

That stuff about principal values?

Say your function $f(w)$ has some nastiness at $w=c$.



Cauchy principal value, defined by

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{a-\epsilon}^c f(w) dw + \int_{c+\epsilon}^b f(w) dw$$

How is this related to lecture 7?

Well, there we have integrals of type

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dw \int_0^{\infty} dt f(w) e^{iwt}$$

how do we deal with this so that integral doesn't go

crazy?

Trick: $w \rightarrow w + i\epsilon$ (so we get $e^{-\epsilon t}$ term)

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_0^{\infty} dt \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iwt - \epsilon t} f(w) dw \right) \quad (f(w) \text{ continuous on the real line})$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dw \left(\int_0^{\infty} e^{iwt - \epsilon t} dt \right) f(w)$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{i f(w)}{w + i\epsilon} dw$$

approaches slw

Then this becomes: $\pi \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon}{\pi(w^2 + \epsilon^2)} f(w) dw$

$$+ i \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{w^2}{w^2 + \epsilon^2} \frac{f(w)}{w} dw$$

$\frac{w^2}{w^2 + \epsilon^2} = \begin{cases} 1 & |w| \gg \epsilon \\ 0 & |w| \ll \epsilon \end{cases}$ symmetric \Rightarrow Cauchy principal value.