

A general proof for the mean value theorem

3.37

$$\frac{dV_{\text{ave}}}{dR} = \frac{1}{4\pi R^2} \oint_{\text{sphere of radius } R} \nabla V \cdot d\vec{a} \rightarrow \text{Prove}$$

Right hand side (RHS)

$$\text{RHS} = \frac{1}{4\pi R^2} \oint \nabla V \cdot d\vec{a}$$

$$\nabla V = \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \hat{r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi}$$

On the surface of the sphere $d\vec{a} = R^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \hat{r}$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla V \cdot d\vec{a} = \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right)_{r=R} R^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\pi R^2} \oint \nabla V \cdot d\vec{a} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right)_{r=R} \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[\frac{1}{4\pi} \iint V(R, \theta, \phi) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \right]$$

$$= \frac{\partial V_{\text{ave}}(R)}{\partial r} \Big|_{r=R} = \frac{dV_{\text{ave}}}{dR}$$

Also: ~~$\oint_S \nabla \cdot \vec{V} d\vec{a} = \iiint_V \nabla \cdot \vec{V} d\tau$~~ $\oint_S \nabla V \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_V \nabla \cdot (\nabla V) d\tau = \int_V \nabla^2 V d\tau$

If V obey Laplace equation $\Rightarrow \nabla^2 V = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \oint_S (\nabla V) \cdot d\vec{a} = 0 = \frac{dV_{\text{ave}}}{dR}$$

$\Rightarrow V_{\text{ave}}$ is independent of R .

\Rightarrow ~~$V_{\text{ave}}(R)$~~ $V_{\text{ave}}(R) = \lim_{R \rightarrow 0} V_{\text{ave}}(R) = V_{\text{ave}}(0) = \text{value } V \text{ at the center of the sphere.}$