

887.6 Show that

Q13

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{p-1} dx}{x^3 + b^3} = \frac{\pi b^{p-3}}{3 \sin \pi p} (1 + 2 \cos(2\pi p/3))$$

Taking the definition of z^p as

$$z^p = r^p e^{ip\theta} \quad 0 < \theta < 2\pi,$$

We set up the integral of

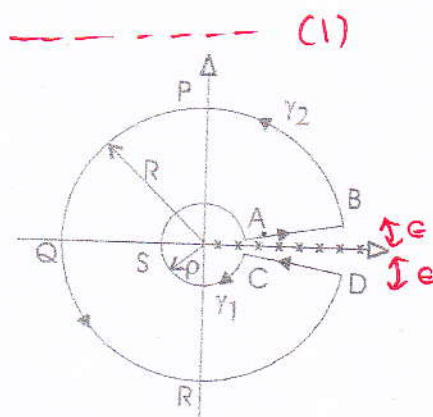
 $f(z) = \frac{z^{p-1}}{(z^3 + b^3)}$ around the double circles contour of Fig 1.


Fig. 1 Contour.

$$\oint \frac{z^{p-1}}{z^3 + b^3} dz = \int_{AB} f(z) dz + \int_{BPQRD} f(z) dz$$

$$+ \int_{DC} f(z) dz + \int_{CSA} f(z) dz$$

We will take limits $p \rightarrow 0$, $R \rightarrow \infty$. In this limit the integrals along circular arcs vanish. Therefore

$$\oint \frac{z^{p-1}}{z^3 + b^3} dz = \int_{AB} \frac{z^{p-1}}{z^3 + b^3} dz - \int_{CD} \frac{z^{p-1}}{z^3 + b^3} dz \quad (2)$$

Next set up the two integrals in the right hand side of the above equation.

$$AB: z = r e^{i\epsilon} \quad p < r < R$$

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

$$f(z) = \frac{r^{p-1} e^{i(p-1)\epsilon}}{r^3 + b^3}$$

$$CD: z = r e^{i(2\pi - \epsilon)}$$

$$dz = dr e^{i(2\pi - \epsilon)}$$

$$f(z) = \frac{r^{p-1} e^{i(2\pi - \epsilon)(p-1)}}{r^3 + b^3}$$

Therefore Eq (2) takes the form, in the limit $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$,

$$\oint_{\Gamma} f(z) dz = \int_{\rho}^R \frac{r^{p-1} (1 - e^{2\pi i p})}{r^3 + b^3} dr$$

$$\therefore = -2i \sin \pi p e^{i p \pi} \int_{\rho}^R \frac{r^{p-1} dr}{r^3 + b^3}$$

Hence in the limit $\rho \rightarrow 0$, $R \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{p-1}}{x^3 + b^3} dx = \frac{-e^{i p \pi}}{2i \sin \pi p} \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{z^{p-1}}{z^3 + b^3} dz \quad \text{----- (3)}$$

The integral in the right hand side of (3) can now be computed using the residue theorem. The function

$f(z)$ has poles at $z = b e^{i\pi/3}$, $b e^{i\pi/3 + 2\pi/3}$, $b e^{i\pi/3 + 4\pi/3}$
let ξ denote any one of these points, $\xi^3 = -b^3$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Res} \{f(z)\}_{z=\xi} &= \lim_{z \rightarrow \xi} (z - \xi) \left(\frac{z^{p-1}}{z^3 + b^3} \right) \\ &= \frac{z^{p-1}}{3z^2} \bigg|_{z=\xi} \\ &= \frac{z^p}{3z^3} \bigg|_{z=\xi} = \left(\frac{\xi^p}{-3b^3} \right) \because \xi^3 = -b^3 \end{aligned}$$

While computing the residue $\arg \xi$ must be kept in the range $(0, 2\pi)$ (See (1))

$$\therefore \text{sum of all residues} = \frac{-b}{3b^3} \left[e^{i p \pi/3} + e^{i p (\pi/3 + 2\pi/3)} + e^{i p (\pi/3 + 4\pi/3)} \right]$$

∴ Sum of all residues

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$$= -\frac{b^p}{3b^3} e^{ip\pi/3} [1 + e^{2ip\pi/3} + e^{4ip\pi/3}]$$

$$= \left(-\frac{b^p}{3b^3}\right) e^{ip\pi/3} e^{2ip\pi/3} [e^{-2ip\pi/3} + 1 + e^{2ip\pi/3}]$$

$$= \left(-\frac{e^{ip\pi}}{3b^3}\right) (1 + 2\cos(\frac{2p\pi}{3})) b^p \dots \dots (4)$$

Using the sum of all residues in (3) we get-

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{p-1}}{x^3+b^3} dx = 2\pi i \times \left(-\frac{e^{ip\pi}}{3b^3}\right) (1 + 2\cos(\frac{2p\pi}{3})) \times b^p$$

$$\times \left(\frac{-e^{ip\pi}}{2i \sin p\pi}\right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{\pi b^{p-3}}{\sin p\pi}\right) (1 + 2\cos(\frac{2p\pi}{3}))$$