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Q7 Compute  $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\log(px)}{x^2+a^2} dx$  using the method of contour integration. ( $p > 0, a > 0$ )

887.7

We take the principal value for the logarithm function and integrate  $\frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{z^2+a^2}$  around closed contour  $\Gamma$  of Fig 1. Limits  $R \rightarrow \infty, \epsilon \rightarrow 0$  are to be taken at the end. In this limit we will have

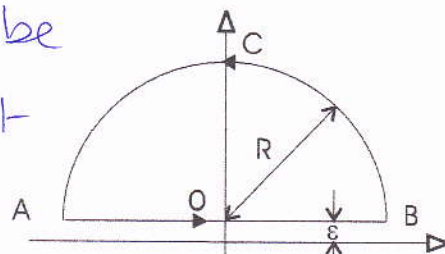


Fig. 1 Contour  $\Gamma$

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty, \epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{BCA} \frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{z^2+a^2} dz \rightarrow 0$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{\log(zp)}{z^2+a^2} dz &= \int_{AO} \frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{z^2+a^2} dz + \int_{OB} \frac{\log(pz)}{(z^2+a^2)} dz \\ &= \int_{OB} \frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{(z^2+a^2)} dz - \int_{OA} \frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{(z^2+a^2)} dz \end{aligned}$$

Along OB

$$z = x \quad \text{Log}(pz) = \text{Log}(px)$$

$$dz = dx$$

$$\therefore \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{\text{Log}(zp)}{(z^2+a^2)} dz = 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\text{Log}(px)}{x^2+a^2} dx$$

$$+ i\pi \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^2+a^2}$$

Along OA

$$z = re^{i\pi} \quad 0 < r < R$$

$$dz = dr e^{i\pi}$$

$$\text{Log}(pz) = \text{Log}(pr) + i\pi$$

The integral on the left hand side is computed using residue theorem. There are two poles at  $z = \pm ia$  only one of these,  $ia$ , is enclosed inside the contour  $\Gamma$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{z^2+a^2} dz &= 2\pi i \times \text{Res} \left\{ \frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{z^2+a^2} \right\}_{z=ia} \\ &= 2\pi i \frac{(\text{Log}(pa) + i\pi/2)}{2ia} \\ &= \frac{\pi}{a} (\text{Log}(pa) + i\pi/2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\text{Log}(pz)}{z^2+a^2} dz = \frac{\pi}{a} (\text{Log}(pa) + i\frac{\pi}{2})$$

$$2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\log(px)}{x^2+a^2} + i\pi \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^2+a^2} = \frac{\pi}{a} (\log(pa) + i\frac{\pi}{2})$$

Equating real parts we get

$$2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\log(px)}{x^2+a^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{2a} \log(pa)$$

The imaginary parts give the value  $\pi/2a$  for  $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^2+a^2}$