

neighborhood of **either both** Γ_1 and Γ_2 . Theorem 3.6.7 is now applicable and yields that

$$\int_{\Gamma_1} f(z) dz = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\Gamma_2} f(z) dz = 0.$$

Adding these two equalities, we obtain

$$\int_{\Gamma_1} f(z) dz + \int_{\Gamma_2} f(z) dz = 0,$$

or

$$\int_P f(z) dz + \int_Q f(z) dz + \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\int_{P_j^*} f(z) dz + \int_{Q_j^*} f(z) dz \right) = 0,$$

using Proposition 3.2.12(iii). Proposition 3.2.12(ii) now yields

$$\int_{P_j^*} f(z) dz + \int_{Q_j^*} f(z) dz = - \int_{P_j} f(z) dz - \int_{Q_j} f(z) dz = - \int_{C_j} f(z) dz,$$

hence we conclude that

$$\int_P f(z) dz + \int_Q f(z) dz - \sum_{j=1}^n \int_{C_j} f(z) dz = 0,$$

which is equivalent to (3.7.1). ■

Next, in the fundamental integral of Example 3.2.10, we replace the circle by an arbitrary positively oriented, simple, closed path C that does not contain a fixed point z_0 .

Example 3.7.4. Let C be a positively oriented, simple, closed path, and z_0 be a point not on C . Then

$$\int_C \frac{1}{z - z_0} dz = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } z_0 \text{ lies in the exterior of } C; \\ 2\pi i & \text{if } z_0 \text{ lies in the interior of } C. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, for $n \neq 1$,

$$\int_C \frac{1}{(z - z_0)^n} dz = 0. \quad (3.7.2)$$

Solution. If z_0 lies in the exterior of C , then $\frac{1}{z - z_0}$ is analytic inside and on C and hence the integral is 0, by Theorem 3.6.7 (Instead of Theorem 3.6.7 we may also apply Theorem 3.4.4 since $\frac{1}{z - z_0}$ has continuous derivatives.)

To deal with the case where z_0 lies in the interior of C , choose $R > 0$ such that $C_R(z_0)$ is contained in the interior of C . The function $\frac{1}{z - z_0}$ is analytic in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{z_0\}$. Applying conclusion (3.7.1) of Theorem 3.7.2, we see that

$$\int_C \frac{1}{z - z_0} dz = \int_{C_R(z_0)} \frac{1}{z - z_0} dz = 2\pi i,$$