Analytic combinatorics Lecture 8

April 28, 2021

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- closed if p(a) = p(b),
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Let $\gamma \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a curve with parametrization $p \colon [a, b] \to \mathbb{C}$, let $f \colon \gamma \to \mathbb{C}$ be a function. The contour integral of f along γ , denoted $\int_{\gamma} f$ is defined as

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Example: For a curve $\gamma \subseteq \mathbb{C}$, what is $\int_{\gamma} 1$?

Remark: The length of a curve $\gamma \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ parametrized by $p: [a, b] \to \mathbb{C}$, denoted len (γ) is defined as

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- If γ is the concatenation of two curves α and β , then $\int_{\gamma} f = \int_{\alpha} f + \int_{\beta} f$.

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- If γ is the concatenation of two curves α and β , then $\int_{\gamma} f = \int_{\alpha} f + \int_{\beta} f$.
- For a parametrization p of γ , we have the estimate

$$\left|\int_{\gamma} f\right| = \left|\int_{a}^{b} f(p(t))p'(t)dt\right| \leq \int_{a}^{b} |f(p(t))| \cdot |p'(t)|dt \leq \sup_{z \in \gamma} |f(z)| \cdot \operatorname{len}(\gamma).$$

Definition

Let f be a function on a domain $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$. A function $F : \Omega \to \mathbb{C}$ is a primitive function (or antiderivative) of f on Ω , if for every $z \in \Omega$, we have F'(z) = f(z).

In particular, if $\gamma \subseteq \Omega$ is a closed curve, then $\int_{\gamma} f = 0$.

Primitive function

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Observation

If f has an antiderivative F on Ω , and $\gamma \subseteq \Omega$ is a curve parametrized by $p: [a, b] \to \Omega$, then

$$\int_{\gamma} f = \int_a^b f(p(t))p'(t)dt = \int_a^b F(p(t))'dt = F(p(b)) - F(p(a)).$$



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Corollary

Let F is an antiderivative of f on a domain Ω , and let $u, v \in \Omega$ be two points. Then for any curve $\gamma \subseteq \Omega$ connecting u with v and oriented from u to v, we have

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Fact

Let f be analytic in z_0 , with an expansion $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (z - z_0)^n$ of radius of convergence ρ . Then the function $F \colon \mathbb{N}_{<\rho}(z_0) \to \mathbb{C}$ defined by

$$F(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n+1} (z-z_0)^{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{1} \left(\frac{a_n}{2-2} \right)^n + \frac{a_1}{2} \left(\frac{a_n}{2-2} \right)^n$$

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Example: Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, let γ be the (counterclockwise) unit circle, parametrized by $p(t) = \exp(it)$ with $t \in [-\pi, \pi]$. What is $\int_{\gamma} z^k$? Note: Since $\int_{\gamma} \frac{1}{z} = 2\pi i \neq 0$, it follows that f(z) = 1/z has no antiderivative on any domain containing γ , even though it is analytic on the domain $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$.

Curve homotopy

Definition

Let $\forall \zeta \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a domain, let γ and γ' be two curves in Ω , both starting in the same point v and ending in the same point w. We say that γ and γ' are fixed-endpoint homotopic (or just homotopic) in Ω if there is a continuous function $\Gamma(t, q): [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \Omega$ with the following properties:

- For every $q \in [0, 1]$, the function $p_q: [0, 1] \to \Omega$ defined as $p_q(t) = \Gamma(t, q)$ is a parametrization of a curve γ_q starting in v and ending in w.
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Fact

If γ is a simple closed curve inside a domain Ω such that $Int(\gamma) \subseteq \Omega$, then γ is contractible in Ω .

Invariance of integral under homotopy

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For $q \in [0, 1]$, let γ_q be the curve parametrized by $p_q(t) = \Gamma(t, q)$, and let $I(q) := \int_{\gamma_q} f$. We claim that I(q) is a constant function of q on [0, 1].

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By compactness of γ_q , there is a finite set $P \subseteq \gamma_q$ such that $\gamma_q \subseteq \bigcup_{z \in P} \mathcal{N}_{\langle \varepsilon(z)}(z)$.

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In particular, if a closed curve γ is contractible in Ω , then $\int_{\gamma} f = 0$.

Proof idea: Let $\Gamma(t,q)$: $[0,1] \times [0,1] \rightarrow \Omega$ be a function witnessing the homotopy of γ and γ' .

For $q \in [0, 1]$, let γ_q be the curve parametrized by $p_q(t) = \Gamma(t, q)$, and let $\lfloor I(q) := \int_{\gamma_q} f$. We claim that I(q) is a constant function of q on [0, 1].

To see this, we choose $q \in [0,1]$ and show that I(q) is constant on a neighborhood of q.

The function f is analytic in every point $z \in \gamma_q$, hence there is an $\varepsilon(z) > 0$ such that f is analytic on $\mathcal{N}_{<\varepsilon(z)}(z)$ and therefore f has a primitive function F_z on $\mathcal{N}_{<\varepsilon(z)}(z)$. In particular, changing γ_q inside $\mathcal{N}_{<\varepsilon(z)}(z)$ does not affect the value I(q).

By compactness of γ_q , there is a finite set $P \subseteq \gamma_q$ such that $\gamma_q \subseteq \bigcup_{z \in P} \mathbb{N}_{<\varepsilon(z)}(z)$. For r "close enough" to q, the curve γ_r is also inside $\bigcup_{z \in P} \mathbb{N}_{<\varepsilon(z)}(z)$, and we can modify γ_q into γ_r by operations that preserve the value of the integral, hence I(q) = I(r) for r close enough to q. (See picture on next slide.)



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