## Topics in complex function theory 2023

### Contents

# 1. Partial fractions and the Mittag-Leffler theorem

Isolated singularities, Laurent expansion, integral formula for the Laurent coefficients, calculation of Laurent coefficients at poles; poles and zeros, the field of meromorphic functions on a domain; principal part distributions, compact convergence of series of meromorphic functions, Mittag-Leffler theorem, partial fraction decomposition of a given meromorphic function, example: prescribing simple poles

# 2. Weierstrass product theorem

Entire functions without zeros, holomorphic logarithms of a function, infinite products and their convergence, absolute convergence, locally uniform convergence, Weierstrass product theorem, Weierstrass factors, corollaries: meromorphic functions are quotients of entire functions, surjective group homomorphism div:  $\mathcal{M}(U)^* \to \text{Div}(U)$ , prescribing values  $f(a_n) = w_n, n \in \mathbb{N}$  of entire functions

## 3. Examples

Mittag-Leffler decompositions of cotangent, tangent and  $1/\sin$ , Bernoulli numbers and the values  $\zeta(2n)$ , the sine product, logarithmic derivative

## 4. Gamma function

How to discover  $\Gamma$ : Weierstrass product ansatz for  $G = 1/\Gamma$ , Euler-Mascheroni constant, definition of  $\Gamma$  according to Weierstrass,  $\Gamma(z)\Gamma(1-z)$ , Euler's definition of  $\Gamma$  as an infinite product; Wielandt's uniqueness theorem, proof using Liouville; Legendre duplication formula and Gauss' multiplication formula, Euler's integral formula for  $\Gamma$ ; Stirling's formula, Binet's formula for  $\Gamma$  and its improvement

# 5. Elliptic functions, Liouville theorems

Periodic functions and their periods, classification of discrete subgroups  $L \leq \mathbb{R}^2$ , fundamental parallelogram of a lattice, Liouville's theorem on elliptic functions (4 parts), proof using  $\operatorname{Res}_a(g\frac{f'}{f})$ 

### 6. Weierstrass p-functions

Definition of  $\wp$  for a given lattice L, Laurent expansion of  $\wp$  at 0, Eisenstein series, the differential equation  $\wp(z)^2 = 4 \,\wp(z)^3 - g_2 \,\wp(z) - g_3$ , rewritten using the half-period values  $e_1, e_2, e_3$ , these values are distinct, relation between half-period values and  $g_2, g_3$ , the discriminant  $\Delta$ ; how to write an arbitrary elliptic f as a rational function of  $\wp$  and  $\wp'$ ; Abel's theorem for tori  $L \setminus \mathbb{C}$  and the Weierstrass sigma-function  $\sigma$ , construction of  $\sigma$  using the Weierstrass  $\zeta$ -function, Weierstrass product representation of  $\sigma$ ; remarks on the origin of elliptic functions; link to algebraic curves: embedding  $L \setminus \mathbb{C}$  as a cubic curve  $\varphi: L \setminus \mathbb{C} \to \tilde{C} \subseteq \mathbb{C}P^2$ 

# 7. Modular forms

Automorphic functions, Möbius transformations and  $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{H}) \cong \operatorname{PSL}(2,\mathbb{R})$ , the modular group  $\operatorname{PSL}(2,\mathbb{Z})$ , modular forms of weight k, modular functions, behaviour at  $i\infty$ : f(z) = g(q) with  $q = e^{2\pi i z}$ , Laurent expansion of g = Fourier expansion (or qexpansion) of the modular form f, entire modular forms; generators and fundamental
domain  $\mathbb{F}$  for SL(2,  $\mathbb{Z}$ ), connection with lattices:  $L_{\tau} = \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z} \tau$ , Eisenstein series  $G_k$ , lattice invariants  $g_2$ ,  $g_3$  and discriminant  $\Delta$  as functions of  $\tau$ , the j-invariant; equivalence
of lattices and PSL(2,  $\mathbb{Z}$ )\ $\mathbb{H}$ ; the k/12-formula, proof via residue theorem; applications
of k/12: entire modular forms, zeros of  $G_4$ ,  $G_6$  and  $\Delta$ ,  $j : \mathbb{F} \to \mathbb{C}$  is bijective; every
modular function is a rational function of j; list of entire modular forms for  $0 \le k \le 10$ ,
cusp forms,  $M_{k+12} = \Delta \cdot M_k + \mathbb{C} G_{k+12}$ ,  $G_4^m G_6^n$  form a basis for  $M_k$ 

### 8. Jensen's formula

Jensen's formula, proof starting from  $f = e^g$  and the mean value property for g, lemma on counting functions, Jensen reformulated in terms of the Nevanlinna (pole) counting function N(r, f), simple properties, comparison of N(r, f) and n(r, f), maximum modulus M(r, f) of entire functions

#### 9. Nevanlinna characteristic

Proximity function m(r, f), the Nevanlinna characteristic T(r, f) = N(r, f) + m(r, f), interpretation of  $T(r, \frac{1}{f-a})$ , Jensen reformulated in terms of Nevanlinna characteristic:  $T(r, f) = T(r, \frac{1}{f}) + \log |c_l|$ , Nevanlinna's first main (= fundamental) theorem, Landau's  $\mathcal{O}$ -notation,  $T(r, \frac{1}{f-a}) = T(r, f) + \mathcal{O}(1)$  is asymptotically independent of a; example  $e^z$  (using Stirling's formula), example rational functions  $T(r, f) = \deg(f) \log r + \mathcal{O}(1)$ ; properties of the Nevanlinna characteristic,  $T(r, M \circ f)$ ,  $T(r, P \circ f)$ ;

Cartan's formula for T(r, f), proof: apply Jensen to  $f(z) - e^{i\varphi}$  and integrate over  $\varphi$ ; N(r, f) and T(r, f) are convex as functions of  $\log r$ ; Nevanlinna characteristic of entire functions: comparison with  $\log^+ M(r, f)$ , Poisson kernel and the Poisson-Jensen formula, proof idea: reduce to Jensen formula via a suitable Möbius transformation; characterization of rational functions by  $L := \liminf(T(r, f)/\log r)$ , of polynomials by  $\liminf(M(r, f)/\log r)$ ; proof trick: only finitely many poles, reduce to polynomial case; the (growth) order  $\rho(f)$  of a meromorphic function, order of an entire function, examples

#### 10. Nevanlinna's second main theorem

Statement of the theorem,  $N_1(r)$  is non-negative, estimates  $(q-2)T(r, f) \leq ...$  and Picard's theorem; deficiency and ramification index of f at a value a, defect relations  $\sum \Theta(a, f) \leq 2$  and  $\sum \delta(a, f) \leq 2$ , Nevanlinna's five value theorem

#### **References and sources**

Fischer, Lieb, Funktionentheorie Freitag, Busam, Funktionentheorie I Koecher, Krieg, Elliptische Funktionen und Modulformen Serre, Cours d'arithméthique Bergweiler, Entire and meromorphic functions (lecture notes 2018)