

where  $c$  is a real constant. If  $c = 0$ , it follows that  $f(z) = 0$  everywhere in  $D$ . If  $c \neq 0$ , the fact that (see Sec. 5)

$$f(z)\overline{f(z)} = c^2$$

tells us that  $f(z)$  is never zero in  $D$ . Hence

$$\overline{f(z)} = \frac{c^2}{f(z)} \quad \text{for all } z \text{ in } D,$$

and it follows from this that  $\overline{f(z)}$  is analytic everywhere in  $D$ . The main result in Example 3 just above thus ensures that  $f(z)$  is constant throughout  $D$ .

## EXERCISES

1. Apply the theorem in Sec. 22 to verify that each of these functions is entire:

$$(a) f(z) = 3x + y + i(3y - x); \quad (b) f(z) = \sin x \cosh y + i \cos x \sinh y;$$

$$(c) f(z) = e^{-y} \sin x - ie^{-y} \cos x; \quad (d) f(z) = (z^2 - 2)e^{-x} e^{-iy}.$$

2. With the aid of the theorem in Sec. 21, show that each of these functions is nowhere analytic:

$$(a) f(z) = xy + iy; \quad (b) f(z) = 2xy + i(x^2 - y^2); \quad (c) f(z) = e^y e^{ix}.$$

3. State why a composition of two entire functions is entire. Also, state why any *linear combination*  $c_1 f_1(z) + c_2 f_2(z)$  of two entire functions, where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are complex constants, is entire.

4. In each case, determine the singular points of the function and state why the function is analytic everywhere except at those points:

$$(a) f(z) = \frac{2z + 1}{z(z^2 + 1)}; \quad (b) f(z) = \frac{z^3 + i}{z^2 - 3z + 2}; \quad (c) f(z) = \frac{z^2 + 1}{(z + 2)(z^2 + 2z + 2)}.$$

$$\text{Ans. } (a) z = 0, \pm i; \quad (b) z = 1, 2; \quad (c) z = -2, -1 \pm i.$$

5. According to Exercise 4(b), Sec. 23, the function

$$g(z) = \sqrt{r} e^{i\theta/2} \quad (r > 0, -\pi < \theta < \pi)$$

is analytic in its domain of definition, with derivative

$$g'(z) = \frac{1}{2g(z)}.$$

Show that the composite function  $G(z) = g(2z - 2 + i)$  is analytic in the half plane  $x > 1$ , with derivative

$$G'(z) = \frac{1}{g(2z - 2 + i)}.$$

*Suggestion:* Observe that  $\text{Re}(2z - 2 + i) > 0$  when  $x > 1$ .

6. Use results in Sec. 23 to verify that the function

$$g(z) = \ln r + i\theta \quad (r > 0, 0 < \theta < 2\pi)$$

is analytic in the indicated domain of definition, with derivative  $g'(z) = 1/z$ . Then show that the composite function  $G(z) = g(z^2 + 1)$  is analytic in the quadrant  $x > 0, y > 0$ , with derivative

$$G'(z) = \frac{2z}{z^2 + 1}.$$

*Suggestion:* Observe that  $\text{Im}(z^2 + 1) > 0$  when  $x > 0, y > 0$ .

7. Let a function  $f$  be analytic everywhere in a domain  $D$ . Prove that if  $f(z)$  is real-valued for all  $z$  in  $D$ , then  $f(z)$  must be constant throughout  $D$ .

## 26. HARMONIC FUNCTIONS

A real-valued function  $H$  of two real variables  $x$  and  $y$  is said to be *harmonic* in a given domain of the  $xy$  plane if, throughout that domain, it has continuous partial derivatives of the first and second order and satisfies the partial differential equation

$$(1) \quad H_{xx}(x, y) + H_{yy}(x, y) = 0,$$

known as *Laplace's equation*.

Harmonic functions play an important role in applied mathematics. For example, the temperatures  $T(x, y)$  in thin plates lying in the  $xy$  plane are often harmonic. A function  $V(x, y)$  is harmonic when it denotes an electrostatic potential that varies only with  $x$  and  $y$  in the interior of a region of three-dimensional space that is free of charges.

**EXAMPLE 1.** It is easy to verify that the function  $T(x, y) = e^{-y} \sin x$  is harmonic in any domain of the  $xy$  plane and, in particular, in the semi-infinite vertical strip  $0 < x < \pi, y > 0$ . It also assumes the values on the edges of the strip that are indicated in Fig. 31. More precisely, it satisfies all of the conditions

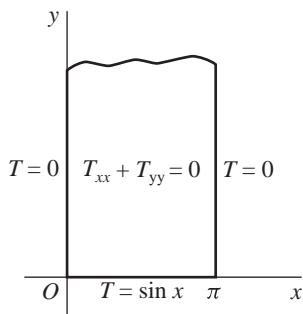


FIGURE 31