

§ 85 and 86. Evaluation of improper integrals.

1.

Def.  $f(x)$  is a continuous real function.

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(x) dx \stackrel{\text{def.}}{\text{defined by}} \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^R f(x) dx,$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 f(x) dx \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{-R}^0 f(x) dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow -\infty} \int_R^0 f(x) dx,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx &\stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \int_0^{\infty} f(x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x) dx \\ &= \lim_{R_1 \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{R_1} f(x) dx + \lim_{R_2 \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{-R_2}^0 f(x) dx, \end{aligned}$$

consider  $\infty$  and  $-\infty$  separately.

$$\text{P.V. } \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) dx \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{-R}^R f(x) dx,$$

Cauchy principal value. take the limit in a symmetric way.

provided these limits exist.

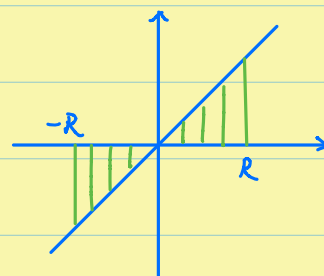
E.g.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x dx$  and P.V.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x dx$ .

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x dx = \int_0^{\infty} x dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 x dx.$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} x dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^R x dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2} R^2 = \infty. \quad \text{D.N.E.}$$

So  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x dx$  does not exist.

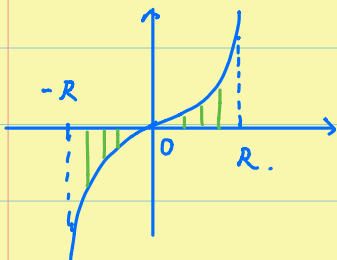
$$\begin{aligned} \text{P.V. } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x dx &= \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{-R}^R x dx \\ &= \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \left( \frac{1}{2} R^2 - \frac{1}{2} (-R)^2 \right) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$



RMK. If  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx$  exists,  
then P.V.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx$  exists and

$$\text{P.V. } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx.$$

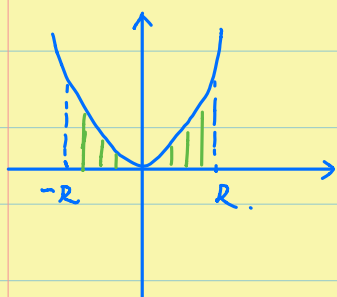
RMK. If  $f(x)$  is an odd function, i.e.,  $f(-x) = -f(x)$ ,  
then



$$\int_{-R}^R f(x) dx = 0,$$

$$\text{P.V. } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 0.$$

RMK. If  $f(x)$  is an even function, i.e.,  $f(-x) = f(x)$ ,  
then



$$\int_{-R}^R f(x) dx = 2 \int_0^R f(x) dx = 2 \int_{-R}^0 f(x) dx$$

$$\text{P.V. } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 2 \int_0^{\infty} f(x) dx = 2 \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x) dx.$$

provided the limits exist.

E.g. Compute  $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{(x^2+1)^2}$ .

First, is this integral convergent?

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{(x^2+1)^2} \sim \frac{1}{x^4} \text{ as } x \rightarrow \infty.$$

Recall the P-test from Calculus (Math 20B)

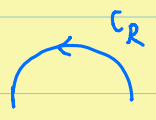
$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx \begin{cases} \text{converges} & \text{if } p > 1 \\ \text{diverges} & \text{if } p \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

So our integral  $\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^2} dx$  converges.

Next, let's evaluate it.

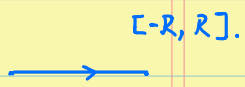
the integrand function is even.

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^R \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-R}^R \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^2} dx.$$

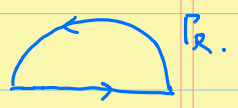


Define  $C_R : z(t) = R e^{it}$   $t \in [0, \pi]$ .

semi circle contour



Contour  $[-R, R] : z(t) = t \quad t \in [-R, R]$ .



Simple closed contour  $P_R : C_R + [-R, R]$ .

Set  $f(z) = \frac{1}{(1+z^2)^2}$ . extending  $\frac{1}{(1+x^2)^2}$  to the complex plane.

$$\int_{P_R} f(z) dz = \int_{C_R} f(z) dz + \int_{[-R, R]} f(z) dz.$$

↑  
Compute it by  
Residues in  $P_R$ .

↑  
going to 0  
as  $R \rightarrow \infty$ .

||  $z=x$   
 $dz=dx$ .

$$\int_{-R}^R f(x) dx.$$

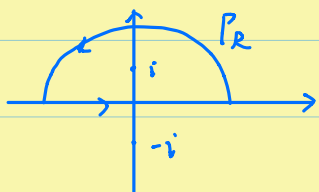
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$$\textcircled{1}. \quad f(z) = \frac{1}{(1+z^2)^2}$$

$$(z^2+1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow z^2+1=0 \Rightarrow z = \pm i.$$



For  $R > 1$ ,

$$\int_{P_R} f(z) dz = 2\pi i \operatorname{Res}_{z=i} f(z)$$

denoted by

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{(z+i)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{(z-i)^2} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \frac{\phi(z)}{(z-i)^2}.$$

$\phi(z) = \frac{1}{(z+i)^2}$  is analytic and nonzero at  $i$ .

$z=i$  is a pole of order 2.

$$\operatorname{Res}_i f(z) = \phi'(z) \Big|_{z=i} = \frac{-2}{(z+i)^3} \Big|_{z=i} = \frac{-2}{-8i} = -\frac{i}{4}.$$

$$\int_{P_R} f(z) dz = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

$$\textcircled{2}. \quad \int_{C_R} f(z) dz.$$

$$\text{Claim: } \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{C_R} f(z) dz = 0.$$

$$\text{For } z \in C_R, \quad |f(z)| = \frac{1}{|1+z^2|^2}.$$

$$|1+z^2| \geq |z|^2 - 1 = R^2 - 1.$$

$\uparrow$   
triangle inequality.

$$|f(z)| \leq \frac{1}{(R^2-1)^2}$$

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$$\left| \int_{C_R} f(z) dz \right| \leq \frac{1}{(R^2-1)^2} \cdot \text{length of } C_R = \frac{\pi R}{(R^2-1)^2} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \frac{1}{z} \int_{[-R, R]} f(z) dz \stackrel{\substack{z=x \\ dz=dx}}{=} \frac{1}{z} \int_{-R}^R f(x) dx.$$

$$\int_{\Gamma_R} f(z) dz = \int_{C_R} f(z) dz + \int_{[-R, R]} f(z) dz.$$

Letting  $R \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\frac{\pi}{z} = 0 + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx.$$

$$\text{So} \quad \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = \frac{1}{z} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

E.g. Compute  $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^4+1}$ .

Is this integral convergent?

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^4+1} \sim \frac{1}{x^4} \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \infty.$$

$\int_0^{\infty} f(x) dx$  is convergent by the P-test.

$$\text{Set } f(z) = \frac{1}{z^4+1}.$$

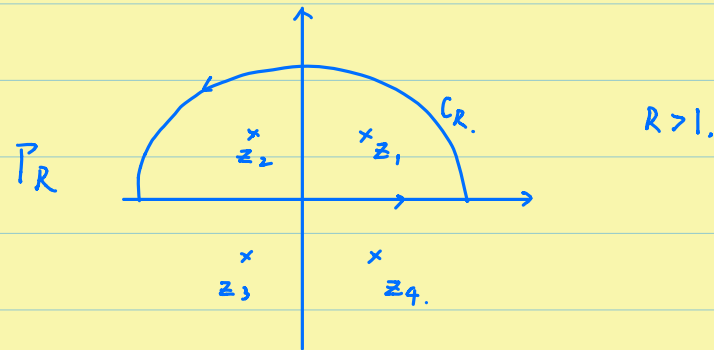
$$z^4 + 1 = 0$$

$$z^4 = -1 = e^{i\pi}$$

$$z = e^{\frac{1}{4}(i\pi + i2k\pi)} \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

$$z = e^{i \cdot \frac{\pi}{4}}, \quad e^{i \cdot \frac{3\pi}{4}}, \quad e^{i \cdot \frac{5\pi}{4}}, \quad e^{i \cdot \frac{7\pi}{4}}.$$

$z_1 \qquad z_2 \qquad z_3 \qquad z_4$



$$(*) \quad \int_{P_R} f(z) dz = \int_{C_R} f(z) dz + \int_{-R}^R f(x) dx.$$

Compute residue:  $\int_{P_R} f(z) dz = 2\pi i \left( \operatorname{Res}_{z=z_1} f(z) + \operatorname{Res}_{z=z_2} f(z) \right)$

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{(z-z_1)(z-z_2)(z-z_3)(z-z_4)}.$$

$z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4$  are simple poles.  $z_1^4 = -1$

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_1} f(z) = \frac{1}{(z^4+1)'} \Big|_{z=z_1} = \frac{1}{4z_1^3} = -\frac{z_1}{4} = -\frac{1}{4} e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}}.$$

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_2} f(z) = \frac{1}{4z_2^3} = -\frac{z_2}{4} = -\frac{1}{4} e^{i\frac{3\pi}{4}}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{P_R} f(z) dz &= -2\pi i \cdot \frac{1}{4} \left( e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}} + e^{i\frac{3\pi}{4}} \right) \\ &= -\frac{\pi i}{2} \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} i - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} i \right) \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \pi. \end{aligned}$$

Estimate: For  $z \in C_R$ ,  $|z^4+1| > |z|^4 - 1 = R^4 - 1$ ,

$$|f(z)| \leq \frac{1}{R^4 - 1}.$$

$$\left| \int_{C_R} f(z) dz \right| \leq \frac{1}{R^4 - 1} \cdot \pi R \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$

Combine :

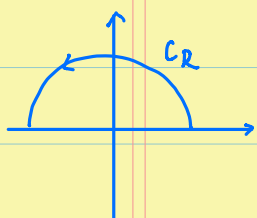
Let  $R \rightarrow \infty$  in (\*).

Then

$$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \pi = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx.$$

$$\text{So } \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \pi.$$

RMK. In general, when compute  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{P(x)}{q(x)} dx$   
for polynomials with  $\deg P(x) + 2 \leq \deg q(x)$ ,  
we have the estimate



$$\int_{C_R} \frac{P(z)}{q(z)} dz \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$

Sketch of the proof.

$$P(z) = a_0 + a_1 z \cdots + a_m z^m \quad a_m \neq 0$$

$$q(z) = b_0 + b_1 z \cdots + b_n z^n \quad b_n \neq 0.$$

$$m+2 \leq n.$$

$$|P(z)| \sim |a_m| |z|^m = |a_m| R^m \quad \text{as } R \rightarrow \infty$$

$$|q(z)| \sim |b_n| |z|^n = |b_n| R^n \quad \text{as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$\text{Thus, } \left| \frac{P(z)}{q(z)} \right| \sim \left| \frac{a_m}{b_n} \right| \cdot R^{m-n} \quad \text{as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$\left| \int_{C_R} \frac{P(z)}{q(z)} dz \right| \leq \left| \frac{a_m}{b_n} \right| R^{m-n} \cdot \pi R$$

$$\xrightarrow{m-n+1 \leq -1} \leq \pi \left| \frac{a_m}{b_n} \right| R^{-1} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$