
Complex Analysis

Math 312
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MWF 10:30am - 11:25am
Fowler 112

Class 31 (Friday April 10)

SUMMARY Applications of Residues to Real Integrals
CURRENT READING Brown & Curchill pages 210–219
NEXT READING Brown & Curchill 204–210

The beauty of Complex Residue Calculus is that it allows us to evaluate a vast number of contour integrals. In fact, we can show that we can use residues to evaluate associated **real** integrals which would otherwise be very difficult to get exact values for become quite easy as contour integrals.

Recall the definition of $z = e^{i\theta} = \cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta)$ Therefore, we can write $\cos(\theta)$ and $\sin(\theta)$ in terms of z .

Exercise

Rewrite the integral $\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\theta}{3 + 2 \sin \theta}$ in terms of z , using $z = e^{i\theta}$ where $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$.

Evaluate the real integral by evaluating the contour integral.

GROUPWORK

Show that $\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\cos 3\theta}{5 - 4 \cos \theta} d\theta = \frac{\pi}{12}$

Evaluation of real integrals of the form $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx$

We can also evaluate **Improper Integrals** more easily by evaluating associated contour integrals. However, we have to have some conditions on the integrand $f(z)$.

Boundedness Theorem 1

If $|f(z)| \leq \frac{M}{R^k}$ for $z = Re^{i\theta}$ where $k > 1$ and M are constants and C is the closed contour consisting of the real axis from $-R$ to $+R$ together with the semi-circle of radius R from $\theta = 0$ to $\theta = \pi$, then

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \oint_C f(z) dz = 0$$

Boundedness Theorem 2

If $|f(z)| \leq \frac{M}{R^k}$ for $z = Re^{i\theta}$ where $k > 1$, $n > 0$ and M are constants and C is the closed contour consisting of the real axis from $-R$ to $+R$ together with the semi-circle of radius R from $\theta = 0$ to $\theta = \pi$, then

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \oint_C f(z) e^{inz} dz = 0$$

The second boundedness theorem is sometimes called **Jordan's Lemma**.

Exercise

Show that $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^4 + 1} dx = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \pi$

GROUPWORK

Show that (for $a > 0$) $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\cos(ax)}{x^2 + 1} dx = \frac{\pi}{2} e^{-a}$