

## Setting up the solution

The branch cut for  $z^p, (z-1)^q$  is given to be along the positive real axis so we take the definition of the two functions as

$$z^p = r^p e^{ip\theta}, \quad 0 < \theta < 2\pi, \quad (1)$$

$$(z-1)^q = \rho^q e^{iq\phi}, \quad 0 < \phi < 2\pi. \quad (2)$$

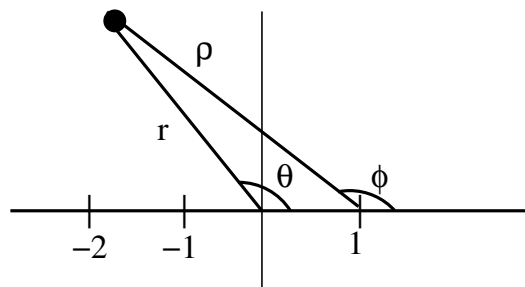


Fig. 1

It is important that while computing the values of the functions and derivatives the values of  $\theta, \phi$  must be taken in the ranges as specified in (1) and (2). We shall find the Taylor series for the two functions  $z^p$  and  $(z-1)^q$  separately and multiply the two series to find the series for the function  $f(z)$ .

**Prepare for computing the values at the point  $-1$ :**

From the definitions of  $r, \theta, \rho$  and  $\phi$  we see, from the figure that for the point  $z_0 = -1$ , we have

$$r = 1, \theta = \pi; \quad \rho = 2, \phi = \pi.$$

Therefore

$$z_0 = |z_0|e^{i\pi} = e^{i\pi}; \quad (z_0 - 1)^q = 2^q e^{iq\phi}. \quad (3)$$

**Taylor series of  $z^p$ :** We compute the successive derivatives at  $z = z_0 = -1$

$$a_0 = z^p \Big|_{z=-1} = e^{ip\pi} \quad (4)$$

$$a_1 = \frac{dz^p}{dz} \Big|_{z=-1} = pz^{p-1} \Big|_{z=-1} = pe^{i(p-1)\pi} = -pe^{ip\pi} \quad (5)$$

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 z^p}{dz^2} \Big|_{z=-1} \quad (6)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} p(p-1) z^{p-2} \Big|_{z=-1} = \frac{1}{2} p(p-1) e^{ip\pi} \quad (7)$$

Hence the Taylor series is given by

$$z^p = e^{ip\pi} \left[ 1 - pw - \frac{p(p-1)}{2} w^2 + \dots \right] \quad (8)$$

where  $w = z - z_0 = z + 1$ .

**Taylor series of  $(z - 1)^q$ :** The successive derivatives at  $z = z_0$  are given by

$$a_0 = (z - 1)^q \Big|_{z=-1} = 2^q e^{iq\pi} \quad (9)$$

$$a_1 = \frac{d(z - 1)^q}{dz} \Big|_{z=-1} = qz^{q-1} = -q2^{q-1} e^{iq\pi} \quad (10)$$

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2(z - 1)^q}{dz^2} \Big|_{z=-1} \quad (11)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} q(q-1)z^{q-1} \Big|_{z=-1} = 2^{q-2} \frac{q(q-1)}{2} e^{iq\pi} \quad (12)$$

Hence the Taylor series is given by

$$(z - 1)^q = e^{iq\pi} 2^q \left[ 1 - \frac{qw}{2} + \frac{q(q-1)}{8} w^2 + \dots \right] \quad (13)$$

(Note that we have taken  $2^q$  out as a common factor.)

**Taylor series of the product  $z^p(z - 1)^q$ :** We multiply the two Taylor series in (8) and (13) to get the final answer as

$$\begin{aligned} z^p(z - 1)^q &= e^{ip\pi} \left[ 1 - pw - \frac{p(p-1)}{2} w^2 + \dots \right] \times e^{iq\pi} 2^q \left[ 1 - \frac{qw}{2} + \frac{q(q-1)}{8} w^2 + \dots \right] \\ &= 2^q e^{i(p+q)\pi} \left[ 1 - (p+q/2)w + \left( \frac{pq}{2} - \frac{p(p-1)}{2} + \frac{q(q-1)}{8} \right) w^2 + \dots \right] \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

For  $p = 1 - q$  the series reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} z(1 - q)(z - 1)^q &= 2^q e^{i(p+q)\pi} \left[ 1 - (p+q/2)w - \left( \frac{p(1-p)}{2} + \frac{p(p-1)}{2} - \frac{q(q-1)}{8} \right) w^2 + \dots \right] \\ &= -2^q \left( 1 + \frac{2-q}{2} w + \frac{q(q-1)}{8} w^2 + \dots \right) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$