

Towards complex analysis in VTC^0

Emil Jeřábek

Institute of Mathematics
Czech Academy of Sciences
jerabek@math.cas.cz
<https://users.math.cas.cz/~jerabek/>

Proof Complexity 2025

University of Oxford, August 2025

Feasible analytic reasoning

Formalization of mathematical results in **bounded arithmetic**:

- ▶ feasible reasoning, “bounded reverse mathematics”
- ▶ uniform propositional proofs
- ▶ consistency of computational complexity conjectures

Typically: finite combinatorics, elementary number theory

Some arguments use tools from **complex analysis**:

- ▶ generating functions in enumerative combinatorics
- ▶ analytic number theory
- ▶ eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Can we do such things in bounded arithmetic?

\mathbf{TC}^0 and \mathbf{VTC}^0

Suitable complexity class: uniform \mathbf{TC}^0

- ▶ $+, -, \cdot, /, \sum_{i < n} X_i, \prod_{i < n} X_i$ on $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(i)$ [HAB'02]
- ▶ approximation of functions given by nice power series

Corresponding theory: \mathbf{VTC}^0 [NC'06,CN'10]

- ▶ formalize basic arithmetic operations incl. $\prod_{i < n} X_i$ [J'22]
- ▶ model-theoretic construction of “reals”: [J'15,J'23]
 $\mathfrak{M} \models \mathbf{VTC}^0 \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{Q}^{\mathfrak{M}} \rightsquigarrow$ topological completion $\mathbf{R}^{\mathfrak{M}}, \mathbf{C}^{\mathfrak{M}}$
 - ▶ construction of elementary analytic functions on $\mathbf{C}^{\mathfrak{M}}$
 - ▶ no general theory of analytic functions

Can't quantify over reals, sequences, functions, ...

\implies need a more robust setup

NB: Theories for real analysis (Ferreira, Ferreira, Fernandes)
— too strong in several respects

VTC⁰ with infinite sets

VTC⁰: Zambella-style two-sorted bounded arithmetic

- ▶ unary (index/auxiliary) integers: $0, 1, +, \cdot, \leq$
- ▶ finite sets \approx binary integers \approx binary strings: $\in, |X|$

VTC _{∞} ⁰: two-sorted arithmetic with infinite sets

- ▶ unary (index/auxiliary) integers: $0, 1, +, \cdot, \leq$
- ▶ sets of unary integers: \in (no $=$)
- ▶ \mathbb{Q} , induction, comprehension for $\Sigma_0^B = \Delta_0^0$ formulas:
 $\exists X \forall n (n \in X \leftrightarrow \varphi)$
- ▶ \exists counting functions for sets
- ▶ finite sets encoded as a set X + a bound n

VTC _{∞} ⁰ is fully conservative over VTC⁰

$\forall \exists$ theorems of VTC _{∞} ⁰ witnessed by “infinitary **TC**⁰ functions”

NB: [Buss'85] variants of V_1^i , U_1^i with infinite sets

Objects encodable in VTC_{∞}^0

- ▶ **sequences** of binary objects: $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbf{L}}$, $X_n \subseteq [0, n^c]$
(\mathbf{L} = unary/logarithmic integers, $c \in \mathbb{N}$ standard constant)
encoded as $X_n = \{j < n^c : \langle n, j \rangle \in X\}$
- ▶ **real numbers**: sequence of integers $a = \{A[n]\}_{n \in \mathbf{L}}$ s.t.
 $|A[n] - 2^{-m}A[n+m]| \leq 1$
 - ▶ represents $a = \lim_n 2^{-n}A[n]$
 - ▶ comparison: $a \leq b \iff \forall n \in \mathbf{L} A[n] \leq B[n] + 2$
 - ▶ **complex numbers** $z = x + iy$
- ▶ **double sequences** $\{X_{n,m}\}_{n,m \in \mathbf{L}}$
 - \implies **real/complex sequences** $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbf{L}}$
 - \implies **power series** $f(z) = \sum_n a_n (z - w)^n$
- ▶ **analytic functions**: sequence of power series (see later)

Convergence and power series

Sequence with a **polynomial modulus** of Cauchyness has a limit

- ▶ **arithmetical operations** $+, \cdot \implies \mathbb{R}$ is an ordered field
 - ▶ adapting [J'15] to VTC_∞^0 : \mathbb{R} is a **RCF**, \mathbb{C} **ACF**
 - ▶ more generally: $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{L}} \mapsto \{\sum_{n < N} a_n\}_{N \in \mathbb{L}}, \{\prod_{n < N} a_n\}_{N \in \mathbb{L}}$
- ▶ adapting [J'23]: VTC_∞^0 has well-behaved definitions of **elementary analytic functions** ($\exp, \log, \sin, \arctan, \dots$)

Convergence properties of power series $f(z) = \sum_n a_n z^n$:

- ▶ $\sum_n a_n z^n$ converges for $|z| <^* r$ if $a_n = O(r^{-n})$
 $\{a_n z^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{L}}$ unbounded for $|z| \geq r$ if $a_n \neq O(r^{-n})$
- ▶ **def.:** $\sum_n a_n z^n$ has **radius of convergence** $\geq \varrho$
if $a_n = O(r^{-n})$ for all $r <^* \varrho$
- ▶ $r <^* \varrho \implies$ converges **polynomially uniformly** on $B(0, r)$

Notation: $x <^* y \iff x \leq y(1 - m^{-1})$ for some $m \in \mathbb{L}$

Operations on power series

Derivatives and primitive functions $f^{(n)}(z)$, $n \in \mathbf{Z}_L$:

- ▶ explicit formula; same radius of convergence

$\sum_{n < N} f_n$: term-wise

$\prod_{n < N} f_n$, $f(g(z))$: ($g(0) = 0$)

- ▶ polynomials: evaluate at $\{e^{2\pi ij/m}\}_{j < m}$, interpolate (DFT)
- ▶ power series: apply to partial sums

Shift: $f(z) = \sum_n a_n(z - u)^n \mapsto f_v(z) = \sum_n b_n(z - v)^n$

- ▶ f radius $\geq \varrho$, $|v - u| <^* \varrho \implies f_v$ radius $\geq \varrho - |v - u|$
- ▶ $|w - v| + |v - u| <^* \varrho \implies f(w) = f_v(w)$
more generally: $f_w = (f_v)_w$

Analytic functions

$f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ represented by $\{w_k, \varrho_k, a_{k,n}\}_{k,n \in \mathbb{N}}$ where

- ▶ $f_k(z) := \sum_n a_{k,n}(z - w_k)$ has radius of convergence $\geq \varrho_k$
- ▶ domain $\Omega = \bigcup_k B^*(w_k, \varrho_k/3)$
- ▶ $|w_k - w_l| <^* \varrho_k \implies f_l = (f_k)_{w_l}$ (f_k shifted to w_l)

$z \in \Omega \implies f(z) := f_k(z)$ for any k s.t. $z \in B^*(w_k, \varrho_k/3)$

- ▶ independent of the choice of k
- ▶ more generally: $f_z := (f_k)_z$ also independent

Contour integration

Analytic function $f = \bigcup_k f_k$ as above,

$f_k(z) = \sum_n a_{k,n}(z - w_k)^n$ radius $\geq \varrho_k$

γ piecewise linear path with endpoints $\{z_j : j \leq \ell\}$

Define $\int_{\gamma} f(z) dz := \sum_{j < \tilde{\ell}} (F_{k_j}(\tilde{z}_j) - F_{k_j}(\tilde{z}_{j+1}))$ if

- ▶ $\tilde{\gamma} \equiv \{\tilde{z}_j : j \leq \tilde{\ell}\}$ subdivision of γ
- ▶ $\tilde{z}_j, \tilde{z}_{j+1} \in B^*(w_{k_j}, \varrho_{k_j}/3)$ for each $j < \tilde{\ell}$
- ▶ F_k = the primitive function of f_k

VTC_{∞}^0 proves

- ▶ uniqueness
- ▶ existence if γ covered by $\bigcup_{k < K} B^*(w_k, \varrho_k/3)$

What's next?

Work in progress

Some goals to pursue:

- ▶ Cauchy's residue theorem and calculus of residues
- ▶ root counting (argument principle, Rouché's theorem)
- ▶ analytic continuation, monodromy
- ▶ maximum modulus principle
- ▶ ...

Applications in combinatorics, number theory

References

- ▶ S. R. Buss: [Bounded arithmetic](#), Bibliopolis, Naples, 1986
- ▶ S. Cook, P. Nguyen: [Logical foundations of proof complexity](#), Cambridge Univ. Press, 2010
- ▶ A. M. Fernandes, F. Ferreira, G. Ferreira: [Analysis in weak systems](#), in Logic and computation: Essays in honour of Amílcar Sernadas, College Publication, 2017, 231–262
- ▶ F. Ferreira: [A feasible theory for analysis](#), J. Symb. Logic 59 (1994), 1001–1011
- ▶ F. Ferreira, G. Ferreira: [The Riemann integral in weak systems of analysis](#), J. Univ. Computer Sci. 14 (2008), 908–937
- ▶ W. Hesse, E. Allender, D. M. Barrington: [Uniform constant-depth threshold circuits for division and iterated multiplication](#), J. Comp. System Sci. 65 (2002), 695–716
- ▶ E. Jeřábek: [Open induction in a bounded arithmetic for \$TC^0\$](#) , Arch. Math. Logic 54 (2015), 359–394
- ▶ E. Jeřábek: [Iterated multiplication in \$VTC^0\$](#) , Arch. Math. Logic 61 (2022), 705–767
- ▶ E. Jeřábek: [Elementary analytic functions in \$VTC^0\$](#) , Ann. Pure Appl. Logic 174 (2023), 103269
- ▶ P. Nguyen, S. Cook: [Theories for \$TC^0\$ and other small complexity classes](#), Log. Methods Comput. Sci. 2 (2006), art. 3