

Lecture 12 Harmonic fns and harmonic conjugates

1

Defⁿ A harmonic fn on a domain Ω is a real valued C^2 -smooth fn such that $\Delta u \equiv 0$ on Ω . $\left[\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}\right]$

Important tool If u is harmonic, $u_x - iu_y$ is analytic.

Pf $U = u_x$ $C-R$ eqns $\bar{U}_x \stackrel{?}{=} \bar{V}_y$ $u_{xx} \stackrel{?}{=} -u_{yy} \checkmark \Delta u \equiv 0.$
 $V = -u_y$ $\bar{U}_y \stackrel{?}{=} -\bar{V}_x$ $u_{yx} = -(-u_{xy}) \checkmark$
 $\uparrow C^1\text{-smooth}$ $\uparrow \text{need } u \text{ } C^2\text{-smooth} \checkmark$

Motivation: If $f = u + iv$ analytic, then

$$f' = \begin{cases} u_x + iv_x & \#1 \\ v_y - iu_y & \#2 \end{cases} = u_x - iu_y \leftarrow !$$

Hmmm. Prob. Given harm u , find v with $f = u + iv$ analytic.

If we had v , $f' = u_x - iu_y$. Big idea: Find anti-deriv of $u_x - iu_y$ to get v .

Cor: If u is C^2 -smooth harmonic, then u is C^∞ -smooth!

Pf: $u_x - iu_y$ analytic $\Rightarrow u_x, u_y$ C^∞ -smooth $\Rightarrow u, v$ C^∞ smooth.

Cor If harmonic u on a domain vanishes on $D_\varepsilon(z_0) \subset \Omega$, then $u \equiv 0$ on Ω .

Pf: $u_x - iu_y$ analytic on Ω and $\equiv 0$ on $D_\varepsilon(z_0)$.

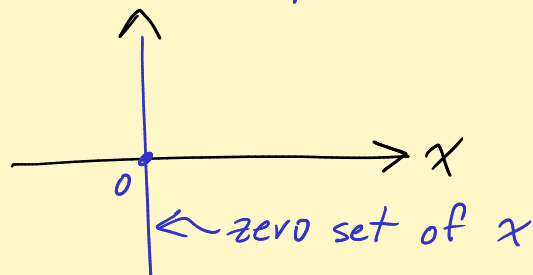
$\Rightarrow u_x - iu_y \equiv 0$ on Ω , i.e., $\nabla u \equiv 0$ on Ω .

$\Rightarrow u$ const on Ω . $u(z_0)=0 \Rightarrow u \equiv 0$.

2

Can zeroes of harm fns have limit pts and not be $\equiv 0$?

EX: $u = \operatorname{Re} z = x$



No "Identity thm" for harm fns.

Future Cauchy thm If f analytic on a simply connected no holes

domain Ω and γ is a closed curve in Ω , then

$$\int_{\gamma} f dz = 0.$$

Cor If u is harmonic on a domain Ω on which Cauchy thm holds, then u has a harmonic conj on Ω .

PF: Case: $\Omega =$ convex open set. Cauchy thm holds.

Hmmm. $f = u + iv$. $f' = u_x - iu_y$

Aha! Get F such that $F' = \underbrace{u_x - iu_y}_g$ via

$$F(z) = \int_{\gamma_a^z} g(w) dw.$$

$\uparrow$
fixed

Know $F' = g = u_x - iu_y$

$\uparrow$
 $U_x - iU_y$

Write $F = U + iV$.

So $\nabla \bar{U} = \nabla u$ on Ω . So $\bar{U} = u + c$, c const.

Claim: $\bar{V}$ is a harm conj for u .

$$u + i\bar{V} = \underbrace{(u+c)}_{\bar{U}} + i\bar{V} - c \quad \text{analytic!} \quad \checkmark$$

General case on Cauchy thm domain.

"Define" $F(z) = \int_{\gamma_a^z} g(w) dw$

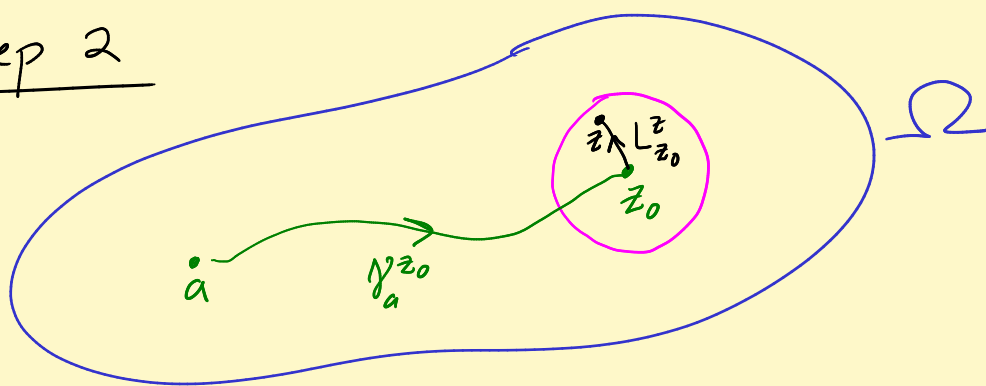
Step 1 F is well defined

because $F(z) - \tilde{F}(z) = \left(\int_{\gamma_a^z} - \int_{\tilde{\gamma}_a^z} \right) g(w) dw$

$$\int_{\Gamma} : \Gamma = (\gamma_a^z) \cup (-\tilde{\gamma}_a^z)$$

Γ closed. so $\int = 0$.

Step 2



$D_\rho(z_0) \subset \Omega$
open

Aha! $F(z) = \int_{\gamma_a^{z_0} \cup L_{z_0}^z} g dw = \underbrace{\int_{\gamma_a^{z_0}} g dw}_{\text{const}} + \underbrace{\int_{L_{z_0}^z} g dw}_{\frac{d}{dz} = g}$

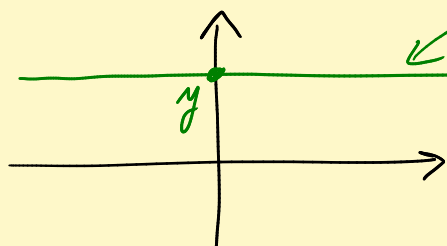
So $F' = g$. Rest same.

Cooking up harm conj on $D_R(z_0)$ or $\mathbb{C}$.

Lemma $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \equiv 0 \iff u = \text{fcn of } y \text{ alone.}$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \equiv 0 \iff x$$

Pf



$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, y) \equiv 0 \Rightarrow u \text{ const along horiz lines.}$

So $u(x, y) = C(y)$.

and $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} C(y) \equiv 0$.

Cor: $\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} \equiv \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} \iff u_1 = u_2 + (\text{fcn of } y \text{ alone})$
etc

Prob Find a harm conj for $u = \underline{x^2 - y^2 + x + y}$ on $\mathbb{C}$.

Step 1 Check $\Delta u \equiv 0$. ✓

Step 2 C-R eqns $\left. \begin{array}{l} u_x = v_y \\ u_y = -v_x \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} v_x = -u_y \quad (A) \\ v_y = u_x \quad (B) \end{array}$

Looking for v with $\nabla v = \vec{F} = (-u_y, u_x)$.

MATH 261 $\mathbb{R}^3$: Need $\text{Curl } \vec{F} = 0$ to get v .

$\mathbb{R}^2$: Need $\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x}$

$$\nabla v = \vec{F}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v_{yx} = (F_1)_y$$

$$v_{xy} = (F_2)_x$$

Check

$$\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(-u_y)$$

$$\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(u_x)$$

$$-u_{yy} \stackrel{?}{=} u_{xx} \quad \checkmark \quad \Delta u = 0$$

Back to prob.

$$\text{Want } \begin{cases} v_x = 2y - 1 & \text{from (A)} \\ v_y = 2x + 1 & \text{from (B)} \end{cases}$$

First use (A)

$$v = \int (2y - 1) dx = 2xy - x + C(y)$$

treat y like a const

↑
arb fcn of y .

$$\text{why } \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [v - (2xy - x)] \equiv 0$$

= $C(y)$

Next use (B) in a different way.

$$\text{Got } v = 2xy - x + C(y)$$

$$\text{Want } \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2xy - x + C(y)) = 2x + 1 \quad (B)$$

$$2x - 0 + C'(y) \stackrel{\text{want}}{=} 2x + 1$$

Miracle! All x 's cancel. [because $\Delta u \equiv 0$]

$$\boxed{C'(y) = 1}$$

So $C(y) = y + k$, k const.

Get $v = 2xy - x + (y + k)$

Fact Harmonic fns unique up to + const.