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Math 8701: Complex Analysis

Problem Set 3

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(1) Problem 1, Ahlfors p. 53

If  $S$  is a metric space with distance function  $d(x, y)$ , show that  $S$  with the distance function  $f(x, y) = \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)}$  is also a metric space. The latter space is bounded in the sense that all distances lie under a fixed bound.

Proof: First we check the non-negativity:

$$f(x, y) = \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)} \geq 0 \quad \text{since } d(x, y) \geq 0$$

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Second, we check the identity of ~~non~~ indiscernibles:

$$f(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y \quad \checkmark$$

Third, we check the symmetry

$$f(y, x) = \frac{d(y, x)}{1 + d(y, x)} = \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)} = f(x, y) \quad \checkmark$$

Last, we check triangle inequality:

$$f(x, y) + f(y, z) = \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)} + \frac{d(y, z)}{1 + d(y, z)} = 2 - \left( \frac{1}{1 + d(x, y)} + \frac{1}{1 + d(y, z)} \right)$$

$$f(x, z) = \frac{d(x, z)}{1 + d(x, z)} = 1 - \frac{d(x, z)}{1 + d(x, z)}$$

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Thus, we need to show that

$$2 - \left( \frac{1}{1+d(x,y)} + \frac{1}{1+d(y,z)} \right) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{1+d(x,z)}$$

or

$$1 + \frac{1}{1+d(x,z)} \geq \frac{1}{1+d(x,y)} + \frac{1}{1+d(y,z)}$$

Put  $c = d(x,z)$ ,  $b = d(x,y)$ ,  $a = d(y,z)$ . We have  $a+b \geq c \geq 0$ . We'll

show that

$$1 + \frac{1}{1+c} \geq \frac{1}{1+a} + \frac{1}{1+b}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= \frac{2+(a+b)}{1+(a+b)+ab} \leq \frac{2+(a+b)}{1+(a+b)} = 1 + \frac{1}{1+(a+b)} \\ &\leq 1 + \frac{1}{1+c} = \text{LHS} \end{aligned}$$

Here is some comment. Whenever we have two metrics on one space, we usually ask: are they equivalent? Recall that the formal definition of equivalence between two metrics  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  on  $X$  is

Def.  $\left[ \text{each } \overleftrightarrow{\text{side}} \right]$  there exist  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  such that  $\alpha d_1(x,y) \leq d_2(x,y) \leq \beta d_1(x,y)$

the motivation underlying this definition is that if the two metrics are equivalent, they will give rise to the same topology in  $X$ . Be careful

haven't made any statement about the converse. Now let check if

$\delta$  and  $d$  are equivalent;

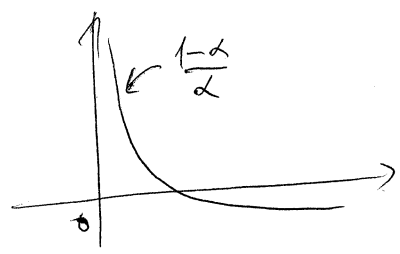
$$\delta(x,y) = \frac{d(x,y)}{1+d(x,y)} \leq d(x,y)$$

Thus we only need to find some  $\alpha > 0$  such that  $\delta(x,y) \geq \alpha d(x,y)$ . This

condition means 
$$\frac{d(x,y)}{1+d(x,y)} \geq \alpha d(x,y)$$

or equivalently, 
$$d(x,y) \leq \frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha} \quad \forall x,y \in X.$$

Since  $\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha} = \infty$ , this inequality holds if and only if  $d$  is bounded. Thus, in case  $d$  is bounded,



$d$  and  $\delta$  are equivalent metrics and thus induce the same topology on  $X$ .

What if  $d$  is unbounded? Of course then  $\delta$  and  $d$  are no longer equivalent metrics. But that doesn't mean that the induced topologies are different. By the inequality  $\delta(x,y) \leq d(x,y)$ , every open ball  $B_\delta(x,r)$  in  $(X,d)$  is contained in the open ball  $B_d(x,r)$  in  $(X,\delta)$ . Since any open set in  $(X,\delta)$  is the union of a family of open balls in  $(X,\delta)$ , that set is also an union of a class family of open balls in  $(X,d)$ . Thus an open set in

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$(X, \delta)$  is also open in  $(X, d)$ . Thus  $\tau_\delta \subset \tau_d$  where  $\tau_\delta$  and  $\tau_d$  respectively are the induced topologies on  $(X, \delta)$  and  $(X, d)$ . Another way to think of it is that the inequality  $\delta(x, y) \leq d(x, y)$  says that the distance between two points  $x, y$  from the point of view of  $d$  is greater than that from the point of view of  $\delta$ . That means there are more "things" in between  $x$  and  $y$  in sense of  $d$  than in sense of  $\delta$ . Thus  $d$  should have more open sets than  $\delta$ , and that's why  $\tau_\delta \subset \tau_d$ . To prove the converse  $\tau_d \subset \tau_\delta$ ,

we'll play the same game: we'll show that each ball  $B_d(x, r)$  contains a ball  $B_\delta(x, s)$  for some  $s > 0$ . What we need to find is  $s = s(x, r) > 0$

such that  $B_\delta(x, s) \subset B_d(x, r)$ . Choose  $\frac{r}{r+1} < \epsilon < 1$ . We get

$$d(x, y) \leq r < \frac{s}{1-s} \quad \forall y \in B_d(x, r)$$

$$\text{Thus } \frac{1}{1+d(x, y)} > 1-s, \text{ or } 1 - \frac{1}{1+d(x, y)} < s$$

$$\text{Choose } 0 < s < \frac{r}{r+1}. \text{ Then } \frac{s}{1-s} < r.$$

For every  $y \in B_\delta(x, s)$ , we have  $\delta(x, y) < s$ . Thus

$$\frac{d(x, y)}{1+d(x, y)} < s, \text{ or } \frac{1}{1+d(x, y)} > 1-s$$

are equivalently  $d(x,y) < \frac{s}{1-s}$ . Thus  $d(x,y) < r$  and  $y \in B_d(x,r)$ .

therefore  $B_s(x,s) \subset B_d(x,r)$ , and we conclude that the topologies induced by  $s$  and  $d$  are the same!

In fact, it is very difficult to get a different topology by "manipulating" the given original metric. Since we are dealing with inequalities, and continuous functions, we'll get almost always the same topology. Moreover,

$$X \times X \xrightarrow{d} \mathbb{R}^+ \xrightarrow{x \mapsto \frac{x}{x+1}} \mathbb{R}^+$$

topology has nothing to do with inequality. In some sense, the induced topology is insensitive to the continuous distortion process of ~~of~~ the original metric.

② Problem 7, Ahlfors p. 53

Show that the accumulation points of any set form a closed set.

Proof Let  $X$  be a metric space and  $A$  be the set of all accumulation points of its. We'll show that  $A$  is closed in  $X$ . By the observation that some point has "a lot" of neighbors ~~and~~ be around neighbors in any scale, people divide point into 2 categories: accumulation points and isolated points. Isolated points are those who have "private space", that has its own open set (doesn't share

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with anyone else. By this notion, an isolated point is already an interior point of  $X$ , and the open set containing it is the singleton of itself. Thus, the set of all isolated points ~~are~~<sup>is</sup> just the union of open sets in  $X$  and thus open in  $X$ . The set of accumulation points is by definition the complement of the set of isolated points in  $X$ . Thus the set of accumulation points is closed in  $X$ .

③ Prove that the closure of a connected set is connected.

Proof Let  $X$  be a metric space and  $A$  be a connected set. We'll prove that  $\bar{A}$ , the closure of  $A$  in  $X$ , is also a connected set. What's interesting here is that if a connected space  $A$  is known to be in a larger metric space, or topological space in general, then it could give rise to another connected space set in that total space. In other words, a connected space  $A$  is able to enlarge itself with the help of a medium  $X$ . Thus, in some sense one could extend a connected space infinitely...

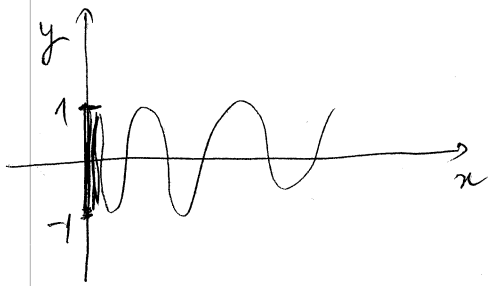
Now return to the proof. Suppose by contradiction that  $\bar{A}$  is not connected. Then  $\bar{A}$  can be separated into two pieces  $\bar{A} = O_1 \cup O_2$  where  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  are disjoint, open and nonempty. So Thus,

$$A = \overline{A} \cap \overline{A} = A \cap (O_1 \cup O_2) = \underbrace{(A \cap O_1)}_{U_1} \cup \underbrace{(A \cap O_2)}_{U_2}$$

Since the topology on  $A$  can be viewed as the relative topology on  $\overline{A}$ ,  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are open in  $A$ . They are also disjoint. Thus since  $A$  is connected, one of them must be empty. WLOG, we can assume that  $A \cap O_1 = \emptyset$ , which means  $A \subset \overline{A} \setminus O_1 = O_2$ . Since  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  are open in  $\overline{A}$ , both of them are ~~open~~ <sup>closed</sup> in  $\overline{A}$ . Thus  $O_2$  is an ~~open~~ a closed subset of  $\overline{A}$  that contains  $A$ . By the maximality of  $\overline{A}$ , we must have  $O_2 = \overline{A}$ , which follows that  $O_1 = \emptyset$ . This is a contradiction.

(4) Problem 4, Ahlfors p. 58

Let  $A$  be the set of points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  with  $x=0, |y| \leq 1$ , and let  $B$  be the set with  $x > 0, y = \sin \frac{1}{x}$ . Is  $A \cup B$  connected?



$$A = \{(x, y) : x=0, |y| \leq 1\}$$

$$B = \{(x, y) : x > 0, y = \sin \frac{1}{x}\}$$

Proof

The set  $A \cup B$  is called the Topologist's Sine Curve. It illustrates vividly that a set which ~~comp~~ consists of two components seemingly to be separated may be still connected. First, since  $A$  is just an interval

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in  $\mathbb{R}$ , it is connected. We'll show that  $B$  is also connected. Suppose by



contradiction that  $B = O_1 \cup O_2$  where  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  are open, disjoint and nonempty subsets in  $B$ . For each

$x > 0$ , we denote the point  $M_x = (x, \sin \frac{1}{x})$ . Then

$$B = O_1 \cup O_2 = \{M_x : x > 0\}$$

Since  $O_1, O_2 \neq \emptyset$ , there exist  $x_1 > 0$  and  $x_2 > 0$  such that  $M_{x_1} \in O_1$  and  $M_{x_2} \in O_2$ . WLOG we can assume  $x_1 < x_2$ . Note that for each  $x > 0$ ,

$M_x$  belongs to exactly one of  $O_1$  and  $O_2$ . We define

$$x_0 = \sup \{x < x_2 : M_x \in O_1\}$$

then  $0 < x_0 \leq x_2$ . Thus  $M_{x_0} \in O_1$  or  $M_{x_0} \in O_2$ . If  $M_{x_0} \in O_2$ ,

then there exists an open ball in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , say

$B(M_{x_0}, \delta)$ , which lies completely in such that

$$B \cap B(M_{x_0}, \delta) \subset O_1.$$

Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \sin \frac{1}{x} = \sin \frac{1}{x_0}$ , we have  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} M_x = M_{x_0}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Thus

there exists  $\delta' > 0$  such that  $M_x \in B(M_{x_0}, \delta) \forall |x - x_0| < \delta'$ . Thus

$M_x \in O_1 \forall |x - x_0| < \delta'$ . Particularly,  $M_{x_0 + \delta'/2} \in O_1$ . This contradicts

the definition of  $x_0$ .



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Therefore  $M_{x_0} \in O_2$ . Similarly, there exists  $\delta' > 0$  such that

$M_x \in O_2 \forall |x - x_0| < \delta'$ . Thus  $M_x \notin O_1 \forall x_0 - \frac{\delta'}{2} < x < x_0$ . Thus

$x_0$  is no longer the least upper bound of the set  $\{x < x_2 : M_x \in O_1\}$ , and this is a contradiction. Therefore, both  $A$  and  $B$  are connected.

Suppose by contradiction that  $C = A \cup B$  is not connected. Then  $C = U_1 \cup U_2$  where  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are open, disjoint and non-empty subsets of  $C$ .

We have  $A = A \cap C = \underbrace{(A \cap U_1)}_{\text{open, disjoint subsets of } A} \cup \underbrace{(A \cap U_2)}$ . Since  $A$  is connected,

either  $A \cap U_1$  or  $A \cap U_2$  is empty. We can assume  $A \cap U_2 = \emptyset$ . Thus

$A \subset U_1$ . Similarly  $B \subset U_1$  or  $B \subset U_2$ . If  $B \subset U_1$  then  $A \cup B = U_1$  and thus  $U_2 = \emptyset$ , which is contradictory. Thus  $B \subset U_2$ . Since  $A \cup B = U_1 \cup U_2$  we have  $A = U_1$  and  $B = U_2$ . In other words,  $A$  and  $B$  are open

and disjoint in  $C$ . Since  $O = (0,0) \in A$ , there exists an open disc  $B(o, \delta)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$

such that  $(B(o, \delta) \cap C) \subset A$ . Thus  $(B(o, \delta) \cap C) \cap B = \emptyset$ . Hence,

$$B(o, \delta) \cap B = \emptyset$$

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we see that  $(\frac{1}{n}, \sin \frac{1}{2n\pi}) \in B$  where  $x_n = \frac{1}{2n\pi}$ .

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thus  $(\frac{1}{2n\pi}, 0) \in B \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $n$  is suff. large, then

$(\frac{1}{2n\pi}, 0) \in B \cap B(0, \delta)$ . This is a contradiction.

In conclusion,  $A \cup B$  is connected.

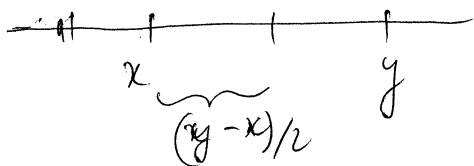
⑤ Problem 3, Ahlfors p. 63

Use compactness to prove that a closed bounded set of real numbers has a maximum.

Proof Let  $A$  be a compact set in  $\mathbb{R}$ . We are to show that  $A$  has a maximum. Suppose that  $A$  has no maximum. Then for each  $x \in A$ ,

there exists  $y = y(x) \in A$  such that  $x < y$ . Put  $B(x) = (x - \frac{y-x}{2}, x + \frac{y-x}{2}) \cap A$

Then  $\bigcup_{x \in A} B(x) = A$ . Thus  $\{B(x)\}_{x \in A}$



is an open covering of  $A$ . Thus there

exists a finite subcovering since  $A$  is compact. Let's call them  $B(x_1), B(x_2), \dots,$

$B(x_n)$ , or just briefly  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$ . Also let's denote  $B(x_1), B(x_2), \dots,$

$B(x_n)$  by  $y_1, \dots, y_n$ . We have

$$A = \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i$$

and  $x < y_i \quad \forall x \in B_i$ . Thus  $x < \max\{y_i\} \quad \forall x \in \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i$

Thus  $x < \max\{y_i\} = y_j \quad \forall x \in A$ . Thus  $y_j < y_j$ , and this is a contradiction.

(6) Problem 4, Ahlfors p. 63

If  $E_1 \supset E_2 \supset E_3 \supset \dots$  is a decreasing sequence of nonempty compact sets, then the intersection  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n$  is not empty (Cantor's lemma). Show by example that this need not be true if the sets are merely closed.

Proof This is actually a special case of a more general statement, which is called "finite intersection property": In a ~~compact~~<sup>topological</sup> space, if a family of compact sets has the finite intersection property (the intersection of <sup>any</sup> finitely many sets is finite) then it will have non-empty intersection. However, we will prove Cantor's lemma without using this result. Suppose by

contradiction that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n = \emptyset$ . Then

$$E_1 = E_1 \setminus \bigcap_{n=2}^{\infty} E_n = \bigcup_{n=2}^{\infty} (E_n \setminus E_n)$$

Since each  $E_n$  is compact, it is closed in  $E_1$ , and hence  $E_1 \setminus E_n$  is open in  $E_1$ .

Thus  $\{E_1 \setminus E_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is an open covering of  $E_1$ . ~~This~~ Since  $E_1$  is compact, it has a finite subcovering. Thus

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$$E_1 = \bigcup_{k=1}^m (E_1 \setminus E_{n_k}) = E_1 \setminus \left( \bigcap_{k=1}^m E_{n_k} \right)$$

thus  $\bigcap_{k=1}^m E_{n_k} = \emptyset$ , while we know that

$$E_{n_1} \supset E_{n_2} \supset \dots \supset E_{n_m}$$

Thus  $\bigcap_{k=1}^m E_{n_k} = E_{n_m}$ . Thus  $E_{n_m} = \emptyset$ , which contradicts the hypothesis.

If we remove the compactness in the hypothesis and replace it by closedness, the conclusion may not be true. For instance, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we put

$$E_n = \mathbb{R} \setminus (-n, n). \text{ Then } E_1 \supset E_2 \supset E_3 \supset \dots \text{ and each set is closed in}$$

the previous ones. However,

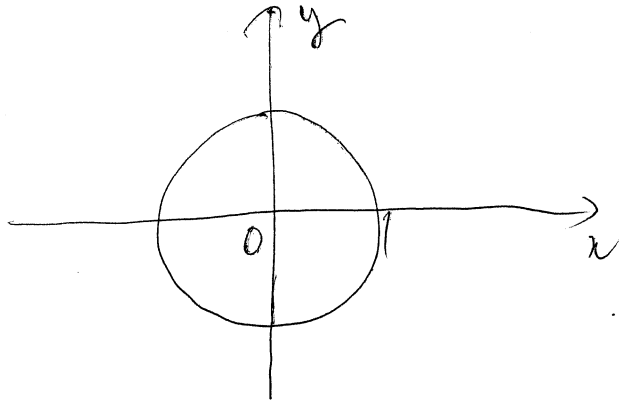
$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (\mathbb{R} \setminus (-n, n)) = \mathbb{R} \setminus \left( \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-n, n) \right) = \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{R} = \emptyset.$$

One of the reasons why this is not true when we replace compactness by closedness is that the closedness is not an absolute property. It is a relative property of one space with respect to another (larger) space. Thus the choice of  $E_n$ 's is much more arbitrary and may not satisfy the condition  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n \neq \emptyset$ .

(7) Problem 1, Ahlfors p. 66

4.5/5 Construct a topological mapping of the open disk  $|z| < 1$  onto the whole plane.

Proof



Let  $B_2$  be the disk  $|z| < 1$ . Consider the map

$$f: B_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$z \mapsto \frac{z}{1-|z|} \quad \checkmark$$

Check  $f$  is injective (one-to-one)

$$f(z_1) = f(z_2) \text{ implies } \frac{z_1}{1-|z_1|} = \frac{z_2}{1-|z_2|} \quad (*)$$

$$\text{Take the modulus both side gives } \frac{|z_1|}{1-|z_1|} = \frac{|z_2|}{1-|z_2|}, \text{ or } |z_1| = |z_2|.$$

Then substituting back to  $(*)$  gives  $z_1 = z_2$ .  $\checkmark$

Check  $f$  is surjective (onto)

$$f(z) = w \text{ is equivalent to } \frac{z}{1-|z|} = w. \text{ Taking the modulus both side gives}$$

$$\frac{|z|}{1-|z|} = |w|, \text{ or } |z| = |w| - |z||w|, \text{ or } |z| = \frac{|w|}{1+|w|} \quad \text{Thus}$$

$$\frac{z}{1-|z|} = w \Leftrightarrow \frac{z}{1 - \frac{|w|}{1+|w|}} = w, \text{ which is equiv. to } \frac{z}{\frac{1}{1+|w|}} = w, \text{ which}$$

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is equiv. to  $z = \frac{w}{1+|w|}$  ← which is in the open disk.  $\therefore$  thus  $f$  is surjective and

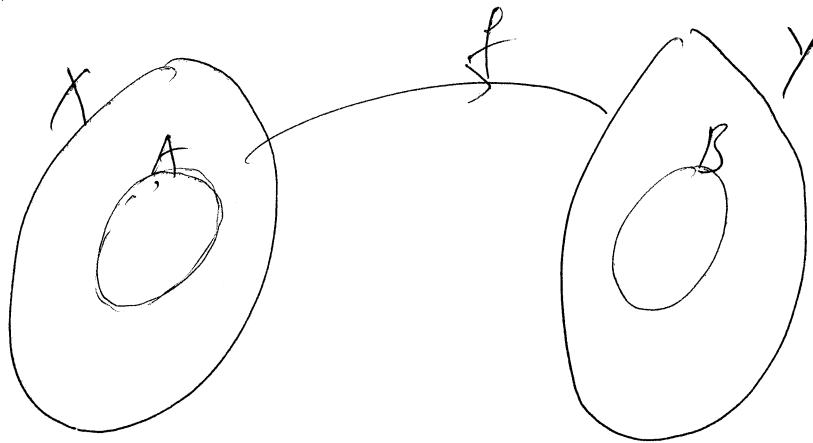
$$f^{-1}(w) = \frac{w}{1+|w|} \quad \forall w \in \mathbb{C}$$

Check the bi-continuity

Since the denominators of  $f(z)$  and  $f^{-1}(w)$  are never zero, they are both continuous. Thus  $f$  is a topological mapping from  $B_2$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ .  $\checkmark$

⑧ Prove that every continuous one-to-one mapping of a compact space is topological.

Proof



Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be metric spaces such that  $X$  is compact. Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be continuous and one-to-one. We'll show that  $f: X \rightarrow \text{Im} f$  is topological. WLOG, we can assume  $\text{Im} f = Y$  to say that  $f$  is surjective. Thus  $f$  is bijective and continuous from  $X$  to  $Y$ . All what we need to prove is that  $f^{-1}$  is continuous. To do so, we need to prove  $(f^{-1})^{-1}(\text{closed set}) = \text{closed set}$ .

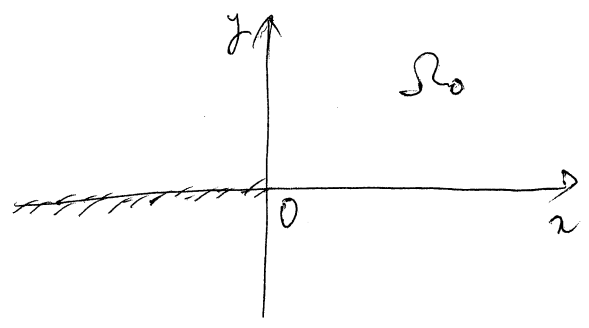
In other words, we need to show that  $f(A)$  is closed in  $Y$  for every closed set  $A$  in  $X$ . Since  $A$  is closed in  $X$  and  $X$  is compact,  $A$  is also compact. Since  $f$  is continuous,  $f(A) = B$  is compact. Since  $B$  is a compact subspace of  $Y$ , it is closed in  $Y$ .

9) Problem 1, Ahlfors p. 72

Give a precise definition of a single-valued branch of  $\sqrt{1+z} + \sqrt{1-z}$  in a suitable region, and prove that it is analytic.

Proof We know that the function  $w \mapsto \sqrt{w}$  is single-valued in  $\Omega_0 = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{z: \text{Im } z = 0, \text{Re } z \leq 0\}$ , in sense <sup>that</sup> there is exactly only one

square root of  $w$  which has positive real part. And the function



$\Omega_0: w \mapsto \sqrt{w}$  takes this unique value. Moreover the function

$$g: \Omega_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$w \mapsto \sqrt{w}$$

is analytic (Ahlfors p. 70). we know that the function (single-valued)

~~Sorry. This isn't proved in Ahlfors~~

$$f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$z \mapsto 1+z$$

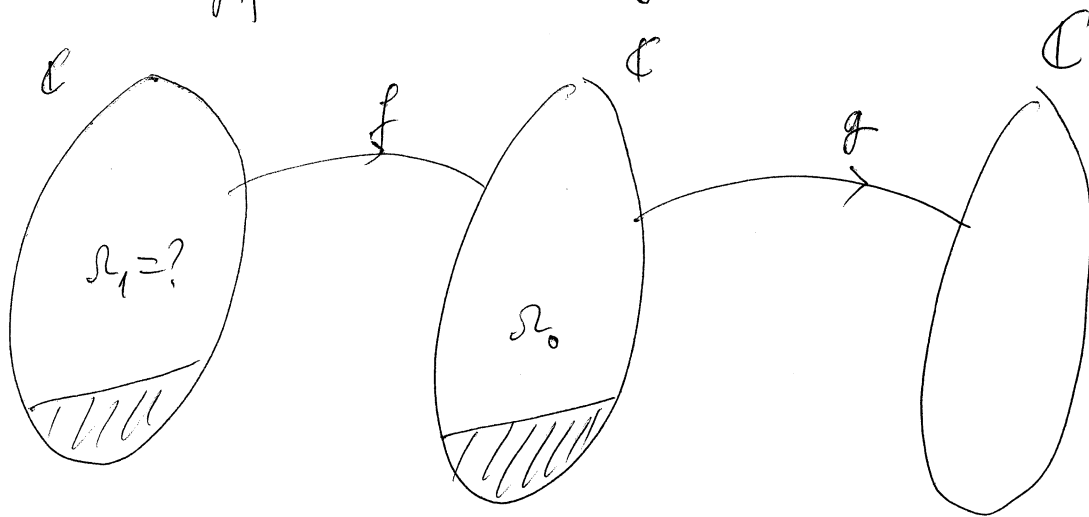
and

$$h: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$z \mapsto 1-z$$

are both analytic on  $\mathbb{C}$ . Thus we have the single-valued function

$z \mapsto g \circ f(z)$  and  $z \mapsto g \circ h(z)$



The domain of analyticity of  $g \circ f$  is  $\Omega_1 = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : f(z) \in \Omega_0\}$ , that is

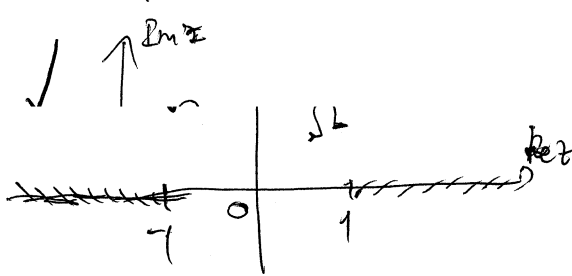
$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1 &= \{z \in \mathbb{C} : 1+z \in \Omega_0\} \\ &= \mathbb{C} \setminus \{z : \text{Im}(1+z) = 0, \text{Re}(1+z) \leq 0\} \\ &= \mathbb{C} \setminus \{z : \text{Im}(z) = 0, \text{Re}(z) \leq -1\} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the domain of analyticity of  $g \circ h$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_2 &= \{z : 1-z \in \Omega_0\} \\ &= \mathbb{C} \setminus \{z : \text{Im}(1-z) = 0, \text{Re}(1-z) \leq 0\} \\ &= \mathbb{C} \setminus \{z : \text{Im} z = 0, \text{Re} z \geq 1\} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the domain of analyticity of  $z \mapsto g \circ f(z) + g \circ h(z) = \sqrt{1+z} + \sqrt{1-z}$  is

$$\Omega = \Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2 = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{z : \text{Im} z = 0; \text{Re} z \leq -1 \text{ or } \text{Re} z \geq 1\}$$



And  $\sqrt{1+z}$  is the square root of  $1+z$  which ... makes pos. part ...  
 $\sqrt{1-z}$  is the square root of  $1-z$  has positive real part.

completion: 12/12

which