

## Section 6.2

*Produce harmonic functions  $u$  and  $v$  for the following by writing the given complex function in the form*

$$f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y).$$

3)  $f(z) = z\cos(z)$

4)  $f(z) = \sin^2(z)$

### SOLUTION

#### Problem 3

$$f(z) = z\cos(z)$$

where  $z = x + iy$

#### Solution

$$f(z) = (x + iy)\cos(x + iy)$$

$$= (x + iy)[\cos(x)\cos(iy) - \sin(x)\sin(iy)]$$

$$= (x + iy)[\cos(x)\cosh(y) - i\sin(x)\sinh(y)]$$

since  $\cos(iy) = \cosh(y)$  and  $\sin(iy) = i\sinh(y)$ .

$$= x\cos(x)\cosh(y) + y\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$+ i y \cos(x)\cosh(y) - i x \sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$= x\cos(x)\cosh(y) + y\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$+ i[y\cos(x)\cosh(y) - x\sin(x)\sinh(y)]$$

which is the harmonic function in the form

$$f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$$

with  $u(x, y) = x\cos(x)\cosh(y) + y\sin(x)\sinh(y)$  and

$$v(x, y) = y\cos(x)\cosh(y) - x\sin(x)\sinh(y).$$

## Verification

$$U_x = (\cos(x) - x \sin(x))\cosh(y) + y\cos(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$U_{xx} = (-\sin(x) - \sin x - x \cos(x))\cosh(y) - y\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$= (-2\sin(x) - x\cos(x))\cosh(y) - y\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$U_y = x\cos(x)\sinh(y) + (y\cosh(y) + \sinh(y))\sin(x)$$

$$U_{yy} = x\cos(x)\cosh(y) + (\cosh(y) + y\sinh(y) + \cosh(y))\sin(x)$$

$$= x\cos(x)\cosh(y) + (2\cosh(y) + y\sinh(y))\sin(x)$$

$$U_{xx} + U_{yy} = -2\sin(x)\cosh(y) - x\cos(x)\cosh(y) - y\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$+ x\cos(x)\cosh(y) + 2\sin(x)\cosh(y) + y\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$\therefore U_{xx} + U_{yy} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Harmonic.}$$

*Similarly,*

$$v_x = -y\sin(x)\cosh(y) - (\sin(x) + x\cos(x))\sinh(y)$$

$$v_{xx} = -y \cos(x)\cosh(y) - (\cos(x) + \cos(x) - x\sin(x))\sinh(y)$$

$$v_{xx} = -y \cos(x)\cosh(y) - (2\cos(x) - x\sin(x))\sinh(y)$$

$$v_y = (\cosh(y) + y\sinh(y))\cos(x) - x\sin(x)\cosh(y)$$

$$v_{yy} = (\sinh(y) + \sinh(y) + y\cosh(y))\cos(x) - x\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$v_{yy} = (2\sinh(y) + y\cosh(y))\cos(x) - x\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$v_{xx} + v_{yy} = -y\cos(x)\cosh(y) - 2\cos(x)\sinh(y) + x\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$+ 2\sinh(y)\cos(x) + y\cosh(y)\cos(x) - x\sin(x)\sinh(y)$$

$$\therefore v_{xx} + v_{yy} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Harmonic}$$

*Hence, the function itself is harmonic.*

### Problem 4

$$f(z) = \sin^2(z)$$

where  $z = x + iy$

### Solution

$$f(z) = \sin^2(z) = \frac{1 - \cos 2z}{2} = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos(2z))$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos(2x + 2iy))$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [1 - \{\cos(2x)\cos(2iy) - \sin(2x)\sin(2iy)\}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [1 - \{\cos(2x)\cosh(2y) - i\sin(2x)\sinh(2y)\}]$$

$$\therefore f(z) = \frac{1}{2} [1 - \{\cos(2x)\cosh(2y) - i\sin(2x)\sinh(2y)\}]$$

Which is the harmonic function in the form

$$f(z) = u(x, y) + i v(x, y)$$

$$\text{with } u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos(2x)\cosh(2y))$$

$$\text{and } v(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2x)\sinh(2y)$$

### Verification

$$u_x = \frac{1}{2} [2\sin(2x)\cosh(2y)] = \sin(2x)\cosh(2y)$$

$$u_{xx} = 2\cos(2x)\cosh(2y)$$

$$u_y = \frac{1}{2} [-2\cos(2x)\sinh(2y)] = -\cos(2x)\sinh(2y)$$

$$u_{yy} = -2\cos(2x)\cosh(2y)$$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 2\cos(2x)\cosh(2y) - 2\cos(2x)\cosh(2y)$$

$$\therefore u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Harmonic}$$

*Similarly,*

$$v_x = \frac{1}{2}[2\cos(2x)\sinh(2y)] = \cos(2x)\sinh(2y)$$

$$v_{xx} = -2\sin(2x)\sinh(2y)$$

$$v_y = \frac{1}{2}[2\sin(2x)\cosh(2y)] = \sin(2x)\cosh(2y)$$

$$v_{yy} = 2\sin(2x)\sinh(2y)$$

$$v_{xx} + v_{yy} = -2\sin(2x)\sinh(2y) + 2\sin(2x)\sinh(2y) = 0$$

$$\therefore v_{xx} + v_{yy} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Harmonic}$$

*Hence, the function itself is harmonic.*

### Problem 5

*Let  $u$  be harmonic in a domain  $\Omega$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .*

*Let  $a$  and  $b$  be real numbers and let  $\Omega^*$  consist of all translation  $(x + a, y + b)$  of points  $(x, y)$  in  $\Omega$ . Define*

$$v(x, y) = u(x - a, y - b)$$

*for  $(x, y)$  in  $\Omega^*$ . Prove that  $v$  is harmonic in  $\Omega^*$ .*

*This means that translations of harmonic functions are harmonic functions.*

### Solution

*To show that  $v$  is harmonic*

### Transformation

$$v(x, y) = u(x - a, y - b) \Rightarrow x = x - a \text{ and } y = y - a$$

$$v_x = u_x, \quad v_y = u_y$$

$$v_{xx} = u_{xx}, \quad v_{yy} = u_{yy}$$

$$\therefore v_{xx} + v_{yy} = u_{xx} + u_{yy}.$$

$$\text{Since } u \text{ is harmonic} \Rightarrow u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

$$\therefore v_{xx} + v_{yy} = 0. \text{ Hence } v \text{ is harmonic in } \Omega^*$$

*Thus, the translations of harmonic functions are harmonic function*

## Problem 6

Let  $\theta$  be any real number and let

$$x^* = \cos(\theta)x + \sin(\theta)y$$

$$y^* = -\sin(\theta)x + \cos(\theta)y$$

a rotation about the origin in the plane.

Suppose that  $u$  is harmonic in  $\Omega$ , and let  $\Omega^*$  be obtained by applying the rotation to all points of  $\Omega$ .

Let  $w(x^*, y^*) = u(x, y)$ . Show that  $w$  is harmonic in  $\Omega^*$ .

This means that rotations take harmonic functions to harmonic functions.

## Solutions

let  $w(x^*, y^*) = u(x, y)$

To show that  $w$  is harmonic in  $\Omega^*$

## Transformation

$$w(x^*, y^*) = u(x, y)$$

$$x^* = \cos(\theta)x + \sin(\theta)y \quad y^* = -\sin(\theta)x + \cos(\theta)y$$

$$\therefore x^*_x = \cos(\theta), \quad x^*_{xx} = 0 \quad y^*_x = -\sin(\theta), \quad y^*_{xx} = 0$$

$$x^*_y = \sin(\theta), \quad x^*_{yy} = 0 \quad y^*_y = \cos(\theta), \quad y^*_{yy} = 0$$

$$u_x = w_{x^*}x^*_x + w_{y^*}y^*_x$$

$$\text{where } x^*_x = \frac{\partial x^*}{\partial x} \text{ and } y^*_x = \frac{\partial y^*}{\partial x}$$

$$u_x = \cos(\theta)w_{x^*} - \sin(\theta)w_{y^*}$$

$$u_{xx} = \cos(\theta)[w_{x^*x^*}x^*_x + w_{x^*y^*}y^*_x] - \sin(\theta)[w_{y^*x^*}x^*_x + w_{y^*y^*}y^*_x]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \cos(\theta) [\cos(\theta)w_{x^*x^*} - \sin(\theta)w_{x^*y^*}] \\
&\quad - \sin(\theta) [\cos(\theta)w_{y^*x^*} - \sin(\theta)w_{y^*y^*}] \\
\therefore u_{xx} &= \cos^2(\theta)w_{x^*x^*} - \sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)w_{x^*y^*} \\
&\quad - \sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)w_{y^*x^*} + \sin^2(\theta)w_{y^*y^*} \\
&= \cos^2(\theta)w_{x^*x^*} - 2\sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)w_{x^*y^*} + \sin^2(\theta)w_{y^*y^*} \dots i
\end{aligned}$$

*Similarly,*

$$u_y = w_{x^*x^*}_y + w_{y^*y^*}_y$$

$$\text{Where } x^*_y = \frac{\partial x^*}{\partial y} \text{ and } y^*_y = \frac{\partial y^*}{\partial y}$$

$$u_y = \sin(\theta)w_{x^*} + \cos(\theta)w_{y^*}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
u_{yy} &= \sin(\theta) [w_{x^*x^*}_y + w_{x^*y^*}_y] + \cos(\theta) [w_{y^*x^*}_y + w_{y^*y^*}_y] \\
&= \sin(\theta) [\sin(\theta)w_{x^*x^*} + \cos(\theta)w_{x^*y^*}] \\
&\quad + \cos(\theta) [\sin(\theta)w_{y^*x^*} + \cos(\theta)w_{y^*y^*}] \\
&\quad \sin^2(\theta)w_{x^*x^*} + \sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)w_{x^*y^*} + \sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)w_{y^*x^*} \\
&\quad + \cos^2(\theta)w_{y^*y^*} \\
&= \sin^2(\theta)w_{x^*x^*} + 2\sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)w_{x^*y^*} + \cos^2(\theta)w_{y^*y^*} \dots ii
\end{aligned}$$

*From i and ii, we have*

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = (\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta)w_{x^*x^*} + 0 + (\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta)w_{y^*y^*}$$

$$\text{Since } \sin^2(\theta) + \cos^2(\theta) = 1$$

$$\therefore u_{xx} + u_{yy} = w_{x^*x^*} + w_{y^*y^*}$$

$$\text{Since } u \text{ is harmonic } \Rightarrow u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

$$\therefore w_{x^*x^*} + w_{y^*y^*} = 0$$

*Hence,  $w$  is harmonic in  $\Omega^*$*

*Thus, the relations take harmonic functions to harmonic functions.*