

§ 87. Improper integrals from Fourier analysis.

1.

We can use residues to evaluate convergent improper integrals of the form

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \sin(ax) dx, \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \cos(ax) dx.$$

$f$  is real valued and  $a > 0$ .

E.g. Evaluate  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(ax)}{(1+x^2)^2} dx$ .  $a > 0$ .

Is it convergent?

$$\left| \frac{\cos(ax)}{(1+x^2)^2} \right| \leq \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^2} \sim \frac{1}{x^4} \text{ as } x \rightarrow \pm\infty.$$

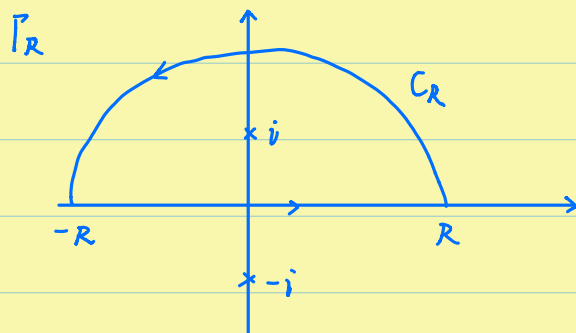
So it is convergent by the P-test.

Set  $f(z) = \frac{\cos(az)}{(1+z^2)^2}$ .

$$(1+z^2)^2 = 0 \quad 1+z^2 = 0$$

$$z^2 = -1$$

$$z = i, -i$$



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

Problem: For  $z \in \mathbb{C}_R$ ,  $|f(z)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $R \rightarrow \infty$ .

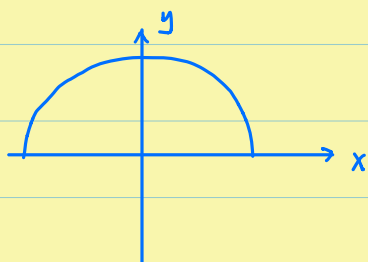
Sec. 39  
example 2.

Recall

$$|\cos(az)|^2 = \underbrace{\cos^2(ax)}_{\text{bounded}} + \sinh^2(ay).$$

$(\frac{e^{ay} - e^{-ay}}{2})^2 \sim (\frac{e^{ay}}{2})^2$  as  $y \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$|f(z)| = \frac{|\cos(az)|}{|(1+z^2)^2|} \xrightarrow{z=iy} \frac{|\sinh(ay)|}{(1+y^2)^2} \sim \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^{ay}}{y^4} \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } y \rightarrow \infty.$$



$|f(z)| \rightarrow \infty$  along the  $y$ -axis  
as  $y \rightarrow \infty$ .

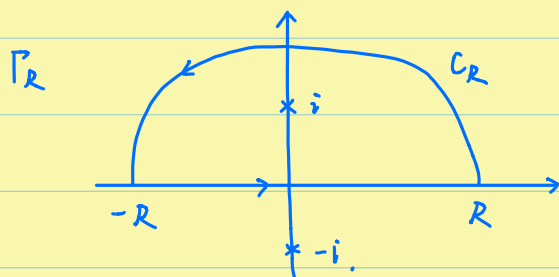
This prevents us from arguing  $\int_{\mathbb{C}_R} f(z) dz \rightarrow 0$  as  $R \rightarrow \infty$ .

Solution:  $e^{iax} = \cos(ax) + i \sin(ax)$ .

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

We compute  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{iax}}{(1+x^2)^2} dx$  and take its real part.

Set  $h(z) = \frac{e^{iaz}}{(1+z^2)^2}$ .





$$|\int_{C_R} h(z) dz| \leq \frac{1}{(R^2-1)^2} \cdot \pi R \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$

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

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

Take the real parts on both sides.

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

RMK. If we take imaginary parts instead,

then

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(ax)}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = 0.$$

This is not surprising since  $\frac{\sin(ax)}{(1+x^2)^2}$  is odd.