

**Lecture 13.** 7.2.2011.

Replace  $u_y, v_y$  on RHS by  $-v_x, u_x$ , using the C-R equations. The RHS becomes

$$(k + i\ell)u_x + i(k + i\ell)v_x + o(h) = h(u_x + iv_x) + o(h),$$

by C-R again. Divide by  $h$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f(z_0 + h) - f(z_0)/h &= u_x(x_0, y_0) + iv_x(x_0, y_0) + o(1) \\ &\rightarrow u_x(x_0, y_0) + iv_x(x_0, y_0) \quad \text{as } h \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

So  $f'(z_0)$  exists and  $= u_x(x_0, y_0) + iv_x(x_0, y_0)$ . //

*Note.* There are *three* other ways to write the RHS here, by C-R.

*Harmonic functions.*

With  $u, v$  as above,

$$\begin{aligned} u_{xx} &= (v_y)_x && \text{(by Cauchy-Riemann)} \\ &= (v_x)_y && \text{(interchanging the order of partial differentiation)} \\ &= (-u_y)_y && \text{(by Cauchy-Riemann) :} \end{aligned}$$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0, \quad \text{or} \quad \Delta u = 0,$$

where  $\Delta$  is the two-dimensional Laplacian operator  $\partial^2/\partial x^2 + \partial^2/\partial y^2$ , and similarly  $\Delta v = 0$ . We say that  $u, v$  are *harmonic functions*.

*Note.* The interchange of the order of partial differentiation here is justified by Clairault's Theorem, which needs *continuity* of the relevant partials. We shall see later (II.7) that we have this and more, but assume it for now.

*Gradient and Directional Derivative.*

The *gradient* of  $u$ ,  $\text{grad } u$  or  $\nabla u$ , is the 2-vector  $\begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \end{pmatrix}$ . The *directional derivative*  $D_{\mathbf{u}}u$  of  $u$  in the *direction* of the unit vector  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}$  is

$$D_{\mathbf{u}}u(x, y) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(x + tu_1, y + tu_2) - u(x, y)}{t} \quad (\text{where this exists}).$$

By the *proof* of the Theorem above: if the partials of  $u$  exist and are continuous,

(i)  $D_{\mathbf{u}}u$  exists,  $\forall \mathbf{u}$ ;

(ii)  $D_{\mathbf{u}}u = u_1u_x(x, y) + u_2u_y(x, y)$ :  $D_{\mathbf{u}}u = \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla u$ . For in the Proof,  $h = k + il$ ;  $u_1 \leftrightarrow k$ ,  $u_2 \leftrightarrow l$ ;  $h = k + il \leftrightarrow u_1 + iu_2 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}$  ( $1 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{i}$ ,  $i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{j}$ ). So,

$$\text{If } \mathbf{u} \perp \nabla u, D_{\mathbf{u}}u = 0.$$

The directional derivative is the rate of change of  $u$  in direction  $\mathbf{u}$ . This is 0 along a tangent to the curve  $u = \text{const.}$  So

$$\text{grad } u \perp (\text{tangent to}) u = \text{const.}$$

By Cauchy-Riemann,

$$\nabla u \cdot \nabla u = \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -u_y \\ u_x \end{pmatrix} = -u_xu_y + u_xu_y = 0 : \\ \nabla u \perp \nabla v.$$

Combining: Curves  $u = \text{const.}$  and  $v = \text{const.}$  cut orthogonally.

*Electromagnetism (EM).*

$u = \text{const.}$ : equipotential curves (const potential),  $v = \text{const.}$ : lines of force.

*Fluid Mechanics.*

$u = \text{const.}$ : equipotentials,  $v = \text{const.}$ : lines of flow.

*Gravitational Potential (OS Maps).*

$u = \text{const.}$ : contours,  $v = \text{const.}$ : lines of steepest ascent/decent.

*Harmonic Conjugates.*

Given  $u$ , to find  $v$  and  $f$ . By C-R,  $v_x = u_y$ . Integrate w.r.t.  $y$ :

$$v = \int u_x(x, y) dy + F(x).$$

Differentiating w.r.t.  $x$ :

$$v_x = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \int u_x dy \right] + F'(x).$$

By C-R,  $v_x = -u_y$ :

$$-u_y = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \int u_x dy \right] + F'(x).$$

Hence  $F' = -u_y$ ,  $F = -\int u_y dx + v$ . The function  $v$  is called the *harmonic conjugate* of  $u$ ,  $v = \tilde{u}$ ,  $f = u + iv \rightarrow f = u + i\tilde{u}$ . Similarly, given  $v$  we can find  $u$ .