

UPSC Mathematics Optional  
 Previous Year Question Solutions  
 COMPLEX ANALYSIS

**2017**

**Q1.** Let  $f = u + iv$  be analytic function on the unit disc  $D = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ .

Show that  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 = \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2}$  at all points of  $D$

**[15 Marks]**

**Solution:**

Given that the function

$f(z) = 4(x, y) + iv(x, y)$  is analytic in a domain

$$\therefore f'(z) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \quad \dots(i)$$

$$\text{or } f'(z) = -i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \quad \dots(ii)$$

Since the analytic function has derivatives of all orders

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \equiv f''(z) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (f'(z)) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \quad \dots(iii) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \equiv f''(z) &= -i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (f'(z)) \\ &= -i \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( -i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= (-1) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \quad \dots(iv) \end{aligned}$$

for (iii) & (iv) we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} &= -\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \nabla^2 f &= 0 \quad \dots(v) \end{aligned}$$

Which is valid for any analytic function  $f(z)$

i.e. If  $f(z) = 4(x, y) + iv(x, y)$  is an analytic in a domain  $D$  then from (v)

$$\nabla^2 f = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2(u + iv) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 u + i\nabla^2 v = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0; \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

**Q2.** Determine all entire functions  $f(z)$  such that 0 is a removable singularity of  $f(1/2)$  ?

[10 Marks]

**Solution:**

As the function  $f(z)$  has no singularity in the finite part of the plane; it can be expanded in Taylor's series in any circle  $|z| = k$ ; where  $k$  is arbitrary large.

$$\therefore f(z) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} A_r z^r$$

Also, if  $f(z)$  has no singularity at  $z = \infty$ ;  $f(1/2)$  has none at  $z = 0$ .

Moreover; since  $f(z)$  has no singularity in finite part of plane, we have,

$$f(z) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} A_r z^r, \quad f(1/z) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} A_r z^{-r}$$

Since,  $f(z)$  has a pole of order ' $n$ ' at infinity  $f(1/2)$  has a pole of order  $n$  at zero.

$$\therefore f(1/z) = \sum_{s=1}^n \frac{B_s}{z^s} + \phi(z)$$

Where,  $\phi(z)$  is a regular function of  $z$ .

$$\text{Hence, } \phi(z) + \sum_{s=1}^n \frac{B_s}{z^s} = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} A_r z^{-r}$$

$$\therefore \phi(z) = A_0 = a \text{ constant.}$$

$$\text{and } A_{n+1} = A_{n+2} = \dots = 0$$

$$f(1/z) = \sum_{\gamma=0}^{\infty} A_n z^{-\gamma} = a_0 + \frac{a_1}{z} + \frac{a_2}{z^2} + \dots$$

$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$  is a removable singularity of degree  $r$ .

**Q3.** Using Contour integral method, prove that

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x \sin mx}{a^2 + x^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{2} e^{-ma}$$

[15 Marks]

**Solution:**

Let

$$I = \int_C \frac{e^{imz}}{a^2 + z^2} dz = \int_C f(z) dz,$$

where  $C$  is the contour consisting of a large semicircle,  $T$  of orders  $R$  containing all the poles of the integrand in the upper half plane and the part of real axis from  $-R$  to  $R$ .

By Cauchy-Residue Theorem:

$$\int_C f(z) dz = \int_{-R}^R \frac{e^{imx}}{a^2 + x^2} dx + \int_T \frac{e^{imz}}{a^2 + z^2} dz$$

$$= 2\pi i \quad (\text{Sum of Residues})$$

Since,  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(z^2 + a^2)} = 0$ , therefore

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_T f(z) dz = 0, \text{ by Jordan Lemma}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-R}^R \frac{e^{imx}}{a^2 + x^2} dx = 2\pi i \quad (\text{Sum of Residues})$$

$$\text{or } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{imx}}{a^2 + x^2} dx = 2\pi i \quad (\text{Sum of Residue}) \quad \dots(1)$$

$z = \pm ai$  are simple poles of  $f(z)$ .

The pole,  $z = ai$  lies inside,  $C$ . Residue at  $z = ai$  is

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow ai} (z - ai) f(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow ai} \frac{(z - ai) e^{imz}}{a^2 + z^2}$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow ai} \frac{e^{imz}}{z + ai} = \frac{e^{-ma}}{2ia}$$

from (1)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{imx}}{x^2 + a^2} dx = 2\pi i \left( \frac{e^{-ma}}{2ia} \right) = \frac{\pi}{a} e^{-ma}$$

Equating real parts on both sides,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\cos mx}{x^2 + a^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{a} e^{-ma}$$

$$\text{or } \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\cos mx}{x^2 + a^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{2a} e^{-ma}$$

Differentiating both sides w.r.t.  $m$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x \sin x}{x^2 + a^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{2} e^{-ma}.$$

**Q4.** For a function  $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and  $n \geq 1$ , let  $f^n$  denote the  $n^{\text{th}}$  derivative of  $f$  and  $f^{(0)} = f$ . Let  $f$  be an entire function such that for some  $n \geq 1$ ,  $f^n(1/k) = 0$  for all  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  show that  $f$  is a polynomial.

**[15 Marks]**

**Solution:**

Since  $f(z)$  is entire,  $\therefore f(z)$  is analytic.

Hence,  $f(z)$  can be expressed as Taylor's series around  $z = 0$  as

$$f(z) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_{-m} \frac{1}{z^m} + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_m z^m$$

$$f^n(z) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n (m)(m+1)\dots(m+1(n-1)) a_{-m} \cdot \frac{1}{z^{m+n}} + \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} m(m-1)\dots(m-(n-1)) a_m \cdot z^{m-n}$$

Now,

$$f^n\left(\frac{1}{k}\right) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m (m)(m+1)\cdots(m+(n-1))a_{-m} \cdot k^{m+n} + \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} m(m-1)\cdots(m-n+1)a_m \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{m-n}$$

As,  $f^n\left(\frac{1}{k}\right) \rightarrow 0$  for all  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Let us take  $k \rightarrow \infty$

We get  $a_{-n} \rightarrow 0$  and  $a_n = 0$

Similarly, if we take  $m+1, a_{n+1} = 0$

$$\therefore a_n = a_{n+1} = a_{n+2} = \dots = 0$$

$$\therefore f(z) = a_0 + a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_{n-1} z^{n-1}$$

which is a polynomial function.

\*\*\*\*\*