

# Cauchy's Integral formula

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## 1 Introduction

In this article we will introduce Cauchy's integral formula. This formula is one of the most important formulas in complex analysis, named after great mathematician Augustin-Louis Cauchy. It's very useful in evaluating complex integrals. It simply states that the values of a holomorphic (we will give definition of holomorphicity below) function inside a disk are determined by the values of that function on the boundary of the disk.

## 2 Cauchy's integral formula

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $U \subset \mathbb{C}$  be open set and let  $f : U \mapsto \mathbb{C}$  be a complex function. Then  $f$  is analytic in  $U$  if and only if  $f$  is **differentiable** at each point in  $U$

**Theorem 1.** Suppose  $C$  is a simple closed curve and the function  $f(z)$  is analytic on a region containing  $C$  and its interior. We assume  $C$  is oriented counterclockwise. Then for any  $z_0$  inside  $C$ :

$$f(z_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C \frac{f(z)}{z - z_0} \quad (1)$$

*Proof.* We know that if the function is analytic at some point then this function is also continuous at this point. We use this fact and integral of  $\frac{1}{z - z_0}$  over the curve  $C$  in order to prove our theorem.

Firstly, let's evaluate integral. In order to integrate  $\frac{1}{z - z_0}$  we'll parametrize it. Let  $z = z_0 + re^{i\theta}$  where  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ . Then  $dz = ire^{i\theta}d\theta$ . Then we have:

$$\int_{C_r} \frac{1}{z - z_0} dz = \int_0^{2\pi} id\theta = 2\pi i$$

Using this and fact that integral over the circle  $C_r$  and  $C$  have the same values, equation (1) can be written as:

$$\int_C \frac{f(z)}{z - z_0} dz = f(z_0) \int_C \frac{1}{z - z_0} dz = \int_C \frac{f(z_0)}{z - z_0} dz \quad (2)$$

Since the function is continuous at the point  $z_0$ , by the definition of continuity at the point:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists \delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0 \quad |z - z_0| < \delta \quad |f(z) - f(z_0)| < \epsilon$$

Now we just have to show equation (2) is true. Let's estimate following absolute value:

$$\left| \int_{C_r} \frac{f(z)}{z - z_0} dz - \int_{C_r} \frac{f(z_0)}{z - z_0} dz \right| \leq \int_{C_r} \left| \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0} \right| dz < \int_{C_r} \frac{\epsilon}{|z - z_0|} dz$$

Now let's pick  $r < \delta$ . Now we get:

$$\int_{C_r} \frac{\epsilon}{|z - z_0|} dz = \frac{\epsilon}{r} \int_{C_r} dz \quad (3)$$

Since the integral of the right hand side of (3) gives us length of circle  $C_r$ , which is  $2\pi r$  we get estimate:

$$\left| \int_{C_r} \frac{f(z)}{z - z_0} dz - \int_{C_r} \frac{f(z_0)}{z - z_0} dz \right| < 2\pi\epsilon$$

Now theorem is proved since  $\epsilon$  can be made arbitrarily small.  $\square$

**Example.** Compute

$$\int_C \frac{(z - 2)^2}{z + i} dz$$

where  $C$  is the circle of radius 2 centered at origin.

Let  $f(z) = (z - 2)^2$ , clearly  $f$  is analytic everywhere in the interior of  $C$ . Hence, by the Cauchy's integral formula:

$$\int_C \frac{(z - 2)^2}{z + i} dz = 2\pi i f(-i) = -8\pi + 6\pi i$$

**Theorem 2. (Cauchy's integral theorem for derivatives)** If  $f(z)$  and  $C$  satisfy the same hypotheses for Cauchy's integral formula, then for all  $z_0$  inside  $C$  we have

$$f^{(n)}(z_0) = \frac{n!}{2\pi i} \int_C \frac{f(z)}{(z - z_0)^{(n+1)}}$$

where,  $C$  is simple closed curve, oriented counterclockwise,  $z_0$  is inside  $C$  and  $f(z)$  is analytic on and inside  $C$ .