

## LAST TIME: CONTOUR INTEGRALS

STRATEGY: GIVEN  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) dx$  FIND

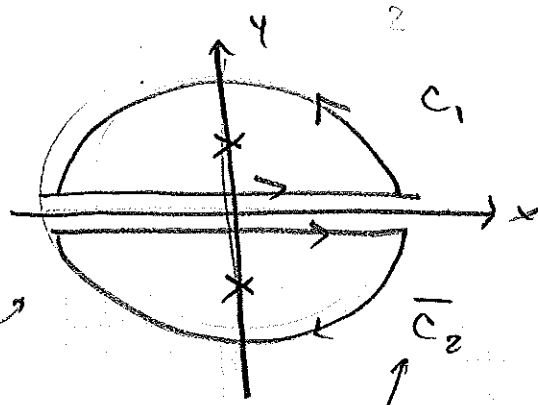
$$\underbrace{\oint_C f(z) dz}_{= 2\pi i \sum \text{Res}_f(z_j)} = \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) dx}_{\text{WHAT YOU WANT}} + \underbrace{\int_C f(z) dz}_{\text{SOMETHING YOU KNOW, IDEALLY ZERO}}$$

EASY TO CALCULATE

eg:  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \left[ \frac{2 \cos x}{x^2 + 1} \right]$

$\uparrow$   
 $\mathbb{R}$   
 $\downarrow$

$$\frac{e^{iz} + e^{-iz}}{(z+i)(z-i)}$$



WHICH CONTOUR?  
 BOTH CONTAIN  $\mathbb{R}$

BAR: MY NOTATION  
 FOR NEGATIVE  
 ORIENTATION

★ SEPARATE THE TERMS

$$dz \left( \frac{e^{iz}}{z^2 + 1} + \frac{e^{-iz}}{z^2 + 1} \right) dz$$

DEF SIGN  
 ON EA.  
 PATH.

$(-1, 1)$   
 on both

WANT ARC TO GIVE ZERO CONTRIBUTION:  $z = R \cos \theta + i R \sin \theta$

$$= \frac{i R e^{i\theta} e^{iz}}{z^2 + 1} d\theta = \frac{i R e^{-R \sin \theta} e^{i R \cos \theta + i \theta}}{R^2 e^{2i\theta} + 1}$$

PHASE

exponential  
 suppression  
 $\Rightarrow i e^{\sin \theta > 0}$  MORE IMPORTANT  
 THAN  $R^{-2}$

$e^{-R\sin\theta} \Rightarrow \triangle \text{ contour}$

$$\oint_{C_1} \frac{e^{iz}}{z^2+1} dz = 2\pi i \left( \underbrace{\frac{e^{-1}}{2i}}_{\text{Res}_f(i)} \right)$$

WHAT ABOUT  $e^{-iz}$  TERM?

$$\boxed{e^{+R\sin\theta}} e^{-iR\cos\theta}$$

controls BEHAVIOR for  $R \rightarrow \infty$  ARC  
for this term, the arc integral vanishes  
on the LOWER contour?  $\boxed{\tilde{C}_2}$

ORIENT.  
↓

$$\oint_{\tilde{C}_2} \frac{e^{-iz}}{z^2+1} dz = -2\pi i \left( \frac{e^{-1}}{-2i} \right)$$

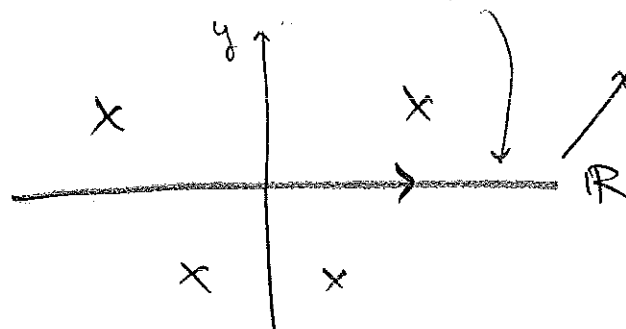
INTEGRALS  
ALONG  
ARCS

$$\oint_{C_1} \frac{e^{iz}}{z^2+1} dz + \oint_{\tilde{C}_2} \frac{e^{-iz}}{z^2+1} dz = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{iz} + e^{-iz}}{z^2+1} dz + 0$$

$$= 2\pi i \left( \frac{1}{2ie} + \frac{1}{2ie} \right) = \boxed{\frac{2\pi}{e}}$$

# PRINCIPAL VALUE

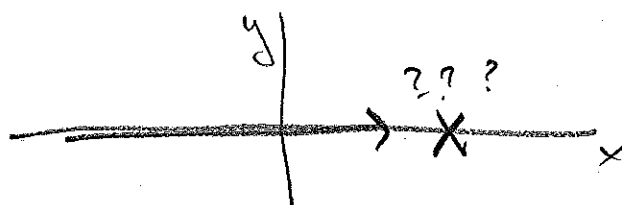
SO FAR SO GOOD:  $f(x)$



then close contour as necessary to get a nice result

↑ USUALLY ALONG PATH THAT INTEGRATES TO ZERO

WHAT IF THERE'S A POLE IN THE WAY?

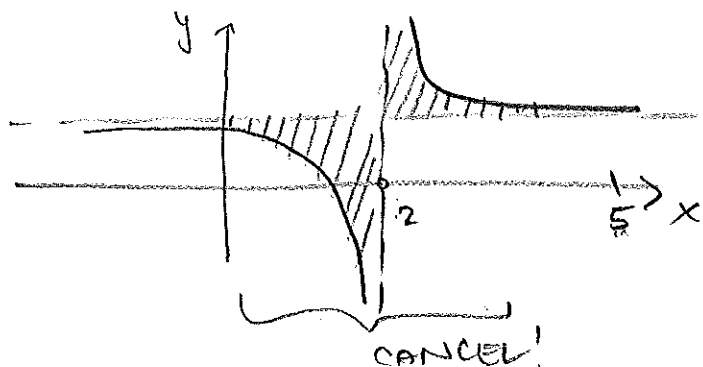


$$f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{x - x_0}$$

well behaved

IS IT OKAY TO STILL ASK FOR  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx$ ?

eg: what if  $g(x) = \text{const}$ ? eg  $x_0 = 2$



basically still have for nice  $g(x)$

$$\int_0^5 \frac{c}{x-2} dx = c \int_4^5 \frac{1}{x-2} dx$$

NOTE: THE POLE ALWAYS HAS PHYSICAL MEANING!  
(in any actual process)

non Analyticity is Nature's way of saying something.

STILL: YOU SHOULD FEEL QUEASY DOING THIS  
SO MATHEMATICALLY WE PUT AN ASTERISK ON IT:

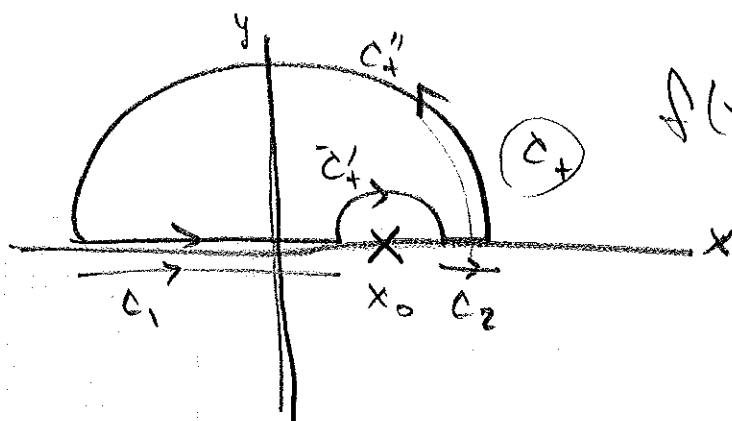
$$\oint_{\pm} \int_a^b \frac{g(x)}{x-x_0} dx \equiv \int_a^{x_0-\epsilon} \frac{g(x)}{x-x_0} dx + \int_{x_0+\epsilon}^b \frac{g(x)}{x-x_0} dx$$

"PRINCIPAL VALUE"

MEANS: ASSUMING  $\int_{x_0-\epsilon}^{x_0+\epsilon} \frac{g(x)}{x-x_0} dx = 0$

( DOES THE POLE MATTER?

WHAT HAPPENS IN A CONTOUR INTEGRAL?



$$f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{x-x_0}$$

$$\oint_{C_+} f(z) = (\int_{C_1} + \int_{C_2} + \int_{C_+'} + \int_{C_+''}) dz f(z)$$

$$\underbrace{\int_{C_1} + \int_{C_2}}_{\oint_{-\infty}^{\infty}}$$

↑ ASSUME  
 $g(z)$  DIES @  $z \rightarrow \infty$   
FASTER THAN  $1/z$

$C_+'$  PARAMETERIZED BY  $z = x_0 + \epsilon e^{i\theta}$

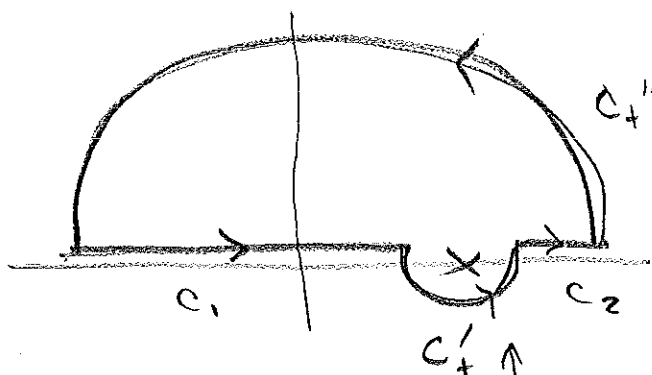
$$= \int_{\pi}^0 \frac{g(z)}{z-x_0} dz = - \int_0^{\pi} \frac{g(x_0)}{\epsilon e^{i\theta}} i \epsilon e^{i\theta} d\theta$$

$$= -i g(x_0) \int_0^{\pi} d\theta = -\pi i g(x_0)$$

$$= -i\pi \text{Res}_f(x_0) \quad \text{half a residue!}$$

$$\boxed{\oint_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz f(x) = \oint_{C_+} f(z) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Res}_f(x_0)}$$

HOMEWORK: THERE'S AN OBVIOUS CONSISTENCY CHECK:



does this give the same "HALF RESIDUE"?

ANS: YOU PICK UP THE WHOLE RESIDUE FROM RESIDUE THM.

BUT: 
$$\int_{\pi}^{2\pi} \frac{g(z)}{z - x_0} dz = \oplus i\pi g(x_0)$$

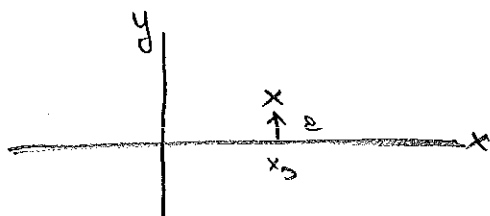
$$\oint f(z) dz = \oint \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx + i\pi g(x_0)$$

SUBTRACT

includes  
 $2\pi i \text{Res}(x_0)$

another eg:  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin x}{x} dx$  in DIS notes

Note: RATHER THAN GOING AROUND POLE, CAN IMAGINE PUSHING POLE A LITTLE



then take  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$   
limit later

$$f(z) \equiv \frac{g(z)}{z - x_0 - i\epsilon}$$

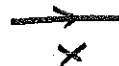
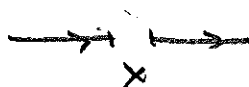
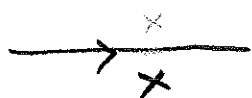
BECAUSE THE <sup>[CLOSED]</sup> CONTOUR INT. IS "TOPOLOGICAL"  
(DOESN'T CARE ABOUT SPECIFIC PATH),  
THIS DOESN'T CHANGE ANYTHING.

LIGHTNING REVIEW/ SERVE

$$\langle h | g \rangle = \int h^*(x) g(x) dx$$

SO ASSUMING  $g$  IS ANALYTIC IN CONTOUR,

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{x - x_0 + i\epsilon} \middle| g \right\rangle = P \left\langle \frac{1}{x - x_0} \middle| g \right\rangle - i\pi \langle \delta(x - x_0) | g \rangle$$



ASSUMING



SO, AS A DISTRIBUTION,

$$\frac{1}{x - x_0 \pm i\epsilon} = P \left( \frac{1}{x - x_0} \right) \mp i\pi \delta(x - x_0)$$

HARMONIC OSCILLATOR:  $\Theta = \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^2 + \omega^2$

A "UNIT DISPLACEMENT" @  $t_0 = 0$  GIVES  
A RESPONSE AT TIME  $t$ :

$$\boxed{G''(t) + \omega^2 G(t) = \delta(t)} \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} G(t) = G(t, t') \\ \delta(t) = \delta(t - t') \end{array}$$

choice of sign

SOLVE:  $G(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ikt} \tilde{G}(k) dk$

TO DO:  
CHECK SIGNS  
→ 2π's

$$\Theta G(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\omega^2 - k^2) e^{-ikt} \tilde{G}(k) dk$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ikt} dk$$

↓ compare coeff of  $|k\rangle \sim e^{-ikt}$

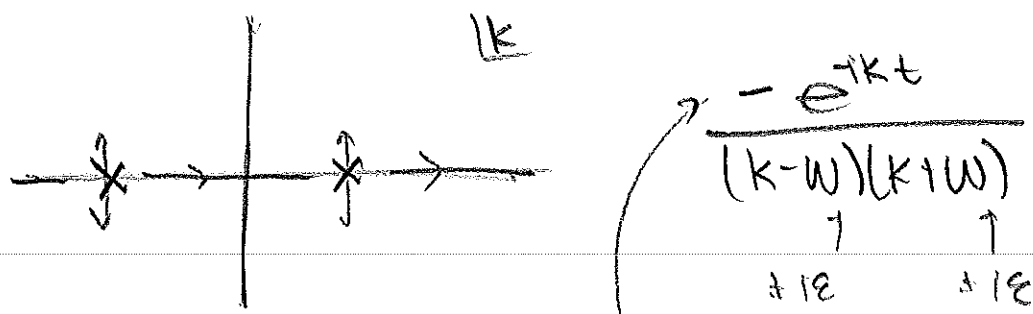
$$\boxed{\tilde{G} = \frac{1}{\omega^2 - k^2}}$$

feels like we're done

$$G(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-ikt}}{\omega^2 - k^2} dk = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-ikt}}{(k - \omega)(k + \omega)} dk$$

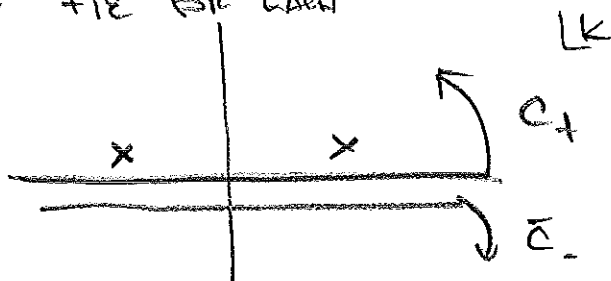
POLES @  $k = \pm \omega$   
ALONG CONTOUR! ☹️

HAVE TO PICK A POLE PRESCRIPTION / CONTOUR



$(k - \omega)$  vs.  $(\omega - k)$

TRY: CHOOSE  $\pm i\epsilon$  FOR EACH



WHICH CONTOUR? WANT  $\hat{G} e^{ikt} \rightarrow 0$  on arc.

BYRON & FURER  
VS. BOAS

Re PART SHOULD GO LIKE  $e^{-R}$   
NB: DEPENDS ON OUR CONVENTION  
FOR THE FOURIER TRANSFORM

$$G = \hat{G} e^{ikt} \text{ or } \hat{G} e^{-ikt}?$$

SO WHICH CONTOUR DO WE WANT? WARD:  $(k, \theta)$

$$+ k \sin \theta t$$

$\uparrow$  DEPENDS ON SIGN OF  $t$ !

IF  $t > 0$  (after source),  $\sin \theta < 0$  for  $\int_{\text{arc}} \rightarrow 0$

$\hookrightarrow$  SO TAKE  $C_-$ : NO POLES!?

$$\boxed{G(t) = 0} \quad \leftarrow (+i\epsilon) \text{ FOR } t > 0$$

IF  $t < 0$ ,  $\sin \theta > 0 \rightarrow$  take  $C_+$

$$\begin{aligned} G(t) &= \int_{C_+} dk e^{-ikt} \frac{1}{k - (\omega + i\epsilon)} \frac{1}{k - (-\omega + i\epsilon)} \\ &= 2\pi i \times \frac{-1}{2\pi} (\text{Res}(\omega + i\epsilon) + \text{Res}(-\omega + i\epsilon)) \\ &= \frac{1}{i} \left( \frac{e^{i\omega t}}{-2\omega} + \frac{e^{i\omega t}}{2\omega} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \left[ \frac{-1}{\omega} \sin(\omega t) \right] \quad |t| < 0$$

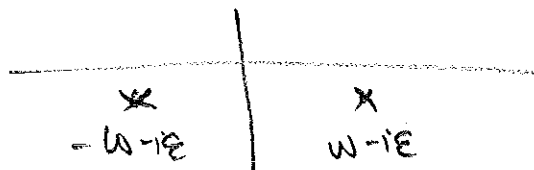
not physical

$$\boxed{G(t) = -\frac{1}{\omega} \sin(\omega t) \Theta(-t)}$$

ADVANCED PROPAGATOR  
ACCAUSAL!!



MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE PUSHED POLES DOWN?



convergence still set by  $e^{-ikt}$ , BUT POLES ARE NOW IN C-

$t > 0$ : <sup>ARC</sup> converges to 0 for  $C_-$

$t < 0$ : converges to 0 for  $C_+$

↑ BUT NOW NO POLES

$$G(t < 0) = 0$$

no acausal propagation

take care of overall sign:  $\oint_{C_-} = -\oint_{C_+}$   
FROM  $(k^2 - w^2)$  VS  $(w^2 - k^2)$

$$G(t > 0) = -\oint_{C_-} dk e^{-ikt} \frac{-1}{k^2 - w^2 + i\epsilon}$$

$$= 2\pi i \times \frac{1}{2\pi} (\text{Res}(w + i\epsilon) + \text{Res}(-w + i\epsilon))$$

rel  
sign

$$\Rightarrow i \left( \frac{e^{-iwt}}{-2w} + \frac{e^{iwt}}{2w} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{w} \sin(wt)$$

$$G(t) = \frac{1}{w} \sin(wt) \Theta(t)$$

RETARDED PROPAGATOR (PHYSICAL)

## Feynman Propagator

$-i\omega + i\epsilon$	$+i\omega + i\epsilon$
$-i\omega + i\epsilon$	$\times$

one pole in  $C_+$ , one in  $C_-$

$$G_F(t > 0) = \frac{i}{2\omega} e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$G_F(t < 0) = \frac{-i}{2\omega} e^{i\omega t}$$

IMAGINARY?

TURNS OUT TO BE USEFUL IN RELATIVISTIC THEORIES. NOTE MINUS SIGN.

$t < 0$  IS A "NEGATIVE ENERGY" SOLUTION  
W FREQ. MOVING  
BACK IN TIME

DIRAC NOTICED THAT IN QM,  $\exists$  "negative energy" states

$\rightarrow$  REALIZED THEY HAD TO DO W/ ANTIPARTICLES MOVING FORWARD IN TIME.

## FOURIER TRANSFORM NOTE

see physics stackexchange: 308234

two freedoms: (a) & (b)

$$\underbrace{f_{a,b}[f]}_{\hat{f}}(\omega) = \sqrt{\frac{|b|}{(2\pi)^{1+\alpha}}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ib\omega t} f(t) dt$$

then:  $f_{a,b}^{-1}[\hat{f}](t) = \sqrt{\frac{|b|}{(2\pi)^{1+\alpha}}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ib\omega t} \hat{f}(\omega) d\omega$

CHECK:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{a,b}^{-1}[f_{a,b}[f]] &= \frac{|b|}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega e^{-ib\omega t} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} ds e^{ib\omega s} f(s) \\ &= \frac{|b|}{2\pi} \iint d\omega ds e^{ib\omega(s-t)} f(s) \\ &= \frac{|b|}{2\pi} \int ds f(s) \underbrace{\int d\omega e^{ib\omega(s-t)}} \end{aligned}$$

nb:  $\int d\xi e^{2\pi i x \xi} = \delta(x)$

then:  $\xi = \frac{b}{2\pi} \omega \quad d\omega = \left| \frac{2\pi}{b} \right| d\xi$

$$= \int ds \delta(s-t) f(s)$$

FOR SPACETIME, MUST MAINTAIN LORENTZ INVARIANCE.