

Recall that a function  $u : D \subseteq \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a harmonic function on a domain  $D$ , if  $u$  satisfies the Laplace equation  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$ .

**Q 1.** Is the product of two harmonic functions harmonic? Why, or why not?

**Q 2.** Give an example of a smooth, real-valued function  $f$  of a real variable, and a harmonic function  $u$  such that  $f \circ u$  is not harmonic. Determine all smooth  $f$  such that  $f \circ u$  is harmonic for every harmonic  $u$ .

**Q 3.** Show that  $\ln|z|$  is harmonic on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  but there is no holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  whose real part is the function  $\ln|z|$ .

*Hint.* Look at the polar co-ordinates version of the Laplace equation.

**Q 4.** If  $u$  is harmonic on a domain  $D$ , and  $a \in D$ , prove the mean-value property

$$u(a) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^1 u(a + re^{2it\pi}) dt$$

where the circle  $|z - a| \leq r$  is inside  $D$ .

*Hint.* Use Cauchy's integral formula for  $f = u + iv$  which is holomorphic.

**Q 5.** Let  $u$  be harmonic on an open disc  $D$ . If  $u$  is constant on some non-empty domain  $U \subset D$ , prove that  $u$  must be constant on the whole of  $D$ . Can you generalize this to other domains  $D$ ? Which ones?

**Q 6.** If  $u$  is harmonic on a bounded domain  $D$ , attaining its maximum at a point of  $D$ , show that  $u$  must be constant.

**Q 7.** If  $u_1, u_2$  are harmonic on a bounded domain  $D$ , and are equal on the boundary  $\partial D$ , prove that  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are equal on  $D$ .

*Hint.* Look at  $u_1 - u_2$ .

**Q 8.** If  $u$  is harmonic on an infinite vertical strip  $[s, t] \times (-\infty, \infty)$ , and is constant on the vertical lines  $\operatorname{Re}(z) = s$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(z) = t$ , determine  $u$  in the open strip. What about the analogous problem for an open domain between two circles (the circles may not be concentric)?