

Chem237: Lecture 6

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Extreme Integration

Start with Taylor Series.

If $f(z)$ is regular in D , then all derivatives exist, therefore we can expand $f(z)$ in a Taylor series about some point z_0 .

$$\begin{aligned} a &= f(z_0) \\ a_n &= \frac{1}{n!} f^n(z_0) \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

The question is if the series converges? If z_0 is in the center of a disk with radius r , such that r is equal to the distance between z_0 and the closest singularity.

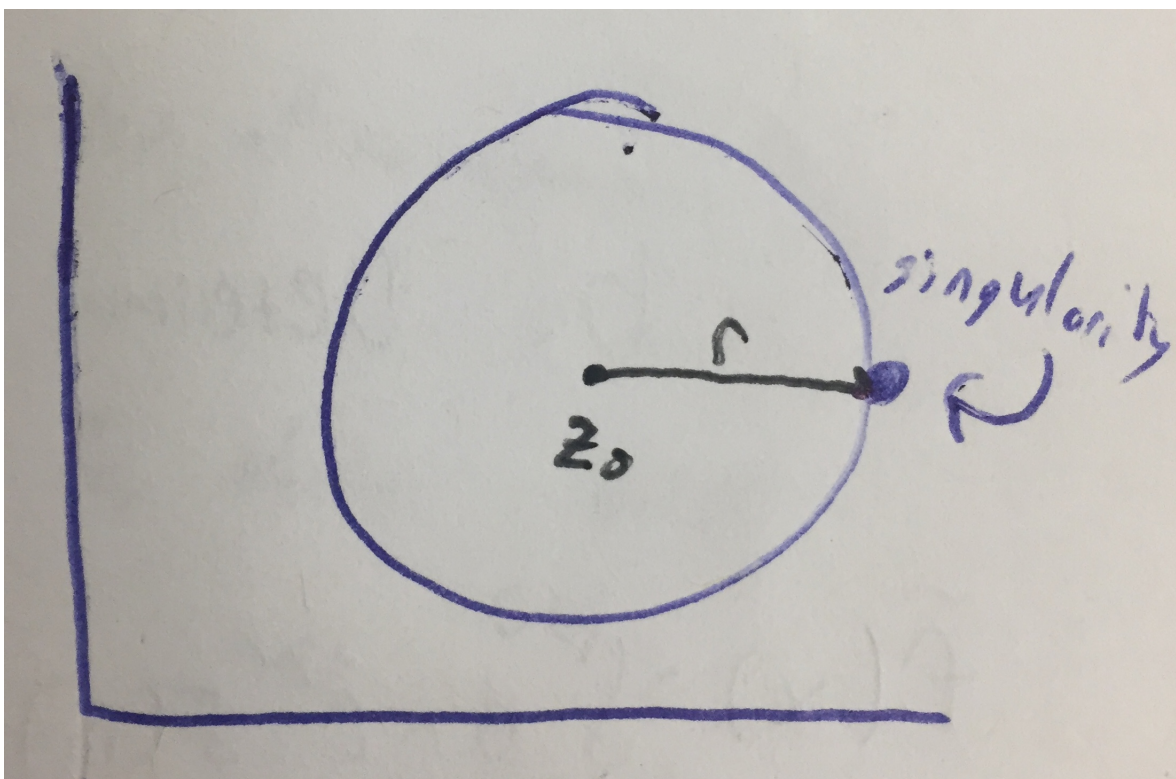


Figure 1: Make a caption. Radius of Convergence defined by r . R is length to closest singularity.

As an example consider

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{z} \tag{2}$$

The function exists everywhere, except for the singularity at $z=0$. To evaluate we can expand the function

$$\frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{1 - \left(\frac{z_0 - z}{z_0}\right)^n} \tag{3}$$

We can now use a geometrix series The Taylor series is

$$\frac{1}{z_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{z_0 - z}{z_0} \right)^n \quad (4)$$

To converge then

$$\frac{z - z_0}{z_0} < 1 \quad (5)$$

We know $z - z_0 < z_0$.

Laurent Series

Expand the series about point z_0

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a_n (z - z_0)^n \quad (6)$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\gamma} dz \frac{f(z)}{(z - z_0)^{n+1}}$$

Where the second line comes from Cauchy.

As an example we can again use $f(z) = \frac{1}{z}$ which is naturally the form for a Laurent series.

$$\frac{1}{z} = \frac{a_1}{z - 0} \quad (7)$$

Where we define $a_1 = 1$ and $z_0 = 0$

The contour would need to go around z_0 , but we may not need to include z_0 in our domain (i.e. we can make the contour as small as we want around z_0 infinitely small about the point).

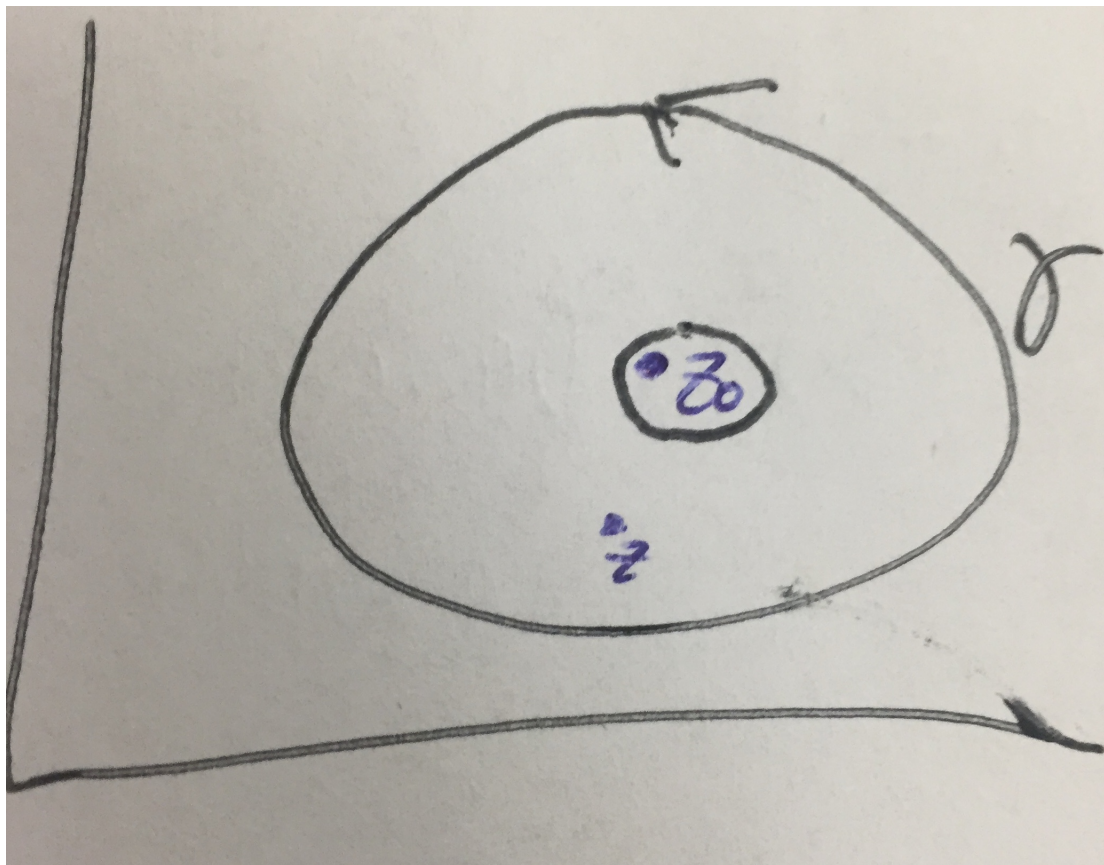


Figure 2: Make a caption. Radius of Convergence defined by r . R is length to closest singularity.

We can now represent $f(z)$ at any point z because the function is regular the integral is not a function of path.

Pole

z_0 is a simple pole of order M if $a_m \neq 0$, but for any $m' > m$ $a_{m'} = 0$.

If m is infinite, then z_0 is known as an essential singularity at this point.

There are other types of singularities, for example a branching point occurs for $f(z) = \sqrt{z}$. In polar coordinates we could write $z = Re^{i\theta}$.

$$f(z) = \sqrt{z} = \sqrt{R}e^{i\theta/2} \quad (8)$$

We can choose a new contour

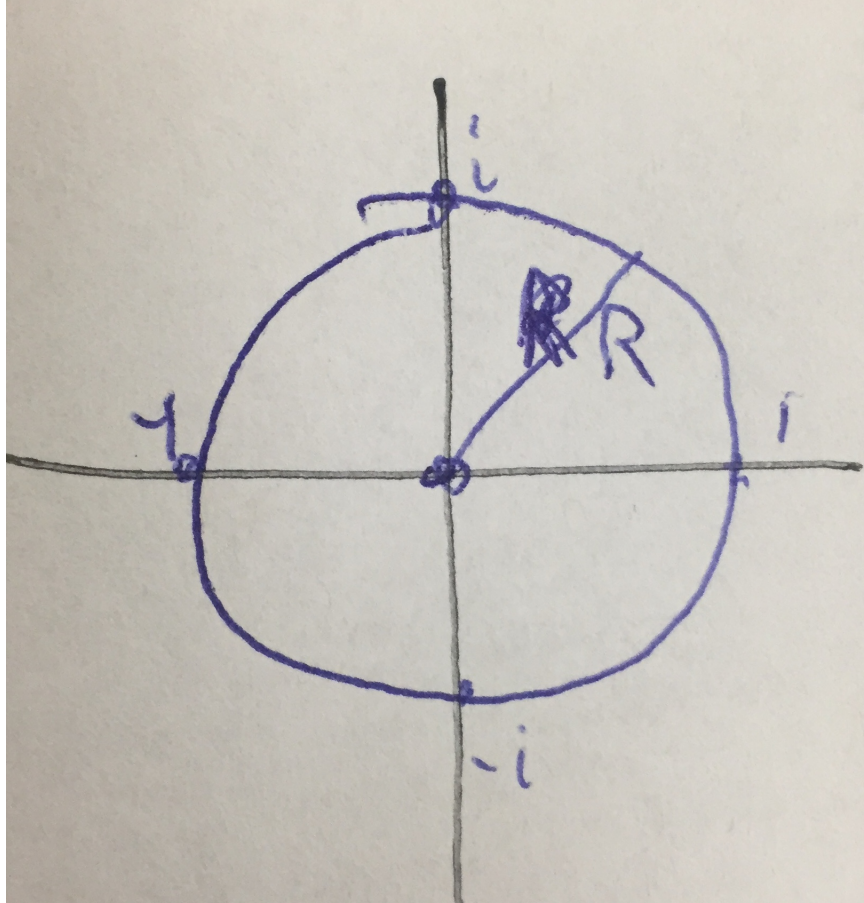


Figure 3: Make a caption. Radius of Convergence defined by r . R is length to closest singularity.

$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= e^{i\theta/2} = 1 \\ f(i) &= e^{i\pi/4} = 1 \\ f(-1) &= e^{i\pi/2} = 1 \\ f(1) &= e^{i2\pi/2} = -1 \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

The function continuously changes about the branching point, start at 1, end at -1, the function therefore cannot be continuous. If you go around another time, you will get a value of 1, and so on. This means \sqrt{z} is a double-value function.

We can consider instead $\ln(z)$, and again let $z = Re^{i\theta}$, recall $n = \pm (1, 2, 3, \dots)$.

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= \ln(z) = \ln(Re^{i\theta}) = \ln(Re^{i\theta+2\pi ni}) = \ln(R) + \ln(e^{i\theta+2\pi in}) \\ &= \ln(R) + 2\pi ni + i\theta \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Therefore \ln is an infinite valued function (because n runs from 0 to infinity), we collect a phase each iteration

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(1) &= 0 \\ \ln(2) &= 2\pi i \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Another type of singularity is an essential singularity, consider a Taylor expansion.

$$f(z) = e^{1/z} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \frac{1}{z^n} \quad (12)$$

All the a_n terms are $\frac{1}{n!}$ so they all exist, $z=0$ is an essential singularity.

The Residue Theorem

$$\oint dz f(z) = 2\pi i \sum_i \text{res} \quad (13)$$

Consider some function $f(z)$ in a domain D , with isolated residues z_1, z_2, \dots

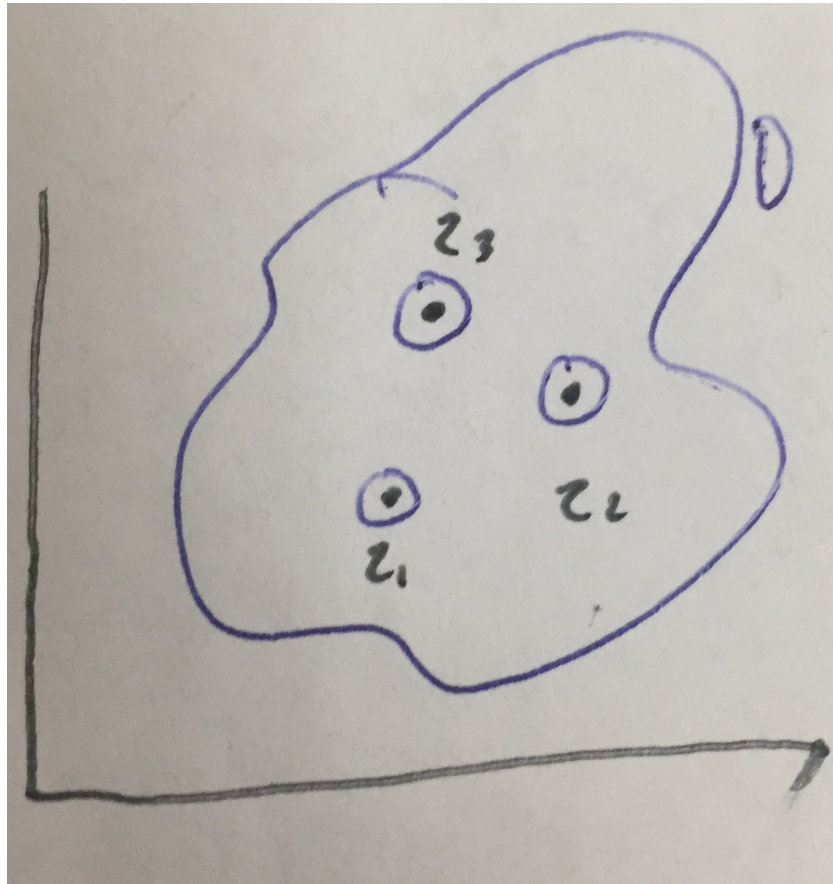


Figure 4: Make a caption. isolated singularities

If you define a contour over a set of isolated singularities (poles) then the value of the integral is simply the values associated with the singularities through the residue theorem.

$$\text{residue} = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z - z_0) f(z) = a_1(z_0) \Rightarrow \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} f(z) \frac{a_1}{(z - z_0)} \Rightarrow a_1(z_0) = \text{residue} \quad (14)$$

So you need to compute a limit for each singularity to get the residue, and compute the integral through all of the residues.

Isolated Singularities

There own type of singularity (finite power), these methods do not work for branching points and essential singularities, keep that in mind.

As an example consider

$$f(z) = \frac{e^z}{z^5} \Rightarrow \oint dz \frac{e^z}{z^5} \quad (15)$$

We can expand e^z using a Taylor series

$$\oint dz \frac{e^z}{z^5} = \oint dz \frac{1}{z^5} \left(1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2!} + \dots \right) = \oint dz \quad (16)$$

We could then try to compute this integral using a Laurent series (he did not actually do this example may want to remove)

$$\oint dz \left(\frac{1}{z^5} + \frac{1}{z^4} + \frac{1}{2!z^3} + \frac{1}{4!z} + \frac{1}{5!} + \frac{z}{6!} + \dots \right) \quad (17)$$

This is some extreme integration according to Vlad, but we can actually solve the problem a bit easier. The Laurent series is unique, and it turns out only the $\frac{1}{4!z}$ term actually contributes, all other terms go to 0. Therefore we do not actually need a Laurent series, we can just use the Residue Theorem.

Consider instead

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_{\mathbb{C}} dz \frac{1}{z^n} \\ z = Re^{i\theta}, \quad dz = iRe^{i\theta}d\theta \\ \oint_{\mathbb{C}} d\theta \quad ie^{i(1-n)\theta} \\ = \begin{cases} 2\pi i, & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

So we see that our extreme integration terms evaluate to 0 if $n \neq 1$, so we only need to compute a single term.

$$\oint dz \frac{e^z}{z^5} = 2\pi i a_1(z=0) \quad (19)$$

We don't need to solve the integral, we just need to compute the residue and evaluate at that point, no need for our Laurent series at all.

Integrals

The class of integrals that can be evaluated through the residue theorem is very broad, with both definite and indefinite integrals included.

Consider the following integral

$$\int_0^\infty dx \frac{\cos(x)}{1+x^2} \quad (20)$$

It is usually convenient to replace trig functions with their exponential representation, $\cos(x) = \text{Re}[e^{iz}]$, we can re-write the above integral as

$$\text{Re} \int_0^\infty dz \frac{e^{iz}}{1+z^2} \quad (21)$$

This expression contains isolated singularities at $\pm i$, these are simple poles (absolute singularities). We can draw our contour over one of these poles as

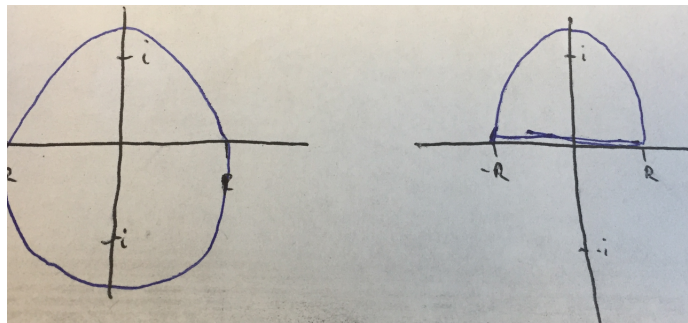


Figure 5: Make a caption. Two poles at $\pm i$, both contours are valid, but the right 1 is easier to evaluate, only need to compute 1 residue. WE NEED TO LABEL PATHS AROUND THE CONTOUR!!!!

This integral can be computed using the residue theorem. Using the figure on the right our original integral is a summation of two terms, the curve in the complex plane and the line across the real axis (which is our line integral of interest). It will be more convenient to change the bounds of our original integral as we will see, using the fact that this integral is for an even function we can write

$$\int_0^{\infty} dx \frac{\cos(x)}{1+x^2} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{\cos(x)}{1+x^2} \quad (22)$$

To compute our residue at i consider

$$\begin{aligned} \text{res}(z=i) &= \lim_{z \rightarrow i} \frac{e^{iz}}{1+z^2} (z-i) \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow i} \frac{e^{iz}}{(z-i)(z+i)} (z-i) \\ \text{res}(z=i) &= \frac{e^{-1}}{2i} \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Using our residue we can not compute our integral of interest (cosine is the real part of the exponential representation).

$$\text{Re} \left[\int_0^{\infty} dz \frac{e^{iz}}{1+z^2} \right] = 2\pi i \text{Res}(z=i) = \frac{\pi}{e} \quad (24)$$

From our diagram we are computing an integral over our closed contour. Pathway I is the real integral of interest we are asked about in the question, and we used the residue theorem to compute the integral over the entire contour. This means that path II must evaluate to zero for our contour integral to be equal to the original question we were asked. So we need to evaluate integral II explicitly, it is a semi-circle so we can naturally switch coordinates.

$$\begin{aligned} II &= \int_{-R}^R dz \frac{e^{iz}}{1+z^2} \\ z &= Re^{i\theta}, \quad dz = Rie^{i\theta} d\theta, \quad iz = iz + i^2y = ix - y \\ &= \int_0^{\pi} d\theta \quad Rie^{ix-y} \frac{e^{i\theta}}{i1 + R^2e^{2i\theta}} \\ &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \left[\int_0^{\pi} d\theta \quad Rie^{ix-y} \frac{e^{i\theta}}{i1 + R^2e^{2i\theta}} \right] = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Where the limit is much easier to evaluate at the limit to infinity, because this term goes to 0, the value of the residue theorem is exactly equal to the integral over the real line (the original question we were asked).

Another Example

Consider the following integral (Assume a is positive).

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{x \cos(ax)}{1+x^2} \quad (26)$$

Again we start by drawing a contour, this problem is similar to the last, the residues occur at plus or minus i so we can use the same semi-circle contour as above.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{x \cos(ax)}{1+x^2} &= I + II \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{x \cos(ax)}{1+x^2} &= \text{Re} \left[\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \left(\oint dz \frac{ze^{iaz}}{1+z^2} \right) \right] + \text{Re} \left[\oint d\theta \frac{R^2 i e^{aix-ay} e^{2i\theta}}{1+R^2 e^{2i\theta}} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

We will start by trying to see if our integral over the complex plane can be evaluated. The trick to evaluating this limit is to consider $\alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}}$, meaning $R \rightarrow \infty$, $\alpha \rightarrow 0$.

Using the residue theorem we can compute our remaining integral

$$\text{res}(i) = \frac{ie^{iai}}{1+i^2} (1-i) = \frac{e^{-a}i}{1+i} \rightarrow -2\pi \frac{e^a}{1+i} \quad (28)$$