous, and the first-order partial derivatives of u and v exist (not necessarily continuous) and satisfy the Cauchy–Riemann equations in G , then f is analytic on G . [Looman–Menshov theorem, not in the book]
4. If f is continuous, and the Cauchy–Riemann equations hold in the sense of distributions (generalized functions), then f is analytic. [not in the book; standard knowledge in PDE]

A deduction about the range of an analytic function

Suppose G is a nonvoid connected open set, and $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is an analytic function. If the range of f is a subset of \mathbb{R} , then f must be a constant function. [Exercise 14 in §2 of Chapter III]

Why?

Write f as $u + iv$. The hypothesis says that v is the zero function. The Cauchy–Riemann equations then imply that $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$ are identically equal to zero. Therefore u is constant along horizontal lines and also is constant along vertical lines. So u is a constant function. Hence f is a constant function.

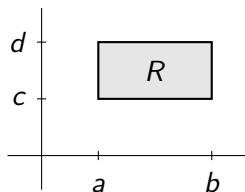
[A coming attraction: Theorem 7.5 in Chapter IV says much more.]

Some notation of Wilhelm Wirtinger (1865–1945)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} := \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}} := \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right)$$

If f is analytic, then the Cauchy–Riemann equations imply that $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = -i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = f'$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = 0$.

The simplest version of Cauchy's integral theorem



For f analytic on a closed rectangle,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \iint_R i \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) dx dy \quad (\text{by the Cauchy-Riemann equations}) \\ &= \int_c^d [f(b, y) - f(a, y)] i dy + \int_a^b [f(x, c) - f(x, d)] dx \\ &= \int_{\partial R} f(z) dz \end{aligned}$$

[A coming attraction: Theorem 6.6 in Chapter IV says much more.]

Assignment due next class

Suppose G is an open subset of \mathbb{C} , and $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is an analytic function, expressed as $u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$.

1. Show that the determinant of the Jacobian matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix}$$

at a point z in G is equal to $|f'(z)|^2$.

2. Let G^* denote the reflection of G across the real axis: namely, $G^* = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \bar{z} \in G\}$. Define a function $f^*: G^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by setting $f^*(z)$ equal to $\overline{f(\bar{z})}$. Show that f^* is an analytic function on the set G^* .

[This problem is Exercise 19 in §2 of Chapter III.]