

## Sect. 13.8 Logarithm, general power

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• Natural logarithm of  $z = x + iy$ , denoted by  $\ln z$  (or  $\log z$ ) is defined as the inverse of the exponential function, i.e.,  $w = \ln z$  is defined for  $z \neq 0$  by  $e^w = z$ .

•  $w = u + iv$ ,  $z = re^{i\theta}$ . Then

$$e^w = e^{u+iv} = e^u \cdot e^{iv} = re^{i\theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow e^u = r, \quad v = \theta \quad (!)$$

$$\text{Now } e^u = r \Rightarrow u = \ln r = \ln |z|.$$

(real natural logarithm)

$$\Rightarrow \ln z = \ln r + i\theta \quad (r = |z| > 0, \theta = \arg z)$$

• But argument of  $z$  is determined ONLY upto integer multiples of  $2\pi$ .

$\Rightarrow$  The complex natural logarithm  $\ln z$  ( $z \neq 0$ ) is many-valued function, in fact, infinitely many-valued.

•  $\ln z$  :  $\ln z$  corresponding to principal value  $\text{Arg}(z)$   
(principal value of  $\ln z$ ).

$$\Rightarrow \ln z = \ln |z| + i \text{Arg } z \quad (z \neq 0).$$

$\downarrow$   
Single-valued function

Also  $\ln z = \ln z \pm 2n\pi i$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ).

- $z$  positive real, :  $\ln z = \log x$  (or  $\ln x$ )  
say  $z = x > 0$
- $z$  negative real:  $\ln z = \ln|z| + \pi i$ .

Properties of  $\ln z$  :

- ①  $\ln(z_1 z_2) = \ln z_1 + \ln z_2$
- ②  $\ln\left(\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right) = \ln z_1 - \ln z_2$ .

Remark: Let  $z_1 = z_2 = e^{\pi i} = -1$ .

$\ln z_1 = \ln z_2 = \pi i$

$\Rightarrow \ln z_1 + \ln z_2 = 2\pi i$

So ① will hold provided we write  $\ln(z_1 z_2) = \ln 1 = 2\pi i$ .

But it won't hold if we take  $\ln(z_1 z_2) = \ln 1 = 0$ .

\*  $\ln z = \ln r + i(\theta + 2n\pi)$  (where  $z = re^{i\theta}$ )

$\Rightarrow e^{\ln z} = e^{\ln r + i(\theta + 2n\pi)} = e^{\ln r} \cdot e^{i\theta} = re^{i\theta} = z$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{e^{\ln z} = z}$

\* However,  $\arg(e^z) = y \pm 2n\pi$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$   
(multi-valued)

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\ln(e^z) = z \pm 2n\pi i}$

Since  $\ln(e^z) = \ln|e^z| + i \arg(e^z)$

$\& \cdot \ln|e^z| = \ln(e^x) = x \ln e = x$   
 $= x + i(y \pm 2n\pi) = z \pm 2n\pi i$

•  $\ln z = \ln z \pm 2n\pi i$

(For a fixed nonnegative integer  $n$ , this ~~rep~~ defines a function.)

• These <sup>above functions</sup> are analytic in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{z: \text{Re } z \leq 0\}$ .

Proof: Note that  $\ln z$  is not defined at  $z=0$ . Also,  $\ln z$  is not continuous on the negative real axis because its imaginary part has a jump discontinuity of  $2\pi$  there. Hence it is not analytic on the negative real axis.

For  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{z: \text{Re } z \leq 0\}$ , we show that  $\ln z$  is analytic by proving  $\frac{d}{dz} \ln z = \frac{1}{z}$ , that is,  $\ln z$  is differentiable at all points in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{z: \text{Re } z \leq 0\}$ .

Note that  $\ln z = \ln|z| + i\theta$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2 + y^2) + i \left( \arctan \frac{y}{x} + c \right)$   
 ( $c$  is a multiple of  $2\pi$ ).

$\Rightarrow u = \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2 + y^2), v = \arctan \left( \frac{y}{x} \right) + c$

$u_x = \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}, v_y = \frac{1}{1 + y^2/x^2} \cdot \frac{1}{x}$

$u_y = \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2}, -v_x = -\frac{1}{1 + (y/x)^2} \cdot \left( -\frac{y}{x^2} \right)$

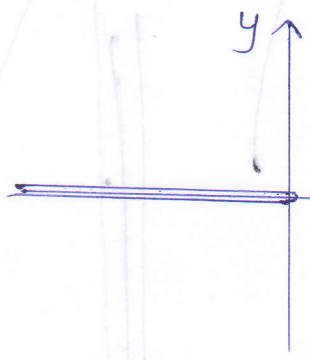
$\Rightarrow (\ln z)' = u_x + i v_x = \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} + i \frac{1}{1 + (y/x)^2} \cdot \left( -\frac{y}{x^2} \right) = \frac{x - iy}{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{1}{z}$

• For every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , the function

$\ln(z) = \text{Ln}(z) + 2\pi ni$  is called a branch of the logarithm.

• The negative real axis is known as a branch cut.

• The branch for  $n=0$  is called the principal branch of  $\ln(z)$ .



$0 < \theta < 2\pi$

$\frac{2\pi ni}{1}$

$$\boxed{\nu_{\theta} = \theta}$$

$$\boxed{\nu_{\theta} = \theta + 2\pi n}$$

$$\nu_{\theta} = \theta$$

$$\nu_{\theta} = \theta$$

## General Powers

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Def. Let  $z = x + iy$ .

$$z^c := e^{c \ln z} \quad (c \in \mathbb{C}, z \neq 0)$$

- $\ln z$  infinitely many-valued implies so is  $z^c$ .
- $z^c = e^{c \ln z}$  is the principal value of  $z^c$ .
- For  $c = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ;  $z^c$  is single-valued, & identical with  $n^{\text{th}}$  power of  $z$ . Similarly for  $c = -1, -2, -3, \dots$
- If  $c = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , then
$$z^c = \sqrt[n]{z} = e^{\frac{1}{n} \ln z} \quad \left( \text{Unique exponent up to multiples of } \frac{2\pi i}{n} \right)$$
$$\Rightarrow n \text{ distinct values of the } n^{\text{th}} \text{ root.}$$
- If  $c = p/q$ , again finitely many distinct values
- If  $c$  is irrational or complex,  $z^c$  is infinitely many-valued