

Recall

Cauchy-Riemann Equations for $f = u + iv$ are: $u_x = v_y$ and $u_y = -v_x$.

Prop. 4.10. If $f \in H(G)$ and $f'(z) = 0$ for each z in the nonempty open connected subset G of \mathbb{C} , then f is constant on G .

Exercise. Let $f \in H(G)$ where G is a nonempty open connected subset of \mathbb{C} . Prove the following.

1. If $\operatorname{Re} f$ is constant on G , then f is constant on G .
2. If $\operatorname{Im} f$ is constant on G , then f is constant on G .
3. If $|f|$ is constant on G , then f is constant on G .

Do so without using facts not covered thus far in class. So you may use ideas from the Class Script's Section 1.1-1.3 as well as Prop. 4.10.

Proof's Idea. Let $f \in H(G)$ where G is a nonempty open connected subset of \mathbb{C} . As usual, write $f = u + iv$ where $u := \operatorname{Re} f$ and $v := \operatorname{Im} f$. Since $f \in H(G)$, on G : the first order partial derivatives of u and v exist, they satisfy the CR equations

$$u_x = v_y \quad \text{and} \quad u_y = -v_x, \quad (\text{CReq})$$

and $f' = u_x + iv_x = v_y - iv_y$.

[1]. Let u be constant on G . Then on G the partials $u_x = 0$ and $u_y = 0$. So $f' = 0$ on G since

$$f' = u_x + iv_x = u_x - iv_y.$$

So (by Prop. 4.10) f is constant on G .

[2]. Similar to part 1 but using $f' = u_x + iv_x = v_y + iv_x$.

Can also do by applying part 1 to $-if = v - iu \in H(G)$ since $\operatorname{Re}(-if) = \operatorname{Im} f$.

[3]. Let $c \in \mathbb{C}$. Let $|f(z)| = c$ for each $z \in G$. If $c = 0$, then we are done. So assume $c \neq 0$. Then

$$g(x + iy) := |f(x + iy)|^2 = [u(x, y)]^2 + [v(x, y)]^2 = c^2 \neq 0.$$

Taking the partial derivatives of g w.r.t. x and y we get (on G)

$$2u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + 2v \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$2u \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + 2v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0. \quad (2)$$

Using the CR equations we rewrite (2) as

$$-2u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + 2v \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0. \quad (3)$$

Multiplying (1) by u gives

$$2u^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + 2uv \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (4)$$

Multiplying (3) by v gives

$$-2uv \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + 2v^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0. \quad (5)$$

Adding (4) and (5) gives that on G

$$2(u^2 + v^2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0. \quad (6)$$

But $u^2 + v^2 \neq 0$ on G so (6) gives $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$ on G . Similarly $\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 0$ on G . So $f' = u_x + iv_x = 0$ on G . Since f is holomorphic on the nonempty open connected set G and $f' = 0$ on G , f is constant on G (cf. Prop. 4.10). \square