

Math 536 Homework #3

Spring 2012

1. This problem gives another way of finding the harmonic conjugate of a harmonic function. Suppose $f(z) = \sum_n a_n(z - z_0)^n$ is analytic in a neighborhood of z_0 . Set $u(x, y) = \operatorname{Re} f(z)$ where $z = x + iy$. Show that

$$f(z) = 2u\left(\frac{z - z_0}{2} + x_0, \frac{z - z_0}{2i} + y_0\right) - u(x_0, y_0) + iC$$

where $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$, and C is a real constant. Hint: WLOG $z_0 = 0, f(z_0) = 0$. Consider analytic functions of two complex variables (locally convergent power series) and use the convergence of $\sum |a_n|(|x| + |y|)^n$ for $|x|, |y| < \delta$. Apply this idea to $u(x, y) = e^{-nx} \sin ny$ to find an analytic function with real part equal to u . Another approach is to work directly with the Poisson kernel $(1 - |z|^2)/|e^{it} - z|^2$. (rewrite the latter in terms of x and y without absolute values.)

2. a. Prove a “Schwarz’s Lemma” for harmonic functions: If u is real-valued and harmonic in $\mathbb{D}$ with $|u| \leq 1$ and $u(0) = 0$, then

$$|u(z)| \leq \frac{4}{\pi} \arctan |z|.$$

b. Given $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{D}$ and $v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{R}$. Find a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a harmonic function u defined on $\mathbb{D}$ and bounded by 1 such that $u(z_j) = v_j, j = 1, 2$.

If “harmonic” is relaxed by “analytic” in part b, then the result is sometimes called the invariant form of Schwarz’s lemma. The solution for n points and values for analytic functions is known as Pick’s theorem. It is an open problem to do this for 3 points and values for harmonic functions.

3. Consider

$$f(z) = \int_0^z e^{w^2} dw.$$

Prove f is entire and maps the plane onto the plane. (Hint: f' is even)

Show that f is locally one-to-one but not one-to-one in the plane.

3. (a) State the Monodromy Theorem.

(b) Suppose that p is a polynomial and suppose Ω is a simply connected domain with the property that if $p'(z) = 0$ then $p(z) \notin \Omega$. Prove that there is an analytic function g defined on Ω so that $p(g(z)) = z$.

(c) Suppose f is an entire function which maps the plane onto the plane and for which f' is never equal to 0. The example in problem 3 shows that f does not necessarily have an inverse on $\mathbb{C}$. Explain which statement(s) is (are) wrong in the following argument:

If γ is any curve in the plane, then a local inverse of f can be defined in a neighborhood of each point of γ . If γ is a curve from 0 to z then γ is compact and can be covered by finitely many discs, such that f has an inverse on each. This provides an analytic continuation of f^{-1} from 0 to z along γ . Since the plane is simply connected, a global inverse f^{-1} of f can be defined in the plane by the monodromy theorem.

5. Suppose f and g are entire and $f^2 + g^2 = 1$. Prove there exists an entire function h so that $f(z) = \cos h(z)$ and $g(z) = \sin h(z)$.

6. Construct a curve in $\Omega = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ which is homologous to 0 (i.e. the winding number of the curve about each point in the complement of Ω is zero) but is not homotopic to a point. You may use the example given in class, but you must prove these statements. Hint: consider the conformal map of an equilateral triangle onto the upper half plane chosen so that the vertices are mapped to $0, 1, \infty$. Reflect as much as possible.

7. Let Log denote the principal branch of the logarithm, and let $t \in (0, 1)$. The discontinuities of

$$\text{Log}(z) - \text{Log}(z - t)$$

cancel on $(-\infty, 0)$, so the above function has an analytic continuation $F_t(z)$ to $\mathbb{C} \setminus [0, t]$. Let Γ be the unit circle with positive orientation. Compute

$$\int_{\Gamma} F_t(z) dz.$$

8. Suppose f and g are nonconstant entire functions and suppose $f \circ g$ is a polynomial. Show that both f and g are polynomials.

9. Prove that Harnack's principle (about an increasing sequence of harmonic functions) holds on any Riemann surface.