

**Remind:**  
**Residues and Improper integrals**

# 1. Zeros and Poles

## A. Zeros

- If  $f(z_0) = 0$ , then the point  $z_0$  is said to be a zero of the function  $f(z)$ .
- If  $f(z)$  is analytic at  $z_0$ , then we can expand it in a Taylor series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(z - z_0)^n = a_0 + a_1(z - z_0) + a_2(z - z_0)^2 + \cdots .$$

- If  $f(z_0) = 0$ , clearly  $a_0 = 0$ .
  - If  $a_1 \neq 0$ , then  $z_0$  is said to be a simple zero.
  - If both  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  are zero and  $a_2 \neq 0$ , then  $z_0$  is a zero of order two, and so on.
- If  $f(z) \neq 0$  for  $0 < |z - z_0| < \delta$ ,  $z_0$  is said to be an isolated zero of  $f(z)$

## B. Isolated Singularities

- A point  $z_0$  is said to be an isolated singularity of  $f(z)$  if there exists a neighborhood of  $z_0$  in which  $z_0$  is the only singular point of  $f(z)$

## C. Poles

- If  $f(z)$  has an isolated singular point at  $z_0$ ,  $f(z)$  can be expanded in a Laurent series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (z - z_0)^n + \frac{a_{-1}}{(z - z_0)} + \frac{a_{-2}}{(z - z_0)^2} + \frac{a_{-3}}{(z - z_0)^3} + \cdots$$

- There exists an integer  $m$  such that

$$a_{-m} \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad a_{-(m+1)} = a_{-(m+2)} = \cdots = 0.$$

- The expansion takes the form

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (z - z_0)^n + \frac{a_{-1}}{(z - z_0)} + \frac{a_{-2}}{(z - z_0)^2} + \cdots + \frac{a_{-m}}{(z - z_0)^m},$$

- The isolated singular point  $z_0$  is called a pole of order  $m$

## 2. Residues

- If  $z_0$  is an isolated singular point of  $f(z)$ , in the immediate neighborhood of  $z_0$ ,  $f(z)$  can be expanded in a Laurent series

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

with

$$a_{-1} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_C f(z) dz$$

- $a_{-1}$  is called the residue of  $f(z)$  at the isolated singular point  $z_0$

$$a_{-1} = \text{Res}_{z=z_0} [f(z)]$$

- The reason for the name “residue” is that if we integrate the Laurent series term by term over a circular contour, the only term which survives the integration process is the  $a_{-1}$  term.

### 3. Methods of finding residues

#### A. Laurent Series

If it is easy to write down the Laurent series for  $f(z)$  about  $z = z_0$  that is valid in the immediate neighborhood of  $z_0$ , then the residue is just the coefficient  $a_{-1}$  of the term  $1/(z - z_0)$

**For example:**

$$e^{1/z^2} = 1 + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{z^4} + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{1}{z^6} + \dots$$

There is no  $1/z$  term, therefore the residue is equal to zero!

## B. Simple Pole

If  $f(z)$  has a simple, or first-order, pole at  $z = z_0$ , the residue can be determined by

$$a_{-1} = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z - z_0) f(z).$$

**Example 1:**

$$f(z) = \frac{4 - 3z}{z(z - 1)(z - 2)},$$

## C. Multiple-Order Pole

If  $f(z)$  has a pole of order  $m$  at  $z = z_0$ , then the residue at  $z_0$

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} [f(z)] = \frac{1}{(m-1)!} \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{d^{m-1}}{dz^{m-1}} [(z - a)^m f(z)].$$

**Example 2:**

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{z(z-2)^4}$$

## D. Derivatives of the denominator

If  $p(z)$  and  $q(z)$  are analytic functions, and  $q(z)$  has a simple zero at  $z_0$  and  $p(z_0) \neq 0$ , then

$$f(z) = \frac{p(z)}{q(z)} \quad \text{has a simple pole at } z_0$$

The residue at  $z_0$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Res}_{z=z_0} [f(z)] &= \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z - z_0) \frac{p(z)}{q(z)} \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} (z - z_0) \frac{p(z)}{q'(z_0)(z - z_0) + \frac{q''(z_0)}{2!}(z - z_0)^2 + \dots} \\ &= \frac{p(z_0)}{q'(z_0)}. \end{aligned}$$

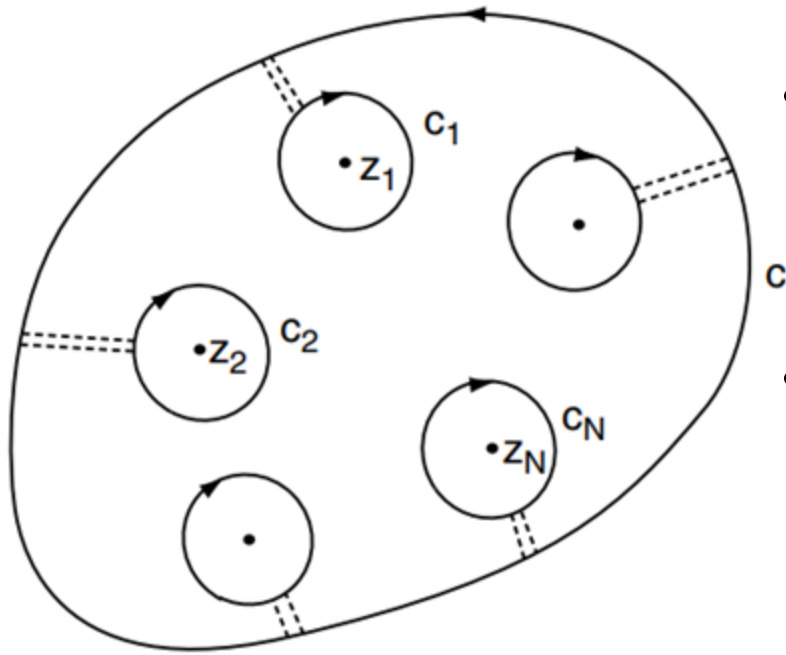
**The most efficient way of finding the residue!**



**Example 3:**

$$f(z) = \frac{z}{z^4 + 4}$$

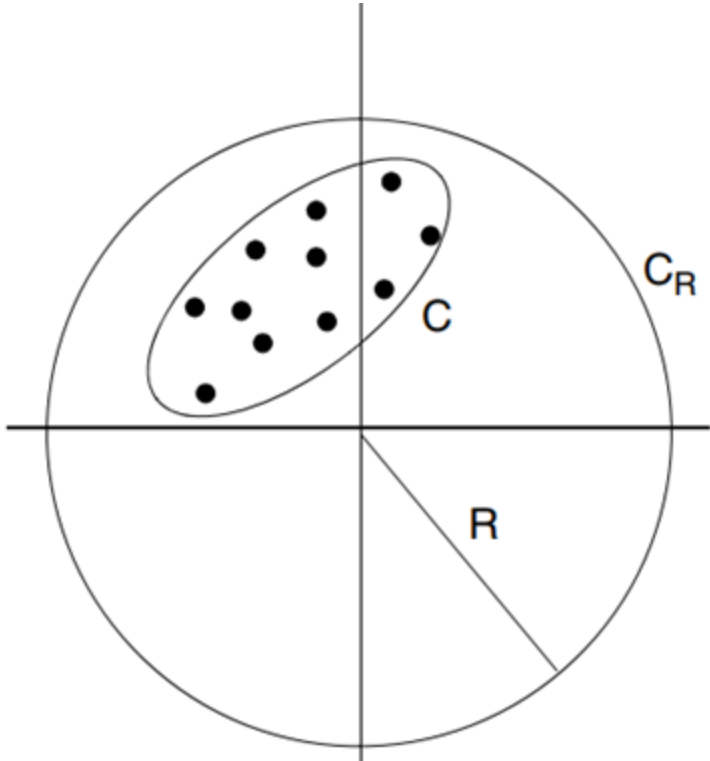
## 4. Cauchy's Residue Theorem



- Consider a simple closed curve  $C$  containing in its interior a number of isolated singular points,  $z_1, z_2, \dots$ , of a function  $f(z)$ .
- The circles  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_N$  enclosing, respectively, the singular points  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N$  within a simple closed curve

$$\oint_C f(z) dz = 2\pi i \{ \text{Res}_{z=z_1}[f(z)] + \text{Res}_{z=z_2}[f(z)] + \dots + \text{Res}_{z=z_n}[f(z)] \}$$

## 5. Second Residue Theorem



If the number of singularities enclosed in  $C$  is too large, then it is more convenient to replace the contour  $C$  with a large circular contour  $C_R$  centered at the origin

$$\oint_C f(z) dz = 2\pi i \operatorname{Res}_{z=0} \left[ \frac{1}{z^2} f\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) \right]$$

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**Example 4:** Evaluate the integral  $\oint_C f(z) \, dz$  for

$$f(z) = \frac{5z - 2}{z(z - 1)},$$

where  $C$  is along the circle  $|z| = 2$  in the counterclockwise direction. (a) Use the Cauchy residue theorem. (b) Use the second residue theorem.



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**Example 5:** Find the value of the integral

$$\oint_C \frac{dz}{z^3(z+4)}$$

taken counterclockwise around the circle (a)  $|z| = 2$ , (b)  $|z + 2| = 3$ .



**Example 6:** Find the value of the integral

$$\oint_C \tan \pi z dz$$

taken counterclockwise around the unit circle  $|z| = 1$ .



**Example 7:** Evaluate the integral  $\oint_C f(z) dz$  for

$$f(z) = z^2 \exp\left(\frac{1}{z}\right),$$

where  $C$  is counterclockwise around the unit circle  $|z| = 1$ .

**Solution 3.4.4.** The function  $f(z)$  has an essential singularity at  $z = 0$ . Thus

$$\oint_C z^2 \exp\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) dz = 2\pi i \operatorname{Res}_{z=0}[f(z)].$$

The residue is simply the coefficient of the  $z^{-1}$  term in the Laurent series about  $z = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} z^2 \exp\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) &= z^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{1}{z^3} + \frac{1}{4!} \frac{1}{z^4} + \cdots\right) \\ &= z^2 + z + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{4!} \frac{1}{z^2} + \cdots. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\operatorname{Res}_{z=0}[f(z)] = \frac{1}{3!} = \frac{1}{6}.$$

Hence

$$\oint_C z^2 \exp\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) dz = 2\pi i \frac{1}{6} = \frac{\pi}{3} i.$$

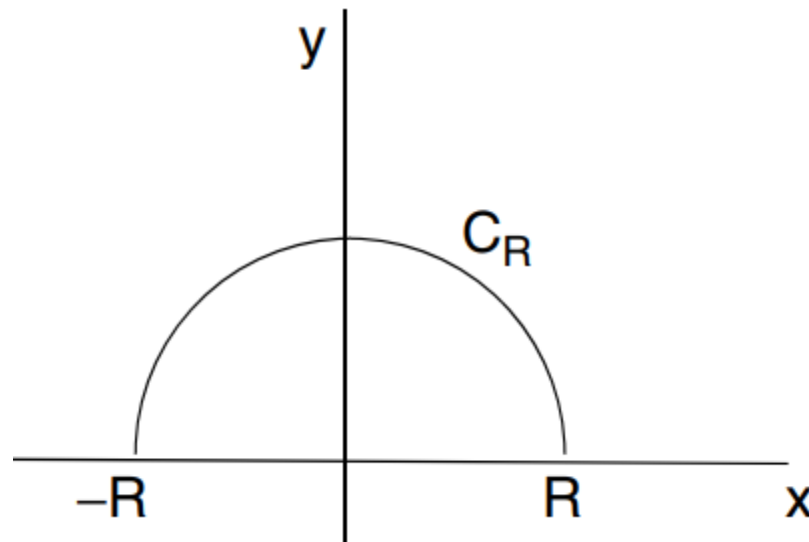
## 6. Evaluation of improper integrals using residue theorem

- We consider the real **improper** integrals

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-R}^R f(x) dx.$$

- If  $f(x)$  is a rational function:  $f(x) = p(x)/q(x)$  and  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} z f(z) = 0$ ,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_{-R}^R f(x) dx + \int_{C_R} f(z) dz \right] = \oint_{\text{u.h.p}} f(z) dz,$$



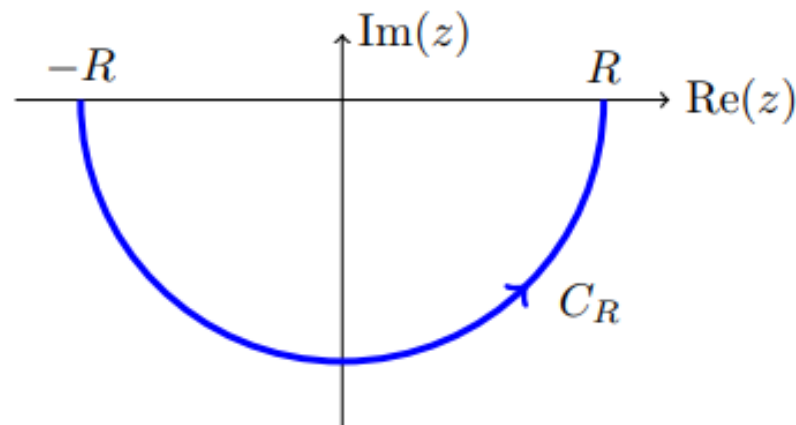
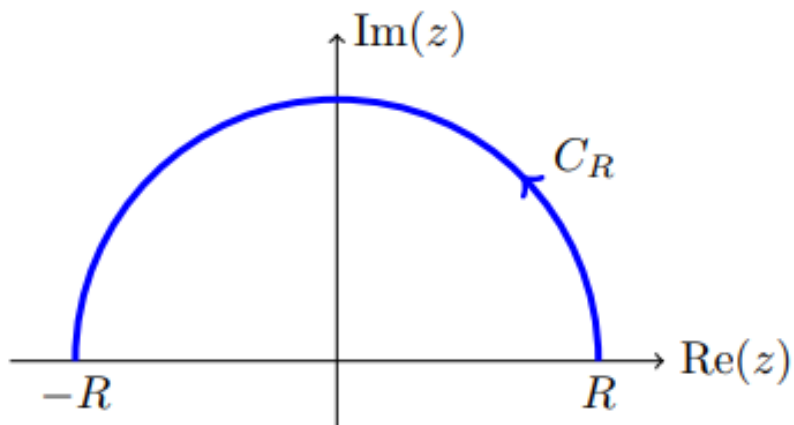
See pages 144-145  
for the proof!

- As  $R \rightarrow \infty$ , all the poles of  $f(z)$  in the upper half-plane will be inside the contour. Hence:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 2\pi i (\text{sum of residues of } f(z) \text{ in the upper half-plane})$$

- By the same token, we can, of course, close the contour in the lower half-plane

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx &= \oint_{\text{l.h.p.}} f(z) dz \\ &= -2\pi i (\text{sum of residues of } f(z) \text{ in the lower half-plane}) \end{aligned}$$



**Example 8:** Evaluate the integral

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} \, dx.$$

**Example 9:** Evaluate the integral

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{x \sin x}{(x^2 + 1)} \, dx.$$