

EXPONENTIAL MAPPING

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The exponential of a complex number is given by Euler's equation

$$e^z = e^x (\cos y + i \sin y) \quad (1)$$

The domain of definition and the range are both the entire complex plane. Although e^x is restricted to positive real numbers, the cosine and sine can both take values between -1 and 1 , so e^z can be any complex number.

Using this form we can map sets of points in the complex plane to other sets of points.

Example 1. The vertical line $\Re z = 1$ is mapped as follows.

$$e^z = e^1 (\cos y + i \sin y) \quad (2)$$

The magnitude of the RHS is a constant e and y can take any value, so this mapping is the circle of radius e .

Example 2. Map the horizontal line $\Im z = \frac{\pi}{4}$. We have

$$e^z = e^x \left(\cos \frac{\pi}{4} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} e^x (1 + i) \quad (4)$$

The magnitude can be any value greater than zero. The point $1 + i$ lies on the line $y = x$, so this mapping is the line $y = x$ for $x > 0$. Note that the e^x here is a factor in the magnitude of the complex number, rather than the curve $y = e^x$ that we would get when plotting the real function $f(x) = e^x$.

Example 3. Map the strip $0 \leq \Im z \leq \frac{\pi}{4}$. The upper bound at $\Im z = \frac{\pi}{4}$ is the line $y = x$ for $x > 0$ from Example 2. The lower bound is the mapping of the real axis $y = 0$, so we get

$$e^z = e^x (\cos 0 + i \sin 0) \quad (5)$$

$$= e^x \quad (6)$$

Thus the line $\Im z = 0$ maps to the positive real axis $x > 0$. The strip $0 \leq \Im z \leq \frac{\pi}{4}$ thus maps to the infinite triangular wedge with vertex at the origin (but not including the origin) and bounded by the lines $y = 0$ and $y = x$, both with $x > 0$.