

**Math 302 Complex Calculus II – Homework – Solutions**

1	2
10	10
10	10

*Please do not write anything inside the above boxes!*

Check that there are 2 questions on your booklet. Write your name on top of every page. Show your work in reasonable detail. A correct answer without proper or too much reasoning may not get any credit.

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**Q-1)** Apply the contour integral method we studied to the evaluation of the sum

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1},$$

and write the answer in decimal expansion with at least 8 digits after the decimal point.

**Solution:**

The zeros of  $z^2 + z + 1$  are  $z_1 = -\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$  and  $z_2 = -\frac{1}{2} - i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ . Our method shows that

$$\sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq z_k}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1} = -\sum_{k=1}^2 \text{Res} \left( \frac{\pi \cot \pi z}{z^2 + z + 1}, z_k \right) =: \alpha_0.$$

Now

$$\sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq z_k}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1} = \sum_{-\infty < n \leq -1} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1},$$

and the first sum on the right hand side becomes  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1}$  when  $n$  is replaced by  $-n - 1$ . Thus we have

$$\sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq z_k}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1} = 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1} = \alpha_0$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1} = \frac{\alpha_0}{2} = 1.798147281\dots$$

**Note:**  $\text{Res} \left( \frac{\pi \cot \pi z}{z^2 + z + 1}, z \right) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{3} \tanh\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{2}\right)$  for  $z = -\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ .

NAME:

STUDENT NO:

**Q-2)** Apply the contour integral method we studied to the evaluation of the sum

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4 + 4n^3 + 6n^2 + 4n},$$

and write the answer in decimal expansion with at least 8 digits after the decimal point.

**Solution:**

For ease of notation we set  $g(z) = z^4 + 4z^3 + 6z^2 + 4z$ . Its zeros are  $0, -2, -1 + i, -1 - i$ . Our method gives

$$\sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0, -2, -1+i, -1-i}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{g(n)} = - \sum_{z=0, -2, -1+i, -1-i} \operatorname{Res} \left( \frac{\pi \cot \pi z}{g(z)}, z \right) =: \alpha_0.$$

By replacing  $n$  by  $-n - 1$ , we get

$$\sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0, -2, -1+i, -1-i}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{g(n)} = \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq \pm 1}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4 - 1} = -1 + 2 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4 - 1} = \alpha_0.$$

Hence

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4 - 1} = \frac{\alpha_0 + 1}{2} = 0.086662976\dots$$

**Note:**

$$\operatorname{Res} \left( \frac{\pi \cot \pi z}{z^4 + 4z^3 + 6z^2 + 4z}, z \right) = -\frac{3}{8} \quad \text{for } z = 0, -2,$$
$$\operatorname{Res} \left( \frac{\pi \cot \pi z}{z^4 + 4z^3 + 6z^2 + 4z}, z \right) = \frac{\pi}{2} \coth(\pi z) \quad \text{for } z = -1 \pm i,$$

and

$$\alpha_0 = -0.826674048\dots$$