

Solutions - 81 - Improper Integrals with Jordan's Lemma

In all solutions, C_R is the upper half circle with radius R and center 0 (R is very large). C is the contour from $-R$ to R along the real axis then back along C_R .

(4) Evaluate $\int_0^\infty \frac{x \sin 2x}{x^2+3} dx$. In order to do this, we first evaluate

$$\int_C \frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3} dz = \int_0^R \frac{xe^{i2x}}{x^2+3} dx + \int_{C_-} \frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3} dz + \int_{C_R} \frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3} dz$$

$\frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3}$ has simple poles at $\pm i\sqrt{3}$, of which only $i\sqrt{3}$ is inside C .

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Res}_{i\sqrt{3}} \frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3} &= \left. \frac{ze^{i2z}}{2z} \right|_{z=i\sqrt{3}} \\ &= \frac{e^{-2\sqrt{3}}}{2} \\ \int_C \frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3} dz &= 2\pi i \left(\frac{e^{-2\sqrt{3}}}{2} \right) \\ &= i\pi e^{-2\sqrt{3}} \\ \int_{C_-} \frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3} dz &= - \int_0^R \frac{-te^{-i2t}}{(-t)^2+3} (-1) dt \\ &= - \int_0^R \frac{te^{-i2t}}{t^2+3} dt \end{aligned}$$

On C_R , $\left| \frac{z}{z^2+3} \right| \leq \frac{R}{R^2-3}$ and $\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{R}{R^2-3} = 0$ so by Jordan's lemma

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{C_R} \frac{ze^{i2z}}{z^2+3} dz = 0$$

Now we put it all together.

$$\begin{aligned} i\pi e^{-2\sqrt{3}} &= \int_0^\infty \frac{xe^{i2x}}{x^2+3} dx - \int_0^\infty \frac{xe^{-i2x}}{x^2+3} dx \\ &= 2i \int_0^\infty \frac{x \sin 2x}{x^2+3} dx \\ \int_0^\infty \frac{x \sin 2x}{x^2+3} dx &= \frac{\pi e^{-2\sqrt{3}}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(6) Evaluate $\int_0^\infty \frac{x^3 \sin ax}{x^4+4} dx$, where $a > 0$. In order to do this, we first evaluate

$$\int_C \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} dz = \int_0^R \frac{x^3 e^{iax}}{x^4+4} dx + \int_{C_-} \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} dz + \int_{C_R} \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} dz$$

$\frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4}$ has simple poles at $\pm 1 \pm i$, of which $1+i$ and $-1+i$ are inside C .

$$\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Res}_{1+i} \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} &= \left. \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{4z^3} \right|_{z=1+i} \\
&= \frac{e^{ia(1+i)}}{4} = \frac{e^{ia} e^{-a}}{4} \\
\operatorname{Res}_{-1+i} \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} &= \left. \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{4z^3} \right|_{z=-1+i} \\
&= \frac{e^{ia(-1+i)}}{4} = \frac{e^{-ia} e^{-a}}{4} \\
\int_C \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} dz &= 2\pi i \left(\frac{e^{ia} e^{-a}}{4} + \frac{e^{-ia} e^{-a}}{4} \right) \\
&= \pi i \left(\frac{e^{ia} e^{-a}}{2} + \frac{e^{-ia} e^{-a}}{2} \right) \\
&= \frac{\pi i e^{-a}}{2} (e^{ia} + e^{-ia}) \\
&= \frac{\pi i e^{-a}}{2} (2 \cos a) \\
&= i\pi e^{-a} \cos a \\
\int_{C_-} \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} dz &= - \int_0^R \frac{(-t)^3 e^{-iat}}{(-t)^4+4} (-1) dt \\
&= - \int_0^R \frac{t^3 e^{-iat}}{t^4+4} dt
\end{aligned}$$

On C_R , $\left| \frac{z^3}{z^4+4} \right| \leq \frac{R^3}{R^4-4}$ and $\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{R^3}{R^4-4} = 0$ so by Jordan's lemma

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{C_R} \frac{z^3 e^{iaz}}{z^4+4} dz = 0$$

Now we put it all together.

$$\begin{aligned}
i\pi e^{-a} \cos a &= \int_0^\infty \frac{x^3 e^{iax}}{x^4+4} dx - \int_0^\infty \frac{x^3 e^{-iax}}{x^4+4} dx \\
&= 2i \int_0^\infty \frac{x^3 \sin ax}{x^4+4} dx \\
\int_0^\infty \frac{x^3 \sin ax}{x^4+4} dx &= \frac{\pi e^{-a} \cos a}{2}
\end{aligned}$$