Part IB — Complex Methods Example Sheet $2\,$

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Using partial fractions,

$$\frac{1}{(z-a)(z-b)} = \frac{1}{a-b} \left(\frac{1}{z-a} - \frac{1}{z-b} \right)$$

Have 0 < |a| < |b|. In the region |z| < |a|, we have no singularities, ie our function is analytic here, and we can calculate the Taylor series about $z_0 = 0$. Note that (for |z| < |a|)

$$\frac{1}{z-a} = -\frac{1}{a} \left(1 - \frac{z}{a} \right)^{-1} = -\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^{n+1}} z^n$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{(z-a)(z-b)} = \frac{1}{b-a} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{a^{n+1}} - \frac{1}{b^{n+1}} \right) z^n$$

In the region |a|<|z|<|b| we can determine a Laurent series for $\frac{1}{z-a}$ in this annulus, (but $\frac{1}{z-b}$ still has a Taylor series). Note that

$$\frac{1}{z-a} = \frac{1}{z} \left(1 - \frac{a}{z} \right)^{-1} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^m}{z^{m+1}} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} a^{-n-1} z^n.$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{(z-a)(z-b)} = \frac{1}{a-b} \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} a^{-n-1} z^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^{n+1}} z^n \right)$$

Finally, in the region |z|>|b|, we can determine a Laurent Series in the annulus |b|<|z|<|R| for some $R\in\mathbb{C}$ st. |R|>|b|.

Firstly $\int_{-1}^{1} z \, dz$ evaluated along γ_1 , the straight line from -1 to +1 is simply

 $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{z^2}{2} \end{bmatrix}_{-1}^1 = 0.$ We integrate along the semicircular contour by making the substitution $z = e^{i\theta}, \, \mathrm{d}z = ie^{i\theta} \, d\theta.$ Then

$$\int_{\gamma_2} z \, dz = \int_{\pi}^{0} e^{i\theta} \cdot ie^{i\theta} \, d\theta$$
$$= \int_{\pi}^{0} ie^{2i\theta} \, d\theta$$
$$= \left[\frac{1}{2}e^{2i\theta}\right]_{\pi}^{0}$$
$$= 0$$

Next, consider

$$I_3 = \oint_{\gamma_3} \bar{z} \, \mathrm{d}z, \quad I_4 = \oint_{\gamma_4} \bar{z} \, \mathrm{d}z$$

where γ_3 is the unit circle |z|=1, and γ_4 is the translated unit circle |z-1|=1. For I_3 we again make the substitution $z=e^{i\theta}$, $\mathrm{d}z=ie^{i\theta}$ $d\theta$, so

$$I_3 = \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-i\theta} i e^{i\theta} d\theta$$
$$-2\pi$$

For I_4 we make the substitution $z = 1 + e^{i\theta}$, $dz = ie^{i\theta}$ $d\theta$, so

$$I_4 = \int_0^{2\pi} (1 + e^{-i\theta}) i e^{i\theta} d\theta$$
$$= \int_0^{2\pi} i (1 + e^{i\theta}) d\theta$$
$$= 2\pi i$$