

**Math 6220**  
**Homework 2**  
**February 7, 2007**

**Problem 1.2.4.2**

The vertices of the cube on the unit sphere are the points  $(\pm\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \pm\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \pm\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}})$ . Using the formula  $(x, y, t) \rightarrow z = \frac{x+iy}{1-t}$ , we see that the 8 vertices are mapped to  $\frac{\pm\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \pm i\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}}{1 \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}}$ .

**Problem 2.1.2.1** We want to show that the composition of two differentiable functions has a derivative. Assume first that  $f$  is differentiable at a point  $z_0$  and  $g$  is differentiable at the point  $w_0 = f(z_0)$ , and then define the following function:

$$h(w) = \begin{cases} \frac{g(w)-g(w_0)}{w-w_0}, & \text{if } w \neq w_0 \\ g'(w_0), & \text{if } w = w_0 \end{cases}$$

$h(w)$  is continuous when  $w \neq w_0$ , since  $g$  is differentiable, and it is also continuous at  $w = w_0$  since by definition  $g'(w_0) = \lim_{w \rightarrow w_0} \frac{g(w)-g(w_0)}{w-w_0}$ . Next, one may write the expression

$$g(w) - g(w_0) = h(w)(w - w_0).$$

Making the substitution  $w_0 \mapsto f(z_0)$  and  $w \mapsto f(z)$  and dividing both sides by  $z - z_0$  ( $z \neq z_0$ ) yields

$$\frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{z - z_0} = h(f(z)) \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0}.$$

We may take the limit of both sides of the above, as  $z \rightarrow z_0$ , since  $h$  is a continuous function and because  $g(z)$  is analytic. This yields the expression

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{g(f(z)) - g(f(z_0))}{z - z_0} = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} h(f(z)) \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \frac{f(z) - f(z_0)}{z - z_0},$$

where the limit distributes on the right hand side because both limits exist and are well defined. Using the definition of the derivative, the above expression is equivalent to  $g(f(z))' = g'(f(z))f'(z)$ , and of course since  $g'(f(z))$  and  $f'(z)$  are well defined,  $f$  composed with  $g$  has a well defined derivative and thus is analytic.

**Problem 2.1.2.3**

Put  $u(x, y) = ax^3 + bx^2y + cxy^2 + dy^3$ . By calculation,

$$\begin{aligned} u_x &= 3ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 & , & & u_{xx} &= 6ax + 2by \\ u_y &= 3dy^2 + 2cxy + bx^2 & , & & u_{yy} &= 6dy + 2cx \end{aligned}$$

By the requirement that  $u$  is harmonic,  $\Delta u$  must be 0 or  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ . It follows that  $c = -3a$  and  $b = -3d$  and  $u$  is rewritten as

$$u(x, y) = ax^3 - 3dx^2y - 3axy^2 + dy^3 \quad a, d \in \mathbb{R}$$

Now we determine  $v$ , the conjugate harmonic function of  $u$

(i) By integration

Since  $v_y = u_x = 3ax^2 - 6dxy - 3ay^2$ ,  $v$  has the form

$$v(x, y) = 3ax^2y - 3dxy^2 - ay^3 + C(x)$$

and since  $v_x = -u_y$ ,

$$6axy - 3dy^2 + C'(x) = -3dy^2 + 6axy + 3dx^2$$

therefore,  $C(x) = dx^3 + C$ . It follows

$$v(x, y) = dx^3 + 3ax^2y - 3dxy^2 - ay^3 + C$$

(ii) We find  $v$  by the fact that  $f(z) = u + iv = 2u(\frac{z}{2}, \frac{z}{2i})$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 2u\left(\frac{z}{2}, \frac{z}{2i}\right) &= 2\left(a\frac{z^3}{8} - 3d\frac{z^2}{4}\frac{z}{2i} - 3a\frac{z}{2}\frac{z^2}{4i^2} + d\frac{z^3}{8i^3}\right) \\ &= \frac{z^3}{4}(a + 3di + 3a + di) \\ &= (x^3 + 3ix^2y + 3xi^2y^2 + i^3y^3)(a + di) \\ &= (x^3 - 3xy^2 + i(3x^2y - y^3))(a + di) \\ &= 3x^3 - 3axy^2 - 3dx^2y + dy^3 + i(dx^3 - 3dxy^2 + 3ax^2y - ay^3) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $v(x, y) = dx^3 + 3ax^2y - 3dxy^2 - ay^3 + C$ .

**Problem 2.1.2.4**

Assume that  $f$  is analytic and  $|f(z)| = c$  for all  $z$  where  $c \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Note that you can assume that  $c \neq 0$ , since  $|f(z)| = 0$  implies that  $z = 0$ . Notice that

$$|f(z)|^2 = c^2 \Leftrightarrow f(z)\overline{f(z)} = c^2 \Leftrightarrow \overline{f(z)} = \frac{c^2}{f(z)}$$

This shows that  $\bar{f}$  is analytic as long as  $f$  is analytic and nonzero. From this you can conclude that both  $f$  and  $\bar{f}$  satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations. Let  $f(x, y) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ . You have that

$$\begin{aligned} u_x &= v_y & u_x &= -v_y \\ u_y &= -v_x & u_y &= v_x. \end{aligned}$$

The above implies that  $u_x = u_y = 0$  and  $v_x = v_y = 0$ . Integrating  $u_x$  with respect to  $x$  yields:

$$u(x, y) = \int 0 \, dx = \varphi(y)$$

where  $\varphi$  is some real valued function of  $y$ . Now, differentiating with respect to  $y$  gives you  $u_y = \varphi'(y)$ . Since this must be zero, you have that  $\varphi(y) = a$  where  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and hence,  $u(x, y) = a$ . Using a similar argument, you can show that  $v(x, y) = b$  where  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Therefore,  $f(z) = a + bi$ .

**Problem 2.1.2.7** Show that a harmonic function satisfies the formal differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}} = 0.$$

Let  $u$  be harmonic. Thus,  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$ . Using the definitions for  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}}$  on page 27 of Ahlfors, we have

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right),$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial \bar{z}} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] - i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + i \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + i \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} - i \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

since  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x}$ .

**Problem 2.1.4.2**

Since there are  $n$  distinct roots, then each root,  $\alpha_i$ , is called a simple zero and is characterized by the condition  $Q(\alpha_i) = 0$  and  $Q'(\alpha_i) \neq 0$ . So we have

$$\frac{P(z)}{Q(z)} = \frac{P(z)}{(z-\alpha_1)\dots(z-\alpha_n)} = \frac{A_1}{(z-\alpha_1)} + \dots + \frac{A_n}{(z-\alpha_n)}$$

for  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  unknown. Now notice,

$$\begin{aligned} Q'(z) &= [(z-\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_2)\dots(z-\alpha_{i-1})(z-\alpha_i)(z-\alpha_{i+1})\dots(z-\alpha_n)]' \\ &= [(z-\alpha_i)(z-\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_2)\dots(z-\alpha_{i-1})(z-\alpha_{i+1})\dots(z-\alpha_n)]' \\ &= (z-\alpha_i)'[(z-\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_2)\dots(z-\alpha_{i-1})(z-\alpha_{i+1})\dots(z-\alpha_n)] \\ &\quad + [(z-\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_2)\dots(z-\alpha_{i-1})(z-\alpha_{i+1})\dots(z-\alpha_n)]'(z-\alpha_i) \\ \Rightarrow Q'(\alpha_i) &= (\alpha_i - \alpha_1)(\alpha_i - \alpha_2)\dots(\alpha_i - \alpha_{i-1})(\alpha_i - \alpha_{i+1})\dots(\alpha_i - \alpha_n) \quad (\diamond) \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{P(z)}{Q(z)} &= \frac{A_1}{(z-\alpha_1)} + \frac{A_2}{(z-\alpha_2)} \dots \frac{A_n}{(z-\alpha_n)} \\ \Rightarrow P(z) &= \frac{A_1 Q(z)}{(z-\alpha_1)} + \frac{A_2 Q(z)}{(z-\alpha_2)} \dots \frac{A_n Q(z)}{(z-\alpha_n)} \\ &= A_1(z-\alpha_2)(z-\alpha_3)\dots(z-\alpha_n) \\ &\quad + A_2(z-\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_3)\dots(z-\alpha_n) \\ &\quad \vdots \\ &\quad + A_n(z-\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_2)\dots(z-\alpha_{n-1}) \end{aligned}$$

To solve for  $A_i$  we evaluate  $P(\alpha_i)$ . Notice when we evaluate  $P$  at  $\alpha_i$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(\alpha_i) &= A_i(z-\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_2)\dots(z-\alpha_{i-1})(z-\alpha_{i+1})\dots(z-\alpha_n) \\ &= A_i Q'(\alpha_i) \quad (\text{by } \diamond) \\ \Rightarrow A_i &= \frac{P(\alpha_i)}{Q'(\alpha_i)} \end{aligned}$$

**This is true for every  $i$  s.t.  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and so our claim is proven.**

$$\begin{aligned} P(z) &= \frac{P(\alpha_1)}{Q'(\alpha_1)(z-\alpha_1)} + \frac{P(\alpha_2)}{Q'(\alpha_2)(z-\alpha_2)} + \dots + \frac{P(\alpha_n)}{Q'(\alpha_n)(z-\alpha_n)} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{P(\alpha_i)}{Q'(\alpha_i)(z-\alpha_i)} \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2.1.4.3**

**Proof:** Using the conclusion of 2.1.4.2, let

$$P(Z) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{C_k}{Q'(\alpha_k)(Z - \alpha_k)} Q(Z)$$

**then  $P(\alpha_k) = C_k$ , and  $\deg(P(Z)) < n$ . This proves the existence of such polynomial.**

**If there is another polynomial  $G(Z)$ , satisfying  $G(\alpha_k) = C_k$ , and  $\deg(G(Z)) < n$ , then  $P(Z) - G(Z)$  is a polynomial, whose degree is less than  $n$  and has  $n$  roots  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ . So  $P(Z) - G(Z) = 0$ . Hence  $P(Z) = G(Z)$ , which implies the uniqueness.**