

Notes on Master Studies

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Abstract

“En remontant chez moi pour y passer la soirée à travailler de mon mieux, je me disais que le monde n'est pas construit pour l'équilibre. Le monde est désordre. L'équilibre n'est pas la règle, c'est l'exception.”

G.Duhamel, Maitres, 1937

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Chapter 1

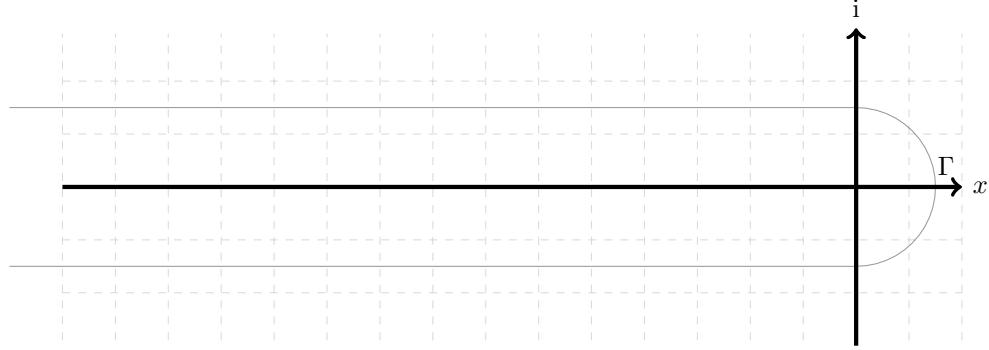
Asymptotic

Hermite's Polynomials

For another example, let's explore the Hermite polynomial. We first note that such polynomials have an integral representation given by

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(x) &:= \frac{n!}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} z^{-n-1} e^{2xz-z^2} dz \\ &= \frac{n!}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{2xz-z^2-(n+1)\log(z)} dz \end{aligned} \quad (1.4.3)$$

Where Γ is a contour that goes around the origin coming and going from minus infinity such as $\Gamma = \{\lambda - i\delta : \lambda < 0\} \cup \{\delta e^{i\theta} : -\pi/2 < \theta < \pi/2\} \cup \{\lambda + i\delta : \lambda < 0\}$.



There are a few expressions we want to have. Namely we want to determine the formulas for H_n and H_{n-1} . Let's start working on the first case. To do this, we only need to consider the scaling $x \mapsto N^\alpha x$ and $z = N^\beta s$

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(x) &= \frac{n! n^b}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{2(n^\alpha \alpha)(n^\beta \beta) - (n^\beta \beta)^2 - (n+1)\log(N^\beta \beta)} d\beta \\ &= \frac{n! n^b e^{-(n+1)\log(n^\beta)}}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{2(n^\alpha \alpha \beta) - n^{2\beta} \beta^2 - (n+1)\log(\beta)} d\beta \\ &\stackrel{(a=b=1/2)}{=} \frac{n! \sqrt{n} e^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}\log(n)}}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(-2\alpha\beta + \beta^2 + \log(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta \end{aligned}$$

So that we have

$$H_n(\sqrt{n}\alpha) = C_n^0 \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(\phi_\alpha(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta$$

with $\phi_\alpha(\beta) = -2\alpha\beta + \beta^2 + \log(\beta)$. The same can be done in the second case, using now the reparametrization, that is

$$\begin{aligned} H_{n-1}(x) &= \frac{n!}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{2xz-z^2-(n+1)\log(z)} dz \\ &= \frac{n! n^b}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{2(n^\alpha \alpha)(n^\beta \beta) - (n^\beta \beta)^2 - (n+1)\log(N^\beta \beta)} d\beta \\ &= \frac{n! n^b e^{-(n+1)\log(n^\beta)}}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{2(n^\alpha \alpha \beta) - n^{2\beta} \beta^2 - (n+1)\log(\beta)} d\beta \\ &\stackrel{(a=b=1/2)}{=} \frac{n! \sqrt{n} e^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}\log(n)}}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(-2\alpha\beta + \beta^2 + \log(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta \end{aligned}$$

So that we have

$$H_{n-1}(\sqrt{n}\alpha) = C_n^1 \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(\phi_\alpha(\beta))} \beta^{-\frac{1}{2}} d\beta$$

with, again, $\phi_\alpha(\beta) = -2\alpha\beta + \beta^2 + \log(\beta)$. As noted, for both cases, we have the same defining function $\phi_\alpha(\beta)$. As we want to calculate the asymptotic by steepest descent, we need to determine the critical points of such a function

and then the steepest descent paths passing through these points. We can easily determine the critical points as $\beta_c^\pm = \frac{\alpha \pm \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 2}}{2}$ as solutions to the quadratic formula given. Now, the behavior of the critical points will depend on the interval of the real parameter α . We divide it into the three cases: $0 < \alpha < \sqrt{2}$, $\alpha = \sqrt{2}$ and $\alpha > \sqrt{2}$.

Case 1

Here, with $0 < \alpha < \sqrt{2}$, as the plot 1.2 suggests, we have both critical points as complex values, this can be easily determined noting that if we set $0 < \alpha < \sqrt{2}$, we will have

$$\beta_c^\pm = \frac{\alpha}{2} \pm \frac{i}{2}\sqrt{2 - \alpha^2}.$$

And, if we parametrize $\alpha = \sqrt{2} \cos(\gamma)$ for $\gamma \in (0, \pi/2)$ we can rewrite

$$\beta_c^\pm = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} e^{\pm i\gamma}.$$

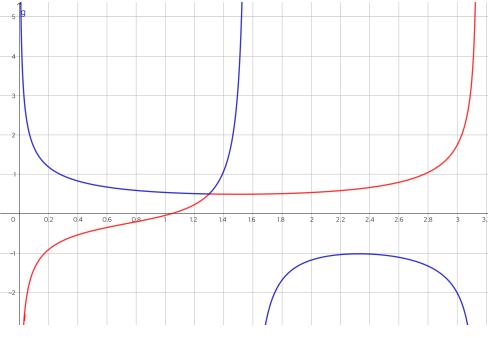
If we are indeed interested in solving the paths where the imaginary parts are constant, as needed for the Laplace method, we will have to solve an equation such as

$$\operatorname{Im}(\phi_\alpha(z) - \phi_\alpha(\beta_c^\pm)) = 0,$$

for some $z = r e^{i\theta}$. We first solve for the positive critical point and the negative will be analogous. This can be rewritten as a quadratic equation

$$r^2 \sin(2\theta) - 2r \cos(\gamma) \sin(\theta) + (\theta - \theta_0) = 0$$

where we have set $\theta_0 = \gamma - \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\gamma)$. Where we solve for the two solutions r_d^+ and r_d^- by meshing the two quadratic solutions given by the equations. This gives us two smooth paths for the positive critical point



$$r_d^+(\theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{2}(\cos(\gamma) - \sqrt{\cos^2(\gamma) - (\theta - \theta_0)/(\tan(\theta))})}{2 \cos(\theta)}; & \theta \in [\gamma, \pi) \\ \frac{\sqrt{2}(\cos(\gamma) + \sqrt{\cos^2(\gamma) - (\theta - \theta_0)/(\tan(\theta))})}{2 \cos(\theta)}; & \theta \in (0, \gamma) \end{cases}$$

$$r_a^+(\theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{2}(\cos(\gamma) + \sqrt{\cos^2(\gamma) - (\theta - \theta_0)/(\tan(\theta))})}{2 \cos(\theta)}; & \theta \in [\gamma, \pi/2) \\ \frac{\sqrt{2}(\cos(\gamma) - \sqrt{\cos^2(\gamma) - (\theta - \theta_0)/(\tan(\theta))})}{2 \cos(\theta)}; & \theta \in [\theta_0, \gamma) \end{cases}$$

With which we can construct both paths of constant imaginary part

$$\Gamma_d^+ = \{r_d^+(\theta) e^{i\theta} : \theta \in (0, \pi)\}; \quad \Gamma_a^+ = \{r_a^+(\theta) e^{i\theta} : \theta \in (0, \pi/2)\}$$

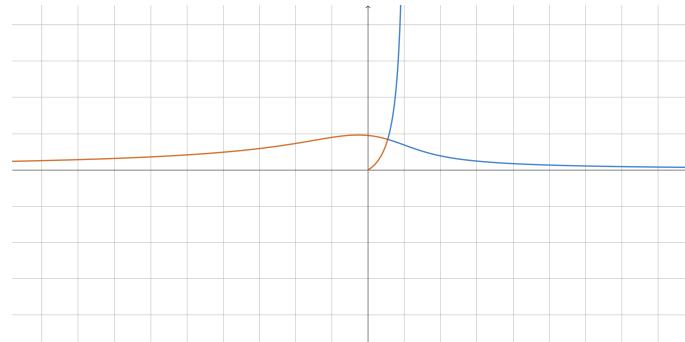
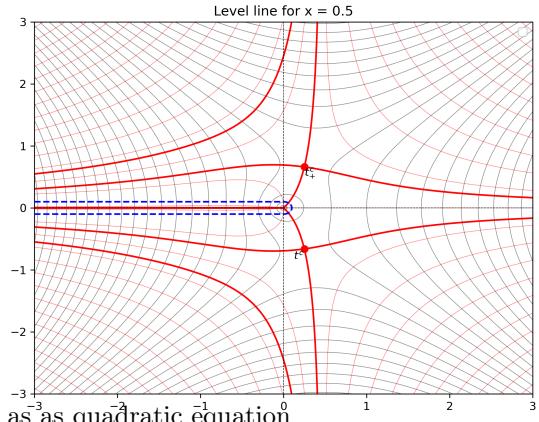
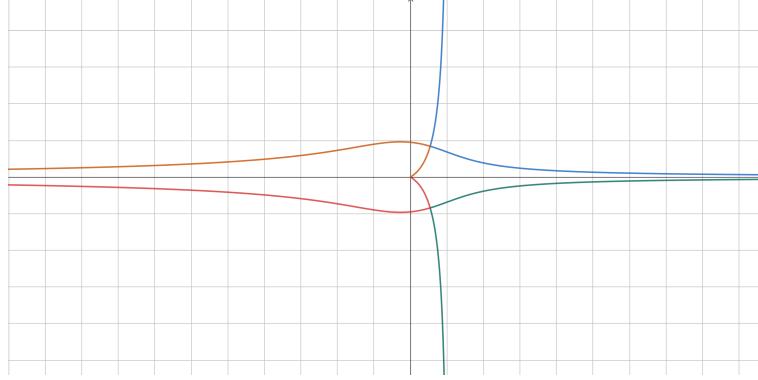


Figure 1.2: Figure for Case 1



Analogously, for the negative part,

$$\Gamma_d^- = \{r_d^-(\theta) e^{i\theta} : \theta \in (0, \pi)\}; \quad \Gamma_a^- = \{r_a^-(\theta) e^{i\theta} : \theta \in (0, \pi/2)\}$$



Now, we only need to determine the steepest descent path. This should be easy as we know the asymptotic behaviour $\phi_\alpha(t) \asymp t^2$ for $t \rightarrow \infty$ and that $\phi_\alpha(t) \asymp \ln(t)$ for $t \rightarrow 0$. From this, follows that Γ_d^+ and Γ_d^- are the paths we were looking for. We create therefore, a new path Γ_x that connects both Γ_d at the vertical line x . Then, doing $\Gamma \mapsto \Gamma_d^+ \cup \Gamma_d^- \cup \Gamma_x$ and noting that, as x goes to infinity, we have

$$\left| \int_{\Gamma_x} g(x) e^{-n\phi_\alpha(\beta)} d\beta \right| \leq \max_{y \in \Gamma_x} |g(x) e^{-n\phi_\alpha(\beta)}| \int_{\Gamma_x} |d\beta| \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

where $g(t)$ can be both the inverse square root or inverse function. Therefore, we only need to consider the other two paths when considering the asymptotic.

Finally, retaking the expression for the Hermite Polynomial,

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(\sqrt{2n} \cos(\gamma)) &= C_n^0 \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(\phi_\alpha(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta = C_n^0 \left[\int_{\Gamma_d^-} e^{-N(\phi_\alpha(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta + \int_{\Gamma_d^+} e^{-N(\phi_\alpha(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta \right] \\ &\stackrel{(Steepest)}{=} C_n^0 \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{2n}} \left[\frac{e^{-n(\phi_\alpha(\beta_c^+))} e^{-i(\theta(\beta_c^+))}}{e^{i\gamma/2}/2} \frac{1}{4 \sin(\gamma)} + \frac{e^{-n(\overline{\phi_\alpha(\beta_c^+)})} e^{-i(\overline{\theta(\beta_c^+)})}}{e^{-i\gamma/2}/2} \frac{1}{4 \sin(\gamma)} \right] \\ &= C_n^0 \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \sqrt{2n}} \left[e^{-i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+))-n\phi_\alpha(\beta_c^+)} + e^{i\pi} e^{i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+))-n\overline{\phi_\alpha(\beta_c^+)}} \right] \\ &= C_n^0 \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \sqrt{2n}} \left[e^{-i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+))-n(-2\alpha\beta_c^++(\beta_c^+)^2+\log(\beta_c^+))} + e^{i\pi} e^{i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+))-n(-2\alpha\beta_c^++(\beta_c^+)^2+\log(\beta_c^+))} \right] \\ &= C_n^0 \frac{\sqrt{\pi} e^{-n \ln \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \sqrt{n}} \left[e^{-i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+)+n\gamma)-n e^{i\gamma} (-\alpha\sqrt{2}+\frac{e^{i\gamma}}{2})} - e^{i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+)+n\gamma)-n e^{-i\gamma} (-\alpha\sqrt{2}+\frac{e^{-i\gamma}}{2})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Now, since

$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{Re}[-n e^{i\gamma} (-\alpha\sqrt{2} + \frac{e^{i\gamma}}{2})] = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} n; & \operatorname{Im}[-n e^{i\gamma} (-\alpha\sqrt{2} + \frac{e^{i\gamma}}{2})] = 0 \\ \operatorname{Re}[-n e^{-i\gamma} (-\alpha\sqrt{2} + \frac{e^{-i\gamma}}{2})] = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} n; & \operatorname{Im}[-n e^{-i\gamma} (-\alpha\sqrt{2} + \frac{e^{-i\gamma}}{2})] = 0. \end{cases}$$

We will have that,

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(\sqrt{2n} \cos(\gamma)) &= C_n^0 \frac{\sqrt{\pi} e^{-n \ln \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \sqrt{n}} e^{-n \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} \left[e^{-i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+)+n\gamma)} - e^{i(\gamma/2+\theta(\beta_c^+)+n\gamma)} \right] \\ &= \frac{n! \sqrt{n} e^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2} \ln(n)}}{2\pi i} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} e^{-n \ln \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \sqrt{n}} e^{-n \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} 2i \sin(\gamma/2 + \theta(\beta_c^+) + n\gamma) \\ &= \frac{n! n^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \pi^{\frac{3}{2}}} e^{-n \left(\ln \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)} \sin(\gamma/2 + \theta(\beta_c^+) + n\gamma) \end{aligned}$$

Of course, if we change for the other case we can simply rewrite

$$\begin{aligned}
H_{n-1}(\sqrt{2n} \cos(\gamma)) &= C_n^1 \frac{\sqrt{\pi} e^{-n \ln \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \sqrt{n}} e^{-n \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} \left[e^{-i(\gamma + \theta(\beta_c^+) + n\gamma)} - e^{i(\gamma + \theta(\beta_c^+) + n\gamma)} \right] \\
&= \frac{n! \sqrt{n} e^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2} \ln(n)}}{2\pi i} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} e^{-n \ln \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \sqrt{n}} e^{-n \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} 2i \sin(\gamma + \theta(\beta_c^+) + n\gamma) \\
&= \frac{n! n^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}}}{2 \sin(\gamma) \pi^{\frac{3}{2}}} e^{-n \left(\ln \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)} \sin(\gamma + \theta(\beta_c^+) + n\gamma)
\end{aligned}$$

Case 2

Here, with $\alpha > \sqrt{2}$, as the plot 1.3 suggests, we have both critical points as real values, this can be easily determined noting that if we set $\alpha > \sqrt{2}$, we will have

$$\beta_c^\pm = \frac{\alpha}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 2}.$$

And, if we parametrize $\alpha = \sqrt{2} \cosh(\gamma)$ for $\gamma > 0$ we can rewrite

$$\beta_c^\pm = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} e^{\pm \gamma}.$$

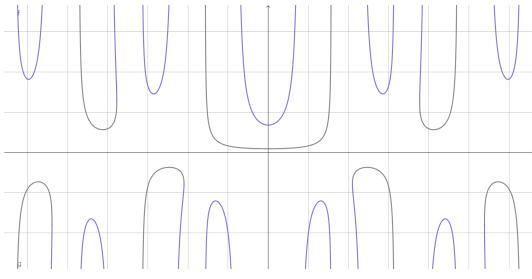
If we are indeed interested in solving the paths where the imaginary parts are constant, as needed for the Laplace method, we will have to solve an equation such as

$$\text{Im}(\phi_\alpha(z) - \phi_\alpha(\beta_c^\pm)) = 0,$$

for some $z = r e^{i\theta}$. We first solve for the positive critical point and the negative will be analogous. This can be rewritten as a quadratic equation

$$r^2 \sin(2\theta) - 2r \cosh(\gamma) \sin(\theta) + \frac{\theta}{2} = 0$$

where we solve for the two solutions r_d^+ and r_a^- by meshing the two quadratic solutions given by the equations. This gives us two smooth paths for the positive critical point



$$r_d(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{2} \left(\cosh(\gamma) - \sqrt{\cosh^2(\gamma) - \frac{\theta}{\tan(\theta)}} \right)}{2 \cos(\theta)}; \quad \theta \in [0, \pi)$$

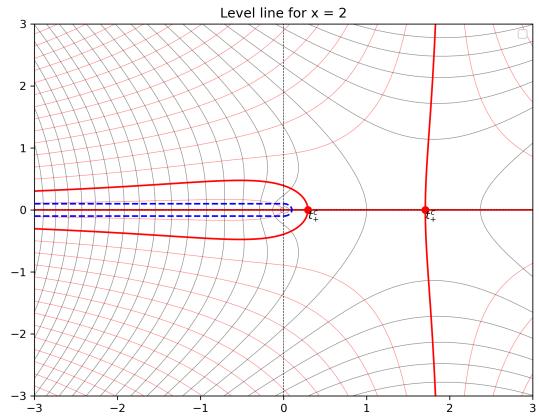
$$r_a(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{2} \left(\cosh(\gamma) + \sqrt{\cosh^2(\gamma) - \frac{\theta}{\tan(\theta)}} \right)}{2 \cos(\theta)}; \quad \theta \in [0, \pi)$$

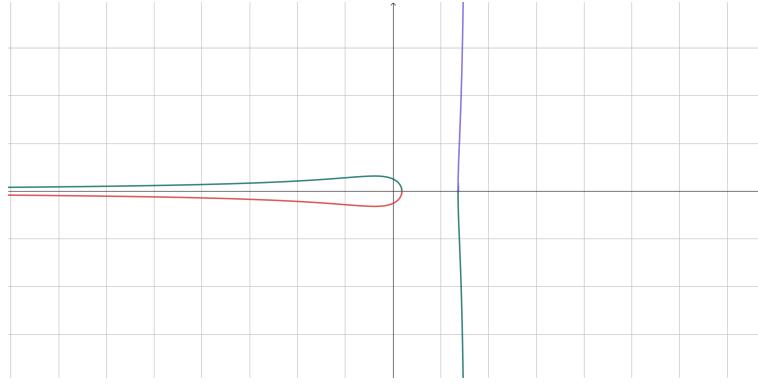
With which we can construct both paths of constant imaginary part

$$\Gamma_d = \{r_d(\theta) e^{i\theta} : \theta \in (0, \pi)\}; \quad \Gamma_a = \{r_a(\theta) e^{i\theta} : \theta \in (0, \pi)\}$$

We need now to determine the Steepest Descent Path. In this case is more clear what the path should be the one passing through the critical point $e^{-\gamma}$. Then, repeating the process we did on Case 1 - changing the path of

Figure 1.3: Figure for case 3





integration - we can make the substitution

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{n-1}(\sqrt{2n} \cosh(\gamma)) &= C_n^1 \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta))} \beta^{-\frac{1}{2}} d\beta \\
 &= C_n^1 \int_{\Gamma_d} e^{-N(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta))} \beta^{-\frac{1}{2}} d\beta \\
 &\stackrel{(Steepest)}{=} C_n^1 \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{2n}} \left[\frac{e^{-n(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta_c^+))}}{e^{\gamma/2}/2} \frac{e^{-i(\theta(\beta_c^+))}}{\sqrt{|1-e^{2\gamma}|}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{n! n^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}}}{i\pi^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left[\frac{e^{-n(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta_c^+))}}{e^{\gamma/2}} \frac{e^{-i(\theta(\beta_c^+))}}{\sqrt{|1-e^{2\gamma}|}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{n! n^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}}}{\pi^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{|1-e^{2\gamma}|}} e^{-n(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta_c^+) + \frac{\gamma}{2n})}
 \end{aligned}$$

Similary, for the other case

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_n(\sqrt{2n} \cosh(\gamma)) &= C_n^0 \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta \\
 &= C_n^0 \int_{\Gamma_d} e^{-N(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta))} \beta^{-1} d\beta \\
 &\stackrel{(Steepest)}{=} C_n^1 \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{2n}} \left[\frac{e^{-n(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta_c^+))}}{e^{\gamma}/2} \frac{e^{-i(\theta(\beta_c^+))}}{\sqrt{|1-e^{2\gamma}|}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{n! n^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}}}{\pi^{\frac{3}{2}} i} \left[\frac{e^{-n(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta_c^+))}}{e^{\gamma}} \frac{e^{-i(\theta(\beta_c^+))}}{\sqrt{|1-e^{2\gamma}|}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{n! n^{-\frac{(n+1)}{2}}}{\pi^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{|1-e^{2\gamma}|}} e^{-n(\phi_{\alpha}(\beta_c^+) + \frac{\gamma}{n})}
 \end{aligned}$$

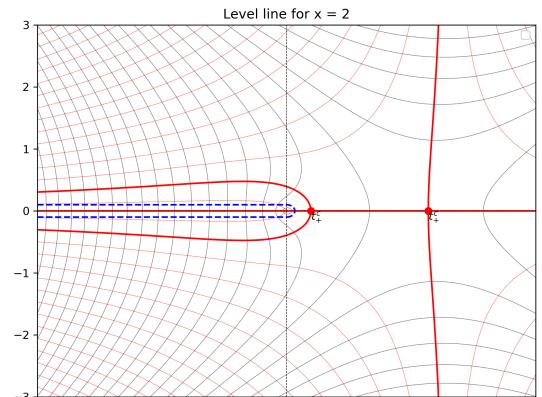
Case 3

For the case (1) we can see that the contribution for the asymptotic will come from t_c^+ while for case (2) the contribution comes from both critical points, although depending on the real part one of the asymptotic may be exponential bigger than the other. The interesting case comes from (3) where both critical point have the same value and $f''(t_c) = 0$. We need to rescale the variable somehow to get the behavior of the asymptotic.

The idea is to perform a blow-up on the integral. We would have

$$\int_{\Gamma} e^{-N(-2xt+t^2+\log(t))} t^{-1} dt := \int_{\Gamma} e^{-N\Phi(t)} g(t) dt$$

Figure 1.4: Figure for case 3



where we know Φ to have first and second derivative equal to zero at $t_c = \sqrt{2}/2$. First we need to divide the integral in three parts

$$\int_{\Gamma_1} e^{-N\Phi(t)} g(t) dt + \int_{t_c-\delta}^{t_c+\delta} e^{-N\Phi(t)} g(t) dt + \int_{\Gamma_2} e^{-N\Phi(t)} g(t) dt \approx \int_{t_c-\delta}^{t_c+\delta} e^{-N\Phi(t)} g(t) dt$$

So we would write

$$\Phi(t) = \frac{\Phi^{(3)}(t_c)}{3!} t^3 + \mathcal{O}(t^4).$$

We now want to find a change of variable $\Phi(t) = s^3$ such that $s^3 = \Phi(t) = \tilde{\Phi}(t)t^2$. If we have such an equality we know $\tilde{\Phi}$ to be analytic, $\tilde{\Phi}'(t_c) \neq 0$ and $\tilde{\Phi}(t) = \frac{\Phi^{(3)}(t_c)}{3!}t + \mathcal{O}(t^2) := c_0 t + \mathcal{O}(t^2)$.

To find such a change of variable we need to investigate the function

$$H(t, s) = t^2 \tilde{\Phi}(t) - s^3.$$

We first note that we can not find apply the Inverse Function Theorem in such a function because it's derivative is zero at $(t_c, 0)$. For that we introduce a new variable function $v = v(t)$ such that $t = vs$. Now,

$$H(t, s) = s^3 \left(\frac{v^2}{s} \tilde{\Phi}(vs) - 1 \right) := s^3 Q(v, s).$$

We can of course also write $\partial_s Q(v, s) = v' \partial_v Q + \partial_s Q = 0$ giving us

$$\frac{\partial v(t)}{\partial s} = -\frac{\partial_s Q}{\partial_v Q}.$$

It remains to check that we can indeed apply the Implicit Function Theorem to this function Q . For that we compute teh derivative of the function. As

$$Q(s, v(s)) = -1 + \frac{v^2}{s} (c_0 vs + \mathcal{O}(v^2 s^2)) = -1 + c_0 v^3 + \mathcal{O}(v^4 s)$$

and because of that

$$\partial_v Q = 3c_0 v^2 + \mathcal{O}(v^3 s) \neq 0, \quad \text{if } v(t_c) \neq 0.$$

Because of the theorem we can say that there exists a function $v(t)$ such that $H(vs, s) = 0$ and $v(t_c) = v_0$. Getting back to the integral we use $t = vs$ to write

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} e^{-Ns^3} (v(s) + v'(s)s) g(v(s)s) ds, \quad \alpha = -\sqrt[3]{\Phi(\delta - t_c)} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta = \sqrt[3]{\Phi(\delta + t_c)} \\ &= \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} e^{-Ns^3} \frac{(v(s) + v'(s)s)}{v(s)s} ds \\ &= \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} e^{-Ns^3} \left(\frac{1}{s} + \frac{v'(s)}{v(s)} \right) ds \end{aligned} \tag{1.4.4}$$

where hopefully I can apply Laplace.

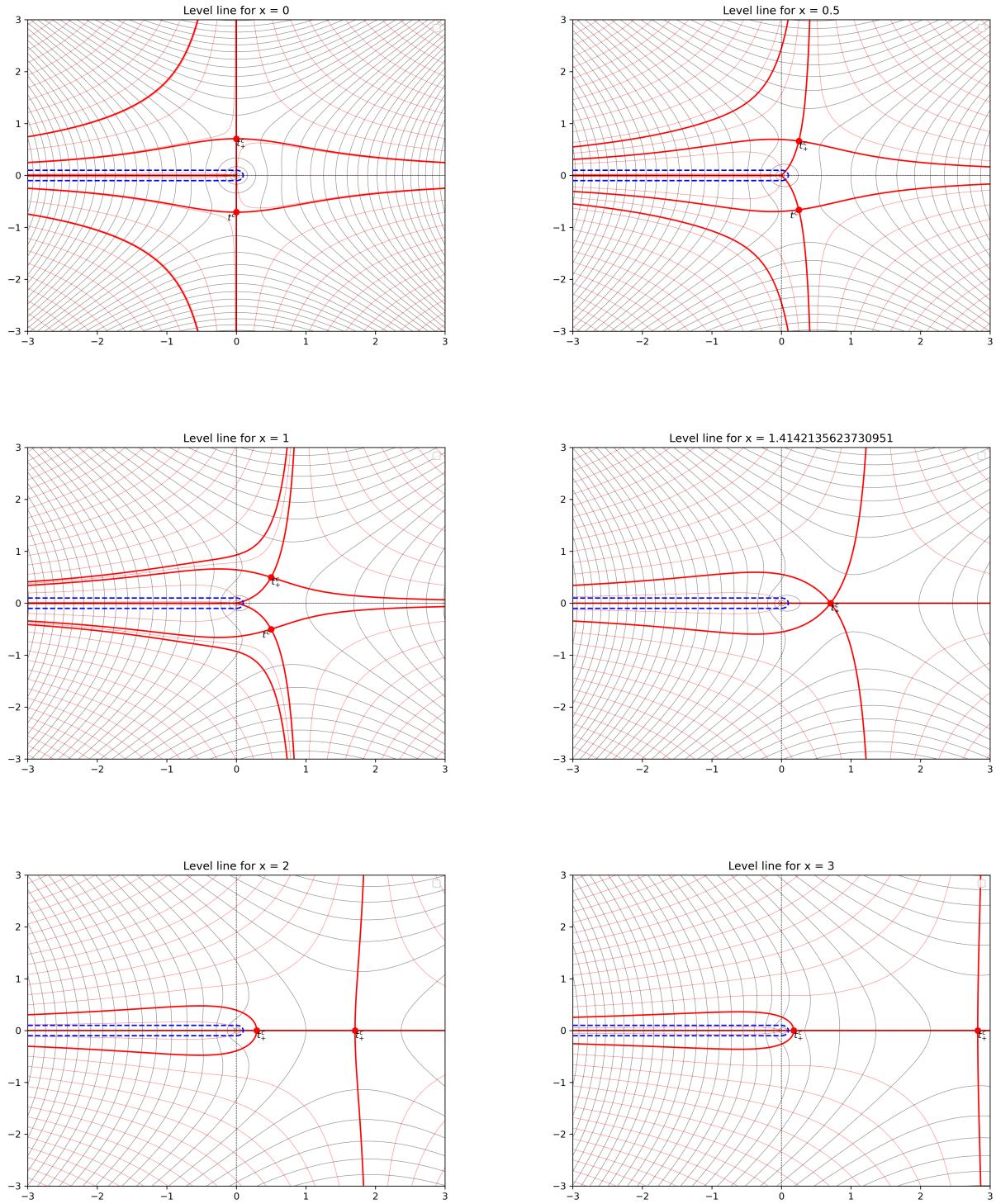


Figure 1.5: Scenarios for x

Chapter 2

Miscellaneous