

# Twisted disclination velocity

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## 1 Single disclination with added twist

To begin, we consider an isolated disclination which has an added twist. This corresponds to  $\hat{\Omega}$  making an angle  $\beta$  with the tangent vector  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}$ . In our simulations, it appears that the plane which  $\hat{\Omega}$  is confined to is perpendicular to the vector between the two disclinations:

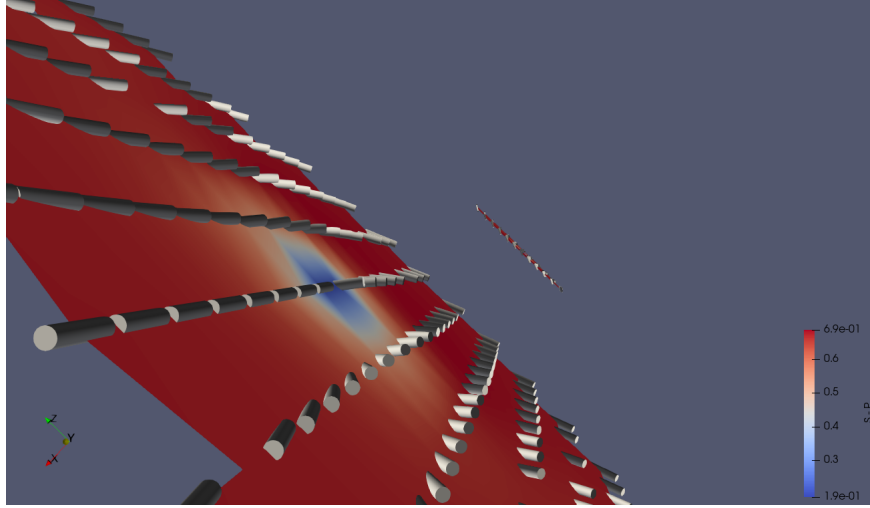


Figure 1: Close-up of a cross-section of a twisted disclination. The axes in the image are different than what is in this note.value(), so take out of the page as  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  and upward normal to the cross-sectional plane to be  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ . Here  $\beta < 0$  which corresponds to a positive rotation of the director about the  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  axis.

For concreteness, we choose  $\hat{\mathbf{T}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$  and  $\hat{\Omega} = \sin \beta \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \cos \beta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ . We note that, to get from a  $+1/2$  wedge disclination to the twist disclination described by this  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}$  and  $\hat{\Omega}$ , one must rotate by  $\beta$  in the  $-\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  direction. Hence, in Cody's parlance we have that:

$$\tilde{\varphi}(z) \hat{\mathbf{q}} = -\beta(z) \hat{\mathbf{x}} \quad (1)$$

From Eq. (7.8) in Cody's thesis, it's clear that the disclination velocity is always zero if we only consider the isotropic elasticity contribution to the equations of motion (since  $\hat{\Omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} = 0$ ).

### 1.1 Calculating $L_2$ contribution to velocity

Note that:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{n}}_k = \hat{\mathbf{n}}_k + \tilde{\varphi} \mathbf{p}_k \quad (2)$$

with

$$\mathbf{p}_k = (\hat{\mathbf{q}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_k) \quad (3)$$

This gives:

$$\nabla \tilde{\mathbf{n}}_k = \nabla \tilde{\varphi} \mathbf{p}_k \quad (4)$$

Then, from Eq. (7.3) in the thesis we get:

$$Q_{\mu\nu} \approx S_N \left[ \frac{1}{6} \delta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\Omega}_\mu \hat{\Omega}_\nu + \frac{x}{2a} (\tilde{n}_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu}) + \frac{y}{2a} (\tilde{n}_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu}) \right] \quad (5)$$

We compute the gradients as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_k Q_{\mu\nu} \approx \frac{S_N}{2a} & \left[ (\tilde{n}_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu}) \delta_{kx} + x \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{0\nu} - p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}) \right. \\ & \left. + (\tilde{n}_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu}) \delta_{ky} + y \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{1\nu} + p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{0\nu}) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

and higher order derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_l \partial_k Q_{\mu\nu} \approx \frac{S_N}{2a} & \left[ \partial_l \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{0\nu} - p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}) \delta_{kx} \right. \\ & + (\partial_k \tilde{\varphi} \delta_{lx} + x \partial_l \partial_k \tilde{\varphi}) (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{0\nu} - p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}) \\ & + 2x (\partial_l \tilde{\varphi}) (\partial_k \tilde{\varphi}) (p_{0\mu} p_{0\nu} - p_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}) \\ & + \partial_l \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{1\nu} + p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{0\nu}) \delta_{ky} \\ & + (\partial_k \tilde{\varphi} \delta_{ly} + y \partial_l \partial_k \tilde{\varphi}) (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{1\nu} + p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{0\nu}) \\ & \left. + 2y (\partial_l \tilde{\varphi}) (\partial_k \tilde{\varphi}) (p_{0\mu} p_{1\nu} + p_{1\mu} p_{0\nu}) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Evaluated at  $x = y = 0$  (i.e. the disclination core) this becomes:

$$\partial_k Q_{\mu\nu} \approx \frac{S_N}{2a} [(\tilde{n}_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu}) \delta_{kx} + (\tilde{n}_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu}) \delta_{ky}] \quad (8)$$

and for the higher order derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_l \partial_k Q_{\mu\nu}|_{x=y=0} \approx \frac{S_N}{2a} & \left[ \partial_l \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{0\nu} - p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}) \delta_{kx} \right. \\ & + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{0\nu} - p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}) \delta_{lx} \\ & + \partial_l \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{1\nu} + p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{0\nu}) \delta_{ky} \\ & \left. + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{1\nu} + p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{0\nu}) \delta_{ly} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Note that this matches Cody's Eq. (7.5) for  $k = l$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_k \partial_k Q_{\mu\nu}|_{x=y=0} \approx \frac{S_N}{a} & \left[ \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{0\nu} - p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} - \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}) \delta_{kx} \right. \\ & \left. + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0\mu} \tilde{n}_{1\nu} + \tilde{n}_{0\mu} p_{1\nu} + p_{1\mu} \tilde{n}_{0\nu} + \tilde{n}_{1\mu} p_{0\nu}) \delta_{ky} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Before calculating the  $L_2$  term (which is ostensibly harder), we redo Cody's isotropic calculation to make sure everything works correctly. To simplify things, we note that Eq. (10) already has an explicit factor of  $\partial_k \tilde{\varphi}$  on every term, and so when we calculate  $\mathbf{g}$  to  $\mathcal{O}(\tilde{\varphi})$  we may take approximate

all other factors to  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ . In particular, this implies  $\hat{\mathbf{n}} \approx \hat{\mathbf{n}}$ . We use the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 &= 0 \\
\hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 &= \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 = 1 \\
\mathbf{p}_0 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 &= \mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 = 0 \\
\mathbf{p}_0 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 &= -\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 = \hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \\
\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 &= \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 = 0 \\
\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} &= 1 \\
\hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 &= \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \\
\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 &= \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 \\
\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 &= -\hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \\
\mathbf{p}_0 \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 &= -\hat{\mathbf{q}} + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 (\hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0) \\
\mathbf{p}_1 \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 &= -\hat{\mathbf{q}} + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 (\hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1) \\
\mathbf{p}_0 \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 &= \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 (\hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1) \\
\mathbf{p}_1 \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 &= \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 (\hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0)
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

We calculate  $\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \cdot \mathbf{g}$  for the isotropic case in a Jupyter notebook and end up with Eq. (7.7) from Cody's thesis.

Now for the  $L_2$  terms we calculate:

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_i \partial_k Q_{kj} \big|_{x=y=0} &\approx \frac{S_N}{2a} \left[ \partial_i \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0x} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{0x} p_{0j} - p_{1x} \tilde{n}_{1j} - \tilde{n}_{1x} p_{1j}) \right. \\
&\quad + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0k} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{0k} p_{0j} - p_{1k} \tilde{n}_{1j} - \tilde{n}_{1k} p_{1j}) \delta_{ix} \\
&\quad + \partial_i \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0y} \tilde{n}_{1j} + \tilde{n}_{0y} p_{1j} + p_{1y} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{1y} p_{0j}) \\
&\quad \left. + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0k} \tilde{n}_{1j} + \tilde{n}_{0k} p_{1j} + p_{1k} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{1k} p_{0j}) \delta_{iy} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

We may find  $\partial_j \partial_k Q_{ki}$  by just taking the transpose. The last term that we need is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_l \partial_k Q_{kl} \big|_{x=y=0} &\approx \frac{S_N}{2a} \left[ \partial_l \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0x} \tilde{n}_{0l} + \tilde{n}_{0x} p_{0l} - p_{1x} \tilde{n}_{1l} - \tilde{n}_{1x} p_{1l}) \right. \\
&\quad + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0k} \tilde{n}_{0x} + \tilde{n}_{0k} p_{0x} - p_{1k} \tilde{n}_{1x} - \tilde{n}_{1k} p_{1x}) \\
&\quad + \partial_l \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0y} \tilde{n}_{1l} + \tilde{n}_{0y} p_{1l} + p_{1y} \tilde{n}_{0l} + \tilde{n}_{1y} p_{0l}) \\
&\quad \left. + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0k} \tilde{n}_{1y} + \tilde{n}_{0k} p_{1y} + p_{1k} \tilde{n}_{0y} + \tilde{n}_{1k} p_{0y}) \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Now we have to compute  $\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} \cdot \mathbf{g}$ . Cody has already done this for the isotropic medium, we need to do it for the  $L_2$  term. Luckily  $\mathbf{g}$  is linear in  $\partial_t Q$  terms, so we first calculate:

$$\begin{aligned}
(\partial_i \partial_k Q_{kj}) (\partial_l Q_{mj}) &= \frac{S_N^2}{4a^2} \left[ \partial_i \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0x} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{0x} p_{0j} - p_{1x} \tilde{n}_{1j} - \tilde{n}_{1x} p_{1j}) \right. \\
&\quad + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0k} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{0k} p_{0j} - p_{1k} \tilde{n}_{1j} - \tilde{n}_{1k} p_{1j}) \delta_{ix} \\
&\quad + \partial_i \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0y} \tilde{n}_{1j} + \tilde{n}_{0y} p_{1j} + p_{1y} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{1y} p_{0j}) \\
&\quad + \partial_k \tilde{\varphi} (p_{0k} \tilde{n}_{1j} + \tilde{n}_{0k} p_{1j} + p_{1k} \tilde{n}_{0j} + \tilde{n}_{1k} p_{0j}) \delta_{iy} \left. \right] \\
&\quad \cdot [(\tilde{n}_{0m} \tilde{n}_{0j} - \tilde{n}_{1m} \tilde{n}_{1j}) \delta_{lx} + (\tilde{n}_{0m} \tilde{n}_{1j} + \tilde{n}_{1m} \tilde{n}_{0j}) \delta_{ly}] \\
&=
\end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

We note the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_{\gamma im} \delta_{ix} = \epsilon_{\gamma xm} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \delta_{\gamma z} \delta_{my} - \delta_{\gamma y} \delta_{mz} \\ \epsilon_{\gamma im} \delta_{iy} = \epsilon_{\gamma ym} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \delta_{\gamma x} \delta_{mz} - \delta_{\gamma z} \delta_{mx}\end{aligned}\tag{15}$$

The final expression is:

$$\hat{\Omega} \cdot \mathbf{g}_{L_2} = -\frac{S_N^2}{2a^2} \nabla \tilde{\varphi} \cdot \left( \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \left( \hat{\Omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}} - 1 \right) \begin{bmatrix} n_{0x} - n_{1y} \\ n_{0y} + n_{1x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 \left( \hat{\Omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}} + 1 \right) \begin{bmatrix} n_{0y} + n_{1x} \\ -n_{0x} + n_{1y} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)\tag{16}$$

However, we seek to generalize this to any  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}$ . Note that:

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} n_{0x} \\ n_{0y} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} &= \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 - (\hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ \begin{bmatrix} -n_{1y} \\ n_{1x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} &= \hat{\mathbf{z}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 \\ \begin{bmatrix} n_{0y} \\ -n_{0x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} &= \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n_{1x} \\ n_{1y} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} &= \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 - (\hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \hat{\mathbf{z}}\end{aligned}\tag{17}$$

Generalizing to any  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}$  gives:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\Omega} \cdot \mathbf{g}_{L_2} = & -\frac{S_N^2}{2a^2} \left[ (\nabla \tilde{\varphi} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0) \left( \hat{\Omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}} - 1 \right) \left( \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 - (\hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{T}}) \hat{\mathbf{T}} - \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 \times \hat{\mathbf{T}} \right) \right. \\ & \left. + (\nabla \tilde{\varphi} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1) \left( \hat{\Omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}} + 1 \right) \left( \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 - (\hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{T}}) \hat{\mathbf{T}} + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 \times \hat{\mathbf{T}} \right) \right]\end{aligned}\tag{18}$$

So that the final velocity is:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v} = & - \left[ (\nabla \tilde{\varphi} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0) \left( \hat{\Omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}} - 1 \right) \left( \hat{\mathbf{T}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 - \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 + (\hat{\mathbf{T}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1) \hat{\mathbf{T}} \right) \right. \\ & \left. + (\nabla \tilde{\varphi} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1) \left( \hat{\Omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}} + 1 \right) \left( \hat{\mathbf{T}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_1 + \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0 - (\hat{\mathbf{T}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_0) \hat{\mathbf{T}} \right) \right]\end{aligned}\tag{19}$$

## 2 Analytic expression for homeotropic boundaries

The solution to the planar isotropic Frank free energy is:

$$\theta_{\text{iso}} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \text{atan2} \left( y, x + \frac{d}{2} \right) + \text{atan2} \left( y, x - \frac{d}{2} \right) \right]\tag{20}$$

However, the boundary condition is specified to be:

$$\theta|_{\partial\Omega} = \varphi = \text{atan2} (y, x)\tag{21}$$

Hence, we must add some nonsingular solution to the Poisson equation which evaluates as follows on the boundary:

$$\theta_c|_{\partial\Omega} = \text{atan2}(y, x) - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \text{atan2}\left(y, x + \frac{d}{2}\right) + \text{atan2}\left(y, x - \frac{d}{2}\right) \right] \quad (22)$$

Since  $\text{atan2}$  is independent of scale (that is,  $\text{atan2}(y, x) = \text{atan2}(\lambda y, \lambda x)$ ) we can take everything in units of  $D$  the cylinder diameter. Then we may Taylor-series expand this expression about  $d = 0$  because  $d < 1$  in these units. The Taylor series expansion is given explicitly by:

$$\theta_c(d) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\theta_c^{(n)}(0)}{n!} d^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\theta_c^{(n)}(0)}{n!} d^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\theta'_c)^{(n)}(0)}{(n+1)!} d^{(n+1)} \quad (23)$$

where we have used the fact that the zeroth term is zero. Now, we note that:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta'_c(d) &= \frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{y}{\left(x + \frac{d}{2}\right)^2 + y^2} - \frac{y}{\left(x - \frac{d}{2}\right)^2 + y^2} \right] \\ &= A \left[ \frac{1}{a^2(1+z)^2 + 1} - \frac{1}{a^2(1-z)^2 + 1} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

where we have defined  $A = 1/4y$ ,  $a = x/y$  and  $z = d/2x$ . Define the following:

$$f(z) = \left[ \frac{1}{a^2(1+z)^2 + 1} - \frac{1}{a^2(1-z)^2 + 1} \right] \quad (25)$$

Then, from Mathematica we have:

$$f^{(n)}(0) = \frac{i n!}{2a} ((-1)^n - 1) \left[ \left( \frac{a}{a+i} \right)^{1+n} - \left( \frac{a}{a-i} \right)^{1+n} \right] \quad (26)$$

But note that:

$$\frac{a}{a \pm i} = \frac{a^2 \mp ai}{a^2 + 1} = \frac{a^2}{a^2 + 1} \left( 1 \mp \frac{i}{a} \right) \quad (27)$$

Recall that  $a = x/y = \cot \varphi$  so that:

$$a^2 + 1 = b^2 \quad (28)$$

where  $b = \csc \varphi$ . Then we may do a binomial expansion:

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{a}{a \pm i} \right)^{1+n} &= \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{2n+2} \left( 1 \mp \frac{i}{a} \right)^{n+1} \\ &= \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{2n+2} \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} \left( \mp \frac{i}{a} \right)^k \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Plugging back in gives:

$$\begin{aligned} f^{(n)}(0) &= (1 - (-1)^n) n! \sum_{k=1, \text{odd}}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} \frac{a^{2n-k+1}}{b^{2n+2}} i^{k+1} \\ &= (1 - (-1)^n) n! \sum_{k=1, \text{odd}}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} (\cos^{2n-k+1} \varphi) (\sin^{k+1} \varphi) i^{k+1} \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Note to self: check this carefully, and look at the power reduction formula.