

Tutorial 11 - Laurent series, Residues and Residue Calculus.

If ζ is a singularity of $f(z)$ and
if there is some non-negative integer m so that

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow \zeta} (z - \zeta)^m f(z) \text{ exists}$$

then ζ is a POLE of $f(z)$ and it has ORDER m where m has the least value such that the limit exists.

If $m = 0$ then we say the singularity is REMOVABLE.

If no m exists then we say the singularity is ESSENTIAL.

1. Find and classify the singularities of the following functions:

(a) $\frac{z^3 - z + 1}{(z + 1)(z - 2)^2(z + 3)^3};$

(b) $\frac{z^4 - 1}{(z + i)^5 z};$

(c) $\frac{\sin z}{z(z + 2)(z - \pi)^2}.$

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a_n(z - a)^n = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} a_n(z - a)^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(z - a)^n$$

is a LAURENT SERIES which where it converges (on an open region) will converge to an analytic function $f(z)$.

Suppose $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} a_n(z - a)^n$ converges for $|z - a| > r$ and $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(z - a)^n$ converges for $|z - a| < R$ and $r < R$ then the Laurent series converges inside the annulus $r < |z - a| < R$.

(This is the region where BOTH parts of the Laurent series converge.)

Furthermore if a is a pole of order m of $f(z)$, the Laurent series expansion of $f(z)$ in $0 < |z - a| < R$ a PUNCTURED DISK around centre a will be of the form

$$\sum_{n=-m}^{\infty} a_n(z - a)^n$$

and the coefficient a_{-1} of $(z - a)^{-1}$ is the RESIDUE of $f(z)$ denoted $\text{Res}(f; a)$.

2. Let $f(z) = \frac{z + 1}{z^2 - z} = \frac{2}{z - 1} - \frac{1}{z}$.

(a) Using geometric series techniques or otherwise find a Laurent series expansion for $f(z)$ valid for:

i. $0 < |z - 1| < 1;$

ii. $0 < |z| < 1;$

iii. $1 < |z - 2| < 2.$

(b) By looking at the appropriate Laurent series verify that $\text{Res}(f; 0) = -1$ and $\text{Res}(f; 1) = 2$.

If $f(z)$ is a function with isolated singularities then provided $f(z)$ is analytic on the simple closed contour Γ

$$\oint_{\Gamma} f(z) dz = 2\pi i \left(\sum_{\zeta \text{ singularities interior to } \Gamma} \text{Res}(f; \zeta) \right)$$

by the RESIDUE THEOREM calculation of integrals around closed contours by this method is known as RESIDUE CALCULUS.

QUESTION 2 CONTINUED...

(c) Using residue calculus calculate:

i. $\oint_{|z|=1/2} f(z) dz;$

ii. $\oint_{|z-2|=3/2} f(z) dz;$

iii. $\oint_{|z-5|=1} f(z) dz.$

where $f(z) = \frac{z+1}{z^2-z} = \frac{2}{z-1} - \frac{1}{z}$ as before.

Many real integrals (some of which can not be calculated using real techniques) can be calculated using a ‘cunning closed contour’ and residue calculus.

3. Let $f(z) = \frac{1}{(1+z^2)^3},$

(a) Find the singularities of $f(z)$ and calculate the residues at these singularities.

(b) Let the contour $\Gamma_R = X_R + \gamma_R$ where on $X_R: z = -R + 2tR, t \in [0, 1]$ and on $\gamma_R: z = Re^{is}, s \in [0, \pi].$ Calculate

$$\oint_{\Gamma_R} \frac{1}{(1+z^2)^3} dz \quad \text{where } R > 1$$

(c) Assuming $\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\gamma_R} f(z) dz = 0$ find

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^3} dx.$$

(d) Using

$$\left| \int_{\gamma} f(z) dz \right| \leq |\gamma| M$$

where $|f(z)| \leq M$ for all z on the contour γ and $|\gamma|$ is the length of the contour γ show that

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\gamma_R} f(z) dz = 0.$$