

Question

Show that the transformation

$$w = \frac{i - z}{i + z}$$

maps the upper half plane $Im(z) > 0$ into the interior of the unit circle, centred on the origin of the w -plane. Hence, solve Laplace's equation $\nabla^2 F = 0$ inside the circle $w = exp(i\theta)$, when the values of F on the circumference are

$$F = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < \theta < \pi \\ 0, & \pi < \theta < 2\pi \end{cases}$$

Answer

$$w = \frac{i - z}{i + z}$$

Consider the inverse mapping $w \rightarrow z$.

If $|w| = 1$, i.e., the unit circle,

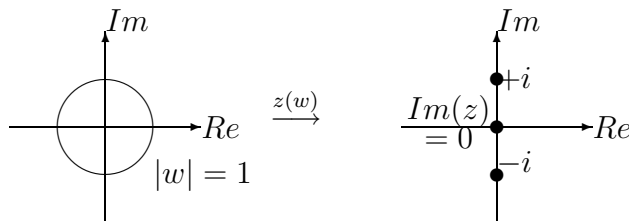
then

$$|w| = \left| \frac{i - z}{i + z} \right| = 1$$

i.e., $|i - z| = |i + z|$

This is the locus of points z which are equidistant from i and $-i$, i.e., the line $Im(z) = 0$.

(w)



So the map $z \rightarrow w$ must take $Im(z) = 0$ onto $|w| = 1$ as required.

What about interior points? Pick one z -value $z = +i$ say $w(i) = 0$ i.e.,

$$|w(i)| < 1$$

Therefore upper $Im(z) \geq 0 \rightarrow |w| \leq 1$

In particular, consider $z = x + iy$ with $y = 0, x > 0$

$$w(0) = 1, w(+\infty) = -1$$

$$w(1) = \frac{i-1}{i+1} = \frac{-(1-i)(1-i)}{(1+i)(1-i)} = -\frac{1}{2}(-2i) = i$$

Now for $y = 0, x < 0$

$$w(0) = 1, w(-\infty) = -1$$

$$w(-1) = \frac{i+1}{i-1} = -i$$

Thus

PICTURE

Thus if $\phi(x,y) = 1$ on OAB , $F(u,v) = 1$ on $0'A'B'$

and if $\phi(x,y) = 0$ on OCD , $F(u,v) = 0$ on $0'C'D'$

Thus the boundary conditions on F are equivalent to solving the boundary conditions of ϕ of Q4A in (z).

Thus if we can solve $\nabla^2\phi = 0$ in z we map back to get back $\nabla^2F = 0$ in w .

But we have solved $\nabla^2\phi = 0$ + boundary conditions in Q4A.

Hence

$$\phi(x,y) = 1 - \frac{1}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right)$$

If we can find $x(u,v), y(u,v)$ we have solved the problem OR we can say

$$\phi(x,y) = \text{Im} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\pi} \log z \right)$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} F(u,v) &= \text{Im} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\pi} \log z(w) \right) \\ &= \text{Im} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\pi} \log \left[i \left(\frac{1-w}{1+w} \right) \right] \right) \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\text{if } z = i \frac{(1-w)}{(1+w)}$$

a little algebra gives

$$x = \frac{2v}{(1+u)^2 + v^2}, \quad y = \frac{1 - (u^2 + v^2)}{(1+u)^2 + v^2}$$

so $F(u, v) = \phi(x(u, v), y(u, v))$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{F(u, v) = 1 - \frac{1}{\pi} \arctan \left[\frac{2v}{1 - (u^2 + v^2)} \right]}$$