

STICHTING

MATHEMATISCH CENTRUM

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Supplement to report ZW 1959-010, Solution of the Laplace  
inversion problem for a special function

by

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In report ZW 1959-010 the problem was how to find a function  $h(t)$ , such that the given function

$$(1) \quad f(p) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-z\sqrt{x^2+a^2p^2}} J_0(\rho x) x \, dx}{c\sqrt{x^2+a^2p^2} + d\sqrt{x^2+b^2p^2}} \quad (p > 0),$$

is the Laplace transform

$$(2) \quad f(p) = p \int_0^{\infty} e^{-pt} h(t) dt$$

of  $h(t)$ . In this report a different method for solving this problem will be given.

We again assume that  $\rho, z, a, b, c, d$  are positive constants and that  $a \neq b$ . We also put  $\sqrt{\rho^2 + z^2} = R$ . Substituting  $y = p^{-1}\sqrt{x^2 + a^2p^2}$ , we deduce from (1)

$$(3) \quad f(p) = p \int_a^{\infty} \frac{e^{-zyp} J_0(\rho \sqrt{y^2 - a^2}) y \, dy}{cy + d\sqrt{y^2 + b^2 - a^2}}.$$

By the well-known formula

$$(4) \quad J_0(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{e^{ixs}}{\sqrt{1-s^2}} ds,$$

we then have

$$(5) \quad f(p) = p \int_a^{\infty} \frac{e^{-zyp} y \, dy}{cy + d\sqrt{y^2 + b^2 - a^2}} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{e^{isp} \sqrt{y^2 - a^2}}{\sqrt{1-s^2}} ds.$$

Replacing  $s$  by the new variable  $t$

$$(6) \quad t = zy - i\rho s \sqrt{y^2 - a^2},$$

we obtain

$$(7) \quad f(p) = \int_a^\infty dy \int_L \varphi(y, t) dt,$$

where  $\varphi(y, t)$  is defined by

$$(8) \quad \varphi(y, t) = \frac{p}{\pi i} \frac{y e^{-pt}}{\sqrt{p^2(y^2 - a^2) + (zy - t)^2 (cy + d \sqrt{y^2 + b^2 - a^2})}}.$$

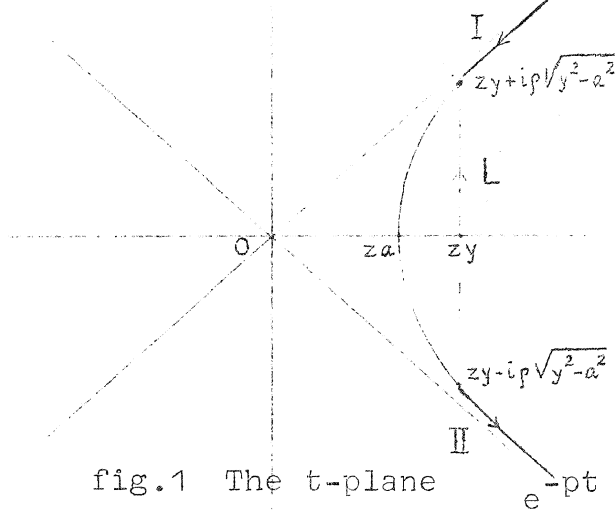


fig.1 The t-plane

The  $t$ -integration contour in (7) is a line segment  $L$  connecting  $zy - ip\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}$  and  $zy + ip\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}$  (fig.1). If  $y$  varies from  $a$  to  $\infty$ , the points  $zy - ip\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}$  and  $zy + ip\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}$  describe a branch  $H$  of a hyperbola in the complex  $t$ -plane. If  $y$  is fixed, the function

$$\frac{e^{-pt}}{\sqrt{p^2(y^2 - a^2) + (zy - t)^2}}$$

of  $t$  has no singularities in the region  $G$  to the right of  $H$ , and is  $O(e^{-pt})$  if  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . We therefore have

$$(9) \quad \int_L \varphi(y, t) dt = \int_I \varphi(y, t) dt + \int_{II} \varphi(y, t) dt,$$

where the sign of  $\sqrt{p^2(y^2 - a^2) + (zy - t)^2}$  has to be chosen in such a way that the square root is asymptotically equal to  $t$  if  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $t \in G$ . The contours  $I$  and  $II$  are parts of  $H$  as is shown in fig.1, and have parametric representations

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} I : t &= t_1(u) = zu + ip\sqrt{u^2 - a^2}, \quad u \geq a; \\ II : t &= t_2(v) = zv - ip\sqrt{v^2 - a^2}, \quad v \geq a. \end{aligned}$$

From (7), (9) and (10) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} f(p) &= \int_a^\infty dy \int_I \varphi(y, t) dt + \int_a^\infty dy \int_{II} \varphi(y, t) dt = \\ (11) \quad &\int_a^\infty dy \int_\infty^y \varphi(y, t_1(u)) t_1'(u) du + \int_a^\infty dy \int_y^\infty \varphi(y, t_2(v)) t_2'(v) dv = \\ &= - \int_a^\infty t_1'(u) du \int_a^u \varphi(y, t_1(u)) dy + \int_a^\infty t_2'(v) dv \int_a^v \varphi(y, t_2(v)) dy. \end{aligned}$$

The integrations can be interchanged, as is justified in the following way. If  $t_1 \in I$  we have

$$(12) \quad |\rho^2(y^2 - a^2) + (zy - t_1)^2| = |t_1 - (zy + i\rho\sqrt{y^2 - a^2})| |t_1 - (zy - i\rho\sqrt{y^2 - a^2})| \geq \\ |zu - zy| |2\rho\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}|.$$

We also have

$$(13) \quad |t_1'(u)| = \left| z + \frac{i\rho u}{\sqrt{u^2 - a^2}} \right| \leq z + \frac{\rho y}{\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}}.$$

From (12) and (13) it follows that

$$\psi(y) = \int_y^\infty |\varphi(y, t_1(u))| |t_1'(u)| du \leq \left| \frac{p}{\pi} \frac{y}{cy + d\sqrt{y^2 + b^2 - a^2}} \right| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\rho z\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}}} \cdot \\ \cdot \left( z + \frac{\rho y}{\sqrt{y^2 - a^2}} \right) \int_y^\infty \frac{e^{-pzu}}{\sqrt{u-y}} du.$$

So there is a constant  $C$  (independent of  $y$ ) with

$$\psi(y) \leq C \frac{y^2 e^{-pzy}}{(cy + d\sqrt{y^2 + b^2 - a^2})(y^2 - a^2)^{3/4}},$$

As  $cy + d\sqrt{y^2 + b^2 - a^2} \geq db > 0$  if  $y \geq a$ , and since  $a \neq 0$ ,  $p > 0$ ,  $z > 0$ , we have

$$\int_a^\infty \psi(y) dy < \infty.$$

The integral over II can be handled with in the same way.

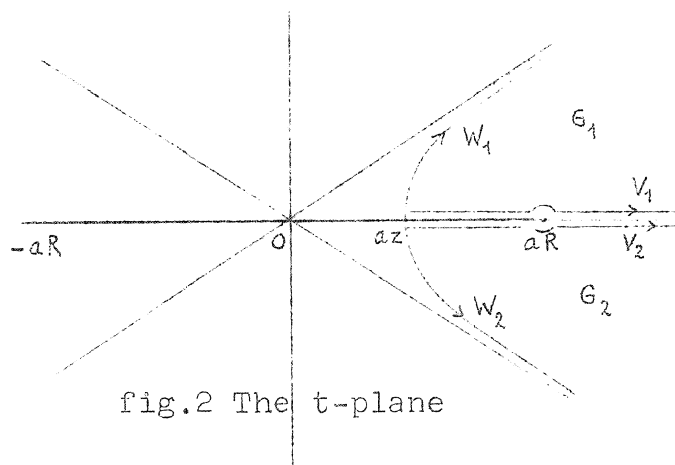


fig.2 The  $t$ -plane

If  $u$  ranges from  $a$  to  $\infty$ ,  $t_1(u)$  describes a contour  $W_1$ , which is the part of  $H$  above the real axis (fig.2). If  $t \in W_1$ , the corresponding value of  $u$  will be given by

$$(14) \quad u(t) = \frac{tz - i\sqrt{t^2 - a^2}R^2}{R^2}.$$

From now on we cut the  $t$ -plane along the real axis from  $-aR$  to  $aR$ , taking  $\sqrt{t^2 - a^2}R^2$  positive if  $t > aR$ . Similarly, if  $v$  ranges from  $a$  to  $\infty$ ,  $t_2(v)$  describes a contour  $W_2$ , the part of  $H$  under the real axis, and now

$$(15) \quad v(t) = \frac{tz + i\sqrt{t^2 - a^2}R^2}{R^2} \quad (t \in W_2).$$

Hence (11) can be written

$$(16) \quad f(p) = - \int_{W_1} dt \int_a^{u(t)} \varphi(y, t) dy + \int_{W_2} dt \int_a^{v(t)} \varphi(y, t) dy.$$

From now on  $y$  will also assume complex values. Let  $G_1$  be the region bounded by  $W_1$  and the part of the positive real axis from  $az$  to  $\infty$ . Let

$$(17) \quad g(t) = \int_{W(t)} \varphi(y, t) dy,$$

first be defined as follows for  $t \in G_1$ .

$G_1$  is conformally mapped onto a region  $G'_1$  of the  $y$ -plane by  $y = u(t)$  ((14)).  $G'_1$  is also bounded by the positive real axis, and a hyperbolic arc, which is the image of the part of the real axis  $t > aR$  (fig.3).

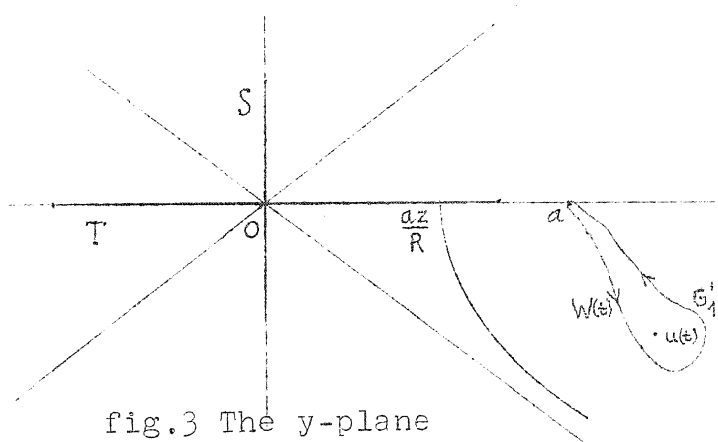


fig.3 The  $y$ -plane

$\sqrt{y^2 + b^2 - a^2}$  is defined in the following way.

I. If  $a < b$ , we cut the  $y$ -plane along the interval

$S : [-i\sqrt{b^2 - a^2}, i\sqrt{b^2 - a^2}]$  on the imaginary axis.

II. If  $a > b$ , the real axis is cut along the interval

$T : [-\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}, \sqrt{a^2 - b^2}]$ .

In both cases the square root is positive for large positive values of  $y$ .  $W(t)$  is a simple curve in the  $y$ -plane. Starting in  $a$ ,  $W(t)$  encircles  $u(t)$  in positive direction, ending in  $a$  again without leaving  $G'_1$ . Evidently, if  $t$  is fixed in  $G_1$ , only the root  $u(t)$  of  $\rho^2(y^2 - a^2) + (zy - t)^2 = 0$  is in  $G'_1$ .

On  $W(t)$  we define the function  $\sqrt{\rho^2(y^2-a^2)+(zy-t)^2}$  by analytic continuation, taking the value  $t-za$  at the starting-point  $y=a$  of  $W(t)$ . If  $W(t)$  satisfies the above conditions, the integral on the right of (17) is independent of  $W(t)$ , and  $g(t)$  is uniquely defined on  $G_1$ . One can easily prove that  $g(t)$  is analytic on  $G_1$ . In fact,  $g(t)$  can be analytically continued to the boundary of  $G_1$ , the point  $t=Ra$  being excluded. If  $t$  is fixed and  $t \neq Ra$ , the conformal mapping  $y=u(t)$  can be extended across the cut  $(-aR, aR)$ , and the roots of  $\rho^2(y^2-a^2)+(zy-t)^2=0$  are separated. If  $u(t)$  is on the boundary of  $G_1'$ , we can take a contour  $W(t)$ , which leaves  $G_1'$  only in a small neighbourhood of  $u(t)$ , but for the rest satisfies the above conditions. In case II it may occur that  $u(t) \in T$ ;  $\sqrt{y^2+b^2-a^2}$  then has to be continued analytically along  $W(t)$  across the cut  $T$ .

Finally we need an estimate of  $|g(t)|$  if  $t \in G_1$  and  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . It is not difficult to see that there exists a constant  $k > 0$  so that

$$(18) \quad \left| \frac{y}{cy+d \sqrt{y^2+b^2-a^2}} \right| \leq k \quad (y \in G_1').$$

We can deform  $W(t)$  into the line-segment

$$(19) \quad y = a + (u(t) - a)s \quad (0 \leq s \leq 1).$$

Then, (17), (18) and (19),

$$(20) \quad |g(t)| \leq \frac{2pk}{\pi} e^{-p\operatorname{Re} t} \int_0^1 \frac{|u(t)-a| ds}{\sqrt{|a-u(t)||1-s| \left| a(1-s)+u(t)(1+s)-\frac{2tz}{R} \right|}} \leq \\ \leq \frac{2p1}{\pi} e^{-p\operatorname{Re} t} \sqrt{\frac{2|t|}{R} + a},$$

if  $|t|$  is sufficiently large ( $1$  is independent of  $t$ ).

If  $u(t)$  is on the real axis and  $a > a$

$$g(t) = 2 \int_a^{u(t)} \varphi(y, t) dy,$$

which integral occurs in (16). This can be proved by deforming  $W(t)$  into the interval  $[a, u(t)]$ . We therefore have

$$(21) \quad \int_{W_1} dt \int_a^{u(t)} \varphi(y,t) dt = \frac{1}{2} \int_{W_1} g(t) dt.$$

Now, by (20) and since  $g(t)$  is analytic in  $G_1$  we can replace  $W_1$  on the right of (21) by the contour  $V_1$  of fig.2.

Hence

$$(22) \quad \int_{W_1} dt \int_a^{u(t)} \varphi(y,t) dt = \int_{V_1} dt \int_a^{u(t)} \varphi(y,t) dt.$$

The second term on the right of (16) can be transformed in exactly the same way. Hence

$$(23) \quad f(p) = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{V_1} dt \int_a^{u(t)} \varphi(y,t) dy + \frac{1}{2} \int_{V_2} dt \int_a^{v(t)} \varphi(y,t) dy.$$

Adding the contours in the  $y$ -plane, we either obtain

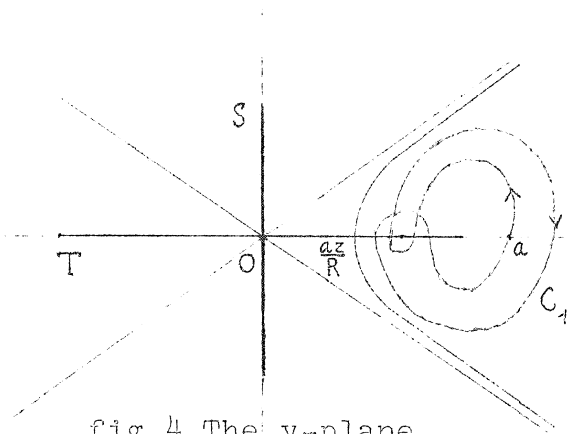


fig.4 The  $y$ -plane

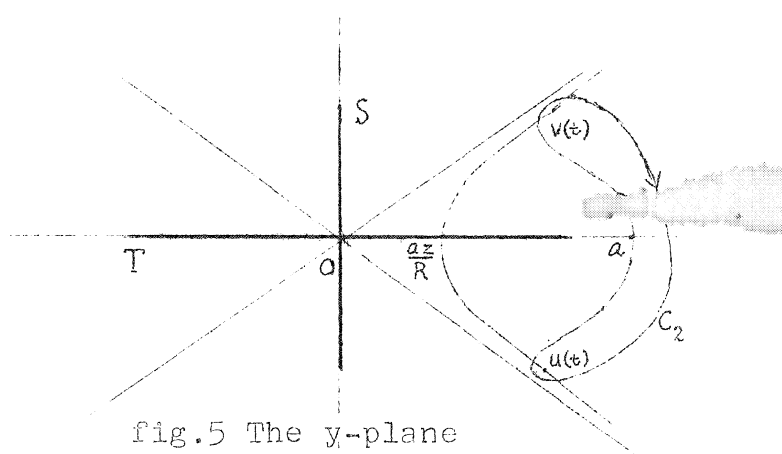


fig.5 The  $y$ -plane

a contour  $C_1$  (fig.4) if  $az < t < aR$ , or a contour  $C_2$  (fig.5) if  $t > aR$ . From (23) it is clear, that the function

$$(24) \quad h(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_i} \frac{y dy}{(cy+d\sqrt{y^2+b^2-a^2}) \sqrt{\rho^2(y^2-a^2)+(zy-t)^2}},$$

where  $i=1$  if  $az < t < aR$ ,  $i=2$  if  $t > aR$ , satisfies (2). (Both roots in the denominator of the integral are  $> 0$  if  $y=a$ ). A further discussion of the function  $h(t)$  can be found in § 5 of report ZW 1959-010, and need not be repeated here.