

MATH 516-101 Homework One  
Due Date: September 27th, 2016

1. This problem concerns the Mean-Value-Property (MVP). We say  $v \in C^2(\bar{U})$  is *subharmonic*, if

$$-\Delta v \leq 0 \text{ in } U$$

a) Prove that for subharmonic functions

$$v(x) \leq \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} v dy, \quad \forall B(x, r) \subset U$$

Hint: use the formula for  $\psi'(r)$ .

b) Prove that the Maximum Principle holds for subharmonic functions on bounded domains

$$\max_{\bar{U}} v = \max_{\partial U} v$$

c) Let  $u$  be harmonic functions in  $U$ . Show that  $u^2$  and  $|\nabla u|^2$  are subharmonic functions.

d) Let  $u$  satisfy

$$-\Delta u = f \text{ in } U, \quad u = g \text{ on } \partial U$$

Show that there exists a generic constant  $C = C(n, U)$  such that

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

Hint; Consider  $v(x) = u(x) + \frac{|x|^2}{2n} \max_{\bar{U}} |f| - \max_{\partial U} |g| - \frac{\max_{\bar{U}} |x|^2}{2n} \max_{\bar{U}} |f|$  and show that  $v$  is subharmonic and then apply b).

2. Let  $u \in C(\Omega)$ . Show that the followings are equivalent

(i) for all  $x \in \Omega$ ,  $B_r(x) \subset \subset \Omega$ ,

$$u(x) \leq \frac{1}{|B_r(x)|} \int_{B_r(x)} u(y) dy$$

(ii) for all  $B \subset \subset \Omega$  and for all  $h : \bar{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which satisfies

$$-\Delta h = 0, \quad x \in B, \quad h \geq u \text{ for } x \in \partial B$$

one has  $u(x) \leq h(x)$  for all  $x \in \bar{B}$ . Here  $B = B_r(y)$ .

(iii) for all  $x \in \Omega$ ,  $B_r(x) \subset \subset \Omega$ ,

$$u(x) \leq \frac{1}{|\partial B_r(x)|} \int_{\partial B_r(x)} u(\sigma) d\sigma$$

(iv) for all  $x \in \Omega$  and for all  $\phi \in C^2$  such that  $u - \phi$  has a local maximum at  $x$ , then  $-\Delta \phi(x) \leq 0$ .

3. The Kelvin transform of a function  $u : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$\bar{u}(x) = |x|^{2-n} u\left(\frac{x}{|x|^2}\right)$$

Show that if  $u$  satisfies  $\Delta u + f(u) = 0$  then  $\bar{u}$  satisfies

$$\Delta \bar{u} + \frac{1}{|x|^{n+2}} f(|x|^{n-2} \bar{u}) = 0$$

As a consequence, show that the Yamabe equation  $\Delta u + u^{\frac{n+2}{n-2}} = 0$  is invariant under Kelvin transform.

4. This problem concerns Green's function and Green's representation formula.

a) Write the Green's function for the unit ball  $B_1(0)$ .

b) Use reflection to find the Green's function in half space  $\mathbb{R}_+^n = \{x_n > 0\}$ .