

Let us consider the function $F_4 : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$:

$$z \neq 0 : F_4(z) = e^{-\frac{1}{z^4}}, F_4(0) = 0.$$

Let $z = x + iy$ and $F_4 = U_4 + iV_4$.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{z^4} &= \frac{1}{x^4 + y^4 - 6x^2y^2 + i(4x^3y - 4xy^3)} = \frac{x^4 + y^4 - 6x^2y^2 - i(4x^3y - 4xy^3)}{(x^4 + y^4 - 6x^2y^2)^2 + 16(x^3y - xy^3)^2} = \\ &= \frac{x^4 + y^4 - 6x^2y^2 - i(4x^3y - 4xy^3)}{(x^2 + y^2)^4} = \\ &= \frac{x^4 + y^4 - 6x^2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} - 4ixy \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^4 + y^4)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} U_4 &= \exp \left[\frac{-x^4 - y^4 + 6x^2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^4} \right] \cos \left[4xy \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^4} \right], \\ V_4 &= \exp \left[\frac{-x^4 - y^4 + 6x^2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^4} \right] \sin \left[4xy \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^4} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Of course, for all $x, y : x^2 + y^2 > 0$ functions U_4, V_4 obey Cauchy-Riemann equations. Moreover,

$$\frac{U_4(x, 0) - U_4(0, 0)}{x} = \frac{U_4(x, 0)}{x} = \frac{1}{x} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{x^4}\right] \times 1 \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow 0} 0,$$

so there is finite partial derivative of U_4 w.r.t. x at $(0, 0)$ and equals zero. Similarly,

$$\frac{V_4(0, y) - V_4(0, 0)}{y} = \frac{V_4(0, y)}{y} = 0 \xrightarrow{y \rightarrow 0} 0,$$

and

$$\frac{U_4(0, y) - U_4(0, 0)}{y} = \frac{U_4(0, y)}{y} = \frac{1}{y} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{y^4}\right] \times 1 \xrightarrow{y \rightarrow 0} 0,$$

so there is finite partial derivative of V_4 w.r.t. y at $(0, 0)$ and equals zero, and

$$\frac{V_4(x, 0) - V_4(0, 0)}{x} = \frac{V_4(x, 0)}{x} = 0 \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow 0} 0.$$

That means the real and imaginary parts of F_4 obey Cauchy-Riemann equations everywhere in \mathbb{C} .

On the other hand, for $t \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$F_4[\sqrt{it}] = e^{-\frac{1}{-it^4}} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} \infty.$$

That means F_4 is unbounded in any neighborhood of 0 and therefore is not continuous at 0 and therefore is not differentiable at 0.

We can check the same for the function

$$z \neq 0 : F_1(z) = e^{-\frac{1}{z}}, F_1(0) = 0.$$

Of course, F_1 is differentiable at any point different from 0. Separating F_1 into real and imaginary parts for $z \neq 0$ we obtain

$$F_1(z) = e^{-\frac{x-iy}{x^2+y^2}} = e^{-\frac{x}{x^2+y^2}} \cos \frac{y}{x^2+y^2} + ie^{-\frac{x}{x^2+y^2}} \sin \frac{y}{x^2+y^2} \equiv U_1 + iV_1.$$

It is easy to check that:

•

$$\frac{\partial U_1}{\partial x}(0, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial x}(0, 0) = 0,$$

• but partial derivatives of functions U_1, V_1 at $(0, 0)$ do not exist.

So it is not surprising that F_1 is not differentiable at zero.

Homework: Verify the (non)differentiability vs. Cauchy-Riemann equations for the functions F_2, F_3 (at zero).

References

- [1] Looman, H. (1923), Über die Cauchy - Riemannsches Differentialgleichungen, Göttinger Nachrichten: 97 - 108.