

# Cultivating Complex Analysis: Singularities and the Laurent series (5.2.2)

Jiří Lebl

Departemento pri Matematiko de Oklahoma Ŝtata Universitato

$\frac{1}{z}$  has an isolated singularity at  $z = 0$ .

$\frac{1}{z}$  has an isolated singularity at  $z = 0$ .

It is a pole of order 1.

$\frac{1}{z}$  has an isolated singularity at  $z = 0$ .

It is a pole of order 1.

The Laurent series at  $z = 0$  is just  $1/z$ ,  
and all coefficients of order less than  $-1$  are zero.

OK, we could make this more complicated:

$$\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{1-z} = \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} z^n$$

OK, we could make this more complicated:

$$\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{1-z} = \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} z^n$$

Again, pole of order 1 at  $z = 0$ ,  
and all coefficients in the series of order less than  $-1$  are zero.

Or even more complicated:

$$\frac{1}{z^3} + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{1-z} = \sum_{n=-3}^{\infty} z^n$$

Or even more complicated:

$$\frac{1}{z^3} + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{1-z} = \sum_{n=-3}^{\infty} z^n$$

A pole of order 3,  
and all coefficients in the series of order less than  $-3$  are zero.



$$e^{1/z} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^0 \frac{1}{(-n)!} z^n$$

has an essential singularity at  $z = 0$ ,  
and has nonzero coefficients of all negative orders.

It is not difficult to prove the general statement:

### Proposition

Suppose  $f: \Delta_r(p) \setminus \{p\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is holomorphic, and

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n (z - p)^n$$

is the corresponding Laurent series.

It is not difficult to prove the general statement:

### Proposition

Suppose  $f: \Delta_r(p) \setminus \{p\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is holomorphic, and

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n (z-p)^n$$

is the corresponding Laurent series. The singularity at  $p$  is

(i) removable if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < 0$ ,

It is not difficult to prove the general statement:

### Proposition

Suppose  $f: \Delta_r(p) \setminus \{p\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is holomorphic, and

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n (z-p)^n$$

is the corresponding Laurent series. The singularity at  $p$  is

- (i) removable if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < 0$ ,
- (ii) a pole of order  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < -k$  and  $c_{-k} \neq 0$ ,

It is not difficult to prove the general statement:

### Proposition

Suppose  $f: \Delta_r(p) \setminus \{p\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is holomorphic, and

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n(z-p)^n$$

is the corresponding Laurent series. The singularity at  $p$  is

- (i) removable if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < 0$ ,
- (ii) a pole of order  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < -k$  and  $c_{-k} \neq 0$ ,
- (iii) essential if and only if  $c_n \neq 0$  for infinitely many negative  $n$ .

It is not difficult to prove the general statement:

### Proposition

Suppose  $f: \Delta_r(p) \setminus \{p\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is holomorphic, and

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n(z-p)^n$$

is the corresponding Laurent series. The singularity at  $p$  is

- (i) removable if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < 0$ ,
- (ii) a pole of order  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < -k$  and  $c_{-k} \neq 0$ ,
- (iii) essential if and only if  $c_n \neq 0$  for infinitely many negative  $n$ .

The proof is left as an exercise.

It is not difficult to prove the general statement:

### Proposition

Suppose  $f: \Delta_r(p) \setminus \{p\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is holomorphic, and

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n(z-p)^n$$

is the corresponding Laurent series. The singularity at  $p$  is

- (i) removable if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < 0$ ,
- (ii) a pole of order  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  if and only if  $c_n = 0$  for all  $n < -k$  and  $c_{-k} \neq 0$ ,
- (iii) essential if and only if  $c_n \neq 0$  for infinitely many negative  $n$ .

The proof is left as an exercise.

Hint: Laurent series is unique, and for a removable singularity equals the power series.

## Definition

At an isolated singularity, the negative part of the Laurent series

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} c_n (z - p)^n$$

is called the *principal part*.



## Definition

At an isolated singularity, the negative part of the Laurent series

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} c_n(z-p)^n$$

is called the *principal part*.

*Observation:* If  $P(z)$  is the principal part of  $f(z)$  at  $p$ , then  $f(z) - P(z)$  has a removable singularity at  $p$ .

The example  $e^{1/z}$  motivates the following concept.

The example  $e^{1/z}$  motivates the following concept.

Given an entire  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , we talk about its *singularity at infinity*.

The example  $e^{1/z}$  motivates the following concept.

Given an entire  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , we talk about its *singularity at infinity*.

$\mathbb{C} \subset \mathbb{C}_\infty$  and  $1/z$  is a self mapping of  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$  that swaps  $\infty$  and  $0$ .

The example  $e^{1/z}$  motivates the following concept.

Given an entire  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , we talk about its *singularity at infinity*.

$\mathbb{C} \subset \mathbb{C}_\infty$  and  $1/z$  is a self mapping of  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$  that swaps  $\infty$  and  $0$ .

$z \mapsto f(1/z)$  has an isolated singularity at  $0$ , and that's the "singularity of  $f$  at  $\infty$ ."

The example  $e^{1/z}$  motivates the following concept.

Given an entire  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , we talk about its *singularity at infinity*.

$\mathbb{C} \subset \mathbb{C}_\infty$  and  $1/z$  is a self mapping of  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$  that swaps  $\infty$  and  $0$ .

$z \mapsto f(1/z)$  has an isolated singularity at  $0$ , and that's the "singularity of  $f$  at  $\infty$ ."

$e^z$  has an essential singularity at infinity,  
because  $e^{1/z}$  has an essential singularity at  $0$ .

**Exercise:** Prove that if  $f$  has a pole at the origin and  $g$  has an essential singularity at the origin, then  $f + g$  has an essential singularity at the origin.

**Exercise:** Prove that if  $f$  has a pole at the origin and  $g$  has an essential singularity at the origin, then  $f + g$  has an essential singularity at the origin.

**Exercise:** If  $f$  has a pole at  $p$ , then  $e^{f(z)}$  has an essential singularity at  $p$ .

Hint: First do it for a simple pole.



**Exercise:** Prove that if  $f$  has a pole at the origin and  $g$  has an essential singularity at the origin, then  $f + g$  has an essential singularity at the origin.

**Exercise:** If  $f$  has a pole at  $p$ , then  $e^{f(z)}$  has an essential singularity at  $p$ .

Hint: First do it for a simple pole.

**Exercise:** Show that an entire holomorphic  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  has a pole at infinity if and only if it is a nonconstant polynomial. The order of the pole is the degree of the polynomial.

**Exercise:** Prove that if  $f$  has a pole at the origin and  $g$  has an essential singularity at the origin, then  $f + g$  has an essential singularity at the origin.

**Exercise:** If  $f$  has a pole at  $p$ , then  $e^{f(z)}$  has an essential singularity at  $p$ .

Hint: First do it for a simple pole.

**Exercise:** Show that an entire holomorphic  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  has a pole at infinity if and only if it is a nonconstant polynomial. The order of the pole is the degree of the polynomial.

**Exercise:** Show that if  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is an automorphism, then  $f(z) = az + b$  for some constants  $a \neq 0$  and  $b$ . Hint: Show that  $f$  has a simple pole at infinity.