

Cauchy-Riemann Equations in Polar Form

Apart from the direct derivation given on page 35 and relying on chain rule, these equations can also be obtained more geometrically by equating single-directional derivative of a function at any point along a radial line and along a circle (see picture):

Derivative along radial line:

$$\frac{df}{dz} = \frac{\partial f}{e^{i\theta} \partial r} = e^{-i\theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} = e^{-i\theta} (u_r + iv_r)$$

Derivative along a circle:

$$\frac{df}{dz} = \frac{\partial f}{ire^{i\theta} \partial \theta} = -\frac{ie^{-i\theta}}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} = -\frac{ie^{-i\theta}}{r} (u_\theta + iv_\theta) = \frac{e^{-i\theta}}{r} (v_\theta - iu_\theta)$$

Equate these two expressions to obtain the result:

$u_r = \frac{1}{r} v_\theta$
$v_r = -\frac{1}{r} u_\theta$

