

**Q1 Contour Integration:** Use the calculus of residues to evaluate the following integrals:

$$I_1 = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\theta}{(a + b \cos \theta)^2}, \quad 0 < b < a.$$

$$I_2 = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\cos^2 3\theta}{1 - 2a \cos 2\theta + a^2} d\theta, \quad 0 < a < 1.$$

$$I_3 = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^\alpha}{(1 + x^2)^2} dx, \quad -1 < \alpha < 2.$$

(These are not meant to be easy! You will have to dig for the residues.)

**Q2 Lattice Matsubara sums:** Show that, for suitable functions  $f(z)$ , the sum

$$S = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\omega^N + 1 = 0} f(\omega)$$

of the values of  $f(z)$  at the  $N$ -th roots of  $(-1)$  can be written as an integral

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C \frac{dz}{z} \frac{z^N}{z^N + 1} f(z).$$

Here  $C$  consists of a pair of oppositely oriented concentric circles. The annulus formed by the circles should include all the roots of unity, but exclude all singularities of  $f$ . Use this result to show that, for  $N$  even,

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{\sinh E}{\sinh^2 E + \sin^2 \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{N}} = \frac{1}{\cosh E} \tanh \frac{NE}{2}. \quad (\star)$$

Take the  $N \rightarrow \infty$  limit while scaling  $E \rightarrow 0$  in some suitable manner, and hence show that

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{a}{a^2 + [(2n+1)\pi]^2} = \frac{1}{2} \tanh \frac{a}{2}. \quad (\star\star)$$

Take care not to get this last result wrong by a factor of two: it is *not* true that the limit of the finite sum  $(\star)$  is the infinite sum  $(\star\star)$ .

**Q3 Plemelj and Neumann:** The Legendre function of the second kind  $Q_n(z)$  may be defined for positive integer  $n$  by the integral

$$Q_n(z) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{(1-t^2)^n}{2^n(z-t)^{n+1}} dt, \quad z \notin [-1, 1].$$

Show that for  $x \in [-1, 1]$  we have

$$Q_n(x + i\epsilon) - Q_n(x - i\epsilon) = -i\pi P_n(x),$$

where  $P_n(x)$  is the Legendre Polynomial. Deduce *Neumann's formula*

$$Q_n(z) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{P_n(t)}{z-t} dt, \quad z \notin [-1, 1].$$

**Q4 Hilbert transforms:** Suppose that  $\varphi_1(x)$  and  $\varphi_2(x)$  are real functions with finite  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  norms.

a) Use the Fourier transform result

$$\widetilde{(\mathcal{H}f)}(\omega) = i \operatorname{sgn}(\omega) \tilde{f}(\omega).$$

to show that

$$\langle \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \rangle = \langle \mathcal{H}\varphi_1 | \mathcal{H}\varphi_2 \rangle.$$

Thus,  $\mathcal{H}$  is a unitary transformation from  $L^2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

b) Use the fact that  $\mathcal{H}^2 = -I$  to deduce that

$$\langle \mathcal{H}\varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \rangle = -\langle \varphi_1 | \mathcal{H}\varphi_2 \rangle$$

and so  $\mathcal{H}^\dagger = -\mathcal{H}$ .

c) Conclude from part b) that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \varphi_1(x) \left( P \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi_2(y)}{x-y} dy \right) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \varphi_2(y) \left( P \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi_1(x)}{x-y} dx \right) dy,$$

*i.e.*, for  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , functions, it is legitimate to interchange the order of “ $P$ ” integration with ordinary integration.

d) By replacing  $\varphi_1(x)$  by a constant, and  $\varphi_2(x)$  by the Hilbert transform of a function  $f$  with  $\int f dx \neq 0$ , show that it is not *always* safe to interchange the order of “ $P$ ” integration with ordinary integration

**Q5 Advanced Hilbert transforms:**

Suppose that are given real functions  $u_1(x)$  and  $u_2(x)$  and substitute their Hilbert transforms  $v_1 = \mathcal{H}u_1$ ,  $v_2 = \mathcal{H}u_2$  into (9.78) to construct analytic functions  $f_1(z)$  and  $f_2(z)$ . Then the product  $f_1(z)f_2(z) = F(z)$  has boundary value

$$F_R(x) + iF_I(x) = (u_1u_2 - v_1v_2) + i(u_1v_2 + u_2v_1).$$

a) By assuming that  $F(z)$  satisfies the conditions for (9.77) to be applicable to this boundary value, deduce that

$$\mathcal{H}((\mathcal{H}u_1)u_2) + \mathcal{H}((\mathcal{H}u_2)u_1) - (\mathcal{H}u_1)(\mathcal{H}u_2) = -u_1u_2. \quad (\star)$$

This result<sup>1</sup> of part (a) sometimes appears in the physics literature<sup>2</sup> in the guise of the distributional identity

$$\frac{P}{x-y} \frac{P}{y-z} + \frac{P}{y-z} \frac{P}{z-x} + \frac{P}{z-x} \frac{P}{x-y} = -\pi^2 \delta(x-y) \delta(x-z),$$

where  $P/(x-y)$  denotes the principal-part distribution  $P(1/(x-y))$ . This attractively symmetric form conceals the fact that  $x$  is being kept fixed, while  $y$  and  $z$  are being integrated over in a specific order. As the next part shows, were we to freely re-arrange the integration order we could use the identity

$$\frac{1}{x-y} \frac{1}{y-z} + \frac{1}{y-z} \frac{1}{z-x} + \frac{1}{z-x} \frac{1}{x-y} = 0 \quad x, y, z \text{ distinct}$$

to wrongly conclude that the right-hand side is zero.

b) Show that the identity  $(\star)$  can be written as

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi_1(y) \varphi_2(z)}{(z-y)(y-x)} dz \right) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi_1(y) \varphi_2(z)}{(z-y)(y-x)} dy \right) dz - \pi^2 \varphi_1(x) \varphi_2(x),$$

principal-part integrals being understood where necessary. This is a special case of a more general change-of-integration-order formula

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{f(x, y, z)}{(z-y)(y-x)} dz \right) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{f(x, y, z)}{(z-y)(y-x)} dy \right) dz - \pi^2 f(x, x, x),$$

which is due to G. H. Hardy (1908). It is usually called the *Poincaré-Bertrand theorem*.

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<sup>1</sup>F. G. Tricomi, *Quart. J. Math. (Oxford)*, (2) **2**, (1951) 199.

<sup>2</sup>For example, in R. Jackiw, A. Strominger, *Phys. Lett.* **99B** (1981) 133.