M3M6: Methods of Mathematical Physics (2017)

Problem Sheet 2

Problem 1.1 Use the Plemelj formulæ to calculate the following:

1) $\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-1}^{1} \frac{\sqrt{1-t^2}}{(1+t^2)(t-z)} dt$ for $z \notin [-1, 1]$.

2)
$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-1}^{1} \frac{1}{(t-z)(2+t)} dt$$
 for $z \notin [-1, 1]$.

3)
$$f_{-1}^1 \frac{t}{(t-x)\sqrt{1-t^2}} dt$$
 for $-1 < x < 1$

Problem 1.2 Find all solutions $\phi(z)$ analytic on $\mathbb{C}\setminus[-1,1]$ with weaker than pole singularities satisfying the following, where -1 < x < 1:

- 1) $\phi_{+}(x) + \phi_{-}(x) = 1 \text{ and } \phi(\infty) = 0$
- 2) $\phi_{+}(x) + \phi_{-}(x) = 0 \text{ and } \phi(\infty) = 1$
- 3) $\phi_{+}(x) + \phi_{-}(x) = \sqrt{1 x^2} \text{ and } \phi(\infty) = 0$
- 4) $\phi_{+}(x) + \phi_{-}(x) = \frac{1}{x^{2}+1}, \ \phi(\infty) = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{z \to \infty} z\phi(z) = 0.$

Problem 1.3 Use Plemelj formulæ to find all solutions u(x) defined on [-1,1] to the following, where -1 < x < 1:

- 1) $\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-1}^{1} \frac{u(t)}{t-x} dt = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}.$
- 2) $\frac{1}{\pi} f_{-1}^1 \frac{u(t)}{t-x} dt = \frac{1}{2+x}$ where u is bounded at the right-endpoint.

In the following problems, use only the definitions

$$\log z = \int_{1}^{z} \frac{1}{\zeta} d\zeta \quad \text{for} \quad z \notin (-\infty, 0]$$
$$\log_{+} x = \log(x \pm i\epsilon) \quad \text{for} \quad x \in (-\infty, 0]$$

For example, do not use $\log z = \log |z| + \mathrm{i} \arg z$ as we need to prove it first! You can use the result from lectures that $\log z^{-1} = -\log z$ and $\log_{\pm} x = \log |x| \pm \mathrm{i} \pi$.

Problem 2.1 Show that $\log(ab) = \log a + \log b$ provided that the closed contour defined by the oriented line segments $\gamma = [1, 1/b] \cup [1/b, a] \cup [a, 1]$ does not surround the origin. Show that if γ surrounds the origin counter-clockwise then

$$\log(ab) = \log a + \log b + 2\pi i$$

and if γ surrounds the origin clockwise then

$$\log(ab) = \log a + \log b - 2\pi i$$

1

Use $\log_{\pm} x$ to express the equivalent formulæ for all cases where γ passes through the origin.

Problem 2.2 Show that $\overline{\log z} = \log \overline{z}$. Use this to show that $\log z = \log |z| + i \arg z$. (Hint: deform along an arc for the imaginary part.)

Problem 2.3 Consider $\log_1 z$ defined off $[0, \infty)$ by

$$\log_1 z := \begin{cases} \log z & \text{if Im } z > 0\\ \log_+ z & \text{if Im } z = 0 \text{ and } z < 0\\ \log z + 2\pi \mathrm{i} & \text{if Im } z < 0 \end{cases}$$

show that $\log_1 z$ is analytic in $\mathbb{C}\backslash[0,\infty)$ and for x>0

$$\lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \log_1(x - i\epsilon) = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \log_1(x + i\epsilon) + 2\pi i.$$

(This is the analytic continuation of $\log z$ over its branch cut.)

Consider the Cauchy transform over the unit circle $\mathbb{T} = \{z : |z| = 1\}$:

$$C_{\mathbb{T}}f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} d\zeta$$

Denote the limit from the left/right (inside/outside) as

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}^+ f(\zeta) = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}} f((1 - \epsilon)\zeta)$$

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}^{-}f(\zeta) = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}f((1+\epsilon)\zeta)$$

Problem 3.1 Assuming that f is analytic in an annulus containing \mathbb{T} , show that $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}f(z)$ satisfies the following (Plemelj formulæ on the circle):

- 1) $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}f(z)$ is analytic in $\mathbb{C}\backslash\mathbb{T}$
- 2) $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}^+ f(\zeta) \mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}^- f(\zeta) = f(\zeta)$
- 3) $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}f(\infty) = 0.$

Problem 3.2 Show that it is the unique function $\phi(z)$ satisfying

- 1) $\phi(z)$ is analytic in $\bar{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \mathbb{T}$
- 2) $\phi^+(\zeta) \phi^-(\zeta) = f(\zeta)$ where f is analytic in an annulus containing \mathbb{T} ,
- $3) \qquad \phi(\infty) = 0.$

where

$$\phi^+(\zeta) = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \phi((1 - \epsilon)\zeta),$$

$$\phi^{-}(\zeta) = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \phi((1+\epsilon)\zeta)$$

You can assume that $\phi^{\pm}(\zeta)$ converges uniformly.

Problem 3.3 What is $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}[\diamond^k](z)$? What about Re $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}^-[\diamond^k](\zeta)$ and Im $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}^-[\diamond^k](\zeta)$? Express your answers separately for negative and non-positive k and justify the answers using 3.1 and 3.2.

Problem 3.4 Construct the solution to ideal fluid flow around a circle, that is, to find a function v(x, y) satisfying

- 1) $v_{xx} + v_{yy} = 0 \text{ for } x^2 + y^2 > 1.$
- 2) $v(x,y) \sim y \cos \theta x \sin \theta$
- 3) $v(x,y) = 0 \text{ for } x^2 + y^2 = 1.$

We investigate the solutions to $\phi^+(x) - c\phi^-(x) = f(x)$ on [-1, 1].

Problem 4.1 Describe all solutions $\kappa(z)$ to

- 1) $\kappa(z)$ is analytic off [-1, 1].
- (2) $\kappa(\infty) = 0.$
- 3) κ has weaker than pole singularities at ± 1 .
- 4) $\kappa^{+}(x) e^{i\theta}\kappa^{-}(x) = 0 \text{ for } -1 < x < 1.$

Show that your answer satisfies all three properties.

Problem 4.2 Construct all solutions $\phi(z)$ to

- 1) $\phi(z)$ is analytic off [-1, 1].
- $2) \qquad \phi(\infty) = 0.$
- 3) ϕ has weaker than pole singularities at ± 1 .
- 4) $\phi^{+}(x) e^{i\theta}\phi^{-}(x) = f(x).$

in terms of a Cauchy transform involving f. You can assume that f is smooth (infinitely-differentiable on [-1,1]), and use the fact that

$$C_{[-1,1]}[(1-\diamond)^{\alpha}(1+\diamond)^{\beta}f(\diamond)](z)$$

is bounded for all z if $\alpha, \beta > 0$ when f is smooth.

Problem 4.3 Let $c \in \mathbb{C}$. Repeat Problem 4.1 and Problem 4.2 for $\phi^+(x) - c\phi^-(x) = f(x)$.

We investigate the solutions to $\phi^+(x) + \phi^-(x) = f(x)$ on two intervals $(-1, -a) \cup (a, 1)$, where 0 < a < 1.

Problem 5.1 Show that $\kappa(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{z-1}\sqrt{z-a}\sqrt{z+a}\sqrt{z+1}}$ satisfies the following properties:

- 1) $\kappa(z)$ is analytic off $[-1, -a] \cup [1, a]$.
- 2) $\kappa^+(x) + \kappa^-(x) = 0 \text{ for } a < |x| < 1.$
- 3) $~\kappa$ has weaker than pole singularities everywhere.
- $4) \qquad \kappa(\infty) = 0.$

Problem 5.2 Describe all solutions $\psi(z)$ satisfying:

- 1) $\psi(z)$ is analytic off $[-1, -a] \cup [1, a]$.
- 2) $\psi^+(x) + \psi^-(x) = 0 \text{ for } a < |x| < 1.$
- 3) ψ has weaker than pole singularities everywhere.
- 4) $\psi(\infty) = 0.$

Problem 5.3 Assuming f(x) is smooth (infinitely differentiable on $[-1, -a] \cup [a, 1]$), express in terms of a Cauchy transform involving f all solutions $\phi(z)$ to the following:

- 1) $\phi(z)$ is analytic off $[-1, -a] \cup [1, a]$.
- 2) $\phi^+(x) + \phi^-(x) = f(x)$ for a < |x| < 1.
- 3) ϕ has weaker than pole singularities everywhere.
- $4) \qquad \phi(\infty) = 0.$

Problem 6.1 Describe the limiting distribution of electric charges under the potential $V(x) = x^4$, that is, the limit of

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\lambda_k}{\mathrm{d}t} = \sum_{\substack{j=1\\j\neq k}}^N \frac{1}{\lambda_k - \lambda_j} - V'(\lambda_k)$$

for k = 1, ..., N as $N \to \infty$. (Hint: scale λ_k appropriately.)