
Exercise sheet 10: Brownian motion, harmonic functions and measures (v3)

Exercise 1 — Conformal invariance in dimension 2.

We recall that a map $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is conformal if it is differentiable and its differential is the multiple of an isometry at every point. For $n = 2$, a map is conformal if and only if it is holomorphic.

- (1) Let U, V open in \mathbb{C} and $\phi : U \rightarrow V$ a conformal homeomorphism. Show that a map $h : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is harmonic if and only if $\tilde{h} = h \circ \phi$ is.
- (2) Let D, \tilde{D} be two open sets verifying the Poincaré cone condition, with $\phi : \overline{D} \rightarrow \overline{\tilde{D}}$ an homeomorphism which restricts to a conformal homeomorphism between D and \tilde{D} . For $x \in D$, show that $\phi_* \mu_{\partial D}(x, \cdot) = \mu_{\partial \tilde{D}}(\phi(x), \cdot)$. (Hint: verify this for bounded continuous functions).
- (3) Let $\phi : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$, $\phi(z) = -\frac{z-i}{z+i}$. By a slight modification of the previous argument, show that $\phi_* \mu_{\partial \mathbb{H}}(x, \cdot) = \mu_{\partial \mathbb{D}}(\phi(x), \cdot)$ (You can use the fact that for an unbounded domain that verifies the Poincaré cone condition, and a continuous and bounded boundary condition, the Brownian expectation still defines a continuous solution of the Dirichlet problem). When $x = i$, compute explicitly $\mu_{\partial \mathbb{H}}(x, \cdot)$.

Exercise 2 — Singularity removal.

Let $d \geq 2$ and $x \in U \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ open. Suppose $h : U \setminus \{x\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is harmonic and bounded around x . Show that u can be extended to a harmonic function on the whole of U .

Better yet, show the same outcome with the relaxed condition that $u(x + \cdot)$ is negligible near x compared to the fundamental solution ($\log(\|\cdot\|)$ if $d = 2$ and $\|\cdot\|^{2-d}$ otherwise).

Exercise 3 — Inversions in all dimensions.

Show that $u : \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \overline{B}(0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is harmonic if and only if $u^* : B(0, 1) \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $u^*(x) = u(x/|x|^2)|x|^{2-d}$ is.

\triangle This is a rather tedious computation. This transform is classically called *Kelvin transform* if you want to look it up.