

Question

State Rouché's theorem and use it to show that all the roots of the equation

$$z^5 + \alpha z^2 + 1 = 0,$$

where the constant α satisfies $|\alpha| \leq 7$, lie inside the circle $|z| = 2$.

Assume that $\alpha = 1 + ib$ where $b > 1$. Use the argument principle to show that just two of these roots lie in the first quadrant.

Answer

Rouché's Theorem

Let $f(z) = z^5$ and $g(z) = \alpha z^2 + 1$

For $|z| = 2$ $|f(z)| = 32$, $|g(z)| \leq |\alpha||z|^2 + 1 \leq 7.4 + 1 = 29$ By Rouché's theorem f and $f + g$ have the same number of roots inside $|z| = 2$ i.e. all the 5 roots of $f + g$ are in C .

Suppose $\alpha = 1 + ib$ $b > 1$

DIAGRAM

The number of zeros $= \frac{1}{2\pi} [\arg g(z)]_C$

On the real axis $f(x) = x^5 + x^2 + 1 + ibx^2$

$\tan \arg g(z) = \frac{bx^2}{x^5 + x^2 + 1}$ this is continuous for $x \geq 0$, zero when $x = 0$ and $\rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$. So the change in $\arg g(z)$ along OA is $< \epsilon_1$.

On the imaginary axis

$$g(z) = (iy)^5 + (iy)^2 + 1 + ib(iy)^2 = iy^5 - iby^2 + y^2 + 1$$

So $\tan \arg f(z) = \frac{y^5 - by^2}{y^2 + 1}$ this is continuous, zero at $y = 0$ and $\rightarrow \infty$ as

$y \rightarrow \infty$. So the change in $\arg g(z)$ along BO is $-\frac{\pi}{2} + \epsilon_2$.

On the circle C , $z = Re^{i\theta}$

$$g(z) = R^5 e^{5i\theta} \left(1 + \frac{e^{-3i\theta}}{R^2} + \frac{e^{-5i\theta}}{R^5} + \frac{ibe^{-2i\theta}}{R^2} \right)$$

$$\arg g(z) = 5\theta + \arg(1 + w)$$

w is small if R is large, so $\arg(1 + w)$ varies little,

$$\text{so } [\arg g(z)]_{\text{arc } AB} = \frac{5\pi}{2} + \epsilon_3$$

$$\text{So } \frac{1}{2\pi} [\arg g(z)] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{5\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2} + \epsilon \right] = 2 \text{ as it is an integer}$$

So $g(z)$ has 2 roots in the first quadrant.