## Asymptotics and Borel summability

with nonvanishing derivative at the relevant point, and it now can be shown by elementary complex analysis means:

$$f^{-1}(z) = f^{-1}(z_0) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{d^{n-1}}{dw^{n-1}} \left(\frac{w - f^{-1}(z_0)}{f(w) - z_0}\right)^n \Big|_{w = f^{-1}(z_0)} \frac{(z - z_0)^n}{n!}$$
(3.54)

## 3.5 Oscillatory integrals and the stationary phase method

In this setting, an integral of a function against a rapidly oscillating exponential becomes small as the frequency of oscillation increases. Again we first look at the case where there is minimal regularity; the following is a version of the Riemann-Lebesgue lemma.

**Proposition 3.55** Assume  $f \in L^1[0, 2\pi]$ . Then  $\int_0^{2\pi} e^{ixt} f(t) dt \to 0$  as  $x \to \pm \infty$ . A similar statement holds in  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

It is enough to show the result on a set which is dense<sup>1</sup> in  $L^1$ . Since trigonometric polynomials are dense in the continuous functions on a compact set<sup>2</sup>, say in  $C[0, 2\pi]$  in the sup norm, and thus in  $L^1[0, 2\pi]$ , it suffices to look at trigonometric polynomials, thus (by linearity), at  $e^{ikx}$  for fixed k; for the latter we just calculate explicitly the integral; we have

$$\int_{0}^{2\pi} e^{ixs} e^{iks} ds = O(x^{-1}) \text{ for large } x. \qquad \Box$$

No rate of decay of the integral in Proposition 3.55 follows without further knowledge about the regularity of f. With some regularity we have the following characterization.

**Proposition 3.56** For  $\eta \in (0,1]$  let the  $C^{\eta}[0,1]$  be the Hölder continuous functions of order  $\eta$  on [0,1], i.e., the functions with the property that there is some constant a > 0 such that for all  $x, x' \in [0,1]$  we have  $|f(x) - f(x')| \le a|x - x'|^{\eta}$ .

(i) We have

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$$f \in C^{\eta}[0,1] \Rightarrow \left| \int_{0}^{1} f(s)e^{ixs}ds \right| \le \frac{1}{2}a\pi^{\eta}x^{-\eta} + O(x^{-1}) \quad as \quad x \to \infty$$
 (3.57)

$$\int_{0}^{2\pi} e^{ixt} f(t)dt = \int_{0}^{2\pi} e^{ixt} (f(t) - f_n(t))dt + \int_{0}^{2\pi} e^{ixt} f_n(t)dt$$

and the last two integrals can be made arbitrarily small.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A set of functions  $f_n$  which, collectively, are arbitrarily close to any function in  $L^1$ . Using such a set we can write

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$ One can associate the density of trigonometric polynomials with approximation of functions by Fourier series.

## Classical asymptotics

(ii) If  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $|x|^{\eta} f(x) \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  with  $\eta \in (0,1]$ , then its Fourier transform  $\hat{f} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(s) e^{-ixs} ds$  is in  $C^{\eta}(\mathbb{R})$ .

(iii) Let  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ . If  $x^n f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  with  $n-1 \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $\hat{f}$  is n times differentiable, with the n-1th derivative Lipschitz continuous. If  $e^{|Ax|}f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  then  $\hat{f}$  extends analytically in a strip of width |A| centered on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**PROOF** (i) We have as  $x \to \infty$  ( $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  denotes the integer part)

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{0}^{1} f(s) e^{ixs} ds \right| &= \\ \left| \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{x}{2\pi} - 1 \rfloor} \left( \int_{2j\pi x^{-1}}^{(2j+1)\pi x^{-1}} f(s) e^{ixs} ds + \int_{(2j+1)\pi x^{-1}}^{(2j+2)\pi x^{-1}} f(s) e^{ixs} ds \right) \right| + O(x^{-1}) \\ &= \left| \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{x}{2\pi} - 1 \rfloor} \int_{2j\pi x^{-1}}^{(2j+1)\pi x^{-1}} \left( f(s) - f(s + \pi/x) \right) e^{ixs} ds \right| + O(x^{-1}) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{x}{2\pi} - 1 \rfloor} a \left( \frac{\pi}{x} \right)^{\eta} \frac{\pi}{x} \leq \frac{1}{2} a \pi^{\eta} x^{-\eta} + O(x^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$
(3.58)

(ii) We see that

$$\left|\frac{\hat{f}(s) - \hat{f}(s')}{(s - s')^{\eta}}\right| = \left|\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-ixs} - e^{-ixs'}}{x^{\eta}(s - s')^{\eta}} x^{\eta} f(x) dx\right| \le \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left|\frac{e^{-ixs} - e^{-ixs'}}{(xs - xs')^{\eta}}\right| \left|x^{\eta} f(x)\right| dx$$
(3.59)

is bounded. Indeed, by elementary geometry we see that for  $|\phi_1-\phi_2|<1$  we have

$$|\exp(i\phi_1) - \exp(i\phi_2)| \le |\phi_1 - \phi_2| \le |\phi_1 - \phi_2|^{\eta}$$
(3.60)

while for  $|\phi_1 - \phi_2| \ge 1$  we see that

$$|\exp(i\phi_1) - \exp(i\phi_2)| \le 2 \le 2|\phi_1 - \phi_2|^{\eta}$$

(iii) Follows in the same way as (ii), using dominated convergence.

**Exercise 3.61** Complete the details of this proof. Show that for any  $\eta \in (0,1]$  and all  $\phi_{1,2} \in \mathbb{R}$  we have  $|\exp(i\phi_1) - \exp(i\phi_2)| \le 2|\phi_1 - \phi_2|^{\eta}$ .

**Note.** In Laplace type integrals Watson's lemma implies that it suffices for a function to be continuous to ensure an  $O(x^{-1})$  decay of the integral, whereas in Fourier-like integrals, the considerably weaker decay (3.57) is optimal as seen in the exercise below.

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## Asymptotics and Borel summability

**Exercise 3.62 (\*)** (a) Consider the function f given by the *lacunary trigonometric series*  $f(z) = \sum_{k=2^n, n \in \mathbb{N}} k^{-\eta} e^{ikz}$ ,  $\eta \in (0, 1)$ . Show that  $f \in C^{\eta}[0, 2\pi]$ . One way is to write  $\phi_{1,2}$  as  $a_{1,2}2^{-p}$ , use the first inequality in (3.60) to estimate the terms in  $f(\phi_1) - f(\phi_2)$  with n < p and the simple bound  $2/k^{\eta}$  for  $n \ge p$ . Then it is seen that  $\int_0^{2\pi} e^{-ijs} f(s) ds = 2\pi j^{-\eta}$  (if  $j = 2^m$  and zero otherwise) and the decay of the Fourier transform is exactly given by (3.57).

(b) Use Proposition 3.56 and the result in Exercise 3.62 to show that the function  $f(t) = \sum_{k=2^n, n \in \mathbb{N}} k^{-\eta} t^k$ , analytic in the open unit disk, has no analytic continuation across the unit circle, that is, the unit circle is a *barrier* of singularities for f.

**Note 3.63** Dense non-differentiability is essentially the only way one can get poor decay; see also Exercise 3.71.

Note. In part (i), compactness of the interval is crucial. In fact, the Fourier transform of an  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  entire function may not necessarily decrease pointwise. Indeed, the function  $\hat{f}(x) = 1$  on the interval  $[n, n + e^{-n^2}]$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and zero otherwise is in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}) \cap L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and further has the property that  $e^{|Ax|} \hat{f} \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  for any  $A \in \mathbb{R}$ , and thus  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}\hat{f}$  is entire. Thus  $\hat{f}$  is the Fourier transform of an entire function, it equals  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}\hat{f}$  a.e., and nevertheless it does not decay pointwise as  $x \to \infty$ . Evidently the issue here is poor behavior of f at infinity, otherwise integration by parts would be possible, implying decay.

**Proposition 3.64** Assume  $f \in C^n[a, b]$ . Then we have

$$\int_{a}^{b} e^{ixt} f(t) dt = e^{ixa} \sum_{k=1}^{n} c_k x^{-k} + e^{ixb} \sum_{k=1}^{n} d_k x^{-k} + o(x^{-n})$$
$$= e^{ixt} \left( \frac{f(t)}{ix} - \frac{f'(t)}{(ix)^2} + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{f^{(n-1)}(t)}{(ix)^n} \right) \Big|_{a}^{b} + o(x^{-n}) \quad (3.65)$$

**PROOF** This follows by integration by parts and the Riemann-Lebesgue lemma since

$$\int_{a}^{b} e^{ixt} f(t)dt = e^{ixt} \left( \frac{f(t)}{ix} - \frac{f'(t)}{(ix)^{2}} + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{f^{(n-1)}(t)}{(ix)^{n}} \right) \Big|_{a}^{b} + \frac{(-1)^{n}}{(ix)^{n}} \int_{a}^{b} f^{(n)}(t) e^{ixt} dt \quad (3.66)$$

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