

$$\operatorname{Res}\left(g \frac{f'}{f}, p_j\right) = g(p_j) \operatorname{Res}\left(\frac{f'(z)}{f(z)}, p_j\right) = -m(p_j) g(p_j).$$

Now (5.7.7) follows from the residue theorem. ■

**Example 5.7.7.** Evaluate

$$\int_{C_1(0)} \frac{e^z \cos z}{e^z - 1} dz,$$

where  $C_1(0)$  is the positively oriented unit circle.

**Solution.** The function  $f(z) = e^z - 1$  has a zero at  $z = 0$  and, because  $f'(0) = 1 \neq 0$ , this zero is simple. Also, using the  $2\pi i$ -periodicity of  $e^z$ , it is easy to see that  $e^z = 1$  inside the unit disk  $|z| < 1$  only at  $z = 0$ . Applying (5.7.7) with  $f(z) = e^z - 1$  and  $g(z) = \cos z$  it follows immediately that

$$\int_{C_1(0)} \frac{e^z \cos z}{e^z - 1} dz = 2\pi i \cos 0 = 2\pi i. \quad \square$$

As an application of the counting principle we derive a famous result known as Rouché's theorem, named after the French mathematician and educator Eugène Rouché (1832–1910). We need the following lemma.

**Lemma 5.7.8.** *Let  $\phi$  be a continuous function on a region  $\Omega$  that takes only integer values. Then  $\phi$  is constant in  $\Omega$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\phi$  is not constant, and let  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  in  $\Omega$  be such that  $\phi(z_1) = n_1 < \phi(z_2) = n_2$ . Let  $r$  be a real number such that  $n_1 < r < n_2$ . Since  $\phi$  is continuous, the sets

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{z \in \Omega : \phi(z) < r\} \\ B &= \{z \in \Omega : \phi(z) > r\} \end{aligned}$$

are open. Also,  $z_1 \in A$  and  $z_2 \in B$ , hence  $A$  and  $B$  are nonempty. They are also disjoint and satisfy  $A \cup B = \Omega$ . This contradicts the fact that  $\Omega$  is connected. Thus  $\phi$  is constant. ■

In what follows, we need a version of Lemma 5.7.8, where  $\phi$  is a continuous, integer-valued function on an interval  $[a, b]$ . The preceding proof can be easily modified to cover this case.

**Theorem 5.7.9. (Rouché's Theorem)** *Suppose that  $C$  is a simple closed path,  $\Omega$  is the region inside  $C$ ,  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic inside and on  $C$ . If  $|g(z)| < |f(z)|$  for all  $z$  on  $C$ , then*

$$N(f+g) = N(f)$$

*in other words,  $f+g$  and  $f$  have the same number of zeros in  $\Omega$ .*