Integrals on $(-\infty, \infty)$ evaluated using residue theory

With P(z) and Q(z) being polynomials we consider

$$f(z) = \frac{P(z)}{Q(z)}$$
 (week 24) and $f(z) = \frac{P(z)}{Q(z)}e^{imz}$. (week 25)

Suppose that f(z) has poles at points z_1, \ldots, z_n in the upper half plane. Suppose that Q(z) has no zeros on the real axis.

With $\Gamma_R = [-R, R] \cup C_R^+$ denoting the closed contour

$$\oint_{\Gamma_0} f(z) dz = \int_{-R}^R f(x) dx + \int_{C^+} f(z) dz = 2\pi i \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Res}(f, z_k).$$

When the integral involving \mathcal{C}_R^+ tends to 0 as $R o \infty$ we get

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx \quad \text{or} \quad \text{p.v.} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{R \to \infty} \int_{-R}^{R} f(x) dx.$$

$$\text{MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 1 of 12}$$

Examples in the lectures

In week 24.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^2 + 2x + 2} = \pi.$$

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^4 + 16} dx = \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{16}.$$

In week 25. Let a > 0.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{iax}}{1+x^2} dx = \pi e^{-a}.$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{x \sin(x)}{1+x^2} dx = \pi e^{-1}.$$

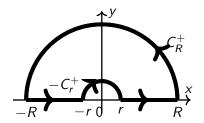
The last example needed Jordan's lemma to justify that the contribution from C_R^+ tends to 0 as $R \to \infty$.

Singularities on $\mathbb R$ and Cauchy principal values

Suppose f(z) has a simple pole on $\mathbb R$ and we want to evaluate

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x.$$

The integrals need to be considered in a principal valued sense. In the case of a pole at z=0 we need an indented contour as illustrated below.



The knowledge of the Laurent series enables us to determine the contribution from the smaller half circle in the limit $r \to 0$.

MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 3 of 12

The principal value for a singularity on $\mathbb R$

When we have a singularity of f(z) at $x_0 \in [-R, R]$ the principal value means

p.v.
$$\int_{-R}^{R} f(x) dx = \lim_{r \to 0} \left(\int_{-R}^{x_0 - r} f(x) dx + \int_{x_0 + r}^{R} f(x) dx \right)$$

In the above the part of the real line can be described as $[-R,R] \setminus (x_0-r,x_0+r)$. The part of [-R,R] that we are excluding has x_0 exactly in the middle.

The C_r^+ contribution as $r \to 0$

When f(z) has a simple pole at 0 it has a Laurent series of the following form for z sufficiently close to 0.

$$f(z) = \frac{a_{-1}}{z} + g(z)$$
 where $g(z)$ =analytic function.

$$\int_{C_{+}^{+}} f(z) dz = a_{-1} \int_{C_{+}^{+}} \frac{dz}{z} + \int_{C_{+}^{+}} g(z) dz.$$

 $z(\theta) = re^{i\theta}$, $0 \le \theta \le \pi$ describes C_r^+ and the length of C_r^+ is πr .

$$\int_{C_{+}^{+}} \frac{\mathrm{d}z}{z} = \int_{0}^{\pi} \frac{i r \mathrm{e}^{i\theta}}{r \mathrm{e}^{i\theta}} \, \mathrm{d}\theta = i \int_{0}^{\pi} \, \mathrm{d}\theta = \pi i.$$

Now a function g(z) which is analytic on and near C_r^+ has the property of being bounded, i.e. there exists K such that $|g(z)| \le K$ in the region. (K = 2|g(0)| will do if $g(0) \ne 0$ when r is sufficiently small.) Using the ML inequality we have

$$\left| \int_{C_r^+} g(z) \, \mathrm{d}z \right| \le K\pi r \to 0 \quad \text{as } r \to 0. \quad \lim_{r \to 0} \int_{C_r^+} f(z) \, \mathrm{d}z = \pi i \mathrm{Res}(f, 0).$$

$$\text{MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 5 of 12}$$

Examples which use indented contours

In week 25 we showed the following.

$$I_1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} dx = \pi, \quad I_2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin^2(x)}{x^2} dx = \pi.$$

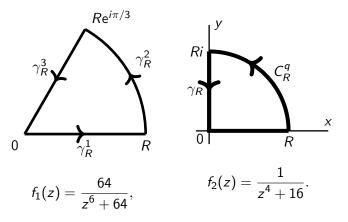
We do these by using an indented contour and using the following expressions.

$$I_1 = \operatorname{Im} \left\{ \operatorname{p.v} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\operatorname{e}^{ix}}{x} \, \mathrm{d}x \right\}.$$

$$I_2 = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \operatorname{p.v} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1 - \operatorname{e}^{2ix}}{2x^2} \, \mathrm{d}x \right\}.$$

 I_1 and I_2 exist in the usual sense, it is just intermediate quantities which need the principal value meaning.

Other loops in the exercises



When R>2 the function $f_1(z)$ has one simple pole at $2e^{\pi i/6}$ inside this loop. In the case of $f_2(z)$ it has one simple pole at $2e^{\pi i/4}$. Both problems could have also been done using an upper half circle which would have involved more than one pole inside the loop in each case.

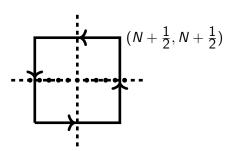
MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 7 of 12

A square as a loop in the exercises

In the context of the sum of a series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} f(n), \quad f(z) \text{ being even,}$$

the following loop Γ_N , which is a square, is used.



This has length $L_N=4(2N+1)$. $M_N=\max\{|f(z)|:z\in\Gamma_N\}$. We need $M_NL_N\to 0$ as $N\to\infty$. MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 8 of 12

Semester 1 exercises involving p'_n/p_n , q'/q

Let z_1, z_2, \ldots, z_n be points in the complex plane and let

$$p_n(z) = (z - z_1)(z - z_2) \cdots (z - z_n).$$

Prove by induction on n that

$$\frac{p'_n(z)}{p_n(z)} = \frac{1}{z - z_1} + \frac{1}{z - z_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{z - z_n}.$$

Let

$$q(z) = (z - z_1)^{r_1}(z - z_2)^{r_2} \cdots (z - z_n)^{r_n}$$

where z_1, \ldots, z_n are distinct points. What can you say about the multiplicity of the zeros of q'(z) at the points z_1, \ldots, z_n ? Using a derivation based on partial fractions show that

$$\frac{q'(z)}{q(z)} = \frac{r_1}{z - z_1} + \frac{r_2}{z - z_2} + \dots + \frac{r_n}{z - z_n}.$$

In both cases it is simple poles and the residues are integers. We generalise this next.

MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 9 of 12

Counting zeros and poles

Suppose that f(z) is analytic in a domain except for a finite number of poles. Let

$$G(z) = \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)}.$$

Let z_0 be a zero of f(z) of multiplicity m and let z_p be a pole of f(z) of order n. It can quickly be shown that

$$Res(G, z_0) = m$$
, and $Res(G, z_p) = -n$.

Let f(z) be analytic inside a loop Γ and let $N_0(f)$ be the number of zeros of f(z) inside Γ . By the residue theorem

$$N_0(f) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{f'(z)}{f(z)} dz.$$

If g(z) is also analytic inside C and |g(z)| < |f(z)| on Γ then

$$N_0(f+g)=N_0(f).$$

This is Rouche's theorem. A smaller enough change to f(z) on Γ does not change the integer.

MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 10 of 12

The fundamental theorem of algebra

Let

$$p(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0, \quad a_n \neq 0$$

denote a polynomial of degree n. Let

$$f(z) = a_n z^n$$
, $g(z) = a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 z + a_0$.

For R sufficiently large |f(z)| > |g(z)| on the circle |z| = R. As f(z) has a zero at z = 0 of multiplicity n the use of Rouche's theorem implies that p(z) = f(z) + g(z) also has n zeros inside |z| = R. This is the fundamental theorem of algebra and the proof here is independent of the proof given in chapter 6.

Another example using Rouche's theorem

Let

$$h(z) = z^5 + 3z^3 - 1 = z^5 \left(1 + \frac{3}{z^2} - \frac{1}{z^5} \right)$$
$$= z^5 \tilde{h}(w), \quad \tilde{h}(w) = 1 + 3w^2 - w^5, \quad w = \frac{1}{z}.$$

$$h(z) = f(z) + g(z)$$
, with $f(z) = z^5$, $g(z) = 3z^3 - 1$.

On the circle |z|=2 we have $|g(z)| \leq 3(8)+1=25 < 32=|f(z)|$. f(z) has one zero of multiplicity 5 at 0. Thus by Rouche's theorem h(z) has 5 zeros inside the circle |z|=2.

Similarly by considering $\tilde{h}(w)$ with $\tilde{f}(w) = -w^5$, $\tilde{g}(w) = 1 + w^2$ and the circle |w| = 2 we get all the roots of $\tilde{h}(w)$ satisfy |w| < 2. Conclusion: All the roots of f(z) satisfy 1/2 < |z| < 2.

MA3614 2024/5 Week 26, Page 12 of 12