

Chapter 1

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1.1 chapter 2.5

5 We say $v \in C^2(\bar{U})$ is *subharmonic* if

$$-\Delta v \leq 0 \quad \text{in } U. \quad (1.1)$$

(a) Prove for subharmonic v that

$$v(x) \leq \int_{B(x,r)} v dy \quad \text{for all } B(x,t) \subset U. \quad (1.2)$$

(b) Prove that there for $\max_{\bar{U}} v = \max_{\partial \bar{U}} v$.

(c) Let $\phi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be smooth and convex. Assume u is harmonic and $v := \phi(u)$. Prove v is subharmonic.

(d) Prove $v := |Du|^2$ is subharmonic, whenever u is harmonic.

Solution.

(a) Already have two equation below

$$\int_{B(x,r)} v dy = \int_0^r \left(\int_{\partial B(x,t)} u dS \right) / \alpha(n) x^n dx = \int_{\partial B(x,r)} v dS$$

$$\int_{\partial B(x,r)} v dS = \int_{\partial B(0,1)} Du(x+rz) \cdot z dS(z) = \phi(r)$$

and differential $\phi(r)$ get

$$\begin{aligned} \phi'(r) &= \int_{\partial B(x,r)} Du(y) \cdot \frac{y-x}{r} dS(y) \\ &= \int_{B(x,r)} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} dS(y) \\ &= \frac{r}{n} \int_{B(x,r)} \Delta v(y) dy \\ &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

so $\phi(r) \geq \phi(0)$ indicate that 1.1

(b) Because 1.1. we have $v(x)$ always small than a value in $B(x,r) \in U$,

do $\max_{\bar{U}} v \in \partial U$ means $\max_{\bar{U}} v = \max_{\partial U} v$.

(c) Differential v get

$$\partial_i v = \partial \phi(u) \cdot \partial_i u$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i \partial_i v &= \sum_{i=1}^n \partial^2 \phi(u) \cdot (\partial_i u)^2 + \partial \phi(u) \cdot (\partial_i)^2 u \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \partial^2 \phi(u) \cdot (\partial_i u)^2 \\ &\geq 0, \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

which means v is subharmonic.

(d) The same as (c) have

$$\partial_i v = \partial_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^n u_j^2 \right) = \sum_{j=1}^n 2u_j \cdot u_{ji}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i \partial_i v &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (2(u_{ij})^2 + 2u_j u_{jii}) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n 2u_j u_{jii} \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

u is harmonic conclude $\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ii} = 0$, differential j have $\sum_{i=1}^n u_{iij} = 0$. Combining with above. $\Delta v \geq 0$.

6 Let U be a bounded, open subset of \mathbb{R}^n . Prove that there exists a constant C , depending only on U , such that

$$\max_{\bar{U}} |u| \leq C(\max_{\partial U} |g| + \max_{\bar{U}} |f|) \quad (1.6)$$

whenever u is a smooth solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = f & \text{in } U \\ u = g & \text{on } \partial U. \end{cases} \quad (1.7)$$

Because $\Delta(\frac{|x|^2}{2n}\lambda) = \lambda$ and U is bounded. Let $C > \frac{|x|^2}{xn}$ for $x \in U$ and $\lambda = \max_{\bar{U}} |f|$. So set $\phi = u + \frac{|x|^2}{2n}\lambda$ and

$$\Delta\phi = \Delta(u + \frac{|x|^2}{2n}\lambda) = f + \lambda \geq 0 \quad (1.8)$$

By problem 4, ϕ is subharmonic, and accord to 1.2

$$\phi \leq w(n)r^n \max_{\partial U} |g|. \quad (1.9)$$

r is the biggest r for $B(x,r) \in U$. Let $C > w(n)r^n \forall x \in U$ get 1.6.

10 (Reflection principle)

- (a) Let U^+ denote the open half-ball $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x| < 1, x_n > 0\}$. Assume $u \in C^2(\bar{U}^+)$ is harmonic in U^+ , with $u = 0$ on $\partial U^+ \cap x_n = 0$. Set

$$v(x) := \begin{cases} u(x) & \text{if } x_n \geq 0 \\ -u(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, -x_n) & \text{if } x_n \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (1.10)$$

for $x \in U = B^0(0, 1)$. Prove $v \in C^2(U)$ and thus v is harmonic within U .

- (b) Now assume only that $u \in C^2(U^+) \cap C(\bar{U}^+)$. Show that v is harmonic within U .

Solution.

- (a) u is harmonic in $C^2(U^+)$. calculate v

$$\Delta v = \begin{cases} \Delta u(x) & \text{if } x_n > 0 \\ \Delta -u(x) & \text{if } x_n < 0 \end{cases} = 0 \quad (1.11)$$

because $u \in C^2(\bar{U}^+)$, Δu is continue in x satisfy $x_n = 0$. $\Delta v = 0$ if $x_n = 0$.

Finally, $\Delta v = 0 \forall x \in U$. Means v is harmonic within U .

- (b) Using Poisson's formula for boundary ∂U . get solution

$$f(x) = \frac{1 - |x|^2}{n\alpha(n)} \int_{\partial B(x,1)} \frac{u(y)}{|x - y|^n} dS(y)$$

It is easy to confirm that $f(x) = 0 = u(x) \forall x$ satisfy $x_n = 0$, because of $u(y) = -u(-y)$.

$f(x)$ and $u(x)$ is harmonic in U^+ , conclude $f(x) - u(x)$ is harmonic. linking $f(x) - u(x) = 0$ in ∂U^+ , so according to strong maximum principle. $f(x) - u(x) = 0 \forall x \in \bar{U}^+$.

The same to get $f(x) + u(x) = 0$ in ∂U^+ . In summary. $f(x) - v(x) = 0 \forall x \in \bar{U}$, which means $v(x)$ is harmonic within U .

11 (Kelvin transform for Laplace's equation)

The Kelvin transform $\mathcal{K}u = \bar{u}$ of a function $u : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is

$$\bar{u}(x) := u(\bar{x})|\bar{x}|^{n-2} = u(x/|x|)|x|^{2-n} \quad (x \neq 0), \quad (1.12)$$

where $\bar{x} = x/|x|^2$. Show that if u is harmonic, then so is \bar{u} .

Solution. Calculation differential and laplace of $\bar{x} = \frac{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$

$$D_{x_i} \bar{x}_j = (\delta_{ij} \cdot |x|^2 - 2x_i x_j) / |x|^4 \quad (1.13)$$

where $\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j, \end{cases}$ so $D\bar{x}$ is a matrix $A = |x|^2 * I - x^T \cdot x$. By product $D_x \bar{x} (D_x \bar{x})^T$ is a matrix $B = AA^T$ satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} B_{ij} |x|^8 &= \sum_{k=1}^n (\delta_{ik} \cdot |x|^2 - 2x_i x_k) (\delta_{jk} \cdot |x|^2 - 2x_j x_k) \\ &= \begin{cases} |x|^4 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

Now calculate $\Delta \bar{u}(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta \bar{u}(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i \partial_i (u(\bar{x}) |x|^{2-n}) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \partial_j (u(\bar{x})) \partial_i (\bar{x}_j) |x|^{2-n} + u(\bar{x}) \partial_i (|x|^{2-n}) \right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \left((\partial_i)^2 (|x|^{2-n}) u(\bar{x}) |x|^{1-n} + \right. \\
&\quad \left. 2 \partial_i (|x|^{2-n}) \sum_{j=1}^n \partial_j (u(\bar{x})) \partial_i (\bar{x}_j) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. \sum_{j=1}^n \partial_j (u(\bar{x})) \partial_i^2 (\bar{x}_j) |x|^{2-n} + \right. \\
&\quad \left. \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \partial_k \partial_j (u(\bar{x})) \partial_i (\bar{x}_k) \partial_i (\bar{x}_j) |x|^{2-n} \right). \tag{1.15}
\end{aligned}$$

According to $|x|^{2-n}$ is harmonic, the first of 1.15 is 0. According to 1.14 and 1.13, the fourth of 1.15 = $\sum_{i=1}^n \text{tr} \partial(\bar{x}) \partial^2 u \partial(\bar{x}) |x|^{2-n} = \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i^2 u |x|^{-2-n} = 0$.

the second of 1.15

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{i=1}^n 2 \partial_i (|x|^{2-n}) \sum_{j=1}^n \partial_j (u(\bar{x})) \partial_i (\bar{x}_j) \\
&= 2 Du D(\bar{x}) D(|x|^{2-n}) \\
&= 2 Du |x|^{-2} \left(I - \frac{x x^T}{|x|^2} \right) \cdot (2-n) |x|^{1-n} \frac{x^t}{|x|} \tag{1.16} \\
&= 2(2-n) |x|^{-2-n} (x - 2x) \cdot Du \\
&= -2(2-n) |x|^{-2-n} x \cdot Du,
\end{aligned}$$

the third of 1.15 according to 1.13

$$\begin{aligned}
&\partial_i^2 (\bar{x}_j) \\
&= \begin{cases} \frac{(\delta_{ij}(2)x_i |x|^4 - 2x_j |x|^4 - \delta_{ij}(4)x_i |x|^4) + (8)x_i^2 x_j |x|^2}{|x|^8} & \text{if } i \neq j \\ \frac{(\delta_{ij}(2)x_i |x|^4 - 4x_i |x|^4 - \delta_{ij}(4)x_i |x|^4) + (8)x_i^2 x_j |x|^2}{|x|^8} & \text{if } i = j \end{cases} \tag{1.17}
\end{aligned}$$

so

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \partial_j (u(\bar{x})) \partial_i^2 (\bar{x}_j) |x|^{2-n} = Du 2(2-n) |x|^{-2-n} \cdot x. \tag{1.18}$$

In summary, $\Delta \bar{u}(x) = 0$, when $\Delta u(x) = 0$.